

News story: UK and Gibraltar continue engagement on Rock's Brexit interests

The fifth meeting of the Joint Ministerial Council (Gibraltar EU Negotiations) took place in London today, with ministers in full agreement that Gibraltar's specific interests must continue to be fully taken into account as the UK exits the EU.

The discussions centred around areas such as financial services, taxation, and the implementation period.

Robin Walker also updated the Deputy Chief Minister on progress in the first phase of negotiations. On Friday the UK Government and EU Commission published a joint report setting out its agreement on citizens' rights, Ireland and Northern Ireland, and the financial settlement.

Speaking after the meeting, Minister for Exiting the European Union Robin Walker said:

Today's meeting was very productive. I outlined our commitment to fully representing Gibraltar's interests in the negotiations, including our firm intention to ensure continued market access from Gibraltar into the UK.

I also updated the Deputy Minister on the progress of the negotiations, outlining the positive agreement we have struck with the European Commission to guarantee citizens' rights – including for frontier workers – ensure there will be no hard border between Ireland and Northern Ireland, and agreement on a fair financial settlement.

The UK Government remains absolutely committed to securing a Brexit deal that works for the entire UK family, including our friends on the Rock.

Deputy Chief Minister of the Government of Gibraltar, Dr. Joseph Garcia said:

The detailed work on Brexit between the UK and Gibraltar Governments continues to progress very well. Working groups have engaged on financial services, on-line gaming, the environment and the border since the last JMC. The first meeting of the transport group is scheduled to take place in Gibraltar this week.

We discussed recent developments in the Brexit negotiations following the end of phase one. We also considered how to make the most of Gibraltar's new opportunities, following our exit from the EU.