



Department for  
Communities and  
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The Rt Hon. the Lord Jenkin of Roding  
House of Lords  
London  
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The Lord Tope CBE  
House of Lords  
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22 July 2014

*Dear Pehlich,*

**Infrastructure Bill: Land Registry**

During Committee on the 15 July, Baroness Kramer undertook to follow up in writing any issues that had not been fully covered in our discussion on clause 23 of the Infrastructure Bill. I am writing to you as Minister responsible for these parts of the Bill.

You asked specifically about the Land Registry's consultation as well as enquiring about the signing of the impact assessment by its Chief Executive. It is entirely standard practice for organisations such as the Land Registry to conduct consultation exercises on proposals such as increasing the services they offer. Both the consultations and the responses to them, are still agreed in advance by the responsible Minister and relevant Cabinet Committee. In this case, the consultation was properly conducted in line with current Cabinet Office: Consultation Principles: guidance (5 November 2013) and was agreed by the Minister of State for Business and Energy and the appropriate committees as is usual practice.

The impact assessment was signed by Land Registry's Chief Executive in accordance with current guidance for non-ministerial departments contained in the BIS Better Regulation Team Better Regulation Framework Manual Practical Guidance for UK Officials (July 2013) and the Government publication 'The IA toolkit'.

A copy of this letter has been sent to all those who spoke in Grand Committee on July 15 and a copy has been placed in the House of Lords Library.

*Tariq Ahmad*

**LORD TARIQ AHMAD**