



# Government Legal Department

Martin Smith  
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Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse

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28 April 2022

Dear Mr Smith,

## **RE: Children Outside the UK Investigation: Update on response to recommendation (Home Office)**

On 7 April 2022, we received a request from the Inquiry to provide an update on the implementation of recommendation 5 from the Children Outside the UK investigation report. In our earlier letter to the Inquiry, 17 December 2021, we described the work that had been undertaken by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) with the Home Office (HO), Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), ACRO and the Charity Commission which is looking at the issue of criminal record checks for the international aid sector.

An element of that work has assessed the guidance currently available to the aid sector regarding the use of criminal record checks in the recruitment for work and volunteering outside the UK. We have been keen to ensure that existing available criminal record check options are clearly understood and communicated to the aid sector. Following consultation with organisations working in international development, we identified the need for further clarity and guidance around the eligibility of roles within the sector for criminal record checks, through either the DBS or ACRO.

This work, and ongoing conversations with individual charities has led the working group to develop scenarios for guidance which will help organisations in the aid sector in their application for the appropriate level of criminal record check to support their effective use in recruitment. Working closely with members of the working group, including the Charity Commission, DBS are currently finalising the guidance leaflet and it will be published by the end of May, for provision to charities.

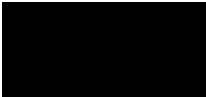
Emma Robinson - Head of Division  
Elizabeth Mackie - Deputy Director, Team Leaders Litigation DS4



As we stated in our earlier letter, the Home Office is determined to ensure that the regime remains effective at safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, and in February, we commenced a review of the disclosure and barring regime to provide assurance on its effectiveness in safeguarding the vulnerable. Its [Terms of Reference](#) include issues raised by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any way I can help further.

Yours sincerely



**Daniel Rapport**  
**For the Treasury Solicitor**

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F [Redacted]  
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