

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

23rd July 2021

Jean Combrivent,

RE: CPTPP MEMBERSHIP & PESTICIDES

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of the UK's application to join the Comprehensive & Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) and standards on pesticides; your comments upon which I have read with interest.

The Government has been clear that it will not sign trade deals that compromise the UK's high environmental, food and animal welfare standards. Decisions on standards, including on pesticides, will remain a matter for the UK Government and the devolved administrations.

All agri-food products imported into the UK from overseas under current and future free trade agreements will have to comply with our import requirements. The use of pesticides, more broadly, is based on scientific assessments. Pesticides which pose unacceptable risks to people and the environment will not be authorised for use.

I believe that joining the CPTPP will provide new opportunities for British businesses. The CPTPP is a £9 trillion partnership and UK trade with the group has grown by 8 percent a year since 2016. An agreement would improve access to fast-growing economies such as Mexico, Malaysia and Vietnam. Unlike membership of the EU, we would not be required to cede control over our laws.

I can assure you that the UK will only accede to the CPTPP on terms that are compatible with our broader interests and domestic priorities. I will continue to follow progress on joining the CPTPP closely.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you, then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom Pursglove'.

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE