

PE1975/U: Reform the law relating to Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPPs)

Petitioner submission, 18 April 2024

During the session I was asked for concrete examples of SLAPPs. I did my best to carefully recount examples but did not have detailed information with me at the time. I am therefore sending links to publicly available and previously published material on each case which will give a more precise understanding for those committee members interested.

This first example is in relation to the woman in the West of Scotland I mentioned who was targeted as an advocate for people battling fraud. The following, very recent article, is in my view the best public summary of the case I have come across:

<https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com/stories/2023-12-01/carter-ruck-britains-fiercest-libel-firm-will-pursue-anyone-anywhere-reputation>

The other example I briefly mentioned was in relation to Stirling University tobacco research. This story from 2011 in the Independent gives a full summary of the case.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/exclusive-smoked-out-tobacco-giant-s-war-on-science-2347254.html>