

C/M/S/ Cameron McKenna

The tracker

Helping you to follow the progress
of Bills in the UK Parliament

February and March 2009



Table of Contents

A star denotes a change of status since last month's Tracker.

Bills in E&W	3
*Airport Expansion (Parliamentary Approval) Bill.....	3
*Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Bill	3
* Bankers' Pensions (Limits) Bill.....	3
Bank of England (Amendment) Bill.....	3
Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill.....	4
*Business Rate Supplements Bill.....	4
*Climate Change (Sectoral Targets) Bill.....	4
* Cohabitation Bill	5
Community Amateur Sports Clubs (Support) Bill	5
Companies' Remuneration Reports Bill.....	5
*Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies and Credit Unions Bill	6
*Coroners and Justice Bill.....	6
*Corporation Tax Bill	6
Disabled Persons (Independent Living) Bill	6
*Employers Liability Insurance Bureau Bill	7
*Employment Opportunities Bill.....	7
* Employment Retention Bill	7
*Employment Rights Bill.....	7
Equal Pay and Flexible Working Bill	8
Equality and Diversity (Reform) Bill	8
*Exercise of Reasonable Discretion Bill	8
*Food Labelling Regulations (Amendment) Bill	8
Green Energy (Definition and Promotion) Bill	8
Health Bill.....	9
*Home Repossession (Protection) Bill.....	9
Industrial Carbon Emissions (Targets) Bill.....	9
* Industry and Exports (Financial Support) Bill.....	9
*Law Commission Bill.....	9
Leaseholders Rights Bill	10
Lending (Regulation) Bill.....	10
* Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Bill.....	10
*Marine and Coastal Access Bill	10
Online Purchasing of Goods and Services (Age Verification) Bill.....	10
*Pharmaceutical Labelling (Warning Of Cognitive Function Impairment) Bill	11
* Policing and Crime Bill.....	11
*Political Parties and Elections Bill.....	11
* Postal Services Bill.....	11
* Presumption of Death Bill	12
*Protection of Shareholders Bill.....	12
* Renewable Content Obligation Bill.....	12
* Safety Of Medicines (Evaluation) Bill	12
* Saving Gateway Accounts Bill.....	13
Scottish Banknotes (Acceptability in United Kingdom) Bill.....	13
*Small Business Rate Relief (Automatic Payment) Bill.....	13
* Statutory Redundancy Pay (Amendment) Bill.....	14
* Theft from Shops (Use of Penalty Notices for Disorder) Bill	14
Welfare Reform Bill.....	14
Bills (Scotland)	14

Bills with Royal Assent	15
Banking Act 2009	15
*Budget Act 2009	15
Northern Ireland Act 2009.....	15
Statutory Instruments	16
The parliamentary life of a Bill.....	17

Bills in E&W

Bills currently going through Parliament

Bills	Description	Status
*Airport Expansion (Parliamentary Approval) Bill (Bill No.63)	A Bill to amend the Planning Act 2008 to require Parliamentary approval for proposals for the building of new major airports and additional runways at existing major airports; and for connected purposes.	1st Reading in the Commons 24 February 2009. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 12 June 2009. Public (Private Member's Bill under the Ten Minute Rule SO No.23) (HC)
*Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Bill	A Bill to make provision about apprenticeships, education, training and children's services; to amend the Employment Rights Act 1996; and other purposes.	2nd Reading in the Commons 23 February /2009. Committee Stage to 19 March2009. Public (Government) Bill
* Bankers' Pensions (Limits) Bill	A Bill to make provision for the pensions of board members of banks that are wholly or partly in public ownership to be limited in certain circumstances; and for connected purposes.	1st Reading in the Commons 10 March 2009. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 3 July 2009. Public (Private Member's Bill under the Ten Minute Rule SO No.23) (HC)
Bank of England (Amendment) Bill	To amend the objectives of the Bank of England in relation to monetary policy.	1 st reading 16 December 2008.

		<p>2nd reading to be scheduled.</p> <p>Private Members' Bill (Starting in the House of Lords) introduced by Lord Saatchi</p>
Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill	To make provision for the use and disclosure of customs information and the exercise of customs and immigration functions and functions relating to immigration, asylum or nationality; to make provision about citizenship and other nationality matters	<p>1st reading in Lords 14 January 2009.</p> <p>2nd reading scheduled for 11 February 2009.</p> <p>Committee Stage to 10 March 2009.</p> <p>Report Stage 25 March and 1 April 2009.</p> <p>Government Bill introduced by Lord West of Spithead</p>
*Business Rate Supplements Bill	The Bill will create a new power for upper tier local authorities in England and Wales to levy a local supplement on the business rate and to retain the proceeds for investment in that area.	<p>1st reading in Commons 4 December 2009.</p> <p>2nd reading 12 January 2009.</p> <p>Committee stage to be finished on or before 3 February 2009.</p> <p>Received 1st Reading in the Lords 12 March 2009</p> <p>Government Bill by Hazel Blears.</p>
*Climate Change (Sectoral Targets) Bill	A Bill to set targets relating to energy generation and consumption; to make provision for the sectoral targets to be met; and for connected purposes.	<p>1st Reading the Commons 11 February 2009.</p> <p>Provisional date for</p>

		<p>2nd Reading 8 May 2009.</p> <p>Public (Private Member's Bill under the Ten Minute Rule SO No.23) (HC)</p>
* Cohabitation Bill	<p>A Bill to provide certain protections for persons who live together as a couple or have lived together as a couple; and for connected purposes.</p>	<p>1st reading in Lords 11 December 2008.</p> <p>2nd Reading in the Lords 13 March 2009.</p> <p>Committed to a Committee of the Whole House 13 March 2009</p> <p>Private Members' Bill (Starting in the House of Lords) introduced by Lord Lester of Herne Hill.</p>
Community Amateur Sports Clubs (Support) Bill	<p>To make provision in respect of Community Amateur Sports Clubs.</p>	<p>1st reading 13 January.</p> <p>2nd reading to be scheduled.</p> <p>Private Members' Bill (Starting in the House of Lords) introduced by Lord Addington.</p>
Companies' Remuneration Reports Bill	<p>To make provision about remuneration reports in public quoted company accounts and reports.</p>	<p>1st reading 16 December 2008.</p> <p>2nd reading to be scheduled.</p> <p>Private Members' Bill (Starting in the House of Lords) introduced by Lord Gavron.</p>

<p>*Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies and Credit Unions Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to make provision for societies to be registered as co-operative or community benefit societies and to re-name the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts; to apply to registered societies the provisions relating to directors' disqualification and to make provision for the application of certain other enactments relating to companies; to confer power to make provision for credit unions corresponding to any provision applying to building societies.</p>	<p>1st reading 24 January 2009. 2nd reading scheduled 24 April 2009.</p>
<p>*Coroners and Justice Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to amend the law relating to coroners and to certification and registration of deaths; to amend the criminal law; to make provision about criminal justice and about dealing with offenders; to make provision about the Commissioner for Victims and Witnesses; to make provision relating to the security of court and other buildings; to make provision about legal aid; to make provision for payments to be made by offenders in respect of benefits derived from the exploitation of material pertaining to offences; to amend the Data Protection Act 1998.</p>	<p>1st reading 14 January 2009. 2nd reading 26 January 2009. Amended at Committee Stage in the Commons 10 March 2009. 3rd reading 24 March 2009. Government Bill introduced by Jack Straw.</p>
<p>*Corporation Tax Bill</p>	<p>The purpose of the Bill is to rewrite the charge to corporation tax and the primary corporation tax legislation used by companies in computing their income. This is the fifth Bill produced by the Tax Law Rewrite Project; the Bill rewrites the law without changing its general effect.</p>	<p>1st reading in Commons 4 December 2008. 2nd reading to 3rd reading 25 March 2009. Government Bill introduced by Alistair Darling</p>
<p>Disabled Persons (Independent Living) Bill</p>	<p>To impose duties upon certain persons and bodies in respect of disabled persons; to confer certain rights upon disabled persons for independent living; to amend the Mental Health Act 1983; to amend the Health and Social Care Act 2008; and for connected purposes.</p>	<p>1st reading Lords 9 December 2008. 2nd reading 13 March 2009. Private Members' Bill</p>

		(Starting in the House of Lords) introduced by Lord Ashley of Stoke
*Employers Liability Insurance Bureau Bill	A Bill to make provision for the creation of an employers' liability insurance bureau comprising an electronic database and a fund of last resort; to make provision about employer's liability insurance.	1st Reading in the Commons 26 January 2009. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 13 March 2009.
*Employment Opportunities Bill	A Bill to introduce more freedom, flexibility and opportunity for those seeking employment in the public and private sectors.	1st Reading in the Commons 10 February 2009. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 15 May 2009. Public (Private Member's Bill under the Ten Minute Rule SO No.23) (HC)
* Employment Retention Bill	A Bill to make provision for a statutory right to an employment retention assessment to determine entitlement to a period of rehabilitation leave for newly disabled people and people whose existing impairments change; and for connected purposes.	1st Reading in the Commons 3 March 2009. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 24 April 2009. .
*Employment Rights Bill	A Bill to provide that, notwithstanding the European Communities Act 1972, workers or members of a trade union who are UK nationals shall have rights of employment in the United Kingdom equal to or as favourable as those afforded to foreign nationals or conferred by the United Kingdom Parliament. Bill dropped.	3 February 2009 bill introduced. Bill dropped at 2nd Reading Public (Private Member's Bill under the Presentation Procedure SO No.57) (HC)

<p>Equal Pay and Flexible Working Bill</p>	<p>To amend the Equal Pay Act 1970; and to make provision about flexible working.</p>	<p>1st reading Lords 8 December 2008. 2nd reading 23 January 2009. Private Members' Bill introduced by Baroness Morris of Bolton</p>
<p>Equality and Diversity (Reform) Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to prohibit the use of affirmative and positive action in recruitment and appointment processes; to repeal the Sex Discrimination (Election Candidates) Act 2002.</p>	<p>1st reading 21 January 2009. 2nd reading scheduled 16 October 2009. Private Members' Bill (Ballot Bill) introduced by Philip Davies</p>
<p>*Exercise of Reasonable Discretion Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to provide that public authorities and public servants shall not be subject to any criminal or civil penalty as a result of the exercise of reasonable discretion in the performance of their functions.</p>	<p>1st Reading in the Commons 4 February 2009. 2nd Reading 27 March 2009.</p>
<p>*Food Labelling Regulations (Amendment) Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to amend the Food Labelling Regulations 1996 to provide for information about the country of origin of food to be made available to consumers; and for connected purposes.</p>	<p>1st Reading in the Commons 17 March 2009. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 16 October 2009. Public (Private Member's Bill under the Ten Minute Rule</p>
<p>Green Energy (Definition and Promotion) Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to define the term "green energy"; to promote its development, installation and usage.</p>	<p>1st reading 21 January 2009. 2nd reading scheduled 8 May 2009.</p>

<p>Health Bill</p>	<p>To make provision about The NHS Constitution; to make provision about health care (including provision about the National Health Service and health bodies); to make provision for the control of the promotion and sale of tobacco products; to make provision about the investigation of complaints about privately arranged or funded adult social care.</p>	<p>1st reading in Lords 15 January 2009.</p> <p>2nd reading 4 February.</p> <p>Amended at Committee Stage in the Lords 17 March 2009</p> <p>Government Bill introduced by Lord Darzi of Denham</p>
<p>*Home Repossession (Protection) Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to amend the Law of Property Act 1925 to require a mortgagee to obtain the court's permission before exercising the power of sale, where the mortgaged land consists of or includes a dwelling-house; to make certain powers available to the court in actions by mortgagees for possession of a dwelling-house.</p>	<p>Received 1st Reading in the Commons 3 February 2009.</p> <p>Provisional date for 2nd Reading 26 June 2009.</p>
<p>Industrial Carbon Emissions (Targets) Bill</p>	<p>Bill to make provision for the establishment of carbon emissions performance targets for electricity generating stations.</p>	<p>1st reading 21 January 2009.</p> <p>2nd reading scheduled 3 July 2009.</p> <p>Private Members' Bill (Ballot Bill) introduced by Mr Charles Kennedy</p>
<p>* Industry and Exports (Financial Support) Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to amend section 8(5) of the Industrial Development Act 1982 and to amend section 1(1) of the Export and Investment Guarantees Act 1991</p>	<p>1st reading in the Commons 4 March 2009.</p> <p>2nd Reading 16 March 2009</p>
<p>*Law Commission Bill</p>	<p>To make provision in relation to the Law Commission.</p>	<p>1st reading in the Lords 26 January 2009.</p> <p>2nd reading to be scheduled.</p>

<p>Leaseholders Rights Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to confer rights on leaseholders relating to the management and maintenance of their properties.</p>	<p>1st reading 21 January 2009. 2nd reading scheduled 26 June 2009. Private Members' Bill (Ballot Bill) introduced by Mrs Jacqui Lait</p>
<p>Lending (Regulation) Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to impose requirements on lenders relating to the calculation of interest rates; to regulate the promotion of lending.</p>	<p>1st reading 21 January 2009. 2nd reading scheduled 27 February 2009 and 15 May 2009. Private Members' Bill (Ballot Bill) introduced by Mr Russell Brown</p>
<p>* Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Bill</p>	<p>The Bill seeks to create greater opportunities for community and individual involvement in local decision-making. It also provides for greater involvement of local authorities in local and regional economic development. Additional provisions in the Bill include establishing a new body to represent the interests of housing tenants in England at national level,</p>	<p>1st reading in the Lords 4 December 2008. Report stage 1 April 2009.</p>
<p>*Marine and Coastal Access Bill</p>	<p>Sets up a new Marine Management Organisation under which many of the existing, diverse areas of marine regulation would be centralised; introduces new measures to reform fisheries management; enables the creation of a walkable route around the English coast.</p>	<p>Report stage 21 April 2009.</p>
<p>Online Purchasing of Goods and Services (Age Verification) Bill</p>	<p>To make it a requirement for the providers of goods and services and the providers of specified facilities enabling the purchase of such goods and services to take reasonable steps, in certain circumstances, to establish the age of customers making such purchases remotely.</p>	<p>1st reading Lords 14 January 2009. No date set for 2nd reading. Private Members' Bill (Starting in the</p>

		House of Lords) introduced by Baroness Massey of Darwen
*Pharmaceutical Labelling (Warning Of Cognitive Function Impairment) Bill	The Bill would make provision for a warning symbol to be prominently displayed on the packaging of specified psychoactive pharmaceuticals, which act on the brain and central nervous system and which can impair dangerously the consumer's ability to carry out certain activities.	1st reading Lords 14 January 2009. 2 nd reading 26 June 2009.
* Policing and Crime Bill	Make provision about the police; to make provision about prostitution, and sex establishments; to make provision for dealing with the abuse of alcohol; to make provision about the proceeds of crime; to make provision about extradition; to amend the Aviation Security Act 1982; to make provision about criminal records and to amend the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006; to confer, extend or facilitate search, forfeiture and other powers relating to the United Kingdom's borders or elsewhere; to make further provision for combating crime and disorder; to repeal redundant provisions.	1 st reading Commons 18 December 2008. 2nd Reading 19 January 2009. Amended at Committee Stage in the Commons 26 February 2009. Government Bill introduced by Secretary Jacqui Smith
*Political Parties and Elections Bill	The Bill makes some amendments to the regulation of party funding and election expenditure that is set out in the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000. It will cover the whole of the UK.	Committee stage at the Lords 22 April 2009.
* Postal Services Bill	A Bill to make provision for the restructuring of the Royal Mail group and about the Royal Mail Pension Plan; to make new provision about the regulation of postal services; and for connected purposes.	1st Reading in the Lords 25 February 2009. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 10 March 2009. Committee stage to 20 April. Public (Government Bill)

<p>* Presumption of Death Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to make provision in relation to the presumed deaths of missing persons.</p>	<p>1st reading Commons 21 January 2009. 2nd reading 6 March 2009. Consideration Stage concluded 9 March 2009 Private Members' Bill (Ballot Bill) introduced by Mr Tim Boswell</p>
<p>*Protection of Shareholders Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to make provision for each public company to establish a shareholders' committee; to make provision about the membership, functions and operation of the committee; and for connected purposes.</p>	<p>1st Reading in the Commons 17 March 2009. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 26 June 2009. Public (Private Member's Bill under the Presentation Procedure</p>
<p>* Renewable Content Obligation Bill (Bill No.64)</p>	<p>A Bill to make provision for the establishment of minimum levels of recyclates in designated products and classes of product; to establish a scheme for the certification of designated products; and for connected purposes.</p>	<p>1st Reading in the Commons 25 February 2009. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 8 May 2009. Public (Private Member's Bill under the Ten Minute Rule SO No.23) (HC)</p>
<p>* Safety Of Medicines (Evaluation) Bill</p>	<p>The Bill proposes the establishment of a Medicines Safety Evaluation Panel to compare the effectiveness of human biology-based tests and animal-based tests in assessing the safety of medicines and drugs.</p>	<p>1st reading 26 January 2009. 2nd reading 16 October 2009.</p>

<p>* Saving Gateway Accounts Bill</p>	<p>Bill to make provision about Saving Gateway accounts.</p>	<p>1st reading Commons 4 December 2009</p> <p>2nd reading on 13 January 2009.</p> <p>Committee stage by 10 February 2009.</p> <p>Received 1st Reading in the Lords 26 February 2009.</p> <p>Received 2nd Reading in the Lords 17 March 2009.</p> <p>Committed to a Grand Committee.</p> <p>Provisional date for Consideration at Committee Stage 2 April 2009.</p> <p>Government Bill introduced by Alistair Darling</p>
<p>Scottish Banknotes (Acceptability in United Kingdom) Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to make provision about the acceptability of Scottish banknotes throughout the United Kingdom. The Bill would impose a requirement on businesses not to make a distinction between Scottish and other banknotes issued in the United Kingdom as acceptable payment for goods and services. It would give powers to the Office of Fair Trading to investigate breaches of this requirement and to issue notices of compliance. The Bill would not affect the right of a business to refuse to accept banknotes which it considered to be forgeries.</p>	<p>1st reading Commons 21 January 2009.</p> <p>2nd readings 6 March 2009 and 27 March.</p> <p>Private Members' Bill (Ballot Bill) introduced by David Mundell</p>
<p>*Small Business Rate Relief (Automatic Payment) Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to require small business rate relief payments to be made automatically.</p> <p>Private Members' Bill introduced by Peter Luff</p>	<p>1st reading Commons 21 January 2009.</p> <p>2nd reading 6 March 2009. Bill dropped.</p>

<p>* Statutory Redundancy Pay (Amendment) Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to provide for a mechanism for statutory redundancy pay that links it to average weekly earnings; and for connected purposes.</p>	<p>Received 2nd Reading in the Commons 13 March 2009.</p>
<p>* Theft from Shops (Use of Penalty Notices for Disorder) Bill</p>	<p>A Bill to restrict the use of penalty notices for disorder in respect of the offence of theft from retail and commercial premises; to revise sentencing guidelines in respect of this offence; to make provision for the recording on a national database of penalty notices for disorder issued; and for connected purposes.</p>	<p>1st Reading in the Commons 11 March 2009. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 19 June 2009. Public (Private Member's Bill under the Ten Minute Rule SO No.23) (HC)</p>
<p>Welfare Reform Bill</p>	<p>Amend the law relating to social security; to enable disabled people to have control over the provision of public services; to amend the law relating to child support; to make provision about the registration of births.</p>	<p>1st reading Commons 14 January 2009. 2nd reading 27 January 2009. 1st reading Lords 18 March 2009. Government Bill introduced by James Purnell</p>

Bills (Scotland)

There is an excellent source of information on Scottish Bills at <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/bills/billsInProgress/index.htm>

Bills with Royal Assent

Act	Background	Royal Assent
Banking Act 2009	To establish a permanent statutory regime for dealing with failing banks. It amends related current legislation (and is being designed take over from the Banking Special Provisions Act 2008 when that expires on 20 February 2009) and makes new provisions for the governance of the Bank of England.	12 February 2009
*Budget Act 2009	A bill to authorise the issue out of the Consolidated Fund of certain sums for the service of the years ending 31st March 2009 and 2010; to appropriate those sums for specified purposes; to authorise the Department of Finance and Personnel to borrow on the credit of the appropriated sums; to authorise the use for the public service of certain resources for the years ending 31st March 2009 and 2010; and to revise the limits on the use of certain accruing resources in the year ending 31st March 2009.	Consideration Stage concluded 24 February 2009. Royal Assent 6 March 2009 Public (Executive) Bill
Northern Ireland Act 2009	A Bill to make provision in relation to policing and justice in Northern Ireland; and to amend section 86 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.	1st Reading in the Commons 23 February 2009. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 24 February 2009 Unamended at Report Stage in the Lords 11 March 2009. 3rd Reading 11 March 2009. Bill passed 11 March 2009. Provisional date for Royal Assent 12 March 2009. .

Statutory Instruments

If you have a question about a specific SI or subject area, please do not hesitate to ask me for details.

Ruth.Pedley@cms-cmck.com

The parliamentary life of a Bill

The stages as it makes its way through Parliament are:

Parliamentary jargon explained: http://www.parliament.uk/about/glossary.cfm?ref=woolsac_4660

First Reading

- An MP sponsoring the Bill reads out its title and distributes copies.
- The House will often refuse to send Private Members' Bills to second reading at this stage, but the MP will have drawn public and governmental attention to the matter.

Second Reading

- The House debates the general principles contained in the Bill.
- It is rare for a Public Bill to be denied a second reading. This is the first time that a Public Bill might be defeated.

Programme Motions

A timetable setting out specific dates for the various stages of the Bill.

Guillotine motions

Used to limit debate on a Bill so that it can be quickly enacted.

Committee Stage

- The Bill passes to a **Standing Committee** created to deal with the particular Bill.
- The Committee may be the whole House or about 18 cross-party MPs.
- The Committee subjects the Bill to a line-by-line examination and makes amendments where necessary.
- **Select Committees** are different. They take evidence rather than just debate issues. Any recommendations or findings emerging from these Committees are then passed to the Commons as command papers.

Report Stage

- Here, the Bill that has been amended during the Committee Stage is reviewed. All members of the House have an opportunity to speak and vote at this stage, making it distinct from the Standing Committee Stage, where the scope for debate is rather limited.
- Known as the Consideration Stage in the Scottish Parliament and Northern Ireland Assembly

Third Reading

- The House looks at the final version of the Bill in its entirety.
- This stage is usually quite brief, as no amendments can be made.
- If substantial amendments are demanded, the Bill has to be sent back to the Standing Committee for further consideration.

➤ Lords Stages

- Similar to the various stages of the Commons except that after Second Reading, bills are committed to a Committee of the whole House; debate is unrestricted and amendments can be made at Third Reading.

➤ Lords Amendments Considered

- The Commons have to consider, approve or disapprove of any amendments made by the Lords.
- The Commons accepts around 90% of these Amendments.
- The Lords may delay a Bill if, for example, it feels that there is no popular mandate for it. An example is the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill (now the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 2000 Chapter 44).
- The Parliament Acts of 1911 and 1949 limit the delaying power of the Lords to thirty days in the case of **Money Bills** (contain only provisions relating to taxation or expenditure) and up to one year in the case of other Bills.
- Unless the House of Commons invokes the Parliament Act, both Houses of Parliament must agree on the final text of the Bill.

➤ Royal Assent

- The Crown formally assents to the Bill in order for it to pass into law.
- The Sovereign, as the third pillar of Parliament's composition, must give consent to a Bill for it formally to become an Act.
- The last time Royal Assent was given by the Sovereign in person was in 1854.
- Since the UK is a constitutional Monarchy, the Sovereign is bound to Assent to any Bill, except in extraordinary circumstances. Assent has not been withheld since 1707, when Queen Anne refused a Bill for settling the militia in Scotland.

➤ Commencement Orders

- Some Acts are brought into force immediately, others by Commencement Orders.
- The Orders are statutory instruments, made by a Minister. Parliament is not involved.

➤ Sessional Cycle

A Public Bill must complete all its stages in one Session of Parliament. If it fails to, it can be re-presented the following Session, but has to begin the cycle again.

Editor: Ruth Pedley, Professional Support Lawyer, Banking and Corporate Recovery Teams, CMS Cameron McKenna LLP.

Please contact Ruth for further information or feedback on this bulletin: Ruth.Pedley@cms-cmck.com

020 7367 2098

You are entitled to sign up to our free electronic information service, Law Now www.law-now.com

This bulletin is the property of the firm and must not be reproduced without consent.

©CMS Cameron McKenna LLP

Law-Now™

CMS Cameron McKenna's free on-line information service

Receive expert commentary and analysis on key legal issues affecting your business. Register for free email alerts and access the full Law-Now archive at www.law-now.com

CMS Cameron McKenna LLP
Mitre House
160 Aldersgate Street
London EC1A 4DD

T +44 (0)20 7367 3000
F +44 (0)20 7367 2000

CMS Cameron McKenna LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales. It is able to provide international legal services to clients utilising, where appropriate, the services of its associated international offices and/or member firms of the CMS alliance.

The associated international offices of CMS Cameron McKenna LLP are separate and distinct from it.

CMS Cameron McKenna LLP and its associated offices are members of CMS, the alliance of independent European law firms. Alliance firms are legal entities which are separate and distinct from CMS Cameron McKenna LLP and its associated international offices.

CMS offices and associated offices worldwide: Amsterdam, Berlin, Brussels, London, Madrid, Paris, Rome, Vienna, Zurich, Aberdeen, Algiers, Antwerp, Arnhem, Beijing, Belgrade, Bratislava, Bristol, Bucharest, Budapest, Buenos Aires, Casablanca, Cologne, Dresden, Dusseldorf, Edinburgh, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Kyiv, Leipzig, Ljubljana, Lyon, Marbella, Milan, Montevideo, Moscow, Munich, New York, Prague, Sao Paulo, Sarajevo, Seville, Shanghai, Sofia, Strasbourg, Stuttgart, Utrecht, Warsaw and Zagreb.
www.cmslegal.com

The members of CMS are in association with The Levant Lawyers with offices in Beirut, Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Kuwait.