



# Government Legal Department

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Secretary of State for Justice  
Secretary of State for Wales

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Dear Secretaries of State

## THE MACUR REVIEW

1. You asked me to consider whether particular redactions should be made to Lady Justice Macur's report. Specifically, you asked that I consider redaction of names of individuals subject to rumours and speculation but against whom there is no, or no reliable, evidence. I note that Lady Justice Macur in her report<sup>1</sup> advised that caution should be exercised in determining whether such names should be included in any published version of her report, on the grounds that it would be unfair and unwise to include them.
2. I have accordingly concluded that a number of redactions should be made from the published report where:
  - a. individuals are mentioned solely in connection with *rumours or speculation* about involvement in child abuse;
  - b. those individuals have not been convicted of any relevant offence;
  - c. their names are not already in the public domain through inclusion in the original Waterhouse Inquiry Report or as a result of any other official process or publication;
  - d. where those individuals have previously been the subject of allegations in the media or on the internet, such allegations similarly amount only to rumour and speculation (so, as Lady Justice Macur puts it in paragraph 10 of her report, "*the allegations against them result from multiple hearsay or an unattributed and/or untested source*").

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<sup>1</sup> See in particular paragraphs 10 and 1.18 – 1.27.

3. These redactions comprise both the names of the individuals and any other text which could lead to their identification.
4. In deciding which names to redact I have not sought to distinguish between “establishment figures” and others. In my judgment, the same considerations of fairness apply whether an individual is an “establishment figure” or not.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Jonathan Jones*

**JONATHAN JONES**