C/M/S/ Cameron McKenna



A guide to the progress of Bills in the UK Parliament

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Bills in E&W

Bills currently going through Parliament

Bills	Description	Status
Bailiffs (Licensing) Bill (Bill No.16)	A bill to make provision for the licensing of activities involving the judicial or quasi-judicial seizure and sale of goods. Public (Private Members' Bill starting in the House of Lords) (HL)	Received 1st Reading in the Lords 28/11/2006.
Climate change proposals	To protect the environment, consistent with the need to secure long-term energy supplies. Will this result in a national carbon trading scheme? Companies would need to cut carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050.	
*Consumers, Estate Agents and Redress Bill Public (Private Members' Bill starting in the House of Lords) (HL)	To provide for improved arrangements for consumer advocacy and for regulation of estate agents. Estate Agents would have to join a redress scheme, keep records, provide cooling off periods following a sale made during a solicited sales visit. The Bill would extend to energy and postal sectors. Possibly also the Water sector in future. Combined with the EU Unfair Commercial Practices Directive this would be the most wideranging reform of consumer protection for years.	Bill introduced 17/11/06 Second marshalled list of amendments 8/1/06.

Bills	Description	Status
*Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Bill (Bill No.5) Public (Government Bill) (HC)	A Bill to create a new offence that, in England and Wales or Northern Ireland, is to be called corporate manslaughter and, in Scotland, is to be called corporate homicide; and to make provision in connection with that offence. Carried over from previous session of Parliament (Bill No.220).	Received 1st and 2nd Readings in the Commons 16/11/2006. Amended at Report Stage in the Commons 4/12/2006. Received 3rd Reading 4/12/2006. Received 1st Reading in the Lords 5/12/2006. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 19/12/2006. Amendments to be moved in Grand Committee 9/1/2007. Second Marshalled List of Amendments 12/1/07 Provisional date for consideration at Committee Stage 18/1/07
Corruption Bill	A Bill to make provision about corruption.	Introduced to HL 29/11/06
Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill		Introduced 9/1/07

Bills	Description	Status
Digital Switchover (Disclosure of Information) Bill (Bill No.3) Public (Government Bill) (HC)	A Bill to make provision about the disclosure of certain information for purposes connected with digital switchover.	Received 1st Reading in the Commons 16/11/2006. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 20/11/2006.
Energy Efficiency and Microgeneration Bill [Public Bill HL]	A Bill to make provision about the energy rating of residential properties on the market; to make provision about energy efficiency and microgeneration; and for connected purposes.	Bill introduced to House of Lords 14/12/06
Fraud (Trials Without a Jury) Bill (Bill No.6) Public (Government Bill) (HC)	A Bill to make amendments of and in relation to section 43 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.	Received 1st Reading in the Commons 16/11/2006. Notice of amendments given on 11/12/2006. Public Bill Committee Proceedings 13/12/06
Income Tax Bill (Bill No 14)	A Bill to restate, with minor changes, certain enactments relating to income tax; and for connected purposes.	Received 1st Reading in the Commons 7/12/2006. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 11/12/2006.

Bills	Description	Status
*Legal Services Bill	A Bill to reform the way legal services are regulated and delivered. Creates a new Legal Services Board for oversight of regulatory bodies. Creates Office for Legal Complaints to ensure high standards and consumer confidence.	Received 1st Reading in the Lords 23/11/2006. Received 2nd Reading in the Lords 6/12/2006. Committed to a Committee of the Whole House 6/12/2006. Supplementary to the Revised Marshalled list of amendments 12/1/07
*Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill	A Bill to make provision with respect to local government and the functions and procedures of local authorities and certain other authorities; to make provision with respect to persons with functions of inspection and audit in relation to local government; to establish the Valuation Tribunal for England; to make provision in connection with local involvement networks; to abolish Patients' Forums and the Commission for Patient and Public Involvement in Health; to make provision with respect to local consultation in connection with health services; and for connected purposes.	Bill introduced 13/12/06

Bills	Description	Status
Mental Health Bill (Bill No.1) Public (Government Bill) (HL)	A bill to amend the Mental Health Act 1983 and the Mental Capacity Act 2005 in relation to mentally disordered persons.	Received 1st Reading in the Lords 16/11/2006. amendments to be moved in Grand Committee 8/12/06.
Pensions Bill	A Bill to make provision about pensions and other benefits payable to persons in connection with bereavement or by reference to pensionable age; to make provision about the establishment and functions of the Personal Accounts Delivery Authority; and for connected purposes.	Received 1st Reading in the Commons 28/11/2006. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 29/11/2006.
Planning-gain Supplement (Preparations) Bill	A Bill to permit expenditure in preparation for the imposition of a tax on the increase in the value of land resulting from the grant of permission for development.	Bill introduced 13/12/2006
*Sustainable Communities Bill	A Bill to make provision for the Secretary of State to publish action plans in connection with promoting the sustainability of local communities and to enable local authorities and local communities to participate in the formulation and implementation of those plans; to require the Secretary of State to provide information on government spending in local authority areas to local authorities upon request; to make provision for local authorities to produce local spending plans; to require the Secretary of State to approve and implement those plans; and for connected purposes.	Introduced 9/1/07

Bills	Description	Status
Statistics and Registration Service Bill (Bill No.8) Public (Government Bill) (HC)	A Bill to establish and make provision about the Statistics Board; to make provision about offices and office-holders under the Registration Service Act 1953; and for connected purposes.	Received 1st Reading in the Commons 21/11/2006. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 22/11/2006
*Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Bill	A Bill to make provision about tribunals and inquiries; establish an Administrative Justice and Tribunals Council; amend the law relating to qualification for judicial appointment; amend the law relating to the enforcement of judgements and debts; make further provision about the management and relief of debt; amend the law related to the possession of land affected by compulsory purchase; and alter the powers of the High Court in judicial review applications.	Amended at Committee Stage in the Lords 14/12/2006. Unamended at Committee Stage in the Lords 18/12/2006. Amendments moved on report 19/12/2006.
Victims of Overseas Terrorism Bill (Bill No.23)	A Bill to make provision for advice and assistance to victims of acts of terrorism taking place outside the United Kingdom; for arrangements under which insurance is made available to individuals in respect of risks against injury resulting from acts of terrorism taking place outside the United Kingdom; and for connected purposes.	Received 1st Reading in the Lords 20/12/2006.
Welfare Reform Bill (Bill No.1) Public (Government Bill) (HC)	A Bill to make provision about social security; to amend the Vaccine Damage Payments Act 1979; and for connected purposes.	Amended at Committee Stage in the Commons 30/11/2006. Consideration of Bill 9/1/2007.

Acts

Bills that have received Royal Assent

Since the last issue of The Tracker

Bills	Description	Status
*Investment Exchanges and Clearing Houses Act	An Act to confer power on the Financial Services Authority to disallow excessive regulatory provision by recognised investment exchanges and clearing houses; and for connected purposes. The Explanatory Notes are available at http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/en2006/2006en55.htm	Royal Assent 19/12/2006 Came into force 20/12/06.

Explanatory notes

Explanatory notes that have been published

Since the last issue of The Tracker

Bill/Act	Description	
Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Bill	These explanatory notes relate to the Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Bill as brought from the House of Commons on 5th December 2006	
	http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld2006 07/ldbills/019/en/07019xhtm	
Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006	These explanatory notes relate to the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006. They have been prepared by the Cabinet Office in order to assist the reader in understanding the Act. http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/en2006/2006en51.htm	

Draft Bills and proposals in E&W

Bills and issues being considered before laying before Parliament

Bills	Description	Note
Counter Terrorism provisions	A review of our current measures is underway and if gaps are identified in our security measures, the Government will legislate to fill the gaps.	
Identity Cards	To make biometric identity compulsory for non- EU foreign nationals coming to the UK to work and for those applying for a NI number from 2008.	Identity cards (compulsory) for British citizens to be issued from 2009.
Planning system	To reform the planning system including major infrastructure projects. Secondary legislation will reform energy consents but more radical changes can be expected in the longer term. Proposals for reform expected Spring 2007. Note the effect of this on major real estate and infrastructure projects and on energy.	
Road congestion	To tackle the problems and improve transport. This may have an effect on major infrastructure projects.	
Organised Crime Bill	To extend the powers of enforcement agencies to combat serious and organised crime. Would establish a new Serious Crime Prevention Order to prevent organised crime, and introduce new offences of encouraging or assisting a criminal act with intent.	Stronger powers to recover assets by financial investigators.

Statutory instruments

SI's and Orders in E&W

SI/Order	Description	Status
The Authorised Investment Funds (Tax) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 SI Number: 2006/3239	Enabling Act: Finance (No.2) Act 2005, s.17(3), s.18 Effect: S.I. 2006/964 amended.	Coming Into Force: 7/12/2006
The Banks (Former Authorised Institutions) (Insolvency) Order 2006 No 3107	This Order makes provision for the modified application of Part II of, and Schedule B1 to, the Insolvency Act 1986 (c.45) to any company within the meaning of section 735(1) of the Companies Act 1985 (c.6) that falls within certain criteria.	Date in force, 15/12/06
The Capital Requirements Regulations 2006	The regulations implement the international Basel II framework under the Capital Requirements Directive, including the: Banking Consolidation Directive (2006/28/EC) Capital Adequacy Directive (2006/49/EC) The regulations were laid before Parliament on 5 December 2006.	A new prudential framework from 1 January 2007
The Child Trust Funds (Amendment No.3) Regulations 2006 SI Number: 2006/3195	Enabling Act: Child Trust Funds Act 2004, s.13, s.28(1)(2)(3)(4)	Coming Into Force: 1/1/2007

SI/Order	Description	Status
The Civil Procedure (Amendment No.2) Rules 2006 2006/3132 (L.13)	Enabling Act: Civil Procedure Act 1997, s.2 Effect S.I. 1998/3132 amended. On 2 October 2006, the Civil Procedure Rules were changed to allow all members of the public access to some court documents. After the Law Society made its objections to the retrospective effect of the change clear, it was agreed to modify the change by this SI position so that the old rule of no public access applies to documents filed before 2 October (unless ordered by the court).	Date in force: 18/12/2006
The Companies Act 2006 (Commencement No. 1, Transitional Provisions and Savings) Order 2006 No 3428	These Regulations deal with the provision of electronic copies of material on the register at Companies House.	Date in force 1/1/06
The Companies (Registrar, Languages and Trading Disclosures) Regulations 2006 No 3429	These Regulations amend the Companies Act 1985 so far as not yet repealed by the Companies Act 2006, and supplement the Companies Act 2006 brought into force on the same date. They deal with the sending or supplying of documents or information by or to a company, the giving and publishing of notices of meetings, and the sending of documents relating to meetings where the documents are in electronic form.	Date in force 1/1/06
The Employment Equality (Age) (Amendment No.2) Regulations 2006 2006/2931	Enabling Act: European Communities Act 1972, s.2(2) Effect: S.I. 2006/1031 amended. S.I. 2006/1031 revoked in part. Implements Council Directive 2000/78/EC.	Date in force 1/12/06

SI/Order	Description	Status
*The Films (Certification) Regulations 2006 No 3281	These Regulations prescribe the particulars and evidence necessary for satisfying the Secretary of State that a film is a British film for the purposes of Schedule 1 to the Films Act 1985. They also make provision for the making of a statutory declaration on behalf of a company.	Date in force – see previous column due to complexity
	Date in force : only if the <i>Films (Definition of "British Film") (No. 2) Order 2006</i> comes into force. It shall do so on the day that Order comes into force. If the <i>Films (Definition of "British Film") (No. 2) Order 2006</i> does not come into force before 31st March 2007, this Order is revoked with effect from that date.	
The Films (Definition of "British Film") (No. 2) Draft Order 2006	This Order modifies the points-based "cultural test" definition of "British film" in Schedule 1 to the Films Act 1985.	Date in force unknown
*The Finance Act 2002, Schedule 26, (Parts 2 and 9) (Amendment) Order 2006 No 3269	The Order makes provision for a new method of classifying derivative contracts, and the new classification has prompted a considerable number of consequential amendments in later paragraphs of Schedule 26 Finance Act 2006. The Order also contains new provisions that apply if a contract moves in or out of the legislation applying to derivative contracts.	Date in force 30/12/06
The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Appointed Representatives) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 SI 2006/3414	Enabling Act: Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, s.39(1), s.417(1), s.426, s.428(3) Effect: S.I. 2001/1217 amended. S.I. 2001/1217 revoked in part. Implement European Parliament and Council Directive 2004/39/EC in part. Application: E/W/S/NI	Coming Into Force: 1/11/2007

SI/Order	Description	Status
The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Disclosure of Confidential Information) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 No 2006/3413	Enabling Act: Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, s.349(1)(2)(3), s.417(1), s.428(3) Effect: S.I. 2001/2188 amended. S.I. 2001/2188 revoked in part. Implement European Parliament and Council Directive 2004/39/EC in part. Application: E/W/S/NI	Comes into force In accordance with reg.1(2)
The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Exemption) (Amendment) Draft Order 2006	This Order implements in part Directive 2004/39/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 on markets in financial instruments (OJ No L 145, 30.4.2004, p1) ("the Directive").	Date in force (anticipated) 1/11/07
The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Markets in Financial Instruments) (Modification of Powers) Regulations 2006 2006/2975	The Regulations were published on the OPSI website on 20 November 2006 . The Regulations are accompanied by an Explanatory Memorandum. Made and laid before Parliament on 15 November 2006.	Come into force on 6 December 2006 E/W/NI/S
The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Regulated Activities) (Amendment) Order 2006 No 1969	Article 2 of this Order amends the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Regulated Activities) Order 2001 (S.I. 2001/544) ("the Principal Order") by substituting new articles for article 52 (establishing etc. a stakeholder pension scheme) and article 82 (rights under a stakeholder pension scheme).	Date in force: variously – details on request 1st October 2006; and 6th April 2007

SI/Order	Description	Status
The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Regulated Activities) (Amendment No. 3) Order 2006 No 3384	This Order implements in part Directive 2004/39/EC of 21 April 2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 on markets in financial instruments (OJ No L 145, 30.4.2004, p.1) ("MiFID"). In force:1.4.07 for the purposes of enabling applications to be made for— (i) a Part IV permission, (ii) a variation of a Part IV permission, (iii) the Authority's approval under section 59 of the Act, in relation to an activity of the kind specified by article 25D of the principal Order (inserted by this Order) or in relation to an investment of the kind specified by article 83, 84 or 85 of the principal Order (as amended by this Order); (b) for all other purposes, on 1.11.07.	Date in force, see previous column
The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (EEA Passport Rights) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 No 3385	These Regulations implement in part Directive 2004/39/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 on markets in financial instruments. In force: 1.4.07 for the purposes of— (a) regulations 4 and 5; (b) enabling the Authority to treat a notice referred to in regulation 4A(3)(a) or 5A(3)(a) of the principal Regulations (inserted by these Regulations) given on or after that date as effective for the purpose of regulation 4A(3) or 5A(3) (as the case may be); (c) enabling the Authority, on receipt on or after that date of notice under regulation 11A(2)(a) or 12A(2)(a) of the principal Regulations (inserted by these Regulations), to inform the host state regulator of the proposed change in accordance with regulation 11A(3) or 12A(3) (as the case may be); and (d) enabling the Authority to give notice under regulation 11A(3) or 12A(3) of the principal Regulations (inserted by these Regulations), and for all other purposes on 1.11.07.	See previous column

SI/Order	Description	Status
The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Recognition Requirements for Investment Exchanges and Clearing Houses) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 No 33386	These Regulations implement in part Directive 2004/39/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 on markets in financial instruments The Regulations amend the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Recognition Requirements for Investment Exchanges and Clearing Houses) Regulations 2001 (S.I. 2001/995). The Regulations also contain other amendments transposing the Directive, making consequential amendments and inserting definitions for the purposes of the amendments.	Date in force, 1.11.07
The Fraud Act 2006 (Commencement) Order 2006 No 3200	This Order brings into force sections 1 to 14 of and Schedules 1 to 3 to the Fraud Act 2006. Sections 15 and 16 came into force on Royal Assent on 8th November 2006. http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/20063200.htm	Comes into force on 15th January 2007
The Gambling Act 2005 (Commencement No.4) Order 2006 2006/2964 (C.103)	Enabling Act: Gambling Act 2005, s.358(1)(2)	Bringing into operation various provisions of the 2005 Act on 13/11/2006.
The Health Act 2006 (Commencement No.2) Order 2006 2006/3125 (C.108)	All enclosed public places and workplaces will become smoke-free from 1st July 2007	Coming into force: 1/7/07

SI/Order	Description	Status
The Housing (Right to Buy) (Priority of Charges) (England) (No.3) Order 2006 2006/3242	Enabling Act: Housing Act 1985, s.156(4) Effect: none	Coming into force 26/12/2006
The Individual Savings Account (Amendment) Regulations 2006	Enabling Act: Income Tax (Trading and Other Income) Act 2005, s.694(1)(3)(5), s.701(1); and Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, s.151	Coming Into Force: 1/1/2007
The Loan Relationships and Derivative Contracts (Change of Accounting Practice) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 SI Number: 2006/3238	Enabling Act: Finance Act 1996, s.85B(3)(5), Sch.9, para.19B; and Finance Act 2002, Sch.26, para.17C Effect: S.I. 2004/3271 amended.	Coming into force 27/12/2006
The Loan Relationships and Derivative Contracts (Disregard and Bringing into Account of Profits and Losses) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 2006/3236	Enabling Act: Finance Act 1996, s.84A(3A), s.85B(3)(a)(5)(b); and Finance Act 2002, Sch.26, para.16(3A), para.17C(1)(3)(b); and Finance Act 2005, Sch.4, para.52	Coming into force 27/12/2006

SI/Order	Description	Status
*The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (Commencement No.1) (Amendment) Order 2006 2006/3473	Enabling Act: Mental Capacity Act 2005, s.68(2)(a)(3) Effect: S.I. 2006/2814 (C.95) amended.	19/12/2006
The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (Appropriate Body) (England) Regulations 2006 2006/2810	Enabling Act: Mental Capacity Act 2005, s.30(4), s.30(6)(a)	Coming Into Force: 31/1/2007
The Pensions Act 2004 (Disclosure of Restricted Information) (Amendment of Specified Persons) Order 2006 2006/2937	Enabling Act: Pensions Act 2004, s.86(2)(a)(i)(ii), s.200(2)(a)(i)(ii) Effect: Pensions Act 2004 amended. Pensions Act 2004 revoked in part.	Coming Into Force: 7/12/2006
The Pensions Act 2004 (Commencement No.10 and Saving Provision) Order 2006 2006/2272 (C.78)	Enabling Act: Pensions Act 2004, s.315(2)(5), s.322(1)(5)(b) Affects no existing legislation.	Various provisions of 2004 Act on 1/9/2006, 1/10/2006, 1/11/2006, 1/12/2006, 1/1/2007, 1/3/2007, 6/4/2007. E/W/S/NI

SI/Order	Description	Status
The Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (Business in the Regulated Sector) Order 2006 2006/2385	The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Regulated Activities) (Amendment) (No.2) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/2383) makes arranging and advising activities relating to regulated home reversion plans and regulated home purchase plans (as defined in that Order) regulated activities. This Order makes a consequential amendment. This Order amends the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (c. 29) to add to the list of excluded activities the regulated activities of arranging deals in investments or advising on investments, in so far as the investment consists of rights under a regulated home reversion plan or a regulated home purchase plan. The effect of this is that a business will not be in the regulated sector the extent that it conducts such activities. This is relevant to the offence of failure to disclose information concerning money laundering in section 330 of the Act which requires information to come to a person in the course of a business in the regulated sector. Enabling Act: Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, Sch.9, para.5 Amends Proceeds of Crime Act 2002	Coming Into Force: 6/4/2 007 E/W/S/NI
The Real Estate Investment Trusts (Assessment and Recovery of Tax) (Amendment) Regulations 2006 2006/3222	Enabling Act: Finance Act 2006, s.122, Sch.17, para.4, para.19 Effect: S.I. 2006/2867 revoked in part.	Comes into force 26/12/2006

SI/Order	Description	Status
The Real Estate Investments Trusts (Financial Statements of Group Real Estate Investment Trusts) Regulations 2006 2006/2865	Real Estate Investments Trusts (REIT) Enabling Act: Finance Act 2006, s.144, Sch.17, para.31(7) These regulations exercise the powers conferred by paragraph 31(7) of Sched 17 FA 2006 to make further provision relating to the contents of the financial statements of Group REITs.	Comes into force 1/1/2007
The Real Estate Investment Trusts (Joint Ventures) Regulations 2006 SI 2006/2866	These Regulations provide details as to how the REITs legislation will apply to joint ventures	Comes into force 1/1/2007
The Real Estate Investments Trusts (Breach of Conditions) Regulations 2006 2006/2864	Enabling Act: Finance Act 2006, s.114, s.115, s.116, s.122, s.129(2)(a)(b), s.134(1), s.144 Make provision for the consequences flowing from a breach of the conditions in Part 4 Finance Act 2006, or a breach of the profit: financing costs ratio in section 115(2) Finance Act 2006, applying to a REIT.	Comes into force 1/1/2007 E/W/S/NI
The Real Estate Investments Trusts (Assessment and Recovery of Tax) Regulations 2006 2006/2867	Enabling Act: Finance Act 2006 Set out the administrative provisions for the deducting and accounting for tax when a REIT pays out its tax-exempt profits as distributions to shareholders.	Comes into force 1/1/2007

SI/Order	Description	Status
The Real Estate Investments Trusts Regulations 2006 No 2866	These Regulations provide the details as to how the UK REIT regime which was introduced by Part 4 of the Finance Act 2006 (c.25) shall apply to joint ventures. Joint ventures (which are not group REITs) may elect for the UK-REIT regime to apply in accordance with these Regulations. http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/20062866.htm	Date in force, 1/1/07
The Stamp Duty Land Tax (Variation of the Finance Act 2003) Regulations 2006 2006/3237	Enabling Act: Finance Act 2003, s.109	Coming into force 6/12/2006, 14.00
*The Taxation of Securitisation Companies Regulations 2006 SI Number: 2006/3296	Enabling Act: Finance Act 2005, s.84 Effect: None. These Regulations make provision as to the application of the Corporation Tax Acts in relation to a securitisation company. http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/draft/20065327.htm	Coming Into Force: 1/1/2007 Application: E/W/S/NI
The Terrorism Act 2000 (Business in the Regulated Sector) Order 2006 2006/2384	The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Regulated Activities) (Amendment) (No.2) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/2383) makes arranging and advising activities relating to regulated home reversion plans and regulated home purchase plans (as defined in that Order) regulated activities. This Terrorism Act Order makes a consequential amendment. Enabling Act: Terrorism Act 2000, Sch.3A, para.5 Amends Terrorism Act 2000.	Coming Into Force: 6/4/2007

Companies Act 2006

Information on consultation, etc, prior to actual SI

Item	Description	Source
Publication of the Act	The Act has now been published. http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2006a.htm	OPSI, 7 December 2006
Proposed provisions for inclusion in a commencement order for the Companies Act 2006	http://www.dti.gov.uk/files/file35182.doc	DTI, November 2006

Bills (Scotland)

Bill	Description	Stage
Bankruptcy and Diligence etc. (Scotland) Bill	A Bill to amend the law of sequestration and personal insolvency; to amend the law about floating charges; to establish a Scottish Civil Enforcement Commission and replace officers of court with messengers of court; to amend the law of diligence; and for connected purposes.	Bill passed 30/11/2006.
Civil Appeals (Scotland) Bill (SP Bill No.77) Public (Member's) Bill (SP)	A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to provide for a final right of civil appeal to a Civil Appeals Committee and to abolish the right of civil appeal to the House of Lords; and for connected purposes.	Introduced 29/9/2006.
Criminal Proceedings etc (Reform) (Scotland) Bill (SP Bill No.55)	A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision as to bail in criminal proceedings; to reform certain aspects of summary criminal procedure; to make provision in relation to solemn criminal procedure; to make provision as to maximum penalties in the summary criminal courts; to make provision for the purpose of compensation orders in favour of victims of offences; to make provision for and in relation to alternatives to prosecution; to make provision as to enforcement of financial penalties for offences; to make provision establishing the JP court and for disestablishing the district court; to provide for the inspection of the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service; and for connected purposes.	Public (Executive) Bill (SP) Received 1st Stage 14/9/2006.

Bill	Description	Stage
Crofting Reform etc. Bill (SP Bill No.57) Public (Executive) Bill (SP) 2005-06	A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make further provision as regards crofting and as regards the Scottish Land Court; and for connected purposes.	Received 1st Stage 27/9/2006.
*Legal Profession and Legal Aid (Scotland) Bill (SP Bill No.56)	Establishes an independent legal complaints handling body and improves access to legal aid.	Approved by Scottish Parliament.
Local Electoral Administration and Registration Services (Scotland) Bill	A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision in relation to the administration and conduct of local government elections; to reorganise local registration services; to amend the law in relation to the registration of births and deaths and the procedure in relation to marriages and civil partnerships; to provide for the recording of certain events occurring outwith Scotland in relation to persons who have a Scottish connection; to make available certain information and records held by the Registrar General; and for connected purposes.	Received first stage 4 May 2006
Planning etc. (Scotland) Bill	A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make further provision relating to town and country planning; to make provision for business improvement districts; and for connected purposes.	Bill passed 16/11/2006.

Bill	Description	Stage
Scotland (Oil and Gas Resources) Bill	A Bill to provide for the transfer to the Scottish Parliament of competence for Scottish oil and gas resources; to provide for revenues from the Scottish sector of the United Kingdom continental shelf to be paid into the Scottish Consolidated Fund; and for connected purposes.	Received 1st Reading in the Commons 6 June 2006. Provisional date for 2nd Reading 20 October 2006.
Scottish Commissioner for Human Rights Bill (SP Bill No.48) Public (Executive) Bill (SP)	A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to provide for the appointment and functions of the Scottish Commissioner for Human Rights.	Received 2nd Stage 27/9/2006.
2005-06		

Statutory instruments (Scotland)

SI's and Orders

SI/Order	Description	Status
The Advice and Assistance (Assistance by Way of Representation) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2006	Enabling Act: Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 1986, s.9(1), s.(2)(a)(b)(c)(dd)(de) S.S.I. 2003/179 amended. Effect: S.I. 1994/1056;The Environment Act 1995 amended; implements Commission Decision 2000/532/EC.	Draft
The Civil Partnership (Attestation) (Scotland) Regulations 2006 2006/574	Enabling Act: Civil Partnership Act 2004, s.88(5), s.92(2)	Coming Into Force: 1/1/2007
The Waste Management Licensing Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2006 2006/541	Enabling Act: European Communities Act 1972, s.2(2)	Into force 1/12/2006

The parliamentary life of a Bill

The stages as it makes its way through Parliament are:

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.
- There will be about 18 MPs drawn from all parties in the Committee.
- 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 because they are generally not controversial.
- 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.

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