This chapter considers the principal government departments that have been shaping and will continue to shape the English legal system. The leading department is the Ministry of Justice which is responsible for running and developing the courts and tribunals system. The chapter provides an overview of its functions. It also considers the Judicial Office, the Judicial College, and the Law Commission. The Home Office is responsible for many aspects of criminal justice policy. Mention is also made of the Department for Exiting the European Union, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, and other central government departments whose work impacts on the legal system.
4. Shaping the legal system: the role of government

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