
Committee Stage: Wednesday 4 September 2024

Budget Responsibility Bill (Amendment Paper)

This document lists all amendments tabled to the Budget Responsibility 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 Any withdrawn amendments are listed at the end of the document.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.

This document should be read alongside the provisional Selection and Grouping by the Chairman of Ways and Means, which sets out the order in which the amendments will be debated.

Jeremy Hunt

9

Nigel Huddleston

Clause 1, page 1, line 14, at end insert—

“(c) or any changes to the government’s fiscal targets.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the OBR to produce and publish a section 4(3) report at the time new fiscal rules are announced by the Treasury.

Sarah Olney

2

Clause 1, page 1, line 25, at end insert—

“(2A) In any case where the Office has acted in accordance with subsection (2), it may notify the Independent Adviser on Ministers’ Interests of the circumstances in any case where it considers those circumstances may be relevant to—

- (a) the Ministerial Code, or
- (b) the functions of the Independent Adviser on Ministers’ Interests.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment enables the OBR to notify the Independent Adviser on Ministers’ Interests where the OBR considers that any instance where the Treasury had not requested a report under section 4A(1) in advance may give rise to consideration of compliance with the Ministerial Code.

Ellie Chowns

5

Siân Berry
Carla Denyer
Adrian Ramsay
Claire Hanna

Clause 1, page 1, line 25, at end insert—

“(2A) Where the OBR prepares a report in accordance with subsection (1) or (2), it must take account of the impact of the measure or measures on—

- (a) the UK’s compliance with, and
- (b) the fiscal cost of meeting,

the UK’s net zero target as set in section 1(2) of the Climate Change Act 2008.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the OBR to report on the impact of fiscally significant measures announced by Government on the UK’s statutory net zero target.

Sarah Olney

1

Clause 1, page 2, line 4, at end insert “or

- (b) the measure, or combination of measures, is likely to have an impact on—
 - (i) the cost of government borrowing,
 - (ii) interest rates, or
 - (iii) the rate of growth of gross domestic product.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment broadens the definition of fiscally significant measures to those which fall below the costing threshold, but have wider fiscal effects, by affecting either the cost of government borrowing, interest rates or rates of economic growth.

Ms Stella Creasy

6

Clause 1, page 2, line 4, at end insert “or if the condition in subsection (3A) is met.”

Member's explanatory statement

See the statement for Amendment 7.

Ms Stella Creasy

7

Clause 1, page 2, line 6, at end insert—

“(3A) The condition in this subsection is that the measure, or combination of measures, forms part of category of measures with a cumulative impact on—

- (a) public sector net debt,
- (b) public sector contingent liabilities, or
- (c) both,

that exceeds a specified percentage of the gross domestic product for a specified period.

“Specified” means specified in, or determined in accordance with, the Charter for Budget Responsibility”

Member's explanatory statement

The purpose of this amendment is to extend the definition of fiscally significant measures to include measures with a cumulative impact on public sector net debt or contingent liabilities when taken together with other measures in the same category, such as public projects with private sector partners.

Ms Stella Creasy

8

Clause 1, page 2, line 9, at end insert—

“(4A) If—

- (a) a Minister of the Crown is holding international negotiations with a view to securing changes to the trading relationship between the United Kingdom and another nation or group of nations and
- (b) the outcome of any such changes could be fiscally significant,

the Treasury must, before the negotiations are concluded, request the Office to prepare a report (which may, but need not, be a section 4(3) report) that takes account of the possible outcomes of those negotiations.

- (4B) Changes to the trading relationship between the United Kingdom and another nation or group of nations are “fiscally significant” if the changes have a forecast impact on the public finances for a specified period that exceeds a specified percentage of the gross domestic product for a specified period.

“Specified” means specified in, or determined in accordance with, the Charter for Budget Responsibility.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment extends the provisions of inserted section 4A so that they apply to fiscally significant changes to the United Kingdom’s trading relationships.

Sarah Olney

3

Clause 1, page 2, line 16, leave out “28” and insert “56”

Member's explanatory statement

See the statement for Amendment 4.

Sarah Olney

4

Clause 1, page 2, line 17, at end insert—

“(6A) After the publication of a draft under subsection (6), the Treasury must consult—

- (a) the Office for Budget Responsibility,
- (b) the Treasury Committee of the House of Commons, and
- (c) such other persons as the Treasury considers appropriate.

(6B) When a modified Charter so as to include provision by virtue of this section is laid before Parliament, the Treasury must also lay before Parliament a report on the outcome of consultation under subsection (6A).”

Member's explanatory statement

The purpose of this amendment is to impose a requirement on the Treasury to undertake a full consultation and publish the outcome of that consultation prior to revision of the Charter for the purposes of the Bill.

Jeremy Hunt

10

Nigel Huddleston

Title, after “measures” insert “and of any changes to the government’s fiscal targets”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential to Amendment 9. It would amend the long title of the Bill.

Order of the House

[30 July 2024]

That the following provisions shall apply to the Budget Responsibility Bill:

Committal

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

Proceedings in Committee, on Consideration and on Third Reading

2. Proceedings in Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion four hours after their commencement.
3. Any proceedings on Consideration and proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion five hours after the commencement of proceedings in Committee of the whole House.

4. 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.