



Ministry
of Justice

Mike Freer MP
Minister for Courts and
Legal Services

Sir Robert Neill MP
Chair
Justice Select Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

MoJ ref: Sub 110484

21 November 2023

Dear Sir Bob,

**CONSULTATION ON INCLUDING CLAIMANT DATA ON THE REGISTER
OF JUDGMENTS ORDERS AND FINES**

I am writing to inform you that we are launching a consultation today seeking views on whether to include claimant data on the Register of Judgments Orders and Fines.

The consultation considers a proposal to amend the Register of Judgments, Orders and Fines Regulation 2005 to allow for the names of claimants of money judgments in the County Court and High Court to be published on the Register of Judgments, Orders and Fines in England and Wales (the "Register"). The Register is run by Registry Trust Ltd, on behalf of the Ministry of Justice.

The Register contains information about individuals, businesses or organisations that have had unpaid judgments, orders and fines made against them by a court or tribunal. This information can be accessed publicly and is used in a number of ways. For example, banks and lenders can use data from the Register when deciding whether to lend money.

The government thinks that the inclusion of the claimant's name on the Register in England and Wales could be beneficial to consumers. It could:

- help consumers who have had a default County Court judgment made against them and do not know who the claimant is;
- help regulators to monitor how regulated firms use the courts to enforce debts and;
- help lenders to make more informed credit decisions.

The consultation is open for 8 weeks and has been published on gov.uk. After considering the consultation responses, and if the decision to proceed is made, we plan to lay Regulations in Parliament to allow His Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service (HMCTS) to provide RTL with the names of claimants for publication on the Register.

MIKE FREER MP