



Home Office

Lord Sharpe of Epsom
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of
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Baroness Burt of Solihull
House of Lords
London
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4th May 2023

Dear Baroness Burt of Solihull,

Sex-Based Harassment in Public Bill: Timings

During the Lords Orals on 24 April 2023, you asked when the Protection from Sex-Based Harassment in Public Bill will be introduced and whether such an offence will be recorded as a hate crime. I advised the House that I would write on these two points.

The Protection from Sex-Based Harassment in Public Bill was introduced into the House of Lords on 27 March. The timing of further stages will be announced in the usual manner.

Although I am unable to give a precise timescale for the implementation of the measures in the Bill once it has obtained Royal Assent, I echo the comments made by the Minister for Crime, Policing and Fire, Chris Philp, at Report Stage in the House of Commons on 24 March, when he gave a firm undertaking that the Government will seek to bring the new offence into force as quickly as possible.

On your second point, I can confirm that these offences would not be recorded as a hate crime as the characteristic 'sex' is not protected under hate crime legislation.

I am copying this letter to all of those who spoke in the relevant session on 24 April and placing a copy in the library.

Lord Sharpe of Epsom
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Home Office

