

The Lord Taylor of Holbeach CBE



Government Whips Office

House of Lords

Telephone: 020 - 7219 3131

Baroness Smith of Basildon
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

16 November 2010

Dear Angela

I am writing in response to your contribution to the 2nd Reading Debate on the Public Bodies Bill, which took place on 9 November. I thank you for participating in the extensive debate on the Bill and look forward to continuing these discussions in the coming weeks.

During the debate, you asked a specific question regarding the transfer of functions from Consumer Focus to Citizens Advice. Government intends that Citizens Advice shall have access to equivalent legal powers to undertake its new functions to those currently enjoyed by Consumer Focus. If appropriate, this could involve transferring some or all of those legal powers to Citizens Advice and we are currently considering this issue with them

I am copying my response to my colleague Ed Davey MP, who is the Minister responsible for this policy area. I am also placing a copy of this letter in the House of Lords Library.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Taylor', with a large flourish at the end.

LORD TAYLOR OF HOLBEACH