Report Stage: Wednesday 26 May 2021

Environment Bill
(Report Stage Decisions)

This document sets out the fate of each clause, schedule, amendment and new clause considered at report stage. A glossary with key terms can be found at the end of this document.

NEW CLAUSES AND NEW SCHEDULES RELATING TO PART 6; AMENDMENTS TO PART 6; NEW CLAUSES AND NEW SCHEDULES RELATING TO PART 7; AMENDMENTS TO PART 7; NEW CLAUSES AND NEW SCHEDULES RELATING TO CLAUSES 132 TO 139; AMENDMENTS TO CLAUSES 132 TO 139

NEW CLAUSES AND NEW SCHEDULES RELATING TO PART 6

Secretary George Eustice

To move the following Clause—

“Habitats Regulations: power to amend general duties

(1) The Secretary of State may by regulations amend the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (S.I. 2017/1012) (the “Habitats Regulations”), as they apply in relation to England, for the purposes in subsection (2).

(2) The purposes are——

(a) to require persons within regulation 9(1) of the Habitats Regulations to exercise functions to which that regulation applies—

(i) to comply with requirements imposed by regulations under this section, or

(ii) to further objectives specified in regulations under this section, instead of exercising them to secure compliance with the requirements of the Directives;

(b) to require persons within regulation 9(3) of the Habitats Regulations, when exercising functions to which that regulation applies, to have regard to matters specified by regulations under this section instead of the requirements of the Directives.

(3) The regulations may impose requirements, or specify objectives or matters, relating to—

(a) targets in respect of biodiversity set by regulations under section 1;
(b) improvements to the natural environment which relate to biodiversity and are set out in an environmental improvement plan.

(4) The regulations may impose any other requirements, or specify any other objectives or matters, relating to the conservation or enhancement of biodiversity that the Secretary of State considers appropriate.

(5) Regulations under this section may also, in connection with provision made for the purposes in subsection (2), amend other provisions of the Habitats Regulations, as they apply in relation to England, which refer to requirements, objectives or provisions of the Directives.

(6) In making regulations under this section the Secretary of State must have regard to the particular importance of furthering the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity.

(7) The Secretary of State may make regulations under this section only if satisfied that the regulations do not reduce the level of environmental protection provided by the Habitats Regulations.

(8) Before making regulations under this section the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament, and publish, a statement explaining why the Secretary of State is satisfied as mentioned in subsection (7).

(9) Before making regulations under this section the Secretary of State must consult such persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.

(10) Regulations under this section may not come into force before 1 February 2023.

(11) In this section—

“the Directives” has the same meaning as in the Habitats Regulations (see regulation 3(1));

“England” includes the territorial sea adjacent to England, which for this purpose does not include—

(a) any part of the territorial sea adjacent to Wales for the general or residual purposes of the Government of Wales Act 2006 (see section 158 of that Act), or

(b) any part of the territorial sea adjacent to Scotland for the general or residual purposes of the Scotland Act 1998 (see section 126 of that Act);

“environmental improvement plan” has the same meaning as in Part 1.

(12) Regulations under this section are subject to the affirmative procedure.”
As Amendments to Secretary George Eustice’s New Clause (Habitats Regulations: power to amend general duties) (NC21):—

Caroline Lucas

Line 13, leave out “instead of” and insert “in addition to”

Not called (b)

Caroline Lucas

Line 18, leave out “instead of” and insert “in addition to”

Agreed to NC22

Secretary George Eustice

To move the following Clause—

“Habitats Regulations: power to amend Part 6

(1) The Secretary of State may by regulations amend Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (S.I. 2017/1012) (the “Habitats Regulations”) (assessment of plans and projects) as they apply in relation to England.

(2) In making regulations under this section the Secretary of State must have regard to the particular importance of furthering the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity.

(3) The Secretary of State may make regulations under this section only if satisfied that the regulations do not reduce the level of environmental protection provided by the Habitats Regulations.

(4) Before making regulations under this section the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament, and publish, a statement explaining why the Secretary of State is satisfied as mentioned in subsection (3).

(5) Before making regulations under this section the Secretary of State must consult such persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.

(6) In this section “England” has the same meaning as in section (Habitats Regulations: power to amend general duties).

(7) Regulations under this section are subject to the affirmative procedure.”
Bill Wiggin

To move the following Clause—

"Assessment of Plans"

(1) The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017/1012 are amended as follows.

(2) In Regulation 63 (Assessment of implications for European sites and European offshore marine sites) the following are amended—

(a) in paragraph (1) for “must” substitute “may”;
(b) in paragraph (3) for “must” substitute “may”;
(c) in paragraph (4) for “must” substitute “may”;
(d) omit paragraph (5) and insert “In the light of the conclusions of the assessment, and subject to regulation 64, the competent authority may take the assessment into account in deciding whether it will agree to the plan or project”;
(e) in paragraph (6) for “must” substitute “may”.

Chris Grayling
Sir Desmond Swayne
Caroline Nokes
Mr Philip Hollobone
Mr Andrew Mitchell
Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger
Andrew Selous
Sir Oliver Heald
Sir Greg Knight
Ben Lake
Hywel Williams

Hilary Benn
Neil Parish
Debbie Abrahams
Liz Saville Roberts
Peter Aldous

Tracey Crouch
Dr Liam Fox
Sir Roger Gale
Jonathan Edwards
Caroline Lucas

To move the following Clause—

"Protected species: Hedgehog"

(1) The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 is amended in accordance with subsection (2).

(2) At the end of Schedule 5 (Animals which are protected) insert—

"hedgehog Erinaceus europaeus"
Theresa Villiers  
Bob Seely  
Sir Roger Gale  
Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown  
Tim Loughton  
Bob Blackman  
Richard Fuller  
Caroline Lucas

To move the following Clause—

“Protection of bio-diversity as condition of planning permission

(1) The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 is amended as set out in section (2).

(2) After section 70(2), insert—

“(2A) Any grants of planning permission for residential development in England must be subject to a condition that such a development does not have a detrimental effect on the local levels of nature conservation and bio-diversity.”"

Ruth Jones  
Dr Alan Whitehead  
Daniel Zeichner  
Luke Pollard  
Gill Furniss  
Stephanie Peacock  
Kerry McCarthy  
Olivia Blake  
Ruth Cadbury  
Debbie Abrahams  
Alex Davies-Jones  
Christina Rees  
Ms Diane Abbott  
Andrew Gwynne  
Dame Angela Eagle  
Stephen Doughty  
Darren Jones  
Lloyd Russell-Moyle  
Kevin Brennan  
Rachel Hopkins  
Helen Hayes  
Fleur Anderson  
Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi  
Janet Daby  
Mick Whitely  
Mr Virendra Sharma  
Valerie Vaz  
Catherine West  
Neil Coyle  
Stephen Kinnock  
Chris Bryant  
Seema Malhotra  
Jonathan Reynolds  
Cat Smith  
John McDonnell  
Lilian Greenwood  
Mary Glindon  
Clive Efford  
Dawn Butler  
Anneliese Dodds  
Paula Barker  
Grahame Morris  
Alex Norris  
Rosie Duffield  
Dame Diana Johnson  
Tonia Antoniazzi  
Ian Mearns  
Ms Harriet Harman  
Caroline Lucas

To move the following Clause—

“Duty to prepare a Tree Strategy for England

(1) The Government must prepare a Tree Strategy for England as set out in subsections (2), (3) and (4).

(2) The strategy must set out the Government’s vision, objectives, priorities and policies for trees in England including individual trees, woodland and forestry, and set out other matters with respect to the promotion of sustainable management of trees in these contexts.
(3) The Tree Strategy for England must include the Government’s targets and interim targets with respect to—
   (a) the percentage of England under tree cover;
   (b) hectares of new native woodland creation achieved by tree planting;
   (c) hectares of new native woodland creation achieved by natural regeneration;
   (d) the percentage of native woodland in favourable ecological condition;
   (e) hectares of Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) undergoing restoration;
   (f) the condition of the England’s Long Established Woodlands; and
   (g) hectares of Long Established Woodlands undergoing restoration.

(4) The Tree Strategy for England must set out—
   (a) locations of additional planting of 30,000 hectares of woodland in the UK each year, as set out in the England Trees Action Plan 2021-2024;
   (b) a plan for the maintenance of the trees and woodlands planted under the England Trees Action Plan 2021-2024; and
   (c) which authorities or individuals are responsible for the maintenance of the trees and woodlands planted under the England Trees Action Plan 2021-2024.

(5) The Government must publish—
   (a) an annual statement on progress against the Tree Strategy for England; and
   (b) any revisions of the Tree Strategy which may be necessary.

(6) The Government must publish a revised Tree Strategy for England within the period of 10 years beginning with the day on which the strategy or its most recent revision was published.”

Bob Seely

To move the following Clause—

“Enforcement action against breaches of planning control in statutorily protected landscapes and areas of ancient woodland

In the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, after Section 171B(2), insert—

“(2B) There is no restriction on when enforcement action may be taken in relation to a breach of planning control in respect—
   (a) a Site of Special Scientific Interest;
   (b) an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty;
Bob Seely

To move the following Clause—

"Tree preservation orders on statutorily protected landscapes

In the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, after Section 201, insert—

"(201A) All trees shall automatically be subject to tree preservation orders if they are in any of the following areas—

(a) a Site of Special Scientific Interest;
(b) an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty;
(c) a National Park; or
(d) any other landscape that is statutorily protected for environmental reasons."

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AMENDMENTS TO PART 6

Sir Oliver Heald
Caroline Lucas

Clause 95, page 96, line 18, after “biodiversity objective” insert “and contribute to the achievement of relevant targets and objectives under the Convention on Biological Diversity”

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Sarah Olney
Caroline Lucas
Lilian Greenwood
Layla Moran
Munira Wilson
Tim Farron
Ed Davey
Mr Alistair Carmichael
Wera Hobhouse
Kim Johnson
Daisy Cooper
Jamie Stone
Stephen Farry
Wendy Chamberlain
Christine Jardine
Helen Hayes

Clause 95, page 97, line 1, leave out subsection (5) and insert—

“(5) After subsection (2) insert—

“(2A) The authority must act in accordance with any relevant local nature recovery strategy in the exercise of relevant functions, including—
(a) land use planning and planning decisions;
(b) spending decisions, including land management payments;
(c) delivery of biodiversity gain; and
(d) any other activities undertaken in complying with subsections (1) and (1A)."

Ruth Jones
Luke Pollard
Daniel Zeichner
Olivia Blake
Gill Furniss
Mary Glindon
Alex Davies-Jones
Christina Rees
Mick Whitley
Grahame Morris
Neil Coyle
Stephen Kinnock
Stephen Doughty
Darren Jones
Tonia Antoniazzi
Ian Mearns
Ms Harriet Harman
Caroline Lucas
Mr Virendra Sharma
Valerie Vaz
Ms Diane Abbott
Fleur Anderson
Alex Norris
Stephanie Peacock
Chris Bryant
Seema Malhotra
Lloyd Russell-Moyle
Kevin Brennan
Rachel Hopkins
Helen Hayes
Anneliese Dodds
Paula Barker
Catherine West
Andrew Gwynne
Dame Angela Eagle
Rosie Duffield
Dame Diana Johnson
Ruth Cadbury
Jonathan Reynolds
Cat Smith
John McDonnell

Clause 102, page 101, line 36, at end insert—

"(2A) The objectives of a species conservation strategy must be—

(a) to identify the factors that adversely affect the conservation status of relevant species of fauna or flora;
(b) to identify measures to improve the conservation status of relevant species of fauna or flora;
(c) to inform the definition of favourable conservation status of relevant species of fauna or flora; and
(d) taking the information set out pursuant to paragraphs (a) to (c) into account, to contribute to relevant planning, land management and conservation policies for those species of fauna or flora.

(2B) All provisions in a species conservation strategy must be in accordance with the mitigation hierarchy.

(2C) The Secretary of State must publish guidance relating to the content, interpretation and implementation of species conservation strategies.

Tim Farron
Not called 47

Clause 102, page 102, line 27, at end insert—

"(8A) The Secretary of State must give financial assistance under the Environmental Land Management scheme to applicants who have
contributed to the achievement of species conservation strategies, provided that the following conditions are met—

(a) the applicant meets the eligibility criteria under the Agriculture (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2021; and

(b) evidence is provided by the applicant in support of that payment request under The Agriculture (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2021.

Tim Farron

Clause 103, page 104, line 27, at end insert—

“(8A) The Secretary of State must give financial assistance under the Environmental Land Management scheme to applicants who have contributed to the achievement of species conservation strategies, provided that the following conditions are met—

(a) the applicant meets the eligibility criteria under the Agriculture (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2021; and

(b) evidence is provided by the applicant in support of that payment request under The Agriculture (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2021.
Schedule 14, page 216, line 37, leave out “maintained for at least 30 years” and insert “secured in its target condition and maintained in perpetuity”

Schedule 15, page 224, line 41, at end insert—

“Planning decisions, felling without a licence and failure to comply with restocking orders

6A (1) The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 is amended as follows:

(2) In section 70(2) (Determination of applications: general considerations), after “material considerations” insert—

“including previous convictions held by the landowner for unlawful tree felling, and failure to comply with restocking and enforcement orders.”
Schedule 16, page 225, line 35, at end insert “, and free, prior and informed consent has been obtained from affected indigenous peoples and local communities”

Schedule 16, page 229, line 30, at end insert—

“Regulated financial person

7A (1) A regulated financial person must not provide financial services for commercial enterprises engaging in the production, trade, transport or use of a forest risk commodity unless relevant local laws are complied with in relation to that commodity.

(2) A regulated financial person who provides financial services for commercial enterprises engaging in the production, trade, transport or use of a forest risk commodity must establish and implement a due diligence system in relation to the provision of those financial services.

(3) A “due diligence system”, in relation to a regulated financial person, means a system for—

(a) identifying, and obtaining information about, the operations of a commercial enterprise engaging in the production, trade, transport or use of a forest risk commodity to which it provides financial services,

(b) assessing the risk that such a commercial enterprise is not complying with relevant local laws in relation to that commodity,

(c) assessing the risk that a commercial enterprise is not complying with paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Schedule, and

(d) mitigating that risk.

(4) A regulated financial person must, for each reporting period, provide the relevant authority with a report on the actions taken by the regulated
financial person to establish and implement a due diligence system as required by paragraph 3.

(5) A “regulated financial person” means a person (other than an individual) who carries on financial services in the United Kingdom and—

(a) meets such conditions as may be specified in regulations made by the Secretary of State; or

(b) is an undertaking which is a subsidiary of another undertaking which meets those conditions.

(6) In this paragraph—

“group” has the meaning given by section 474 of the Companies Act 2006;

“undertaking” has the meaning given by section 1161 of that Act,

“financial services” means—

(a) the provision of banking services including the acceptance of deposits in the course of business;

(b) the provision of loans in the course of a banking, credit or lending business, including by way of term loan, revolving credit facility, debentures and bonds; and

(c) regulated activities as defined under section 22 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Regulated Activities) Order 2001 (SI 2001/544), in each case as amended, or

(d) such other financial services as may be specified in regulations made by the Secretary of State.

“commercial enterprise” means a person (other than an individual) who carries on commercial activities in any jurisdiction relating to the production, trade, transport or use of forest risk commodities.”

Schedule 16, page 229, line 34, leave out “may” and insert “must”
Not called 37

| Daisy Cooper | Sarah Olney | Tim Farron | Ed Davey | Mr Alistair Carmichael | Wendy Chamberlain | Wera Hobhouse | Christine Jardine | Munira Wilson | Layla Moran | Stephen Farry | Andrew Gwynne | Kenny MacAskill | Claire Hanna |

Schedule 16, page 229, line 38, leave out “may” and insert “must”

Not called 38

| Daisy Cooper | Sarah Olney | Tim Farron | Ed Davey | Mr Alistair Carmichael | Wendy Chamberlain | Wera Hobhouse | Christine Jardine | Munira Wilson | Layla Moran | Stephen Farry | Andrew Gwynne | Kenny MacAskill | Claire Hanna |

Schedule 16, page 229, line 39, after “persons” insert “, independent of the Secretary of State,”

REMAINING PROCEEDINGS ON CONSIDERATION


Negatived on division NC12
To move the following Clause—

“Well consents for hydraulic fracturing: cessation of issue and termination

(1) No well consent which permits associated hydraulic fracturing may be issued by the Oil and Gas Authority (“OGA”).

(2) Sections 4A and 4B of the Petroleum Act 1998 (as inserted by section 50 of the Infrastructure Act 2015), are repealed.

(3) Any well consent which has been issued by the OGA which—

(a) permits associated hydraulic fracturing, and

(b) is effective on the day on which this Act receives Royal Assent shall cease to be valid three months after this Act receives Royal Assent.

(4) In this section—

“associated hydraulic fracturing” means hydraulic fracturing of shale or strata encased in shale which—

(a) is carried out in connection with the use of the relevant well to search or bore for or get petroleum, and

(b) involves, or is expected to involve, the injection of—

(i) more than 1,000 cubic metres of fluid at each stage, or expected stage, of the hydraulic fracturing, or

(ii) more than 10,000 cubic metres of fluid in total, or

(iii) acid intended to dissolve rock;

and “well consent” means a consent in writing of the OGA to the commencement of drilling of a well.”

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Chris Grayling
Andrew Selous
Andrew Rosindell
Simon Fell
Barry Gardiner
Sir Roger Gale
Henry Smith
Ms Nusrat Ghani

Not called NC19

To move the following Clause—

“Labelling scheme for the environmental sustainability of food

(1) The Secretary of State must by regulations make provision for a scheme requiring food manufacturers to label foods offered for sale in the United Kingdom to indicate the environmental sustainability of their origins.

(2) That scheme must make provision for a kitemark indicating the environmentally sustainable origins of a food.
(3) The kitemark may be applied to:—
   (a) raw food commodities,
   (b) processed food products, and
   (c) the ingredients of processed food products.

(4) The definition of “environmentally sustainable origins” under the
    scheme must incorporate an assessment of whether the agricultural or
    manufacturing processes involved in the production of a food—
   (a) protect the habitats of species listed internationally as
       endangered,
   (b) avoid biodiversity loss,
   (c) avoid deforestation, and
   (d) avoid significant increases in net carbon emissions.

(5) The scheme may make provision for—
   (a) enforcement, and
   (b) civil sanctions in relation to labelling and use of the kitemark.

(6) Regulations under this section are subject to the affirmative procedure.

(7) Before making regulations under this Act, the Secretary of State must
    consult—
   (a) the Scottish Ministers,
   (b) the Welsh Ministers, and
   (c) the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in
       Northern Ireland.

(8) The Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a draft statutory
    instrument containing the proposed scheme before the end of the period
    of one year beginning with the day this Act receives Royal Assent.”

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Negatived on division NC24

Ruth Jones
Luke Pollard
Daniel Zeichner
Olivia Blake
Gill Furniss
Mary Glindon
Fleur Anderson
Anneliese Dodds
Paula Barker
Catherine West
Neil Coyle
Stephen Kinnock
Stephen Doughty
Darren Jones
Tonia Antoniazzi
Ian Mearns
Ms Harriet Harman
Caroline Lucas

Alex Davies-Jones
Christina Rees
Mick Whitley
Grahame Morris
Alex Norris
Stephanie Peacock
Chris Bryant
Seema Malhotra
Lloyd Russell-Moyle
Kevin Brennan
Rachel Hopkins
Kerry McCarthy

Mr Virendra Sharma
Valerie Vaz
Ms Diane Abbott
Andrew Gwynne
Dame Angela Eagle
Rosie Duffield
Dame Diana Johnson
Ruth Cadbury
Jonathan Reynolds
Cat Smith
John McDonnell
Helen Hayes
To move the following Clause—

“Prohibition on burning of peat in upland areas

(1) A person must not burn specified vegetation on land in England which is within an upland area on peat.

(2) In this section—

“specified vegetation” means heather, rough grass, bracken, gorse or vaccinium, and

“upland area” means all the land shown coloured pink on the map marked as “Map of Upland Area in England” held by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs but does not include the land coloured pink in the Isles of Scilly.

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Chris Loder

To move the following Clause—

“Labelling scheme for the informed purchase of environmentally sustainable food

(1) The Secretary of State must by regulations make provision for a scheme requiring food manufacturers to label foods offered for sale in the United Kingdom to indicate the environmental sustainability of their origins.

(2) The scheme in subsection (1) must make provision for a kitemark indicating the environmentally sustainable origins of a food.

(3) The kitemark may be applied to—

(a) raw food commodities,
(b) processed food products, and
(c) the ingredients of processed food products.

(4) Food labelling under the scheme must include a declaration about food miles, which is defined as the distance travelled from the country, or in the case of domestically produced food the region, of origin.

(5) The declaration in subsection (4) must be given in words and numbers, but may also be presented using graphical forms or symbols provided that the graphical forms or symbols meet the following requirements—

(a) they are based on scientifically valid consumer research and do not mislead the consumer as referred to in Article 7 of the retained Regulation (EU) No.1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council as amended in the Food (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019;

(b) their development is the result of consultation with a wide range of stakeholder groups;
(c) they aim to facilitate consumer understanding of the contribution or importance of the environmental impact of the food;

(d) they are supported by scientifically valid evidence showing that such forms of presentation are understood by the average consumer;

(e) they are objective and non-discriminatory; and

(f) their application does not create obstacles to the free movement of goods.

(6) The scheme may recommend to food business operators the use of one or more additional forms of presentation of the environmental indications that they consider as best fulfilling the requirements laid down in paragraphs (a) to (f) of subsection (5).

(7) The scheme may make provision for—

(a) enforcement, and

(b) civil sanctions in relation to labelling and use of the kitemark.

(8) Regulations under this section are subject to the affirmative procedure.

(9) The Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a draft statutory instrument containing the proposed scheme before the end of the period of one year beginning with the day this Act receives Royal Assent."

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Not called NC29

Debbie Abrahams
Barbara Keeley
Mr Virendra Sharma
John McDonnell
Geraint Davies
Tonia Antoniazzi
Stella Creasy
Mick Whitley
Tony Lloyd
Kim Johnson
Dan Jarvis
Luke Pollard
Mary Glindon
Rosie Cooper
Alex Sobel
Valerie Vaz
Liam Byrne
Caroline Lucas
Daniel Zeichner
Olivia Blake
Paula Barker
Dame Diana Johnson
Karin Smyth
Clive Efford
Ruth Jones
Gill Furniss

To move the following Clause—

"Review of public health effects

(1) The Secretary of State must review the public health effects of the provisions of this Act and lay a report of that review before the House of Commons within six months of the passing of this Act.

(2) A review under this section must consider—

(a) the effects of the provisions of this Act on air pollutant levels across the UK,
(b) the effects of the provisions of this Act on different socioeconomic groups and population groups with protected characteristics as defined by the 2010 Equality Act,
(c) the effects of the provisions of this Act on life expectancy and healthy life expectancy in the UK, and
(d) the implications for the public finances of the public health effects of the provisions of this Act.”

*Bill read the third time, and passed.*

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**Glossary**

- **Added**: New Clause agreed without a vote and added to the Bill.
- **Agreed to**: agreed without a vote.
- **Agreed to on division**: agreed following a vote.
- **Negatived**: rejected without a vote.
- **Negatived on division**: rejected following a vote.
- **Not called**: debated in a group of amendments, but not put to a decision.
- **Not moved**: not debated or put to a decision.
- **Question proposed**: debate underway but not concluded.
- **Withdrawn after debate**: moved and debated but then withdrawn, so not put to a decision.
- **Not selected**: not chosen for debate by the Speaker.