



Ministry  
of Justice

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

Rt Hon Baroness Taylor of Bolton  
Chair  
Constitution Committee  
House of Lords  
London SW1A 0AA

16 February 2021

Dear Lady Taylor,

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

I'm writing to let you know that this week I will announce the opening of the next 14 rooms as part of this third round of Nightingale Courts. This is part of a further investment of £30m that will fund over 40 Nightingale court rooms.

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 Justice Select Committee, and to 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**