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FROM THE PRESIDENT: MEURIG RAYMOND

Rt Hon Liz Truss MP
Chief Secretary to the Treasury
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Your ref:
Our ref: MR/db/607
Email: [S40(2)]
Direct line:
Date: 13th June 2017

Dear Chief Sec. to the Treasury,

On behalf of the 55,000 members of the NFU, may I offer you my sincere congratulations on your appointment as Chief Secretary to the Treasury. We look forward to developing our good relationship with you, and the rest of your colleagues in Government, at a critical time for our industry.

Given your time at Defra, you know better than anyone how important British food and farming is for this country. British farms grow the raw ingredients for the UK food and drink manufacturing sector, the UK's largest manufacturing sector, worth £109 billion and providing 3.8 million jobs. Farming is of enormous value to the economy - for every £1 invested, farming delivers around £7 back to this country. British farmers are proud to provide over 60% of the nation's food and manage 70% of UK landscape. We do this all while focusing on producing safe, nutritious and high-quality food for people at home and abroad.

And we can and want to deliver more. We are looking to departments across government to work with us and our members, to champion farming both at home and abroad and to work closely with the devolved governments across the UK. Our shared aim is to ensure a productive, progressive and profitable future for British farmers and assurance to British consumers.

With farming arguably the sector most impacted by Brexit, NFU members need certainty as soon as possible that this Government will make Brexit a success for British food and farming. To achieve our potential, we need a future post-Brexit trade arrangement that delivers the best possible access to the vital EU market, as well as continued access to a competent and reliable workforce.

I hope we can continue to count on your support for our members as you enter the Treasury. I would welcome a chance to discuss this with you at the earliest possible opportunity.

Yours sincerely,
[S40(2)]

**Meurig Raymond MBE, FRAgS
President**

All the very best in this most important role.