



Ein cyf/Our ref: MB/FM/1374/14

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4th April 2014

Dear Bethan,

I am writing in response to your request at Business Questions on the 18th March for a statement on the Welsh Government's response to the consultation on proposed introduction of a Land Registry service delivery company.

Welsh Government officials responded to this consultation and raised various issues, particularly in relation to the staff of the Land Registry's Swansea office. These included the implications for staff; the mechanism by which they might be transferred to the proposed company; their terms and conditions of employment after transfer; the effect on the local economy of the changes; and the lack of clear evidence to substantiate the validity of the proposed changes in ensuring the current high levels of service delivery.

I am concerned about these matters and wrote to Michael Fallon MP, the UK Minister of State for Business and Enterprise in February to alert him to my views. I am conscious there may be serious implications for the future employment of Land Registry staff, should the consultation proposals come to fruition. I have therefore suggested that, if these possibilities materialise, the Welsh Government would welcome discussions on the possibility of identifying roles which Land Registry staff who have valuable skills and experience may be able to undertake.

Yours sincerely

CARWYN JONES