

The Lord Alton of Liverpool
Chair of the Joint Committee on Human Rights
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

MoJ ref: Sub 132359

04 March 2026

Dear Lord Alton,

**REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC LITIGATION AGAINST PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEASURES
IN THE ECONOMIC CRIME AND CORPORATE TRANSPARENCY ACT 2023**

Thank you for raising the issue of Strategic Litigation Against Public Participation (SLAPPs) during the debate on your Committee's report on transnational repression on 26 February 2026. I am writing in response to your request for the Government to set out a clear timeline for our review of the SLAPP measures in the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 (ECCTA).

Following the publication of your Committee's report on transnational repression in the UK in July 2025, the Government responded to your recommendation on SLAPPs by confirming its commitment to review the operation of the SLAPP measures in ECCTA. The Government also confirmed its intention to provide a report on its operation to the Civil Procedure Rule Committee one year after implementation, by June 2026, but also stated that the timing of the review would remain contingent upon case volumes. In subsequent correspondence, the Minister for Security confirmed on 8 December 2025 that the Government would share the report with your Committee, too.

However, upon further consideration, we have decided to begin our review of ECCTA in June 2026. This change in timing will allow us to draw on a full year's worth of operational data and practical experience of how the ECCTA measures are functioning. Ensuring that we have a complete evidence base will support a more robust and meaningful assessment of the effectiveness of the SLAPPs measures and any areas where further refinement may be required. We expect to produce a report in early 2027, and I will ensure that it is provided to you at the earliest opportunity.



SARAH SACKMAN KC MP
Minister Of State