

The Lord Advocate applies to make representations in London and Edinburgh courts

The Lord Advocate today lodged applications to intervene in two legal cases aimed at stopping the UK Parliament being suspended ahead of the Brexit deadline.

Scotland's most senior law officer is seeking permission to make representations to hearings at the Court of Session in Edinburgh and the High Court in London.

If the applications are approved, the Lord Advocate will contend that the UK Government's prorogation of the Westminster Parliament prevents scrutiny and represents an abuse of executive power.

The hearing at the Court of Session takes place tomorrow 3 September 2019 before Lord Doherty and has been brought by Joanna Cherry QC MP and others.

On 5 September the High Court hears a separate action brought by anti-Brexit campaigner Gina Miller.

Constitutional Affairs Secretary Michael Russell said: "Accountable government is a fundamental principle of our democracy. This attempt to suspend the UK Parliament at such a critical time is a clear attempt to silence opposition and must be resisted." "The democratic wishes of the Scottish people and the Scottish Parliament should not be allowed to be brushed aside as if they did not matter."