

The proposals for changes to the DEA fall foul of UK law generally (the DPA does not permit withholding information falling under the jurisdiction of the DPA).

More to the point, in this democratic culture a man (or woman) is innocent of any crime until proven guilty by a jury of his peers. Every citizen has a fundamental right to be treated as such, and to defend himself should the need arise. Adding a charge to the “right to defend”; is not only at odds with the constitution in the UK, but would prevent those without funds from defending themselves at all.

Effectively, this clause would make anyone accused guilty unless they can afford to pay to be innocent. This corrupts the whole of the legal system in the UK.