

Mr Duncan Jones
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Your Ref: FTG-SC-02

By email to: duncan.jones@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Dear Mr Jones

Office of the Sentencing Council

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Your Ref: FTG-SC-02

3 August 2021

Review of the Environmental Offences Definitive Guideline (2014)

Thank you for the letter from Councillor Buckmaster on behalf of the various local authorities and other organisations who co-signed.

The letter raises a number of very interesting points, and while some of the suggestions made may be outside of the remit of the Sentencing Council (for example there is a requirement in law for a court to take into account the financial circumstances of the offender in setting a fine), others could possibly be addressed by changes to the sentencing guideline. As such, the views and suggestions will require careful consideration and my team will look at them in detail and refer the matter to the Sentencing Council for a decision as to whether the guideline should be revised.

The Sentencing Council next meets at the end of September and so no decision can be made before then. I will revert to you once the Council has considered the letter.

Yours sincerely,

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Steve Wade

Head of Office of the Sentencing Council

