

Victims and Courts Bill

AMENDMENTS

TO BE MOVED

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

[Supplementary to the Marshalled List]

Amendment
No.

After Clause 7

LORD RUSSELL OF LIVERPOOL
BARONESS BRINTON

47A★ After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause—

“Victims’ rights: anti-social behaviour

In section 1(2) of the Victims and Prisoners Act 2024 (meaning of “victim”), after paragraph (d) insert—

- “(e) where the person has experienced anti-social behaviour, as defined by section 2 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, and the conditions necessary for an ASB case review under section 104 of that Act have been met (review of response to complaints).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to ensure that victims of persistent anti-social behaviour have access to victim support services provided by local Police and Crime Commissioners. These services are only available to victims as defined by the Victims’ Code of Practice.

LORD RUSSELL OF LIVERPOOL
BARONESS BRINTON
LORD BACH

47B★ After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Victims code: victims unique identifier

In section 6 of the Victims and Prisoners Act 2024 (code awareness and reviewing compliance: criminal justice bodies), after subsection (4) insert –

“(4A) Regulations under subsection (2) must require information about compliance with the victims’ code to be linked to a consistent victim identifier that is used across the agencies of the criminal justice system.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would allow for the creation of a unique identifier for victims in the criminal justice system which would be linked to information on compliance to the victims’ code.

After Clause 14

LORD KEEN OF ELIE
LORD SANDHURST

73★ After Clause 14, insert the following new Clause –

“Publication of court transcripts of sentencing remarks

- (1) Where a request is made for the sentencing remarks delivered in the Crown Court, the court must, subject to subsection (2), make those remarks publicly available online within 14 days of the request being received.
- (2) The court must, before publication, make the applicant aware that they have a right to request that the sentencing remarks are not published, and if such a request is made, the remarks must not be so published.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment provides that sentencing remarks released by the Crown Court are freely published online, whilst also requiring the Court to inform applicants of their right to request that such remarks are not published. Where an applicant makes such a request, the court must not publish the sentencing remarks online.

LORD KEEN OF ELIE
LORD SANDHURST

74★ After Clause 14, insert the following new Clause—

“Exemptions to presumptions of suspended sentences for those over 21

In section 1 of the Sentencing Act 2026 (presumption of suspended sentence order for sentences of 12 months or less), in subsection (3), in inserted section 277A(3), at end insert—

- “(i) the offender has been convicted of a sexual offence, within the meaning of section 3 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003, or
- (j) the offender has been convicted of an offence which constitutes domestic abuse within the meaning of section 1 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would exempt sex offenders and domestic abusers from the automatic presumption of a suspended sentence.

BARONESS BRINTON
LORD RUSSELL OF LIVERPOOL

75★ After Clause 14, insert the following new Clause—

“Duty to inform victims and families of the unduly lenient sentencing scheme

After section 36 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, insert—

“36A Duty to inform victims and families of the unduly lenient sentencing scheme

- (1) The Secretary of State must nominate a government department to inform victims and their families of their rights set out in section 36 (reviews of sentencing).
- (2) The information provided under subsection (1) must include the type of sentence and the time limit for application, and advise that applications must be made to the Attorney General.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment will ensure that victims are aware of the Unduly Lenient Sentencing scheme which presently has a strict 28-day timeframe in which to apply, there being no power to extend the time.

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6 February 2026
