From Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP, Chair

Margot James MP
Minister for Digital and the Creative Industries
Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport
100 Parliament Street
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23 May 2019

Mr. James,

Information Commissioner’s Powers

Thank you for your letter of 4 April relating to the Information Commissioner’s powers to compel individuals to interview. I have now had an opportunity to meet a representative from the Information Commissioner’s Office to discuss our exchange.

In my original letter to you I sought information on how your Department intended to address the deficiencies relating to the ICO’s lack of power to compel individuals to interview. Your answer focussed on the powers that the ICO has at present and contained a vague undertaking to “keep this law under review and [to] continue to work closely with ICO to make sure the Commissioner’s investigations are effective”.

I would therefore be grateful if you could be more specific on how your Department intends to address the deficiencies outlined above in the Data Protection Act 2018, for example if a relevant individual has left the organisation under investigation? I would be grateful if you could provide a response no later than Tuesday 4 June.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Damian Collins MP, for information.

Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP
Chair