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18 May 2020

**ALCOHOL ABSTINENCE & MONITORING REQUIREMENT (AAMR)
COMING INTO FORCE OF S.76
LEGAL AID, SENTENCING AND PUNISHMENT OF OFFENDERS ACT**

I am pleased to be able to inform you that section 76 of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (LASPO), which inserts the AAMR at section 212A into the Criminal Justice Act 2003 comes into force tomorrow, 19 May and the Government will be making an announcement to that effect. The legislation allows for the roll-out of the AAMR across England and Wales, which will begin towards the end of this year.

An AAMR provides a sentencing option for alcohol related offending and may be imposed as part of a community order or suspended sentence order. AAMRs directly address offending behaviour where alcohol has been a contributory factor and may be imposed for up to 120 days, providing sentencers with an option which is a direct response to alcohol related offending. They may only be imposed on adults and may not be imposed on dependent drinkers or alongside an Alcohol Treatment Requirement.

AAMRs are intended to punish the offender by ensuring that they do not consume alcohol during the requirement and, through enforcing abstinence, they are designed to mitigate offending behaviour which is driven by alcohol; removing a contributing factor or trigger to the behaviour of offenders who undertake alcohol related crimes.

As the technology is rolled out, courts in each Local Justice Area will be advised of the date from which they can impose the new requirement. A full programme of advice, training and engagement to all relevant stakeholders will accompany the roll out.

KIT MALTHOUSE MP