



HOUSE OF LORDS

Library Note

Wash-Up: Bills Receiving Royal Assent, 1987–2005

The purpose of this Note is to examine the passage of Bills that have received Royal Assent during the wash-up periods that preceded the last five general elections, by illustrating what stage each Bill had reached by the start of the wash-up and how it progressed through its remaining stages.

It also contains a table showing Public Bills currently before parliament and the stage in the legislative process that each has reached. The inclusion of this information is not intended to imply any judgement about when the date of the 2010 general election will be announced, merely to summarise the situation at the time of writing.

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1. Introduction

When a general election is called, there are typically a few sitting days between the date on which the announcement is made and the date on which parliament is dissolved. During this time there is an opportunity to conclude outstanding parliamentary business. This period is informally referred to as the “wash-up”.

Guidance issued to departmental parliamentary clerks by the Cabinet Office explains that:

When the Prime Minister announces the date for the election he must also decide when Parliament will be dissolved. He can, if he so wishes, seek the dissolution immediately in which case any and all outstanding legislation is lost. More likely, there will be an interval between the announcement and the dissolution.

During this interval, usually referred to as the “wash-up” period, which might only be a few days (but possibly longer) the Government will decide what its priorities are and seek the co-operation [of] the Opposition in getting legislation through. In doing so there will invariably be sacrifices to be made. Some Bills might be lost completely, others might be progressed quickly but in a much-shortened form. A lot will depend on where the Bills are in the legislative process and whether or not they are controversial.¹

Further useful background on the wash-up, and the dissolution of parliament prior to general elections, can be found in the following House of Commons Library papers:

- [Wash-up](#), SN/PC/05398 (25th March 2010)
This Note provides a brief outline of the procedures followed at the end of parliament to ensure the enactment of some of the legislation that has not completed its passage through parliament when a general election is called. The Note also gives details of the time available for wash-up following the announcement of general elections since 1983.
- [General Election Timetables](#), SN/PC/4454 (17th March 2010)
This Note gives illustrative general election timetables for a number of dates in 2010. It should be noted that the House of Commons Library has no knowledge of the date of the next general election and that the last possible date for the election is Thursday 3 June 2010.
- [Dissolution of Parliament](#), SN/PC/05085 (3rd February 2010)
This Note sets out current procedures for the dissolution of parliament, including some details on wash-up.
- [Election Timetables](#), Research Paper 09/44 (13th May 2009)
This paper gives details of the time period between announcement and dissolution for each general election since 1918.

Concerns are sometimes expressed that normal parliamentary scrutiny is curtailed in the wash-up period owing to the time constraints of concluding business before dissolution; see Sections 2 and 3 of the House of Commons Standard Note on *Wash-up* for more detailed explanations and examples of this type of criticism.

¹ Cabinet Office, [Guide to Parliamentary Work](#) paras 4.12–13.

The purpose of this Note is to examine the passage of Bills that have received Royal Assent during the wash-up periods that preceded the last five general elections, by illustrating what stage each Bill had reached by the start of the wash-up and how it progressed through its remaining stages.

The tables in Section 2 show, for the last five general elections, how many Bills received Royal Assent during the wash-up period, the type of Bill (Government (G) or Private Member's Bill (PMB)) and what stage the Bill had reached by the day on which the date of the general election was announced. The summary tables in Section 2.1 show this information at a glance for each year. The more detailed tables in Section 2.2 contain further information showing the title of each Bill, what stage the Bill had reached by the day on which the date of the general election was announced and when that stage was reached, and how the Bill progressed through its remaining stages to Royal Assent during the wash up.

The tables were all compiled using information from the relevant editions of the House of Commons *Sessional Information Digest* and *Hansard*.

Bills which received Royal Assent during a wash-up period but which had already completed all stages in both Houses prior to the announcement of the general election are excluded. Bills which were still before parliament at the start of the wash-up but which did not go on to receive Royal Assent are also excluded. This Note does not show to what extent Bills were modified during the wash-up in order to enable them to receive Royal Assent before dissolution.

Section 3 contains a table showing Public Bills currently before parliament; the type of Bill (G or PMB), the stage each Bill had reached by the morning of 30th March 2010; and the scheduled date of the next event in the legislative process for each Bill (where known). For ease of reference, Government Bills are listed first, with Private Members' Bills following. Private Members' Bills which can make no further progress (for example, where the Order for Second Reading has lapsed, Ten Minute Rule Bills which did not receive a date for a second reading, Ballot Bills that have been dropped) are excluded. The inclusion of this information is not intended to imply any judgement about when the date of the 2010 general election will be announced; the table merely summarises the situation at the time of writing.

2. Previous General Elections

2.1 Summary, 1987–2005

Key

For Bills introduced in the House of Commons

House A—House of Commons

House B—House of Lords

For Bills introduced in the House of Lords, denoted with [HL] after the Bill's title

House A—House of Lords

House B—House of Commons

Number of Bills (1987)		G	PMB	Total
Receiving Royal Assent		18	11	29
Not introduced before wash-up		1		1
In House A at start of wash-up	Total	5		5
	<i>Completed first reading</i>	1		1
	<i>Completed second reading</i>	1		1
<i>consisting of</i>	<i>In committee stage</i>	1		1
	<i>Completed committee stage</i>	2		2
	<i>Completed report stage</i>			
Completed third reading in House A, ready to start progress in House B				
In House B at start of wash-up	Total	11	11	22
	<i>Completed first reading</i>	2	3	5
	<i>Completed second reading</i>	3	5	8
<i>consisting of</i>	<i>In committee stage</i>	1		1
	<i>Completed committee stage</i>	3	3	6
	<i>Completed report stage</i>	2		2
Completed third reading in House B; final amendments still to be agreed		1		1

Number of Bills (1992)		G	PMB	Total
Receiving Royal Assent		13	8	21
Not introduced before wash-up		2		2
In House A at start of wash-up	<u>Total</u>	4		4
	<i>Completed first reading</i>	1		1
	<i>Completed second reading</i>	1		1
<i>consisting of</i>	<i>In committee stage</i>			
	<i>Completed committee stage</i>	2		2
	<i>Completed report stage</i>			
Completed third reading in House A, ready to start progress in House B				
In House B at start of wash-up	<u>Total</u>	7	8	15
	<i>Completed first reading</i>	2	3	5
	<i>Completed second reading</i>			
<i>consisting of</i>	<i>In committee stage</i>			
	<i>Completed committee stage</i>	4	5	9
	<i>Completed report stage</i>	1		1
Completed third reading in House B; final amendments still to be agreed				

Number of Bills (1997)		G	PMB	Total
Receiving Royal Assent		26	10	36
Not introduced before wash-up		1		1
In House A at start of wash-up	<u>Total</u>	3		3
	<i>Completed first reading</i>			
	<i>Completed second reading</i>	2		2
<i>consisting of</i>	<i>In committee stage</i>			
	<i>Completed committee stage</i>	1		1
	<i>Completed report stage</i>			
Completed third reading in House A, ready to start progress in House B				
In House B at start of wash-up	<u>Total</u>	22	10	32
	<i>Completed first reading</i>	7		7
	<i>Completed second reading</i>	4	6	10
<i>consisting of</i>	<i>In committee stage</i>	1		1
	<i>Completed committee stage</i>	9	4	13
	<i>Completed report stage</i>	1		1
Completed third reading in House B; final amendments still to be agreed				

Number of Bills (2001)		G	PMB	Total
Receiving Royal Assent		11		11
Not introduced before wash-up		1		1
In House A at start of wash-up	<u>Total</u>	2		2
	<i>Completed first reading</i>			
	<i>Completed second reading</i>	1		1
<i>consisting of</i>	<i>In committee stage</i>	1		1
	<i>Completed committee stage</i>			
	<i>Completed report stage</i>			
Completed third reading in House A, ready to start progress in House B				
In House B at start of wash-up	<u>Total</u>	7		7
	<i>Completed first reading</i>			
	<i>Completed second reading</i>	3		3
<i>consisting of</i>	<i>In committee stage</i>	1		1
	<i>Completed committee stage</i>	3		3
	<i>Completed report stage</i>			
Completed third reading in House B; final amendments still to be agreed		1		1

Number of Bills (2005)		G	PMB	Total
Achieving Royal Assent		14		14
Not introduced before wash-up		2		2
In House A at start of wash-up	<u>Total</u>			
	<i>Completed first reading</i>			
	<i>Completed second reading</i>			
<i>consisting of</i>	<i>In committee stage</i>			
	<i>Completed committee stage</i>			
	<i>Completed report stage</i>			
Completed third reading in House A, ready to start progress in House B				
In House B at start of wash-up	<u>Total</u>	11		11
	<i>Completed first reading</i>	1		1
	<i>Completed second reading</i>	5		5
<i>consisting of</i>	<i>In committee stage</i>	1		1
	<i>Completed committee stage</i>	2		2
	<i>Completed report stage</i>	2		2
Completed third reading in House B; final amendments still to be agreed		1		1

2.2 Detailed Information, 1987–2005

Key

For Bills introduced in the House of Commons

House A—House of Commons




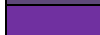









House B—House of Lords

For Bills introduced in the House of Lords, denoted with [HL] after the Bill's title

House A—House of Lords

House B—House of Commons

Stage reached by Bill by the day on which the date of the general election was announced

	Not yet introduced
	Completed first reading in House A
	Completed second reading in House A
	In committee stage in House A
	Completed committee stage in House A
	Completed report stage in House A
	Completed third reading in House A
	Completed first reading in House B
	Completed second reading in House B
	In committee stage in House B
	Completed committee stage in House B
	Completed report stage in House B
	Completed third reading in House B

Red—Bill not introduced prior to wash-up (applies to Finance and Appropriation Bills).

Purple shades—Bill was still in the House where it was introduced.

Blue shades—Bill had completed all its stages in the House where it was introduced and was going through its stages in the other House.

Green—Bill had completed all stages in both Houses but was still awaiting final agreement on amendments.

2.2.1 1987 General Election

- General election date announced: 11th May 1987
- Parliament dissolved: 18th May 1987

Bill name	Type	Stage reached before general election date announced	Progress during wash-up
Abolition of Domestic Rates Etc (Scotland)	G	Lords: Report stage between 28th April and 5th May 1987	Lords: Third reading on 11th May 1987 Commons: Lords amendments on 13th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Access to Personal Files	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 8th May 1987	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 13th May 1987; third reading on 13th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Agricultural Training Board	PMB	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 7th May 1987	Lords: Third reading on 12th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
AIDS (Control)	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 29th April 1987	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 13th May 1987; third reading on 13th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) <i>Title of Act: Appropriation Act 1987</i>	G	N/A	Commons: First reading on 12th May 1987; all remaining stage on 13th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Lords: All stages on 14th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Consumer Protection [HL]	G	Commons: Committee stage on 2nd and 5th May 1987	Commons: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 12th May 1987; remaining stages on 13th May 1987 Lords: Commons amendments on 14th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 15th May 1987

Criminal Justice	G	Lords: Second reading on 27th April 1987	Lords: Remaining stages on 12th May 1987 Commons: Lords amendments on 14th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Criminal Justice (Scotland) [HL]	G	Commons: Committee stage between 7th and 30th April 1987	Commons: Report and third reading on 12th May 1987 Lords: Commons amendments on 14th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Crossbows	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 30th April 1987	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 13th May 1987; third reading on 13th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Crown Proceedings (Armed Forces)	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 6th May 1987	Lords: Remaining stages on 12th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Deer	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 5th May 1987	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 12th May 1987; remaining stages on 12th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Diplomatic and Consular Premises	G	Commons: First reading on 1st May 1987	Commons: All stages on 12th May 1987 Lords: First reading on 12th May 1987; all stages on 14th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Family Law Reform [HL]	G	Commons: Committee stage between 30th April and 5th May 1987	Commons: Report and third reading on 12th May 1987 Lords: Commons amendments on 14th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Finance	G	Commons: Committee stage on 6th and 8th May 1987	Commons: Committee stage, report and third reading on 12th May 1987 Lords: All stages on 14th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 15th May 1987

Fire Safety and Places of Sport [HL]	G	Commons: Third reading on 7th May 1987		Lords: Commons amendments on 11th May 1987 Commons: Lords amendments on 12th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Housing (Scotland) [HL]	G	Commons: First reading on 5th May 1987		Commons: All stages on 12th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Immigration (Carriers' Liability)	G	Lords: Committee stage on 7th May 1987		Lords: Report and third reading on 12th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Irish Sailors and Soldiers Land Trust [HL]	G	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 5th May 1987		Lords: Third reading (formal proceedings with no debate) on 11th May 1987 Commons: First reading on 11th May 1987; remaining stages on 14th May 1987 Lords: Commons amendments on 14th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Landlord and Tenant Act (No 2) <i>Act title: Landlord and Tenant Act 1987</i>	G	Lords: First reading on 7th May 1987		Lords: Remaining stages on 13th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Local Government	G	Commons: Committee stage between 12th March and 2nd April 1987		Commons: Report and third reading on 12th May 1987 Lords: First reading on 13th May 1987; remaining stages on 14th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Motor Cycle Noise	PMB	Lords: First reading on 28th April 1987		Lords: Remaining stages on 13th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions)	G	Lords: Second reading on 8th May 1987		Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 13th May 1987; third reading on 13th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987

Parliamentary and Health Service Commissioners	G	Lords: Report stage on 7th May 1987		Lords: Third reading on 12th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Commons: Lords amendments on 14th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Parliamentary and Other Pensions	G	Commons: Second reading on 27th April 1987		Commons: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 12th May 1987 Lords: All stages on 14th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Prescription (Scotland)	PMB	Lords: First reading on 28th April 1987		Lords: All remaining stages on 13th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Protection of Animals (Penalties) <i>Title of Bill changed from Dog Fighting (Penalties)</i>	PMB	Lords: First reading on 28th April 1987		Lords: All remaining stages on 13th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Register of Sasines (Scotland)	PMB	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 7th May 1987		Lords: Third reading on 11th May 1987 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Registered Establishments (Scotland)	PMB	Lords: Committee stage on 7th May 1987		Lords: Report and third reading on 12th May 1987 Commons: Lords amendments on 14th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987
Territorial Sea [HL]	G	Commons: Second reading on 5th May 1987		Commons: Remaining stages on 14th May 1987 Royal Assent on 15th May 1987

2.2.2 1992 General Election

- General election date announced: 11th March 1992
- Parliament dissolved: 16th March 1992

Bill name	Type	Stage reached before general election date announced	Progress during wash-up
Army	G	Commons: Committee stage on 25th February 1992	Commons: Remaining stages on 13th March 1992 Lords: All stages on 16th March 1992 Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Charities [HL]	G	Commons: First reading on 26th February 1992	Commons: All stages on 16th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Lords: Commons amendments on 16th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Cheques	PMB	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 10th March 1992	Lords: Third reading on 12th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Competition and Service (Utilities)	G	Lords: Committee stage on 5th and 9th March 1992	Lords: Remaining stages on 13th March 1992 Commons: Lords amendments on 16th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Consolidated Fund (No 3) <i>Title of Act: Consolidated Fund (No 2) Act 1992</i>	G	Commons: First reading on 5th March 1992	Commons: All stages on 13th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Lords: First reading on 13th March 1992; all remaining stages on 16th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) <i>Title of Act: Appropriation Act 1992</i>	G	N/A	Commons: All stages on 16th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Lords: First reading on 16th March 1992; all remaining stages on 16th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 16th March 1992

Education (Schools)	G	Lords: Report stage on 10th March 1992		Lords: Third reading on 12th March 1992 Commons: Guillotine motion and Lords amendments on 13th March 1992 Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Finance	G	N/A		Commons: First reading on 12th March 1992; guillotine motion and remaining stages on 13th March 1992 Lords: First reading on 13th March 1992; remaining stages on 16th March 1992 Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Firearms (Amendment)	PMB	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 9th March 1992		Lords: Third reading on 12th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Friendly Societies	G	Commons: Second reading on 9th March 1992		Commons: All remaining stages on 16th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Lords: All stages on 16th March 1992 Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Further and Higher Education (Scotland)	G	Lords: Committee stage on 3rd March 1992		Lords: Remaining stages on 12th March 1992 Commons: Guillotine motion and Lords amendments on 13th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Medicinal Products: Prescriptions by Nurses Etc	PMB	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 9th March 1992		Lords: Third reading on 12th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Museums and Galleries	G	Commons: Committee on 25th February 1992		Commons: Remaining stages on 16th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Lords: All stages on 16th March 1992 Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Parliamentary Corporate Bodies	G	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 10th March 1992		Lords: Third reading on 12th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 16th March 1992

Sea Fisheries (Wildlife Conservation)	PMB	Lords: First reading on 10th March 1992		Lords: All remaining stages on 13th March 1992 Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Sexual Offences (Amendment)	PMB	Lords: First reading on 9th March 1992		Lords: All remaining stages on 13th March 1992 Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Social Security (Mortgage Interest Payments)	G	Lords: Committee stage on 5th March 1992		Lords: Third reading on 12th March 1992 Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Still-Birth (Definition)	PMB	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 9th March 1992		Lords: Third reading on 12th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Timeshare	PMB	Lords: First reading on 25th February 1992		Lords: All remaining stages on 13th March 1992 Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Traffic Calming	PMB	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 9th March 1992		Lords: Third reading on 12th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 16th March 1992
Transport and Works	G	Lords: First reading on 5th March 1992		Lords: All remaining stages on 13th March 1992 Commons: Lords amendments on 16th March 1992 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 16th March 1992

2.2.3 1997 General Election

- General election date announced: 17th March 1997
- Parliament dissolved: 8th April 1997

Bill name	Type	Stage reached before general election date announced	Progress during wash-up
Architects [HL]	G	Commons: First reading on 1st March 1997	Commons: Remaining stages on 17th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 19th March 1997
Birds (Registration Charges)	G	Commons: Committee on 4th March 1997	Commons: Remaining stages on 18th March 1997 Lords: First reading on 18th March 1997; remaining stages on 20th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Building Societies	G	Commons: Second reading on 10th March 1997	Commons: Remaining stages on 17th March 1997 Lords: First reading on 18th March 1997; remaining stages on 19th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Building Societies (Distributions)	G	Lords: Order of commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 14th March 1997	Lords: Third reading on 20th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons)	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 14th March 1997	Lords: Remaining stages on 19th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Consolidated Fund (No. 2) <i>Title of Act: Consolidated Fund Act 1997</i>	G	Lords: First reading on 13th March 1997	Lords: Remaining stages on 18th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Lords: Royal Assent on 19th March 1997
Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) <i>Title of Act: Appropriation Act 1997</i>	G	N/A	Commons: All stages on 19th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Lords: All stages on 20th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 21st March 1997

Contract (Scotland)	G	Lords: Second reading on 11th March 1997		Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 19th March 1997; third reading on 19th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Crime and Punishment (Scotland)	G	Lords: Committee stage on 4th, 6th and 10th March 1997		Lords: Report stage and third reading on 19th March 1997 Commons: Lords amendments on 20th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Crime (Sentences)	G	Lords: Committee stage between 13th and 27th February 1997		Lords: Report stage on 18th March 1997; third reading on 19th March 1997 Commons: Lords amendments on 19th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) [HL]	PMB	Commons: Committee stage on 12th March 1997		Commons: Report and third reading on 19th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Education	G	Lords: Committee stage between 24th February and 3rd March 1997		Lords: Report stage on 17th and 19th March 1997; third reading on 19th March 1997 Commons: Lords amendments on 19th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Finance	G	Lords: First reading on 13th March 1997		Lords: Remaining stages on 19th March 1997 Royal Assent on 19th March 1997
Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland)	G	Lords: Second reading on 10th March 1997		Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 19th March 1997; third reading on 19th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Justices of the Peace [HL]	G	Commons: First reading on 10th March 1997		Commons: Remaining stages on 17th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 19th March 1997
Knives	PMB	Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 10th March 1997		Lords: Third reading on 17th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 19th March 1997

Lieutenancies [HL]	G	Commons: First reading on 3rd March 1997		Commons: Remaining stages on 17th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 19th March 1997
Local Government and Rating	G	Lords: Grand Committee on 4th March 1997		Lords: Report stage on 18th March 1997; third reading on 18th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 19th March 1997
Merchant Shipping and Maritime Security [HL]	G	Commons: Committee stage between 25th February and 6th March 1997		Commons: Remaining stages on 17th March 1997 Lords: Commons amendments on 18th March 1997 Royal Assent on 19th March 1997
Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors [HL]	G	Commons: First reading on 3rd March 1997		Commons: Remaining stages on 17th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 19th March 1997
Police [HL]	G	Commons: Committee stage between 25th February and 18th March 1997		Commons: Report and third reading on 19th March 1997 Lords: Commons amendments on 20th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Police and Firemen's Pensions	G	Commons: Second reading on 10th March 1997		Commons: Remaining stages on 19th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Lords: First reading on 19th March 1997; remaining stages on 20th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Police (Health and Safety)	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 28th February 1997		Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 18th March 1997; Third reading on 20th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Police (Insurance of Voluntary Assistants) [HL]	PMB	Commons: Committee stage on 12th March 1997		Commons: Report and third reading on 19th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Police (Property)	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 28th February 1997		Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 17th March 1997; report and third reading on 19th March 1997 Royal Assent on 19th March 1997

Prisons (Alcohol Testing)	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 14th March 1997		Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 19th March 1997; third reading on 19th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Protection From Harassment	G	Lords: Report stage on 10th March 1997		Lords: Third reading on 17th March 1997 Commons: Lords amendments on 19th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Public Entertainments Licences (Drug Misuse)	PMB	Lords: Committee stage on 4th and 10th March 1997		Lords: Report and third reading on 19th March 1997 Commons: Lords amendments on 20th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Road Traffic (Reduction)	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 14th March 1997		Lords: Remaining stages on 20th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Scottish Legal Services Ombudsman and Commissioner for Local Administration in Scotland	G	Lords: Second reading on 11th March 1997		Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 19th March 1997; Third reading on 19th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Sex Offenders	G	Lords: Second reading on 14th March 1997		Lords: Remaining stages on 20th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Sexual Offences (Protected Material)	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 28th February 1997		Lords: Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 17th March 1997; Third reading on 19th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Social Security Administration (Fraud)	G	Lords: Committee stage on 11th and 13th March 1997		Lords: Committee stage completed on 20th March 1997; Third reading on 20th March 1997 Royal Assent on 21st March 1997
Social Security (Recovery of Benefits) [HL]	G	Commons: Committee stage on 4th March 1997		Commons: Remaining stages on 18th March 1997 Royal Assent on 19th March 1997

Transfer of Crofting Estates (Scotland) [HL]	G	Commons: Committee stage on 27th February 1997		Commons: Remaining stages on 18th March 1997 Lords: Commons amendments on 18th March 1997 Royal Assent on 19th March 1997
Welsh Development Agency	G	Lords: First reading on 5th March 1997		Lords: Second reading on 17th March 1997; Order of Commitment discharged (no debate at committee stage) on 19th March 1997; third reading on 19th March 1997 (formal proceedings with no debate) Royal Assent on 21st March 1997

2.3.4 2001 General Election

- General election date announced: 8th May 2001
- Parliament dissolved: 11th May 2001

Bill name	Type	Stage reached before general election date announced		Progress during wash-up
Armed Forces	G	Lords: Second reading on 23rd April 2001		Lords: Committee and remaining stages on 10th May 2001 Commons: Lords amendments on 11th May 2001 Royal Assent on 11th May 2001
Children's Commissioner for Wales	G	Lords: Committee stage on 3rd April 2001		Lords: Remaining stages on 9th May 2001 Commons: Lords amendments on 11th May 2001 Royal Assent on 11th May 2001
Consolidated Fund (Appropriation)	G	N/A		Commons: All stages on 9th May 2001 Lords: All stages on 10th May 2001 Royal Assent on 11th May 2001
Criminal Justice and Police	G	Lords: Committee stage on 30th April and 1st May 2001		Lords: Committee stage completed on 8th May 2001; remaining stages on 9th May 2001 Commons: Lords amendments on 10th May 2001 Royal Assent on 11th May 2001

Finance	G	Commons: Committee stage began on 26th April 2001		Commons: Committee stage completed on 8th May 2001; money resolution on 8th May 2001; programme motion on 9th May 2001; remaining stages on 9th May 2001 Lords: All stages on 10th May 2001 Royal Assent on 11th May 2001
Health and Social Care	G	Lords: Third reading on 3rd May 2001		Commons: Lords amendments on 10th May 2001 Lords: Commons amendments on 10th May 2001 Royal Assent on 11th May 2001
House of Commons (Removal of Clergy Disqualification)	G	Lords: Second reading on 27th March 2001		Lords: Committee and remaining stages on 9th May 2001 Royal Assent on 11th May 2001
International Criminal Court [HL]	G	Commons: Committee stage between 10th April and 3rd May 2001		Commons: Remaining stages on 9th May 2001 Royal Assent on 11th May 2001
Private Security Industry [HL]	G	Commons: Committee stage between 10th April and 1st May 2001		Commons: Remaining stages on 8th May 2001 Royal Assent on 11th May 2001
Rating (Former Agricultural Premises and Rural Shops)	G	Commons: Second reading on 30th April 2001		Commons: Committee stage on 8th May 2001; programme motion on 9th May 2001; remaining stages on 9th May 2001 Lords: All stages on 10th May 2001 Royal Assent on 11th May 2001
Social Security Contributions (Share Options)	G	Lords: Second reading on 2nd April 2001		Lords: Committee and remaining stages on 10th May 2001 Royal Assent on 11th May 2001

2.3.5 2005 General Election

- General election date announced: 5th April 2005
- Parliament dissolved: 11th April 2005

Bill name	Type	Stage reached before general election date announced	Progress during wash-up
Appropriation (No. 2)	G	N/A	<p>Commons: First reading on 6th April 2005; second and third reading on 6th April 2005 (formal proceedings with no debate)</p> <p>Lords: First reading on 7th April 2005; second and third reading on 7th April 2005 (formal proceedings with no debate)</p> <p>Royal Assent on 7th April 2005</p>
Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment	G	Lords: Second reading on 22nd March 2005	<p>Lords: Committee and remaining stages on 6th April 2005</p> <p>Commons: Lords amendments on 6th April 2005</p> <p>Royal Assent on 7th April 2005</p>
Commissioners for Revenue and Customs	G	Lords: Report stage on 22nd March 2005	<p>Lords: Third reading on 5th April 2005</p> <p>Commons: Lords amendments on 6th April 2005</p> <p>Royal Assent on 7th April 2005</p>
Disability Discrimination [HL]	G	Commons: Second reading, programme motion and money resolution on 23rd March 2005	<p>Commons: Committee and remaining stages on 6th April 2005</p> <p>Lords: Commons amendments on 7th April 2005</p> <p>Royal Assent on 7th April 2005</p>
Drugs	G	Lords: Second reading on 4th April 2005	<p>Lords: Committee and remaining stages on 6th April 2005</p> <p>Commons: Lords amendments on 6th April 2005</p> <p>Royal Assent on 7th April 2005</p>
Education [HL]	G	Commons: Committee stage on 22nd and 24th March 2005	<p>Commons: Remaining stages on 7th April 2005</p> <p>Lords: Commons amendments on 7th April 2005</p> <p>Royal Assent on 7th April 2005</p>

Finance (No. 2) <i>Title of Act: Finance Act 2005</i>	G	N/A		Commons: All stages on 6th April 2005 Lords: All stages on 7th April 2005 Royal Assent on 7th April 2005
Gambling	G	Lords: Committee stage begun on 10th March 2005		Lords: Committee stage completed and remaining stages on 6th April 2005 Commons: Lords amendments on 7th April 2005 Royal Assent on 7th April 2005
Inquiries [HL]	G	Commons: Committee stage on 22nd and 24th March 2005		Commons: Remaining stages on 6th April 2005 Lords: Commons amendments on 7th April 2005 Royal Assent on 7th April 2005
International Organisations [HL]	G	Commons: First reading on 1st March 2005		Commons: remaining stages on 7th April 2005 Lords: Commons amendments on 7th April 2005 Royal Assent on 7th April 2005
Mental Capacity	G	Lords: Third reading on 24th March 2005		Commons: Lords amendments on 5th April 2005 Royal Assent on 7th April 2005
Public Service Ombudsman (Wales) [HL]	G	Commons: Second reading, programme motion and money resolution on 4th April 2005		Commons: Committee and remaining stages on 6th April 2005 Royal Assent on 7th April 2005
Railways	G	Lords: Report stage on 4th April 2005		Lords: Third reading on 6th April 2005 Commons: Lords amendments on 6th April 2005 Lords: Commons amendments on 7th April 2005 Royal Assent on 7th April 2005
Serious Organised Crime and Police	G	Lords: Second reading on 14th March 2005		Lords: Committee and remaining stages on 5th April 2005 Commons: Lords amendments on 7th April 2005 Royal Assent on 7th April 2005

3. Current Parliamentary Session

The table below shows Public Bills currently before parliament; the type of Bill (G or PMB); the stage each Bill had reached by the morning of 30th March 2010; and the scheduled date of the next event in the legislative process for each Bill (where known). For ease of reference, Government Bills are listed first, with Private Members' Bills following. Private Members' Bills which can make no further progress (for example, where the Order for Second Reading has lapsed, Ten Minute Rule Bills which did not receive a date for a second reading, Ballot Bills that have been dropped) are excluded. The inclusion of this information is not intended to imply any judgement about when the date of the 2010 general election will be announced; the table merely summarises the situation at the time of writing.

Bill	Type	Stage reached by 30th March 2010	Scheduled date of next event (where known)
Bribery [HL]	G	Commons: Committee stage, fifth sitting on 23rd March 2010	
Children, Schools and Families	G	Lords: Second reading on 8th March 2010	
Constitutional Reform and Governance	G	Lords: Second reading on 24th March 2010	
Crime and Security	G	Lords: Second reading on 29th March 2010	
Digital Economy [HL]	G	Commons: First reading on 16th March 2010	Commons: Second reading on 6th April 2010
Energy	G	Lords: Second reading on 23rd March 2010	
Equality	G	Lords: Third reading on 23rd March 2010	Ping Pong on 6th April 2010
Financial Services	G	Lords: Committee stage, second sitting on 15th March 2010	
Flood and Water Management	G	Lords: Committee stage, second sitting on 24th March 2010	Lords: Continuation of committee stage, 6th April 2010
Northern Ireland Assembly Members [HL]	G	Commons: Second reading 11th March 2010	Commons: Committee stage, 7th April 2010
Personal Care At Home	G	Lords: Third reading on 24th March 2010	Ping Pong on 30th March 2010

Ambulance Response Times (Local Reporting)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 26th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 24th April 2010
Anti-Slavery Day	PMB	Lords: Third reading on 29th March 2010	
Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day	PMB	Commons: First reading on 6th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 30th April 2010
Bilingual Juries (Wales)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 1st March 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
British Museum Act 1963 (Amendment)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 6th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Building Regulations (Amendment) [HL]	PMB	Lords: Report stage on 22nd March 2010	

Care Homes and Sheltered Accommodation (Domestic Pets)	PMB	Commons: Second reading on 5th March 2010	
Children's Rights [HL]	PMB	Lords: First reading on 19th November 2009	
Climate Change (Sectoral Targets)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 9th February 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Consumer Emissions (Climate Change) [HL]	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 15th January 2010	
Constitutional Reform [HL]	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 5th February 2010	
Contaminated Blood (Support for Infected and Bereaved Persons) [HL]	PMB	Commons: First reading on 21st January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Council Tax Benefit (Change of Name)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 16th March 2010	
Damages (Asbestos-Related Conditions) (No. 2)	PMB	Lords: First reading on 8th February 2010	
Damages (Asbestos Related Conditions)	PMB	Lords: Committee stage, first sitting on 5th March 2010	
Dementia Strategy	PMB	Commons: First reading on 17th March 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Department for Work and Pensions (Electronic File Retention)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 10th February 2010	Commons: Second reading on 7th May 2010
Desecration of War Memorials	PMB	Commons: First reading on 3rd February 2010	Commons: Second reading on 30th April 2010
Employers' Liability Insurance Bureau	PMB	Commons: Second reading on 5th February 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Environmental Protection (Fly-Tipping Reporting)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 9th February 2010	Commons: Second reading on 30th April 2010
Fire Safety (Schools)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 23rd March 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Grocery Market Ombudsman	PMB	Commons: Second reading on 5th March 2010	Commons: Committee stage on 30th March 2010
Health and Safety (Company Director Liability)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 19th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Health and Social Care (Independent Living) [HL]	PMB	Lords: First reading on 23rd November 2009	
Human Rights Act 1998 (Meaning of Public Authority)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 6th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Hydrofluorocarbons Limitation	PMB	Commons: First reading on 9th March 2010	Commons: Second reading on 30th April 2010
Illegally Logged Timber (Prohibition of Retail, Wholesale and Distribution)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 16th March 2010	Commons: Second reading on 7th May 2010
Illegally Logged Timber (Prohibition of Sale)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 6th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Land Use (Gardens Protection Etc)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 6th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Live Music [HL]	PMB	Commons: First reading on 9th February 2010	
Marine Accident Investigation Branch (Reports)	PMB	Commons: Second reading on 5th March 2010	
Marine Navigation Aids [HL]	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 5th February 2010	

Mortgage Repossessions (Protection of Tenants Etc)	PMB	Lords: First reading on 1st March 2010	Lords: Second reading on 30th March 2010
National Health Service Public Interest Disclosure Support	PMB	Commons: First reading on 16th December 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Organ and Tissue Donation (Mandated Choice)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 17th March 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Patient Transport [HL]	PMB	Lords: Second reading on 5th February 2010	
Pedicabs	PMB	Commons: First reading on 18th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Powers of Entry Etc [HL]	PMB	Lords: Report stage on 22nd March 2010	
Prosecution of Offences Act 1985 (Amendment)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 1st March 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Registration of Births and Deaths (Welsh Language)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 1st March 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Rehabilitation of Offenders (Amendment) [HL]	PMB	Lords: Third reading on 16th March 2010	
Remembrance Sunday (Closure of Shops)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 10th March 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Rental Accommodation (Thermal Insulation Standards)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 23rd February 2010	Commons: Second reading on 30th April 2010
Representation of the People (Undue Influence)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 10th March 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Safety and Conservation (Byelaws)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 16th December 2009	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
School Admissions	PMB	Commons: First reading on 27th January 2010	
Sheltered Accommodation (Residents)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 6th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Sunbeds (Regulation)	PMB	Lords: First reading on 15th March 2010	Lords: Second reading on 30th March 2010
Sustainability of Livestock Farming and Food Production (Strategy)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 23rd March 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Sustainable Communities Act 2007 (Amendment)	PMB	Commons: Committee stage on 9th March 2010	Commons: Report stage on 23rd April 2010
Sustainable Energy (Local Action)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 12th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 30th April 2010
Torture (Damages)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 6th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (Amendment)	PMB	Commons: Second reading on 29th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 30th April 2010
United Kingdom Parliamentary Sovereignty	PMB	Commons: First reading on 13th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Video Recordings (Exemption from Classifications)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 12th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010
Water Tariffs	PMB	Commons: First reading on 10th February 2010	
Young People Leaving Care (Accommodation)	PMB	Commons: First reading on 27th January 2010	Commons: Second reading on 23rd April 2010

Source: Parliamentary website (www.parliament.uk) on 30th March 2010

