
Committee Stage: Tuesday 11 January 2022

Dormant Assets Bill [Lords] (Amendment Paper)

This document lists all amendments tabled to the Dormant Assets Bill [Lords]. Any withdrawn amendments are listed at the end of the document.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.

This document should be read alongside the Chair's provisional Selection and Grouping, which sets out the order in which the amendments will be debated.

Resolution of the Programming Sub-Committee

The Programming Sub-Committee appointed by the Speaker in respect of the Bill agreed the following Resolution at its meeting on Monday 10 January (Standing Order 83C):

That—

1. the Committee shall (in addition to its first meeting at 9.25 am on Tuesday 11 January) meet—
 - (a) at 2.00 pm on Tuesday 11 January;
 - (b) at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 13 January;
2. proceedings on consideration of the Bill in Committee shall be taken in the following order: Clauses 1 to 32; Schedule 1; Clause 33; Schedule 2; Clause 34; new Clauses; new Schedules; remaining proceedings on the Bill;
3. the proceedings shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at 5.00 pm on Thursday 13 January.

Nigel Huddleston has given notice of his intention to make a motion in the terms of the Resolution of the Programming Sub-Committee (Standing Order No. 83C).

Nigel Huddleston

That, subject to the discretion of the Chair, any written evidence received by the Committee shall be reported to the House for publication.

Alex Davies-Jones
Jeff Smith

5

Clause 29, page 22, line 11, at end insert—

“(1A) An order under subsection (1) must be consistent with criteria published by the Secretary of State setting out the principles to be used when making a determination as to whether restrictions, or no specific restrictions, are to be applied to distributed dormant assets money for meeting English expenditure.

(1B) Prior to publishing the criteria under subsection (1A), the Secretary of State must consult on the purposes for which the dormant assets money may be distributed, and the criteria to be applied therein.

(1C) A consultation under subsection (1B) must conclude not more than 3 months after it is announced.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would require the Secretary of State to publish and apply criteria to be used when determining the purposes for which dormant assets money can be distributed. The criteria must be the subject of a consultation which must last no longer than 3 months.

Nigel Huddleston

1

Clause 29, page 22, line 12, leave out subsections (2) to (4)

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment removes provisions relating to community wealth funds that were added to the clause at Report stage in the Lords.

Paul Howell
Dame Diana Johnson
Sarah Champion
Barbara Keeley
Rosie Cooper
Andrew Lewer
Sir George Howarth
Rachael Maskell
Emma Hardy

Mrs Emma Lewell-Buck
Tony Lloyd

Jo Gideon
Tracey Crouch

3

Clause 29, page 22, line 37, at end insert—

“(aa) specifically consult on the merits of establishing a community wealth fund or funds under the dormant assets scheme, and”

Member’s explanatory statement

This is a probing amendment intended to ensure the scope of any Government’s proposed consultation process also encompasses full consideration of the merits of establishing a community wealth fund or funds under the dormant assets scheme.

Alex Davies-Jones
Jeff Smith

4

Clause 29, page 22, line 41, at end insert—

**“18B Distribution of money for meeting English expenditure:
Requirement to report annually**

- (1) The Secretary of State must lay before Parliament an annual report detailing how dormant assets money has been distributed in England.
- (2) The first report under subsection (1) will be laid 12 months after—
 - (a) any restriction imposed under section 18A(1)(a) of that Act comes into force, or
 - (b) the provision in section 18A(1)(b) of that Act comes into force,whichever occurs first.
- (3) A report under subsection (1) must include—
 - (a) how much dormant assets money has been distributed,
 - (b) the causes to which money has been distributed, and
 - (c) the Secretary of State’s assessment of the value for money of the expenditure.

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would require the Secretary of State to report annually on how monies from the Reclaim Fund have been spent in England, including an assessment of the value for money of this spending.

Nigel Huddleston

2

Clause 34, page 26, line 3, leave out subsection (8)

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment removes the Lords’ Privilege Amendment that was added to the Bill because of the financial effects of clause 27. Those effects are covered by the Money Resolution agreed by the House on 6 December 2021.

Alex Davies-Jones
Jeff Smith

NC1

To move the following Clause—

“Authorised reclaim funds: Duty to assess and report

- (1) The Secretary of State must make an annual assessment of the health and governance of authorised reclaim funds. The assessment must be reported to Parliament.
- (2) The first report under subsection (1) must be laid 12 months after—
 - (a) any restriction imposed under section 18A(1)(a) of that Act comes into force, or
 - (b) the provision mentioned in section 18A(1)(b) of that Act comes into force,whichever occurs first.
- (3) An assessment under subsection (1) must include an evaluation of the risk of insolvency of the fund.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This new clause would require the Secretary of State to assess the health and governance of reclaim funds regularly in relation to the risk of insolvency, and to report on this annually to Parliament.

Alex Davies-Jones
Jeff Smith

NC2

To move the following Clause—

“Authorised Reclaim funds: Apportionment of expenditure

- (1) An authorised reclaim fund may conduct a review of the proportion of dormant asset money that may be spent on particular causes.
- (2) Following a review under subsection (1), an authorised reclaim fund may make an assessment and recommendation as to whether this proportion should be increased.
- (3) The Secretary of State may, by order, make regulation to change the proportion of dormant asset money that may be spent on particular causes, in line with any recommendation made pursuant to subsection (2).”

Member’s explanatory statement

This new clause would allow reclaim funds to review the proportion of funds they are able to give towards good causes, and make an assessment and recommendation as to whether this proportion should be increased. It would also give the Secretary of State power to implement such a recommendation.

Order of the House

[6 December 2021]

That the following provisions shall apply to the Dormant Assets Bill [Lords]:

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 13 January 2022.
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 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.
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