

Bromsgrove Justice and Peace Group  
c/o 22 Greenhill  
Burcot  
Bromsgrove  
Worcestershire

9 September 2015

Sajid Javid MP  
18 High Street  
Bromsgrove  
Worcestershire  
B61 8AQ

Dear Mr Javid

**Beneficial Ownership and Overseas Territories**

We have just attended a screening of The UK Gold, organised by Bromsgrove Justice and Peace Group at St Peter's Catholic Church in Bromsgrove. The film highlighted many key issues to do with tax justice and its potential to provide for the poorest nations in the world.

Your department has done an excellent job of legislating for a public register of beneficial ownership in the UK. Its introduction in 2016 will make ownership of companies more transparent, help developing countries to collect the taxes they are owed and will help root out corruption right around the world.

However, this leadership shown by the Government at home also needs to be matched by the Government persuading the UK's Overseas Territories to also implement public registers, or at least central registries with legitimate public access in line with EU legislation. We were very concerned to read that Rt. Hon. Grant Shapps MP was in the Cayman Islands recently agreeing a deal which would fall short of the Prime Minister's stated ambition in this area.

Can you please ask the Financial Secretary to the Treasury David Gauke MP and Foreign Office Minister Rt. Hon. Grant Shapps MP to ensure that the UK's Overseas Territories with financial centres produce credible plans to adopt public registers of beneficial ownership by November 2016?

If you would be kind enough to forward the Minister's replies to me, I will circulate them round all of us who have signed this letter

Yours sincerely

Barbara Gilmurray  
On behalf of Bromsgrove Justice and Peace Group