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Andrew Dismore MP
 Joint Committee on Human Rights
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BILLS (07-08) 62

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Dear Andrew

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECTIONS OF THE TRIBUNALS COURTS AND
 ENFORCEMENT ACT CONCERNING ENFORCEMENT AGENTS**

Thank you for your letter of 28 January in which you enquired about the implementation of the sections of the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act concerning Enforcement Agents.

You will recall that during the Act's passage through Parliament we committed to further consultation prior to implementation. A scoping exercise, which will identify the issues that require further public consultation, has already commenced. This primarily involves a number of meetings and discussions with stakeholders. To date, these stakeholders have included the Enforcement Services Association, the High Court Enforcement Officers Association, the Department for Communities and Local Government, the Civil Court Users Association, the Enforcement Law Reform Group, the advice sector and the Zacchaeus 2000 Trust. Once the initial scoping exercise is complete, a timetable for implementation will be developed, which we anticipate will be published in May 2008.

I hope this reassures you that we remain fully committed to implementing the enforcement provisions in the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act and that good progress towards this has been made.

Our long term intention remains for there to be full independent regulation of the profession. In the interim, we believe that an enhanced and extended certification process will be a major contribution towards our goal of a fully regulated, highly trained and professionalised enforcement industry.

Yours,

J. Straw

JACK STRAW