



Ministry  
of Justice

The Right Honourable  
**Robert Buckland QC MP**  
Lord Chancellor & Secretary of  
State for Justice

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

16 February 2021

Dear Bob,

### **ADDITIONAL COURTS AND TRIBUNALS CAPACITY: NIGHTINGALE COURT SITES**

As you know, part of the further investment of £30m will fund over 40 Nightingale court rooms. This week I will announce the opening of the next 14 rooms as part of this third round of Nightingale Courts.

As before, these sites will not be set up as new or re-opened courts but used as 'satellite' or 'annex' hearing centres of a nearby court, with hearings listed into them on a temporary basis, as a direct response to the Covid-19 pandemic. HMCTS is working at pace to open these sites and we will regularly review the need for each site's continued use.

This week the Manchester Hilton will open as a Nightingale Court. Further courtrooms will open Aldersgate House (Barbican) and in Croydon, Wolverhampton, Birmingham, Liverpool, and Chichester in the coming weeks.

Letters have also been sent to the Lords Constitution Committee and MPs in whose constituencies these sites are located.

I trust this is a helpful update. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours ever

**RT HON ROBERT BUCKLAND QC MP**