



Draft Bills 2001-2005

Standard Note: SN/PC/2914

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This standard note lists draft bills introduced in each session since the 2001 general election and gives the following details for each bill: (1) introduction as a draft; (2) any pre-legislative scrutiny at Westminster including government responses; (3) formal introduction of the final bill; and (4) date of royal assent. There is a separate standard note entitled *Draft Bills 1997-2001* (SN/PC/2908) which provides the same information for draft bills introduced during the previous Parliament. Another standard note – *Pre-legislative scrutiny* (SN/PC/2822) – discusses the background, procedure and effectiveness of pre-legislative scrutiny of draft bills.

Draft bills from 2002-03 onwards are listed on the Parliament website at:
<http://www.parliament.uk/bills/draftbills.cfm>.

Dates given for House of Commons/House of Lords papers in this list are those of the order to print.

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A. Draft bills introduced in session 2001-02

1. Communications Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Communications Bill in three volumes with explanatory notes and policy document</i> , 7 May 2002, Cm 5508
Scrutiny	Human Rights Joint Committee nineteenth report, 15 July 2002, HC 1102, 2001-02/HL 149, 2001-02 Joint Committee report on the draft bill, 25 July 2002, HC 876, 2001-02/HL 169, 2001-02
Govt response	29 Oct 2002, Cm 5646
Introduced in Commons	<i>Communications Bill 2002-03</i> , 19 November 2002
Royal Assent	17 July 2003 (Ch 21)

2. Companies Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Modernising company law</i> (in two volumes with a draft companies bill + notes on the draft clauses and a draft overarching regulatory impact assessment), 16 July 2002, Cm 5553
Consultation results	http://www.dti.gov.uk/cld/modern/clauses.pdf http://www.dti.gov.uk/cld/modern/sch.pdf http://www.dti.gov.uk/cld/modern/ria.pdf [no hard copy versions traced in Commons Library]
Scrutiny	Trade and Industry Committee sixth report - <i>The white paper on modernising company law</i> , 1 April 2003, HC 439, 2002-03
Govt response	Published as Trade and Industry Committee's thirteenth report, 15 July 2003, HC 1022, 2002-03
Introduced in Lords	Some draft clauses included in <i>Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise Bill [HL] 2003-04</i> , introduced 3 December 2003
Royal Assent	28 October 2004 (Ch 27)

3. Extradition Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Extradition: consultation on draft legislation</i> , 27 June 2002, Cm 5545
Consultation results	<i>Responses to draft Extradition Bill</i> , Home Office, 2002, Dep 02/2252
Scrutiny	Human Rights Joint Committee twentieth report, 22 July 2002, HC 1140, 2001-02 Home Affairs Committee first report, 28 November 2002, HC 138, 2002-03
Govt response	Memorandum to the Home Affairs Committee received on 12

	February 2003. Reproduced as appendix to first special report of the committee, 26 February 2003, HC 475, 2002-03
Introduced in Commons	<i>Extradition Bill 2002-03</i> , 14 November 2002
Royal Assent	20 November 2003 (Ch 41)

4. Justice (Northern Ireland) Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Justice(Northern Ireland) Draft Bill</i> , 12 November 2001, published together with the <i>Criminal Justice Review: implementation plan</i> (see Northern Ireland Office press notice 'Government publishes its response to the Criminal Justice Review' (12/11/01).
Scrutiny	None
Introduced in Commons	<i>Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill 2001-02</i> , 18 December 2001
Royal Assent	24 July 2002 (Ch 26)

5. Local Government Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Local Government Bill – consultation on legislation</i> , 12 June 2002, Dep 02/1141
Scrutiny	Transport, Local Government & the Regions Committee fifteenth report, 17 July 2002, HC 981, 2001-02
Govt response	5 November 2002, Cm 5638
Introduced in Commons	<i>Local Government Bill 2002-03</i> , 25 November 2002
Royal Assent	18 September 2003 (Ch 26)

6. Mental Health Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Mental Health Bill</i> , 25 June 2002, Cm 5538
Scrutiny	Human Rights Joint Committee twenty-fifth report, 4 November 2002, HC 1294, 2001-02 .
Further progress	"A revised and completed Mental Health Bill will be brought forward for pre-legislative scrutiny in [2003-04] session" (HC Debs 27.05.04 c1836w) - <i>See session 2003-04</i> .

7. National Health Service (Wales) Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft National Health Service (Wales) Bill</i> , 20 May 2002, Cm 5527
Scrutiny	Welsh Affairs Committee third report, 4 July 2002, HC 959, 2001-02
Govt response	Published as Welsh Affairs Committee's fifth special report,

	15 October 2002, HC 1215, 2001-02
Introduced in Commons	<i>Health (Wales) Bill 2002-03</i> , 14 November 2002
Royal Assent	8 April 2003 (Ch 4)

B. Draft bills introduced in session 2002-03

1. Civil Contingencies Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Civil Contingencies Bill</i> , 19 June 2003, Cm 5843
Scrutiny	Defence Committee seventh report, 2 July 2003, HC 557, 2002-03 Joint Committee report, 11 November 2003, HC 1074/HL 184, 2002-03
Govt response	7 January 2004, Cm 6078
Introduced in Commons	<i>Civil Contingencies Bill 2003-04</i> , 7 January 2004
Royal Assent	18 November 2004 (Ch 36)

2. Corruption Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Corruption Bill</i> , 24 March 2003, Cm 5777
Scrutiny	Joint Committee report, 17 July 2003, HC 705/ HL 157, 2002-03
Govt response	18 December 2003, Cm 6086
Further progress	1. Lords debate on motion to take note of joint committee report (HC Debs 16 July 2004 cols 154-66) 2. "The Government published their reply to the Joint Committee in December 2003 setting out the extent to which it agreed with the Committee. It indicated that the intention is to introduce a revised Bill to Parliament in due course, which remains the position." (HC Debs 22 July 2004 c605W)

3. Electricity (Trading and Transmission) Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Electricity (Trading and Transmission) Bill</i> , published by the Dept of Trade & Industry, 30 January 2003, Dep 03/405
Scrutiny	Trade and Industry Committee fifth report, 1 April 2003, HC 468, 2002-03
Govt response	Published as an appendix to the Trade and Industry Committee's tenth report, 2 July 2003, HC 937, 2002/03 . The rest of the report consists of the committee's comments on the govt response.
Introduced in Lords	<i>Energy [HL] Bill 2003-04</i> , 27 November 2003
Royal Assent	22 July 2004 (Ch 20)

4. Gender Recognition Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Gender Recognition Bill</i> , 11 July 2003, Cm 5875
Scrutiny	Human Rights Joint Committee nineteenth report, 17 November 2003, HC 1276 / HL 188, 2002-03
Govt response	http://www.dca.gov.uk/constitution/transsex/jchrresp.htm December 2003 [no hard copy version traced in Commons Library]
Introduced in Lords	<i>Gender Recognition [HL] Bill 2003-04</i> , 27 November 2003
Royal Assent	1 July 2004 (Ch 7)

5. Housing Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Housing Bill: consultation on draft legislation</i> , 31 Mar 2003, Cm 5793
Scrutiny	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister Select Committee tenth report, 14 July 2003, HC 751, 2002-03
Govt response	10 November 2003, Cm 6000
Introduced in Commons	<i>Housing Bill</i> , 8 December 2003
Royal Assent	18 November 2004 (Ch 34)

6. Mental Incapacity Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Mental Incapacity Bill</i> , 30 June 2003, Cm 5859
Scrutiny	Joint Committee report, 17 November 2003, HC 1083 2002-03/ HL 189, 2002-03.
Govt response	24 February 2004, Cm 6121
Introduced in Commons	<i>Mental Capacity Bill</i> , 17 June 2004 [carried over to session 2004-05]
Royal Assent	7 June 2005 (Ch 9)

7. Nuclear Sites and Radioactive Substances Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Nuclear Sites and Radioactive Substances Bill</i> , 24 June 2003, Cm 5858
Scrutiny	Trade and Industry Committee seventeenth report, 15 October 2003, HC 968, 2002-03
Govt response	Published as Trade and Industry Committee's second special report, 20 January 2004, HC 261, 2003-04
Introduced in Lords	<i>Energy [HL] Bill</i> , 27 November 2003
Royal Assent	22 July 2004 (Ch 20)

8. Police (Northern Ireland) Bill – draft clauses to the bill

Published in draft	Draft clauses published, 25 November 2002, Dep 02/2352
Scrutiny	Northern Ireland Affairs Committee third report, 22 January 2003, HC 233, 2002-03
Govt response	Published as Northern Ireland Affairs Committee's second special report, 20 March 2003, HC 555, 2002-03
Introduced in Commons	<i>Police (Northern Ireland) Bill (HL)</i> , 5 December 2002
Royal Assent	8 April 2003 (Ch 6)

9. Public Audit (Wales) Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Public Audit (Wales) Bill</i> , 3 April 2003, Cm 5796
Scrutiny	Welsh Affairs Committee fifth report, 2 July 2003, HC 763, 2002-03
Govt response	Published in Welsh Affairs Committee's first special report, 3 December 2003, HC 87, 2003-04
Introduced in Lords	<i>Public Audit (Wales) Bill (HL)</i> , 27 November 2003
Royal Assent	16 September 2004 (Ch 23)

C. Draft bills introduced in session 2003-04

1. Animal Welfare Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Launch of the Draft Animal Welfare Bill</i> , 14 July 2004, Cm 6252
Scrutiny	Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee first report, 1 December 2004, HC 52 2004-05
Govt response	Published as Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee fourth special report, 23 February 2005, HC 385 2004-05
Further progress	“We hope to bring...[the Animal Welfare Bil]...before the House shortly” (HC Debs 9 June 2005 c621W)

2. Charities Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Charities Bill</i> , 27 May 2004, Cm 6199
Scrutiny	Joint Committee report, 15 September 2004, HC 660 / HL 167 2003-04
Govt response	21 December 2004, Cm 6440
Introduced in Lords	<i>Charities [HL] Bill</i> , 20 December 2004 (fell at Dissolution)
Introduced in Lords	<i>Charities [HL] Bill</i> , 18 May 2005

3. Civil Service Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>A Draft Civil Service Bill: a consultation document</i> , 15 November 2004, Cm 6373
Further progress	“...the Government are carefully considering the responses to the consultation. They will make a statement when they have completed their considerations.” (HL Debs 9 July 2005 c959)

4. Criminal Defence Service Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Criminal Defence Service Bill, consultation paper and explanatory notes</i> , 17 May 2004, Cm 6194
Scrutiny	Constitutional Affairs Select Committee fifth report, 20 July 2004, HC 746 2003-04
Govt response	24 November 2004, Cm 6410
Introduced in Commons	<i>Criminal Defence Service Bill</i> , 15 December 2004 (fell at Dissolution)
Introduced in Lords	<i>Criminal Defence Service [HL] Bill</i> , 23 May 2005

5. Disability Discrimination Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Disability Discrimination Bill</i> , 3 December 2003, Cm 6058 <i>Draft Disability Discrimination Bill: clause 15: relationships between locally-electable authorities and their members</i> , 27 February 2004, Cm 6126
Scrutiny	Joint Committee report, 27 April 2004, HC 352 / HL 82, 2003-04.
Govt response	15 July 2004, Cm 6276
Introduced in Lords	<i>Disability Discrimination [HL] Bill</i> , 25 November 2004
Royal Assent	7 April 2005, Ch 13

6. Gambling Draft Bill

Published in draft	First clauses published in <i>Modernising Britain's gambling laws</i> , 15 July 2003, Cm 5878 . <i>Draft Gambling Bill</i> , 19 November 2003, Cm 6014
Scrutiny	Joint Committee report, 25 March 2004, HC 139 / HL 63, 2003-04.
Govt response	14 June 2004, Cm 6253
Scrutiny (continued)	Joint Committee report (regional casinos), 15 July 2004, HC 843 / HL 146 2003-04
Govt response	22 September 2004, Cm 6330
Introduced in Commons	<i>Gambling Bill</i> , 18 October 2004 [carried over to session 04/05]
Royal Assent	7 April 2005, Ch 19

7. Identity Cards Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Legislation on identity cards: a consultation</i> , 26 April 2004, Cm 6178
Scrutiny	Home Affairs Select Committee fourth report, 20 July 2004, HC 130 2003-04
Consultation results	<i>Identity cards: a summary of findings from the consultation on legislation on identity cards</i> , 27 October 2004, Cm 6358
Govt response	27 October 2004, Cm 6359
Introduced in Commons	<i>Identity Cards Bill</i> , 29 November 2004 (fell at Dissolution)
Introduced in Commons	<i>Identity Cards Bill</i> , 25 May 2005

8. Mental Health Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Mental Health Bill</i> , 8 September 2004, Cm 6305 Accompanying documents: (I) <i>Improving mental health law:</i>
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	<i>towards a new mental health act (II) Responses to consultation on the Draft Mental Health Bill</i> , September 2004, Dep 04/1586 [NB Draft Mental Health Bill previously introduced in session 2001-02]
Scrutiny	Joint Committee report, 9 March 2005, HC 95/ HL 79 2004-05
Further progress	Queen's Speech 2005-06: "My Government will continue with legislation to provide a new framework for the provision of compulsory treatment of those with mental disorders."

9. Regional Assemblies Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Regional Assemblies Bill</i> , 22 July 2004, Cm 6285 Accompanying document: <i>Draft Regional Assemblies Bill Policy Statement</i> – http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_regions/documents/page/odpm_regions_029965.hcsp
Scrutiny	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister Committee first report, 14 December 2004, HC 62 2004-05
Govt response	Published as Office of the Deputy Prime Minister first special report, 15 March 2005, HC 459 2004-05

10. School Transport Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>School travel schemes: draft bill and prospectus</i> , 8 March 2004, Cm 6156
Scrutiny	Transport Select Committee eighth report, 31 March 2004, HC 318 2003-04 Education and Skills Select Committee third report, 28 June 2004, HC 509 2003-04
Govt response	22 September 2004, Cm 6331
Consultation results	<i>Draft School Transport Bill: summary of consultation responses</i> , 29 October 2004, Dep 04/1768
Introduced in Commons	<i>School Transport Bill</i> , 14 October 2004 [carried over to session 2004-05 – fell at Dissolution]

11. Single European Currency Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Single European Currency (Referendum) Bill</i> , 10 December 2003, Cm 6081
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12. Transport (Wales) Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Transport (Wales) Bill</i> , 27 May 2004, Cm 6195
Scrutiny	Welsh Affairs Committee fourth report, 7 July 2004, HC 759 2003-04 Welsh Grand Committee debate 20 July 2004 cols WGC3-42
Govt response	Published as Welsh Affairs Committee fifth special report, 10 November 2004, HC 1252 2003-04
Introduced in Commons	<i>Transport (Wales) Bill</i> , 15 December 2004 (fell at Dissolution)
Introduced in Commons	<i>Transport (Wales) Bill</i> , 19 May 2005

D. Draft bills introduced in session 2004-05

1. Children (Contact) and Adoption Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Children (Contact) and Adoption Bill</i> , 2 February 2005, Cm 6462
Scrutiny	Joint Committee report, 24 March 2005, HC 400/ HL 100 2004-05
Govt response	8 June 2005, Cm 6583
Introduced in Lords	<i>Children and Adoption [HL] Bill</i> , 13 June 2005

2. Commissioner for Older People (Wales) Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Commissioner for Older People (Wales) Bill</i> , 22 March 2004, Cm 6498
Scrutiny	Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Select Committee. 5 April 2005, HC 547-i 2004-05
Introduced in Lords	<i>Commissioner for Older People (Wales) [HL] Bill</i> , 25 May 2005

3. Company Law Reform Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Company law reform white paper</i> , 17 March 2005, Cm 6456
Further progress	Queen's Speech 2005-06: "Company law will be reformed to encourage greater levels of investment and enterprise."

4. Corporate Manslaughter Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Corporate Manslaughter: the Government's Draft Bill for Reform</i> , 23 March 2005, Cm 6497
Further progress	Queen's Speech 2005-06: "My Government will take forward proposals to introduce an offence of corporate manslaughter."

5. Natural Environment and Rural Communities Draft Bill

Published in draft	<i>Draft Natural Environment and Rural Communities Bill</i> , 10 February 2005, Cm 6460
Scrutiny	Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee fifth report, 16 March 2005, HC 408 2004-05
Govt response	26 May 2005, Cm 6574
Introduced in Commons	<i>Natural Environment and Rural Communities Bill</i> , 19 May 2005