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**B I L L**

TO

Make provision for an inquiry into police conduct of Operation Conifer to be established.

**B**E IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

**1 Inquiry establishment and reporting**

- (1) The Lord Chancellor must cause an inquiry to be held into the conduct of Operation Conifer, the Wiltshire Police investigation into allegations made against Sir Edward Heath, under section 1 of the Inquiries Act 2005 (power to establish inquiry). 5
- (2) The terms of reference to be set out in the instrument appointing the chair or to be given by subsequent notice under section 5 of that Act (setting-up date and terms of reference) are—
  - (a) to consider and, if necessary, make recommendations on the conduct of Wiltshire Police officers and staff engaged in Operation Conifer between August 2015 and October 2017; 10
  - (b) to consider and, if necessary, make recommendations on the conduct of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Swindon and Wiltshire and the Commissioner's staff in connection with Operation Conifer, including the propriety of contact with the then Chief Constable of Wiltshire Police during the investigation; and 15
  - (c) to consider and, if necessary, make recommendations on the effectiveness of the scrutiny of Operation Conifer, including by the independent scrutiny panel and by Wiltshire Police, in ensuring that the conduct of the investigation was objective and proportionate. 20
- (3) The inquiry must report its recommendations no later than two years after this Act comes into force.

**2 Extent, commencement and short title**

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales only.

- (2) This Act comes into force on the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Police Conduct (Operation Conifer) Inquiry Act 2020.



# Police Conduct (Operation Conifer) Inquiry Bill

## [HL]

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To make provision for an inquiry into police conduct of Operation Conifer to be established.

*Lord Black of Brentwood*

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