



Department for
International Trade



Department for
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6th July 2021

Dear Sheila,

Thank you again for your engagement on the Professional Qualifications Bill, and for speaking at Committee on 22 June. I wanted to follow up on the questions you raised regarding the impact assessment in relation to Clause 9, which provides for a duty for regulators to provide information to regulators in another part of UK.

In assessing costs for the impact assessment, my officials engaged with 12 regulators. As you summarised at Committee on 22 June, only one of these regulators provided cost estimates related to Clause 9, and only four regulators responded to a question on whether they already share certain information with other regulators across the UK (and so would incur no extra costs due to this clause).

I want to clarify that the cost estimate provided was consistent with anecdotal feedback from regulators which said that in many cases they already share this type of information with corresponding bodies (this clause gives this voluntary cooperation a statutory underpinning to prevent risk of key information not being shared). We would, of course, have preferred to have received more regulator responses, to better understand the range of potential costs to those regulators who may be affected. However, given the small number of regulators likely to be affected by the provision the approach taken was deemed proportionate. Furthermore, across the appraisal period, the overall cost estimate related to Clause 9 is only c. £60,000 a small proportion of the total estimated across the whole of the Bill.

I hope this provides a satisfactory response to your questions on the impact assessment and I look forward to discussing the Bill further with you at report stage. I will share this letter

with colleagues who spoke in this debate and a copy of this letter will be deposited in the Library of the House of Lords.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grimstone". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lord Grimstone of Boscobel, Kt
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