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**Committee Stage: Thursday 24 April 2025**

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## **Crime and Policing Bill**

### **(Committee Stage Decisions)**

This document sets out the fate of each clause, schedule, amendment and new clause considered at committee stage.

A glossary with key terms can be found at the end of this document.

First to Tenth Sittings

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#### *First and Second Sittings*

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to**

That—

1. the Committee shall (in addition to its first meeting at 11.30 am on Thursday 27 March) meet—
  - (a) at 2.00 pm on Thursday 27 March;
  - (b) at 9.25 am and 2.00 pm on Tuesday 1 April;
  - (c) at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 3 April;
  - (d) at 9.25 am and 2.00 pm on Tuesday 8 April;
  - (e) at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 24 April;
  - (f) at 9.25 am and 2.00 pm on Tuesday 29 April;
  - (g) at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 1 May;
  - (h) at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 8 May;
  - (i) at 9.25 am and 2.00 pm on Tuesday 13 May;
2. the Committee shall hear oral evidence on Thursday 27 March in accordance with the following Table:

<i>Time</i>	<i>Witness</i>
Until no later than 12.15 pm	National Police Chiefs' Council; Police Superintendents' Association; Police Federation of England and Wales
Until no later than 12.45 pm	Oliver Sells KC; Rt Hon Sir Robert Buckland KBE KC
Until no later than 1.00 pm	Spike Aware
Until no later than 2.40 pm	The Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers; Co-operative Group Limited; British Retail Consortium
Until no later than 3.10 pm	The Victims' Commissioner for England and Wales; The Suzy Lamplugh Trust
Until no later than 3.40 pm	Internet Watch Foundation; Action for Children
Until no later than 4.10 pm	Local Government Association; Neil Garratt AM
Until no later than 4.50 pm	The Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside; The Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley; The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex; The Association of Police and Crime Commissioners
Until no later than 5.05 pm	Dr Lawrence Newport
Until no later than 5.20 pm	The National Farmers' Union of England and Wales
Until no later than 5.35 pm	Stand with Hong Kong
Until no later than 5.55 pm	Home Office; Ministry of Justice

3. proceedings on consideration of the Bill in Committee shall be taken in the following order: Clauses 1 and 2; Schedule 1; Clauses 3 to 5; Schedule 2; Clause 6; Schedule 3; Clauses 7 to 30; Schedule 4; Clauses 31 and 32; Schedule 5; Clauses 33 to 38; Schedule 6; Clauses 39 to 45; Schedule 7; Clauses 46 to 56; Schedule 8; Clauses 57 to 68; Schedule 9; Clauses 69 to 82; Schedule 10; Clauses 83 to 90; Schedule 11; Clauses 91 and 92; Schedule 12; Clauses 93 to 96; Schedule 13; Clauses 97 to 102; Schedules 14 and 15; Clauses 103 to 124; Schedule 16; Clauses 125 to 130; new Clauses; new Schedules; Clauses 131 to 137; remaining proceedings on the Bill;
4. the proceedings shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at 5.00 pm on Tuesday 13 May.

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to**

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

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to**

That, at this and any subsequent meeting at which oral evidence is to be heard, the Committee shall sit in private until the witnesses are admitted.

**The following Witnesses gave oral evidence:**

**Chief Constable Tim De Meyer**, Lead for Disclosure, National Police Chiefs' Council

**Dan Murphy KPM, BA(Hons), MSc. (Retired Chief Superintendent)**, Assistant National Secretary, Police Superintendents Association of England and Wales

**Tiff Lynch**, Deputy National Chair, Police Federation of England and Wales

**Oliver Sells KC**

**Rt Hon Sir Robert Buckland KBE KC**

**Colin Mackie**, Chair/Founder, Spike Aware UK

**Christopher Morris**, Deputy Head of Research and Policy, Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers

**Paul Gerrard**, Campaigns and Public Affairs Director, Cooperative Group

**Graham Wynn**, Assistant Director for Consumer, Competition and Regulatory Affairs, British Retail Consortium

**Baroness Newlove**, Victims' Commissioner

**Suky Bhaker**, CEO, Suzy Lamplugh Trust

**Dan Sexton**, Chief Technology Officer, Internet Watch Foundation

**Sharon Maciver**, Director of Child Criminal Exploitation, Action for Children

**Councillor Sara Conway**, Member of the Safer and Stronger Communities Board at the LGA, and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Resident Participation at Barnet London Borough Council, Local Government Association

**Councillor Neil Garratt AM**, leader of the Conservative group on the London Assembly

**Emily Spurrell**, Chair, Association of Police and Crime Commissioners

**Matthew Barber**, Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley

**Roger Hirst**, Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex

**Dr Lawrence Newport**

**Sam Durham**, Chief Adviser (Land Management), NFU

**Venita Yeung**, Fight for Freedom. Stand with Hong Kong

**Rt Hon Dame Diana Johnson MP**, Minister for Policing, Fire and Crime Prevention, Home Office

**Alex Davies-Jones MP**, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Justice

*Third and Fourth Sitings*

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negated on division 31**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross  
Katie Lam

Clause 1, page 1, line 13, leave out "18" and insert "16"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would lower the age to 16 at which a court can impose a respect order on a person to prevent them from engaging in anti-social behaviour.

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negated on division 33**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross  
Katie Lam

Clause 1, page 2, line 29, at end insert—

"(9) If a court makes a respect order against a person (P) more than once, then P is liable to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale."

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment means that if a person gets more than one Respect Order, they are liable for a fine.

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negated on division 30**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross  
Katie Lam

Clause 1, page 2, line 30, leave out from "behaviour" to the end of line 31 and insert "has the same meaning as under section 2 of this Act."

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would give "anti-social behaviour" in clause 1 the same definition as in section 2 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negated on division 34**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross  
Katie Lam

Clause 1, page 4, line 18, at end insert—

**“D1 Power to move person down list for social housing**

A respect order may have the effect of moving any application the respondent may have for social housing to the end of the waiting list.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would mean that a person who receives a respect order would move to the bottom of the waiting list for social housing, if applicable.

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negated on division 32**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross  
Katie Lam

Clause 1, page 8, line 2, at end insert—

- “(4) A person who commits further offences under this section is liable—
- (a) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding the general limit in a magistrates’ court or a fine (or both);
  - (b) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 5 years or a fine (or both).”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment sets out the penalties for repeated breaches of a respect order with a prison sentence of up to 5 years.

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**Clause agreed to.**

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 6**

Clause 2, page 10, line 36, leave out “Schedule 1 amends Part 1 of” and insert “Part 1 of Schedule 1 amends”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on Amendment 24.

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 7**

Clause 2, page 10, line 37, leave out “(injunctions)”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on Amendment 6.

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 8**

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

“(1A) Part 2 of Schedule 1 contains consequential amendments of other Acts.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on Amendment 28.

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**Clause, as amended, agreed to.**

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 24**

Schedule 1, page 148, line 4, leave out paragraph 1 and insert—

**“PART 1**

**AMENDMENTS OF THE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014**

- 1 The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 is amended as set out in this Part.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment, which is consequential on Amendment 28, makes the existing text of Schedule 1 become Part 1 of that Schedule.

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 25**

Schedule 1, page 150, line 4, leave out from “for” to end of line 5 and insert ““section 1” substitute “this Part”.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment ensures that the definition in section 2(1)(b) of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, as amended by the Bill, applies to applications for youth injunctions as well as applications for housing injunctions.

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Dame Diana Johnson

Agreed to Gov 26

Schedule 1, page 152, line 37, at end insert—

“(za) in the words before paragraph (a), for “section 1” substitute “this Part”;

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment ensures that the consultation requirement under section 14(3) of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, as amended by the Bill, applies to applications to vary or discharge housing injunctions as well as youth injunctions.

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Dame Diana Johnson

Agreed to Gov 27

Schedule 1, page 153, line 33, at end insert—

“19A In section 101 (the community remedy document), in subsection (9), for the definition of “anti-social behaviour” substitute—

““anti-social behaviour” means—

- (a) conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person, or
- (b) housing-related anti-social conduct as defined by section 2 (ignoring subsection (2) of that section);”.

19B(1) Section 102 (anti-social behaviour etc: out-of-court disposals) is amended as follows.

(2) In subsection (1), in paragraph (c), for “an injunction under section 1” substitute “a respect order under section A1 or an injunction under Part 1”.

(3) In subsection (6), for the definition of “anti-social behaviour” substitute—

““anti-social behaviour” means—

- (a) conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person, or
- (b) housing-related anti-social conduct, as defined by section 2 (ignoring subsection (2) of that section);”.

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment inserts into Schedule 1 provision making amendments to the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 that are consequential on the amendments made to that Act by clause 1 and by the other provisions of Schedule 1.

Dame Diana Johnson

Agreed to Gov 28

Schedule 1, page 153, line 38, at end insert—

**"PART 2**

CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS OF OTHER ACTS

*Housing Act 1985*

- 21 (1) Section 84A of the Housing Act 1985 (absolute ground for possession for anti-social behaviour) is amended as follows.
- (2) In subsection (4)—
- (a) for "section 1" substitute "Part 1";
  - (b) after "2014" insert "or a respect order".
- (3) In subsection (9), for the definition of "relevant proceedings", substitute—
- "relevant proceedings" means—
- (a) proceedings for an offence under section 11 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014,
  - (b) proceedings under Schedule 2 to that Act, or
  - (c) proceedings for contempt of court;
- "respect order" means an order under section A1 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014;".
- 22 In Schedule 3 to that Act (grounds for withholding consent to assignment by way of exchange), in Ground 2A, in the definition of "relevant order", for "an injunction under section 1 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014" substitute—
- "a respect order under section A1 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014;  
an injunction under Part 1 of that Act;"

*Housing Act 1988*

- 23 (1) In Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the Housing Act 1988 (grounds on which court must order possession of dwelling-houses let on assured tenancies), Ground 7A is amended as follows.
- (2) In condition 2, in the words before paragraph (a)—
- (a) for "section 1" substitute "Part 1";
  - (b) after "2014" insert "or a respect order".
- (3) In the list of definitions for the purposes of Ground 7A, for the definition of "relevant proceedings" substitute—
- "relevant proceedings" means—
- (a) proceedings for an offence under section 11 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014,
  - (b) proceedings under Schedule 2 to that Act, or



- (c) proceedings for contempt of court;  
“respect order” means an order under section A1 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014;”.

*Police Reform Act 2002*

- 24 In section 50 of the Police Reform Act 2002 (persons engaging in anti-social behaviour), for subsection (1A) substitute—
- “(1A) In subsection (1) “anti-social behaviour” means—
- (a) conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person, or
  - (b) housing-related anti-social conduct, as defined by section 2 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (ignoring subsection (2) of that section).”

*Localism Act 2011*

- 25 In Schedule 14 to the Localism Act 2011 (grounds on which landlord may refuse to surrender and grant tenancies under section 158), in paragraph 6(4), in the definition of “relevant order”—
- (a) after paragraph (e) insert—
    - “(ea) a respect order under section A1 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014;”;
  - (b) in paragraph (f), for “section 1 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014” substitute “Part 1 of that Act”.

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment inserts into Schedule 1 a new Part 2 containing amendments of Acts other than the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 in consequence of the amendments made to that Act by clause 1 and by the other provisions of Schedule 1 (which would by virtue of Amendment 24 become Part 1 of that Schedule).

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**Schedule, as amended, agreed to.**

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**Clauses 3 to 5 agreed to.**

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**Schedule 2 agreed to.**

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**Clause 6 agreed to.**

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**Schedule 3 agreed to.**

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**Clause 7 agreed to.**

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**Rebecca Paul**

**Not selected 41**

Clause 8, page 17, line 23, after subsection (2) insert—

“(3) For the purpose of section 59 of the Police Reform Act 2002, a moped driven by an individual with a provisional licence is to be regarded as “likely to cause alarm, distress or annoyance to members of the public” if the individual in question is using their vehicle for commercial activities.”

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**Clause agreed to.**

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negatived on division 35**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross  
Katie Lam

Clause 9, page 17, line 34, at end insert—

“(c) section 33B (Section 33 offences: clean-up costs).”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would ensure the Secretary of State's guidance on flytipping makes the person responsible for fly-tipping, rather than the landowner, liable for the costs of cleaning up.

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**Lisa Smart**

**Negatived on division 4**

Anna Sabine  
Luke Taylor  
Ben Maguire

Clause 9, page 18, line 5, at end insert—

“(5A) Within a month of any guidance, or revised guidance, issued under this section being laid before Parliament, the Secretary of State must ensure that a motion is tabled, and moved, in both Houses of Parliament to approve the guidance.”

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**Clause agreed to.**

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negatived on division 39**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross  
Katie Lam

Clause 10, page 18, line 38, leave out "4" and insert "14"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would increase the maximum sentence for possession of a weapon with intent to commit unlawful violence from four to 14 years. The Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation recommended an increase in his review following the Southport attack.

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 9**

Clause 10, page 19, line 11, at end insert—

"(3) In Schedule 4 to the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (offences to which defence in section 45 does not apply), for paragraph 23 (offences under the Criminal Justice Act 1988) substitute—

"23 An offence under any of the following provisions of the Criminal Justice Act 1988—

section 134 (torture)

section 139AB (possessing article with blade or point or offensive weapon with intent to use unlawful violence etc)"."

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment excepts the offence of possessing an article with blade or point or offensive weapon with intent to use unlawful violence etc from the defence in section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

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**Clause, as amended, agreed to.**

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**Clauses 11 to 13 agreed to.**

*Fifth and Sixth Sitings*

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**Clause 14 agreed to.**

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negatived on division 29**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross  
Katie Lam

Clause 15, page 25, line 11, at end insert—

“(4) If the offender has previous convictions for an offence under section 14 of the Crime and Policing Act 2025 (assault of a retail worker) or for shoplifting under section 1 of the Theft Act 1968, the court must make a community order against the offender.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment clause would require the courts to make a community order against repeat offenders of retail crime in order to restrict the offender's liberty.

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**Clause agreed to.**

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**Clause 16 agreed to.**

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**Carolyn Harris**

**Negatived on division 1**

Tonia Antoniazzi  
Sarah Champion

Clause 17, page 26, line 26, in subsection (3), leave out (a) and (b) and insert—

“(aa) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for life;  
(ab) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding the general limit in a magistrates' court or a fine or both.”

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 10**

Clause 17, page 26, line 29, at end insert—

“(4) In Schedule 4 to the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (offences to which defence in section 45 does not apply), after paragraph 36C insert—

“*Crime and Policing Act 2025 (c. 00)*

36D An offence under any of the following provisions of the Crime and Policing Act 2025—  
section 17 (child criminal exploitation)”. ”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment excepts the offence of child criminal exploitation from the defence in section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

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**Clause, as amended, agreed to.**

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**Clauses 18 to 30 agreed to.**

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**Schedule 4 agreed to.**

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**Clause 31 agreed to.**

*Seventh and Eighth Sittings*

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**Carolyn Harris**

**Not moved 2**

Tonia Antoniazzi  
Sarah Champion

Clause 32, page 35, line 15, after (A) insert "aged 18 or over"

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**Clause agreed to.**

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**Schedule 5 agreed to.**

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**Lisa Smart**

**Not called 5**

Anna Sabine  
Luke Taylor  
Ben Maguire

Clause 33, page 36, line 29, after subsection (5) insert—

- "(6) For the purposes of section 33(5)(b), B shall be presumed to lack capacity to give consent if they—
- (a) would be deemed to lack capacity under the provisions of Section 2 of the Mental Capacity Act 2005; or
  - (b) are otherwise in circumstances that significantly impair their ability to protect themselves from exploitation, unless the contrary is established."

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**Clause agreed to.**

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**Clauses 34 and 35 agreed to.**

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 11**

Clause 36, page 40, line 33, at end insert—

“(3A) In Schedule 4 to the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (offences to which defence in section 45 does not apply), in paragraph 33 (offences under the Sexual Offences Act 2003), after the entry for section 41 insert—

“section 46A (child sexual abuse image-generators)”.

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment excepts the offence about child sexual abuse image-generators from the defence in section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

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**Clause, as amended, agreed to.**

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 12**

Clause 37, page 42, line 11, at end insert—

“(6) In Schedule 4 to the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (offences to which defence in section 45 does not apply), for paragraph 35A (offences under the Serious Crime Act 2015) substitute—

“35A An offence under any of the following provisions of the Serious Crime Act 2015—

section 69 (possession of paedophile manual)

section 75A (strangulation or suffocation).”.

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment excepts the offence of possession a paedophile manual from the defence in section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

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**Clause, as amended, agreed to.**

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**Clause 38 agreed to.**

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**Schedule 6 agreed to.**

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**Clauses 39 and 40 agreed to.**

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 13**

Clause 41, page 46, line 7, at end insert—

“(6) In Schedule 4 to the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (offences to which defence in section 45 does not apply), in paragraph 36D (inserted by section 17), after the entry for section 17 insert—

“section 38 (online facilitation of child sexual exploitation and abuse)”.

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment excepts the offence of online facilitation of child sexual exploitation and abuse from the defence in section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

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**Clause, as amended, agreed to.**

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 14**

Clause 42, page 46, line 31, at end insert—

“(7) In Schedule 4 to the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (offences to which defence in section 45 does not apply), in paragraph 33 (offences under the Sexual Offences Act 2003), after the entry for section 10 insert—

“section 11 (engaging in sexual activity in presence of child)”.

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment excepts the offence of engaging in sexual activity in the presence of a child from the defence in section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

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**Matt Vickers**

**Not selected 49**

Harriet Cross  
Alicia Kearns

Clause 42, page 47, line 17, at end insert—

“(5) For the purpose of this section, “grooming” is defined by Section 14 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would introduce a legal definition of grooming as set out in Section 14 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (arranging or facilitating commission of a child sex offence).

**Clause, as amended, agreed to.**

**Carolyn Harris**

**Not moved 3**

Tonia Antoniazzi  
Sarah Champion

Clause 43, page 47, line 34, at end insert—

“(i) an offence under section 72 of that Act (Offences outside the United Kingdom)”

**Matt Vickers**

**Negated on division 42**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross  
Katie Lam

Clause 43, page 48, line 23, at end insert—

**“70B Group-based sexual grooming of a child**

- (1) This section applies where—
  - (a) a court is considering the seriousness of a specified child sex offences,
  - (b) the offence is aggravated by group-based grooming, and
  - (c) the offender was aged 18 or over when the offence was committed.
- (2) The court—
  - (a) must treat the fact that the offence is aggravated by group-based grooming as an aggravated factor, and
  - (b) must state in court that the offence is so aggravated.
- (3) An offence is “aggravated by group-based grooming” if—
  - (a) the offence was facilitated by, or involved, the offender, who was involved in group-based grooming, or
  - (b) the offence was facilitated by, or involved, a person other than the offender grooming a person under the age of 18 and the offender knew, or could have reasonably been expected to know that said person was participating, or facilitating group-based grooming, or
  - (c) the offender intentionally arranges or facilitates something that the offender intends to do, intends another person to do, or believes that another person will do, in order to participate in group-based grooming.
- (4) In this section “specified child sex offence” means—



- (a) an offence within any of subsections (5) to (7), or
  - (b) an inchoate offence in relation to any such offence.
- (5) An offence is within this subsection if it is—
- (a) an offence under section 1 of the Protection of Children Act 1978 (taking etc indecent photograph of child),
  - (b) an offence under section 160 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (possession of indecent photograph of child),
  - (c) an offence under any of sections 5 to 8 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (rape and other offences against children under 13),
  - (d) an offence under any sections 9 to 12 of that Act (other child sex offences),
  - (e) an offence under section 14 of that Act (arranging or facilitating commission of child sex offence),
  - (f) an offence under any of sections 16 to 19 of that Act (abuse of position of trust),
  - (g) an offence under section 25 or 26 of that Act (familial child sex offences), or
  - (h) an offence under any of sections 47 to 50 of that Act (sexual exploitation of children).
- (6) An offence is within this subsection if it is—
- (a) an offence under any of sections 1 to 4 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (rape, assault and causing sexual activity without consent),
  - (b) an offence under any of sections 30 to 41 of that Act (sexual offences relating to persons with mental disorder),
  - (c) an offence under any of sections 61 to 63 of that Act (preparatory offences), or
  - (d) an offence under any of sections 66 to 67A of that Act (exposure and voyeurism),
- and the victim or intended victim was under the age of 18.
- (7) An offence is within this subsection if it is an offence under section 71 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 (sexual activity in a public lavatory) and a person involved in the activity in question was under the age of 18.
- (8) For the purposes of this section—
- (a) “group-based grooming” is defined as a group of at least three adults whose purpose or intention is to commit a sexual offence against the same victim or group of victims who are under 18, or could reasonably be expected to be under 18.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would introduce a specific aggravating factor in sentencing for those who participate in, or facilitate, group-based sexual offending.

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**Clause agreed to.**

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**Clause 44 agreed to.**

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negatived on division 43**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross

Clause 45, page 50, line 8, leave out subsection (7)

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would keep an individual under the duty to report child abuse despite the belief that someone else may have reported the abuse to the relevant authority.

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**Sam Carling**

**Not called 46**

Clause 45, page 50, line 20, at end insert—

“(10) A person who fails to fulfil the duty under subsection (1) commits an offence.

(11) A person who commits an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would implement part of recommendation 13 of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse that a failure to report a suspected child sex offence should be a criminal offence.

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**Sam Carling**

**Not called 47**

Clause 45, page 51, line 5, at end insert “or

(c) an activity involving a “position of trust” as defined in sections 21, 22 and 22A of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would implement part of recommendation 13 of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sex Abuse that any person working in a position of trust as defined by the Sexual Offences Act 2003, should be designated a mandatory reporter.

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**Clause agreed to.**

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**Schedule 7 agreed to.**

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**Clause 46 agreed to.**

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**Sam Carling**

**Not called 48**

Clause 47, page 52, line 11, at end insert—

- “(7) The sixth case is where P witnesses a child displaying sexualised, sexually harmful or other behaviour, physical signs of abuse or consequences of sexual abuse, such as pregnancy or a sexually transmitted disease, to an extent that would cause a reasonable person who engages in the same relevant activity as P to suspect that a child sex offence may have been committed.
- (8) The seventh case is where P witnesses a person (A) behaving in the presence of a child in a way that would cause a reasonable person who engages in the same relevant activity as P to suspect that A may have committed a child sex offence.
- (9) A failure to comply with the duty under subsection (1) is not an offence where the reason to suspect that a child sex offence may have been committed arises from subsection (7) or subsection (8).”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would implement part of recommendation 13 of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sex Abuse that there should be a duty to report where a person recognises the indicators of child sexual abuse. Failure to report in these instances would not attract a criminal sanction.

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**Clause agreed to.**

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**Clauses 48 to 53 agreed to.**

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 15**

Clause 54, page 55, line 31, at end insert—

- “(3) In Schedule 4 to the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (offences to which defence in section 45 does not apply), in paragraph 36D (offences under the Crime and Policing Act 2025) (inserted by section 17), after the entry for section 38 (inserted by section 38), insert—
- “section 52 (preventing or deterring a person from complying with duty to report suspected child sex offence)”.

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment excepts the offence of preventing or deterring a person from complying with the duty to report a suspected child sex offence from the defence in section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

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**Clause, as amended, agreed to.**

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**Clause 55 agreed to.**

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**Clause 56 agreed to.**

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**Schedule 8 agreed to.**

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**Clause 57 agreed to.**

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**Clause 58 agreed to.**

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negated on division 36**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross  
Katie Lam

Clause 59, page 59, line 11, at end insert—

“(11) If a relevant offender does not comply with the requirements of this section, they shall be liable to a fine not exceeding Level 4 on the standard scale.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment imposes a fine of up to £2,500 if a registered sex offender does not notify the police when they change their name.

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negated on division 50**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross

Clause 59, page 59, line 11, at end insert—

“(11) Police must notify victims of relevant offender’s new name—  
(a) No less than three days before an offender intends to use it, or  
(b) If that is not reasonably practicable, no less than three days after the date the offender began using it.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would place a duty on police forces to notify victims if their abuser legally changed their name.

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**Clause 59 agreed to.**

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negatived on division 37**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross  
Katie Lam

Clause 60, page 60, line 25, at end insert—

“(10) If a relevant offender does not comply with the requirements of this section, they shall be liable to a fine not exceeding Level 4 on the standard scale.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment imposes a fine of up to £2,500 if a registered sex offender does not notify the police when they are absent from their sole or main residence.

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**Clause 60 agreed to.**

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negatived on division 38**

Alicia Kearns  
Harriet Cross  
Katie Lam

Clause 61, page 63, line 4, at end insert—

“(9) If a relevant offender does not comply with the requirements of this section, they shall be liable to a fine at Level 5 of the standard scale.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment imposes an unlimited fine if a relevant registered sex offender does not notify police if they are entering a premises where children are presented.

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**Clauses 61 to 68 agreed to.**

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**Schedule 9 agreed to.**

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**Clauses 69 to 72 agreed to.**

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negatived on division 44**

Harriet Cross

Clause 73, page 88, line 33, after “aggrieve” insert “, take revenge on, prank,”

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**Matt Vickers**

**Negatived on division 45**

Harriet Cross

Clause 73, page 88, line 34, at end insert—

“(c) the person does so knowingly or recklessly.”

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 16**

Clause 73, page 89, line 9, at end insert—

“(2) In Schedule 4 to the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (offences to which defence in section 45 does not apply), in paragraph 7 (offences under the Offences against the Person Act 1861)—

- (a) omit the entry for section 22;
- (b) omit the entry for section 23;
- (c) before the entry for section 27, insert—

“section 24 (administering etc harmful substances (including by spiking))”.

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment excepts the offence of administering harmful substances from the defence in section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and makes other changes consequential on clause 73.

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**Clause 73, as amended, agreed to.**

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**Clause 74 agreed to.**

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**Dame Diana Johnson**

**Agreed to Gov 17**

Clause 75, page 90, line 20, at end insert—

“(6) In Schedule 4 to the Modern Slavery Act 2015 (offences to which defence in section 45 does not apply), in paragraph 36D (inserted by section 17), after the entry for section 52 (inserted by section 52), insert—

“section 74 (encouraging or assisting serious self-harm).”.

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment excepts the offence of encouraging or assisting serious self-harm from the defence in section 45 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

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**Clause 75, as amended, agreed to.**

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**Clauses 76 and 77 agreed to.**

Adjourned until Tuesday 29 April at 9.25am

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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.

**Negated:** rejected without a vote.

**Negated 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.

**Not selected:** not chosen for debate by the Chair.

**Question proposed:** debate underway but not concluded.

**Withdrawn after debate:** moved and debated but then withdrawn, so not put to a decision.