
Committee Stage: Wednesday 30 April 2025

Sentencing Guidelines (Pre-sentence Reports) Bill

(Amendment Paper)

This document lists all amendments tabled to the Sentencing Guidelines (Pre-sentence Reports) Bill. Any withdrawn amendments are listed at the end of the document. The amendments are arranged in the order in which it is expected they will be decided.

This document should be read alongside the provisional Selection and Grouping by the Chairman of Ways and Means, which sets out the order in which the amendments will be debated.

Sir Jeremy Wright

1

Clause 1, page 1, line 6, leave out “different personal characteristics of an offender” and insert “an offender’s membership of a particular demographic cohort.”

Robert Jenrick

3

Dr Kieran Mullan
Mike Wood
Jack Rankin
Mr Peter Bedford

Clause 1, page 1, line 7, at end insert—

“(2A) After subsection (7) insert—

“(7A) In the case of guidelines within subsection (4) about pre-sentence reports, the Council must, after making any amendments of the guidelines which it considers appropriate, obtain the consent of the Secretary of State before issuing sentencing guidelines as definitive guidelines.

(7B) In any case to which subsection (7A) applies, the Secretary of State may—

(a) consent to the issuing of guideline as definitive guidelines,

- (b) refuse consent for the issuing of guidelines as definitive guidelines, or
- (c) direct the Council to issue the guidelines in an amended form as definitive guidelines.

(7C) Where the Secretary of State has consented to the issuing of guidelines under subsection (7B)(a) or has directed the Council to issue guidelines in an amended form under subsection (7B)(c), the Council must issue the guidelines as definitive guidelines in the appropriate form.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment stops sentencing guidelines about pre-sentence reports coming into force unless approved by the Lord Chancellor.

Sir Jeremy Wright

2

Clause 1, page 1, leave out line 10 and insert—

““a particular demographic cohort” may include those related to—”

Robert Jenrick

4

Dr Kieran Mullan
Mike Wood
Jack Rankin
Mr Peter Bedford

Clause 1, page 1, line 13, at end insert—

- “(d) status as part of a group that may have experienced trauma from experiences of racism or discrimination—
 - (i) inter-generationally and related to the defendant, or
 - (ii) as a result of important historical events which may have had a greater impact on those from specific groups and cultures.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure that sentencing guidelines about pre-sentence reports cannot include a defendant’s status as part of a group, particularly not if this involves considering events that may not have impacted the defendant personally.

Josh Babarinde

NC1

To move the following Clause—

“Independent review

- (1) The Secretary of State must arrange for an independent review to be carried out of—

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- (a) the effects of the changes made to section 120 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 by section 1, and
 - (b) sentencing guidelines about pre-sentence reports.
 - (2) The Secretary of State must, after consultation with the Sentencing Council, appoint a person with professional experience relating to pre-sentence reports to conduct the review.
 - (3) The review must be completed within two years of the passing of this Act.
 - (4) As soon as practicable after a person has carried out the review, the person must—
 - (a) produce a report of the outcome of the review, and
 - (b) send a copy of the report to the Secretary of State.
 - (5) The Secretary of State must lay before each House of Parliament a copy of the report sent under subsection (4)(b) within one month of receiving the report.”
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Order of the House

[22 April 2025]

That the following provisions shall apply to the Sentencing Guidelines (Pre-sentence Reports) Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Committee of the whole House.

Proceedings in Committee, on Consideration and on Third Reading

2. Proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion three hours after their commencement.
3. Any proceedings on Consideration and proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion four hours after the commencement of proceedings in Committee of the whole House.
4. Standing Order No. 83B (Programming committees) shall not apply to proceedings in Committee of the whole House, to any proceedings on Consideration or to proceedings on Third Reading.

Other Proceedings

5. Any other proceedings on the Bill may be programmed.