Report Stage: Friday 3 September 2021

National Insurance Contributions Bill (Amendment Paper)

This document lists all amendments tabled to the National Insurance Contributions Bill. Any withdrawn amendments are listed at the end of the document. The amendments are arranged in the order in which it is expected they will be decided.

☆ Amendments which will comply with the required notice period at their next appearance.

Richard Thomson

To move the following Clause—

“Zero-rate contributions for employees of green manufacturing companies

(1) This section applies where—

(a) a secondary Class 1 contribution is payable as mentioned in section 6(1)(b) of the 1992 Act in respect of earnings paid in a tax week in respect of an employment,

(b) the green manufacturing condition is met (see section [Green manufacturing condition]), and

(c) the employer (or, if different, the secondary contributor) elects that this section is to apply in relation to the contribution for the purposes of section 9(1) of the 1992 Act instead of section 9(1A) of that Act or section 1 of this Act.

(2) For the purposes of section 9(1) of whichever of the 1992 Acts would otherwise apply—

(a) the relevant percentage in respect of any earnings paid in the tax week up to or at the upper secondary threshold is 0%, and

(b) the relevant percentage in respect of any earnings paid in the tax week above that threshold is the secondary percentage.

(3) The upper secondary threshold (or the prescribed equivalent in relation to earners paid otherwise than weekly) is the amount specified in regulations under section 8.

(4) For the purposes of the 1992 Acts a person is still to be regarded as being liable to pay a secondary Class 1 contribution even if the amount of the contribution is £0 as a result of this section.

(5) The Treasury may by regulations make provision about cases in which subsection (2) is to be treated as applying in relation to contributions payable in respect of a tax week in a given tax year only when—
(a) that tax year has ended, and
(b) all contributions payable in respect of a tax week in that tax year
have been paid."

Member’s explanatory statement
This new clause provides National Insurance contributions relief for businesses engaged in green
manufacturing.

Richard Thomson
To move the following Clause—

"Green manufacturing condition"

(1) The green manufacturing condition is that the employer is engaged in
the manufacture of products within the categories designated under
subsection (2).

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Secretary of State must by
regulations designate categories of products that in the opinion of the
Secretary of State are manufactured with the aim of increasing
environmental standards.

(3) The categories of products designated must include—
   (a) wind turbines, and
   (b) electric vehicles."

Member’s explanatory statement
This new clause is linked to NC1.

Richard Thomson
To move the following Clause—

"Scottish Government Covid payments: exemption from primary Class 1
contributions"

(1) A primary Class 1 contribution is not to be payable in respect of any
Scottish Government Covid payment.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a “Scottish Government Covid
payment” means a payment of £500 pro rata to any NHS Scotland or
social care worker in accordance with the announcement made by the
Scottish Government on 30 November 2020."
Member’s explanatory statement
This new clause provides exemptions for Scottish Government Covid payments to NHS Scotland and social care workers.

Sarah Olney

To move the following Clause—

“Employment allowance for national insurance contributions

(1) In section 1(2)(a)(1) of the National Insurance Contributions Act 2014 (employment allowance for national insurance contributions), for “£4,000” substitute “£16,000”.

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) will remain in force until 30 September 2023 and will then expire unless continued in force by an order under subsection (3).

(3) The Chancellor of the Exchequer may by order made by statutory instrument provide that the provisions which are in force will continue in force for a period not exceeding two years from the coming into operation of the order.

(4) No order will be made under subsection (3) unless a draft of the order has been laid before and approved by a resolution of both Houses of Parliament.

(5) The Chancellor of the Exchequer must lay before Parliament a review of the effects of the provisions in subsection (1) on employment, the performance of small businesses and GDP growth no later than 30 September 2023.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This new clause would quadruple the employment allowance from £4,000 to £16,000 for two years. At the end of the period, the Chancellor of the Exchequer would be required to assess its effects and would be able to seek parliamentary approval for the policy to continue for up to a further two years.

Richard Thomson

Clause 2, page 2, line 26, at end insert—

“(e) the employer pays, as a minimum, a living wage to all staff it employs, and

(f) the businesses operating in the freeport in which the employer has business premises have collectively—

(i) put in place a strategy setting out how the freeport will contribute to the target for net UK emissions of greenhouse gases in 2050 as set out in the Climate
Change Act 2008 as amended by the Climate Change Act (2050 Target Amendment) Order 2019,

(ii) put in place a strategy setting out how the businesses will ensure that no goods passing through the freeport are the products of slave labour, and

(iii) carried out an environmental impact assessment of the operation of the freeport.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment provides conditions to businesses in freeports. These include a strategy on how the freeport will contribute to the target for net UK greenhouse gases emissions, a strategy ensuring no goods passing through the freeport are products of slave labour, and an environmental impact assessment of the freeport.

Richard Thomson

Clause 2, page 3, line 11, at end insert—

“(4A) For the purposes of subsection (1)(e), the living wage per hour—

(a) for the financial year 2021-22 is—

(i) £9.50 outside of London, and

(ii) £10.85 inside London; and

(b) for each year after the financial year 2021-22 is to be determined by the Living Wage Foundation.”

Member’s explanatory statement
This amendment defines the living wage, payment of which is one of the conditions businesses would have to meet under Amendment 1.

Jesse Norman

Clause 6, page 4, line 25, leave out “the 1992 Act” and insert “whichever of the 1992 Acts would otherwise apply”

Member’s explanatory statement
Order of the House

[14 June 2021]

That the following provisions shall apply to the National Insurance Contributions 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 Tuesday 22 June.
3. The Public Bill Committee shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it meets.

Proceedings on 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 proceedings on Consideration 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 may be programmed.