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20 OCT 2009

HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Peter Lacey
Association of Teachers of Mathematics
Unit 7 Prime Industrial Park
Shaftesbury Street
Derby
DE23 8YB

14 October 2009

Dear Mr Lacey,

I am writing on behalf of Michael Gove MP to thank you for your letter dated 23rd September 2009. I do apologise for the delay in response. It seems the letter only reached our office on 7th October which is probably due to the current problems with Royal Mail.

Mr Gove is very much committed to “re-professionalising” our current teaching force. We have found that current Government wastes vital education funding on QUANGOs and consultants. Defending frontline spending in schools is a key part of current Conservative education policy.

We very much believe that we need to give teacher more freedom in their classroom and to continue to develop as teachers. Mr Gove recently had a very productive meeting with a group of teachers who highlighted the importance of continued development in subject area – when teachers stay intellectually stimulated and inspired by their subjects, their teaching remains inspired.

We will certainly consider your proposal as we continue to formulate our policies in the run-up to the General Election. The concerns and suggestions you raise are very much in line with current Conservative policy thinking.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Grotberg', written in a cursive style.

Anna Grotberg
Office of Michael Gove MP
Shadow Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families