



Andy Slaughter MP  
Chair of the Justice Select Committee  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

**MoJ ref:** SUB122099

6 March 2025

Dear Andy,

## **GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON THE REGULATION OF PRIVATE PROSECUTORS AND REFORMS TO THE SINGLE JUSTICE PROCEDURE**

I am pleased to inform you that the consultation on the regulation of private prosecutors and the safeguards within the Single Justice Procedure has now launched. The consultation will be open for 9 weeks and will close on 8 May.

The consultation's focus is on organisations who bring private prosecutions, and, for the avoidance of doubt, this includes public agencies that bring prosecutions as well as private or third sector bodies. The consultation excludes those categorised as 'criminal justice agencies' – the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), Serious Fraud Office (SFO), police (including British Transport Police), and the National Crime Agency (NCA). The Service Prosecuting Authority are also not in scope of the proposals discussed in the consultation.

Individuals who bring private prosecutions on their own behalf are not within the scope of the proposals discussed in the consultation.

The consultation seeks respondents' views on reforms which:

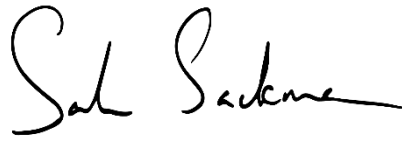
- Set consistent standards for private prosecutors and make them accountable for their practices and the prosecutions they bring;
- Ensure there are sufficient safeguards to justice within the Single Justice Procedure;
- Increase confidence in the criminal justice system by improving transparency of private prosecutions, to allow any areas of concern to be quickly identified and addressed.

As part of this consultation, I have taken account of the Committee's 2020 paper *Private Prosecutions: safeguards*. My officials have engaged with relevant departments to ensure that the consultation is taking account of known issues and concerns, and they will continue to do so.

I welcome the Committee's support in raising awareness of the consultation and I look forward to engaging with you on this matter. I have provided a copy of the consultation alongside this letter.

I will deposit a copy of this letter in the Library of the House.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Sackman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sarah" and the last name "Sackman" clearly distinguishable.

**SARAH SACKMAN KC MP**  
**Minister Of State**