

Sarah Sackman KC MP Minister for Courts and

Legal Services

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

MoJ ref: SUB126475

11 August 2025

Dear Andy,

TRIAL BY JURY: PROPOSED RESTRICTIONS DEBATE 9 JULY – HANSARD CORRECTION

I am grateful to you for your question during the important discussion on proposed restrictions to trial by jury on Wednesday 9 July 2025. I am following up to provide a correction to a section of my answer which has now been published on Hansard.

It was brought to my attention following the debate that one of the points I made may be unintentionally misleading, and I will be correcting the record when the House returns from summer recess for the avoidance of doubt.

You will note in column 951 of Hansard that I highlighted the vital investment this Government is making in the criminal justice system. This included a reference to the additional funding of £92 million for criminal legal aid, on which I said:

"This Government are already beginning to make that investment, through the...additional funding for legal aid lawyers and criminal legal aid; and £92 million to keep the sector going, on both the defence and the prosecutorial sides. ..."

I was highlighting the overall impact the investment will have on keeping the criminal justice system moving, but my point may be misinterpreted from the Hansard entry. I therefore want to clarify for the record that this additional funding is for defence practitioners carrying out criminal legal aid work and not for prosecution fees. The additional funding will enable fee increases for solicitors undertaking work in police stations, magistrates' courts, the Crown Court and in prisons.

A copy of this letter will be deposited in the House Library.

Yours sincerely,

SARAH SACKMAN KC MP Minister Of State