



Society of Labour Lawyers
The legal think tank of the Labour Party

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TUESDAY, 28th APRIL 2020

Society of Labour Lawyers release report: Legal Considerations for Easing the COVID-19 Pandemic Lockdown Restrictions.

“Measures, including the restrictions we are currently living under, are vital to stop the spread of COVID-19 and save lives. The Society of Labour Lawyers thinks it’s time to have an adult conversation about how lockdown could begin to be lifted. We have written this report to start that conversation.” - Kate O’Rourke, Chair of the Society of Labour Lawyers.

Announcing the release of the report ‘Legal Considerations for Easing the COVID-19 Pandemic Lockdown Restrictions’, Kate O’Rourke, Chair of the Society of Labour Lawyers said:

“This report addresses the key legal considerations that may arise in evaluating and implementing different policy options for easing and eventually exiting the UK’s Covid-19 lockdown. Given the importance of dealing with Covid-19 effectively, and the huge impact on people’s lives of many of the potential policy options, including the significant curtailment of liberties likely to be involved, a robust legal framework is required for easing and eventually exiting the lockdown. This legal framework is important both to ensure that policies for exiting the lockdown are lawful and to ensure that individuals’ human rights, wellbeing and legitimate interests are protected.”

Lord Falconer QC, Shadow Attorney General, says in response to the release “I very much welcome this paper. It’s part of a vital debate to ensure that these necessary laws restricting activity to promote public health have public confidence. Policy makers and law makers should read the paper. They don’t need to agree with all of it but it focuses the legal debate on the key issues.”

We will be holding a webinar to discuss the report in more detail on Tuesday 5th May, 6pm. This webinar is available for members of the Society of Labour Lawyers to join, and will be available to view by the general public on youtube shortly afterwards. Press are welcome to join the webinar, please contact Joe for the link.

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Full report: <https://www.societyoflabourlawyers.org.uk/briefings>

Stephen Cooke, one of the authors of the report, is available for comment, in addition to Kate O’Rourke. Please call the press contact to arrange this.

Society of Labour Lawyers webinar series can be viewed here:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNXmqxtVGXpY5T3kLPIsI9A>