
Committee Stage: Thursday 21 March 2024

Post Office (Horizon System) Offences Bill (Amendment Paper)

This document lists all amendments tabled to the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences 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 Any withdrawn amendments are listed at the end of the document.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.

★ New Amendments.

New Amendments: 1 to 22 and NC1

Stephen Farry

9

★ Clause 1, page 1, line 5, after “Wales” insert “and Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Stephen Farry

10

★ Clause 1, page 1, line 8, after “service” insert “or the Public Prosecution Service in Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Liam Byrne

1

★ Clause 1, page 1, line 9, leave out paragraph (b)

Stephen Farry

11

★ Clause 1, page 1, line 9, after “Appeal” insert “or HM Court or Appeal in Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Stephen Farry**12**

- ★ Clause 1, page 1, line 12, after “”Appeal” insert “or HM Court or Appeal in Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Stephen Farry**13**

- ★ Clause 2, page 2, line 32, after “1968” insert “or section 17 of the Theft (Northern Ireland) Act 1969”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Stephen Farry**14**

- ★ Clause 2, page 2, line 35, after “1968” insert “or section 15 or 15A of the Theft (Northern Ireland) Act 1969”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Stephen Farry**15**

- ★ Clause 2, page 2, line 35, after “1968” insert “ or section 19(1) or (2) of the Theft (Northern Ireland) Act 1969”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Stephen Farry**16**

- ★ Clause 2, page 2, line 37, leave out “that Act” and insert “the Theft Act 1968”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Stephen Farry

17

- ★ Clause 2, page 2, line 41, after “1968” insert “or section 21 of the Theft (Northern Ireland) Act 1969”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Stephen Farry

18

- ★ Clause 3, page 3, line 15, at end add —

“(5A) “Court of Appeal” in this section includes HM Court of Appeal in Northern Ireland.”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Liam Byrne

2

- ★ Page 3, line 2, leave out Clause 3

Liam Byrne

3

- ★ Clause 4, page 3, line 34, at end insert—

“(4A) Notification under subsection (4) must include a written summary of—

- (a) the compensation schemes available to a relevant person following a quashed conviction under section 1(1);
- (b) the relevant heads of loss under which a relevant person may claim compensation; and
- (c) a tariff of compensation available relating to each of the heads of loss mentioned in paragraph (b).”

Liam Byrne

4

- ★ Clause 4, page 3, line 34, at end insert—

“(4A) Notification under subsection (4) must include a written commitment from the Secretary of State that—

- (a) the period of time between a full and valid claim for compensation and an offer of compensation will not exceed four weeks; and
- (b) if the offer is not made within the four week period mentioned in paragraph (a), a fixed penalty amount will be added to the ultimate compensation sum for each day by which the four week period is exceeded.”

Liam Byrne

5

★ Clause 4, page 3, line 34, at end insert—

“(4A) Notification under subsection (4) must include a written commitment from the Secretary of State to use reasonable endeavours to ensure that the period of time between a full and valid claim for compensation and an offer of compensation will not exceed four weeks.”

Stephen Farry

19

★ Clause 4, page 3, line 38, after “Wales” insert “or in Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Liam Byrne

6

★ Clause 5, page 4, line 18, at end insert—

“(3A) Notification under subsection (3) must include a written summary of—

- (a) the compensation schemes available to a relevant person following a direction to delete a caution under section 5(1);
- (b) the relevant heads of loss under which a relevant person may claim compensation; and
- (c) a tariff of compensation available relating to each of the heads of loss mentioned in paragraph (b).”

Liam Byrne

7

★ Clause 5, page 4, line 18, at end insert—

“(3A) Notification under subsection (3) must include a written commitment from the Secretary of State that—

- (a) the period of time between a full and valid claim for compensation and an offer of compensation will not exceed four weeks; and
- (b) if the offer is not made within the four week period mentioned in paragraph (a), a fixed penalty amount will be added to the ultimate compensation sum for each day by which the four week period is exceeded.”

Liam Byrne

8

Stephen Farry

★ Clause 5, page 4, line 18, at end insert—

“(3A) Notification under subsection (3) must include a written commitment from the Secretary of State to use reasonable endeavours to ensure that the period of time between a full and valid claim for compensation and an offer of compensation will not exceed four weeks.”

Stephen Farry

20

★ Clause 8, page 6, line 9, after “Wales” insert “or in Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Stephen Farry

21

★ Clause 9, page 6, line 25, leave out “only” and insert “and to Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Ian Paisley

NC1

★ To move the following Clause—

“Provision relating to Northern Ireland

- (1) The Secretary of State must consult the First Minister and deputy First Minister about making provision for quashing any conviction in Northern Ireland for an equivalent “relevant offence” (see section 2) alleged to have been committed in Northern Ireland.
- (2) The Secretary of State may make regulations to apply the provisions of this Act, with any necessary modifications to take account of the law and legal system in Northern Ireland, to secure the quashing of any conviction in Northern Ireland for an equivalent “relevant offence” (see section 2).
- (3) Unless the First Minister and deputy First Minister acting jointly advise to the contrary, the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a draft of regulations to be made under subsection (2) no later than one week after the day on which this Act is passed.
- (4) Regulations under this section are to be made by statutory instrument and may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, each House of Parliament.
- (5) Subject to subsection (4) of this section, section 7 of this Act applies to other regulations made under this section.”

Member's explanatory statement

This skeleton clause would require comparable provision to be made to quash convictions in Northern Ireland on the same basis as in England and Wales.

Stephen Farry

22

Ian Paisley

★ Title, line 1, after “Wales” insert “and In Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This is one of a series of amendments seeking to make comparable provision for Northern Ireland.

Order of the House

[20 March 2024]

That the following provisions shall apply to the Post Office (Horizon System) Offences Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Committee of the whole House.

Proceedings in Committee of the whole House, on Consideration and on Third Reading

2. Proceedings in Committee of the whole House, any proceedings on Consideration and proceedings on Third Reading shall be completed either in one day or in two days, in accordance with the following provisions of this Order.
3. Proceedings in Committee of the whole House shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion five hours after their commencement.
4. If there are no proceedings on Consideration, proceedings on Third Reading—
 - (a) shall be taken on the day on which proceedings in Committee commenced, and
 - (b) shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after the commencement of proceedings on Third Reading.
5. If there are proceedings on Consideration—
 - (a) those proceedings shall be taken on the second day, and shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour before the moment of interruption on that day, and
 - (b) proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

Programming committee

6. Standing Order No. 83B (Programming committees) shall not apply to proceedings in Committee of the whole House, to any proceedings on Consideration or to proceedings on Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill may be programmed.