

CTSI position on proposed amendments to the Enterprise Bill – House of Lords Report Stage

This briefing has been prepared for Peers by the Chartered Trading Standards Institute (CTSI) ahead of the report stage debate on the Enterprise Bill scheduled for Wednesday 25 November and Monday 30 November 2015.

Amendment 38

We broadly support this amendment. Any review by the Regulatory Policy Committee into the ability of regulators to effectively undertake their duties under the new Bill is welcomed by CTSI.

Amendments 43 and 44

We support both amendment 43 and 44 (on local authorities having the ability to charge above cost-recovery rate for the provision of primary authority services) for the following reasons:

- Local authorities have been continually encouraged by government to take an entrepreneurial approach to raising funds. However, to date, local authorities have been held back in this area due to laws prohibiting them from raising any money, past cost recovery, for the provision of their services.
- We would support trading standards being able to charge the market rate for the provision of primary authority services as they are the experts in this field and businesses have said they would be willing to pay more for the best service available.
- We support the idea that the local trading standards should be able to set up an agreement with their clients to provide primary authority services at a mutually agreed rate.

Amendment 52

We broadly support this amendment on the basis that trading standards are considered to be one of the named local authority services that play a large and important role in supporting small businesses and promoting economic growth.

Amendment 60

While we were initially concerned about the impact of this extra duty (on the enforcement of apprenticeships) placed generally upon all local authority trading standards services without provision of any additional funding, having held discussions with civil servants, we now believe the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills are due to bring forward their own amendments which will implement a lead authority model for the enforcement of the duty. This lead authority approach is something which we support.

What you can do

If you support the views outlined in this briefing we would encourage you to please speak up and provide your support during the report stage debate of the Enterprise Bill scheduled for Wednesday 25 and Monday 30 November 2015. If you require any additional information or assistance ahead of this date please do not hesitate to get in touch with the CTSI policy team (robbyne@tsi.org.uk / 07899890656).



Chartered Trading
Standards Institute

The Chartered Trading Standards Institute is a professional membership organisation representing trading standards professionals in local authorities, the business and consumer sectors and in central government. We set standards and organise qualifications for the education of members and to improve trading standards practice. We provide information, evidence and policy advice to support national and local stakeholders.

CTSI exists to promote and protect the success of a modern vibrant economy, and to safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of citizens by empowering consumers, encouraging honest business and targeting rogue traders.