



Department for
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Dear Greg,

Thank you for your recent comments during the Employment Rights Bill's ('the Bill') Committee Stage on 9 January. I committed to writing to you on the issue detailed below.

We debated amendments that seek to add the Pensions Ombudsman and a range of healthcare bodies to Schedule 5. This lists persons to whom information may be disclosed under clause 98 of the Bill.

During an investigation, enforcement officers of the Fair Work Agency may obtain documents or information that indicate breaches of legislation within its remit. But the documents and information may also indicate breaches of legislative requirements enforced by other regulators or raise issues in respect of which further investigation would be appropriate. For example, when investigating a healthcare agency, it may obtain information that suggests the agency had not complied with requirements to obtain information relating to experience, training or qualifications that are required by law, by any professional body or which the hirer considers appropriate before supplying a worker. In this scenario, the Fair Work Agency would be able to share this information with relevant healthcare bodies to help them carry out their own enforcement functions more effectively.

The amendments we tabled to Schedule 5 are about ensuring the Fair Work Agency will be able to work flexibly and collaboratively with other relevant bodies to better protect workers and businesses alike, by sharing information which is relevant to the enforcement functions of the respective bodies.

I am placing a copy of this letter in the Library of the House.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Madders". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent horizontal line at the bottom.

JUSTIN MADDERS MP

Minister for Employment Rights, Competition and Markets
Department for Business and Trade