

17 September 2021

Dear Members

## Meeting of the Sentencing Council – 24 September 2021

As you know we had been exploring whether we might be able to meet in person for our next Council meeting. Unfortunately, our usual meeting rooms are currently in use as a 'Blitz Court' until early October. It is also not clear, despite the removal of legal restrictions, what social distancing measures might be deemed necessary or appropriate for meetings within the RCJ or elsewhere – including potential limits on total numbers.

As a result, the next Council meeting will again be held via Microsoft Teams, the link to join the meeting is included below. **The meeting is Friday 24 September 2021 from 9:30 to 15:45.** Members of the office will be logged in shortly before if people wanted to join early to confirm the link is working. You will see that the meeting is scheduled to be slightly longer than our previous virtual meetings, reflecting the fact that agenda was originally put together on the expectation we might meet in person. We have extended the lunch break and included an additional afternoon break to compensate.

We hope (subject obviously to whatever guidance is in place at the time) still to consider meeting in person in October; our usual rooms' use as a 'Blitz Court' will have ended by then and we have the rooms booked. To support that we will be giving consideration to RCJ and wider MoJ guidance on in person meetings and what risk assessments and / or mitigation measures may be necessary.

### The agenda items for the Council meeting are:

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| ▪ Agenda                                | SC(21)SEP00 |
| ▪ Minutes of meeting held on 30 July    | SC(21)JUL01 |
| ▪ Terrorism                             | SC(21)SEP02 |
| ▪ What next for the Sentencing Council? | SC(21)SEP03 |
| ▪ Environmental Offences                | SC(21)SEP04 |
| ▪ Animal cruelty                        | SC(21)SEP05 |
| ▪ Motoring offences                     | SC(21)SEP06 |
| ▪ Perverting the Course of Justice      | SC(21)SEP07 |
| ▪ Firearms importation                  | SC(21)SEP08 |

Members can access papers via the members' area of the website.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, we would welcome your comments in advance.

The link to join the meeting is: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Wade', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Steve Wade**

Head of the Office of the Sentencing Council