

Baroness Maggie Jones Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State Department for Science, Innovation and Technology 100 Parliament Street London SW1A 2BQ

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Dear Lord Forsyth,

Thank you for your contributions to the debate on the Data (Use and Access) Bill on Wednesday 11th June. I am pleased that we were able to reach agreement and let this important piece of legislation move forward into law.

I am writing because I want to clarify a comment that I made in response to your intervention regarding the availability of powers to legislate on transparency at a later date.

I realise that the words I chose may have suggested that Government already has a specific power in statute to make Regulations (secondary legislation) on this matter, and this is not correct.

As you know, the Government has the ability to bring forward primary legislation regarding transparency for consideration by Parliament, and that is the point I was trying to make. My comments were intended to reassure the House that the Government already has the necessary tools at its disposal to bring forward such legislation when the policy development process is complete.

I apologise for any confusion caused by my response.

I will also place a copy of this letter in the Libraries of the House.

Yours sincerely,

je Jones.

Baroness Maggie Jones

Minister for the Future Digital Economy and Online Safety