## <u>News story: UK Government Ministers to</u> <u>Engage Further with Scottish</u> <u>Parliament Over EU (Withdrawal) Bill</u>

Three UK Government ministers will today [Wednesday 8 November] appear before Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs) to discuss the EU (Withdrawal) Bill.

The Ministers' evidence sessions are part of an extensive and ongoing engagement with the devolved administrations on Brexit, including on ensuring that the UK has a functioning statute book at the point we leave the EU.

Speaking ahead of his appearance at the Committee, Mr Mundell said:

The EU (Withdrawal) Bill is a key piece of legislation to ensure that the UK has a functioning statute book at the point we leave the EU. Ensuring stability, certainty and a smooth transition is vital for people and business right across the UK.

Myself, Robin Walker and Chris Skidmore will give evidence today at two Scottish Parliament Committees. This is part of extensive and ongoing engagement with the Scottish Government and Scottish Parliament on Brexit. Those discussions include looking at where new powers will come to Holyrood and where we will need common frameworks, to ensure there is certainty and no new barriers to trade for Scottish businesses and consumers.

People in Scotland, rightly, expect their two governments to work together and we want to work collaboratively with the Scottish Government and MSPs on Brexit.

The UK Government has committed to seeking legislative consent for this Bill in the usual way, and has made clear it places great value on the scrutiny of the Scottish Parliament and ongoing engagement with the Scottish Government.

The EU (Withdrawal) Bill will start its Commons Committee stage on 14 November 2017.