



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

Geoffrey Cox QC MP  
2 Bridge Chambers  
Lower Bridge Street  
Bideford  
Devon

Dear Geoffrey

09 OCT 2014

Thank you for your letter of 8 August on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED], about the Camphill Village Trust (CVT). I am sorry for the delay in replying.

[REDACTED] is concerned that rules imposed by HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) have caused the CVT to change the terms under which future care to residents of the Botton Village will be provided. Specifically, [REDACTED] is concerned that live-in volunteers are to be moved to paid work contracts.

I would like to make it clear that there has been no recent change in legislation, nor change in rules by HMRC, which affect the tax status of volunteer workers. It appears that changes being introduced by the CVT are as a result of independent advice received by the Trust, and not as a result of any direct or indirect action by HMRC.

You have asked me to clarify what the current tax situation is regarding the live-in volunteer carers known as co-workers. Several years ago, HMRC agreed the tax treatment of co-workers with the Association of Camphill Communities, based on the working terms and conditions as they were presented at that time.

With the agreement of the CVT, the agreed treatment is published in HMRC guidance, which you may find helpful, and can find at:  
[www.hmrc.gov.uk/manuals/bimmanual/BIM22040.htm](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/manuals/bimmanual/BIM22040.htm).

[REDACTED] may wish to seek further clarification from the Trustees of the CVT regarding their decision, in light of the published guidance. I appreciate the sensitivities regarding the provision of care to residents of the Botton Village.

Therefore, I have passed a copy of your letter on to HMRC and asked that they look into this issue. However, due to taxpayer confidentiality, HMRC will not be able to report back to me on the outcome of their enquiries.

Please pass on my thanks to [REDACTED] for taking the trouble to make us aware of these concerns.

Yours ever  
David

DAVID GAUKE

Geoffrey Cox Q.C., M.P. for Torridge & West Devon

Our ref: GC/ac/lb

3 November 2014



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dear 

Camphill Village Trust (CVT)

Further to forwarding the response I have received from H M Treasury by compliments slip (a further copy of which I enclose herewith), I would like to apologise for the length of time this has taken.

I note that that the letter from the Minister unequivocally states that there has been no recent change in legislation, nor, change in rules by HMRC which affect the tax status of volunteer workers and that they therefore feel the changes being introduced are not as a result of any direct or indirect action by HMRC.

On that basis if you would like me to forward a letter from you to CVT, together with a copy of this reply, I would, of course, be most happy to do so.

I do hope that the clarification received will help you to bring this matter to a satisfactory conclusion.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. Cox', written over a horizontal line.

Geoffrey Cox, Q.C., M.P.  
(dictated by Geoffrey Cox but signed in his absence)

enc

I will treat as confidential all personal information you give to me or to my staff. I may need to pass on this information to others so that they can help you. I undertake to handle the information you give me in line with requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Please reply to the Constituency Office  
2 Bridge Chambers, Lower Bridge Street, Bideford, Devon, EX39 2BU.  
Tel: 01237 459001 Fax: 01237 459003

Website: [geoffreycox.co.uk](http://geoffreycox.co.uk)  
Email: [tellgeoffrey@geoffreycox.co.uk](mailto:tellgeoffrey@geoffreycox.co.uk)

