



Ministry
of Justice

Dominic Raab MP
Minister of State for Justice

Official
Professor Nick Hopkins
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MoJ ref:
Family Justice Policy / JT

2 August 2017

Dear Professor Hopkins,

LAW COMMISSION'S REPORT ON THE ENFORCEMENT OF FAMILY FINANCIAL ORDERS

I am writing to advise you of the Government's progress in considering the Law Commission's report, *Enforcement of Family Financial Orders*, which was published on 14 December 2016.

I would like to thank you and your team for your thorough work in this complex area of law. People are entitled to receive the financial benefits awarded to them by the family court. Non-payment of a family financial order can cause serious financial hardship. The Government is concerned that the complexity of the current enforcement system can be exploited by debtors who seek to avoid meeting their financial obligations. The report provides a firm basis for Government to consider the full extent of this problem and the ways to tackle it through a range of suggested measures. I am clear that we need to look across the entire family justice system to make sure we protect those who are vulnerable and at risk of hardship so that the system delivers the best outcomes for children and families.

I am clear that financial orders made following separation should be capable of being effectively enforced for the benefit of children and families. I will give careful consideration to the full range of recommendations in this report as part of the Government's broader thinking on the family justice system. I will write to you again with a full response once that process is complete.

Yours sincerely,
Dominic Raab

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