New Amendments handed in are marked thus ★
★ Amendments which will comply with the required notice period at their next appearance
Amendments tabled since the last publication: 86-92

PUBLIC BILL COMMITTEE

WELFARE REFORM AND WORK BILL

NOTE
This document includes all amendments tabled to date, arranged in the order they relate to the Bill.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 1, page 1, line 3, leave out “Parliament” and insert “the House of Commons, the Scottish Parliament, the Northern Ireland Assembly and the National Assembly for Wales”
Member’s explanatory statement
This would require the Secretary of State to report to the elected chambers across the UK with a responsibility for policies that can contribute to full employment.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 1, page 1, line 4, leave out from “and” to end of subsection and insert “for the purposes of this report “full employment” is defined as 80% of the working age
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population.”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

To specify that the purpose of reporting on progress toward full employment, full employment is defined as 80% of the working population.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 1, page 1, line 6, at end insert—

“(1A) In this report the Secretary of State must also set out the progress that has been made toward halving the disability employment gap.”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

To require the report on progress towards full employment to also report on progress towards the Government’s stated aim to halve the disability employment gap.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 1, page 1, line 6, at end insert—

“(1A) The Secretary of State will appear before a Committee in each of the Scottish Parliament, Northern Ireland Assembly and the National Assembly for Wales to answer questions about the report.”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

This would require the Secretary of State to appear before a committee in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to answer questions about the full employment report.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 1, page 1, line 7, leave out subsection (2)

**Member’s explanatory statement**

This would remove the provision that repeals the full employment reporting obligation at the end of the current Parliament.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 2, page 1, line 16, at end insert—

“(aa) information about the uptake of apprenticeships broken down by region, gender, age, ethnicity, disability, sector, qualification and level,
Welfare Reform and Work Bill, continued

(ab) a report by the UK Commission on Employment and Skills on the quality of apprenticeship being provided, and”

Member’s explanatory statement
To specify additional information that must be included in the Secretary of State’s report progress towards meeting the apprenticeship target.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 3, page 2, line 46, at end insert—
“(2A) The matters by which the progress made by a household that receives relevant support shall be measured under subsection (1)(b) include whether a member of the household is in employment.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This requires one of the factors which is used to measure whether a household receive support is making progress is whether or a not a member of the household is employed.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 3, page 3, line 6, at end insert—
“(4A) A report prepared under this section must include information about the number of households receiving support where a member of the household, who had not previously been in employment during the last 12 month, has entered employment.”

Member’s explanatory statement
To require the report on support for troubled households to specify the number of households receiving support where a member of the household has become employed.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 3, page 3, line 6, at end insert—
“(4A) A report prepared under this section must include information about the total value of expenditure directed at supporting relevant households by—

(a) local government,
(b) central government, and
(c) government agencies.”

Member’s explanatory statement
To require the report on support for troubled households to specify how much has been spent to support targeted households by different parts of government.

________________________________________
Clause 4, page 4, line 33, after paragraph (b) insert—

“(ba) children living in low income working households.”

Member’s explanatory statement
To require the Secretary of State to include data on children living in low income working households in their report on the life chances of children.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green

Clause 4, page 4, line 35, leave out “4” and insert “1, 2, 3 and 4”

Member’s explanatory statement
To require the Secretary of State to include data on the educational attainment of children at Key Stages 1, 2, 3 and 4 rather than only at Key Stage 4.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green

Clause 4, page 4, line 37, leave out “4” and insert “1, 2, 3 and 4”

Member’s explanatory statement
To require the Secretary of State to include data on the educational attainment of disadvantaged children at Key Stages 1, 2, 3 and 4 rather than only at Key Stage 4.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green

Clause 4, page 4, line 37, after paragraph (d) insert—

“(e) key health indicators for children in England;
(f) key health indicators for disadvantaged children in England.”

Member’s explanatory statement
To require the Secretary of State to include key health indicators in their report on the life chances of children.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green

Clause 4, page 5, line 3, after paragraph (f) insert—

“(g) low income”

Member’s explanatory statement
A consequential amendment to amendment 77.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green

Clause 4, page 5, line 3, after paragraph (f) insert—

“(g) key health indicators”

Member’s explanatory statement
A consequential amendment to amendment 80.
“5 Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission: additional functions

(1) After Section 8A of the Child Poverty Act 2010 insert—

Member’s explanatory statement
To leave the name of the “Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission” unchanged.

Priti Patel

★ Clause 5, page 5, line 23, leave out from “which” to end of line 24 and insert “section 5 of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2015 comes into force.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment brings the date from which the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission is to be called the Social Mobility Commission into line with the commencement of the other changes to the Commission made by clause 5.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 5, page 6, leave out lines 15 and 16

Member’s explanatory statement
A consequential amendment to amendment 7 to leave the name of the “Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission” unchanged.

Priti Patel

★ Clause 6, page 8, line 23, at end insert—

“(c) in the section heading omit “Regulations and”.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment removes the words “Regulations and” from the heading of section 28 of the Child
Clause 7, page 8, line 32, leave out subsection (2)

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would remove the changes to the benefit cap.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 7, page 8, line 36, at end insert—

“( ) Regulations under this section shall not be made in relation to persons—
(a) responsible for the care of a child aged below 2;
(b) responsible for the care of and in receipt of Carers Allowance in respect of, but not living with, a person in receipt of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment;
(c) in temporary accommodation following an incident or incidents of domestic violence.”

*Member’s explanatory statement*

To provide that the benefit cap does not apply to benefit claimants who will find it most difficult to enter work.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 7, page 8, line 38, leave out “£23,000 or £15,410” and insert “£26,000 or £18,200”

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would keep the benefit cap level in London at the same rate as today.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 7, page 8, line 39, leave out “£20,000 or £13,400” and insert “£26,000 or
Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would keep the benefit cap level outside London at the same rate as today.

Emily Thornberry
Dawn Butler
Wes Streeting
Stephen Pound
Mr Steve Reed

Clause 7, page 9, line 5, at end insert—
“(5C) Regulations under this section must provide for an exemption from the benefit cap for persons living in temporary accommodation into which they have been placed by a local authority which has found them to be in priority need (as defined in Part 7 of the House Act 1996 and the Homelessness (Priority Need for Accommodation)(England) Order 2002).”

Member’s explanatory statement
To provide that the benefit cap will not apply to homeless families living in temporary accommodation after being assessed as having a priority need.

Emily Thornberry
Dawn Butler
Wes Streeting
Stephen Pound
Mr Steve Reed

Clause 7, page 9, line 5, at end insert—
“(5C) Regulations under this section must provide for an exemption from the benefit cap for claimants of Jobseeker’s Allowance, including income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance (as defined in section 1 (4) of the Jobseekers Act 1995) where the claimant has not received a reasonable offer of a job.”

Member’s explanatory statement
To provide that the benefit cap will not apply to job seekers who have not received a reasonable offer of employment.

Emily Thornberry
Dawn Butler
Wes Streeting
Stephen Pound
Mr Steve Reed

Clause 7, page 9, line 5, at end insert—
“(5C) Regulations under this section must provide an exemption from the benefit cap for persons in receipt of—
(a) carer’s allowance (see section 70 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992),
(b) employment and support allowance, including income-related employment and support allowance (as defined in section 1(7) of the Welfare Reform Act 2007) (see section 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007),
(c) incapacity benefit (see section 30A of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992),
(d) income support (see section 124 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992),
(e) severe disablement allowance (see section 68 of the Social Security, Contributions and Benefits Act 1992).”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

To provide that the benefit cap may not be applied to anyone claiming Carer’s Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Income Support or Severe Disablement Allowance.
Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment is consequential to amendment 69.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 7, page 9, line 13, leave out paragraph (c)
Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would remove child benefit from the benefit cap.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 7, page 9, line 15, leave out paragraph (d)
Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would remove child tax credit from the benefit cap.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 7, page 9, line 21, leave out paragraph (f)
Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would remove guardian’s allowance from the benefit cap.

Dawn Butler

Clause 7, page 9, line 23, leave out paragraph (g)
Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would remove housing benefit from the benefit cap.
Clause 7, page 9, line 33, leave out paragraph (k)

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would remove maternity allowance from the benefit cap.

Clause 7, page 9, line 35, leave out paragraph (l)

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would remove severe disablement allowance from the benefit cap.

Clause 7, page 9, line 38, leave out paragraph (n)

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would remove widow’s pension from the benefit cap.

Clause 7, page 9, line 40, leave out paragraph (o)

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would remove widowed mother’s allowance from the benefit cap.

Clause 7, page 9, line 42, leave out paragraph (p)

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would remove widowed parent’s allowance from the benefit cap.
Priti Patel

★ Clause 7, page 9, line 43, at end insert—

“(4A) Subsection (11) (benefits that regulations may not prescribe as welfare benefits) is omitted.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment to omit section 96(11) of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 is consequential on the amendment of the definition of “welfare benefit” in section 96(10) by clause 7(4).

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 7, page 9, line 44, leave out subsection (5)

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment is consequential to amendment 25.

Priti Patel

★ Clause 7, page 9, line 45, at end insert—

“(5A) Paragraph 52 of Schedule 12 to the Pensions Act 2014 is omitted.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment provides for the repeal of provision amending section 96(11) of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 and is consequential on amendment 88.

Priti Patel

★ Clause 7, page 10, line 2, leave out “and (3)” and insert “to (4A) and (5A)”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment enables transitional provision under clause 7(6) to disregard the effect on section 96 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 of the amendments made by clause 7(4) and clause 7(4A) and (5A), added by amendments 88 and 89.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 8, page 10, line 22, leave out “in each Parliament” and insert “a year”

Member’s explanatory statement
To require the Secretary of State to review the level of the benefit cap every year to determine whether it is appropriate to change the level of the cap.
Clause 8, page 10, line 31, leave out paragraph (b) and insert—

“(b) The relationship between the level of the cap and average earnings, and
(c) Regional variations in the cost of housing.”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

To remove the provision allowing the Secretary of State to set the level of the benefit cap by reference to “any other matters [he] considers relevant” and to instead require that the cap should be set by reference to average earnings and regional variations to adjust for differences in the cost of housing.

Clause 8, page 10, line 31, at end insert—

“(c) an annual report made by the Social Security Advisory Committee on the level of the benefit cap.”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

To require the Secretary of State to take into account an annual report by the Social Security Advisory Committee on the level of the benefit cap when undertaking his review of the benefit cap.

Clause 8, page 10, line 31, at end insert—

“(c) annual reports on the impact of the benefit cap on the wellbeing of children made by the:

(i) Children’s Commissioners for England;
(ii) Children’s Commissioner for Scotland;
(iii) Scotland’s Commissioner for Children and Young People; and
(iv) Commissioner for Children and Young People, Northern Ireland, following the introduction of the benefit cap in Northern Ireland.”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

To require the Secretary of State, when reviewing the level of the benefit cap, to take into account an annual report by the Children’s Commissioners for England, Scotland, Wales on the impact of the benefit cap on the wellbeing of children. Should the benefit cap be introduced in Northern Ireland the Secretary of State shall also be required to take account of a similar report by the Children’s Commissioner for Northern Ireland.
Clause 8, page 10, line 31, at end insert—
“(3A) The report made by the Social Security Advisory Committee on the level of benefit cap, under subsection 3c, must include an assessment of the impact of the benefit cap on the Discretionary Housing Payments Funds administered by local authorities.”

Member’s explanatory statement
To require the Social Security Advisory Committee’s annual report on the level of the benefit cap to include an assessment of the impact of the benefit cap on Discretionary Housing Payments.

Priti Patel

★ Clause 8, page 11, line 13, at end insert—
“( ) Section 176 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 (consultation with representative organisations) does not apply in relation to regulations under subsection (4).”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment provides that regulations that change the level of the benefit cap do not require consultation with local authority associations under section 176(1) of the Social Security.

Clause 9, page 11, line 32, leave out from “relevant sums” to end of subsection and insert “are to be reviewed by the Secretary of State having given regard to—
(a) the rate of inflation, and
(b) the national economic situation.”

Member’s explanatory statement
To subject the four year freeze in the social security payments set out in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to an annual review of the levels by the Secretary of State. This review will consider both the rate of inflation and the national economic situation.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 9, page 11, line 32, leave out from “relevant sums” to end of subsection and insert “is to increase in line with the consumer price index.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would see relevant benefits increasing in line with the consumer price index.
Clause 9, page 11, line 35, leave out from “child benefit” to end of subsection and insert “are to be reviewed by the Secretary of State having given regard to—

(a) the rate of inflation, and
(b) the national economic situation.”

Member’s explanatory statement
To subject the four year freeze in child benefit to an annual review of the levels by the Secretary of State. This review will consider both the rate of inflation and the national economic situation.

Clause 9, page 11, line 35, leave out from “child benefit” to end of subsection and insert “are to increase in line with the consumer price index.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would see child benefit increasing in line with the consumer price index.

Clause 9, page 11, line 37, leave out subsections (3) and (4)

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment is consequential to the amendments 39 and 40.
Clause 10, page 12, line 21, leave out from “relevant amounts” to end of subsection and insert “is to increase in line with the consumer price index.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would see tax credits increasing in line with the consumer price index.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Page 12, line 32, leave out Clause 11

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would see current arrangements for child tax credit remaining in place.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 11, page 12, line 39, leave out “2017” and insert “2022”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would see current arrangements for child tax credit remaining in place for children born before 6 April 2022.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 11, page 13, line 10, leave out “one other child” and insert “two other children”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would retain entitlement to child tax credit for families with three children.
Clause 11, page 13, line 10, leave out “one other child” and insert “three other children”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

This amendment would retain entitlement to child tax credit for families with four children.

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Clause 11, page 13, line 10, leave out “one other child” and insert “four other children”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

This amendment would retain entitlement to child tax credit for families with five children.

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Clause 11, page 13, line 10, leave out “one other child” and insert “five other children”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

This amendment would retain entitlement to child tax credit for families with six children.

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“(3C) The limit on the number of children or qualifying young person for whom an individual element of child tax credit can be claimed, as set out in subsection (3B), shall not apply to households where one more of the child or qualifying young person in that household is disabled. This includes, but is not limited to, those persons in receipt of the disability element of child tax credit.”
Welfare Reform and Work Bill, continued

Page 13, line 17, leave out Clause 12

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would remove changes to entitlement to the child element of universal credit.

Clause 12, page 13, line 18, leave out subsections (1) to (4)

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would retain entitlement to the child element of universal credit for families with more than two children.

Clause 12, page 13, line 22, leave out “two” and insert “three”

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would retain entitlement to the child element of universal credit for families with three children.

Clause 12, page 13, line 22, leave out “two” and insert “four”

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would retain entitlement to the child element of universal credit for families with four children.
Clause 12, page 13, line 22, leave out “two” and insert “five”

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would retain entitlement to the child element of universal credit for families with five children.

Clause 12, page 13, line 22, leave out “two” and insert “six”

*Member’s explanatory statement*

This amendment would retain entitlement to the child element of universal credit for families with six children.

Clause 12, page 13, line 23, at end insert “unless this would result in an amount no longer being paid in respect of a child or young person who was born before 6 April 2017, in which case a payment shall still be made in respect of this child or young person.”

*Member’s explanatory statement*

To ensure that the reduction of the child element of Universal Credit to two children only affect children born after 6 April 2017.

Clause 12, page 13, line 23, at end insert—

“(1B) The limit on the number of children or qualifying young person for whom a child element of universal credit can be claimed, as set out in subsection (1B), shall not apply to households where one more of the child or qualifying young person in that household is disabled. This includes, but is not limited to, those persons in receipt of the disabled child element of universal credit.”
Public Bill Committee: 8 September 2015

Welfare Reform and Work Bill, continued

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Page 14, line 1, leave out Clause 13

Member's explanatory statement
This prevent the changes to the work-related component of the employment and support allowance.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Page 14, line 25, leave out Clause 14

Member's explanatory statement
This amendment would retain the limited capability for work element of universal credit.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Page 14, line 28, leave out Clause 15

Member's explanatory statement
This amendment would retain the current conditionality requirements for work related activity / work focused interviews/ work preparation for those claimants with children under 5 in receipt of universal credit.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Clause 15, page 14, line 31, leave out paragraph (a)

Member's explanatory statement
This amendment would keep the “work-focused interview requirement only” for responsible carers of children aged two and three.
Clause 15, page 14, line 31, leave out paragraphs (a) to (c) and insert—

“(a) in section 19(2)(c) for the words “under the age of 1” substitute “who has not yet started primary school”;

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment, taken together with amendment 63, would mean claimants in receipt of universal credit who are responsible carers are not subject to work focused interviews or work preparation requirements until their child starts school. From when a child starts school, relevant claimants would be required to follow all work requirements.

Clause 15, page 14, line 36, after “2,”, insert “3 or 4”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would retain the current position for responsible carers of children aged three and four.

Clause 15, page 14, line 37, leave out paragraph (c)

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would retain the current position for responsible carers of children aged three and four.

Clause 15, page 14, line 40, leave out paragraph (a)

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would keep the current prescribed age of three years in universal credit regulations on the “work-focused interview requirement” for responsible carers of children in receipt of universal credit.
Clause 15, page 14, line 40, leave out paragraphs (a) and (b) and insert—
   “(a) in regulation 91 (claimants subject to work-focused interview requirement only), for the word “3” substitute “5 or when the child starts primary school”;
   (b) in regulation 91A (claimants subject to work preparation requirement) for the words “3 or 4” substitute “who has not yet started primary school”;

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment, taken together with amendment 62, would mean claimants in receipt of universal credit who are responsible carers are not subject to work focused interviews or work preparation requirements until their child starts school. From when a child starts school, relevant claimants would be required to follow all work requirements.

Clause 15, page 14, line 42, leave out paragraph (b)

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would keep the current age of child (which is three or four) in universal credit regulations on the work-preparation requirement for responsible carers of children in receipt of universal credit.

Page 15, line 1, leave out Clause 16

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment would mean those owner-occupiers who are in receipt of an income related benefit can continue to claim additional help towards their mortgage interest payments and mitigate risk of repossession of homes instead of introducing a loan system which will be secured against their property.
Clause 16, page 15, line 25, at end insert—

“(7A) The waiting period before a person can apply for a loan under this section shall be 13 weeks.”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

To require that the waiting period before an application for a loan for mortgage interest can be made is 13 weeks.

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Page 15, line 36, leave out Clause 17

**Member’s explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on amendment 64.

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Clause 19, page 19, line 25, at end insert—

“(9A) The Secretary of State must, within 12 months of this section coming into force, produce a plan to offset the impact of lower social rents on housing associations and local government.”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

To require the Secretary of State to produce a plan to offset the impact of lower social rents on housing associations, so that their ability to build new affordable homes is not affected.

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☆ Clause 19, page 19, line 25, at end insert—

“(9A) The Secretary of State must, within 12 months of this section coming into force, produce a report outlining the impact of the reduction in social housing rents on the availability of accessible and supported housing.”

**Member’s explanatory statement**

To require the Secretary of State to report on the impact of lower social rents on the availability of accessible and supported housing.
NC1
To move the following Clause—

“Report on impact of benefit cap reductions
(1) The Secretary of State must publish and lay before Parliament before the end of the financial year ending with 31 March 2017 a report on the impact of the benefit cap reductions introduced by this Bill.
(2) The report must include an assessment of the impact on each of the measures of child poverty defined in the Child Poverty Act 2010.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This new clause requires the Secretary of State to review impact of lower benefit cap after 12 months.

NC2
To move the following Clause—

“Local Housing Allowance
(1) For each of the tax years ending with 5 April 2017, 5 April 2018, 5 April 2019 and 5 April 2020, the amount paid to claimants of the Local Housing Allowance is to be reviewed by the Secretary of State.
(2) In reviewing these sums the Secretary of State shall have regard to—
   (a) the rate of inflation,
   (b) the national economic situation, and
   (c) the levels of market rent.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This new clause requires the Secretary of State to review the level of the Local Housing Allowance annually, in light of the rate of inflation, levels of market rent and the national economic situation.

NC4
To move the following Clause—

“Personal independence payment: timing of payment
(1) Schedule 10 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 is amended as follows.
(2) In paragraph 1(1), at start insert “Subject to paragraph ( ),”
Welfare Reform and Work Bill, continued

(3) At end of paragraph 1(1), insert the following new paragraph—

“( ) Where a person in receipt of disability living allowance meets the requirements of section 82 of the 2012 Act his or her entitlement to disability living allowance shall terminate immediately and entitlement to personal independence payment shall commence on the same day.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This New Clause aims to enable claimants of DLA who are transferred to PIP due to terminal illness to receive their first PIP payment immediately after being transferred. Currently claimants must wait four weeks from their final DLA payment to be made and then another four weeks to receive their first PIP payment.

Emily Thornberry
Dawn Butler
Wes Streeting
Stephen Pound
Mr Steve Reed

To move the following Clause—

“Entitlement to housing benefit

(1) Section 130A of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (Appropriate maximum housing benefit), is amended as follows.

(2) After subsection (2) insert—

“(2A) Entitlement to housing benefit shall not be restricted in respect of a maximum number of children or qualifying young persons for whom a claimant is responsible.”

Member’s explanatory statement
To prevent the Secretary of State from limiting entitlement to housing benefit by taking into account only a certain number of children in a family.

Emily Thornberry
Dawn Butler
Wes Streeting
Stephen Pound
Mr Steve Reed

To move the following Clause—

“Entitlement to housing costs under Universal Credit

(1) Section 11 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (Housing costs), is amended as follows.
Welfare Reform and Work Bill, continued

(2) After subsection (5) insert—

“(6) Entitlement to an amount under this section shall not be restricted in respect of a maximum number of children or qualifying young persons for whom a claimant is responsible.”

Member’s explanatory statement
To prevent the Secretary of State from limiting entitlement to housing costs under Universal Credit by taking into account only a certain number of children in a family.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green

☆ To move the following Clause—

“Exemptions to changes in child tax credit and child element of universal credit

(1) The limit on the number of children for which child tax credit or the child element of universal credit can be claimed, as provided for clauses 11 and 12 of this Act, do not apply in the following circumstances—

(a) where the number of children exceeds two because the third (or subsequent) child was part of a multiple birth at the same time as the second qualifying child;

(b) where a third (or subsequent) child becomes a member of a household as a result of being fostered or adopted into that household, or enters the household as the result of a kinship care arrangement;

(c) in exceptional circumstances as defined by the Social Security Advisory Committee, including but not limited to—

(i) the claimant becoming unemployed;

(ii) the death of one of the parents in the claimant household; and

(iii) one of the parents in the claimant household leaving the household following a breakdown in relationship.

(2) No limit shall apply to a household where any child or qualifying young person is disabled.

(3) The Secretary of State shall, by regulation, establish an appeals process by which an individual can appeal a decision as to whether an exemption set out in this clause applies in their individual situation.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This New Clause exempts households from the limit on the number of children for whom child tax credit or the child element of universal credit can be claimed where the limit was exceeded as a result of: multiple births, a household fostering or adopting a child, or in exceptional circumstances defined by the Social Security Advisory Committee. A household shall be entirely exempt from the limit if one or more children or qualifying young person in that household is disabled. It also requires the Secretary of State to establish an appeals mechanism for decisions made under this section.

NC7
Welfare Reform and Work Bill, continued

Stephen Timms
Kate Green

☆ To move the following Clause—

“Review of childcare tax credit amounts

The Secretary of State must at least once a year review the level of the Childcare element of the Working Tax Credit entitlement sums to determine whether it is appropriate to increase or decrease any one or more of those sums.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This New Clause would require the Secretary of State to review the childcare tax credit entitlement sums.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green

☆ To move the following Clause—

“Review of application of Jobseeker’s allowance sanctions

(1) The Secretary of State must before the financial year ending with 31 March 2016 review the sanctions regimes attached to Jobseeker’s Allowance and Employment Support Allowance to determine whether they are effective and proportionate for meeting the Government’s objectives.

(2) As part of this review the Secretary of State must consider—

(a) the application of sanctions to claimants who are responsible for the care of children under the age of two,

(b) the application of sanctions to claimants who are disabled, and

(c) Any other matter that the Secretary of State considers relevant.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This New Clause would ensure the Government reviews of the Jobseeker’s Allowance sanctions regime, which would include a review of how sanctions should apply to claimants with children under the age of two and claimant who are disabled.

Priti Patel

☆ Title, line 3, leave out “social mobility” and insert “life chances”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment amends the Title to change the words “social mobility” to “life chances” to make the terminology consistent with that used in the Bill.
Welfare Reform and Work Bill, continued

ORDER OF THE HOUSE [20 JULY 2015]

That the following provisions shall apply to the Welfare Reform and Work Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Public Bill Committee.

Proceedings in Public Bill Committee

2. Proceedings in the Public Bill Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Thursday 15 October.
3. The Public Bill Committee shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it meets.

Consideration and Third Reading

4. Proceedings on Consideration shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour before the moment of interruption on the day on which those proceedings are commenced.
5. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.
6. Standing Order No. 83B (Programming committees) shall not apply to proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed.

NOTICES WITHDRAWN

The following Notices were withdrawn on 2 September:

Amendment 3

The following Notices were withdrawn on 7 September:

NC3