

URGENT OPEN LETTER TO MEL STRIDE MP ON THE LOAN CHARGE

Dear Mel,

We are writing an urgent letter to you, following the debate on the Loan Charge, due to the unfortunate suspension of the House of Commons which prevented the debate being concluded and hearing from you, as the responsible Minister.

This is most unfortunate and we had hoped – as so many MPs stressed in the debate – to hear you announce that the Government will suspend the Loan Charge for 6 months to allow for an independent review, as the motion proposed.

We are writing to you, as a matter of urgency, to ask you to announce this delay, with the Loan Charge due to come in tomorrow, Friday 5th April.

The will of the House of Commons was clear, with many Conservative MPs criticising the Loan Charge and making clear they supported the motion. As you know, there have been suicides of people affected by the Loan Charge. With the huge anxiety thousands of people are facing, we believe that a pause and a review is vital and the right and responsible thing to do. You cannot deny any longer the huge weight of concern amongst MPs, including many in your own party: it was clear today that the Loan Charge in its current form is not supported by a majority of MPs. We urge you, as the Rt Hon Cheryl Gillan MP said, to listen to and act upon the will of the House.

We urge you to do the right thing and announce an immediate suspension of the Loan Charge. The debate will still need to be concluded and a date scheduled, but with the Loan Charge coming in tomorrow, this cannot wait till then. We therefore urge you to announce this today to give peace of mind to thousands of people and their families and allow for a proper review.

If you do not do this – and we sincerely hope you will – then when the debate is concluded, we are minded to push the motion to a vote to demand that you change course and suspend the Loan Charge. We hope that this will not be necessary and that you will, as we had hoped today in the debate, now announce a 6 month delay.

Ross Thomson MP
Rt Hon Sir Edward Davey MP
Ruth Cadbury MP
Richard Harrington MP
Philip Davies MP
Catherine West MP
Jon Cruddas MP
Rt Hon Esther McVey MP
Janet Daby MP
Anna Turley MP

Anne Main MP
James Frith MP
Kate Hoey MP
Damien Moore MP
Ruth George MP
Tonia Antoniazzi MP
Rt Hon Dame Cheryl Gillan MP
John Grogan MP
Andrew Rosindell MP
Peter Bone MP

John Woodcock MP
Rt Hon Sir Hugo Swire MP
Jonathan Edwards MP
Tulip Siddiq MP
Nigel Evans MP
Rt Hon Sir Vince Cable MP
Lady Sylvia Hermon MP
Rt Hon Dame Caroline Spelman MP
Barry Sheerman MP
Ian Murray MP
Dan Jarvis MP
Joseph Johnson MP
Jim Fitzpatrick MP
Dr Phillip Lee MP
Tommy Sheppard MP
Alex Sobel MP
Andrea Jenkyns MP
Sir Peter Bottomley MP
Caroline Lucas MP
Zac Goldsmith MP
John Cryer MP
Paul Farrelly MP
Jim Cunningham MP
Dr David Drew MP
Gareth Thomas MP
Matthew Pennycook MP
Seema Malhotra MP
Stephen Metcalfe MP
Rt Hon Richard Benyon MP
Sir Graham Brady MP
Dr Sarah Wollaston MP
Martin Vickers MP
Rushanara Ali MP
Rosie Cooper MP
Neil Coyle MP
Kelvin Hopkins MP
Dr Paul Williams MP
Crispin Blunt MP
Jacob Rees-Mogg MP
Emma Dent Coad MP
George Eustice MP
Rt Hon Justine Greening MP
Rt Hon Sir Jeffrey M. Donaldson MP
Stephen Twigg MP
Richard Drax MP
Roger Godsiff MP
Rt Hon Joan Ryan MP

Rt Hon Tom Brake MP
Rt Hon Sir Desmond Swayne MP
Teresa Pearce MP
Marsha de Cordova MP
Sir William Cash MP
Adam Holloway MP
Martin Whitfield MP
Rt Hon Iain Duncan Smith MP
Rt Hon Sir Mike Penning MP
Dr Andrew Murrison MP
Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP
Rt Hon Sir Kevin Barron MP
Mohammad Yasin MP
Stephen Pound MP
Siobhain McDonagh MP
Preet Kaur Gill MP
James Gray MP
Alex Cunningham MP
Gordon Henderson MP
Laurence Robertson MP
Stephen Kinnock MP
Chris Green MP
Alan Brown MP
Richard Burden MP
Mary Creagh MP
Bob Stewart MP
Karen Buck MP
Rt Hon David Hanson MP
Julian Sturdy MP
Virendra Sharma MP
Wera Hobhouse MP
Stephen Lloyd MP
Rt Hon Sammy Wilson MP
Rt Hon Sir Nicholas Soames MP
Derek Thomas MP
Christian Matheson MP
Tim Farron MP
Andrew Selous MP
Gareth Snell MP
Ben Bradley MP
Dennis Skinner MP
Nic Dakin MP
Toby Perkins MP
Jess Phillips MP
Ellie Reeves MP
Rt Hon David Davis MP
Dr Matthew Offord MP

Wes Streeting MP
Tracy Brabin MP
Mike Gapes MP
Dr Rupa Huq MP
Henry Smith MP
Roberta Blackman-Woods MP
Faisal Rashid MP
Adrian Bailey MP
Fabian Hamilton MP
Catherine McKinnell MP
Christine Jardine MP
Steve Baker MP
Neil Parish MP
Rt Hon Frank Field MP
Paul Blomfield MP
Emma Little-Pengelly MP
Helen Hayes MP
Bob Blackman MP
Ian Paisley MP
Gavin Robinson MP
Layla Moran MP
Robert Neill MP
Rosie Duffield MP
Rt Hon Dominic Grieve QC MP
Sir Henry Bellingham MP
Geraint Davies MP
Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP
Hugh Gaffney MP
Ben Lake MP
Ivan Lewis MP
Hywel Williams MP
Marcus Fysh MP

Matt Western MP
Sarah Jones MP
Derek Twigg MP
Chris Elmore MP
Rt Hon Sir Oliver Heald MP
Emma Lewell-Buck MP
John Lamont MP
Stewart Malcolm McDonald MP
Rt Hon Mark Tami MP
Carolyn Harris MP
Angus MacNeil MP
Angela Smith MP
Fiona Bruce MP
Andrew Bridgen MP
Shailesh Vara MP
Jessica Morden MP
Alex Chalk MP
Andy Slaughter MP
Lucy Allan MP
Rt Hon Alistair Carmichael MP
Jo Swinson MP
Jamie Stone MP
Mike Hill MP
Simon Clarke MP
Graham P Jones MP
Kate Green MP
Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP
Robert Courts MP
Rt Hon Dr Julian Lewis MP
David TC Davies MP
Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP
Gavin Newlands MP

April 4th 2019