

## **REQUEST TO DETI FROM THE ETI COMMITTEE**

At its meeting 1 December the ETI Committee considered the Legislative Consent Memorandum for the Housing and Planning Bill's proposed amendment of the Estate Agents Act 1979.

Members asked the Department if, when the legislation has changed, it is envisaged that Trading Standards Service would respond to a tender for the appointment of a new lead enforcement authority for the UK.

## **DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSE**

**Any invite to tender for the role of the lead enforcement authority for the Estate Agents Act 1979 (EAA) would be a matter for DETI to consider. The proposed amendment of the EAA would allow any of the current, approximately 200, enforcement authorities to be considered for the role of lead enforcement authority. It is considered unlikely that DETI would respond to any tender to become the lead enforcement authority for the EAA. However, the Department considers on balance that DETI should be included in the proposed amendment of Estate Agents Act 1979 so that DETI is treated on an equal footing with all the other existing enforcement authorities in the UK.**

**Reply prepared by: Business Regulation, Consumer Affairs Branch  
Date: 3 December 2015**