



The Speaker

Speaker's House House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

Wednesday, 4th February 2026

Dear Lady Justice May,

On behalf of the Speaker's Conference, I would like to thank you for the response the Sentencing Council provided to our recent report.

The Sentencing Council's response has raised the following questions:

1. The Conference's report noted specific concerns about how protective orders are imposed in cases where the victim is an MP or their staff. It therefore recommended that the Sentencing Council produce guidance specifically on protective orders in these cases. However, the Sentencing Council's response discusses providing guidance for particular offences not for particular victims. Can you clarify why this is?
2. If the Council can only provide guidance on an offence-by-offence basis, would the introduction of a statutory aggravating factor for attacks on elected representatives allow the Council to produce specific guidance on protective orders that could be tied to crimes that were aggravated in this way?
3. The Council has said it will "consider" providing guidance on disqualification orders as part of the next round of miscellaneous updates and subject to public consultation. Can you provide a more concrete timeline for this?

The Conference will plan to publish this letter and to publish any reply along with the Council's original response. To do so, we ask for a reply by COB **Monday 9 February 2026**.

Thank you again for your support to the Conference's work.

Best regards,

Rt Hon. Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP

Speaker of the House of Commons

The Right Honourable Lady Justice Juliet May
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