

The problems within our justice system result from Tory...

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Sentencing is not the problem within our justice system. Judges are more than capable of working out what any sentence they might give means, including the prospect of early release on probation implicit within it.

The problems within our justice system are something entirely different, and twofold. The first is, of course, the dire impact of austerity that has seen every part of the justice system denied the resources it needs as a result of deliberate, and wholly economically unnecessary, cuts to services.

The second problem is the consequence of dogmatic reorganisation of service supply, most especially with regard to probation services.

Probation services were disastrously privatised by Chris Grayling in 2014. As [The Guardian](#) noted in May this year when David Gauke (then still a Tory) renationalised them:

As justice secretary, Grayling ignored [significant warnings from within his department](#) to push through his so-called transforming rehabilitation reforms in 2014.

In February, MPs on the public accounts committee said the changes were rushed through at breakneck speed, taking [“unacceptable risks”](#) with taxpayers’ money. The justice committee described the overhaul a “mess” and warned it might never work.

This is the problem within our justice system, succinctly summarised.

I could take that process of summarising a little further. The issues that needs to be addressed within our justice system almost entirely arise from Tory, dogmatically driven incompetence. And a Tory prime minister should not be allowed to duck this fact.