

The Rt Hon. Lord Strathclyde CH
Chair of the Constitution Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

7 October 2025

Dear Tom,

Re: Deprivation of Citizenship Orders (Effect during Appeal) Bill

Thank you for your letter dated 16 September regarding the Deprivation of Citizenship Orders (Effect during Appeal) Bill. I am grateful for the Committee's careful scrutiny of this Bill and for the opportunity to provide clarity on the retrospective element of the Bill.

It is necessary for this Bill to apply retrospectively to mitigate the risk that a person seeks to undermine deprivation action while an appeal in their case remains ongoing. The Bill will potentially apply to deprivation of citizenship decisions where a deprivation order has been made, an appeal has already been brought and the appeal remains extant. However, it is unlikely to affect deprivation decisions currently in the appeal system which were made on the grounds that citizenship was obtained by fraud. In such cases, deprivation orders are not made until the person has exhausted their right of appeal and the provisions of this Bill would therefore not apply. The only situation where the Bill would apply to a deprivation decision made on the grounds of fraud is where notice of the decision could not be given.

You have also requested:

An update to the immigration and protection data to include a current assessment of the number of Deprivation of Citizenship Orders issued annually for a) reasons of public good and (b) assessment of fraud, as well as detail on how many of these are successfully removed on appeal.

The number of deprivation orders issued on the grounds that deprivation is conducive to the public good is published in the Counter-Terrorism Disruptive Powers Report. In 2022, three people were deprived on this basis, and in 2023, two people were subject to deprivation on this ground. Statistics for 2024 are expected to be published in the autumn.

The latest statistics¹ show that, in 2022, 308 individuals were deprived of citizenship on the ground they obtained citizenship by fraud. Statistics for 2023 and 2024 are expected to be released by 31 December 2025.

We do not collect statistics on the number of deprivation orders that have been withdrawn following appeal.

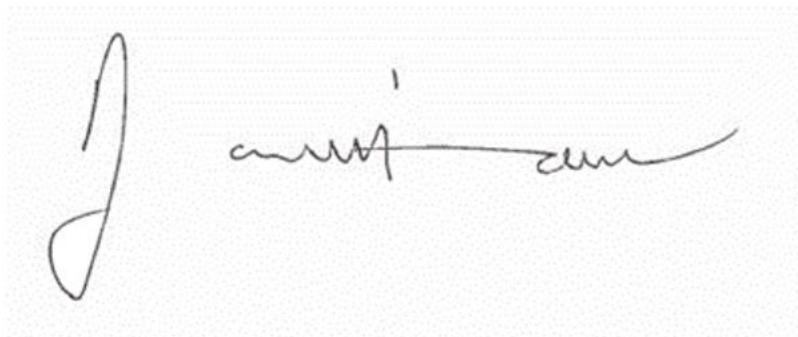
¹ [Migration transparency data - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/migration-transparency-data) – see immigration and protection data April to June 2025

An assessment of the anticipated number of ongoing appeals against Deprivation of Citizenship Orders that would be impacted by the Bill's retrospective application, broken down by the reasons for issuing the Order.

Currently there are 25 people who have been deprived of British citizenship on the grounds that it is conducive to the public good who have an ongoing appeal and could potentially be impacted by the Bill's retrospective application. We anticipate that only a small proportion of those cases, if any, will be impacted by the Bill.

I trust this information is helpful and thank you again for your continued engagement with the Bill. My officials and I would of course be happy to discuss further if that would aid the Committee's consideration of the Bill.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue grid background. The signature is written in a cursive style, starting with a large 'J' and ending with a long horizontal stroke.

Lord Hanson of Flint