



Marie Rimmer CBE, MP
Member of Parliament for St. Helens
South & Whiston
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
Tel: 020 7219 4847/01744 752075

Criminal Records System:

There are over 11 million people in the UK with a criminal record. I believe that those who have made mistakes but have since turned their lives around should be given the chance to contribute. Reforming the system will help people to stay out of the offending cycle and rebuild their lives.

In July 2020, legislation was introduced to change the filtering rules, which determine what information is disclosed in Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. Youth cautions, reprimands and final warning are no longer disclosed automatically on standard and enhanced DBS checks. Similarly, this legislation removed the 'multiple conviction' rule, which required the automatic disclosure of all convictions if a person had more than one.

As constituents may also be aware, the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 set out changes to offender rehabilitation timelines. Now, for example, an adult prison sentence of over two years and six months to four years will now have a rehabilitation period of the sentence plus a further four years. Previously, the rehabilitation period for the same sentence would have been seven years. These changes came into effect on 28 October 2023.

I believe that we can learn from the system for sealing criminal records that is employed in many US states. The final report of the Lammy Review, published in 2017, recommended that individuals should be able to have their case heard by a judge, or a body like the Parole Board. The judge would then decide whether to seal their record. A sealed record can be considered by judges if an individual breaks the law in the future, but does not need to be disclosed in job applications. I would like to see all of the recommendations from the Lammy Review implemented, in full.

I want to ensure that vulnerable people are protected from dangerous offenders, while those who have turned their lives around are not held back.

Constituents can be assured that I will continue to monitor this situation for any developments.

Marie Rimmer CBE, MP

Constituency Office:

Marie Rimmer CBE, MP, 2nd Floor, Century House, Hardshaw Street, St. Helens WA10 1QU, 01744 752075,
marie.rimmer.mp@parliament.uk
Website: www.marierimmer.co.uk