

STATEMENT: Concerns raised on NI Water contracts

The Department for Infrastructure (DfI) has welcomed confirmation from NI Water that it will be in a position to advise of the publication date of independent reports into a number of allegations raised by an external contractor after its Board meeting on 18 December 2025.

Scrapping juries risks 'damaging politicisation' say Greens

3 December 2025 / 3 December 2025 by [Green Party](#)

Responding to the announcement from the Justice Secretary, David Lammy, that jury trials in England and Wales for crimes that carry a likely sentence of less than three years [are set to be scrapped](#), Green Party MP, Siân Berry, said:

"The focus on victims' rights is appreciated, but this Labour Government is taking the wrong steps to try to serve us better, and laying the groundwork for further crackdowns on dissent, whistleblowing and protest if it removes juries from so many charges that have state or corporate victims.

"Juries are also a safeguard against creeping bias and discrimination. Judges are not currently representative of our wider communities and, under these plans, individual decisions will be at risk of damaging politicisation, while individual judges who are women or from minoritised communities risk attacks from the far right.

"More than fifteen years of continuing austerity has caused a backlog in the courts, not juries. Instead of dismantling a centuries-old fundamental legal right, the Government must reverse the neglect and cuts that created this mess in the first place."

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Executive committed to Ending Violence Against Women and Girls

As part of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, the Executive has reaffirmed its determination to tackle all forms of gender-based violence, abuse, and harm.

Housing and Health Ministers launch New Foundations initiative to support care leavers

Housing Minister Gordon Lyons and Health Minister Mike Nesbitt have announced a collaborative new programme to support young people leaving care and help prevent homelessness.

Kimmins outlines new approach to road maintenance

A new approach to road maintenance which will focus on a greater use of technology has been outlined by the Infrastructure Minister.