

F/T: 0300 244 4000  
E: [scottish.ministers@gov.scot](mailto:scottish.ministers@gov.scot)

Audrey Nicoll MSP  
Convener  
Criminal Justice Committee  
Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

[Justice.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:Justice.committee@parliament.scot)

8 August 2025

Dear Convener,

## **RESTITUTION FUND UPDATE**

I am writing to update the Committee on the progress we are making in relation to operation of the Restitution Fund, following approval of the legislative changes set out in The Restitution Fund (Scotland) Order 2025, which came into force on 24 June 2025.

The new Order outlines the change of operator to the Scottish Ministers (as reported in my previous letter on 24 February 2025), that no payments should be made from the Restitution Fund prior to 1 April 2026, as well as setting out the record keeping functions and duty of Scottish Ministers to prepare and publish reports on the administration of the fund.

Over the coming months, officials will progress the changes made through the aforementioned Order by updating and publishing the Restitution Fund Guidance in September 2025, as well as developing the plans to enable the Fund to be open for applications by April 2026.

As part of these next steps, Scottish Government officials will also consider how we might be able to raise awareness of the restitution orders going forward.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to inform you that, at the end of June 2025, the total funding accumulated in the Restitution Fund is £11,966.

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[www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot)

The next report on the administration of the Restitution Fund will be provided to the Committee by 31 July 2026. In the meantime, I hope this update is helpful and provides reassurance that work is progressing on the full operation of the Restitution Fund.

Yours sincerely,



**ANGELA CONSTANCE**

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