



# The Insolvency Service

Delivering economic confidence

Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng  
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Dear Secretary of State,

I write further to your letter of the 23 March 2022 to provide an update regarding the enquiries being undertaken by the Insolvency Service.

As you know, on 17 March 2022, a total of 786 employees were dismissed across three companies under the P&O Ferries banner.

In your letter you asked the Insolvency Service to undertake an urgent and thorough enquiry into the circumstances surrounding the redundancies made by P&O Ferries, to determine whether the law has been complied with and consider prompt and appropriate action where it has not.

Following its enquiries, I can confirm that the Insolvency Service has initiated both formal criminal and civil investigations into the circumstances surrounding the recent redundancies made by P&O Ferries.

We will publish a short statement today confirming the above position and as you will appreciate, whilst these investigations are being progressed, it would not be appropriate for me to make further comment at this time. I will provide a further update in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Dean Beale  
Inspector General and Chief Executive