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20th November 2003

BY virtue of Her Majesty's Commission under the Great Seal, and in obedience to Her Majesty's Commands, Parliament was prorogued on the above-mentioned day to Wednesday the twenty-sixth day of this instant November, to be then here holden.
The House met at twenty-five minutes past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message to attend Her Majesty.—A Message from Her Majesty was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod.

Mr Speaker,

The Queen commands this Honourable House to attend Her Majesty immediately, in the House of Peers.

Accordingly, the Speaker, with the House, went up to attend Her Majesty:—And having returned;

The Speaker resumed the Chair at half-past Two o'clock.

2 Liaison.—Mr Alan Williams reported, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee), That the Liaison Committee had directed him to report the following recommendation for the allocation of time for the consideration of Estimates on an allotted day (being the first allotted day in the present Session of Parliament):

That a day not later than 6th February be allotted for the consideration of the following Votes on Account for financial year 2004–05:

Department for Work and Pensions in so far as it relates to childcare for working parents.

Department of Trade and Industry in so far as it relates to the modernisation of the post office network, with particular reference to the impact on post offices of the direct payment of pensions.

Report to lie upon the Table.

3 Elections.—Ordered, That all Members who are returned for two or more places in any part of the United Kingdom do make their Election for which of the places they will serve, within one week after it shall appear that there is no question upon the Return for that place; and if any thing shall come in question touching the Return or Election of any Member, he is to withdraw during the time the matter is in debate; and that all Members returned upon double Returns do withdraw till their Returns are determined.

Resolved, That if it shall appear that any person has been elected or returned a Member of this House, or endeavoured so to be by bribery, or any other corrupt practices, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against all such persons as shall have been wilfully concerned in such bribery or other corrupt practices.
4 Witnesses.—Resolved, That if it shall appear that any person has been tampering with any witness, in respect of his evidence to be given to this House, or any Committee thereof, or directly or indirectly has endeavoured to deter or hinder any person from appearing or giving evidence, the same is declared to be a high crime and misdemeanour; and this House will proceed with the utmost severity against such offender.

Resolved, That if it shall appear that any person has given false evidence in any case before this House, or any Committee thereof, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against such offender.

5 Metropolitan Police.—Ordered, That the Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis do take care that during the Session of Parliament the passages through the streets leading to this House be kept free and open and that no obstruction be permitted to hinder the passage of Members to and from this House, and that no disorder be allowed in Westminster Hall, or in the passages leading to this House, during the Sitting of Parliament, and that there be no annoyance therein or thereabouts; and that the Sergeant at Arms attending this House do communicate this Order to the Commissioner aforesaid.

6 Votes and Proceedings.—Ordered, That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, being first perused by the Speaker.

7 Outlawries.—A Bill for the more effectual preventing Clandestine Outlawries was read the first time and ordered to be read a second time.

8 Standing Orders (Public Business).—Ordered, That the Standing Orders relating to Public Business be printed [No. 3].

9 Queen’s Speech.—The Speaker reported Her Majesty’s Speech and directed that it be entered in the Journal, as follows:

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons

My Government will maintain its key commitment to economic stability and growth. This will enable my Government to continue to deliver reform of the public services and continue to focus on greater opportunity and social justice, enhanced security and protection and constitutional reform.

Delivering a world class education system that enables individuals to achieve their full potential remains my Government’s main priority for Britain’s future success. Educational reform will continue to raise standards in all schools.

A Bill will be introduced to enable more young people to benefit from higher education. Upfront tuition fees will be abolished for all full-time students and a new Office For Fair Access will assist those from disadvantaged backgrounds. Universities will be placed on a sound financial footing.

My Government will continue to reform the National Health Service by giving more choice to patients, more freedom to NHS staff and more control over hospitals to local communities.

My Government will introduce a Bill that will provide all children born from September 2002 with a Child Trust Fund with an initial endowment from the Government and more for poorer children. This will mean that when children reach the age of 18 they have an asset to draw on as a springboard for the future.

Legislation will also be introduced to encourage both employers to provide good quality pensions and individuals to save more effectively for their retirement. A Pension Protection Fund will be set up to protect employees and pensioners if companies become insolvent.

My Government will maintain its commitment to increased equality and social justice by bringing forward legislation on the registration of civil partnerships between same sex couples.

A draft Bill will also be published responding to a review of the law relating to disabilities as part of my Government’s programme to extend the rights and opportunities of disabled people.

My Government is committed to the maintenance of an effective asylum and immigration system. Legislation will therefore be brought forward to establish a single tier of appeal against asylum decisions, to reduce the scope for delay caused by groundless appeals, and to put in place a range of other measures to tackle abuse of the system and fraudulent claims.

My Government will take forward work on an incremental approach to a national identity cards scheme and will publish a draft Bill in the new year.
My Government will continue to make the reduction of crime and the fear of crime a priority. The Government will be implementing the Criminal Justice Act to ensure the effective punishment of dangerous and persistent offenders. Firm action will continue to be taken against anti-social behaviour by strengthening the powers available to schools and local authorities.

Measures will be introduced to modernise the laws on domestic violence and to establish a Commissioner to speak up for the interests of victims and witnesses.

A Bill will be introduced to improve the services designed to protect children. A Children’s Commissioner for England will be established.

A draft Bill will be brought forward on the Criminal Defence Service.

The threat of international terrorism and a changing climate have led to a series of emergencies and heightened concerns for the future. My Government will introduce a Bill creating a long-term foundation for civil contingencies capable of meeting these challenges at national and local level.

A Bill will also be brought forward to improve the delivery of fire and rescue services, ensuring that they can respond to the changing demands placed on them in the modern world.

A Bill will also be introduced to regulate retention of human tissues after death.

My Government will continue its programme of constitutional reform by establishing a Supreme Court, reforming the Judicial Appointments System and providing for the abolition of the current office of Lord Chancellor.

Legislation will be brought forward to reform the House of Lords. This will remove hereditary peers and establish an independent Appointments Commission to select non-party members of the Upper House.

A draft Bill will be published to enable a referendum to be held on the adoption of the single currency subject to the Government’s five economic tests being met.

My Government will continue to take forward a Bill on election pilots introduced during the last session.

My Government is committed to improving the quality of people’s day to day lives.

Legislation will be introduced on housing that will help create a fairer housing market and protect the most vulnerable.

My Government will continue to take forward a Bill on planning introduced during the last session, which will make the planning system fairer and faster with greater community participation.

Legislation will also be brought forward to improve traffic flows and manage road works more effectively.

A draft Bill will be published to enable some local authorities to pilot new arrangements for school transport to reduce road congestion.

My Government will also introduce legislation on energy matters, to establish a Nuclear Decommissioning Authority and to promote secure, sustainable supplies and a safer environment.

My Government will maintain sound public finances and will continue to take action to secure high levels of employment and encourage enterprise.

Legislation will be introduced to implement the conclusions of the Government’s review of the Employment Relations Act 1999.

Legislation will also be introduced to modernise company accounting and audit arrangements.

A thriving not-for-profit sector is part of the fabric of a modern democratic society. My Government will introduce a Bill to create Community Interest Companies which will enable social enterprises to meet the needs of their communities in new and innovative ways.

A draft Bill on charities will also be published which will modernise charity law and better enable charities to prosper.

Further draft clauses of a Bill on gambling will also be published.

My Government will continue to take forward a programme of Regulatory Reform Orders to simplify and reform burdensome and outdated legislation.

Members of the House of Commons

Estimates for the Public Services will be laid before you.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons
My Government will continue to work closely with the devolved administrations in Scotland and Wales. Bills will be introduced to create a single public audit body for Wales and to retain the current number of members in the Scottish Parliament.

In Northern Ireland, my Government will continue to work closely with the political parties and the Irish Government to secure the full implementation of the Belfast Agreement. Legislation will be brought forward to establish a Northern Ireland Judicial Appointments Commission.

Other measures will be laid before you.

The Duke of Edinburgh and I look forward to paying a State Visit to Nigeria in December and attending the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting. We look forward to receiving the State Visit of His Excellency the President of Poland next May. To mark the centenary of the Entente Cordiale, we look forward to paying a State Visit to France next April and to receiving His Excellency the President of France in the autumn.

My Government will play an active role in preparing the European Union for the accession of ten new member states next May. They will work hard to conclude negotiations on a new constitutional treaty for the European Union, following which they will introduce legislation to implement the treaty.

My Government will work for a strong partnership between Europe and the United States, underpinned by NATO, and for effective action in tackling the threat from global terrorism and weapons of mass destruction.

My Government will maintain Britain’s commitment to rebuilding Afghanistan and Iraq, to promoting peace in the Middle East, and to tackling the underlying causes of conflict and extremism. They will help war-torn countries, particularly in Africa, to seize the opportunities for development which peace can bring.

My Government will publish a Defence White Paper providing a statement of Defence Policy and an assessment of the new strategic environment in which the Armed Forces operate. A Bill will be introduced to give enabling powers to bring in new pension and compensation arrangements for the Armed Forces.

My Government will work to reduce world poverty and for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, including increased aid flows and effective debt relief for developing countries committed to reform.

My Government will press for a fairer trade system as part of the current round of world trade negotiations. They will work to strengthen the United Nations in response to key global challenges such as AIDS and climate change.
2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs: Autumn Performance Report 2003 [Cm. 6017] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

3 Treaty Series (No. 47, 2003).—Agreement, done at Ashgabat on 9th February 1995, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Turkmenistan for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [Cm. 6021] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the Prorogation of Parliament pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Friday 21st November 2003

4 Town and Country Planning.—Town and Country Planning (Costs of Inquiries etc.) (Examination in Public) (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 2948), dated 14th November 2003 [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Monday 24th November 2003

5 Food.—Food (Brazil Nuts) (Emergency Control) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 2988), dated 19th November 2003 [Mr Secretary Reid].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Wednesday 26th November 2003:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

6 Companies.—Companies (Acquisition of Own Shares) (Treasury Shares) No. 2 Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3031), dated 25th November 2003 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

7 Criminal Procedure.—(1) Community Responsibility Order Rules (Northern Ireland) 2003 (S.R. (N.I.), 2003, No. 479), dated 17th November 2003; and

(2) Reparation Order Rules (Northern Ireland) 2003 (S.R. (N.I.), 2003, No. 480), dated 18th November 2003 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Murphy].


9 National Lottery.—Millennium Commission (Reduction in Membership) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3033), dated 20th November 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

10 Race Relations Act.—(1) Race Relations Act 1976 (General Statutory Duty) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3007), and

(2) Race Relations Act 1976 (Statutory Duties) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3006), dated 24th November 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

11 Secure Training Centres.—Secure Training Centre (Amendment) Rules 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3005), dated 23rd November 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

12 Government Resources and Accounts.—(1) Consolidated Resource Accounts of the Department of Trade and Industry, and

(2) Resource Accounts of the—

(i) Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and

(ii) Office of Telecommunications

for 2002–03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 14, 10 and 21] [Ruth Kelly].

13 Office of Communications,—Account of the Office of Communications for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 36] [Clerk of the House].

14 Political Parties, Elections and Referendums.—Report and Accounts of the Electoral Commission for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 11] [Clerk of the House].
15 Public Petitions.—Observations from the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions on—

(1) the Petition [20th October, in the last session of Parliament] from Katrina Wynne for the removal of Crown immunity in relation to health and safety legislation, and

(2) the Petition [5th November, in the last session of Parliament] from the Restricted Growth Association against stereotyping and discrimination directed towards people of restricted growth,

[by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

16 Supply Estimates, 2004–05,—Estimates for which a Vote on Account is required for 2004–05 for—

(1) Central Government [by Command]; to be printed [No. 16] [Mr Paul Boateng],

(2) the Electoral Commission [by Command]; to be printed [No. 19] [The Speaker],

(3) the House of Commons [by Act]; to be printed [No. 17] [The Speaker], and

(4) the National Audit Office [by Act]; to be printed [No. 18] [Mr Alan Williams].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Hip replacements: an update]; to be printed [No. 40-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].
4 Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Bill.—Mr Secretary Darling, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Murphy, Mr Peter Hain, Mrs Anne McGuire and Mr Christopher Leslie, presented a Bill to replace Schedule 1 to the Scotland Act 1998 making new provision in relation to the constituencies for the Scottish Parliament: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 1st December and to be printed [Bill 4].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Bill be printed [Bill 4–EN].

5 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill.—Mr Secretary Blunkett, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Secretary Murphy, Mr Peter Hain, Beverley Hughes and Mr David Lammy, presented a Bill to make provision about asylum and immigration: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 1st December and to be printed [Bill 5].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill be printed [Bill 5–EN].

6 Queen’s Speech (Motion for an Address).—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed yesterday, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

And it being Six o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Monday 1st December.

7 Business of the House.—Ordered, That Private Members’ Bills shall have precedence over Government business on 30th January; 6th and 27th February; 5th, 12th and 26th March; 23rd and 30th April; 14th and 21st May; 18th June; 16th July and 15th October 2004.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

8 Section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.—Ordered, That, for the purposes of its approval under section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993, the Government’s assessment as set out in the Pre-Budget Report 2003 shall be treated as if it were an instrument subject to the provisions of Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation).—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

9 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 9th December, proceedings on the Motion for the adjournment of the House in the name of the Prime Minister relating to Fisheries may continue, though opposed, for three hours or until Seven o’clock, whichever is the later, and shall then lapse if not previously disposed of.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

10 Sittings in Westminster Hall.—Ordered, That, on Thursday 18th December, there shall be no sitting in Westminster Hall.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

11 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of the Westbury constituency against rises in council tax and for safeguarding the interests of pensioners was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from persons on the electoral roll in the Parliamentary Constituency of Gainsborough for a referendum on the proposed European Constitution was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes past Six o’clock, adjourned till Monday 1st December.

[Adjourned at 6.23 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Employment Agencies.—Draft Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum thereon [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

2 Justice.—Draft Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002 (Amendment of section 46(1) and paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 8) Order 2003 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Council Tax.—(1) Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3011), and

(2) Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3012),

dated 24th November 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Libraries.—Public Lending Right Scheme 1982 (Commencement of Variation) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3045), dated 26th November 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

6 Social Security.—Social Fund Cold Weather Payments (General) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3023), dated 24th November 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].


Other Papers:

8 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons.—Report on Research and Development Work Relating to Assistive Technology 2002 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

9 Crime and Disorder.—Account of the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales for 2002-03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 33] [Clerk of the House].

10 Foreign Affairs.—Government Response to the Ninth Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 2002–03, on The Decision to go to War in Iraq [by Command] [Cm. 6062] [Mr Secretary Straw].

11 Freedom of Information.—Report, under section 87(5) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, on proposals for bringing fully into force those provisions of the Act which are not yet fully in force [by Act]; to be printed [No. 7] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

12 Immigration.—Paper, entitled Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom 2002 [by Command] [Cm. 6053] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

13 Industrial Organisation and Development.—Account, prepared pursuant to section 9(4) of the Industrial Organisation and Development Act 1947, of the sums recovered by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under Orders made under section 9 of the Act, and of their disposal, for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 27] [Clerk of the House].

14 Museums and Galleries.—Account of the National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 29] [Clerk of the House].

15 National Lottery.—The UK Film Council (Formerly Film Council) Lottery Accounts for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 26] [Clerk of the House].
16 National Savings Bank,—Accounts of the—
(1) National Savings Investment Deposits, and
(2) National Savings Ordinary Deposits
for 2002–03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
to be printed [Nos. 30 and 31] [Clerk of the House].

17 Police,—Report and Accounts of the National Criminal Intelligence Service for 2002–03,
with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed
[No. 28] [Clerk of the House].

18 Public Lending Right,—Account of the Public Lending Right Central Fund for 2002–03, with
the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed
[No. 32] [Clerk of the House].

Britain for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by
Act]; to be printed [No. 4] [Ruth Kelly].

Command]; to be printed [No. 15] [Mr Paul Boateng].

21 Treasury,—Treasury Minutes, dated 27th November 2003—
(1) concerning the dissolution of Powys NHS Trust: Remission of outstanding public
dividend capital [by Command], and
(2) directing the application of certain amounts as appropriations in aid of the
Estimates for the year ending 31st March 2004 [by Act]
[Mr Paul Boateng].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committee on the Inter-Governmental Conference

Inter-Governmental Conference,—The Speaker has appointed Frank Cook Chairman of the
Standing Committee in respect of its meeting on Monday 1st December.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs
Committee [Judicial appointments and a Supreme Court (court of final appeal)]; to be
printed [No. 48-i] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Obesity]; to be printed
[No. 23-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public
Administration [The Work of the Ombudsman]; to be printed [No. 41-i] [Tony Wright].

CHAIRMEN’S PANEL

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen’s Panel), the Speaker nominated Mrs Irene
Adams, Mr David Amess, Mr Nigel Beard, Miss Anne Begg, Mr Joe Benton, Mr John
Butterfill, Mr David Chidgey, Derek Conway, Frank Cook, Mr James Cran, Mr John
Cummings, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Win Griffiths, Mr Mike Hancock, Mr Jimmy Hood,
Mr Alan Hurst, Mr Eric Illesley, Mr John McWilliam, Mr Bill O’Brien, Mr Edward
O’Hara, Mr Bill Olner, Mr Peter Pike, Mrs Marion Roe, Mr Jonathan Sayeed,
Mr George Stevenson, David Taylor, Miss Ann Widdecombe and Sir Nicholas
Winterton to be members of the Chairmen’s Panel during this Session.
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Draft Gambling Bill (Joint Committee).—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee of eight Lords to join with a Committee appointed by the Commons to consider and report on any draft Gambling Bill presented to both Houses by a Minister of the Crown;

They have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman;

That the Committee have leave to report from time to time;

That the Committee have power to appoint specialist advisers;

That the Committee have power to adjourn from place to place;

That the proceedings of the Joint Committee on the draft Gambling Bill in the last Session of Parliament be referred to the Committee;

That the reports of the Committee from time to time shall be printed, notwithstanding any adjournment of the House; and

That the Committee do report on the draft Bill by 8th April 2004.

2 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill.—Mr Secretary Prescott, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Secretary Margaret Beckett, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Secretary Reid, Ms Secretary Hewitt, Mr Paul Boateng, Mr Peter Hain, Keith Hill and Yvette Cooper, presented a Bill to make provision relating to spatial development and town and country planning; and the compulsory acquisition of land.

Pursuant to Orders [29th October 2002 (Carry-over of Bills) and 10th June 2003] the Bill was read the first and second time without Question put and ordered to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 6].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill be printed [Bill 6–EN].

3 Queen’s Speech (Motion for an Address).—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 26th November, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

Ordered, That the Debate be now adjourned.—(Paul Clark.)

Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

4 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes to Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 9.35 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 28th November 2003 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Food.—Collagen and Gelatine (Intra-Community Trade) (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3003), dated 20th November 2003 [Mr Secretary Reid].


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 1st December 2003:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

7 Environmental Protection, Draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2003 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

8 Fireworks, Fireworks Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3085), dated 27th November 2003 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].


Other Papers:

10 Air Force (Constitution), Amendment List 8 to Regulations for the Reserve Air Forces (Air Publication 3392, Volume 7) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

11 Charities, Account of the National Army Museum for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 50] [Clerk of the House].

12 Chelsea Hospital, Account of the Royal Hospital Chelsea: Army Prize Money and Legacy for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 49] [Clerk of the House].

13 Constitutional Affairs, Department of Constitutional Affairs: Autumn Performance Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6049] [Mr Christopher Leslie].


15 Exchange Equalisation Account, Report and Accounts of the Exchange Equalisation Account for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 25] [Ruth Kelly].

16 Government Resources and Accounts, Resource Accounts of— (1) National Crime Squad, and (2) Royal Marines Museum for 2002–03, with Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 53 and 51] [Clerk of the House].

Papers withdrawn:

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Secondary Education: School Admissions]; to be printed [No. 58-i] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Public Accounts,—(1) First Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Tackling Fraud against the Inland Revenue]; together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report; to be printed [No. 62];

(2) Second Report from the Committee [The New Electricity Trading Arrangements in England and Wales]; together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report; to be printed [No. 63];

(3) Third Report from the Committee [The Sheep Annual Premium Scheme]; together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report; to be printed [No. 64]; and

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ): New Accommodation Programme]; to be printed [No. 65-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

3 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Work of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council]; to be printed [No. 6-i] [Dr Ian Gibson].

Tuesday 2nd December 2003.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Human Rights (Joint Committee),—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Select Committee of six Lords to join with a Committee appointed by the Commons as the Joint Committee on Human Rights,

To consider—
(a) matters relating to human rights in the United Kingdom (but excluding consideration of individual cases);
(b) proposals for remedial orders, draft remedial orders and remedial orders made under section 10 of and laid under Schedule 2 to the Human Rights Act 1998; and
(c) in respect of draft remedial orders and remedial orders, whether the special attention of the House should be drawn to them on any of the grounds specified in Standing Order 74 (Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments);

To report to the House:
(a) in relation to any document containing proposals laid before the House under paragraph 3 of the said Schedule 2, its recommendation whether a draft order in the same terms as the proposals should be laid before the House; or
(b) in relation to any draft order laid under paragraph 2 of the said Schedule 2, its recommendation whether the draft Order should be approved;

and to have power to report to the House on any matter arising from its consideration of the said proposals or draft orders; and

To report to the House in respect of any original order laid under paragraph 4 of the said Schedule 2, its recommendation whether:
(a) the order should be approved in the form in which it was originally laid before Parliament; or
(b) that the order should be replaced by a new order modifying the provisions of the original order; or
(c) that the order should not be approved,

and to have power to report to the House on any matter arising from its consideration of the said order or any replacement order;

That the Committee have power to agree with any Committee appointed by the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman;

That the quorum of the Committee shall be two;

That the Committee have power to adjourn from place to place;
That the Committee have leave to report from time to time;
That the Committee have power to appoint specialist advisers;
That the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Human Rights Committee in the last Session of Parliament be referred to the Committee; and
That the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee from time to time shall, if the Committee think fit, be printed.

2 Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill.—Secretary Tessa Jowell, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Alan Reid, Ms Secretary Hewitt, Mr Secretary Clarke, Mr Secretary Murphy, Mr Peter Hain, Mr Paul Boateng, Mr Richard Caborn and Estelle Morris, presented a Bill to make provision for the sale of the Tote; to make provision for the abolition of the horserace betting levy system; to make provision for the establishment of National Lottery games designed to raise money in connection with the hosting by London of the Olympic Games in 2012; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 8].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill be printed [Bill 8–EN].

3 Employment Relations Bill,—Ms Secretary Hewitt, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Smith, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Peter Hain, Mr Secretary Murphy and Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, presented a Bill to amend the law relating to the recognition of trade unions and the taking of industrial action; to make provision about means of voting in ballots under the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992; to amend provisions of that Act relating to rights of members and non-members of trade unions and to make other provision about rights of trade union members, employees and workers; to make further provision concerning the enforcement of legislation relating to minimum wages; to make further provision about proceedings before and appeals from the Certification Officer; to make further provision about the amalgamation of trade unions; to make provision facilitating the administration of trade unions; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 7].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Employment Relations Bill be printed [Bill 7–EN].

4 Queen’s Speech (Motion for an Address),—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 26th November, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament;

We, Your Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

Ordered, That the Debate be now adjourned.—(Paul Clark.)

Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

5 Estimates,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee), That this House agrees with the Report [26th November] of the Liaison Committee.—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

6 Standing Committee on Regional Affairs,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 117 (Standing Committee on Regional Affairs), That—

(a) the Matter of the English regions and referendums on elected regional assemblies, being a Matter relating to regional affairs in England, be referred to the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs;
(b) the Committee do meet at a quarter past Two o’clock on Thursday 11th December at Westminster to consider the Matter referred to it under paragraph (a) above; and
(c) the proceedings at the meeting be brought to a conclusion at a quarter past Five o’clock.—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

7 Welsh Grand Committee,—Ordered, That—

(a) the Matter of the Government’s Legislative Programme as outlined in the Queen’s Speech as it relates to Wales and Public Expenditure in Wales be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration;
(b) the Committee shall meet at Westminster on Tuesday 16th December at five minutes to Nine o’clock and between Two o’clock and Four o’clock to consider the Matter of the Government’s Legislative Programme as outlined in the Queen’s Speech as it relates to Wales and Public Expenditure in Wales, under Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)).—(Paul Clark.)

8 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from citizens of the United Kingdom against the national listing of Chardon LL maize and any other genetically modified seeds was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

9 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Paul Clark);
And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

10 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Paul Clark);
And the Motion having been made at Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.30 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Animals,—Registration of Establishments (Laying Hens) (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3100), dated 1st December 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


3 Customs and Excise,—(1) Customs (Contravention of a Relevant Rule) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3113), dated 2nd December 2003 [by Act] [John Healey]; and


5 Seeds,—Oil and Fibre Plant Seed (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3101), dated 1st December 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

6 Culture, Media and Sport,—Department for Culture, Media and Sport Minute, dated 2nd December 2003, reporting contingent liabilities in the event of London winning the bid for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games [by Command] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

7 Extradition,—Codes of Practice under the Extradition Act 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

8 Foreign and Commonwealth Office,—Paper, entitled UK International Priorities: A Strategy for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office [by Command] [Cm. 6052] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 Government Resources and Accounts,—Report and Accounts of the Oil and Pipelines Agency for 2002–03, with the Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 8] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

10 Home Office,—Home Office: Autumn Performance Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6057] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

11 Pastoral Measure,—The Churches Conservation Trust Review and Report for 2002–03 [by Measure] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Judicial appointments and a Supreme Court (Court of final appeal)]; to be printed [No. 48-ii] [Mr A. J. Beith].
2 Culture, Media and Sport.—(1) First Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Cultural objects: developments since 2000], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 59]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [DCMS Annual Report]; to be printed [No. 74-i]
[Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Marine Environment]; to be printed [No. 76-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

4 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Waste—Follow-up]; to be printed [No. 72-i] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

5 European Scrutiny.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the European Scrutiny Committee [(i) Nuclear Safety (ii) The energy provisions of the EU’s draft Constitutional Treaty]; to be printed [No. 70-i] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Foreign Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Iran]; to be printed [No. 80-i]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Foreign Policy aspects of the War against Terrorism]; to be printed [No. 81-i]
[Mr Donald Anderson].

7 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [The Rehabilitation of Prisoners]; to be printed [No. 66-i] [Mr John Denham].

8 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Migration and Development]; to be printed [No. 79-i] [Tony Baldry].

9 Scottish Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Coincidence of Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries in Scotland and the Consequences of Change]; to be printed [No. 77-i]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Registration of Voters in Scotland]; to be printed [No. 78-i]
[Mrs Irene Adams].

10 Standards and Privileges.—First Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Complaints against Mr George Galloway MP], together with an Appendix; together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report; to be printed [No. 73] [Sir George Young].

11 Statutory Instruments.—First Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-i] [Mr David Tredinnick].

12 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [The Resilience of the National Grid]; to be printed [No. 69-i and -ii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

13 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Restoring Confidence in Long Term Savings]; to be printed [No. 71-i] [Mr John McFall].
Wednesday 3rd December 2003.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Sessional Returns,—Ordered, That there be laid before this House Returns for Session 2002–03 of information and statistics relating to—
   (1) Business of the House;
   (2) Closure of Debate, Proposal of Question and Allocation of Time (including Programme Motions);
   (3) Sittings of the House;
   (4) Private Bills and Private Business;
   (5) Public Bills;
   (6) Delegated Legislation and Regulatory Reform Orders;
   (7) European Legislation, etc;
   (8) Grand Committees;
   (9) Chairman’s Panel; and
   (10) Select Committees.—(The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means.)

2 Selection (Standing Committees),—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection the following Resolution:
   That, after a Bill has been under consideration in a Standing Committee, no application for changes in the composition of that Committee in respect of that Bill will be entertained by this Committee except where a Member is incapacitated from attendance by illness, or where he has been appointed or ceased to be a Member of the Government or has changed his office for another, or has acquired other duties, or ceased to hold or changed such duties.
   Report to lie upon the Table.

3 Selection (Select Committees),—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection the following Resolution:
   That Motions to alter the membership of Select Committees may be tabled on behalf of the Committee of Selection only if previously approved at a meeting of the Committee of Selection.
   Report to lie upon the Table.

4 Chairman’s Panel (Parliament Act 1911),—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That, in pursuance of section 1(3) of the Parliament Act 1911, it had appointed Mr John McWilliam and Sir Nicholas Winterton to be the two Members whom the Speaker shall consult, if practicable, before certifying a Bill to be a Money Bill.

5 Standing Committee C,—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, That it had designated Standing Committee C as the Standing Committee on which Government Bills do not have precedence.

6 Human Tissue Bill,—Mr Secretary Reid, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Mr Secretary Murphy, Secretary Tessa Jowell, Mr Paul Boateng, Mr Peter Hain and Ms Rosie Winterton, presented a Bill to make provision with respect to activities involving human tissue; to make provision about the transfer of human remains from certain museum collections; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 9].
   Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Human Tissue Bill be printed [Bill 9–EN].

7 Queen’s Speech (Motion for an Address),—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 26th November, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:
   Most Gracious Sovereign,
   We, Your Majesty’s dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament;
   And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.
An Amendment was proposed to the Question, at the end, to add the words ‘But oppose the proposals in the Gracious Speech that massively reduce the independence of universities in their admissions policy; deplore the inclusion of measures likely to burden the average student with £33,000 debt on graduation by 2010; regret the violation of the Government’s 2001 manifesto pledge not to introduce top-up fees; call on Ministers to concentrate on raising standards, improving the credibility of qualifications and ensuring access to higher education on the basis of merit, not ability to pay; further regret the absence of measures to reduce the bureaucracy faced by school governors, head-teachers, teachers, doctors, nurses and NHS managers, and to extend patient choice and reduce the use of centrally-set targets, which prevent the NHS responding effectively to the needs of patients; further deplore the lack of progress on the Mental Health Bill in a form which would protect the rights of people with mental health problems and promote their access to treatment; further regret the lack of prior consultation on a draft of the Human Tissue Bill; and further deplore the absence of measures to promote freedom and decentralisation in the NHS.’.—(Mr Tim Yeo.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Hugo Swire, Gregory Barker: 189.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Vernon Coaker: 340.

So the Question was negatived.

And it being after Seven o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

8 Draft Gambling Bill (Joint Committee),—Ordered, That the Lords Message [1st December] relating to the draft Gambling Bill be now considered.

That this House concurs with the Lords in the said Resolution.

That, in accordance with the Order of the House of 10th July, as amended by the Order of 20th October, in the last Session of Parliament, a Select Committee of eight Members be appointed to join with a Committee appointed by the Lords, as the Joint Committee on the draft Gambling Bill, with the same terms of reference, powers and membership as in the last Session and that the proceedings of the Joint Committee on the draft Gambling Bill in the last Session of Parliament be referred to the Committee; and

That the Committee do meet with the Committee appointed by the Lords on Thursday 11th December at half-past Nine o’clock in Committee Room 5.—(Derek Twigg.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

9 Animals,—Ordered, That the Horse Passports (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 2780), dated 4th November 2003, be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Derek Twigg.)

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Derek Twigg.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till sixteen minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.44 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Employment Agencies, etc.—Draft Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum thereon [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Council Tax,—Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rating (Electronic Communications) (England) (No. 2) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3052), dated 26th November 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

(2) Extradition Act 2003 (Police Powers) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3106), and
dated 1st December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

6 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Working Time: Inland Waterways) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3049), dated 27th November 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].


Other Papers:

9 Disability Discrimination,—Draft Disability Discrimination Bill with Explanatory Notes and Regulatory Impact Assessment [by Command] [Cm. 6058-I, II and III] [Mr Secretary Smith].

10 Health,—Department of Health: Autumn Performance Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6073] [Mr Secretary Reid].

11 Ireland (No. 1, 2003),—Agreement, done at Dublin on 25th November 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing the Independent Monitoring Commission, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6068] [Mr Secretary Straw].


13 Northern Ireland,—Report and Accounts of the Special EU Programmes Body for Northern Ireland for 2002, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 13] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

14 Police,—Code of Practice on Police Use of Firearms and Less Lethal Weapons [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

15 Sessional Returns,—Returns by Order this day for information and statistics for Session 2002–03; to be printed [No. 1] [Clerk of the House].

Papers withdrawn:

16 Employment Agencies, etc.,—Draft Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [laid 27th November].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Telephone Number Exclusion (Domain Names and Internet Addresses) Order 2003:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mrs Irene Adams Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr John Battle, Peter Bottomley, Mr James Clappison, Mrs Helen Clark, Mr David Clelland, Brian Cotter, Michael Fabricant, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr John Lyons, Christine Russell, Llew Smith, Sir Robert Smith, Ian Stewart and Mr Stephen Timms.

2 Draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) (Amendment) Regulations 2003:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Derek Conway Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Adrian Bailey, Malcolm Bruce, Colin Burgon, Tony Cunningham, Sue Doughty, David Hamilton, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Mr Calum MacDonald, Miss Anne McIntosh, Alice Mahon, Mr Elliot Morley, Mr Richard Page, Mr Siôn Simon, Sir Teddy Taylor and Mr David Wilshire.

3 Draft Local Government Best Value (Exemption) (England) Order 2003:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Eric Illesley Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Tony Baldry, Hugh Bayley, Paul Clark, Mr Jim Cousins, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Mark Field, Mr Philip Hammond, Phil Hope, Mr John Horam, Mr Brian Jenkins, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Eric Martlew, Dan Norris, Mr Terry Rooney, Mr Paul Truswell and Richard Younger-Ross.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Peter Bradley, Mr David Cameron, Sue Doughty, Andrew George, Mrs Cheryl Gillan, Mr James Gray, Patrick Hall, Alun Michael, Julie Morgan, Diana Organ, Mrs Barbara Roche, Keith Vaz, Joan Walley, Mr Robert N. Wareing and Mr David Wilshire.

5 Government’s assessment as set out in the Pre-Budget Report 2003 for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the assessment to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed David Taylor Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Peter Atkinson, Dr Vincent Cable, Mr Michael Fallon, Jim Fitzpatrick, Barbara Follett, Mr Derek Foster, Mr David Heyes, Ruth Kelly, Norman Lamb, Rosemary McKenna, James Parnell, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Clive Soley, Mr Graham Stringer and Mr Andrew Tyrie.

6 Draft Media Ownership (Local Radio and Appointed News Provider) Order 2003:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr Tim Boscwell, Mr Keith Bradley, Jon Cruddas, Jim Dowd, Mr David Drew, Paul Farrelly, Mr Adrian Flook, Mr Don Foster, Mr Fraser Kemp, Estelle Morris, Anne Picking, Bob Russell, Dr Howard Stoate, Mr Ian Taylor and Angela Watkinson.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr James Cran Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Ms Karen Buck, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Vernon Coaker, Jeff Ennis, Mr Mark Field, Dr Hywel Francis, Mr Tom Harris, Lady Hermon, Mr Kevin Hughes, Ian Lucas, Lembit Õpik, Mr Andrew Robathan, Phil Sawford, Mr John Spellar, Mr John Taylor and Dr Desmond Turner.

8 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria) Order 2003 and the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Lebanon) Order 2003:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Miss Anne Bege Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: John Barrett, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Jim Cunningham, Kate Hoey, Mr Mark Lazarowicz, Mr Denis MacShane, Mr John Maples, Mr Jim Murphy, Linda Perham, Hugh Robertson, Mr Martin Salter, Andrew Selous, Mr Marsha Singh, Mr Richard Spring, Dr Phyllis Starkey and David Winnick.

9 Draft International Fund for Agriculture Development (Sixth Replenishment) Order 2003:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: John Barrett, Tom Brake, Tom Cox, Mrs Joan Humble, Dr Ashok Kumar, Andrew Mackinlay, Mr John Maples, Rob Marris, Mr Jim Murphy, Richard Ottaway, Joyce Quin, Hugh Robertson, Joan Ruddock, Mr Mohammad Sarwar, Mr Gary Streeter and Mr Gareth Thomas.

Private Business

10 Committee on Unopposed Bills (Panel).—Mr John McWilliam reported from the Committee of Selection, that it had appointed seventeen members to be the Panel of Members to serve on the Committee on Unopposed Bills under Standing Order 111 relating to Private Business (Reference to committees of opposed and unopposed bills): John Austin, Mr Adrian Bailey, Mr Nigel Beard, Peter Bottomley, Mr John Butterfill, Mr Colin Challen, Mr Parmjit Dhanda, Paul Farrelly, Mr Brian Jenkins, Helen Jones, John Mann, Siobhain McDonagh, Sir Robert Smith, Sir Peter Tapsell, Jon Trickett, Mr Robert Walter and Ann Winterton.

11 Provisional Orders (Scotland) (Panel).—The Committee of Selection, in pursuance of Standing Order 228 relating to Private Business (Parliamentary Panel), has selected thirteen Members to form the Parliamentary Panel of Members of this House to act as Commissioners under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936: Miss Anne Begg, David Cairns, Mr Peter Duncan, David Hamilton, Mr Iain Luke, Mr Calum MacDonald, Mr John MacDougall, Rosemary McKenna, Mr Michael Moore, Anne Picking, Mr Alan Reid, John Robertson and Mr Mohammed Sarwar.

Grand Committees

12 Welsh Grand Committee.—The Committee of Selection has nominated two additional members to serve on the Welsh Grand Committee: Mr Robert Walter and Mr Bill Wiggin.

Standing Committee on Regional Affairs

13 Standing Committee on Regional Affairs.—The Committee of Selection has nominated thirteen Members representing English constituencies to serve on the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr Henry Bellingham, Ms Karen Buck, Ross Cranston, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Nigel Evans, Andrew George, Norman Lamb, John Mann, Mr Denis Murphy, Mr Ian Pearson, Lawrie Quinn and Mr Anthony Steen.

European Standing Committees

14 European Union Document No. 11645/03, relating to Levels of certain heavy metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

15 European Union Document No. 12965/03, relating to Common Agricultural Policy: reform of the tobacco, olive oil, cotton and sugar sectors, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

16 European Union Document No. COM (03) 132, relating to Trans-European transport network, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

17 European Union Document No. 12441/03, relating to Cooperation with the Occupied Territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

18 European Union Document No. 13853/03, relating to Value Added Tax, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Lessons of Iraq]; to be printed [No. 57-i] [Bruce George].

2 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Ministerial Annual Review]; to be printed [No. 75-i] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

3 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [GM Food—Evaluating the Farm Scale Trials]; to be printed [No. 90-i] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Cetacean By-catch Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Cetacean By-catch]; to be printed [No. 88-i] [Mr Michael Jack].
The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills,—The Order of 13th November relating to the Mersey Tunnels Bill, suspended in the last Session of Parliament, being read;

Mersey Tunnels Bill.—A Bill to amend provisions of the County of Merseyside Act 1980 relating to the levying, revision and application of tolls for use of the Mersey Tunnels and to amend that Act for other purposes, was read the first, second and third time and passed.

2 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill,—Mr Secretary Hoon, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Straw, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Mr Secretary Smith, Mr Adam Ingram and Mr David Lammy, presented a Bill to make new provision for establishing pension and compensation schemes for the armed or reserve forces; to amend the Pensions Appeal Tribunals Act 1943; to provide for the transfer of the property, rights and liabilities of the Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation to a registered charity; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 8th December and to be printed [Bill 10].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill be printed [Bill 10–EN].

3 Queen’s Speech (Motion for an Address),—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 26th November, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

Another Amendment was proposed to the Question, at the end, to add the words ‘But regret that the Gracious Speech contains no measures to provide fundamental reform of public services or to reduce the level of waste in government; condemn the absence of proposals to restore the incentive to save, which has been eroded by the vast growth in means testing; deplore the absence of sufficient measures to avert the pensions crisis; further regret that the Gracious Speech makes no reference to the need to establish a more transparent and coherent fiscal structure; further condemn the absence of measures to fulfil the Government’s pledge to improve the competitiveness of the British economy and the rate of productivity growth; note that rail delays have doubled and traffic congestion has increased under this Government, and that there are no measures in the Gracious Speech adequately to address the Government’s failure to tackle these problems, which are damaging competitiveness and leading to reduced choice for the travelling public; further condemn the failure of a draft Bill to indicate what the powers of any regional assembly would be, even though proposals for local government reorganisation have been published; and believe that the Government’s proposals to restrict the right to buy will frustrate the legitimate aspirations of tenants to own their homes.’.—(Mr Oliver Letwin.)
And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mark Francois, Mr Hugo Swire: 171.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Margaret Moran: 286.

So the Question was negatived.

Another Amendment was proposed to the Question, at the end, to add the words ‘But humbly regret that the Gracious Speech distracts from sound policies which deal with crime and its causes; further regret the lack of provision for free personal care for the elderly and disabled people and the failure to tackle the pension crisis; further regret the decision to proceed with an ill-thought-through and expensive identity cards scheme; further regret that the Government has chosen to undermine further the rights of people fleeing persecution to seek asylum in this country; note that the Government has failed to put environment at the heart of its legislative agenda and address the crisis in the transport system; regret the failure to introduce single transferable vote as the voting system for the Scottish Parliament; and further regret the absence of measures to tackle the steep inequalities which continue to afflict the most disadvantaged members of society.’.—(Mr Andrew Stunell)

And the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 33 (Calling of amendments at end of debate), That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Richard Younger-Ross, Mr Alan Reid: 44.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Margaret Moran: 277.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Margaret Moran: 275.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 174.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, as follows:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, Your Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Majesty for the Gracious Speech which Your Majesty has addressed to both Houses of Parliament.

Address to be presented to Her Majesty by such Members of this House as are of Her Majesty’s most honourable Privy Council or of Her Majesty’s Household.

4 Adjournment (Christmas).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Thursday 18th December, do adjourn till Monday 5th January 2004—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

5 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till five minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till Monday 8th December.

[Adjourned at 7.05 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Education,—Local Education Authority (Behaviour Support Plans) (Exception) (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3082), dated 27th November 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].
3 National Health Service.—(1) NHS Professionals Special Health Authority (Establishment and Constitution) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3059), and
   (2) NHS Professionals Special Health Authority Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3060)
dated 26th November 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].


5 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.—(1) Statute, dated 30th May 2003, made by the Governing Body of Trinity College, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College, and
   (2) Statute, dated 22nd May 2003, by the Governing Body of the University of Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the University
   [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

Other Papers:

6 Cabinet Office.—Cabinet Office: Autumn Performance Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6055] [Mr Douglas Alexander].

7 Government Resources and Accounts.—Report and Accounts of the Defence Procurement Agency for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon
   [by Act]: to be printed [No. 2] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

8 Police.—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Constabulary for 2002–03 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 34] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committee on Regional Affairs

1 Standing Committee on Regional Affairs:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs in respect of its meeting on 11th December; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Ian Pearson from the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs and nominated in substitution Derek Wyatt.

European Standing Committees

2 The Speaker has appointed Mr David Chidgey Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 10965/03 on Security at European Council Meetings and other Comparable Events.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 European Scrutiny.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the European Scrutiny Committee [Fisheries and other aspects of the EU’s draft constitutional treaty]; to be printed [No. 91-i] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

2 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Obesity]; to be printed [No. 23-ii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 International Development.—(1) First Report from the International Development Committee [Trade and Development at the WTO: Learning the lessons of Cancún to revive a genuine development round], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 92-I and -II]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Migration and Development]; to be printed [No. 79-ii] [Tony Baldry].

MEMORANDUM

Public Bills (Scotland).—In pursuance of paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 97 (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)) the Speaker certified that, in his opinion, the provisions of the Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Bill relate exclusively to Scotland.
Monday 8th December 2003.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Irene Adams reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Telephone Number Exclusion (Domain Names and Internet Addresses) Order 2003.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Derek Conway reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) (Amendment) Regulations 2003.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Eric Illsley reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Local Government Best Value (Exemption) (England) Order 2003.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Housing Bill,—Mr Secretary Prescott, supported by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Secretary Margaret Beckett, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Secretary Reid, Ms Secretary Hewitt, Mr Secretary Clarke, Mr Paul Boateng and Mr Peter Hain, presented a Bill to make provision about housing conditions; to regulate houses in multiple occupation and certain other residential accommodation; to make provision for home information packs in connection with the sale of residential properties; to make provision about secure tenants and the right to buy; to make other provision about housing; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 11].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Housing Bill be printed [Bill 11–EN].

5 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill (Programme),—Ordered, That the Programme Order of 17th December 2002 shall be varied as follows:

Consideration and Third Reading

1. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Order (Consideration and Third Reading) shall be omitted.

2. Proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall be completed in two days.

3. Proceedings on consideration on the first day shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the moment of interruption.

4. Proceedings on consideration on the second day shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion two hours after their commencement on that day.

5. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill on the second day.

6. Proceedings on consideration shall be taken in the following order: new Clauses standing in the name of a Minister of the Crown, remaining new Clauses, remaining proceedings on the Bill.—(Keith Hill.)

6 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill.

A Clause (NC1) (Planning contribution)—(Keith Hill)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Nick Ainger: 307.

Tellers for the Noes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Field: 113.

Clause added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC2) (Planning contribution: regulations)—(Keith Hill)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.
Another Clause (NC3) (Planning contribution: Wales)—(Keith Hill)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC4) (Compensation: advance payments to mortgagees)—(Yvette Cooper)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC5) (Tree preservation orders: Forestry Commissioners)—(Keith Hill)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC21) (Tree preservation orders: Scotland)—(Keith Hill)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC7) (Planning permission for subdivision of agricultural holdings for purpose of sale)—(Mr Andrew Turner)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC8) (Planning: retrospective applications)—(Mr Andrew Turner)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Ordered, That further consideration of the Bill be now adjourned.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

Bill to be further considered to-morrow.

7 Culture, Media and Sport,—Ordered, That Miss Julie Kirkbride be discharged from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee and Mr Charles Hendry be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

8 Education and Skills,—Ordered, That Mr Mark Simmonds be discharged from the Education and Skills Committee and Mr Nick Gibb be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

9 Information,—Ordered, That Mr Michael Jack be discharged from the Information Committee and Mr Robert Key be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

10 International Development,—Ordered, That Mr Robert Walter be discharged from the International Development Committee and Mr Andrew Robathan be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

11 Trade and Industry,—Ordered, That Mr Henry Bellingham be discharged from the Trade and Industry Committee and Mr Nigel Evans be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

12 Treasury,—Ordered, That Mr Andrew Tyrie be discharged from the Treasury Committee and Mr Robert Walter be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

13 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Murphy);

And the Motion having been made at Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.]
Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 5th December 2003 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


6 Education.—(1) Education (Head Teachers’ Qualifications) (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3111), and
   (2) Education (Teacher Training Bursaries) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3094),
   dated 29th November 2003 [Mr Secretary Clarke].


8 Legal Aid and Advice.—(1) Legal Aid Certificates (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2003 (S.R. (N.I.), 2003, No. 513),
   (2) Legal Aid in Criminal Cases (Statement of Means) (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2003 (S.R. (N.I.), 2003, No. 514),
   (3) Legal Aid in Criminal Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2003 (S.R. (N.I.), 2003, No. 511), and
   (4) Legal Aid for Youth Conferences (Costs) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2003 (S.R. (N.I.), 2003, No. 512),
   dated 4th December 2003 [Mr Christopher Leslie].


Other Papers:

16 Broadcasting.—Explanatory Note on the Proposed Amendments to the BBC Agreement, December 2003 [by Command] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].
17 Consumer Credit,—Paper, entitled The Consumer Credit Market in the 21st Century [by Command] [Cm. 6040] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

18 National Audit,—Report and case studies by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Managing resources to deliver better public services [by Act]; to be printed [No. 61-I and -II] [Clerk of the House].

19 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts of the—
   (1) Peterlee Education Action Zone, and
   (2) Wythenshawe Education Action Zone,
for 2002-03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 97 and 98] [Clerk of the House].

20 Fisheries,—(1) Sea Fish Industry Authority Annual Review for 2002–03, and
   (2) Accounts of the Sea Fish Industry Authority for 2002–03 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

21 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on the Petition [4th November, in the last Session of Parliament] from residents of Dumfries and Galloway for upgraded digital television transmission in the area [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

22 Transport,—Department for Transport: Autumn Performance Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6045] [Mr Secretary Darling].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Draft Producer Obligations (Packing Waste) (Amendment) Regulations 2003,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Alice Mahon from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Martyn Jones.

2 Draft Local Government Best Value (Exemption) (England) Order 2003,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Paul Clark, Mr Philip Hammond and Mr Terry Rooney from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Linda Gilroy, Bridget Prentice and Mr Robert Syms.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Secondary Education: School Admissions]; to be printed [No. 58-ii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Directives Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive and End of Life Vehicles Directive]; to be printed [No. 103-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Human Rights,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Human Rights [The proposed commission for equality and human rights and the meaning of ‘Public Authority’ under the Human Rights Act]; to be printed [No. 106-i] [Jean Corston].

4 International Development,—Memoranda laid before the International Development Committee [Trade and Development at the WTO: Learning the lessons of Cancún to revive a genuine development round] [Tony Baldry].

5 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Urban Affairs Sub-Committee of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Coalfield Communities]; to be printed [No. 44-i] [David Clelland].

6 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Making a difference: Performance of maintained secondary schools in England]; to be printed [No. 104-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

7 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Chief Executive, MRC: Introductory Session]; to be printed [No. 55-i] [Dr Ian Gibson].
Tuesday 9th December 2003.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Regulatory Reform,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolution:

That a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Sunday Trading) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 14th September, in the last Session of Parliament, should be laid before the House.

2 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill.

Another Clause (NC10) (Local development plan)—(Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Angela Watkinson, Mr Mark Field: 134.

Tellers for the Noes, Margaret Moran, Mr Jim Murphy: 329.

And it being more than two hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [yesterday], put the Question on the Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Amendments (Nos. 1 to 7, 25, 61 to 65, 8, 66 to 70, 21, 22, 71, 72, 9, 73, 10 to 12, 74, 23, 14 to 18, 75 to 77, 24, 79 and 78) made to the Bill.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Keith Hill, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her Consent, as far as Her Majesty’s interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

Keith Hill, by Command of the Prince of Wales, acquainted the House, That His Royal Highness, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives his Consent, as far as the Prince of Wales’s interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Paul Clark: 301.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mark Field, Mr Peter Atkinson: 178.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

3 Adjournment (Fisheries).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Fraser Kemp);

And it being three hours after commencement of proceedings on the Motion, it lapsed without Question put, pursuant to Order [27th November].

4 Broadcasting.—Ordered, That, for the purposes of its approval, the Amendment (Cm. 6075), dated 4th December 2003, to the Agreement (Cm. 3152) dated 25th January 1996 (as amended by the Amendment (Cm. 4797), dated 3rd July 2000), between the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport and the British Broadcasting Corporation, shall be treated as if it were an instrument subject to the provisions of Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation).—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

5 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—Ordered, That Mr David Cameron be discharged from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons and Mr Oliver Heald be added.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

6 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of the town of Stafford and surrounding areas for the review of RAF Stafford to have regard to the base’s relations with the area and its contribution to the local economy;
(2) residents of Billington and Stanbridge, Bedfordshire, and the surrounding areas for greater powers for local authorities to prevent the use by travellers of non-residential land without planning permission; and

(3) people of Uttoxeter against proposals to close Uttoxeter Jobcentre were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from citizens of the United Kingdom for the protection of ancient woodlands from damage by airport expansion was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till thirteen minutes past Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.13 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 British Nationality,—(1) British Nationality (British Overseas Territories) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3159),

(2) British Nationality (Fees) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3157), and

(3) British Nationality (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3158),
dated 8th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Council Tax,—Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3181), dated 8th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


4 Education,—Education (Health Standards) (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3139), dated 3rd December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

5 Food,—Jam and Similar Products (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3120), dated 1st December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

6 Census,—Paper, entitled Census 2001: Key Statistics for Health Areas in England and Wales [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

7 Government Resources and Accounts,—National Savings and Investments Product Accounts for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 5] [Ruth Kelly].

8 Health,—Paper, entitled Building on the Best: Choice, Responsiveness and Equity in the NHS [by Command] [Cm. 6079] [Mr Secretary Reid].

9 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on: Ministry of Defence: Operation TELIC—United Kingdom Military Operations in Iraq [by Act]; to be printed [No. 60] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Modification) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3039),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Karen Buck and Mr Tom Harris from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution Mrs Liz Blackman and Huw Irranca-Davies.
European Standing Committees

2 European Union Document No. 14886/03, relating to European space policy, has been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Judicial appointments and a Supreme Court (court of final appeal)]; to be printed [No. 48-iii] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [ITV Merger: Implications for Public Sector Broadcasting]; to be printed [No. 101-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 European Scrutiny.—Second Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-ii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Foreign Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [South Africa]; to be printed [No. 117-i]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The Biological Weapons Green Paper; Overseas Territories; Private Military Companies; Turkey]; to be printed [Nos. 113, 114, 115 and 116] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Home Affairs.—First Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill], with an Appendix, together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 109] [Mr John Denham].

6 Office of the Deputy Prime Minster: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—(1) First Report from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [ODPM Annual Report and Accounts 2003], with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 102-I]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Decent Homes]; to be printed [No. 46-i] [Andrew Bennett].

7 Regulatory Reform.—First Report from the Regulatory Reform Committee [Proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Sunday Trading) Order 2004], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 108] [Mr Peter Pike].

8 Statutory Instruments.—Second Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-ii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [The Resilience of the National Grid; Support to businesses from Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 69-iii and 118-i] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 8; WH, No. 1.]

Tuesday 9th December 2003.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.51 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 European Standing Committee B,—Mr David Chidgey reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document 10965/3/03, draft Council Resolution on security at European Council meetings and other comparable events; shares the Government’s view that the general aim of the measure will encourage police services across the European Union to cooperate to prevent the violence at international events and to facilitate peaceful protest; acknowledges that personal rights and freedoms are protected as far as possible; and supports the Government’s position on this measure.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

2 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Tax Law Rewrite Bills (Joint Committee),—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Select Committee of six Lords to join with the Committee appointed by the Commons to consider Tax Law Rewrite Bills, and in particular to consider whether each Bill committed to it preserves the effect of the existing law, subject to any minor changes which may be desirable:

they have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman;

that the quorum of the Committee shall be two;

that the Committee have leave to report from time to time;

that the Committee have power to appoint specialist advisers;

that the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee from time to time shall, if the Committee think fit, be printed;

and that the procedure of the Joint Committee shall follow the procedure of Select Committees of the House of Commons when such procedure differs from that of Select Committees of this House, and shall include the power of the Chairman to select Amendments.

3 Adjournment (European Affairs),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed,

That this House do now adjourn—(Margaret Moran);

And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

4 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from residents of Powys against the withdrawal of pension books [two Petitions] were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

5 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Paul Clark);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty-nine minutes to Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.31 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 National Lottery,—Draft New Opportunities Fund (Specification of Initiative) Order 2004 by Act, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Building and Buildings,—Building and Building (Approved Inspectors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3133), dated 1st December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Council Tax,—(1) Council Tax (Chargeable Dwellings, Exempt Dwellings and Discount Disregards) (Amendment) (England) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3121), and

4 Education,—LEA Budget, Schools Budget and Individual Schools Budget (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3170), dated 10th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

5 Financial Services and Markets,—Financial Collateral Arrangements (No. 2) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3226), dated 10th December 2003 [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

6 Health Care and Associated Professions,—European Qualifications (Health Care Professions) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3148), dated 4th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

7 Immigration,—Immigration (European Economic Area) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3188), dated 8th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

8 Legal Aid and Advice,—Legal Aid in Criminal Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment No. 2) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2003 (S.R. (N.I.), 2003, No. 526), dated 10th December 2003 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Christopher Leslie].


11 Medicines,—Medicines (Pharmacies) (Applications for Registration and Fees) Amendment Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3141), dated 4th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

12 Merchant Shipping,—(1) Merchant Shipping (Liability of Shipowners and Others) (New Rate of Interest) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3135), and
   (2) Merchant Shipping (Liability of Shipowners and Others) (Rate of Interest) (Amendment) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3136), dated 4th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

13 Pesticides,—Plant Protection Products Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3241), dated 10th December 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

14 Public Health,—Motor Fuel (Composition and Content) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3078), dated 27th November 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].


Other Papers:


18 Covent Garden Market,—Report and Accounts of the Covent Garden Market Authority for 2002–03 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

19 Finance,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Audit of Assumptions for the 2003 Pre-Budget Report [by Act]; to be printed [No. 35] [Clerk of the House].

20 Government Resources and Accounts,—Report and Accounts of the Warship Support Agency for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 9] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

21 HM Treasury,—HM Treasury: Autumn Performance Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6043] [Mr Paul Boateng].

22 Mental Health,—Report of the Mental Health Act Commission for 2001–03 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

23 Police (Northern Ireland),—Ninth Report of the Oversight Commissioner [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

24 Pre-Budget Report,—Paper, entitled Pre-Budget Report. December 2003: The strength to take the long-term decisions for Britain: Seizing the opportunities of the global recovery [by Command] [Cm. 6042] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002 (Amendment of section 46(1) and paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 8) Order 2003:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Tony Baldry, Richard Burden, Mr Stephen Byers, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Vernon Coaker, Valerie Davey, Mr Mark Field, Mr Derek Foster, Mrs Cheryl Gillan, Mr Tom Harris, Lady Hermon, Helen Jackson, Mr Eric Martlew, Lembit Öpik, Mr John Spellar and Mr Michael Wills.

2 Draft Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Tony Banks, Mr Henry Bellingham, Malcolm Bruce, Colin Burgon, Jeremy Corbyn, Brian Cotter, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Stephen Hesford, Mr Alan Meale, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe and Tony Worthington.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Iain Coleman, Caroline Flint, Mike Gapes, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr David Heath, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr John Heppell, Mr Boris Johnson, Lynne Jones, Mr David Lepper, Shona McIsaac, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Dr John Pugh, Mr John Redwood, Mr Marsha Singh and Angela Watkinson.

4 Amendment [Cm. 6075] dated 4th December 2003 to the Agreement [Cm. 3152] dated 25th January 1996 (as amended by the Amendment [Cm. 4797] dated 3rd July 2000) between the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport and the British Broadcasting Corporation:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Amendment to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Kevin Barron, Mr Roger Berry, Mr Tim Boswell, Ms Karen Buck, Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Ben Chapman, Mr Tom Clarke, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Adrian Flook, Mr Don Foster, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr David Marshall, Mrs Barbara Roche, Mr Andrew Rosindell, Bob Russell and Angela Watkinson.

5 Horse Passports (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 2780).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Barbara Roche, Keith Vaz and Mr Robert N. Wareing from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Wayne David, Dr Hywel Francis and Ian Lucas.

6 Government’s assessment as set out in the Pre-Budget Report 2003 for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Derek Foster and Rosemary McKenna from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Report) and nominated in substitution Russell Brown and Dr Ashok Kumar.
7 Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Modification) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3039).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ian Lucas from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Wayne David.

8 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria) Order 2003 and the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Lebanon) Order 2003.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Mark Lazarowicz, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Martin Salter and Mr Marsha Singh from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Bridget Prentice, Mr Colin Pickthall and Mr Mark Todd.

Grand Committees

9 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—The Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-three additional Members to serve on the Northern Ireland Grand Committee: Mr Harry Barnes, Kevin Brennan, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Mark Field, Mr Tom Harris, Mr Andrew Hunter, Huw Irranca-Davies, Helen Jackson, Mr Eric Joyce, Mr David Lidington, Mr Iain Luke, Mr Andrew MacKay, Mr Michael Mates, Mr Stephen McCabe, Mr Kevin McNamara, Mr Tony McWalter, Mr Bill O’Brien, Lembit Opik, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr John Taylor and Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West).

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—(1) First Report from the Defence Committee [Armed Forces Pensions and Compensation], together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 96]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Legacy Pensions]

[Mr Bruce George].

2 Education and Skills.—First Report from the Education and Skills Committee [Public Expenditure: Schools’ Funding], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 112] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

3 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [GM Food—Evaluating the Farm Scale Trials]; to be printed [No. 90-ii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) First Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Water Pricing], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 121];

(2) First Special Report from the Committee [Government’s Reply to the Fourteenth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, Session 2002–03, on Gangmasters]; to be printed [No. 122];

(3) Second Special Report from the Committee [Government’s Reply to the Fifteenth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, Session 2002–03, on New Covent Garden market: a follow-up]; to be printed [No. 123];

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Marine Environment]; to be printed [No. 76-ii]; and

(5) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Badgers and Bovine TB], together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 124]

[Mr Michael Jack].

5 Northern Ireland.—Papers laid before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [The Draft Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2003] [Mr Michael Mates].

6 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Progress in improving the medical assessment of incapacity and disability benefits]; to be printed [No. 120-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

7 Transport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee [Traffic Law and its Enforcement]; to be printed [No. 105-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].
8 Treasury.—(1) First Report from the Treasury Committee [Transparency of Credit Card Charges], together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 125]; and
(2) Second Report from the Committee [Child Trust Funds], together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 86] [Mr John McFall].

9 Work and Pensions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Child Poverty in the UK]; to be printed [No. 85-i] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 9; WH, No. 2.]

Wednesday 10th December 2003.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall
The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)
And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.29 p.m.]

[No. 10.]

Thursday 11th December 2003.
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill Olner reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Horse Passports (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 2780).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—David Taylor reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Government’s assessment as set out in the Pre-Budget Report 2003 for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Media Ownership (Local Radio and Appointed News Provider) Order 2003.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr James Cran reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Modification) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3039).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Miss Anne Begg reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria) Order 2003 and the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Lebanon) Order 2003.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
6 Standing Committee on Regional Affairs.—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs, that it had considered the matter of the English regions and referendums on elected regional assemblies, referred to it on 2nd December.

7 Traffic Management Bill.—Mr Secretary Darling, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Beckett, Mr Secretary Hewitt, Secretary Tessa Jowell, Mr Peter Hain, Mr David Jamieson and Mr Tony McNulty, presented a Bill to make provision for and in connection with the designation of traffic officers and their duties; to make provision in relation to the management of road networks; to make new provision for regulating the carrying out of works and other activities in the street; to amend Part 3 of the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 and Parts 9 and 14 of the Highways Act 1980; to make new provision in relation to the civil enforcement of traffic contraventions; to amend section 55 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 15th December and to be printed [Bill 13].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Traffic Management Bill be printed [Bill 13–EN].

8 Estimates Day [1st allotted day].—The House proceeded, pursuant to Resolution [2nd December], to consider Estimates appointed for consideration under Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee).

Vote on Account, 2004–05 (Department for Work and Pensions).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That resources, not exceeding £22,505,326,000, be authorised, on account, for use during the year ending on 31st March 2005, and that a sum, not exceeding £22,418,785,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for the year ending on 31st March 2005, for expenditure by the Department for Work and Pensions—(Bridget Prentice);

The Debate was concluded, and the Question necessary to dispose of the proceedings was deferred, pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates).

Vote on Account, 2004–05 (Department of Trade and Industry).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That resources, not exceeding £2,101,186,000, be authorised, on account, for use during the year ending on 31st March 2005, and that a sum, not exceeding £3,749,956,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for the year ending on 31st March 2005, for expenditure by the Department of Trade and Industry—(Mr John Heppell);

And it being Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker interrupted the proceedings, and the Question necessary to dispose of proceedings was deferred, pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates).

The Deputy Speaker, pursuant to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates), put the deferred Questions on Vote on Account, 2004–05:

Resolved, That resources, not exceeding £22,505,326,000, be authorised, on account, for use during the year ending on 31st March 2005, and that a sum, not exceeding £22,418,785,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for the year ending on 31st March 2005, for expenditure by the Department for Work and Pensions.

Vote on Account, 2004–05: Department for Work and Pensions

Resolved, That resources, not exceeding £2,101,186,000, be authorised, on account, for use during the year ending on 31st March 2005, and that a sum, not exceeding £3,749,956,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, for the year ending on 31st March 2005, for expenditure by the Department of Trade and Industry.

9 Estimates.—The Deputy Speaker then put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Estimates appointed for consideration this day:

Supplementary Estimates, 2003–04

Resolved, That further resources, not exceeding £6,616,861,000, be authorised for use for defence and civil services for the year ending on 31st March 2004, and that a further sum, not exceeding £7,324,511,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to meet the costs of defence and civil services for the year ending on 31st March 2004, as set out in House of Commons Paper No. 15.
Vote on Account, 2004–05

Resolved, That resources, not exceeding £122,627,365,000, be authorised, on account, for use for defence and civil services for the year ending on 31st March 2005, and that a sum, not exceeding £117,444,070,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund, on account, to meet the costs of defence and civil services for the year ending on 31st March 2005, as set out in House of Commons Papers Nos. 16, 17, 18 and 19.

Ordered, That a Bill be brought in upon the foregoing Resolutions: And that the Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Paul Boateng, Dawn Primarolo, Ruth Kelly and John Healey do prepare and bring it in.

10 Consolidated Fund Bill.—John Healey accordingly presented a Bill to authorise the use of resources for the service of the years ending with 31st March 2004 and 2005 and to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the years ending with 31st March 2004 and 2005: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 15th December and to be printed [Bill 12].

11 Electronic Communications.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Telephone Number Exclusion (Domain Names and Internet Addresses) Order 2003, which was laid before this House on 3rd November, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

12 Local Government.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Local Government Best Value (Exemption) (England) Order 2003, which was laid before this House on 17th November, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

13 Environmental Protection.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2003, which were laid before this House on 1st December, be approved—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

14 Standards and Privileges.—Ordered, That Mr Simon Thomas be added to the Committee on Standards and Privileges.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

15 Regulatory Reform.—Ordered, That Mr Paul Goodman be discharged from the Regulatory Reform Committee and Mr Archie Norman be added.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

16 Public Accounts.—Ordered, That Mr Nick Gibb be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mrs Cheryl Gillan be added.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

17 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the concerned citizens of North Tayside for the survival of the pension book as a means of collecting pensions from local post offices was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

18 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the constituents of James Purnell against cuts to the budget of Gorse Hall day centre was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

19 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes to Seven o'clock, adjourned till Monday 15th December.

[Adjourned at 6.33 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Environmental Protection.—Draft Solvent Emissions (England and Wales) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 European Communities.—Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Common Electoral Principles) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Christopher Leslie].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Education,—Financing of Maintained Schools (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3247), dated 11th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

4 Extradition,—Extradition Act 2003 (Multiple Offences) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3150), dated 4th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Immigration,—Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 (Part V Exemption: Relevant Employers) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3214), dated 8th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

6 Social Care,—Commission for Social Care Inspection (Membership) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3190), dated 9th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

7 Tax Credits,—Tax Credits (Claims and Notifications) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No.3240), dated 10th December 2003 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

8 Water Resources,—(1) Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3242), and

dated 10th December 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

9 Criminal Statistics,—Criminal Statistics for England and Wales for 2002 [by Command] [Cm. 6054] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

10 Defence,—Paper and Supporting Essays, entitled Delivering Security in a Changing World [by Command] [Cm. 6041-I and -II] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

11 Government Resources and Accounts,—Report and Accounts of the British Forces Post Office for 2002-03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 37] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

12 Health,—Departmental Minute, dated 11th December 2003, concerning a proposed contingent liability for review of safety at New Cross Hospital Maternity Unit, Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust [by Command] [Mr Secretary Reid].

13 Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions,—(1) Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Hong Kong Locally Engaged Ratings Service Gratuities and Attributable Disablement and Death Awards) Order 2003,

(2) Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Maltese Naval Locally Engaged Personnel Disablement Awards) Order 2003,

(3) Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Maltese Naval Locally Engaged Personnel Widows’ Attributable Pensions) Order 2003,

(4) Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Maltese Naval Locally Engaged Ratings’ Service Pensions Increase) Order 2003, and


14 UK Trade & Investment,—UK Trade & Investment Autumn Performance Report [by Command] [Cm. 6077] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002 (Amendment of section 46(1) and paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 8) Order 2003,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

2 Draft Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003,—The Speaker has appointed Miss Anne Begg Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

4 Amendment dated 4th December 2003 to the agreement of 25th January 1996 (as amended)
between Her Majesty’s Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport and the British
Broadcasting Corporation,—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Butterfill Chairman
of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the
Amendment.

5 Draft International Fund for Agriculture Development (Sixth Replenishment) Order 2003,—
The Speaker has appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman of the Ninth Standing
Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

Grand Committees

6 The Speaker has appointed Mr Win Griffiths Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in
respect of its meetings on Tuesday 16 December.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs
Committee [Judicial appointments and a Supreme Court (court of final appeal)]; to be
printed [No. 48-iv] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [The
Italian European Council]; to be printed [No. 129-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

3 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Elder Abuse]; to be
printed [No. 111-i] [Mr David Hinchcliffe].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Identity
Cards]; to be printed [No. 130-i] [Mr John Denham].

5 Public Administration,—First Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration
[A Draft Civil Service Bill: Completing the Reform], together with the Appendices to the
Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of
Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 128-I and -II] [Tony Wright].

[No. 10; WH, No. 3.]

Thursday 11th December 2003.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Accelerating the UK’s response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic).—A Motion
was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—
(Joan Ryan);

And the sitting having continued for three hours, it was adjourned without Question
put, till Tuesday 16th January.

[Adjourned at 5.30 p.m.]

MEMORANDUM

Westminster Hall.—In pursuance of Standing Order No. 10(13), the Speaker has approved
26th February, 11th March, 22nd April, 20th May, 17th June and 8th July 2004 as days
when the business to be taken in Westminster Hall shall be debates on Select Committee
Reports chosen by the Liaison Committee.
Monday 15th December 2003.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Roger Gale reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002 (Amendment of section 40(1) and paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 8) Order 2003. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Miss Anne Begg reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.


4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Butterfill reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Amendment [Cm. 6075] dated 4th December 2003 to the Agreement [Cm. 3152] dated 25th January 1996 (as amended by the Amendment [Cm. 4797] dated 3rd July 2000) between the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport and the British Broadcasting Corporation. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jimmy Hood reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft International Fund for Agricultural Development (Sixth Replenishment) Order 2003. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Consolidated Fund Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Consolidated Fund Bill; And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 56 (Consolidated Fund Bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to. The Bill was accordingly read a second time. And the Question being put forthwith, That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to. The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

7 Child Trust Funds Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Child Trust Funds Bill; And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time; The House divided. Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 297. Tellers for the Noes, Bob Russell, Richard Younger-Ross: 39. So the Question was agreed to. The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

8 Child Trust Funds Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Child Trust Funds Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 15th January 2004.
3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on the day on which proceedings on consideration are commenced.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made by the House on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

**Other proceedings**

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further message from the Lords) may be programmed—

(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

9 Child Trust Funds Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Child Trust Funds Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Child Trust Funds Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue under or by virtue of the Act—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

10 Child Trust Funds Bill [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Child Trust Funds Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

1. the making of provision for securing that losses accruing on the disposal of investments under child trust funds are to be disregarded for the purposes of capital gains tax, and

2. the making of payments into the Consolidated Fund—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

11 Section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation) and Order [27th November], That this House takes note with approval of the Government’s assessment as set out in the Pre-Budget Report 2003 for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993—(Mr Jim Murphy);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 279.

Tellers for the Noes, Richard Younger-Ross, Bob Russell: 43.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House takes note with approval of the Government’s assessment as set out in the Pre-Budget Report 2003 for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.

12 Broadcasting.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Media Ownership (Local Radio and Appointed News Provider) Order 2003, which was laid before this House on 13th November, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

13 European Communities.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement Establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria) Order 2003 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 4th November, in the last Session of Parliament—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

Address to be presented to Her Majesty by such Members of the House as are of Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council or of Her Majesty’s Household.
European Communities.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement Establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Lebanon) Order 2003 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 4th November, in the last Session of Parliament—(Mr Jim Murphy).—It was agreed to.

Address to be presented to Her Majesty by such Members of the House as are of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council or of Her Majesty's Household.

Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Modification) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3039), dated 27th November 2003, a copy of which was laid before this House on 27th November, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy).—It was agreed to.

Security at European Council Meetings and Other Comparable Events.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 10965/3/03, draft Council Resolution on security at European Council meetings and other comparable events; shares the Government's view that the general aim of the measure will encourage police services across the European Union to cooperate to prevent the violence at international events and to facilitate peaceful protest; acknowledges that personal rights and freedoms are protected as far as possible; and supports the Government's position on this measure—(Mr Jim Murphy).—It was agreed to.

Science and Technology.—Ordered, That Mr Parmjit Dhand be discharged from the Science and Technology Committee and Paul Farrelly be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Ordered, That Mr David Curry be discharged from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee and Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

Transport.—Ordered, That Mr George Osborne be discharged from the Transport Committee and Miss Anne McIntosh be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Jordans, Buckinghamshire, and others for a 30 mile per hour speed limit in Jordans Lane was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till five minutes past Nine o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 9.05 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 12th December 2003 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Environmental Protection,—Landfill Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 (S.R. (N.I.), 2003, No. 496), dated 1st December 2003 [Mr Secretary Murphy].

2 Medicines,—Animal Test Certificates (Revocation) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3249), dated 9th December 2003 [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

3 Social Security,—Income-related Benefits (Subsidy to Authorities) Amendment Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3179), dated 8th December 2003 [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

4 Coroners,—Cornwall (Coroners’ Districts) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3224), dated 8th December 2003 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 15th December 2003:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

5 Animals.—Welfare of Animals (Slaughter or Killing) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3272), dated 13th December 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

6 Environmental Protection.—Environmental Protection (Controls on Dangerous Substances) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3274), dated 13th December 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

7 Family Law.—Child Support (Information, Evidence and Disclosure) Amendment Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3206), dated 9th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

8 Food.—Infant Formula and Follow-on Formula (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3208), dated 8th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

9 National Health Service.—North East London Strategic Health Authority (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3189), dated 8th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

10 Agriculture.—Report on Smallholdings in England for 2001–02 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

11 Government Trading Funds.—Treasury Minute, dated 15th December, on HMLand Registry Trading Fund [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

12 Inland Revenue.—Report and Consolidated Resource Accounts of the Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Inland Revenue for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 6050] [Dawn Primarolo].


15 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Petition [4th November, in the last session of Parliament] from the York group of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign for the imposition of trade sanctions on Israel [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

16 Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation.—Report and Accounts of the Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation for 2002 [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

17 Trade and Industry.—Department of Trade and Industry Minute, dated 5th December 2003, concerning a proposed contingent liability for Coalpower Ltd (in Administration) [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002 (Amendment of section 46(1) and paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 8) Order 2003.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Vernon Coaker and Mr Derek Foster from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Huw Irranca-Davies and Gillian Merron.

2 Draft Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ian Lucas and Ian Stewart from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Andy Love and Kali Mountford.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Ministerial Annual Review]; to be printed [No. 75-ii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Directives Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive and End of Life Vehicles Directive]; to be printed [No. 103-ii] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Human Rights.—(1) First Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Deaths in Custody: Interim Report]; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 134]; and
   (2) Second Report from the Committee [Government’s Response to the Committee’s Ninth Report of Session 2002–03 on the Case for a Children’s Commissioner for England]; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 135] [Jean Corston].

4 Northern Ireland.—Papers laid before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [The Work of the Northern Ireland Executive] [Mr Michael Mates].

5 Public Accounts.—(1) Fourth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Improving Service Delivery: The Forensic Science Service]; together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 137]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Transforming the performance of HM Customs and Excise through electronic service delivery]; to be printed [No. 138-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

6 Science and Technology.—(1) First Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Committee, Session 2002–03, Light Pollution and Astronomy]; to be printed [No. 127]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Government Support for Nanotechnology]; to be printed [No. 56-i] [Dr Ian Gibson].

7 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Pre-Budget Report]; to be printed [No. 136-i] [Mr John McFall].

THE SPEAKER’S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Consolidated Fund Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.

CHAIRMEN’S PANEL

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen’s Panel), the Speaker nominated Mr Eric Forth to be a member of the Chairmen’s Panel during this Session.
Tuesday 16th December 2003.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Welsh Grand Committee,—Mr Win Griffiths reported from the Welsh Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of the Government’s Legislative Programme as outlined in the Queen’s Speech as it relates to Wales and Public Expenditure in Wales, referred to it on 2nd December.

2 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Consolidated Fund Bill, without Amendment.

3 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC2) (Additional provisions in respect of postal voting)—(Mr David Heath)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Richard Younger-Ross, Mr Mark Field: 183.

Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Jim Murphy: 291.

Another Clause (NC3) (Additional provisions in respect of electronic voting)—(Mr David Heath)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC4) (Conduct of elections under a pilot order)—(Mr David Heath)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Angela Watkinson, Richard Younger-Ross: 185.

Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Jim Murphy: 296.

Amendment (No. 8) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 4, after the word ‘must’, to insert the words, ‘if a three-quarters majority of the local authorities in the area covered by the pilot agree,’.—(Mr Nick Hawkins.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Angela Watkinson, Mr Mark Field: 135.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Gillian Merron: 357.

Another Amendment (No. 6) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 18, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(4A) The Secretary of State must not make an order under this section specifying a region which the Electoral Commission has identified as—

(a) not suitable for a pilot scheme; or

(b) a region for which the Commission does not feel able to make a positive recommendation as to its suitability.’.—(Mr David Heath.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Richard Younger-Ross, Mr Mark Field: 181.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Charlotte Atkins: 304.

It being after Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question on the remaining Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown, pursuant to Orders [21st October and 6th November].

Amendments (Nos. 50, 4, 48 and 49) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read the third time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Joan Ryan, Mr Vernon Coaker: 304.

Tellers for the Noes, Angela Watkinson, Richard Younger-Ross: 166.
So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

4 International Development.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft International Fund for Agricultural Development (Sixth Replenishment) Order 2003, which was laid before this House on 30th October, in the last Session of Parliament, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy).—It was agreed to.

5 Employment Agencies,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003, which were laid before this House on 3rd December, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy).—It was agreed to.

6 Extradition,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Extradition Act 2003 (Designation of Part 1 Territories) Order 2003, which was laid before this House on 3rd December, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy).—It was agreed to.

7 Extradition,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Extradition Act 2003 (Designation of Part 2 Territories) Order 2003, which was laid before this House on 3rd December, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy);

And the Deputy Speaker’s opinion as to the decision of the Question being challenged, the Division was deferred till to-morrow, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Deferred Divisions)].

8 Extradition,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Extradition Act 2003 (Designation of Part 3 Territories) Order 2003, which was laid before this House on 3rd December, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy).—It was agreed to.

9 Extradition,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Extradition Act 2003 (Police Powers: Code of Practice) Order 2003, which was laid before this House on 3rd December, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy).—It was agreed to.

10 Broadcasting,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation) and Order [9th December], That this House approves the Amendment [Cm. 6075] dated 4th December 2003 to the Agreement [Cm. 3152] dated 25th January 1996 (as amended by the Amendment [Cm. 4797] dated 3rd July 2000) between the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport and the British Broadcasting Corporation, which was laid before this House on 8th December—(Mr Jim Murphy).—It was agreed to.

11 Public Administration,—Ordered, That Mr John Lyons be discharged from the Select Committee on Public Administration and Mrs Anne Campbell be added.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

12 Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee),—Ordered, That Mr Andrew Rosindell be discharged from the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the Lords as the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments and Mr Eric Forth be added.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

13 Child Trust Funds Bill (Programme) (No. 2),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the Order of 15th December 2003 (Child Trust Funds Bill (Programme)) be varied as follows:

In paragraph 2 (conclusion of proceedings in Standing Committee), for ‘15th January’ substitute ‘20th January’—(Mr Jim Murphy).—It was agreed to.

14 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from British-Eritreans, members of the Eritrean community in the UK and friends of Eritrea for measures to discourage a war between Eritrea and Ethiopia, and for international sanctions against Ethiopia, was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

15 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.35 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Social Security,—Social Security (Notification of Change of Circumstances) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3209), dated 9th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

2 Air Transport,—Paper, entitled The Future of Air Transport [by Command] [Cm. 6046] [Mr Secretary Darling].

3 Armed Forces’ Pay,—Supplement to the Thirty-second Report of the Armed Forces’ Pay Review Body [by Command] [Cm. 6090] [The Prime Minister].

4 Environmental Audit,—Government Response to the Ninth Report from the Environmental Audit Committee, Session 2002–03, on Budget 2003 and Aviation [by Command] [Cm. 6063] [Mr Secretary Darling].

5 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Report and Accounts of the—
   (i) Army Training and Recruiting Agency, and
   (ii) Defence Geographic and Imagery Intelligence Agency for 2002–03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 22 and 107] [Mr Secretary Hoon]; and
   (2) Resource Accounts for the Department for Work and Pensions for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 83] [Ruth Kelly].

6 Metropolitan Police,—Accounts of the—
   (1) Metropolitan Police Fund for 1998–99,
   (2) Metropolitan Police Fund: Inner London Magistrates’ Courts Service and Inner London Probation Service for 1999–2000, and
   (3) Metropolitan Police Fund: Metropolitan Police Service for the 15-month period ending on 2nd July 2000 with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Command] [Cm. 6083, 6084 and 6085] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

7 Parliamentary Commissioner,—First Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Session 2003–04: Selected Investigations Completed, April to September 2003 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 119] [Clerk of the House].

8 Transport,—Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Transport Committee, Session 2002–03, on Aviation [by Command] [Cm. 6047] [Mr Secretary Darling].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Ofcom: preparedness and merger]; to be printed [No. 132-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Lessons of Iraq]; to printed [No. 57-ii] [Bruce George].

3 Draft Gambling Bill,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-i] [Mr John Greenway].

4 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Decent Homes]; to be printed [No. 46-ii]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Decent Homes]; to be printed [No. 46-II] [Andrew Bennett].

5 Statutory Instruments,—Third Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-iii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Trade and Industry,—(1) First Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Government Observations on the Fourteenth Report from the Committee, Session 2002–03, on Trade and Investment Opportunities with China and Taiwan]; to be printed [No. 142]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Fuel Poverty]; to be printed [143-i]
[Mr Martin O'Neill].

7 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Pre-budget Report 2003]; to be printed [No. 136-ii] [Mr John McFall].

CHAIRMEN’S PANEL

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen’s Panel), the Speaker nominated Mr Martin Caton to be a member of the Chairmen’s Panel during this Session.

[No. 12; WH, No. 4.]

Tuesday 16th December 2003.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr John Heppell.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.49 p.m.]

[No. 13.]

Wednesday 17th December 2003.

PRAyERS.

1 Queen’s Speech (Answer to Address).—The Vice-Chamberlain of the Household reported to the House, That Her Majesty, having been attended with its Address of 4th December, was pleased to receive the same very graciously and give the following Answer:

I have received with great satisfaction the dutiful and loyal expression of your thanks for the speech with which I opened the present Session of Parliament.

2 European Community.—The Vice-Chamberlain of the Household reported to the House, That its Addresses of 15th December had been presented to Her Majesty; and that Her Majesty had been pleased to receive the same very graciously and to give the following Answer:

I have received your Addresses praying that the European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement Establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria) Order 2003 and the European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement Establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Lebanon) Order 2003 be made in the form of the drafts laid before your House on 4th November, in the last Session of Parliament.

I will comply with your request.

3 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have come to the following Resolution, to which they desire the agreement of this House:

That it is expedient that a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons be appointed to consider and report on the draft Disability Discrimination Bill presented to both Houses on 3rd December (Cm. 6058), and that the Committee should report on the draft Bill by the end of April 2004.

4 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the second reading of the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House declines to give a Second Reading to the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill because it contains provision that would make children destitute’, instead thereof.—(Mr Hilton Dawson.)

And the Question being proposed, That the Amendment be made;
5 Royal Assent.—The Deputy Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, that Her Majesty had signified her Royal Assent to the following Act, agreed upon by both Houses:
Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Act 2003.

6 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill.—The Question being again proposed, That the Amendment be made;

Deferred Divisions.—The Deputy Speaker announced the results of the Division which had been deferred to this day, pursuant to the Orders of the House [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Deferred Divisions)]:
Extradition.—That the draft Extradition Act 2003 (Designation of Part 2 Territories) Order 2003, which was laid before this House on 3rd December, be approved.
Ayes: 243.
Noes: 43.
So the Question was agreed to.

8 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill.—The Question being again proposed, That the Amendment be made;
And the Question being put;
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Kelvin Hopkins: 78.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Bridget Prentice: 287.
So the Question was negatived.
And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Bridget Prentice: 412.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Alan Reid, Richard Younger-Ross: 72.
So the Question was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

9 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)]. That the following provisions shall apply to the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants etc.) Bill:

Committal
1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee
2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 27th January 2004.
3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

Programming Committee
6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Programming of proceedings
7. All proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Mr Jim Murphy);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Bridget Prentice: 308.
Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Angela Watkinson: 133.
So the Question was agreed to.
10 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill [Money]:—

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(1) expenditure of a Minister of the Crown in connection with the Act, and

(2) any increase attributable to the Act in sums payable out of money provided by Parliament under another enactment—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

11 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the charging of fees in relation to applications and processes under the Immigration Acts—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

12 Justice.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002 (Amendment of section 46(1) and paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 8) Order 2003, which was laid before this House on 27th November, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

13 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Hockley, Essex, against the proposed closure of Apex Corner Post Office; and

(2) residents of Osbaldwick, York, for a planning inquiry into proposals for housing development in Metcalfe Lane, Osbaldwick, York

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

14 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Murphy);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o'clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then a quarter past Eight o'clock, till tomorrow.

[Adjourned at 8.15 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland.—Draft Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Environmental Protection.—Pollution Prevention and Control (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3296), dated 16th December 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Immigration.—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [by Act]; to be printed [No. 95] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Taxes.—Reporting of Savings Income Information Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3297), dated 16th December 2003 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Other Papers:

6 European Communities (No. 6, 2003).—Council Decision of 25th June and 23rd September 2002 amending the Act concerning the election of the representatives of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage, annexed to Decision 76/787/ECSC, EEC, EURATOM (2002/772/EC, Euratom), with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6093] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 Export of Works of Art.—Report of the Reviewing Committee on Export of Works of Art for 2002-03 [by Command] [Cm. 6048] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].
8 Government Resource and Accounts.—(1) Resource Accounts of—
(i) Food Standards Agency: Westminster Funded, and
(ii) Trade and Industry: Combined Accounts for United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority Superannuation Schemes
for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 38 and 99] [Ruth Kelly]; and
(2) Resource Accounts for 2002–03 of—
(i) House of Commons: Administration, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 67] [The Speaker], and
(ii) House of Commons: Members, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 68] [Clerk of the House].

9 Home Office.—Home Office Minutes, dated 17th December 2003, concerning proposed contingent liabilities consequent upon provision of an indemnity to operators of New Detection Technology in—
(1) France, and
(2) Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany
in respect of both the equipment and the structures housing NDT [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

10 International Development,—Department for International Development Minute, dated 17th December, on Day Chocolate Company Loan Guarantee [by Command] [Secretary Hilary Benn].

11 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister,—Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Autumn Performance Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6074] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

12 Public Administration,—Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration, Session 2002–03, on ‘Government by Appointment: Opening Up the Patronage State’ [by Command] [Cm. 6056] [Mr Douglas Alexander].

13 Telecommunications,—Report of the Director General of Telecommunications for 2003 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 54] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

14 Transport,—Government Response to the Eighth Report from the Transport Committee, Session 2002–03, on the work of the Highways Agency [by Command] [Cm. 6088] [Mr Secretary Darling].

15 Treaty Series (No. 50, 2003),—Protocol, done at Port Louis on 27th March 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Mauritius to amend the Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital Gains, signed at London on 11th February 1981, as amended by the Protocol signed at Port Louis on 23rd October 1986 [by Command] [Cm. 6082] [Mr Secretary Straw].

16 Work and Pensions,—Department for Work and Pensions: Autumn Performance Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6044] [Mr Secretary Smith].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Child Trust Funds Bill:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-one Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Harry Barnes, Mr David Cameron, Mr Iain Coleman, Ross Cranston, Jon Cruddas, Mr Hilton Dawson, Clive Efford, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Michael Jabez Foster, Ruth Kelly, Norman Lamb, Mr David Laws, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Mr Andrew Love, Mr George Osborne, Linda Perham, James Purnell, Mr Andrew Robathan, Dr Desmond Turner and Mr Michael Weir.

2 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-one Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Richard Bacon, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Annabelle Ewing, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Tom Harris, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Beverley Hughes, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr David Lammy, Mr Tony McWalter, Mr Humfrey Malins, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Mr Marsha Singh, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Andrew Turner, Angela Watkinson and Mrs Betty Williams.
3 Draft Solvent Emissions (England and Wales) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Norman Baker, Peter Bradley, Mr David Chaytor, Mr James Clappison, Sue Doughty, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Michael Fallon, Mr James Gray, Alan Howarth, Alan Keen, Alun Michael, Mr Brian Sedgemore, Keith Vaz, Dr Alan Whitehead and Mr David Wilshire.

4 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Common Electoral Principles) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Annette Brooke, Mr David Clelland, Geraint Davies, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Bill Etherington, Mrs Lorna Fitzsimons, David Hamilton, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Boris Johnson, Mr Christopher Leslie, Ann McKechin, Bridget Prentice, Mr John Redwood, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Paul Tyler and Angela Watkinson.

European Standing Committees

5 European Union Document No. 14686/03, relating to Procedures for granting and withdrawing refugee status, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Lessons of Iraq]; to be printed [No. 57-iii and -iv] [Bruce George].

2 Education and Skills.—(1) First Special Report from the Education and Skills Committee [Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Committee, Session 2002–03, on Secondary Education: Pupil Achievement]; to be printed [No. 147]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Ministerial Annual Review]; to be printed [No. 75-iii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

3 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [GM Food—Evaluating the Farm Scale Trials]; to be printed [No. 90-iii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Rural Delivery Review] together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 148]; and

(2) Memorandum laid before the Committee [US ‘Ghost Ships’] [Mr Michael Jack].

5 European Scrutiny.—Third Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-iii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs.—First Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [The Committee's Work in 2003]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 146] [Mr Michael Mates].

7 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Memoranda laid before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Role of Historic Buildings in Urban Regeneration]; to be printed [No. 47-II] [Andrew Bennett].

8 Transport.—(1) First Report from the Transport Committee [Traffic Management Bill]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 144] [Mrs Louise Ellman]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Traffic Law and its Enforcement]; to be printed [No. 105-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

9 Work and Pensions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Child Poverty in the UK]; to be printed [No. 85-ii] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 6th January, pursuant to Order [27th November] and Resolution [4th December].

[Adjourned at 4.29 p.m.]

[No. 14.]

Thursday 18th December 2003.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAyERS.

1 Private Bill Petitions,—The Speaker laid upon the Table a Report from the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills, That, in the case of the Petitions for the following Bills, the Standing Orders have been complied with:

   Ipswich Market
   Medway Council
   University of Manchester
   University of Wales, Cardiff.

2 Private Bills,—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported, That, in accordance with Standing Order 81 relating to Private Business (Division of bills between this House and the House of Lords), the Counsel to the Speaker had conferred with the Counsel to the Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords, for the purpose of determining in which House of Parliament the respective Private Bills should be first considered, and they had determined that the Bills contained in the following list should originate in the House of Lords:

   University of Manchester
   University of Wales, Cardiff.

and that the Bills contained in the following list should originate in the House of Commons:

   Ipswich Market
   Medway Council.

3 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Orders Nos. 114 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (legislative proposals and other matters relating exclusively to Northern Ireland) and 116 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)), That—

   (1) The proposal for a draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee;

   (2) the Committee shall meet at Westminster on Thursday 15th January at half-past Two o’clock; and

   (3) at that sitting—

      (a) the Committee shall consider the legislative proposal referred to it under paragraph (1) above; and

      (b) the Chairman shall interrupt proceedings at Five o’clock; and

      (c) at the conclusion of those proceedings, a motion for the adjournment of the Committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown, pursuant to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 116 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings))—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

4 Adjournment (Matters to be considered before the forthcoming adjournment).,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Vernon Coaker);

And it being Six o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.
5 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Charlotte Atkins.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Six o’clock, adjourned till Monday 5th January 2004, pursuant to Resolution [4th December].

[Adjourned at 6.29 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Employment and Training.—(1) Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 2004, and
(2) draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Consumer Protection.—Controls on Certain Azo Dyes and ‘Blue Colourant’ Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3310), dated 17th December 2003 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

3 Education.—Education (Student Fees and Support) (Switzerland) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3280), dated 13th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

4 National Health Service.—Commission for Healthcare Audit and Inspection (Membership) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3279), dated 15th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

5 Supreme Court, Northern Ireland.—Rules of the Supreme Court (Northern Ireland) (Amendment No. 3) 2003 (S.R. (N.I.), 2003, No. 536), dated 17th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].


7 Utilities.—Draft Social and Environmental Guidance to the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Other Papers:

8 Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security.—Paper, entitled Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 Review: Report [by Act]; to be printed [No. 100] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

9 Competition Commission.—Report by the Competition Commission on the supply of extended warranties on domestic electrical goods within the UK [by Command] [Cm. 6089] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

10 Corruption.—Government Reply to the Report from the Joint Committee on the Draft Corruption Bill, Session 2002–03 [by Command] [Cm. 6086] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

11 Government Resources and Accounts.—Report and Accounts of the Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Customs and Excise for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 52] [John Healey].

12 Immigration.—Immigration (Designation of Travel Bans) (Amendment No. 2) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3285), dated 15th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

13 Museums and Galleries.—(1) Account of the Imperial War Museum for 2002–03,
(2) Account of the National Gallery for 2001–02, and
(3) Account of the National Gallery for 2002–03 with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 151, 154 and 152] [Clerk of the House].

14 National Health Service.—Account of the Public Health Laboratory Service for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 149] [Clerk of the House].

15 National Heritage.—Account of the Board of Trustees of the Armouries for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 150] [Clerk of the House].
16 National Loans,—(1) Accounts of the Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, and (2) Supplementary Statements of Accounts of the Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund for 2002–03 [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 93 and 94] [Ruth Kelly].

17 Police (Northern Ireland),—Account of the Police Service Northern Ireland (Police Grant) for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 153] [Clerk of the House].

18 Political Parties, Elections and Referendums,—First Report from the Speaker’s Committee on the Electoral Commission, 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 140] [The Speaker].

19 Registration Service,—Mortality Statistics: Review of the Registrar General on deaths by cause, sex and age in England and Wales for 2002 [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

20 Religious Offences,—Government Reply to the Report of the House of Lords Select Committee on Religious Offences, Session 2002–03 [by Command] [Cm. 6091] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers withdrawn:

21 Medicines,—Animal Test Certificates (Revocation) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3249) [laid 12th December].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Child Trust Funds Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton and Mr David Amess Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

2 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe and David Taylor Chairmen of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

3 Draft Solvent Emissions (England and Wales) Regulations 2003,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

4 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Beverly Hughes, Mr Humfrey Malins and Angela Watkinson members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

5 Child Trust Funds Bill (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Iain Coleman, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Paul Goodman, Ruth Kelly, Mr David Laws and James Purnell, members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Gambling Bill,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-ii] [Mr John Greenway].

2 European Scrutiny,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [the Brussels European Council on 12th and 13th December] on 17th December; to be printed [No. 155-i] [Jimmy Hood].

3 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Obesity]; to be printed [No. 23-iii] [Mr David Hinchliffe]

4 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken the Treasury Committee [Pre-Budget Report 2003]; to be printed [No. 136-iii] [Mr John McFall].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1. Traffic Management Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Traffic Management Bill:
   And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time:
   An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House declines to give a Second Reading to the Traffic Management Bill because it fails to address the most serious reasons for congestion, concentrating instead on street works, which cause only 10 per cent. of delays; diminishes local authority autonomy by giving the Secretary of State reserve powers over local traffic issues; and imposes an over-bureaucratic traffic management system’, instead thereof.—(Mr Damian Green.)
   And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 126.
   Tellers for the Noes, Charlotte Atkins, Jim Fitzpatrick: 362.
   So the Question was negatived.

2. Traffic Management Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)]. That the following provisions shall apply to the Traffic Management Bill:

   Committal
   1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.
   Proceedings in Standing Committee
   2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Thursday 12th February.
   3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.
   6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

   Other proceedings
   7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Jim Fitzpatrick);
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Charlotte Atkins: 357.
   Tellers for the Noes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 128.
   So the Question was agreed to.

3. Traffic Management Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Traffic Management Bill [Money]:
   A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills). That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Traffic Management Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (1) any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in respect of—
   (a) traffic officers designated under the Act;
(b) the establishment and operation of regional centres for the management of traffic on the network of roads for which the Secretary of State is the traffic authority;
(c) the provision, for purposes connected with the management of traffic on that road network, of information or advice to the public; or
(d) other activities carried out for purposes connected with the management of traffic on that road network;

(2) any other expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in consequence or by virtue of the Act;

(3) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided by virtue of any other Act—(Mr Bob Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

4 Traffic Management Bill [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Traffic Management Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the charging of fees in relation to permits issued, or applications for permits to be issued, under permit schemes;
(2) the payment of sums by undertakers who are required to carry out, or to contribute to the cost of carrying out, re-surfacing works in a street;
(3) the charging of sums in relation to the temporary occupation of the highway—(Mr Bob Ainsworth):—It was agreed to.

5 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Ordered, That Mr John Bercow and Mr Gary Streeter be discharged from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee and Mrs Eleanor Laing and Mr Graham Brady be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

6 Constitutional Affairs.—Ordered, That Mr Mark Field be discharged from the Constitutional Affairs Committee and Andrew Rosindell be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

7 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till three minutes to Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.57 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers presented by Her Majesty’s Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

Friday 19th December 2003

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Department for Culture, Media and Sport: Autumn Performance Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6095] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

2 Treaty Series (No. 51, 2003).—Agreement, done at Washington on 1st October 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America concerning the use of Wideawake Airfield on Ascension Island by Civil Aircraft not engaged in Scheduled International Air Services [Cm. 6087] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Friday 2nd January 2004

3 Russian Federation (No. 1, 2004).—Supplementary Agreement, done at London on 26th June 2003, to the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy of 3rd September 1996 [Cm. 6096] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Treaty Series (No. 1, 2004).—Amendments, adopted by the Assembly of the International Patent Corporation Union (PCT Union) at its thirty-first (18th extraordinary) session on 1st October 2002, with effect from 1st January 2004, to the Regulations under the Patent Corporation Treaty (PCT) [Cm. 6100] [Mr Secretary Straw].
Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Friday 19th December 2003

5 Consumer Protection,—Road Vehicles (Brake Linings Safety) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3314), dated 18th December 2003 [Mr Secretary Darling].

6 Education,—(1) Education (Funding for Teacher Training) Designation (No. 3) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3278), and
   dated 15th December 2003 [Mr Secretary Clarke].

7 Electricity,—Electricity (Exemption from the Requirement for a Generation Licence) (No. 2) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3318), dated 17th December 2003 [Ms Secretary Hewitt].


9 Land Registration,—Land Registry (Fees) Order (Northern Ireland) 2003 (S.R. (N.I.), 2003, No. 506), dated 3rd December 2003 [Mr Secretary Murphy].

10 Medicines,—Animal Test Certificates (Revocation) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3309), dated 18th December 2003 [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

11 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 5) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3313), dated 18th December 2003 [Mr Secretary Darling].


Monday 22nd December 2003

13 Criminal Law,—Criminal Justice (Sentencing) (Licence Conditions) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3337), dated 20th December 2003 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

14 European Communities,—European Communities (Enforcement of Community Judgements) (Amendment) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3204), dated 10th December 2003 [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

15 Food,—Processed Cereal-based Foods and Baby Foods for Infants and Young Children (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3207), dated 8th December 2003 [Mr Secretary Reid].


Tuesday 23rd December 2003


20 Legal Services,—Conditional Fee Agreements (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3344), dated 17th December 2003 [Mr David Lammy].


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 5th January 2004:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

22 Insolvency,—Insolvency Practitioners and Insolvency Services Account (Fees) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3363), dated 30th December 2003 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Other Papers:

23 Agricultural Marketing,—Report of the Agricultural Marketing Schemes for 2001–02 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].
24 European Union.—Paper, entitled Developments in the European Union: January–June 2003: The Greek Presidency [by Command] [Cm. 6097] [Mr Secretary Straw].

25 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Refinancing the Public Private Partnership for National Air Traffic Services [by Act]; to be printed [No. 157] [Clerk of the House].

26 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Petition [13th November, in the last Session of Parliament] from residents of Romford and the Collier Row area for measures to ban the sale of display fireworks to the general public and the import and sale of fireworks not complying with British Standards [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Child Trust Funds Bill.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ross Cranston from Standing Committee A (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Russell Brown.

2 Child Trust Funds Bill (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Osborne in place of Mr Paul Goodman as a member of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

[No. 16.]


The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments Bill.—The National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

2 National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments Bill:

Committal
1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Standing Committee
2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 15th January 2004.
3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on the day on which proceedings on consideration are commenced.
6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made by the House on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings
7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Paul Clark);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Paul Clark: 306.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Mark Field: 145.

So the Question was agreed to.
3 Charities.—Ordered, That the draft Charities (Alexandra Park and Palace) Order 2003 be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Gillian Merron.)

4 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Gillian Merron.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-six minutes past Five o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 5.26 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Other Papers:

1 Human Fertilisation and Embryology,—Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority Code of Practice 6th Edition [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

2 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Transport on the Petition [9th December 2003] from citizens of the United Kingdom for the protection of ancient woodlands from damage by airport expansion [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

3 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts of—
   (1) Coventry Education Action Zone,
   (2) Kent and Somerset Education Action Zone,
   (3) Kingston-upon-Hull Education Action Zone,
   (4) Plymouth Education Action Zone,
   (5) Stoke Education Action Zone,
   (6) Thetford Education Action Zone, and
   (7) Wednesbury Education Action Zone,

for 2002–03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167 and 168] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Migration and Development]; to be printed [No. 79-iii] [Tony Baldry].

2 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Support to businesses from Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 118-ii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

3 Welsh Affairs,—(1) First Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Empowerment of Children and Young People in Wales], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 177]; and
   (2) Second Report from the Committee [Work of the Committee in 2003]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 178]

[Mr Martyn Jones].

CHAIRMEN’S PANEL

In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen’s Panel), the Speaker nominated Janet Anderson to be a member of the Chairmen’s Panel during the present Session of Parliament.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr John Heppell.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.28 p.m.]

[No. 17.]

Wednesday 7th January 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the promoters of the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable to it shall be deemed to have been complied with;

That, if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, a declaration signed by the agent shall be deposited in the Private Bill Office, stating that the Bill is the same in every respect as the Bill brought from the Lords in the last Session;

That the Clerk in the Private Bill Office shall lay upon the Table of the House a certificate, that such a declaration has been deposited;

That in the present session the Bill shall be deemed to have passed through every stage through which it passed in the last Session, and shall be recorded in the Journal of the House as having passed those stages;

That no further fees shall be charged to such stages—(The Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means);

And objection being taken to further proceedings, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Wednesday 14th January.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Solvent Emissions (England and Wales) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Civil Contingencies Bill,—Mr Douglas Alexander, supported by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Mr Peter Hain, Mr Adam Ingram and Mr John Hutton, presented a Bill to make provision about civil contingencies; And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 14].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Civil Contingencies Bill be printed [Bill 14–EN].

4 Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill,—Mr Andrew Stunell, supported by Sir Sydney Chapman, Sir Nicholas Winterton, Alan Simpson, Joan Walley, Brian White, Mr Simon Thomas, Sue Doughty, Mrs Patay Calton, Mr Peter Ainsworth, Paddy Tipping and Mr David Amess, presented a Bill to make provision in relation to matters connected with buildings: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th January and to be printed [Bill 15].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Civil Contingencies Bill be printed [Bill 14–EN].

5 Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill,—Dr Hywel Francis, supported by Tony Baldry Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Roger Berry, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Tom Clarke, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr David Hinchliffe, Anne Picking, David Taylor, Mrs Betty Williams and Hywel Williams, presented a Bill to make provision about life-long learning for, and the employment of, carers; to place duties on local authorities and health bodies in respect of carers; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 16].
6 Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill.—Jim Sheridan, supported by Mr John Lyons, Anne Picking, Mr Mark Simmonds, David Hamilton, Mr Iain Luke and Mr John MacDougall, presented a Bill to make provision for the licensing of gangmasters; to make further provision concerning the enforcement of legislation relating to gangmasters; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 27th February and to be printed [Bill 17].

7 Promotion of Volunteering Bill.—Mr Julian Brazier, supported by Mr Iain Duncan Smith, Mr Bruce George, Mr Chris Smith, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr John Burnett, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Nick Hawkins, Charles Hendry, Mr Jimmy Hood, Mr Lindsay Hoyle and Mr Ian Taylor, presented a Bill to make provision for volunteering and voluntary organisations; and for connected purposes. And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th March and to be printed [Bill 18].

8 Cardiac Risk in the Young (Screening) Bill.—Ms Dari Taylor, supported by Jim Dobbin, Mr Kevan Jones, Shona McIsaac, Mr David Drew, Ms Meg Munn, Andy Burnham, Jean Corston, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Eric Pickles, Dr Vincent Cable and Mr Nigel Jones, presented a Bill to make provision about screening for conditions leading to sudden cardiac death in the young; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th March and to be printed [Bill 19].

9 Christmas Day (Trading) Bill.—Mr Kevan Jones, supported by Mr A. J. Beith, Ann Coffey, Sir Patrick Cormack, Mr David Crausby, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Gerald Howarth, Helen Jones, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mark Tami, Mr Tom Watson and Sir Nicholas Winterton, presented a Bill to prohibit the opening of large shops on Christmas Day: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th March and to be printed [Bill 20].

10 Protective Headgear for Young Cyclists Bill.—Mr Eric Martlew, supported by Mr Julian Brazier, Mr David Rendel, Dr Richard Taylor, Mr Keith Bradley, Mr Andrew Mitchell, Dr Howard Stoate, Mr Joe Benton, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Mike Hancock, Keith Vaz and Annabelle Ewing, presented a Bill to make provision for the wearing of protective headgear by children while riding cycles; to prescribe offences and penalties; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 21].

11 Constitution for the European Union (Referendum) Bill.—Mr John Maples, supported by Mr Frank Field, Mr Kevan Jones, Kate Hoey, Mr Peter Lilley, Mr Archie Norman, Mr George Osborne, Richard Ottaway, Sir George Young, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Andrew Tyrie and Mrs Gillian Shephard, presented a Bill to make provision for a referendum on any Treaty establishing a Constitution for the European Union; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 22].

12 Retirement Income Reform Bill.—Mr Adrian Flook, supported by Sir John Butterfill, Mr David Curry, Mr Frank Field, Mr Edward Garnier, Steve Webb and Mr Andrew Lansley, presented a Bill to amend the law relating to the provision of retirement income in respect of private and personal pensions, annuities and defined and additional voluntary contribution pension schemes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th March and to be printed [Bill 23].

13 Referendums (Thresholds) Bill.—Mr Gordon Prentice, supported by Mr Graham Stringer, Geraldine Smith, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr George Howarth and Bob Russell, presented a Bill to amend the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 to make provision to set thresholds in respect of referendums; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 27th February and to be printed [Bill 24].

14 Town and Country Planning (Enforcement Notices and Stop Notices) Bill.—Mr Eric Pickles, supported by Mr Philip Hammond, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr John Hayes, Mr Robert Syms, Mr John Randall and Mr Mark Field, presented a Bill to amend the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in respect of enforcement notices and stop notices; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th March and to be printed [Bill 25].

15 Wild Mammals (Protection) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill.—Lembit Öpik, supported by Kate Hoey, Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr Barry Sheerman, Mr Peter Luff, Richard Ottaway, Mr James Gray, Mr Andrew Mitchell, Mr Roger Williams, Mr Paul Tyler and Mr Simon Thomas, presented a Bill to amend the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 26].
16 Performance of Companies and Government Departments (Reporting) Bill,—Andy King, supported by Linda Perham, Mr Michael Meacher, Mr Martin O’Neill, Mr John McFall, Mr Barry Sheerman, Tony Baldry, Sue Doughty, Norman Baker, Mr Simon Thomas, Mr Andrew Dismore and Mr John Horam, presented a Bill to make provision for the production and publication of annual reports on the social, environmental and economic impacts and performance of companies and Government departments; to specify certain duties of directors and Ministers; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th January and to be printed [Bill 27].

17 Property Repairs (Prohibition of Cold-calling) Bill,—Mr Andrew Robathan, supported by Mr Paul Truswell, Dr Julian Lewis, Ann Clwyd, Sir Sydney Chapman, Ann Keen and Mr James Paine, presented a Bill to make provision about cold-calling to solicit employment to undertake the laying of drives and other property repairs, maintenance and improvements: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th March and to be printed [Bill 28].

18 Illegal Hare-coursing (Enforcement of Prohibition) Bill,—Hugh Robertson presented a Bill to make provision for the enforcement of the prohibition on illegal hare-coursing: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th March and to be printed [Bill 29].

19 Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill,—Mr Michael Jabez Foster, supported by Dr Desmond Turner, Norman Baker, Laura Moffatt and Mr David Lepper, presented a Bill to apply section 314 of the Highways Act 1980 to offences under sections 137 and 137ZA of that Act: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 6th February and to be printed [Bill 30].

20 Genetically Modified Organisms Bill,—Gregory Barker, supported by Mr William Hague, Mr Peter Ainsworth, Mr John Hayes, Mr David Cameron, Tony Baldry, Mr Jonathan Sayeed, Mr Michael Meacher, Joan Ruddock, Alan Simpson, Sue Doughty and Mr Simon Thomas, presented a Bill to establish a licensing regime in the event of the release of genetically modified organisms into the environment; to establish liability for the release of genetically modified organisms into the environment and for damage caused thereby; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th March and to be printed [Bill 31].

21 Town and Country Planning (Telecommunications Masts) Bill,—Mr Richard Spring, supported by Mr Gary Streeter, Mr Hugo Swire, Mrs Marion Roe, Mr Gerald Howarth and Mr Keith Simpson, presented a Bill to amend the law relating to telecommunications masts: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th March and to be printed [Bill 32].

22 Trespassers on Land (Liability for Damage and Eviction) Bill,—Mr Gerald Howarth, supported by Mr Philip Hammond, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Mark Todd, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Graham Allen, Mr Humfrey Malins, Mr James Arbuthnot, Mr George Blundell, Mr Nick Herbert, Mr Alistair Burt, Mr Mark Prisk and Sir George Young, presented a Bill to make a person liable for any damage caused to land, or property on that land, on which he is trespassing for the purpose of residing there; to amend the law in respect of eviction from land; to make provision for compensation; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th March and to be printed [Bill 33].

23 Older People’s Commissioners Bill,—Ian Lucas, supported by David Taylor, Mr John Horam, Mr Paul Tyler, Mr Parmjit Dhandha, Mr Roger Williams, Joan Walley, Mr Nigel Evans, Albert Owen and Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West), presented a Bill to establish Older People’s Commissioners for England and Wales; to make provision for the Commissioners’ duties in respect of the protection of the rights and interests of older people; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 34].

24 Opposition Day [1st allotted day],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Accuracy of NHS Performance Indicators,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House calls for an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the decision in July 2002 to upgrade the star rating of the South Durham Health Care Trust from two stars to three following the involvement of the private office of the then Secretary of State for Health and with the knowledge of 10 Downing Street; further calls for greater transparency in the calculation and publication of performance indicators throughout the NHS; and is concerned that excessive reliance on such indicators inhibits the independence of professionals and managers and leads to distortions in the allocation of resources—(Mr Tim Yeo);
An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘notes that record investment in the NHS has to be linked to reform, and that this investment and the devolution of power to the front line require greater accountability; congratulates the Government on its record of making the NHS more transparent through the development of performance indicators; welcomes the Government’s development of such indicators in consultation with patients and staff; congratulates the Government on giving responsibility for NHS performance monitoring to the independent Commission for Healthcare Audit and Inspection (CHAI), which reports direct to Parliament; and welcomes CHAI’s commitment to developing new and more reflective indicators in partnership with representative bodies and the NHS itself’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Reid.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 204.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Gillian Merron: 338.
So the Question was negatived.
And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.
The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House notes that record investment in the NHS has to be linked to reform, and that this investment and the devolution of power to the front line require greater accountability; congratulates the Government on its record of making the NHS more transparent through the development of performance indicators; welcomes the Government’s development of such indicators in consultation with patients and staff; congratulates the Government on giving responsibility for NHS performance monitoring to the independent Commission for Healthcare Audit and Inspection (CHAI), which reports direct to Parliament; and welcomes CHAI’s commitment to developing new and more reflective indicators in partnership with representative bodies and the NHS itself.

Long Term Care for Elderly People,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House expresses its profound concern at the continuing crisis in care for elderly people; deplores the Government’s over-prescriptive, expensive and bureaucratic regulation of the care home sector, which has greatly exacerbated the crisis in care and has led to many care home closures; condemns the loss of over 70,000 long term care places since 1997 and is gravely concerned that the number of people receiving domiciliary care has fallen by 100,000 since 1997; is further concerned that the implementation of the Community Care (Delayed Discharges etc.) Act 2003 will merely place an unfair financial burden on Social Services departments, and could lead to patients being discharged prematurely from hospital into inappropriate care, resulting in an increase in emergency readmissions; and calls on the Government to recognise the crisis in the provision of long term care for elderly people, to take action to reduce the current rate of care home closures and to combat the decline in the availability of domiciliary care, rather than simply disregard the crisis—(Mr Simon Burns);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the real terms increase in social services funding of 20 per cent. between 1997 and 2003, and the commitment to continue these increases by an annual 6 per cent. in real terms from this financial year to 2005–06; notes that councils are able to use these resources to increase fees they pay to care homes where they think necessary, with 2002–03 figures showing 56 per cent. of local councils in England and Wales increasing the fees they pay by at least 5 per cent.; notes that the Laing & Buisson Care of Elderly People Market Survey published in July 2003 puts bed capacity in care homes from all sectors at 470,000 with demand estimated to be around 460,000; further notes that over 80 per cent. of older people say they want to live independently in their own homes for as long as possible; supports the Government’s policy of improving choice by providing alternatives to residential care with 20,900 more households since 1998 receiving intensive home care packages, 143,200 additional people receiving intermediate care services since 1999, and a cash injection of £87 million to be spent on creating 1,500 new extra care housing places by 2006; and further supports the Government’s policy of driving up care standards where the care is delivered and ensuring that older people are not held unnecessarily in acute hospital beds when their care needs can be better met elsewhere’, instead thereof.—(Dr Stephen Ladyman.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;
Mr Patrick McLoughlin rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.
And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.
And the question being accordingly put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Hugo Swire: 200.

Tellers for the Noes, Paul Clark, Mr Vernon Coaker: 334.

So the question was negatived.

And the question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the real terms increase in social services funding of 20 per cent. between 1997 and 2003, and the commitment to continue these increases by an annual 6 per cent. in real terms from this financial year to 2005–06; notes that councils are able to use these resources to increase fees they pay to care homes where they think necessary, with 2002–03 figures showing 56 per cent. of local councils in England and Wales increasing the fees they pay by at least 5 per cent; notes that the Laing & Buisson Care of Elderly People Market Survey published in July 2003 puts bed capacity in care homes from all sectors at 470,000 with demand estimated to be around 460,000; further notes that over 80 per cent. of older people say they want to live independently in their own homes for as long as possible; supports the Government’s policy of improving choice by providing alternatives to residential care with 20,900 more households since 1998 receiving intensive home care packages, 143,200 additional people receiving intermediate care services since 1999, and a cash injection of £87 million to be spent on creating 1,500 new extra care housing places by 2006; and further supports the Government’s policy of driving up care standards where the care is delivered and ensuring that older people are not held unnecessarily in acute hospital beds when their care needs can be better met elsewhere.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Civil Procedure (Amendment No. 5) Rules 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3361), dated 21st December 2003 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

Other Papers:


3 Regulatory Reform,—Proposal for a Regulatory Reform (National Health Service Charitable Trust Accounts and Audit) Order 2004, together with an Explanatory Statement [by Act] [Secretary John Reid].

4 Reserve Forces,—Report under section 54(7) of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 on the making of a call-out order under section 54(1) of that Act [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

Papers withdrawn:


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill,—(1) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Marsha Singh and Sir Teddy Taylor from Standing Committee B (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Edward Garnier and Ms Dari Taylor.
(2) The Speaker has appointed Ms Dari Taylor a member of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill, in place of Mr Barry Gardiner.

2 National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D, and has appointed Sir John Butterfill and Mr Win Griffiths Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Harry Cohen, Tony Cunningham, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Dr Brian Iddon, Norman Lamb, Ann McKechnie, Rob Marris, Margaret Moran, Mr Richard Page, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Mark Prisk, Mr Alan Reid, Mr David Ruffley, Ms Gisela Stuart and Mr Tom Watson.

3 Draft Charities (Alexandra Park and Palace) Order 2003:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Frank Cook Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Richard Bacon, Tony Baldry, Mrs Ann Cryer, Julia Drown, Mr Don Foster, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr John Heppell, Simon Hughes, Rosemary McKenna, Fiona Maclagart, Mr Michael Meacher, Mr Denis Murphy, Dr Doug Naysmith, Mr Mohammad Sarwar and Angela Watkinson.

4 Draft Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Miss Anne Begg Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Virginia Bottomley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Mark Field, Mr Derek Foster, Huw Irranca-Davies, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Peter Lilley, Chris McCafferty, Siobhain McDonagh, Lembit Opik, Joan Ruddock, Angela Smith, The Reverend Martin Smyth and Mr Paul Stinchcombe.

5 Draft New Opportunities Fund (Specification of Initiative) Order 2003:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr David Crausby, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Paul Farrelly, Mr Don Foster, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Peter Kilfoyle, Chris Mole, Estelle Morris, Mr Ernie Ross, Bob Russell, Mr Jonathan Sayeed, Dr Howard Stoate, Mr Graham Stringer, Mr Robert N. Wareing and Angela Watkinson.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee on 6th January [Judicial appointments and a Supreme Court (court of final appeal)]; to be printed [No. 48-v] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Lessons of Iraq]; to be printed [No. 57-v] [Bruce George].

3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Marine Environment]; to be printed [No. 76-iii] [Mr Michael Jack].

4 European Scrutiny,—Fourth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-iv] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—First Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Government’s Response to the Eighth Report of the Committee, Session 2002-03, on The Illegal Drugs Trade and Drug Culture in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 180] [Mr Michael Mates].

6 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Managing resources to deliver better public services]; to be printed [No. 181-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

7 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee [The Future of the Railways]; to be printed [No. 145-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].
In pursuance of Standing Order No. 4 (Chairmen’s Panel), the Speaker nominated Mr Kevin Hughes to be a member of the Chairmen’s Panel during the present Session of Parliament.

[No. 17; WH, No. 7.]

Wednesday 7th January 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.44 p.m.

[No. 18.]

Thursday 8th January 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Higher Education Bill.—Mr Secretary Clarke, supported by Mr Secretary Smith, Ms Secretary Hewitt, Mr Peter Hain, Alan Johnson, Mr Ivan Lewis and Mr Don Touhig, presented a Bill to make provision about research in the arts and humanities and about complaints by students against institutions providing higher education; to make provision about fees payable by students in higher education; to provide for the appointment of a Director of Fair Access to Higher Education; to make provision about grants and loans to students in higher or further education; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 12th January and to be printed [Bill 35].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Higher Education Bill be printed [Bill 35–EN].

2 Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Joan Ryan, Paul Clark: 348.

Tellers for the Noes, Pete Wishart, Mr Elfyn Llwyd: 5.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

3 Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 29th January 2004.

3. The Standing 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 proceedings are commenced.

5. 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. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Programming of proceedings

7. All proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

4 Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (a) expenditure of the Secretary of State in connection with the Act,
   (b) expenditure of the National Debt Commissioners in connection with the Act,
   and
   (c) any increase attributable to the Act in sums payable out of money provided by Parliament under another enactment, and

(2) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

5 Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee).—Ordered, That Huw Irranca-Davies be discharged from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments and Mr Kevin Hughes be added.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

6 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Charlotte Atkins);

And the Motion having been made after Six o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then thirteen minutes to Seven o’clock, till Monday 12th January.

[Adjourned at 6.47 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Employment and Training.—Draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 Government Resources and Accounts,—Financial Statement of the Security and Intelligence Agencies for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 12] [Ruth Kelly].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments Bill (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson, Dr Brian Iddon, Norman Lamb, Margaret Moran, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Mark Prisk and Mr Tom Watson members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft Charities (Alexandra Park and Palace) Order 2003.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Richard Bacon from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Peter Bottomley.

3 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Common Electoral Principles) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Forth Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Draft Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr David Lidington.

Grand Committees

5 The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of its meeting on Thursday 15 January.

European Standing Committees

6 The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 12179/03 on Controls on Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Gambling Bill.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-iii] [Mr John Greenway].

2 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Obesity]; to be printed [No. 23-iv] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 Liaison.—Memorandum laid before the Liaison Committee [Scrutiny of Government] [Mr Alan Williams].

[No. 18; WH, No. 8.]

Thursday 8th January 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Ministerial Accountability and Parliamentary Questions—Ninth Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration, Session 2001–02, and the First Report from the Committee, Session 2002–03, containing the Government’s response thereto),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Bridget Prentice.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 13th January.

[Adjourned at 4.48 p.m.]

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Fire and Rescue Services Bill,—Mr Secretary Prescott, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Blankett, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Secretary Reid, Mr Secretary Hoon, Ms Secretary Hewitt, Mr Peter Hain, Mr Nick Raynsford and Phil Hope, presented a Bill to make provision about fire and rescue authorities and their functions; to make provision about employment by, and powers of employees of, fire and rescue authorities; to make provision about education and training and pension schemes; to make provision about the supply of water; to make provision about false alarms of fire; to provide for the funding of advisory bodies; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 38].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Fire and Rescue Services Bill be printed [Bill 38–EN].

2 Criminal Justice (Justifiable Conduct) Bill,—Mr Roger Gale, supported by Mr Eric Forth, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Richard Bacon, Mr Julian Brazier, Derek Conway, Mr Gerald Howarth, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Richard Ottaway, Mr Andrew Turner, Ann Winterton and Sir Nicholas Winterton, presented a Bill to amend the law of England and Wales by making provision for exempting from civil and criminal liability in specified circumstances persons acting in defence of persons or property: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th April and to be printed [Bill 36].

3 Civil Service Bill,—Mr Oliver Heald, supported by Mr Michael Howard, David Davis, Mr Alan Duncan, Mr Nicholas Soames and David Maclean, presented a Bill to make provision with regard to the Civil Service; to establish a Civil Service Commission; to make provision for and in connection with the removal of general restrictions as to nationality which apply to persons employed or holding office in any civil capacity under the Crown; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th January and to be printed [Bill 37].

4 Housing Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Housing Bill; And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

And an Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House declines to give a Second Reading to a bill which introduces burdensome, ineffective and bureaucratic information packs; fails to provide a sufficiently clear licensing regime; weakens tenants’ right to buy; is unclear on the rules and standards that regulate private sector access to Housing Corporation funds; and, overall, acts as a disincentive to offering property for letting in the UK’s weak private rented sector’, instead thereof.—(Mr David Curry.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mark Francois, Hugh Robertson: 139.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Murphy, Gillian Merron: 375.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading):

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Jim Murphy: 334.

Tellers for the Noes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 178.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

5 Housing Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [26th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Housing Bill:

Commitital

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.
Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Tuesday 24th February 2004.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further Message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.

6 Housing Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Housing Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Housing Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(1) any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State by virtue of the Act, and

(2) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other enactment—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.

7 Environmental Protection.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Solvent Emissions (England and Wales) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 11th December, be approved—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.

8 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Joan Ryan);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 9th January 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):


Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 9th January 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Medicines.—(1) Medicines (Pharmacy and General Sale—Exemption) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1), and

(2) Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2), dated 6th January 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].

(2) Police Reserve Trainee Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R.(N.I.), 2004, No. 2), dated 7th January 2004, and
[Mr Secretary Murphy].

5 Prison and Young Offenders Centres,—Prison and Young Offenders Centre (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R.(N.I.), 2004, No. 4), dated 7th January 2004 [Mr Secretary Murphy].

6 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Bedfordshire) (Districts of Mid-Bedfordshire and South Bedfordshire) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 13), dated 7th January 2004 [Mr Secretary Darling].

7 Sea Fisheries,—Scallop Fishing Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 12), dated 8th January 2004 [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 12th January 2004:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

8 Northern Ireland,—Draft Betting and Gaming (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

9 Immigration,—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [by Act]; to be printed [No. 176] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

10 Insolvency,—(1) Insolvency (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2003 (S.R. (N.I.) 2003, No. 549) and
(2) Insolvent Partnerships (Amendment No. 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 2003 (S.R. (N.I.), 2003, No. 550)
dated 18th December 2003 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

11 Northern Ireland,—Criminal Justice (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3194), dated 10th December 2003 [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].


14 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—Statute, dated 12th May 2003, made by the Governing Body of Jesus College, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

Other Papers:

15 Industrial Organisation and Development,—Report and Accounts of the Apple and Pear Research Council for 2002–03 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

16 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
(1) Northern Ireland Policing Board: Best Value Performance Plan for 2003–04, and
(2) Out of sight—not out of mind: Ofwat and the public sewer network in England and Wales
[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 160 and 161] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Grand Committees

Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John Taylor from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee and nominated in substitution Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [National Skills Strategy: 14–19 Education]; to be printed [No. 197-i] [Mr Barry Sheerman].
2 Human Rights,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Human Rights and Deaths in Custody]; to be printed [No. 209-i] [Jean Corston].

3 Public Accounts,—(1) Fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Warm Front: helping to combat fuel poverty]; together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report; to be printed [No. 206];

(2) Sixth Report from the Committee [Department of Trade and Industry: Regional Grants in England]; together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report; to be printed [No. 207]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Protecting England and Wales from plant pests and diseases]; to be printed [No. 208-i];

[Mr Edward Leigh].

4 Science and Technology,—(1) First Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Annual Report 2003]; to be printed [No. 169];

(2) Second Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government Response to the Committee’s Ninth Report, Session 2002–03, The Work of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council]; to be printed [No. 171]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Use of Science in UK International Development Policy]; to be printed [No. 133-i];

[Dr Ian Gibson].

5 Select Committees (Choice of Chairman),—Mr Robert Key reported from the Information Committee, That he had been chosen as Chairman of the Committee.

[No. 20.]

Tuesday 13th January 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments Bill,—Mr Win Griffiths reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 217].

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Eric Forth reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Common Electoral Principles) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Opposition Day [2nd allotted day],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

National Audit Office Report on Operation TELIC,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House congratulates Her Majesty’s Armed Forces on their outstanding contribution to the success of the Coalition campaign in Iraq; welcomes the positive findings of the National Audit Office Report on Operation TELIC—United Kingdom Military Operations in Iraq; endorses the conclusions and recommendations of that Report, but is gravely concerned about its criticisms of major deficiencies in the supply of vital equipment to UK forces in theatre; deplores the fact that approximately 200,000 sets of enhanced combat body armour issued since 1989 seem to have disappeared and that few troops received their full complement of the extra quantities of clothing and boots ordered from late 2002 onwards; is particularly appalled that there was a 40 per cent. shortfall in tactical nerve-agent detection systems, vital to alert personnel that an attack was underway, and that the operational filters needed to protect Challenger 2 tanks from radiological, chemical and biological attack were not delivered to frontline units until months after the fall of Saddam, given that the Government’s casus belli was fear that the Iraqi regime possessed Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) that might be used at short notice; condemns as totally unacceptable the extreme peril to which these supply failures exposed service men and women, because of the perceived WMD danger; and calls upon the Government urgently to address the deficiencies identified in the Report—(Mr Nicholas Soames);
An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 3, to leave out from the word ‘Iraq’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘and welcomes the report of the National Audit Office on Operation TELIC—United Kingdom Military Operations in Iraq, which is consistent with the main conclusions of the Ministry of Defence’s own report on Operations in Iraq—Lessons for the Future’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Hoon.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Mark Field: 202.

Tellers for the Noes, Derek Twigg, Paul Clark: 330.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

And the Main Question, as amended, being put;

Resolved, That this House congratulates Her Majesty’s Armed Forces on their outstanding contribution to the success of the Coalition campaign in Iraq and welcomes the report of the National Audit Office on Operation TELIC—United Kingdom Military Operations in Iraq, which is consistent with the main conclusions of the Ministry of Defence’s own report on Operations in Iraq—Lessons for the Future.

Future of the Post Office Network,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the programme to close 3,000 urban post offices because closure decisions are being made without taking adequately into account the needs of post office customers; believes that honourable Members are insufficiently consulted when proposed closures are announced; regrets the lack of time available to provide for a full consultation period and the failure of the consultation process to influence the closure programme; condemns the Government as the sole shareholder of Royal Mail plc’s wholly-owned subsidiary, The Post Office Ltd., for its failure to intervene in order to rectify the way in which the Urban Reinvention Programme is being implemented; expresses its great concern about the programme to implement Post Office card accounts, which is failing to reflect the needs of customers, especially for the most vulnerable, including elderly and disabled people; calls on the Government to give a firm indication that an Exceptions Service will be introduced and to provide the House with the details of how such a system will operate after 2005; and further calls on the Government to make a statement on the sustainability of the funding of rural post offices beyond 2006.—(Mr Stephen O’Brien);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘congratulates the Government for its commitment to modernise and invest in the national network of post offices while keeping them easily accessible to all customers; notes that the choice of account for customers into which they wish their benefits paid is entirely a matter for the customer concerned and congratulates the Government on ensuring that all the necessary information is available to customers to make an informed choice; applauds the Government’s £2 billion investment in the Post Office network and its success in reducing the rate of rural post office closures; notes the Post Office’s commitment to ensuring that 95 per cent. of the urban population live within a mile of a post office, and the majority within half a mile, and that honourable Members are consulted on proposed closures as part of an agreed process between the Post Office and Postwatch; further notes that 3,500 post offices closed under the previous administration; and condemn those who seek to undermine confidence in Britain’s postal services’, instead thereof.—(Mr Stephen Timms.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;

David Maclean rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Angela Watkinson, Mr Mark Field: 205.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Charlotte Atkins: 326.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Charlotte Atkins, Bridget Prentice: 322.
Tellers for the Noes, Angela Watkinson, Mr Mark Field: 203.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House congratulates the Government for its commitment to modernise and invest in the national network of post offices while keeping them easily accessible to all customers; notes that the choice of account for customers into which they wish their benefits paid is entirely a matter for the customer concerned and congratulates the Government on ensuring that all the necessary information is available to customers to make an informed choice; applauds the Government’s £2 billion investment in the Post Office network and its success in reducing the rate of rural post office closures; notes the Post Office’s commitment to ensuring that 95 per cent. of the urban population live within a mile of a post office, and the majority within half a mile, and that honourable Members are consulted on proposed closures as part of an agreed process between the Post Office and Postwatch; further notes that 3,500 post offices closed under the previous administration; and condemns those who seek to undermine confidence in Britain’s postal services.

4 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Bob Harris and others for smaller increases in council tax in Hastings in future years was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

5 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Joan Ryan.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.59 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Sea Fisheries.—Sea Fishing (Restriction on Days at Sea) (No. 2) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 38), dated 12th January 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

2 Government Trading Funds.—Treasury Minute, dated 13th January 2004, concerning a further financial objective desirable of achievement by OGCbuying.solutions Trading Fund [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

3 Public Petitions.—Observations by—

(1) the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Petition [27th November] from persons on the electoral roll in the Parliamentary Constituency of Gainsborough for a referendum on the proposed European Constitution; and

(2) the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions on the Petitions [10th December] from residents of Powys against the withdrawal of pension books [two petitions] [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Common Electoral Principles) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ann McKechnie and Mr Martin Salter from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Graham Allen and Mr Kelvin Hopkins.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—(1) First Special Report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Protection of a witness—privilege], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 210]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Asylum and Immigration Appeals]; to be printed [No. 211-i]  
[Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) First Special Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Press Complaints Commission’s Response to the Committee’s Fifth Report, Session 2002–03, on Privacy and Media Intrusion]; to be printed [No. 213]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [National Lottery Reform]; to be printed [No. 196-i] 
[Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Draft Gambling Bill,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-iv] [Mr John Greenway].

4 Environmental Audit,—(1) First Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Annual Report 2003]; to be printed [No. 215]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [GM Food—Evaluating the Farm Scale Trials]; to be printed [No. 90-iv]  
[Mr Peter Ainsworth].

5 Home Affairs,—Second Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Asylum Applications], with an Appendix, together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 218] [Mr John Denham].

6 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Migration and Development]; to be printed [No. 79-iv] [Tony Baldry].

7 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—(1) Second Report from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Annual Report to the Liaison Committee 2003]; to be printed [No. 221]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Decent Homes]; to be printed [No. 46-iii]  
[Mr Andrew Bennett].

8 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [The Honours System]; to be printed [No. 212-i] [Tony Wright].

9 Statutory Instruments,—Fourth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-iv] [Brian White].

10 Treasury,—Third Report from the Treasury Committee [2003 Pre-Budget Report], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 136] [Mr John McFall].
[No. 21.]

Wednesday 14th January 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 7th January, That the promoters of the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable to it shall be deemed to have been complied with;

That, if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, a declaration signed by the agent shall be deposited in the Private Bill Office, stating that the Bill is the same in every respect as the Bill brought from the Lords in the last Session;

That the Clerk in the Private Bill Office shall lay upon the Table of the House a certificate, that such a declaration has been deposited;

That in the present session the Bill shall be deemed to have passed through every stage through which it passed in the last Session, and shall be recorded in the Journal of the House as having passed those stages;

That no further fees shall be charged to such stages;

And the Question being again proposed;

And objection being taken to further proceeding, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Wednesday 21st January.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Frank Cook reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Charities (Alexandra Park and Palace) Order 2003.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Miss Anne Begg reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 European Standing Committee A.—Mr Bill O’Brien reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 12179/03, draft Regulation on certain Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases; supports the Government’s position on reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and notes that the Regulation is in line with the policy on fluorinated gases as set out in the United Kingdom Climate Change Programme and that the Regulation is designed to achieve emission reductions of HFCs, PFCs and SF6 and will assist the European Community and Member States to meet their targets under the Kyoto Protocol.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

5 Employment Relations Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Employment Relations Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Vernon Coaker: 404.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 148.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

6 Employment Relations Bill (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)]. That the following provisions shall apply to the Employment Relations Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.
Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 26th February 2004.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on the day on which proceedings on consideration are commenced.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made by the House on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Gillian Merron);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Vernon Coaker: 384.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 153.

So the Question was agreed to.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John Heppell.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—Draft Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Amnesty Period) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 National Health Service,—(1) Family Health Services Appeal Authority Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 21),

(2) Health Authorities (Membership and Procedure) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 17),

(3) Health Development Agency Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 20),

(4) National Health Service Trusts (Membership and Procedure) Amendment (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 19), and

(5) Primary Care Trusts (Membership, Procedure and Administration Arrangements) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 18) dated 8th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

3 Criminal Justice and Court Services,—Accounts of the National Probation Service: Consolidated Accounts of the Local Probation Boards Account for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 20] [Clerk of the House].

4 Government Resources and Accounts,—Resource Accounts of the Office of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Schools in England for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 24] [Ruth Kelly].
5 Statutory Instruments (Notification).—Communication declaring that the undermentioned Statutory Instrument had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament, and explaining why such copies had not been so laid before the Instrument came into operation:

Sea Fishing (Restriction on Days at Sea) (No. 2) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 38).

[by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D, and has appointed Mr Eric Illsley and Mr Jonathan Sayeed Chairmen; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Ben Chapman, Mr Don Foster, Mr John Grogan, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Khalid Mahmood, Kali Mountford, Mr Richard Paice, Mr Andy Reed, Mr Andrew Rosindell, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mark Tami and Brian White.

2 Housing Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee E, and has appointed Mr Peter Pike and Derek Conway Chairmen; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-two Members to serve on the Committee: Vera Baird, Mr Clive Betts, Ms Karen Buck, Sir Sydney Chapman, Paul Clark, Yvette Cooper, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Mark Field, Matthew Green, Mr John Hayes, Keith Hill, Dr Brian Iddon, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr David Kidney, Chris Mole, Mr Terry Rooney, Chris Ruane, Andrew Selous, Geraldine Smith, Mr Robert Syms, Dr Alan Whitehead and Richard Younger-Ross.

3 Draft Charities (Alexandra Park and Palace) Order 2003.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Ann Cryer from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Derek Wyatt.

European Standing Committees

4 Unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum dated 7th January 2004, submitted by HM Treasury, relating to the 2002 Annual Report of the European Court of Auditors, has been referred to European Standing Committee B, together with unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum dated 20th October 2003, submitted by HM Treasury, and European Union Documents Nos. 11954/03 and 11993/03, relating to the Activities of OLAF and the fight against fraud, already referred to the Committee on 15th and 29th October 2003.

5 European Union Document No. 15529/03, relating to the Doha Development Agenda, has been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Higher Education Bill]; to be printed [No. 216] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) Second Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Annual Report of the Committee 2003], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 225]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Implementation of CAP Reform in the UK]; to be printed [No. 226-i]

[Mr Michael Jack].

3 European Scrutiny.—(1) Fifth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-v]; and

(2) Sixth Report from the Committee [The European Commission’s Annual Work Programme for 2004], together with Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 19th November 2003; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-vi]

[Mr Jimmy Hood].
4 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [The Parades Commission and Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998]; to be printed [No. 224-i] [Mr Michael Mates].

5 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee (Office of Government Commerce); to be printed [No. 222-i] [Mr John McFall].

6 Work and Pensions.—(1) First Report from the Work and Pensions Committee [The Committee's Work in 2003], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 227];

(2) First Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Committee, Session 2002–03, on the European Social Fund]; to be printed [No. 228];

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Child Poverty]; to be printed [No. 85-iii]; and

(4) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Child Poverty]; to be printed [No. 85-II] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 21; WH, No. 10]

Wednesday 14th January 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o'clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Joan Ryan.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.25 p.m.

[No. 22.]


The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, that it had considered the proposal for a draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003, referred to it on 18th December.

2 Privilege.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the First Special Report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee (House of Commons Paper No. 210) be referred to the Committee on Standards and Privileges.—(Mr A. J. Beith);

Sir Patrick Cormack rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put; but the Speaker withheld his assent and declined then to put that Question.

And the Question being put;

Ordered, That the First Special Report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee (House of Commons Paper No. 210) be referred to the Committee on Standards and Privileges.

3 Human Tissue Bill,—The Human Tissue Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

4 Human Tissue Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Human Tissue Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Thursday 5th February 2004.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Mr Fraser Kemp):—It was agreed to.

5 Human Tissue Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Human Tissue Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Human Tissue Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in consequence of the Act, and
(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other enactment—(Mr Fraser Kemp):—It was agreed to.

6 Human Tissue Bill [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Human Tissue Bill, it is expedient to authorise charges in connection with licences under the Act—(Mr Fraser Kemp):—It was agreed to.

7 European Communities,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Common Electoral Principles) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 11th December, be approved—(Mr Fraser Kemp):—It was agreed to.

8 Water Resources,—Ordered, That the Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3242) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)

9 Draft Disability Discrimination Bill (Joint Committee),—Ordered, That the Lords Message of 17th December relating to a Joint Committee of both Houses to consider and report on the draft Disability Discrimination Bill presented to both Houses on 3rd December (Cm. 6058) be now considered.

That this House concurs with the Lords that it is expedient that a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons be appointed to consider and report on the draft Disability Discrimination Bill presented to both Houses on 3rd December (Cm. 6058), and that the Committee should report on the draft Bill by the end of April 2004.

That a Select Committee of six honourable Members be appointed to join with the Committee appointed by the Lords to consider the draft Disability Discrimination Bill.

That the Committee shall have power—

(i) to send for persons, papers and records;
(ii) to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House;
(iii) to report from time to time;
(iv) to appoint specialist advisers; and
(v) to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom.

That the quorum of the Committee shall be two; and

That Miss Anne Begg, Mr Roger Berry, Mr Tom Clarke, Mr Paul Goodman, Tom Levitt and Mr Roger Williams be members of the Committee.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.
Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Fraser Kemp); And the Motion having been made after Six o'clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty-nine minutes to Seven o'clock, till Monday 19th January.

[Adjourned at 6.31 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Defence,—Naval Discipline Act 1957 (Remedial) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 66), dated 14th January 2004, together with an Explanatory Statement by the Secretary of State for Defence [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

2 Legal Services Commission,—Draft Criminal Defence Service (Choice in Very High Cost Cases) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].

3 National Election Expenditure,—Draft European Parliamentary Elections (Combined Region and Campaign Expenditure) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

4 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism,—Draft Terrorism Act 2000 (Continuance of Part VII) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Other Papers:

5 Defence,—Government Response to the First Report of the Defence Committee, Session 2003–04, on Armed Forces’ Pensions and Compensation [by Command] [Cm. 6109] [Mr Secretary Hoon].


7 Government Trading Funds,—Treasury Minutes, dated 15th January, on—
   (1) the Fire Service College Trading Fund, and 
   (2) the Ordnance Survey Trading Fund [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

8 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Youth Offending: The delivery of community and custodial sentences [by Act]; to be printed [No. 190] [Clerk of the House].

9 National Lottery,—Report and Accounts of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland National Lottery Fund for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

10 Terrorism,—Report on the Operation in 2003 of Part VII of the Terrorism Act 2000 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

11 Transfer of Functions (Ministry of Pensions),—Report on War Pensioners for 2002–03 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Ben Chapman, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr James Paice, Mr Adrian Sanders and Brian White members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

2 Housing Bill (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Paul Clark, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Mark Field, Mr John Hayes, Keith Hill, Mr Terry Rooney and Dr Alan Whitehead members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee E in respect of the Bill.
3 Draft New Opportunities Fund (Specification of Initiative) Order 2003.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

European Standing Committees

4 The Speaker has appointed Mr John McWilliam Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 12985/03 on Protection of Groundwater against Pollution.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Gambling Bill.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-v and vi] [Mr John Greenway].

2 Foreign Affairs.—(1) First Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Foreign Affairs Committee Annual Report 2003], together with Annexes and an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 220]; and
   (2) Second Report from the Committee [Foreign Policy Aspects of the War against Terrorism], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 81] [Donald Anderson].

3 Health.—(1) First Report from the Health Committee [The Work of the Health Committee 2003], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 239]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Obesity]; to be printed [No. 23-v] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

4 International Development.—(1) Second Report from the International Development Committee [Development Assistance and the Occupied Palestinian Territories], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 230-I and -II];
   (2) First Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Eighth Report from the Committee in Session 2002–03, on the Department for International Development: Departmental Report 2003]; to be printed [No. 231]; and
   (3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Development Assistance and the Occupied Palestinian Territories] [Tony Baldry].

5 Public Administration.—(1) Second Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [The Work of the Committee in 2003]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 229]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Work of the Ombudsman]; to be printed [No. 41-ii] [Tony Wright].

[No. 22; WH, No. 11]


The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Sexual Health—Third Report from the Health Committee, Session 2002–03, and the Government’s response thereto).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr Jim Murphy);

And the sitting having continued for three hours, it was adjourned without Question put, till Tuesday 20th January.

[Adjourned at 5.30 p.m.]

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft New Opportunities Fund (Specification of Initiative) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Civil Contingencies Bill,—The Civil Contingencies Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

3 Civil Contingencies Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)]. That the following provisions shall apply to the Civil Contingencies Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 10th February 2004.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

Programming Committee

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Programming of proceedings

7. All other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Mr Fraser Kemp);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Gillian Merron: 286.

Tellers for the Noes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 138.

So the Question was agreed to.

4 Civil Contingencies Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Civil Contingencies Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Civil Contingencies Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(1) expenditure of a Minister of the Crown in connection with the Act, and

(2) any increase attributable to the Act in sums payable out of money provided by Parliament under another enactment—(Mr Fraser Kemp):—It was agreed to.

5 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 17th December, be approved—(Mr Fraser Kemp):—It was agreed to.

6 Controls on Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 12179/03, draft Regulation on certain Fluorinated Greenhouse Gases; supports the Government’s position on reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and notes that the Regulation is in line with the policy on fluorinated gases as set out in the United Kingdom Climate Change
Programme and that the Regulation is designed to achieve emission reductions of HFCs, PFCs and SF6 and will assist the European Community and Member States to meet their targets under the Kyoto Protocol—(Mr Fraser Kemp)—It was agreed to.

7 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Fraser Kemp);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then a quarter to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.45 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:
Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 16th January 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):
1 Treaty Series (No. 3, 2004),—Exchange of Notes, done at Jakarta on 3rd February and 29th April 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia concerning Certain Commercial Debts (The United Kingdom/Indonesia Debt Agreement No. 4 (2002)) [Cm. 6103] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 16th January 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
3 Police,—Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice) (Modifications to Codes C and D) (Certain Police Areas) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 78), dated 14th January 2004 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 19th January 2004:
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
5 National Health Service,—Health Authorities (Establishment and Abolition) (England) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 37), dated 10th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:
6 British Library,—Statement of appointment and salary of Dr Gareth Roberts and Dr Robin Broadhurst to the Board of the British Library [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].
7 Government Resources and Accounts,—Resource Accounts of—
(1) the Department of Health, and
(2) the Teachers’ Pension Scheme (England and Wales) for 2002–03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 191 and 202] [Ruth Kelly].
8 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Ministry of Defence Major Projects 2003 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 195] [Clerk of the House].
9 Prisons,—Report of HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales for 2002–03 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 175] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
10 Public Petitions,—Observations by—
(1) the Secretary of State for Defence on the Petition [9th December] from residents of the town of Stafford and surrounding areas for the review of RAF Stafford to have regard to the base’s relations with the area and its contribution to the local economy; and
(2) the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions on the Petition [11th December] from the concerned citizens of North Tayside for the survival of the pension book as a means of collecting pensions from local post offices [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].
11 Social Security (Administration).—Accounts of:—
   (1) the National Insurance Fund, and
   (2) the Social Fund

for 2002–03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
to be printed [Nos. 159 and 214] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft New Opportunities Fund (Specification of Initiative) Order 2004.—The Committee of
Selection has discharged Mr David Crausby and Chris Mole from the Fourth Standing
Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and
ominated in substitution Mr Colin Challen and Mr Barry Gardiner.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Toxins in
   Shellfish Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee
   [Toxins in Shellfish]; to be printed [No. 248-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

2 Human Rights,—Third Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Scrutiny of
   Bills: Progress Report]; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of
   Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 252] [Jean Corston].

3 Public Accounts.—(1) Seventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Progress on
   15 major capital projects funded by Arts Council England]; to be printed, together with
   the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 253];

   (2) Eighth Report from the Committee [The England national stadium project at
   Wembley]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee
   relating to the Report [No. 254]; and

   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Difficult Forms: How
government agencies interact with citizens]; to be printed [No. 255-i]
   [Mr Edward Leigh].

4 Science and Technology,—(1) Second Report from the Science and Technology Committee
   [Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council: Introductory Hearing], together with
   an Appendix to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with
   the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 55]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [EU Chemicals Legislation];
to be printed [No. 172-i]
   [Dr Ian Gibson].

[No. 24.]

Tuesday 20th January 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Child Trust Funds Bill.—Mr David Amess reported from Standing Committee A, That it had
gone through the Child Trust Funds Bill, and had directed him to report the same,
without Amendment.

   Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 257].

2 Crown Employment (Nationality).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed,
That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for and in connection with the
removal of general restrictions as to nationality which apply to persons employed or
holding office in any civil capacity under the Crown; and for connected purposes—
(Mr Andrew Dismore);

   And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member
who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question,
pursuant to Standing Order No. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination
of select committees at commencement of public business).
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Dismore, Ms Karen Buck: 118.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Andrew Turner: 21.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr Andrew Dismore, Ms Karen Buck, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Andrew Love, Tony Wright, Sir Sydney Chapman, James Purnell, Linda Perham, John Austin, Annette Brooke, Keith Vaz and Mr Stephen Pound do prepare and bring in the Bill.

3 Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill.—Mr Andrew Dismore accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for and in connection with the removal of general restrictions as to nationality which apply to persons employed or holding office in any civil capacity under the Crown; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th January and to be printed [Bill 39].

4 Adjournment (Attendance and behaviour in schools),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Paul Clark);

The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

5 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from those living near Bromborough Waste Water Treatment Works, Merseyside, for remedial work to prevent odours from the works and for legislation on the subject was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Stoke-on-Trent North Constituency against closures of post offices in deprived urban areas in the constituency was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-six minutes past Six o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.26 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Animals,—Mink Keeping (Prohibition) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 100), dated 19th January 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Employment Tribunals,—Draft Employment Act 2002 (Dispute Resolution) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Patricia Hewitt].

3 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism,—Draft Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 (Continuance in force of sections 21 to 23) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

5 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Transport on the Petition [15th December] from residents of Jordans, Buckinghamshire, and others for a 30 mile per hour speed limit in Jordans Lane [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

6 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts of—

(1) Bedford Education Action Zone,
(2) Camborn Pool and Redruth Education Action Zone,
(3) Downham & Bellingham Education Action Zone,
(4) East Manchester Education Action Zone, and
(5) Gloucester Education Action Zone,
for 2002–03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 236, 237, 238, 239 and 240] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Asylum and Immigration Appeals]; to be printed [No. 211-ii] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [National Lottery Reform]; to be printed [No. 196-ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Draft Gambling Bill.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-vii] [Mr John Greenway].

4 Regulatory Reform.—First Special Report from the Regulatory Reform Committee [Government Response to the Committee’s First Special Report, Session 2002–03, on the operation of the Regulatory Reform Act 2001: a progress report]; to be printed [No. 256] [Mr Peter Pike].

5 Statutory Instruments.—Fifth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-v] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Trade and Industry.—(1) First Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [The work of the Committee in 2003]; to be printed [No. 260];

   (2) Second Special Report from the Committee [Government Observations on the Seventeenth Report from the Committee, Session 2002–03, on the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority: Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Nuclear Sites and Radioactive Substances Bill]; to be printed [No. 261]; and

   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Progress towards the knowledge driven economy]; to be printed [No. 262-i and -ii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 24; WH, No. 12]

Tuesday 20th January 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Gillian Merron);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.30 p.m.

[No. 25.]


The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 7th January, That the promoters of the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable to it shall be deemed to have been complied with;

That, if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, a declaration signed by the agent shall be deposited in the Private Bill Office, stating that the Bill is the same in every respect as the Bill brought from the Lords in the last Session;

That the Clerk in the Private Bill Office shall lay upon the Table of the House a certificate, that such a declaration has been deposited;
That in the present Session the Bill shall be deemed to have passed through every stage through which it passed in the last Session, and shall be recorded in the Journal of the House as having passed those stages; 
That no further fees shall be charged to such stages; 
And the Question being again proposed; 
And objection being taken to further proceeding, the Debate stood adjourned. 
Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Wednesday 28th January.

2 European Standing Committee A,—Mr John McWilliam reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution: 
That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 12985/03, draft Directive on the protection of groundwater against pollution; and supports the Government’s aim of negotiating a flexible, risk-based instrument, which takes account of the variability of groundwater and its uses, in accordance with the Government’s policy of effective groundwater protection. 
Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

3 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows: 
Disability Discrimination Bill (Joint Committee).—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee of six Lords to join with the Committee appointed by the Commons to consider and report on the draft Disability Discrimination Bill presented to both Houses on 3rd December 2003 (Cm. 6058); 
They have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman; 
That the Committee have leave to report from time to time; 
That the Committee have power to appoint specialist advisers; 
That the Committee have power to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom; 
That the quorum of the Committee shall be two; 
That the reports of the Committee from time to time shall be printed, notwithstanding any adjournment of the House; and 
That the Committee do report on the draft Bill by the end of April 2004.

4 Sustainable Communities Bill,—Sue Doughty, supported by Gregory Barker, Mr David Drew and Mr Simon Thomas, presented a Bill to require the drawing up and implementation of a strategy to promote sustainability among local communities; to make provision for the inclusion of targets and indicators in the strategy; to make provision for councils to implement the strategy in their area; to make provision in respect of the powers of electors in relation to the implementation of the strategy; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 41].

5 Universal Funded Pensions,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require people to save for a guaranteed pension sufficient to avoid reliance on means-tested benefits: And that Mr Peter Lilley, Mr David Cameron, Mr Gerald Howarth, Mr Andrew Mitchell, Mr John Maples, Mr David Ruffley and Andrew Selous do prepare and bring it in.

6 Universal Funded Pensions Bill,—Mr Peter Lilley accordingly presented a Bill to require people to save for a guaranteed pension sufficient to avoid reliance on means-tested benefits: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 40].

7 Opposition Day [3rd allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business. 
Case for a Civil Service Bill,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House calls on the Government to introduce a Civil Service Bill in this Parliamentary Session—(Mr Kenneth Clarke); 
An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the Government’s commitment, in its response to the Ninth Report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life, to publish a draft Civil Service Bill for consultation; acknowledges the contribution made to the discussion of these issues in recent days by the Select Committee on Public Administration; notes the failure of any previous Conservative Government
to legislate for the Civil Service; and welcomes this Government’s commitment to reforming and modernising the Civil Service to ensure that it continues to deliver a first class service to the people of this country’.—(Mr Douglas Alexander.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 209.
Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Margaret Moran: 328.
So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the Government’s commitment, in its response to the Ninth Report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life, to publish a draft Civil Service Bill for consultation; acknowledges the contribution made to the discussion of these issues in recent days by the Select Committee on Public Administration; notes the failure of any previous Conservative Government to legislate for the Civil Service; and welcomes this Government’s commitment to reforming and modernising the Civil Service to ensure that it continues to deliver a first class service to the people of this country.

Voting Rights for Honourable Members Representing Scottish Seats,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the practice of Right honourable and honourable Members representing Scottish constituencies voting on bills concerning issues that have been devolved to the Scottish Parliament, especially those which introduce in England measures that have been rejected in Scotland; condemns the unfairness that this represents to those in English constituencies and the Government’s failure to address the problem; notes that it is the practice of the honourable Member for Galloway and Upper Nithsdale voluntarily to abstain from voting on such legislation; calls on other Right honourable and honourable Members representing Scottish constituencies similarly to abstain from such votes; and believes that the fairest long-term solution is for bills on areas of policy which have been devolved to Scotland to be so ratified by the Speaker and for Right honourable and honourable Members from Scottish constituencies to abstain from voting on such bills.—(Mr Peter Duncan);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘believes that Parliament is the Parliament for the whole of the United Kingdom, and that all Right honourable and honourable Members are equal in status and have a right to speak and vote on all matters brought before Parliament; and opposes any step that would undermine the Union of the United Kingdom’, instead thereof.—(Mrs Anne McGuire.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;
David Maclean rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.
And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.
And the Question being accordingly put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 142.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Paul Clark: 377.
So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Paul Clark: 364.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Mark Francois: 141.
So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House believes that Parliament is the Parliament for the whole of the United Kingdom, and that all Right honourable and honourable Members are equal in status and have a right to speak and vote on all matters brought before Parliament; and opposes any step that would undermine the Union of the United Kingdom.
8 National Lottery.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft New Opportunities Fund (Specification of Initiative) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 10th December, be approved—(Mr Nick Ainger)—It was agreed to.

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till six minutes to Eight o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.54 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Immigration,—(1) Draft Immigration (Leave to Enter and Remain) (Amendment) Order 2004, and
   (2) draft Immigration (Provision of Physical Data) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Local Government,—Recreation Grounds (Revocation of Parish Council Bye-laws) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 80), dated 14th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Passenger Transport,—Bus Service Operators Grant (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 9), dated 19th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

4 Prices,—Price Marking Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 102), dated 19th January 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

5 Public Passenger Transport,—Public Service Vehicles (Registration of Local Services) (Amendment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 10), dated 19th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:


7 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Forty-third to the Forty-sixth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 2002–03 [by Command] [Cm. 6105] [Ruth Kelly].

8 Public Lending Right,—Report by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on the Public Lending Right Scheme for 2002–03, incorporating the Registrar’s Annual Review and Summary Financial Statement of the Public Lending Right Central Fund for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

9 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts of—
   (1) Lambeth Education Action Zone for 2002–03,
   (2) Newham Education Action Zone for 2003–04,
   (3) Slough Education Action Zone for 2002–03,
   (4) South East England Virtual Education Action Zone for 2002–03, and
   (5) Southend Education Action Zone for 2002–03,

with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 241, 242, 243, 244 and 245] [by Act] [Clerk of the House].

10 Treaty Series (No. 52, 2003),—Third Supplementary List of Ratifications, Accessions, Withdrawals, etc., for 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6106] [Mr Secretary Straw].
APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Traffic Management Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Hugh Bayley, Mr David Borrow, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Greg Knight, Mr Tony McNulty, John Mann, Mr Paul Marsden, Gillian Merron, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr John Redwood, John Thurso, Claire Ward, Brian White, Mr David Wilshire and David Wright.

2 Employment Relations Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated seventeen Members to serve on the Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Henry Bellingham, Malcolm Bruce, Brian Cotter, Jon Cruddas, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Mr Michael Jabez Foster, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr John Lyons, Albert Owen, Anne Picking, Jim Sheridan, Ian Stewart, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr Bill Tynan and Hywel Williams.

3 Civil Contingencies Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee F; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-one Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Douglas Alexander, Mr Richard Allan, Andy Burnham, Mr Alan Campbell, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr James Clappison, Jim Dowd, Mr Oliver Heald, Helen Jackson, Mr Mark Lazarowicz, Mr Elfyin Llwyd, Fiona Mactaggart, Patrick Mercer, Sandra Osborne, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Stephen Pound, Bridget Prentice, Lawrie Quinn, Mr Michael Trend, Mr Neil Turner and Angela Watkinson.

4 Human Tissue Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee G; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Committee: Virginia Bottomley, Harry Cohen, Valerie Davey, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Mark Francois, Dr Ian Gibson, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Peter Kilfoyle, Jim Knight, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Andrew Lansley, Ian Lucas, Mr Malcolm Moss, Dr Andrew Murrison, Dr Doug Naysmith, Joan Ryan, Dr Richard Taylor, Mr Tom Watson and Ms Rosie Winterton.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Norman Baker, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr David Crausby, Tony Cunningham, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Mr Dai Havard, Mr Terry Lewis, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Elliot Morley, Jonathan Shaw, Mr John Smith, Dr Gavin Strang, Mr Roger Williams, Mr David Wilshire and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

6 Draft Betting and Gaming (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Peter Bottomley, Kevin Brennan, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Tony Colman, Mr Robin Cook, Mr Parmjit Dhanda, Mr Mark Field, Mr Tom Harris, Helen Jones, Christine Russell, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr John Spellar, Mr Ian Taylor and Paddy Tipping.

7 Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 2004 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Martin Caton, Ross Cranston, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Mark Francois, Mr Nick Gibb, Kate Hoey, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Ivan Lewis, Mr Iain Luke, Mr Jim Marshall, Mr Michael Meacher, Dr John Pugh, Mr Mark Simmonds, Derek Twigg, Mr Robert Walter and Mr Phil Willis.
8 Draft European Parliamentary Elections (Combined Region and Campaign Expenditure) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Tony Clarke, Geraint Davies, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Adrian Flook, Mr George Foulkes, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr David Heath, Mr Robert Key, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Christopher Leslie, Mr Robert Marshall-Andreas, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Kerry Pollard, Bob Russell and Angela Watkinson.

9 Draft Criminal Defence Service (Choice in Very High Cost Cases) (Amendment) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Russell Brown, Chris Bryant, Richard Burden, Mr John Burnett, Mr James Clappison, Mrs Helen Clark, Geraint Davies, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Mr Kevin Hughes, Mr David Lammy, Mr Andrew Rosindell, Mr Frank Roy, Mr Martin Salter and Angela Watkinson.

European Standing Committees

10 European Standing Committee B.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Hywel Williams from European Standing Committee B and nominated in substitution Mr Elfyn Llwyd.

11 European Union Document No. 15388/03, relating to Fisheries: catch quotas and effort limitation 2004, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Lessons of Iraq]; to be printed [No. 57-vi and -vii] [Bruce George].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) Third Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Cetacean By-catch], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Cetacean By-catch Sub-Committee of the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 88]:

(2) Third Special Report from the Committee [Government’s Reply to the Seventeenth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, Session 2002–03, on Biofuels]; to be printed [No. 270]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Implementation of CAP Reform in the UK]; to be printed [No. 226-ii]

[Mr Michael Jack].

3 Environmental Audit,—(1) First Special Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Government Response to the Twelfth Report from the Committee, Session 2002–03, on World Summit on Sustainable Development 2002: From Rhetoric to Reality]; to be printed [No. 232]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Pre-Budget Report 2003]; to be printed [No. 233-i]

[Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4 European Scrutiny,—(1) Seventh Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-vii]; and

(2) Eighth Report from the Committee [The Committee’s work in 2003]; together with Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 19th November 2003; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-viii]

[Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [The Compensation Agency; Forensic Science Northern Ireland]; to be printed [Nos. 271-i & 272-i] [Mr Michael Mates].
6 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Third Report from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Fire Service], with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 43-I] [Mr Andrew Bennett].

7 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Ministry of Defence: Operation TELIC—United Kingdom Military Operations in Iraq]; to be printed [No. 273-I] [Mr Edward Leigh].

8 Scottish Affairs.—First Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [Coincidence of Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries in Scotland and the Consequences of Change], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 77] [Mrs Irene Adams].

9 Transport.—(1) Second Report from the Transport Committee [Departmental Annual Report 2003]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 249]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Work of the Vehicle & Operator Services Agency and the Vehicle Certification Agency]; to be printed [No. 250-I] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

10 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [The Administrative Costs of Tax Compliance]; to be printed [No. 269-I] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 25; WH, No. 13]


The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o'clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.44 p.m.

[No. 26.]

Thursday 22nd January 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Medway Council Bill.—A Bill to confer powers on Medway Council for the better control of street trading in the borough of Medway was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

2 Ipswich Market Bill.—A Bill to enable the holding of markets on the highway in Ipswich; to make new provision for the regulation of those markets; and for connected purposes, was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

3 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

   Fishery Limits (United Kingdom) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to make provision for the United Kingdom to withdraw from the Common Fisheries Policy of the European Union; to amend the Fishery Limits Act 1976; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill.—The Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

5 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill—
Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Thursday 26th February 2004.

Consideration and Third Reading

3. 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.

4. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the moment of interruption on the day on which proceedings on consideration are commenced.

5. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and third reading.

Programming of proceedings

6. All other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Mr John Heppell)—It was agreed to.

6 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses incurred by the Secretary of State in pursuance of that Act—(Mr John Heppell) —It was agreed to.

7 Education,—Ordered, That the Financing of Maintained Schools (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3247) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr John Heppell.)

8 Education,—Ordered, That the LEA Budget, Schools Budget and Individual Schools Budget (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3170) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr John Heppell.)

9 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Ordered, That Mr Andrew Mitchell be discharged from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons and Mr Patrick McLoughlin be added.—(Mr John Heppell.)

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John Heppell.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes past Six o’clock, adjourned till Monday 26th January.

[Adjourned at 6.27 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Pensions.—Draft Guaranteed Minimum Pensions Increase Order 2004 [by Act]; with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

2 Regulatory Reform.—Draft Regulatory Reform (Sunday Trading) Order 2004, with a Statement by the Department of Trade and Industry [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Agriculture.—Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Stages I-IV) Designation (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 115), dated 21st January 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Civil Aviation.—Aviation Safety Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 77), dated 14th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].
5 Countryside.—Countryside Stewardship (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 114), dated 21st January 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

6 Road Traffic.—Motor Vehicle (EC Type Approval) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 73), dated 13th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

7 Competition Commission.—Report by the Competition Commission on the merger situation of March UK Ltd and the home shopping and home delivery businesses of GUS plc [by Command] [Cm. 6102] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

8 Foreign and Commonwealth Office.—Foreign and Commonwealth Office: Autumn Performance Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6112] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Resource Accounts of the Crown Estate for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 187] [Ruth Kelly]. and (2) Service Children’s Education Report and Accounts for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 223] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

10 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions on the Petition [9th December] from people of Uttoxeter against proposals to close Uttoxeter Jobcentre [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

11 Regulatory Reform,—Proposal for a Regulatory Reform (Museum of London) (Location of Premises) Order 2004, with a statement by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

12 Science and Technology,—Government Response to the Eighth Report of the Science and Technology Select Committee, Session 2002–03, on The Scientific Response to Terrorism [by Command] [Cm. 6108] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Traffic Management Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nigel Beard and Miss Anne Begg Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

2 Traffic Management Bill (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Mr David Borrow, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr David Jamieson, Gillian Merron, Mr Andrew Miller, John Thurso and Mr David Wilshire members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

3 Civil Contingencies Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Sir John Butterfill and Mr Joe Benton Chairmen of Standing Committee F in respect of the Bill.

4 Civil Contingencies Bill (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Douglas Alexander, Mr Richard Allan, Mr Alan Campbell, Mr Oliver Heald, Bridget Prentice, Lawrie Quinn and Angela Watkinson members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee F in respect of the Bill.

5 Human Tissue Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Irene Adams and Mr Alan Hurst Chairmen of Standing Committee G in respect of the Bill.

6 Human Tissue Bill (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Mark Francois, Dr Evan Harris, Jim Knight, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mr Andrew Lansley, Joan Ryan and Mr Tom Watson members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee G in respect of the Bill.


(1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Forth Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Anthony D. Wright from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations) and nominated in substitution Tony Wright.

8 Draft Betting and Gaming (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr James Cran Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.
9 Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 2004 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

10 Draft European Parliamentary Elections (Combined Region and Campaign Expenditure) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

European Standing Committees

11 The Speaker has appointed Janet Anderson Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 12965/03 on Common Agricultural Policy: Reform of the Tobacco, Olive Oil, Cotton and Sugar Sectors.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Gambling Bill.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-viii] [Mr John Greenway].

2 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee of the Environmental Audit Committee [Environmental Crime and the Courts]; to be printed [No. 126-i] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

3 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Elder Abuse]; to be printed [No. 111-ii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

4 Public Administration.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Review of Government Communications]; to be printed [No. 274-i] [Tony Wright].

5 Treasury.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Restoring confidence in long-term savings]; to be printed [No.71-ii]; and

   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Restoring confidence in long-term savings]; to be printed [No. 275] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 26; WH, No. 14]

Thursday 22nd January 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Illegal drugs trade and drug culture in Northern Ireland—Eighth Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee, Session 2002–03, and the Government’s response thereto).—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Angela Smith.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 27th January.

[Adjourned at 5.16 p.m.]

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Telecommunications Masts (Registration) Bill,—Keith Vaz, supported by Tony Lloyd, David Taylor, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr David Drew, Dr Vincent Cable and Dr Rudi Vis, presented a Bill to make provision about the registration of telecommunications masts: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 27th February and to be printed [Bill 44].

2 Fire and Rescue Services Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Fire and Rescue Services Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House declines to give a Second Reading to the Fire and Rescue Services Bill because the Bill grants to the Secretary of State excessive powers of intervention; significantly reduces local control and accountability of fire and rescue services by imposing a regional structure based on Government Office Regions; and fails adequately to promote collaborative arrangements among existing authorities, which give proper effect to the principles of accountability, flexibility and operational need’, instead thereof.—(Mr Philip Hammond.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 164.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Gillian Merron: 344.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading):—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

3 Fire and Rescue Services Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Fire and Rescue Services Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Tuesday 2nd March 2004.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further Message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Paul Clark).—It was agreed to.

4 Fire and Rescue Services Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signed to the proposed Motion relating to Fire and Rescue Services Bill [Money]:
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills). That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Fire and Rescue Services Bill it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in consequence of the Act, and
(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money provided by Parliament under another enactment—(Paul Clark);—It was agreed to.

5 Protection of Groundwater against Pollution,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 12985/03, Directive on the protection of groundwater against pollution; and supports the Government’s aim of negotiating a flexible, risk-based instrument, which takes account of the variability of groundwater and its uses, in accordance with the Government’s policy of effective groundwater protection—(Paul Clark);—It was agreed to.

6 Catering,—Ordered, That Mr Simon Thomas be discharged from the Catering Committee and Pete Wishart be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

7 Welsh Affairs,—Ordered, That Adam Price be discharged from the Welsh Affairs Committee and Hywel Williams be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

8 Home Affairs,—Ordered, That Miss Ann Widdecombe be discharged from the Home Affairs Committee and Mr David Cameron be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

9 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Mr Jeremy Newell, other residents of the Tewkesbury Lodge Estate, Forest Hill, London SE23 and parents of children attending Horniman Primary School, Forest Hill, against the installation of a TETRA transmitter on the Horniman radio mast was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Gillian Merron.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till nine minutes to Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.51 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 23rd January 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 26th January 2004:
Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

2 Industrial Organisation and Development,—Draft Milk Development Council (Amendment) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Agriculture,—Hill Farm Allowance Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 145), dated 26th January 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


5 Food,—Food (Hot Chilli and Hot Chilli Products) (Emergency Control) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 142), dated 26th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].
6 Social Security.—Social Security (Hospital In-Patients) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 101), dated 19th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

7 European Parliament (Representation).—Recommendation by the Electoral Commission on Gibraltar and the European Parliament [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

8 Government Resources and Accounts.—(1) Account of the Fleet Air Arm Museum for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 279] [Clerk of the House]; and

   (2) Resource Accounts of the Cabinet Office: Civil Superannuation for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 186] [Ruth Kelly].

9 Marine and Aviation Insurance (War Risks).—Account of the Marine and Aviation Insurance (War Risks) Fund for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 280] [Clerk of the House].

10 National Audit.—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—

   (1) Income generated by the Museums and Galleries, and

   (2) Increased resources to improve public services: a progress report on departments’ preparations [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 235 and 234] [Clerk of the House].

11 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on the Petition [2nd December] from citizens of the United Kingdom against the national listing of Chardon LL maize and any other genetically modified seeds [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

12 Severn Bridges.—Account prepared pursuant to section 28(1)(b) of the Severn Bridges Act 1992 for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 278] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Civil Contingencies Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Frank Cook an additional Chairman of Standing Committee F in respect of the Bill.

2 Civil Contingencies Bill (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Patrick Mercer in place of Angela Watkinson as a member of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee F in respect of the Bill.

3 Human Tissue Bill (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Ms Rosie Winterton in place of Dr Stephen Ladyman as a member of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee G in respect of the Bill.

4 Draft European Parliamentary Elections (Combined Region and Campaign Expenditure) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr James Cran Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order in place of Mr George Stevenson.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Human Rights.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Human Rights and Deaths in Custody]; to be printed [No. 209-ii] [Jean Corston].

2 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Urban Affairs Sub-Committee of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Role of Historic Buildings in Urban Regeneration]; to be printed [No. 47-i] [Chris Mole].

3 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [HM Customs and Excise: Standard Report 2002-03]; to be printed [No. 284-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 42].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 288].

2 Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill,—Mr Eric Illsley reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 43].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 286].


Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr James Cran reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Betting and Gaming (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Power Supply (Compensation for Erroneous Transfer),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require electricity and gas suppliers to compensate customers whose supplier is erroneously transferred; and for connected purposes: And that Mr David Cairns, Kevin Brennan, Mrs Irene Adams, Mrs Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr Mark Lazarowicz, Laura Moffatt, Mr Russell Brown, Siobhain McDonagh, Kati Mountford, Rob Marris and Sandra Osborne do prepare and bring it in.

6 Power Supply (Compensation for Erroneous Transfer) Bill,—Mr David Cairns accordingly presented a Bill to require electricity and gas suppliers to compensate customers whose supplier is erroneously transferred; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 18th June and to be printed [Bill 45].

7 Higher Education Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Higher Education Bill:

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Joan Ryan: 316.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Peter Luff: 311.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

8 Higher Education Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Higher Education Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Thursday 26th February 2004.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Programming of proceedings

7. All other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Paul Clark);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Joan Ryan: 361.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 231.

So the Question was agreed to.

9 Higher Education Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Higher Education Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Higher Education Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State by virtue of the Act, and

(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums which by virtue of any other Act are payable out of money provided by Parliament;

(2) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund—(Gillian Merron);—It was agreed to.

10 Sittings in Westminster Hall.—Ordered, That, on Wednesday 28th January, the sitting in Westminster Hall shall be suspended from half-past Eleven o’clock until Four o’clock, and may then continue for a further two and a half hours (exclusive of any period of suspension owing to a division being called in the House or a Committee of the whole House).—(Gillian Merron.)

11 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Gillian Merron);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then eleven minutes past Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.11 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Medicines.—Animals and Animal Products (Examinations for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 147), dated 26th January 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

2 Government Resources and Accounts.—(1) Report and Accounts of the Highways Agency for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 246] [Mr Secretary Darling]; and

(2) Resource Accounts of the Office of the Rail Regulator for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 198] [Ruth Kelly].
3 Home Office.—Paper, entitled Administrative Arrangement relating to the Government of the United Kingdom making Human Detection Equipment available in the French Seaports of the North Sea and the Channel between the Home Secretary of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Minister of the Interior, Domestic Security and Local Liberty of the French Republic, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Immigration and Asylum.—(1) Draft Code of Practice for Preventing the Carriage of Clandestine Entrants: Vehicles, and

(2) draft Code of Practice on the Level of Penalty under section 32A of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Parliamentary Commissioner.—(1) Report to the Accounts of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman for 2001–02, and

(2) Report to the Accounts of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman for 2002–03

with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 258 and 259] [Clerk of the House].

6 School Standards and Framework.—Accounts of the Salford & Trafford Education Action Zone for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 282] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Civil Contingencies Bill.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr James Clappison and Angela Watkinson from Standing Committee F (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Nigel Evans and Mr John Horam.

2 Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3242).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John Smith and Dr Gavin Strang from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Wayne David and Huw Irranca-Davies.

3 Draft Betting and Gaming (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Helen Jones from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Huw Irranca-Davies.

4 Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 2004, and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Martin Caton, Ross Cranston, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Mark Francois, Mr Nick Gibb, Kate Hoey, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Ivan Lewis, Mr Iain Luke, Mr Jim Marshall, Mr Michael Meacher, Dr John Pugh, Mr Mark Simmonds, Derek Twigg, Mr Robert Walter and Mr Phil Willis from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders).

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [National Lottery Reform]; to be printed [No. 196-iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Draft Gambling Bill.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-ix and -x] [Mr John Greenway].

3 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [South Africa]; to be printed [No. 117-ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [The Work of the Criminal Cases Review Commission]; to be printed [No. 289-i] [Mr John Denham].

5 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Social Cohesion]; to be printed [No. 45-ii] [Andrew Bennett].
6 Standards and Privileges,—Second Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Conduct of Ms Diane Abbott], with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 285] [Sir George Young].

7 Statutory Instruments,—Sixth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-vi] [Mr David Tredinnick].

8 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Restoring confidence in long-term savings]; to be printed [No. 71-iii] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 28; WH, No. 15]

Tuesday 27th January 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.29 p.m.

[No. 29.]

Wednesday 28th January 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned debate on the Question proposed on 7th January, That the promoters of the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable to it shall be deemed to have been complied with;

That, if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, a declaration signed by the agent shall be deposited in the Private Bill Office, stating that the Bill is the same in every respect as the Bill brought from the Lords in the last Session;

That the Clerk in the Private Bill Office shall lay upon the Table of the House a certificate, that such a declaration has been deposited;

That in the present session the Bill shall be deemed to have passed through every stage through which it passed in the last Session, and shall be recorded in the Journal of the House as having passed those stages;

That no further fees shall be charged to such stages;

And the Question being again proposed;

And objection being taken to further proceeding, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Wednesday 4th February.

2 Report on the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr David Kelly CMG.—Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, That she will be graciously pleased to give directions that there be laid before this House a Return of the Report on the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr David Kelly CMG.—(Margaret Moran.)


4 Motor Vehicle Insurance Disc,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend Part 6 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 to require users of motor vehicles to display on the vehicle a disc certifying that a policy of insurance or security in respect of third party risks is in force; and for connected purposes: And that Andy Burnham, James Purnell, Jim Knight, Mrs Lorna Fitzsimons, Eric Joyce, Siobhain McDonagh, Jim Dowd, Mr Parmjit Dhanda, Mr Wayne David, Shona McIsaac, Mr Richard Page and Christine Russell do prepare and bring it in.
5 Motor Vehicle Insurance Disc Bill.—Andy Burnham accordingly presented a Bill to amend Part 6 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 to require users of motor vehicles to display on the vehicle a disc certifying that a policy of insurance or security in respect of third party risks is in force; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th March and to be printed [Bill 46].

6 National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

   The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

7 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 29th January, the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motions in the name of Mr Peter Hain relating to the House of Commons Members Estimate and Bicycle and Motorcycle Mileage Allowances not later than Six o’clock; such Questions shall include the Questions on any Amendments selected by the Speaker which may then be moved; the Questions may be put after the moment of interruption; and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit until nine minutes to Four o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 3.51 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Social Security,—Draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 Forestry,—Report and Accounts of the Forestry Commission for 2002–03 with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 179] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Government Resources and Accounts,—Resource Accounts of—

   (1) the Department for Education and Skills,
   (2) the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,
   (3) the NHS Pension Scheme and NHS Compensation for Premature Retirement Scheme,
   (4) the Northern Ireland Office,
   (5) the Postal Services Commission,
   (6) the Scotland Office, and
   (7) UK Trade & Investment (formerly British Trade International)

   for 2002–03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 188, 189, 194, 158, 199, 201 and 184] [Ruth Kelly].

5 Report on the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr David Kelly CMG,—Return to an Address to Her Majesty for a Return of the Report made by Lord Hutton in January 2004 in respect of the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr David Kelly CMG [pursuant to Resolution this day]; to be printed [No. 247] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

6 Northern Ireland,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on the Navan Centre [by Act]; to be printed [No. 204] [Mr Secretary Murphy].
APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—Second Report from the Defence Committee [Annual Report for 2003]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 293] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Decent Homes]; to be printed [No. 46-iv] [Andrew Bennett].

3 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [The Management of Suspensions of Clinical Staff in NHS Hospital and Ambulance Trusts in England]; to be printed [No. 296-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

4 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Government Support for Nanotechnology]; to be printed [No. 56-ii] [Dr Ian Gibson].

5 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee [The Regulation of Licensed Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles in the UK]; to be printed [No. 251-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

6 Work and Pensions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Child Poverty in the UK]; to be printed [No. 85-iv] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 29; WH, No. 16]

Wednesday 28th January 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.28 p.m.

[No. 30.]

Thursday 29th January 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Medway Council Bill.—The Medway Council Bill was read a second time and committed.

2 Ipswich Market Bill.—The Ipswich Market Bill was read a second time and committed.

3 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr James Cran reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Parliamentary Elections (Combined Region and Campaign Expenditure) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 House of Commons Members Estimate,—Ordered, That—

(1) There shall be a committee of this House, called the House of Commons Members Estimate Committee.

(2) The members of the committee shall be those Members who are at any time members of the House of Commons Commission pursuant to section 1 of the House of Commons (Administration) Act 1978; the Speaker shall be chairman of the committee; and three shall be the quorum of the committee.

(3) The functions of the committee shall be—

(a) to codify and keep under review the provisions of the Resolutions of this House relating to expenditure charged to the Estimate for House of Commons: Members;

(b) to modify those provisions from time to time as the committee may think necessary or desirable in the interests of clarity, consistency, accountability and effective administration, and conformity with current circumstances;
(c) to provide advice, when requested by the Speaker, on the application of those
provisions in individual cases;
(d) to carry out the responsibilities conferred on the Speaker by the Resolution of
the House of 5th July 2001 relating to Members’ Allowances, Insurance, &c.,
except the responsibility of appointing the Advisory Panel provided for in
paragraph (5)(1) of that Resolution.

(4) Paragraph (3)(b) above does not empower the committee—
(a) to create a new form of charge on the Estimate for House of Commons:
Members; or
(b) to increase any rate of charge or payment determined by Resolution of this
House.

(5) The committee shall report to the House from time to time, and in any case not less
than once a year, the provisions of the Resolutions of this House relating to expenditure
charged to the Estimate for House of Commons: Members, as codified and modified
pursuant to paragraph (3) of this Order.

(6) The committee shall have power to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the
House.

That this Order be a Standing Order of the House.—(Mr Peter Hain.)

5 Bicycle and Motorcycle Mileage Allowances.—Resolved, That the Resolution of the House
of 20th March 1998 on the bicycle allowance be rescinded and the following provision
be made in its place:

(1) That, in the opinion of this House, provision should be made as from 1st April
2004 with respect to the rates of mileage allowance payable to Members in respect of
journeys by motorcycle, scooter or bicycle for which if undertaken by car, the car mileage
allowance would be payable,
(a) by Members, or
(b) by spouses, children or employees paid from the staffing allowance;

(2) In respect of journeys by motorcycle or scooter, a motorcycle mileage allowance
shall be payable at the same rate as the motorcycle mileage rate approved by the Inland
Revenue and then in force;

(3) In respect of journeys by bicycle, a bicycle mileage allowance shall be payable at
the same rate as the bicycle mileage rate approved by the Inland Revenue and then in
force.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Robert John Hodgson for an investigation into his
 treatment by the Royal Air Force at the time of his sister’s death and subsequently was
presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eleven minutes to Three
o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 2.49 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:
Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government,—Draft Local Elections (Ordinary Day of Election 2004) Order 2004 [by
Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Local Government Finance,—Local Government Finance Report (England) for 2004–05 [by
Act]; to be printed [No. 276] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary
Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Criminal Law,—Crime and Disorder Strategies (Prescribed Descriptions) (England) Order
2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 118), dated 22nd January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Salaries,—Salaries (Comptroller and Auditor General) Order (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R.
(N.I.), 2004, No. 20), dated 8th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].
Other Papers:

6 Government Resources and Accounts.—(1) Report and Accounts of—
   (i) the Defence Communication Services Agency, and
   (ii) the Queen Victoria School
   for 2002–03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
   to be printed [Nos. 291 and 141] [Mr Secretary Hoon], and
   (2) Resource Accounts of—
      (i) the Cabinet Office
      (ii) the Department for Transport
      (iii) the Home Office
      (iv) the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
      (v) the Privy Council
      (vi) the Wales Office
   for 2002–03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
   to be printed [Nos. 185, 174, 193, 173, 200 and 203] [Ms Ruth Kelly].

7 Health Professions.—Report and Financial Statements of the Health Professions Council for
   2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory
   Instrument] [Mr David Lammy].

8 Transport.—Government Response to the Ninth Report of the Transport Committee,
   Session 2002–03, on Ports [by Command] [Cm. 6076] [Mr Secretary Darling].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B, and has appointed
       Mr Bill O’Brien and Mr Win Griffiths Chairmen; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated nineteen Members to serve on the
       Committee: Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Vernon Coaker, John Cryer, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Gerald Howarth, Mr Eric Joyce, Mr Paul Keetch, Mr David Lammy, Shona McIsaac, Mr Colin Pickthall, Syd Rapson, Mr Andrew Robathan, Hugh Robertson, John Robertson, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mark Tami and Dr Desmond Turner.

2 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill (Programming Sub-Committee).—The
   Speaker has appointed Mr Colin Breed, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Gerald Howarth, Eric Joyce, Syd Rapson and Hugh Robertson members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

3 Employment Relations Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson and Mr Eric
   Forth Chairmen of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

4 Employment Relations Bill (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed
   Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Henry Bellingham, Malcolm Bruce, Anne
   Picking, Ian Stewart and Mr Gerry Sutcliffe members of the Programming Sub-
   Committee of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

5 Draft Terrorism Act 2000 (Continuance of Part VII) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on
       Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Martin Caton Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the
       Committee: Peter Bottomley, Kevin Brennan, Chris Bryant, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr
       Vernon Coaker, Mr Mark Field, Mr George Foulkes, Mr Nick Gibb, Lady Hermon, Alan
       Howarth, Huw Irranca-Davies, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Lidington, Linda
       Perham, Mr Andy Reed and Jonathan Shaw.

6 Draft Criminal Defence Service (Choice in Very High Cost Cases) (Amendment) Regulation
   2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the Fifth Standing
   Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

European Standing Committees

7 The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of European Standing Committee
   A in respect of European Union Document No. COM (03) 132 on Trans-European
   Transport Network.

8 The Speaker has appointed Mr David Chidgey Chairman of European Standing Committee
   B in respect of European Union Document No. 14686/03 on Procedures for Granting
   and Withdrawing Refugee Status.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Aairs,—(1) Second Special Report from the Constitutional Aairs Committee (Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Committee, Session 2002–03, on Immigration and Asylum: the Government’s proposed changes to publicly funded immigration and asylum work); to be printed [No. 299]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The reform of the Office of the Lord Chancellor: ecclesiastical patronage]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence; to be printed [No. 306-i]

[Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Draft Gambling Bill,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-xi] [Mr John Greenway].

3 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee of the Environmental Audit Committee [Environmental Crime and the Courts]; to be printed [No. 126-ii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [The Work of the Ombudsman]; to be printed [No. 41-iii] [Tony Wright].

[No. 30; WH, No. 17]

Thursday 29th January 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Afghanistan: the development challenge),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Gareth Thomas (Harrow West).)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 3rd February.

[Adjourned at 5.04 p.m.

[No. 31.]

Friday 30th January 2004.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

1 The Speaker’s Absence,—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Sir Michael Lord, the Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

PRAYERS.

2 The Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker.

3 European Standing Committee A,—Janet Anderson reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 12965/03, Commission Communication ‘Accomplishing a sustainable agricultural model for Europe through the reformed Common Agricultural Policy—the tobacco, olive oil, cotton and sugar sectors’, and supports the Government’s objective of securing reform of these subsidy regimes, in line with the reforms agreed in June this year for other sectors, which will pave the way for a more sustainable, market oriented and less trade distorting system of agriculture in the European Union.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

4 Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill,—The Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

5 Performance of Companies and Government Departments (Reporting) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Performance of Companies and Government Departments (Reporting) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 26th March.
6 Civil Service Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Civil Service Bill:

Mr Paul Boateng, by Her Majesty's Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, has consented to place her prerogative and interest, so far as they are affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill.

Objection was taken to further proceeding.

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 27th February.

7 Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill:

Mr Paul Boateng, by Her Majesty's Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, has consented to place her prerogative and interest, so far as they are affected by the Bill, at the disposal of Parliament for the purposes of the Bill.

Objection was taken to further proceeding.

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 27th February.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till six minutes to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 2nd February.

[Adjourned at 2.54 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Police,—Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 2004–05 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 277] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Magistrates’ Courts,—(1) Collection of Fines (Pilot Schemes) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 175), and
   (2) Fines Collection Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 176) dated 27th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].


4 Transport,—Cableway Installations Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 129), dated 28th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

5 Forestry,—Report and Accounts of Forest Research for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 156] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

6 Health,—Department of Health Minute, dated 30th January 2004, concerning a contingent liability relating to indemnity for the Independent Inquiry into Wyre Forest Birthing Centre [by Command] [Mr Secretary Reid].

7 Transport,—Statement of salaries of members of the British Waterways Board [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

8 Treaty Series (No. 4, 2004),—Locarno Agreement, done at Locarno on 8th October 1968 as amended on 28th September 1979, on Establishing an International Classification for Industrial Designs [by Command] [Cm. 6114] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 Treaty Series (No. 5, 2004),—Convention, done at Canberra on 21st August 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and the Government of Australia, for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital Gains [by Command] [Cm. 6115] [Mr Secretary Straw].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 European Standing Committee A.—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. COM (03) 132, Commission Communication on developing the trans-European transport network: innovative funding solutions and interoperability of electronic toll collections systems and draft Directive on the widespread introduction and interoperability of electronic road toll systems in the Community; and endorses the Government’s approach to discussions on this document.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

2 Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 10) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 5) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 22, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(1A) The Secretary of State shall not nominate any person unless satisfied that the person nominated will use all surpluses generated by the company for the support or improvement of horseracing.’.—(Mr James Paice.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 11 and 12) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment proposed to the Bill, in page 5, line 16, to leave out from the word ‘Crown’ to the end of line 17 and insert the words—

‘(d) shall appoint prior to the expiry of the exclusive licence an independent inquiry to advise him whether a further exclusive licence should be issued and whether such a further licence, if issued, should be issued to the successor company or another body.’, instead thereof.—(Mr James Paice.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 136.

Tellers for the Noes, Joan Ryan, Margaret Moran: 285.

Other Amendments (Nos. 13 and 19) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment proposed to the Bill, in page 10, line 26, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(4) The Secretary of State shall not make an order under section 15(1)(d) providing for the Horserace Betting Levy Board to cease to exist unless the order also makes provision, or an earlier order under section 15(1) has made provision, for a “transfer scheme” under this section.’.—(Mr James Paice.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr James Gray, Mr Mark Francois: 134.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Jim Murphy: 289.

Another Amendment (No. 9) proposed to the Bill, in page 17, line 6, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(4A) For the purposes of subsection (4)(b)(ii) the Mayor of London must have regard to the equal importance of the Olympic Bid 2012 and the regeneration of the Lower Lea Valley area.’.—(Mr Nick Hawkins.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 14 to 18) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

3 Adjournment (February).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Thursday 12th February, do adjourn till Monday 23rd February.—(Mr John Heppell.)—It was agreed to.
4 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Betting and Gaming (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 12th January, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

5 National Election Expenditure.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Parliamentary Elections (Combined Region and Campaign Expenditure) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 15th January, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

6 Energy.—Ordered, That the Sustainable Energy (CHP Provisions) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 2987) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr John Heppell.)

7 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 5th February, notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents), the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion in the name of Mr Secretary Blunkett relating to the Police Grant Report not later than two hours after their commencement, and put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion in the name of Mr Secretary Prescott relating to Local Government Finance not later than Six o’clock or four hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to the Police Grant Report, whichever is the later; proceedings may continue after the moment of interruption; and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply.—(Mr John Heppell.)

8 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 11th February, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2)(c)(i) of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), proceedings on the Motion in the name of Mr Michael Howard may continue, though opposed, for three hours and shall then lapse if not previously disposed of; and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply.—(Mr John Heppell.)

9 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 12th February, the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion in the name of Mr Edward Leigh relating to Public Accounts not later than three hours after their commencement; proceedings may continue after the moment of interruption; and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply.—(Mr John Heppell.)

10 Finance and Services.—Ordered, That Michael Fabricant be discharged from the Finance and Services Committee and Mr Robert Key be added.—(Mr John Heppell.)

11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John Heppell.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till nineteen minutes past Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.19 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture.—Integrated Administration and Control System (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 189), dated 2nd February 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Disabled Persons.—Disability Discrimination (Employment Field) (Leasehold Premises) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 153), dated 26th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

3 Education.—Education (Student Support) (No. 2) Regulations 2002 (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 161), dated 28th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

4 Magistrates’ Courts.—Magistrates’ Courts (Special Measures Directions) (Amendment) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 184), dated 1st February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

5 Rates.—Rates (Regional Rates) Order (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 24), dated 26th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

7 Supreme Court of England and Wales.—Crown Court (Special Measures Directions and Directions Prohibiting Cross-examination) (Amendment) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 185), dated 1st February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Other Papers:

8 National Audit.—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
   (1) Risk Management: The Nuclear Liabilities of British Energy plc, and
   (2) the Strategic Rail Authority: Improving passenger rail services through new trains
   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 264 and 263] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [National Skills Strategy: 14–19 Education]; to be printed [No. 197-ii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Human Rights.—(1) Fourth Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Scrutiny of Bills: Second Progress Report]; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 303]; and
   (2) Fifth Report from the Committee [Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill]; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 304] [Jean Corston].

3 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [The Separation of Paramilitary Prisoners at HMP Maghaberry], on 22nd and 29th October, 3rd, 12th, 19th and 20th November, in the last Session of Parliament, and parts of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 4th November, in the last Session of Parliament, and 10th December; together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence; to be printed [No. 302-i to -viii] [Mr Michael Mates].

4 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Urban Affairs Sub-Committee of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Role of Historic Buildings in Urban Regeneration]; to be printed [No. 47-ii] [Chris Mole]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Decent Homes]: to be printed [No. 46-v] [Andrew Bennett].

5 Public Accounts.—(1) Ninth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Review of grants made to the National Coalition of Anti-Deportation Campaigns]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 305];
   (2) Tenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Purchasing and Managing Software Licences]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 306]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Youth Offending: The delivery of community and custodial sentences]; to be printed [No. 307-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

6 Science and Technology.—(1) Third Report from the Science and Technology Committee [The work of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 6]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [EU Chemicals Legislation]; to be printed [No. 172-ii and -iii] [Dr Ian Gibson].
PRAYERS.

1 Contingencies Fund 2002–03,—Ordered, That there be laid before this House the Accounts of the Contingencies Fund, 2002–03, showing—
   (1) the receipts and payments in connection with the Fund in the year ended 31st March 2003;
   (2) the distribution of the capital of the Fund at the commencement and close of the year; together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.—
   (Gillian Merron.)

2 Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill,—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill be printed [Bill 30–EN].

3 Organ Donation (Presumed Consent and Safeguards)—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the removal of organs for transplantation purposes, after death has been confirmed in a person aged 16 or over, except where a potential donor previously registered an objection or where a close relative objects—(Siobhain McDonagh);
   And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business)—It was agreed to.
   Ordered, That Siobhain McDonagh, David Cairns, Mr Tom Watson, Laura Moffatt, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Dr Evan Harris, John Austin, Mark Tami and Dr Nick Palmer do prepare and bring in the Bill.

4 Organ Donation (Presumed Consent and Safeguards) Bill,—Siobhain McDonagh accordingly presented a Bill to provide for the removal of organs for transplantation purposes, after death has been confirmed in a person aged 16 or over, except where a potential donor previously registered an objection or where a close relative objects: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th April and to be printed [Bill 47].

5 Child Trust Funds Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Child Trust Funds Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.
   A Clause (NC1) (Early withdrawal, etc, for disabled children)—(Mr David Cameron)—brought up, and read the first time.
   Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
   Another Clause (NC3) (Opening by responsible person without voucher)—(Mr George Osborne)—brought up, and read the first time.
   Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
   Another Clause (NC4) (Reduction of age of majority in respect of child trust funds)—(Mr George Osborne)—brought up, and read the first time.
   Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
   Another Clause (NC6) (Additional contributions by Inland Revenue for children in care)—(Mr George Osborne)—brought up, and read the first time.
   Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
   Another Clause (NC7) (Prohibition on publicity in pre-election period)—(Mr David Laws)—brought up, and read the first time.
   Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
   Amendments (Nos. 31 and 32) made to the Bill.
   Another Amendment (No. 56) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 31, at the end, to insert the words—
   ‘(1A) Regulations shall not require account providers to provide equity-based accounts, and shall make provision for cash deposit accounts, including provision for such accounts provided by building societies.’.—(Mr David Laws.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 33 to 51) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 81) proposed to the Bill, in page 15, line 17, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(4) No order may be made under subsection (1) before the dissolution of the present Parliament.’—(Mr George Osborne.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mark Field, Angela Watkinson: 193.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Jim Fitzpatrick: 328.

It being after Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [15th December], put the Question on the remaining Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown.

Other Amendments (Nos. 52 to 55) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read the third time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Jim Fitzpatrick: 415.

Tellers for the Noes, Richard Younger-Ross, Mr David Heath: 45.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

6 Common Agricultural Policy: Reform of the Tobacco, Olive Oil, Cotton and Sugar Sectors,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 12965/03, Commission Communication ‘Accomplishing a sustainable agricultural model for Europe through the reformed Common Agricultural Policy—the tobacco, olive oil, cotton and sugar sectors’; and supports the Government’s objective of securing reform of these subsidy regimes, in line with the reforms agreed in June this year for other sectors, which will pave the way for a more sustainable, market oriented and less trade distorting system of agriculture in the European Union—(Mr John Heppell)—It was agreed to.

7 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr John Heppell),

And the Motion having been made at Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.30 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Investigatory Powers.—(1) Regulation of Investigatory Powers (Conditions for the Lawful Interception of Persons outside the United Kingdom) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 157), and


dated 27th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


3 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—Statute, dated 23rd September 2003, made by the University of Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the University [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Other Papers:

4 Air Force (Constitution).—(1) Amendment List 23 to Air Publication 1269A—The Royal Air Force Manual of Assessment of Medical Fitness (Third Edition); and

(2) Amendment list 8 to Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force (Fifth Edition) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

6 Contingencies Fund, 2002–03.—Accounts of the Contingencies Fund for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [pursuant to Order this day]; to be printed [No. 292] [Ruth Kelly].

7 Foreign Affairs.—Further Response of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to the Ninth Report of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 2002–03, on The Decision to go to War in Iraq [by Command] [Cm. 6123] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 Intelligence Services.—Government Response to the Report of the Intelligence and Security Committee on Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction—Intelligence and Assessments 11th September 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6118] [The Prime Minister].


10 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [27th November] from residents of Westbury Constituency against rises in council tax and for safeguarding the interests of pensioners [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

11 Work and Pensions.—Paper entitled, Simplicity, security and choice: Informed choices for working and saving [by Command] [Cm. 6111] [Mr Secretary Smith].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—(1) First Report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Judicial appointments and a Supreme Court (court of final appeal)]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 48]; and (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Asylum and Immigration Appeals]; to be printed [No. 211-iii] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [National Lottery Reform]; to be printed [No. 196-iv] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Draft Gambling Bill.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-xii and -xiii] [Mr John Greenway].

4 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Identity Cards]; to be printed [No. 130-ii] [Mr John Denham].

5 International Development.—Third Report from the International Development Committee [Annual Report 2003]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 312] [Tony Baldry].

6 Liaison.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Liaison Committee [The Prime Minister]; to be printed [No. 310-i] [Mr Alan Williams].

7 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Second Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [The Separation of Paramilitary Prisoners at HMP Maghaberry]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 302-I] [Mr Michael Mates].

8 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Social Cohesion]; to be printed [No. 45-ii] [Andrew Bennett].

9 Statutory Instruments.—Seventh Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-vii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

10 Trade and Industry.—Second Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [UK Broadband Market], together with Appendices to the Report; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 321] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

11 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Regional Productivity]; to be printed [No. 308-i] [Mr John McFall].
12 Work and Pensions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Work and Pensions Committee on 2nd February [Inquiry into DWP’s Administration of IT Projects]; to be printed [No. 311-i] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 33; WH, No. 18]
Tuesday 3rd February 2004.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall
The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.
[Adjourned at 4.17 p.m.]

[No. 34.]
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned debate on the Question proposed on 7th January, That the promoters of the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable to it shall be deemed to have been complied with;

That, if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, a declaration signed by the agent shall be deposited in the Private Bill Office, stating that the Bill is the same in every respect as the Bill brought from the Lords in the last Session;

That the Clerk in the Private Bill Office shall lay upon the Table of the House a certificate, that such a declaration has been deposited;

That in the present session the Bill shall be deemed to have passed through every stage through which it passed in the last Session, and shall be recorded in the Journal of the House as having passed those stages;

That no further fees shall be charged to such stages;

And the Question being again proposed;

And objection being taken to further proceeding, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Wednesday 11th February.

2 European Communities (Deregulation),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision in respect of the effect on persons and businesses of regulations made under section 2 of the European Communities Act 1972: And that Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Mr Stephen O’Brien, Mr James Arbuthnot, Mr Henry Bellingham, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr Andrew Mitchell, Michael Fabricant, Mr Peter Atkinson and Mr Mark Field do prepare and bring it in.

3 European Communities (Deregulation) Bill.—Mr Jonathan Djanogly accordingly presented a Bill to make provision in respect of the effect on persons and businesses of regulations made under section 2 of the European Communities Act 1972: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 26th March and to be printed [Bill 48].

4 Adjournment (Lord Hutton’s Report).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Paul Clark);

The Speaker directed that the Public Galleries be cleared because of misconduct by Strangers.

And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

5 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.
[Adjourned at 7.29 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Social Security,—(1) Draft Children (Leaving Care) Social Security Benefits (Scotland) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith];
   (2) draft Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith]; and
   (3) draft Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Funds Payments) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Dawn Primarolo].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Education,—(1) Education (Parenting Orders) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 182), and


5 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—Statute, dated 9th October 2003, made by the Governing Body of Robinson College, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Other Papers:

6 Foreign Affairs,—Government Response to the Twelfth Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 2002–03, on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Annual Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6107] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 Marshall Aid Commemoration,—Report of the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission for 1st October 2002 to 30th September 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6094] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 Miscellaneous (No. 1, 2004),—Rotterdam Convention, adopted at Rotterdam on 10th September 1998, on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6119] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 National Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on The Private Finance Initiative: A Review of Funding and Management of Three Projects in the Health Sector [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 205] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

10 Transport,—Department for Transport Minutes concerning (1) non-statutory contingent liabilities in support of Network Rail Limited, and
   (2) statutory contingent liabilities in support of Network Rail Limited dated 4th February 2004 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

11 School Inspections,—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Schools for 2002–03 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 170] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

12 Social Security,—Report by the Government Actuary on the drafts of the Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order 2004 and the Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Funds Payments) Order 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6117] [Mr Secretary Smith].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Fire and Rescue Services Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee G, and has appointed Sir Nicholas Winteron and Mr Edward O’Hara Chairmen; and
2 Higher Education Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee H, and has appointed Mr Roger Gale and Mr Jimmy Hood Chairmen; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-five Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Tim Boswell, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr David Chaytor, Mr James Clappison, Mr Tim Collins, Mr Michael Foster, Dr Hywel Francis, Mr Mark Francois, Chris Grayling, Patrick Hall, Alan Johnson, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Ivan Lewis, Kali Mountford, Mr George Mudie, Mr James Plaskitt, James Purnell, Mr David Rendel, Jonathan Shaw, Mr Simon Thomas, Mr Don Touhig, Derek Twigg and Mr Phil Willis.


and the LEA Budget, Schools Budget and Individual Schools Budget (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003 (S.I., 3170):

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Jonathan Sayeed Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Ms Karen Buck, Mr Ian Cawsey, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Mark Fisher, Mr Mark Francois, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Mark Hoban, Mr Kevan Jones, Mr John MacDougall, Mr Peter Mandelson, Mr David Miliband, Dr John Pugh, Joan Ruddock, Mr Andrew Turner, Derek Twigg and Mr Phil Willis.

4 Draft Immigration (Leave to Enter and Remain) (Amendment) Order 2004 and the Draft Immigration (Provision of Physical Data) (Amendment) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Richard Bacon, Mr Bob Blizzard, Annette Brooke, Ross Cranston, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr John Heppell, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Beverley Hughes, Mr Tony McWalter, Dan Norris, Mr Mark Oaten and Angela Watkinson.

5 Draft Milk Development Council (Amendment) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed David Taylor Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Virginia Bottomley, Peter Bradley, Jeff Ennis, Andrew George, Mr Neil Gerrard, Kate Hoey, Alun Michael, Mr James Plaskitt, Mr Siôn Simon, Ms Gisela Stuart, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr John Whittingdale, Mrs Betty Williams, Mr Roger Williams and Mr David Wilshire.

6 Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 2004 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Harold Best, Sir Sydney Chapman, Jim Dobbin, Clive Efford, Mr Mark Francois, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Ivan Lewis, Mr Iain Luke, Mr Michael Meacher, Dr John Pugh, Mr Mark Simmonds, Jon Trickett, Derek Twigg, Mr Robert Walter and Mr Phil Willis.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Norman Baker, Mr Keith Bradley, Tony Cunningham, Denzil Davies, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Mr Michael Fallon, Dr Hywel Francis, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Ann McKechin, Mr Elliot Morley, Mr John Smith, Mr Clive Soley, Mrs Caroline Spelman, Mr Andrew Stunell and Mr David Wilshire.
European Standing Committees

8 Unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum dated 30th January 2004, submitted by HM Treasury, relating to the Activity of the European Anti-Fraud Office, has been referred to European Standing Committee B together with unnumbered Explanatory Memoranda dated 7th January 2004 and 20th October 2003, submitted by HM Treasury, and European Union Documents Nos. 11954/03 and 11993/03 relating to the Activities of OLAF and the fight against fraud, already referred to the Committee on 15th and 29th October 2003 and 14th January 2004.

9 European Union Document No. 15409/03 relating to the Registration, evaluation and authorisation of chemicals (REACH), has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

10 European Union Document No. 5188/04 relating to the Review of the Working Time Directive, has been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Accommodation and Works and Administration,—First Report from the Accommodation and Works Committee, and First Report from the Administration Committee [Visitor Facilities: Access to Parliament], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committees relating to the Reports [No. 324] [Derek Conway; Mrs Marion Roe].

2 Environmental Audit,—(1) Second Special Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Government Response to the Eleventh Report from the Committee, Session 2002-03, on The Sustainable Development Headline Indicators 2002]: to be printed [No. 320];

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Pre-Budget Report 2003]; to be printed [No. 233-ii]
   [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

3 European Scrutiny,—(1) Ninth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-ix]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Implementation of EC development assistance]; to be printed [No. 322-i]
   [Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Identifying and Tracking Livestock in England]; to be printed [No. 326-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

5 Transport,—(1) Third Report from the Transport Committee [The Regulation of Licensed Taxis and Private Hire Vehicle Services in the UK]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 251-I];

   (2) Fourth Report from the Committee [The Transport Committee Annual Report for 2003]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 317]; and

   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [School Transport]; to be printed [No. 318-i]
   [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

6 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [The Administrative Costs of Tax Compliance]; to be printed [No. 269-ii] [Mr John McFall].

7 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Manufacturing and Trade in Wales]; to be printed [No. 323-i] [Mr Martyn Jones].

8 Work and Pensions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Child Poverty in the UK]; to be printed [No. 85-v] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr John Heppell.)
And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4 p.m.]

Thursday 5th February 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Human Tissue Bill,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from Standing Committee G, That it had gone through the Human Tissue Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

    Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 49].

    Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 327].

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Martin Caton reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Terrorism Act 2000 (Continuance of Part VII) Order 2004.

    Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Criminal Service (Choice in Very High Cost Cases) (Amendment) Regulations 2004.

    Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 European Standing Committee B,—Mr David Chidgey reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

    That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 14686/03, amended draft Council Directive on minimum standards on procedures in Member States for granting and withdrawing refugee status; notes that this forms part of the package of measures creating a Common European Asylum System, and supports the Government’s position that the Directive should properly take into account the needs of Member States to adapt policies in response to changing situations.

    Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

5 Higher Education Bill (Programme) (No. 2),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the Programme Order of 27th January in relation to the Higher Education Bill shall be amended by the substitution in paragraph 2 (time for conclusion of proceedings in Standing Committee) for the words ‘Thursday 26th February’ of the words ‘Thursday 4th March’—(Charlotte Atkins);

    The House divided.

    Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr John Heppell: 230.

    Tellers for the Noes, Angela Watkinson, Mr John Randall: 160.

    So the Question was agreed to.

6 Police,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 2004–05, House of Commons Paper No. 277, a copy of which was laid before this House on 30th January, be approved.—(Ms Hazel Blears);

    And it being two hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [2nd February].

    The House divided.

    Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Jim Fitzpatrick: 252.

    Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr John Randall: 167.

    So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 2004–05, House of Commons Paper No. 277, a copy of which was laid before this House on 30th January, be approved.
7 Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put. That the Local Government Finance Report (England) 2004–05, House of Commons Paper No. 276, a copy of which was laid before this House on 29th January, be approved—(Mr Nick Raynsford);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Charlotte Atkins: 244.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mark Field, Gregory Barker: 160.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Local Government Finance Report (England) 2004–05, House of Commons Paper No. 276, a copy of which was laid before this House on 29th January, be approved.

8 Trans-European Transport Network.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. COM (03) 132, Commission Communication on developing the trans-European transport network: innovative funding solutions and interoperability of electronic toll collections systems and draft Directive on the widespread introduction and interoperability of electronic road toll systems in the Community; and endorses the Government’s approach to discussions on this document—(Paul Clark);—It was agreed to.

9 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Paul Clark);

And the Motion having been made after Six o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then thirteen minutes to Seven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.47 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government.—(1) Draft Local Authorities (Conduct of Referendums) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004, and

(2) draft Local Authorities (Mayoral Elections) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004

[by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Northern Ireland,—Draft Budget (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

3 Police,—Draft Independent Police Complaints Commission (Investigatory Powers) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Representation of the People,—(1) Draft European Parliamentary Elections Regulations 2004, and

(2) draft Representation of the People (Combination of Polls) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004

[by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


7 Representation of the People,—(1) Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (Amendment) (England and Wales) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 224), and

(2) Local Elections (Principal Areas) (Amendment) (England and Wales) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 223),

dated 4th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1. Fire and Rescue Services Bill (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Linda Gilroy, Mr Philip Hammond, Jim Knight, Mr Jim Murphy, Dr John Pugh, Mr Nick Raynsford and Mr Hugo Swire members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee G in respect of the Bill.

2. Higher Education Bill (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Tim Collins, Mr Mark Francois, Alan Johnson, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr James Plaskitt, Derek Twigg and Mr Phil Willis members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee H in respect of the Bill.

3. Draft Terrorism Act 2000 (Continuance of Part VII) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Jonathan Shaw from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Tony Clarke.

4. Draft Criminal Service (Choice in Very High Cost Cases) (Amendment) Regulations 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Richard Burden and Mr Kevin Hughes from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Lindsay Hoyle and Ms Meg Munn.

European Standing Committees

5. The Speaker has appointed Mr Mike Hancock Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of European Union Document No. 14886/03 on European Space Policy.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1. Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Lessons of Iraq]; to be printed [No. 57-viii] [Bruce George].

2. Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Secondary Education: School Admissions]; to be printed [No. 58-iii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

3. Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee of the Environmental Audit Committee [Environmental Crime and the Courts]; to be printed [No. 126-iii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4. Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [The Honours System]; to be printed [No. 212-ii] [Tony Wright].

Thursday 5th February 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (The Rules of Coverage—First Report from the Broadcasting Committee, Session 2002–03),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 10th February.

[Adjourned at 3.55 p.m.]
[No. 36.]

Friday 6th February 2004.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

1 The Speaker’s Absence.—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Sir Alan Haselhurst, the Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

PRAYERS.

2 The Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker, pursuant to the Standing Order.

3 Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill,—The Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4 Wild Mammals (Protection) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Wild Mammals (Protection) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill:
   And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;
   And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.
   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 5th March.

5 Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill,—The Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Paul Clark.)
   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till seven minutes to Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 9th February.

[Adjourned at 2.53 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Administration of Justice,—Common Investment Scheme 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 266), dated 2nd February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].


3 Immigration and Asylum,—(1) Carriers’ Liability (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 244),
   (2) Carriers’ Liability (Clandestine Entrants) (Revised Code of Practice for Vehicles) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 250), and
   (3) Carriers’ Liability (Clandestine Entrants) (Level of Penalty: Revised Code of Practice) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 251),
   dated 3rd February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


6 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 265), dated 5th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jonathan Sayeed reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Financing of Maintained Schools (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3247) and the LEA Budget, Schools Budget and Individual Schools Budget (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3170).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Immigration (Leave to Enter and Remain) (Amendment) Order 2004 and the draft Immigration (Provision of Physical Data) (Amendment) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Gillian Merron: 333.

Tellers for the Noes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 127.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

4 Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Bill:

Committal

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

Proceedings

2. Proceedings in Committee of the whole House, any proceedings on consideration and proceedings on Third Reading shall be completed at one day’s sitting.

3. Proceedings in Committee of the whole House and any 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.

4. 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

5. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on Third Reading.

Programming of proceedings

6. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Margaret Moran);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Gillian Merron: 327.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mark Francois, Hugh Robertson: 129.

So the Question was agreed to.

Committee to-morrow.
5 Employment Relations Bill (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)]. That the Programme Order of 14th January 2004 in relation to the Employment Relations Bill be amended by the substitution in paragraph 2 (time for conclusion of proceedings in Standing Committee) for the words ‘26th February’ of the words ‘2nd March’—(Margaret Moran);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Gillian Merron: 317.

Tellers for the Noes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 125.

So the Question was agreed to.

6 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 116 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)), That—

(1) the draft Budget (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee;

(2) the Committee shall meet at Westminster on Thursday 26th February at half-past Two o’clock; and

(3) at the sitting—

(a) the Committee shall take questions under Standing Order No. 110 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)), and shall then consider the instrument referred to it under paragraph (1) above; and

(b) at the conclusion of these proceedings, a motion for the adjournment of the Committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown, pursuant to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 116 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings))—(Margaret Moran);—It was agreed to.

7 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Terrorism Act 2000 (Continuance of Part VII) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 15th January, be approved—(Margaret Moran);—It was agreed to.

8 Legal Services Commission.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Criminal Defence Service (Choice in Very High Cost Cases) (Amendment) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 15th January, be approved—(Margaret Moran);—It was agreed to.

9 Procedures for Granting and Withdrawing Refugee Status.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 14686/03, amended draft Council Directive on minimum standards on procedures in Member States for granting and withdrawing refugee status; notes that this forms part of the package of measures creating a Common European Asylum System, and supports the Government’s position that the Directive should properly take into account the needs of Member States to adapt policies in response to changing situations—(Margaret Moran);—It was agreed to.

10 Environmental Protection.—Ordered, That the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3311) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Margaret Moran.)

11 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Miss Wendy Eydman, Councillor Dorothy Best and others for greater facilities for horse riders in Castle Point was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Margaret Moran);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then fourteen minutes past Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.14 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Employment,—Draft Paternity and Adoption Leave (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

2 Northern Ireland,—(1) Draft Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, and (2) draft Prison (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

3 Social Security,—Draft Statutory Paternity Pay and Statutory Adoption Pay (Weekly Rates) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Health Care and Associated Professions,—General Medical Council (Suspension and Removal of Members from Office) Rules Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 215), dated 27th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

5 National Health Service,—National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 291), dated 8th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

6 Road Traffic,—M11 Motorway (Junction 4 Northbound, Redbridge) (Speed Limit) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 180), dated 29th January 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].


Other Papers:

8 Government Resources and Accounts,—Account of the Royal Air Force Museum for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 333] [Clerk of the House].

9 Government Trading Funds,—Treasury Minute, dated 9th February 2004, on a further financial objective desirable of achievement by the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency Trading Fund [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

10 Museums and Galleries,—Account of the Wallace Collection for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 314] [Clerk of the House].

11 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—(1) Criminal Records Bureau: Delivering Safer Recruitment?, and (2) English Regions: An early progress report on the New Deal for Communities programme [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 266 and 309] [Clerk of the House].

12 National Lottery,—Account of the National Lottery Distribution Fund for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 313] [Clerk of the House].

13 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Petition [16th December] from British-Eritreans, members of the Eritrean community in the UK and friends of Eritrea for measures to discourage a war between Eritrea and Ethiopia, and for international sanctions against Ethiopia [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

14 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts of—(1) the Dudley Education Action Zone, (2) the East Brighton Education Action Zone, (3) the Greenwich Education Action Zone,
(4) the Hamilton Oxford Education Action Zone, and
(5) the North Islington Education Action Zone
for 2002–03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
to be printed [Nos. 328, 329, 330, 331 and 332] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Immigration (Leave to Enter and Remain) (Amendment) Order 2004 and the draft
Immigration (Provision of Physical Data) (Amendment) Regulations 2004,—The
Committee of Selection has discharged Ross Cranston, Mr Ian Davidson and Mr
Dominic Grieve from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation
(nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Tim
Boswell, Chris Bryant and Mr Wayne David.

2 Draft Milk Development Council (Amendment) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection
has discharged Mr James Plaskitt and Ms Gisela Stuart from the Third Standing
Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and
nominated in substitution Paul Flynn and Mr Kelvin Hopkins.

3 Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 2004 and the draft Industrial
Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 2004,—The Speaker has
appointed Mrs Irene Adams as Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on
Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders in place of Mr Alan Hurst.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills,—(1) Second Report from the Education and Skills Committee
[The Work of the Committee in 2003]; to be printed [No. 348], and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [National Skills Strategy:
14–19 Education]; to be printed [No. 197-iii]
[Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Milk Pricing
Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Milk Pricing];
to be printed [No. 335-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Human Rights,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Human Rights
[Human Rights and Deaths in Custody]; to be printed [No. 209-iii] [Jean Corston].

4 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the
Regions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Urban Affairs Sub-Committee of the Office
of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the
Regions Committee [The Role of Historic Buildings in Urban Regeneration]; to be
printed [No. 47-iii] [Chris Mole].

5 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts
[DVLA 2002–03 Trust Statement]; to be printed [No. 336-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

6 Science and Technology,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology
Committee [EU Chemicals Legislation]; to be printed [No. 172-iv]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [OST Scrutiny 2004]; to be
printed [No. 315]
[Dr Ian Gibson].

7 Work and Pensions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Work and
Pensions Committee [Inquiry into DWP’s Administration of IT Projects]; to be printed
[No. 311-ii] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Regulatory Reform,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolutions:

That the proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Patents) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 10th November, in the last Session of Parliament, should be amended before a draft order is laid before the House.

That the draft Regulatory Reform (Sunday Trading) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 22nd January, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

2 Traffic Management Bill,—Miss Anne Begg reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Traffic Management Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 52].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 347].

3 Civil Contingencies Bill,—Mr Joe Benton reported from Standing Committee F, That it had gone through the Civil Contingencies Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 53].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 346].

4 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—David Taylor reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Milk Development Council (Amendment) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Sleep Apnoea Bill,—Alice Mahon, supported by Mr Tam Dalyell, Mrs Betty Williams, Mr Michael Clapham and Mrs Ann Cryer, presented a Bill to make provision about sleep apnoea and related medical conditions: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday 27th April and to be printed [Bill 50].

6 Health and Safety at Work (Offences),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about the prosecution and punishment of offences which are, or are treated as being, offences under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 or the Employers’ Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969; And that Mr Andrew Love, Jon Cruddas, John Cryer, Lawrie Quinn, Mr Colin Breed, Ian Stewart, Mr Richard Allan, Mr Malcolm Savidge, Mr Michael Clapham and Tony Lloyd do prepare and bring it in.

7 Health and Safety at Work (Offences) Bill,—Mr Andrew Love accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about the prosecution and punishment of offences which are, or are treated as being, offences under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 or the Employers’ Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969; And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 12th March and to be printed [Bill 51].

8 Opposition Day [4th allotted day],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the leader of the second largest opposition party in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

State of the Environment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes there should be an annual debate in Parliament on the state of the environment; notes that sustainable development and the issue of climate change is fundamental to the long-term security and stability of the world; is very concerned that climate change could, according to leading international scientists, cause the extinction of one million species by 2050, could, according to the World Health Organisation, mean an additional 150,000 people dying each year, and is, according to Sir David King, the Government’s Chief Scientific Adviser, ‘the most severe problem that we are facing today, more serious even than the threat of terrorism’; welcomes the Government’s ratification of the Kyoto Protocol and their pledges to help meet its targets, particularly the Energy White Paper commitments to renewable energy and energy efficiency; notes however the worrying trends in key domestic environmental indicators with, since 1997, total municipal waste up by 17 per cent, road traffic up by 8 per cent, domestic energy consumption up nearly 7 per cent, high level radioactive waste up 6 per cent. and energy consumption from aviation up 21 per cent; acknowledges that investment in
environmental protection and innovation benefits the whole economy and creates jobs, and calls on the Government to make better use of economic instruments to this end; and believes the Government needs genuinely to put the environment at the heart of government and to take a greater role in promoting sustainable development, and that this requires a clear lead from the Prime Minister—(Norman Baker);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘applauds the leadership and commitment on the environment shown by the Government domestically and globally; welcomes the UK’s climate change programme which has already put the UK on track to overshoot its Kyoto target by a 12.5 per cent cut in 1990 levels of greenhouse gas emissions by 2012; commends the introduction in the UK of the world’s first economy-wide emissions trading scheme; further welcomes the long-term improvement in air quality and steps to improve local environmental quality generally; notes that river and bathing water quality is the highest on record; congratulates the Government on achieving a household recycling rate of 15 per cent, in 2002–03 and being on track for 17 per cent. for 2003–04; further congratulates the Government for playing a key role in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), increasing protection for a number of endangered flora and fauna; recognises that there is still much to do to promote sustainability at all levels; and calls upon the Government to continue to put environmental protection, locally, nationally and globally at the heart of its policies’, instead thereof.—(Mr Elliot Morley.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question:

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir Robert Smith, Mr Alan Reid: 183.

Tellers for the Noes, Margaret Moran, Mr John Heppell: 306.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House applauds the leadership and commitment on the environment shown by the Government domestically and globally; welcomes the UK’s climate change programme which has already put the UK on track to overshoot its Kyoto target by a 12.5 per cent. cut in 1990 levels of greenhouse gas emissions by 2012; commends the introduction in the UK of the world’s first economy-wide emissions trading scheme; further welcomes the long-term improvement in air quality and steps to improve local environmental quality generally; notes that river and bathing water quality is the highest on record; congratulates the Government on achieving a household recycling rate of 15 per cent. in 2002–03 and being on track for 17 per cent. for 2003–04; further congratulates the Government for playing a key role in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), increasing protection for a number of endangered flora and fauna; recognises that there is still much to do to promote sustainability at all levels; and calls upon the Government to continue to put environmental protection, locally, nationally and globally at the heart of its policies.

Local Taxation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes council tax is unfair, should not have been introduced and should be replaced by a system that reflects people’s ability to pay—(Mr Edward Davey);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the current work of the Balance of Funding review of how local government in England is funded; notes that the review is receiving evidence on a number of possible reform options suggested in public consultation; awaits with interest the report of the review in summer 2004; and urges local authorities to set budgets for 2004–05 which deliver value for local taxpayers’, instead thereof.—(Phil Hope.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;

Mr Andrew Stunell rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Alan Reid, Sir Robert Smith: 53.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Joan Ryan: 435.

So the Question was negatived.
And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the current work of the Balance of Funding review of how local government in England is funded; notes that the review is receiving evidence on a number of possible reform options suggested in public consultation; awaits with interest the report of the review in summer 2004; and urges local authorities to set budgets for 2004–05 which deliver value for local taxpayers.

9 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from members and supporters of Breathe Easy York for provision of ambulatory oxygen and pulmonary rehabilitation services by the NHS was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eleven minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.49 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Electricity,—Draft Renewables Obligation (Amendment) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

2 Northern Ireland,—Draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Education,—(1) Education (National Curriculum) (Attainment Targets and Programmes of Study in Design and Technology in respect of the First, Second, and Third Key Stages) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 261),

(2) Education (National Curriculum) (Attainment Targets and Programmes of Study in Modern Foreign Languages in respect of the Third Key Stage) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 256),

(3) Education (National Curriculum) (Exceptions at Key Stage 4) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 264), and


Other Papers:


5 Merchant Shipping,—Report by the Department for Transport of exemptions granted under section 294 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 during 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

6 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Forty-seventh to the Forty-ninth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 2002–03 [by Command] [Cm. 6110] [Ruth Kelly].

7 Transport,—Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Transport Committee, Session 2002–03, on Overcrowding on Public Transport [by Command] [Cm. 6072] [Mr Secretary Darling].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

2 Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.
Draft Milk Development Council (Amendment) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Neil Gerrard from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Phil Sawford.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Asylum and Immigration Appeals]; to be printed [No. 211-iv] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Second Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [DCMS Annual Report and Work of the Department], together with an Appendix to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 74] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Home Affairs,—(1) Third Report from the Home Affairs Committee [The Work of the Home Affairs Committee in 2003]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 345]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Identity Cards]; to be printed [No. 130-iii][Mr John Denham].

4 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Migration and Development]; to be printed [No. 79-v] [Tony Baldry].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [The Parades Commission and Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998]; to be printed [No. 224-ii] [Mr Michael Mates].

6 Regulatory Reform,—(1) Second Report from the Regulatory Reform Committee [Proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Patents) Order 2004], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 337]; and

   (2) Third Report from the Committee [Draft Regulatory Reform (Sunday Trading) Order 2004]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 338][Mr Peter Pike].

7 Scottish Affairs,—Second Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [Work of the Committee in 2003]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 344][Mrs Irene Adams].

8 Standards and Privileges,—Third Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Conduct of Mr John Spellar], with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 339][Sir George Young].

9 Statutory Instruments,—Eighth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-viii][Mr David Tredinnick].

10 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Progress towards the knowledge driven economy]; to be printed [No. 262-iii][Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 38; WH, No. 21]

Tuesday 10th February 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr Nick Ainger);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.44 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned debate on the Question proposed on 7th January, That the promoters of the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable to it shall be deemed to have been complied with;

That, if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, a declaration signed by the agent shall be deposited in the Private Bill Office, stating that the Bill is the same in every respect as the Bill brought from the Lords in the last Session;

That the Clerk in the Private Bill Office shall lay upon the Table of the House a certificate, that such a declaration has been deposited;

That in the present session the Bill shall be deemed to have passed through every stage through which it passed in the last Session, and shall be recorded in the Journal of the House as having passed those stages;

That no further fees shall be charged to such stages;

And the Question being again proposed;

And objection being taken to further proceeding, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Wednesday 25th February.

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Irene Adams reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 2004 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 European Standing Committee C,—Mr Mike Hancock reported from European Standing Committee C the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 14886/03 and Addendum 1, the Commission White Paper on European Space Policy; and supports the Government’s aim of engaging with European partners and the Commission to encourage the formulation of policies that offer clear commercial and scientific benefits targeted at the Union’s wider aims.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

4 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to amend Part I of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002; to make further provision concerning the public prosecution service established by that Act; to impose a new duty on certain criminal justice organisations in Northern Ireland in relation to human rights standards; to make provision consequential on the dissolution of the Juvenile Justice Board; to amend the law relating to bail in Northern Ireland; to provide for the transfer of certain prisoners from Northern Ireland to England and Wales; to amend section 103 of the Terrorism Act 2000; to provide for driving while disqualified to be an arrestable offence in Northern Ireland; to re-enact with amendments sections 79 to 81 of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002 and make further provision about court security officers in Northern Ireland; to enable barristers in Northern Ireland to enter into contracts for the provision of their services; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Gender Recognition Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to make provision for and in connection with change of gender; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 55–EN].

5 Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—The Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 55].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 55–EN].

6 Gender Recognition Bill [Lords].—The Gender Recognition Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 56].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Gender Recognition Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 56–EN].
7 Pensions Bill.—Mr Secretary Smith, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Secretary Murphy, Ms Secretary Hewitt, Malcolm Wicks and Mr Chris Pond, presented a Bill to make provision relating to pensions and financial planning for retirement and provision relating to entitlement to bereavement payments, and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 57].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Pensions Bill be printed [Bill 57–EN].

8 Regulatory Impact Assessments (Audits).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision in respect of the audits of regulatory impact assessments: And that Mr Archie Norman, Mr John Maples, Mr Andrew Tyrie, Mr Francis Maude, Sir George Young, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Mr Oliver Letwin, Mr Stephen O’Brien, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr William Hague, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory and Mr James Arbuthnot do prepare and bring it in.

9 Regulatory Impact Assessments (Audits) Bill.—Mr Archie Norman accordingly presented a Bill to make provision in respect of the audits of regulatory impact assessments: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 18th June and to be printed [Bill 54].

10 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the draft Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Amnesty Period) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 14th January, be approved—(Jane Kennedy); The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Charlotte Atkins, Mr Vernon Coaker: 446.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nigel Dodds, Mrs Iris Robinson: 16.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Northern Ireland Arms Decommissioning Act 1997 (Amnesty Period) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 14th January, be approved.

11 Opposition Day [5th allotted day: first part].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Powers of the Proposed Elected Regional Assemblies.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that the Government’s proposals for elected regional assemblies as set out in their White Paper, Your Region, Your Choice, grant the proposed assemblies limited powers, many of which are taken from local government; further notes that the Deputy Prime Minister has made statements suggesting that elected regional assemblies may acquire additional powers not reflected in the White Paper and that he intends that elected regional assemblies should open up the debate about the Barnett formula and public spending in the regions; and urges the Government to publish a draft Bill and to clear up this confusion by the end of June so that Parliament can debate the proposals in good time before the summer adjournment—(Mr David Curry);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘notes the Government’s proposals for elected regional assemblies set out in their White Paper, Your Region, Your Choice: Revitalising the English Regions, based on the principles of increasing prosperity, pride and democracy in the regions; further notes that the White Paper also set out the way in which the Government intends to build into its policy development the opportunities offered by the creation of elected regional assemblies to further decentralise responsibility for policy and delivery where this will improve regional outcomes; applauds the opportunity afforded to people in the three northern regions of England to have their say about whether they want an elected assembly for their region; commends the Government’s endeavours to ensure that people voting in the referendums have information on which to base their choice; notes that the principal confusion about the proposed powers and role of elected regional assemblies appears to be on the Opposition benches; and condemns the continuing attempts by the party opposite both to deny people a say in how they want to be governed and to denigrate the value of that choice’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Prescott.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question; The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 179.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Jim Murphy: 281.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Jim Murphy: 315.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Mark Field: 133.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House notes the Government’s proposals for elected regional assemblies set out in their White Paper, Your Region, Your Choice: Revitalising the English Regions, based on the principles of increasing prosperity, pride and democracy in the regions; further notes that the White Paper also set out the way in which the Government intends to build into its policy development the opportunities offered by the creation of elected regional assemblies to further decentralise responsibility for policy and delivery where this will improve regional outcomes; applauds the opportunity afforded to people in the three northern regions of England to have their say about whether they want an elected assembly for their region; commends the Government’s endeavours to ensure that people voting in the referendums have information on which to base their choice; notes that the principal confusion about the proposed powers and role of elected regional assemblies appears to be on the Opposition benches; and condemns the continuing attempts by the party opposite both to deny people a say in how they want to be governed and to denigrate the value of that choice.

12 Immigration,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Immigration (Provision of Physical Data) (Amendment) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 15th January, be approved—(Margaret Moran);—It was agreed to.

13 Immigration,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Immigration (Leave to Enter and Remain) (Amendment) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 15th January, be approved—(Margaret Moran);—It was agreed to.

14 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 24th February—

(1) notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents), the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Smith relating to Social Security and Pensions not later than three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the first Motion; proceedings may continue after the moment of interruption; and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply; and

(2) notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2)(c)(i) of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), proceedings on the Motion in the name of Mr Michael Howard may continue, though opposed, for three hours, and shall then lapse if not previously disposed of; and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply.—(Margaret Moran.)

15 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of the Parliamentary constituency of Brentwood and Ongar and areas served by the Ongar Fire Station against the proposal to change the Fire Station to part-time operation; and

(2) residents of South West Bedfordshire for a review of the council tax system and the effect of the tax on those on fixed incomes and pensions were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

16 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till three minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.57 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Customs and Excise.—Trade in Controlled Goods (Embargoed Destinations) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 318), dated 10th February 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

2 Food.—Dairy Produce Quotas (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 312), dated 10th February 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Open Spaces,—Draft Royal Parks and Other Open Spaces (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

5 Social Security,—(1) Social Security Pensions (Low Earnings Threshold) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 263), and
(2) Social Security Revaluation of Earnings Factors Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 262), dated 4th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:


7 Development of Tourism,—Statement of appointment and salary of Sir William Lawrence as a member of the English Marketing Advisory Board [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

8 Government Resources and Accounts,—Report and Accounts of the Criminal Records Bureau for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 343] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

9 National Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on De Lorean: The Recovery of Public Funds [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 287] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

10 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts of—
(1) the Derby North East Education Action Zone,
(2) the Hackney Education Action Zone, and
(3) the Westminster Education Action Zone,
for 2002–03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 340, 341 and 342] [Clerk of the House].

11 Treaty Series (No. 6, 2004),—Agreement, done at Brussels on 14th September 1994, on the Status of Missions and Representatives of Third States to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization [by Command] [Cm. 6124] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill,—The Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-one Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill: Mr David Amess, Gregory Barker, Mr Colin Challen, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr David Chaytor, Mrs Helen Clark, Paul Clark, Sue Doughty, Dr Ian Gibson, Linda Gilroy, Mr David Heyes, Phil Hope, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr David Kidney, Mr George Osborne, Alan Simpson, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Simon Thomas, Dr Desmond Turner, Joan Walley and Brian White.

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Harry Barnes, Ms Hazel Blears, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Judy Mallaber, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr James Paice, Mr Andrew Rosindell, Rachel Squire, Ms Dari Taylor, Dr Rudi Vis, Angela Watkinson and Brian White.

3 Draft Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 (Continuance in force of Sections 21 to 23) Order 2004:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nicholas Brown, Harry Cohen, Mr Jim Cousins, Ross Cranston, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Beverley Hughes, Patrick Mercer, Mr Mark Oaten, Sandra Osborne, Mr Richard Page, Mr Greg Pope, Angela Watkinson and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

4 Draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) (Amendment) Regulations 2004:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Peter Bottomley, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Bill Etherington, Paul Holmes, Mr Kevan Jones, Mr Khalid Mahmood, John Mann, Margaret Moran, Kali Mountford, Mr George Osborne, Mr Ken Purchase, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Mr Simon Thomas and Mr Andrew Turner.

5 Draft Employment Act 2002 (Dispute Resolution) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Richard Bacon, Mr John Battle, Mr Henry Bellingham, Virginia Bottomley, Brian Cotter, Tom Cox, Mr Mark Lazarowicz, Alice Mahon, Mr Dennis Skinner, Ian Stewart, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Steve Webb, Mrs Betty Williams and David Wright.

6 Draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 2004 and the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Harold Best, Clive Elford, Mr Michael Meacher and Jon Trickett from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders) and nominated in substitution Kevin Brennan, Dr Nick Palmer and Mr David Stewart.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Norman Baker, Ann Clwyd, Tony Cunningham, Sue Doughty, Jim Dowd, Mr Doug Henderson, Andy King, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Michael Meacher, Julie Morgan, Mr Elliot Morley, Mr Stephen Pound, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Robert Walter and Mr David Wilshire.

8 Draft Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Roger Berry, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Stephen Byers, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Mark Field, Mike Gapes, Lady Hermon, Mr George Howarth, Huw Irranca-Davies, Jane Kennedy, Mr Alan Meale, Lembit Opik, Mr Marsha Singh, Mr Ian Taylor and Mr Paul Truswell.

9 Draft Prison (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: John Austin, Mr Tony Banks, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Mark Field, Mr Adrian Flook, Lady Hermon, Huw Irranca-Davies, Jane Kennedy, Mr Peter Lilley, Lembit Opik, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Joan Ryan and Dr Gavin Strang.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Disability Discrimination Bill,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Disability Discrimination Bill; to be printed [No. 352-i]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 352-ii]
[Mr Tom Clarke].

2 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Pre-Budget Report 2003]; to be printed [No. 233-iii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—(1) Fourth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [End of Life Vehicles and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directives], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Directives Sub-committee of the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 103];

(2) Fifth Report from the Committee [The Food Standards Agency and Shellfish], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Toxins in Shellfish Sub-committee of the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 248];

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Badgers and Bovine TB];
(4) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Rural Delivery Review]; and
(5) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Implementation of CAP Reform in the UK]; to be printed [No. 226-iii]
[Mr Michael Jack].

4 European Scrutiny,—Tenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed.
with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-x]
[Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 International Development,—Memorandum laid before the International Development Committee [Government Response to the First Report from the Committee, Trade and Development at the WTO: Learning the Lessons of Cancún to revive a genuine development round]; to be printed [No. 353] [Tony Baldry].

6 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Social Cohesion]; to be printed [No. 45-iii] [Andrew Bennett].

7 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Risk Management: The Nuclear Liabilities of British Energy plc]; to be printed [No. 354-i] [Mr Alan Williams].

8 Procedure,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee [Programming of Legislation]; to be printed [No. 325-i] [Sir Nicholas Winterton].

9 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee [Cars of the Future]; to be printed [No. 319-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

10 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Manufacturing and Trade in Wales]; to be printed [No. 323-ii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

11 Work and Pensions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Child Poverty in the UK]; to be printed [No. 85-vi] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 39; WH, No. 22]
Wednesday 11th February 2004.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall
The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)
And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.42 p.m.]
THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill.—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill be printed [Bill 17–EN].

2 Health and Safety at Work (Offences) Bill.—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Health and Safety at Work (Offences) Bill be printed [Bill 51–EN].

3 Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill [Money];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(1) any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in consequence or by virtue of the Act; and

(2) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided by virtue of any other Act.—(Phil Hope.)

4 Public Accounts.—Resolved, That this House takes note of the 64th to 68th Reports of the Committee of Public Accounts of Session 2001–02 and the 1st to 49th Reports of the Committee of Public Accounts of Session 2002–03, and of the Treasury Minutes and the Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel Memorandum on these Reports (Cm. 5728, 5770, 5789, 5801, 5802, 5823, 5849, 5953, 5961, 5962, 5963, 5984, 6016, 6051, 6105, 6110).—(Mr Edward Leigh.)

5 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jim Fitzpatrick);

And it being Six o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

6 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty minutes past Six o'clock, adjourned till Monday 23rd February, pursuant to Order [2nd February].

[Adjourned at 6.20 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Legal Services Commission.—Draft Community Legal Service (Scope) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].

2 Northern Ireland.—Draft Agricultural Statistics (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

3 Police.—Draft Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000 (Renewal of Temporary Provisions) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

4 Social Security.—(1) Draft Social Security (Basic Skills Training Pilot) Regulations 2004,

(2) draft Social Security (Intensive Activity Period 50 to 59 Pilot) Regulations 2004, and

(3) draft Social Security (Intensive Activity Period 50 to 59 Pilot) (No. 2) Regulations 2004

[by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


8 Merchant Shipping.—(1) Merchant Shipping (High Speed Craft) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 302), and
   (2) Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Oil Pollution) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 303), dated 9th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

9 Petroleum.—Petroleum Licensing (Exploration and Production) (Seaward and Landward Areas) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 352), dated 11th February 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

10 Social Security.—Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (State Pension Credit and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 290), dated 5th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

11 Armed Forces’ Pay.—Report of the Armed Forces’ Pay Review Body for 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6113] [Mr Secretary Hoon].


13 Learning and Skills.—Report and Accounts of the Learning and Skills Council for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 281] [Clerk of the House].

14 Overseas Territories.—(1) Liberia (Restrictive Measures) (Overseas Territories) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 347), and
   (2) Sudan (Restrictive Measures) (Overseas Territories) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 349), dated 11th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

15 Prison Service Pay.—(1) Second Report of the Prison Service Pay Review Body on Northern Ireland [by Command] [Cm. 6128] [Mr Secretary Murphy], and
   (2) Third Report of the Prison Service Pay Review Body on England and Wales [by Command] [Cm. 6129] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

16 Public Petitions.—(1) Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [26th January] from Mr Jeremy Newell, other residents of the Fawkesbury Lodge Estate, Forest Hill, London SE23 and parents of children attending Horniman Primary School, Forest Hill, against the installation of a TETRA transmitter on the Horniman radio mast, and
   (2) Observations by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Petition [23rd January] from residents of Stoke-on-Trent North Constituency against closures of post offices in deprived urban areas in the constituency [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

17 Senior Salaries.—Twenty-sixth Report of the Review Body on Senior Salaries [by Command] [Cm. 6099] [The Prime Minister].

18 Social Security Administration.—Report by the Social Security Advisory Committee and Statement by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions on the draft Social Security (Basic Skills Training Pilot) Regulations 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6116] [Mr Secretary Smith].

19 Transport.—Government Response to the First Report of the Transport Committee, Session 2003–04, on the Traffic Management Bill [by Command] [Cm. 6131] [Mr Secretary Darling].

   (2) Liberia (United Nations Sanctions) (Isle of Man) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 305), and
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1. Draft Independent Police Complaints Commission (Investigatory Powers) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr James Cran Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

2. Draft Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 (Continuance in force of Sections 21 to 23) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Janet Anderson Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3. Sustainable Energy (CHP Provisions) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 2987).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Caroline Spelman from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Miss Anne McIntosh.

4. Draft Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Mike Hancock Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

5. Draft Prisons (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed David Taylor Chairman of the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

Grand Committees

6. The Speaker has appointed Mr James Cran Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of its meeting on Thursday 26th February.

European Standing Committees

7. The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 11645/03 on Levels of Certain Heavy Metals and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Ambient Air.

8. The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document Nos. 11954/03 and 11993/03 on Activities of OLAF and the Fight Against Fraud; Activity of the European Anti-Fraud Office: HMT: (UEM) 20 October 2003; 2002 Annual Report of the European Court of Auditors: HMT: (UEM 7 January 2004); Activity of the European Anti-Fraud Office: HMT: (UEM 30 January 2004).

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1. Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee of the Environmental Audit Committee [Environmental Crime and the Courts]; to be printed [No. 126-iv] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

2. Public Administration.—(1) Third Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Ministerial Accountability and Parliamentary Questions], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 355]; and

(2) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Tribunals of Inquiry and Select Committees] [Tony Wright].

[No. 40; WH, No. 23]


The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Light Pollution and Astronomy—Seventh Report from the Science and Technology Committee, Session 2002–03, and the Government’s response thereto),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 24th February.

[Adjourned at 5.29 p.m.]

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 European Standing Committee B.—Mrs Marion Roe reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Documents No. OJC286, Vol. 46, the European Court of Auditors’ 2002 Annual Report; No. 11954/03 and ADD 1, Commission Report evaluating the activities of the European Anti-Fraud Office; No. 11993/03, Commission Annual Report 2003: protection of the financial interests of the Communities; Third activity report of the European Anti-Fraud Office for the year ended June 2002; and Fourth activity report of the European Anti-Fraud Office for the year ended June 2003; and supports the Government’s continuing efforts to promote measures to improve financial management and combat fraud against the European Community’s financial interests.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

2 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Consolidation Bills.—The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Select Committee of twelve Lords to join with a Committee of this House as the Joint Committee on Consolidation Bills; that they have ordered that the Committee have the power to agree with the Committee of the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman, and that the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee shall, if the Committee think fit, be printed; and they propose that the Joint Committee do meet on Monday 1st March at half-past Four o’clock.

3 Telecommunications Masts (Registration) Bill.—The Order for reading the Telecommunications Masts (Registration) Bill a second time on Friday 27th February was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 5th March.

4 Gender Recognition Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Gender Recognition Bill [Lords];

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Jim Fitzpatrick: 335.

Tellers for the Noes, Miss Ann Widdecombe, Mr Andrew Robathan: 26.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

5 Gender Recognition Bill [Lords] (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Gender Recognition Bill [Lords]:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 16th March 2004.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made by the House on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.
Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords amendments or on any further message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Bridge Prentice)—It was agreed to.

6 Gender Recognition Bill [Lords] [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Gender Recognition Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Gender Recognition Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
(a) any expenditure of the Secretary of State under that Act, and
(b) any increase attributable to that Act in the sums payable under any other Act out of money so provided—(Bridge Prentice)—It was agreed to.

7 Employment and Training,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Industrial Training Levy (Construction Board) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 18th December, be approved—(Bridge Prentice)—It was agreed to.

8 Employment and Training,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Industrial Training Levy (Engineering Construction Board) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 8th January, be approved—(Bridge Prentice)—It was agreed to.

9 Industrial Organisation and Development,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Milk Development Council (Amendment) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 26th January, be approved—(Bridge Prentice)—It was agreed to.

10 European Space Policy,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 14886/03 + ADD1, the Commission White Paper on European Space Policy; and supports the Government’s aim of engaging with European partners and the Commission to encourage the formulation of policies that offer clear commercial and scientific benefits targeted at the Union’s wider aims—(Bridge Prentice)—It was agreed to.

11 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Bridge Prentice);

And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridge Prentice.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eight minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow. 

[Adjourned at 10.08 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented by Her Majesty’s Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

Friday 20th February 2004

1 Treaty Series (No. 7, 2004),—Amendments, adopted at London on 29th November 2001, to the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 [Cm. 6137] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Treaty Series (No. 8, 2004),—Agreement, done at St. Helier on 4th July 2000, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the French Republic concerning the Establishment of a Maritime Boundary between France and Jersey [Cm. 6138] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 Treaty Series (No. 9, 2004),—Agreement, done at St. Helier on 4th July 2000, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the French Republic concerning Fishing in the Bay of Granville [Cm. 6139] [Mr Secretary Straw].
Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

**Friday 13th February 2004**


**Monday 16th February 2004**


8 Environmental Protection,—Controls on Pentabromodiphenyl Ether and Octabromodiphenyl Ether Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 371), dated 12th February 2004 [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


10 Land Drainage,—General Drainage Charges (Anglian Region) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 388), dated 14th February 2004 [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


**Tuesday 17th February 2004**


14 Social Security,—Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (Extended Payments (Severe Disablement Allowance and Incapacity Benefit)) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 319), dated 9th February 2004 [Mr Secretary Smith].

**Wednesday 18th February 2004**

15 Sea Fisheries,—Sea Fishing (Restriction on Days at Sea) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 398), dated 17th February 2004 [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

**Thursday 19th February 2004**

16 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—High Court Enforcement Officers Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 400), dated 10th February 2004 [Mr David Lammy].

**Friday 20th February 2004**


18 Public Order (Northern Ireland),—Public Order (Prescribed Forms) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 416), dated 19th February 2004 [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

19 Fees and Charges,—Draft Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (Fees) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

20 Social Security,—Draft Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance Up-rating Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Dawn Primarolo].

21 Social Security (Northern Ireland),—Draft Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance Up-rating (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Dawn Primarolo].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 23rd February 2004:
22 Tax Credits.—Draft Tax Credits Up-rating Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Dawn Primarolo].

23 Terms and Conditions of Employment.—Draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


25 Education.—Education (Pupil Exclusions) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 402), dated 18th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

26 Local Government.—Commissions for Local Administration (Extension of Jurisdiction) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 344), dated 11th February 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

27 Pensions.—Occupational Pension Schemes (Winding Up and Deficiency on Winding Up etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 403), dated 18th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

28 Air Force (Constitution).—Amendment List 11 to Air Publication 1269—The Royal Air Force Manual of Medical Management and Administration [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

29 Defence.—Paper, entitled The Iraq Medal: Service on Operation TELIC from 20th January 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6135] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

30 Defence (Votes A), 2004–05.—Estimates of the maximum numbers of personnel to be maintained for service with the Armed Forces for the year ending 31st March 2005 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 283] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

31 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Departmental Minutes, dated 23rd February 2004, concerning—

(1) indemnity insurance for personal liability of members of Horticulture Research International, and

(2) indemnity insurance for redundancy liability inherited by East Malling Research in respect of staff of Horticulture Research International transferring to the new organisation

[by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett],

32 Government Resources and Accounts.—Treasury Minute, dated 23rd February 2004, directing the application of certain amounts as appropriations in aid of the Estimates for the year ending 31st March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

33 Home Affairs.—Government Reply to the First Report from the Home Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, on Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill [by Command] [Cm. 6132] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

34 Hong Kong.—Six-monthly Report on Hong Kong, July–December 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6125] [Mr Secretary Straw].

35 Housing.—Accounts of the Grants and Loans to the Housing Action Trusts for—

(1) 2001–02, and

(2) 2002–03

with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 372 and 373] [Clerk of the House].

36 Law Commission.—Report of the Law Commission on Pre-judgment Interest on Debts and Damages [by Act]; to be printed [No. 295] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

37 Local Government Finance.—Accounts of the Pooling of Non-Domestic Rates and Redistribution to Local Authorities in England for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 371] [Clerk of the House].

38 Museums and Galleries.—Accounts of the Natural History Museum for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 356] [Clerk of the House].
39 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Early Years: Progress in developing high quality childcare and early education accessible to all [by Act]; to be printed [No. 268] [Clerk of the House].

40 National Audit (Northern Ireland).—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Local Management of Schools [by Act]; to be printed [No. 297] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

41 Public Accounts (Northern Ireland).—Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel Memorandum on the Third Report from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6136] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

42 Registration Service.—Birth Statistics: Review of the Registrar General on births and patterns of family building in England and Wales for 2002 [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

43 Supply Estimates, 2003–04.—Spring Supplementary Estimates for—
   (1) Central Government for 2003–04 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 350] [Mr Paul Boateng], and
   (2) the House of Commons: Administration for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 349] [The Speaker].

44 Tax Credits.—Report from HM Treasury, under section 41 of the Tax Credits Act 2002 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills.—(1) Second Special Report from the Education and Skills Committee [Government Response to the First Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on Public Expenditure: Schools’ Funding]; to be printed [No. 377]; and
   (2) the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [National Skills Strategy: 14–19 Education]; to be printed [No. 197-iv] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Human Rights.—(1) Sixth Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001: Statutory Review and Continuance of Part IV]; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 381]; and
   (2) Seventh Report from the Committee [The Meaning of Public Authority under the Human Rights Act 1998]; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 382] [Jean Corston].

3 Public Accounts.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Ministry of Defence: Major Projects Report 2003]; to be printed [No. 383-i];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [National Audit Office Supply Estimate 2004–05]; to be printed [No. 384-i]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Northern Ireland Audit Office Supply Estimate 2004–05]; to be printed [No. 385-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

4 Science and Technology.—(1) Fourth Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Office of Science and Technology: Scrutiny Report 2003]; to be printed [No. 316]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Use of Science in UK International Development Policy]; to be printed [No. 133-ii] [Dr Ian Gibson].

5 Work and Pensions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Work and Pensions Committee [DWP’s Administration of IT Projects]; to be printed [No. 311-iii] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
Tuesday 24th February 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Housing Bill.—Mr Peter Pike reported from Standing Committee E. That it had gone through the Housing Bill, and made Amendments thereunto, and had amended the Title as follows:

A Bill to make provision about housing conditions; to regulate houses in multiple occupation and certain other residential accommodation; to make provision for home information packs in connection with the sale of residential properties; to make provision about secure tenants and the right to buy; to make provision about mobile homes; to make other provision about housing; and for connected purposes.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 59].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 392].

2 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Sustainable Energy (CHP Provisions) Order 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 2987).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Civil Service Bill.—The Order for reading the Civil Service Bill a second time on Friday 27th February was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 5th March.

4 Consolidation, &c., Bills.—Ordered, That the Lords Message of 23rd February relating to the Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills be now considered.

Lords Message considered accordingly.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed by this House do meet the Lords Committee as proposed by their Lordships.

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

5 Schools (Vending Machines).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to prohibit the sale of high fat and high sugar content food in vending machines in schools: And that Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr David Amess, Paul Flynn, John Austin, Ms Debra Shipley, Mr Win Griffiths, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mrs Jackie Lawrence, David Taylor and Chris Ruane do prepare and bring it in.

6 Schools (Vending Machines) Bill.—Mr Jon Owen Jones accordingly presented a Bill to prohibit the sale of high fat and high sugar content food in vending machines in schools: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 30th April and to be printed [Bill 58].

7 Social Security.—Resolved, That the draft Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 4th February, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Smith.)

8 Pensions.—Resolved, That the draft Guaranteed Minimum Pensions Increase Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 22nd January, be approved.—(Mr Secretary Smith.)

9 Opposition Day [5th allotted day: second part].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Pension Scheme Wind-ups.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House condemns the Government’s inaction in the face of the crisis in occupational pensions; regrets that the Pensions Bill will do nothing to encourage people to save for their retirement or companies to keep open existing defined benefit schemes, let alone start new ones; recognises with regret that the Pensions Bill will do nothing to help the estimated 60,000 members of schemes who have lost all or most of their pension entitlement; notes that the Government has twice reduced the minimum funding requirement as well as removing £35 billion in extra taxes from pension funds and has conspicuously failed to amend the priority order on wind-up, despite offers of co-operation from the Official Opposition; expresses its surprise that the Government has refused calls to instigate an independent inquiry into the extent of the problem; and calls upon the Government to take urgent action to tackle the current crisis in pensions and to mitigate the unfairness caused to thousands of current and future pensioners across the United Kingdom.—(Mr David Willetts);
An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘supports the Government’s strategy to tackle pensioner poverty, and to deliver simplicity, security and choice in working and saving for retirement; condemns the pensions inheritance of 1997, with millions in poverty and the legacy of pension mis-selling; notes that the Government is spending £9 billion extra per year in real terms on pensioners compared with the 1997 system; condemns the unfair, unaffordable and unsustainable pensions policies of Opposition parties; expresses its sincere sympathy for those who have lost part or all of their pension as a result of their employer becoming insolvent; believes the Government should continue to look at all available options to help people affected, but that it would be cruel to raise expectations if no workable solution can be found; welcomes the publication of the Government’s Pensions Bill; further believes that the Pension Protection Fund will bring real security for over 10 million defined benefit pension scheme members if their employer becomes insolvent and pensions schemes wind up in the future; further believes that firms should honour pension promises they have made; welcomes the Bill as a balanced package, with a new regulator and measures to simplify pensions legislation, making it easier for employers to run good schemes; further believes that pension reform should be a common cause; and calls on all Members of this House to support the Government’s Pensions Bill’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Smith.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;

Mr Patrick McLoughlin rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Mark Field: 193.

Tellers for the Noes, Margaret Moran, Mr Nick Ainger: 319.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Mr Nick Ainger: 313.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mark Field, Angela Watkinson 187.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House supports the Government’s strategy to tackle pensioner poverty, and to deliver simplicity, security and choice in working and saving for retirement; condemns the pensions inheritance of 1997, with millions in poverty and the legacy of pension mis-selling; notes that the Government is spending £9 billion extra per year in real terms on pensioners compared with the 1997 system; condemns the unfair, unaffordable and unsustainable pensions policies of Opposition parties; expresses its sincere sympathy for those who have lost part or all of their pension as a result of their employer becoming insolvent; believes the Government should continue to look at all available options to help people affected, but that it would be cruel to raise expectations if no workable solution can be found; welcomes the publication of the Government’s Pensions Bill; further believes that the Pension Protection Fund will bring real security for over 10 million defined benefit pension scheme members if their employer becomes insolvent and pensions schemes wind up in the future; further believes that firms should honour pension promises they have made; welcomes the Bill as a balanced package, with a new regulator and measures to simplify pensions legislation, making it easier for employers to run good schemes; further believes that pension reform should be a common cause; and calls on all Members of this House to support the Government’s Pensions Bill.

10 Regulatory Reform.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 18 (Consideration of draft regulatory reform orders), That the draft Regulatory Reform (Sunday Trading) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 22nd January, be approved.—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

11 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from

(1) residents and workers of the Dacorum district of Hertfordshire against the threatened downgrading of Hemel Hempstead General Hospital, and
(2) Gadebridge Community Centre and residents of Gadebridge against the closure of Gadebridge Sub-Post Office were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Electricity,—Draft Renewables Obligation (Amendment) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—Statute, dated 22nd September 2003, made by the Governing Body of Queen’s College Oxford, amending the Statutes of the College [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Other Papers:

5 Constitutional Affairs,—Government Response to the First Report from the Joint Committee on the Draft Mental Incapacity Bill, Session 2002–03 [by Command] [Cm. 6121][Mr David Lammy].

6 Culture, Media and Sport,—Government Response to the First Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 2003–04, on Cultural objects: developments since 2000 [by Command] [Cm. 6149] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

7 Members’ Interests,—Register of Members’ Interests as at 31st January 2004 [pursuant to the Resolutions of 22nd May 1974, 28th June 1993, 6th November 1995 and 14th May 2002]; to be printed [No. 265] [Clerk of the House].

8 Probation Board (Northern Ireland),—Accounts of the Probation Board for Northern Ireland for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 379] [Clerk of the House].

9 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts of—

(1) the Leicester Education Action Zone,

(2) the New Addington Education Action Zone, and

(3) the Newcastle Education Action Zone,

for the period 1st April to 31st August 2003, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 374, 375 and 376] [Clerk of the House].

10 Supreme Court (Northern Ireland),—Land Purchase Account of the Supreme Court of Judicature, Northern Ireland, for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 378] [Clerk of the House].
Papers withdrawn:

11 Electricity,—Draft Renewables Obligation (Amendment) Order 2004 [laid 10th February].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—(1) Second Report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Asylum and Immigration Appeals], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 211]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Civil Legal Aid: adequacy of provision]; to be printed [No. 391-i]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Civil Legal Aid: adequacy of provision]; to be printed [No. 391-II]

[Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Third Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Broadcasting in Transition], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 380] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Draft Gambling Bill,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-xiv and -xv] [Mr John Greenway].

4 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Pre-Budget Report 2003]; to be printed [No. 233-iv] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

5 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [FCO’s Human Rights Annual Report 2003]; to be printed [No. 389-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

6 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Identity Cards]; to be printed [No. 130-iv] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

7 Statutory Instruments,—Ninth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments; to be printed [No. 82-ix] [Brian White].

8 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [UK-ASEAN Trade Relations: Progress towards the knowledge driven economy]; to be printed [No. 388-i and 262-iv] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

9 Treasury,—(1) Fourth Report from the Treasury Committee [Annual Report for 2003]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 386]; and

(2) First Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee, on Child Trust Funds]; to be printed [No. 387] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 42; WH, No. 24]

Tuesday 24th February 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.27 p.m.]

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned debate on the Question proposed on 7th January, That the promoters of the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] may, notwithstanding anything in the Standing Orders or practice of this House, proceed with the Bill in the present Session; and the Petition for the Bill shall be deemed to have been deposited and all Standing Orders applicable to it shall be deemed to have been complied with;

That, if the Bill is brought from the Lords in the present Session, a declaration signed by the agent shall be deposited in the Private Bill Office, stating that the Bill is the same in every respect as the Bill brought from the Lords in the last Session;

That the Clerk in the Private Bill Office shall lay upon the Table of the House a certificate, that such a declaration has been deposited;

That in the present session the Bill shall be deemed to have passed through every stage through which it passed in the last Session, and shall be recorded in the Journal of the House as having passed those stages;

That no further fees shall be charged to such stages;

And the Question being again proposed;

And the Question being put:—It was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith, and to desire their concurrence.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr James Cran reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Independent Police Complaints Commission (Investigatory Powers) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Mike Hancock reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 European Standing Committee A.—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 11645/03, draft Directive relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air; and supports the Government’s objectives of ensuring appropriate levels of protection for human health and of the environment but also resisting unnecessary measures that might have a disproportionate effect on United Kingdom industry.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

5 School Admissions (Prohibition of Religious Discrimination).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to prohibit discrimination on religious grounds in admissions to maintained schools—(Dr Evan Harris);

And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Malcolm Bruce, Paul Holmes: 33.

Tellers for the Noes, Jim Dobbin, Mr Ronnie Campbell: 157.

So the Question was negatived.

6 Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note of the Privy Counsellor Review Committee Report on the Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 Review (House of Commons Paper No. 100), which was laid before this House on 18th December 2003—(Mr Secretary Blunkett);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end and add the words ‘welcomes the Privy Counsellor Review Committee Report on the Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001; and calls upon the Government to act on the Committee’s recommendation to repeal Part 4 of the Act and
replace it with alternative provisions for monitoring and prosecuting suspected terrorists which do not require the suspension of basic human rights', instead thereof.—
(Mr Mark Oaten.)
And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Richard Younger-Ross, Bob Russell: 68.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Paul Clark: 313.
So the Question was negatived.
And the Main Question being put;
Resolved, That this House takes note of the Privy Counsellor Review Committee Report on the Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 Review (House of Commons Paper No. 100), which was laid before this House on 18th December 2003.

7 Protecting the European Communities' Financial Interests.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Documents No. OJ C286, Vol. 46, the European Court of Auditors 2002 Annual Report; No. 11954/03 and ADD 1, Commission Report evaluating the activities of the European Anti-Fraud Office; No. 11993/03, Commission Annual Report 2003: protection of the financial interests of the Communities; Third activity report of the European Anti-Fraud Office for the year ended June 2002; and Fourth activity report of the European Anti-Fraud Office for the year ended June 2003; and supports the Government’s continuing efforts to promote measures to improve financial management and combat fraud against the European Community’s financial interests—(Jim Fitzpatrick)—It was agreed to.

8 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of North Kent against the sale of fireworks to the public was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till sixteen minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.
[Adjourned at 7.44 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Constitutional Law,—(1) Draft Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 (Destination of Fixed Penalties in Scotland) Order 2004, and
(2) draft Primary Medical Services (Scotland) Act 2004 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004
[by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

2 Government Trading Funds,—Draft Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency Trading Fund Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Financial Services and Markets,—(1) Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Appointed Representatives) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 453), and

4 Food,—Kava-kava in Food (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 455), dated 24th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

5 Housing,—Housing (Right to Buy) (Designated Rural Areas and Designated Regions) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 418), dated 20th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

6 National Health Service,—General Medical Services Transitional and Consequential Provisions Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 433), dated 23rd February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

8 Counter-terrorism Powers.—Paper, entitled Counter-terrorism Powers: Reconciling Security and Liberty in an Open Society [by Command] [Cm. 6147] [Mr Secretary Blankett].

9 Department for Transport.—Department for Transport Minute, dated 25th February 2004, concerning a proposed contingent liability for the Strategic Rail Authority: Great Anglia franchise [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

10 Miscellaneous (No. 2, 2004).—WHO Framework Convention, done at Geneva on 21st May 2003, on Tobacco Control, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6144] [Mr Secretary Straw].

11 National Audit (Northern Ireland).—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on the Management of Surplus Land and Property in the Health Estate [by Act]; to be printed [No. 298] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

12 Treaty Series (No. 10, 2004).—Convention, adopted at Geneva on 22nd October 1996, concerning Seafarer’s Hours of Work and the Manning of Ships [by Command] [Cm. 6142] [Mr Secretary Straw].

13 Treaty Series (No. 11, 2004).—Protocol, adopted at Geneva on 22nd October 1996, to the Merchant Shipping (Minimum Standards) Convention 1976 [by Command] [Cm. 6143] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II  
Standing Committees

1 Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill.—The Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-one Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill: Mr Roy Beggs, Virginia Bottomley, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Martin Caton, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Tom Clarke, Mr Wayne David, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Nigel Evans, Dr Hywel Francis, Mr Paul Goodman, Jane Griffiths, Mr Dai Havard, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Anne Picking, David Taylor, Mr Andrew Turner, Mrs Betty Williams and Hywel Williams.

2 Draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Vera Baird, Tony Baldry, Mr Clive Betts, David Burnside, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Vernon Coaker, Clive Efford, Mr Mark Field, Mr Tom Harris, Helen Jackson, Mr Peter Lilley, Mr Eric Martlew, Mr Ian Pearson, Rachel Squire and Ms Gisela Stuart.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order and draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr James Clappison, Harry Cohen, Ross Cranston, Geraint Davies, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Christopher Leslie, Diana Organ, Bridget Prentice, Mr Andrew Rosindell, Bob Russell, Llew Smith, Mr Clive Soley, Mr Paul Tyler and Angela Watkinson.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Ms Diane Abbott, Mr Nick Ainger, Norman Baker, Mr Harold Best, Mr Ben Bradshaw, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr James Gray, Mr George Howarth, Mr Boris Johnson, Helen Jones, Mr Robert Key, Dr Nick Palmer, Dr Gavin Strang, Mr Roger Williams, Mr David Wilshire and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

5 Draft Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Funds Payments) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr John Grogan, Paul Holmes, Glenda Jackson, Norman Lamb, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Calum MacDonald, Judy Mallaber, Chris Mole, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Mark Prisk, Sir Teddy Taylor, Jon Trickett, Mr Tom Watson and Tony Worthington.

6 Draft Children (Leaving Care) Social Security Benefits (Scotland) Regulations 2004:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr Peter Atkinson, Julia Drown, Annabelle Ewing, Mr Paul Goodman, Mr John Horam, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr Robert Jackson, Mr David Kidney, Mr Tony McWalter, Margaret Moran, Kali Mountford, Sandra Osborne, Mr Alan Reid and Mr Geoffrey Robinson.

7 Draft Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Roger Berry and Huw Irranca-Davies from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Stephen Hepburn and Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West).

8 Draft Prison (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Huw Irranca-Davies and Dr Gavin Strang from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution David Cairns and Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West).

European Standing Committees

9 European Union Document Nos. 5199/04 and 5205/04, relating to Recovery of sole stocks in the Western Channel and Bay of Biscay, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

10 European Union Document No. 5494/03, relating to the Disposal of batteries and accumulators, has been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development and Trade and Industry.—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development and Trade and Industry Committees [Strategic Export Controls]; to be printed [No. 390-i] [Mr Roger Berry].

2 Draft Disability Discrimination Bill.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Disability Discrimination Bill; to be printed [No. 352-iii]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 352-iv] [Miss Ann Begg].

3 European Scrutiny.—Eleventh Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Connecting Parliament with the Public]; to be printed [No. 368-i] [Mr Peter Hain].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [The Introduction of the Aggregates Levy in Northern Ireland: One Year On]; to be printed [No. 395-i] [Mr Michael Mates].

6 Procedure.—(1) First Report from the Procedure Committee [Estimates and Appropriation Procedure], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 393]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Programming of Legislation]; to be printed [No. 325-ii] [Sir Nicholas Winterton].

7 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Ministry of Defence: Major Projects report 2003]; to be printed [No. 383-ii] [Mr Edward Leigh].

8 Transport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee [Cars of the Future]; to be printed [No. 319-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].
9 Treasury.—(1) Fifth Report from the Treasury Committee [Restoring confidence in long-term savings: Endowment mortgages]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 394]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Committee [The Administrative Costs of Tax Compliance]; to be printed [No. 269-iii]
   [Mr John McFall].

10 Work and Pensions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Child Poverty in the UK]; to be printed [No. 85-vii] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 43; WH, No. 25]


The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.29 p.m.]

[No. 44.]

Thursday 26th February 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill.—Mr Win Griffiths reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill and made Amendments thereunto.

   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 60].

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 396].


   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—David Taylor reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Prison (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Mr James Cran reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee the draft Budget (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, referred to it on 9th February.

5 Employment Relations Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Employment Relations Bill [Money];

   A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Employment Relations Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in sums payable out of money provided by Parliament under any other enactment—(Mr Gerry Sutcliffe);

   The House divided.

   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Paul Clark: 261.

   Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Hugo Swire: 123.

   So the Question was agreed to.

6 Adjournment (Welsh Affairs).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Nick Ainger);

   And it being Six o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Defence,—Draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

2 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—(1) Draft Courts Boards (Appointment and Procedure) Regulations 2004, and
   (2) draft Courts Boards Areas Order 2004
   [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Employment and Training,—Employment Equality (Religion or Belief) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 437), dated 20th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

4 Immigration,—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [by Act]; to be printed [No. 370] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Insolvency,—(1) Insolvency (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 472),
   (2) Insolvency Practitioners (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 473), and
   (3) Insolvency Practitioners and Insolvency Services Account (Fees) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 476)
   dated 25th February 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

6 National Health Service,—Special Trustees for St. Mary’s Hospital (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 436), dated 23rd February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

7 Air Force (Constitution),—Amendment to Chapter 38 of the Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force relating to Retired Pay and Pensions [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

8 Government Trading Funds,—Treasury Minute, dated 26th February 2004, on the Patent Office Trading Fund [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

Papers withdrawn:

9 Open Spaces,—Draft Royal Parks and Other Open Spaces (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [laid 11th February].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Martin Caton Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3 Draft Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 (Continuance in force of Sections 21 to 23) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ross Cranston, Mr Barry Gardner, Sandra Osborne and Mr Anthony D. Wright from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Andy Burnham, David Cairns, Shona McIsaac and Lawrie Quinn.
4 Draft Local Elections (Ordinary Day of Election 2004) Order 2004; Local Authorities (Conduct of Referendums) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004; Local Authorities (Mayoral Elections) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004; European Parliamentary Elections Regulations 2004; and Representation of the People (Combination of Polls) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Cummings Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order and Regulations.

5 Draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) (Amendment) Regulations 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

6 Draft Employment Act 2002 (Dispute Resolution) Regulations 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

7 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3311),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jonathan Sayeed Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

8 Draft Children (Leaving Care) Social Security Benefits (Scotland) Regulations 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

European Standing Committees

9 The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 12441/03 on Co-operation with the Occupied Territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [The Honours System]; to be printed [No. 212-iii] [Tony Wright].

[No. 44; WH, No. 26]

Thursday 26th February 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (On Target? Government By Measurement—Fifth Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration, Session 2002–03, and the Government’s response thereto),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 2nd March.

[Adjourned at 5.40 p.m.]

[No. 45.]

Friday 27th February 2004.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

1 The Speaker’s Absence,—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Sylvia Heal, the First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

PRAYERS.

2 The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker.

3 Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill,—The Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4 Referendums (Thresholds) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Referendums (Thresholds) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 12th March.
5 Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th May.

6 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes to Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 1st March.

[Adjourned at 2.58 p.m.

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


(2) School Governance (Constitution, Procedures and New Schools) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 450), and


2 Road Traffic,—Goods Vehicles (Licensing of Operators) (Temporary Use in Great Britain) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 462), dated 26th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

3 Social Security,—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 440), dated 23rd February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

4 Disability Discrimination,—Draft Disability Discrimination Bill: Clause 15: relationships between locally-electable authorities and their members, with Explanatory Notes [by Command] [Cm. 6126] [Mr Secretary Smith].

5 Government Resources and Accounts,—Accounts of the Passport and Records Agency for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 294] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

6 Greenwich Hospital,—Accounts of the Greenwich Hospital and Travers Foundation for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 369] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

7 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister,—Government Response to the First Report from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee, Session 2003–04, on the Departmental Annual Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6141] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 Treaty Series (No. 12, 2004),—Agreement, done at London on 23rd June 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Antigua and Barbuda on the Transfer of Prisoners [by Command] [Cm. 6146] [Mr Secretary Straw].

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Consolidation, &c., Bills,—Sir Patrick Cormack reported from the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the House of Lords on Consolidation, &c., Bills, to which the Statute Law (Repeals) Bill [Lords], now pending in the House of Lords, was referred. That it had gone through the Bill; and had agreed to a Report which it had directed him to make to the House; and had directed him to report the Minutes of Evidence taken before it on 1st March.

Report to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 403-I]
Minutes of Evidence to lie upon the Table; and to be printed [No. 403-II]
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 403-II].

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Martin Caton reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill,—Lords Amendments to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 63].

5 Christmas Day (Trading) Bill,—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Christmas Day (Trading) Bill be printed [Bill 20–EN].

6 Civil Service Bill,—Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 12th March.

7 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, Etc.) Bill (Programme) (No. 2),—Ordered, That—

(1) Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Programme Order of 17th December 2003 shall be omitted;

(2) proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall be taken at today’s sitting in the order shown in the following table, and shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the time specified in the second column:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amendments relating to Clauses 1 and 2, Clause 6, Clause 15, Clauses 3 to 5.</td>
<td>1 hour 15 minutes after commencement of proceedings on consideration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments relating to Clauses 7 to 10.</td>
<td>2 hours 30 minutes after commencement of proceedings on consideration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments relating to Clause 11, Schedule 1 and 2, Clauses 12 and 13, Schedule 3, Clause 14, Clauses 16 to 29, Schedule 4, new Clauses, new Schedules, remaining proceedings on consideration.</td>
<td>9 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third reading</td>
<td>10 p.m.—(Beverley Hughes.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, Etc.) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, Etc.) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 48) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 4, to leave out from the word ‘if’ to the word ‘he’ in line 5 and insert the words ‘at a leave or asylum interview’, instead thereof.—(Beverley Hughes.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being one and a quarter hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair, pursuant to Order [this day]:—It was agreed to.
The Deputy Speaker then proceeded to put forthwith the Question on an Amendment selected by the Speaker for separate Division.

Another Amendment (No. 99) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 30, at the end, to insert the words

'(4A) Where a person is charged with an offence under subsections (1) and (2) above, and relies on a defence under subsections (3) and (4) above, if the person adduces evidence which is sufficient to raise an issue with respect to the matter, the court or jury shall assume that the defence is satisfied unless the prosecution proves beyond reasonable doubt that it is not'.—(Mr Mark Oaten.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bob Russell, Annette Brooke: 56.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Murphy, Paul Clark: 309.

The Deputy Speaker put forthwith the Question on the remaining Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 49 to 52, 34, 53, 24, 54, 25, 55, 58 to 73, 28, 37, 29, 56, 57, 26, 35, 27 and 36) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 23) proposed to the Bill, in page 8, line 5, to leave out Clause No. 7.—(Mr Hilton Dawson.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being two and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Neil Gerrard, Ms Karen Buck: 82.

Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Margaret Moran: 444.

The Deputy Speaker put forthwith the Question on the remaining Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 74 to 77) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 30) proposed to the Bill, in page 11, line 6, to leave out Clause No. 11.—(Mr Mark Oaten.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being Nine o'clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Richard Younger-Ross, Annette Brooke: 97.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Charlotte Atkins: 303.

The Speaker proceeded to put forthwith the Questions on Amendments and a new Clause which had been selected for separate Division.

Another Amendment (No. 93) proposed to the Bill, in page 11, line 25, at the end, to insert the words

'(5A) A party to the Tribunal’s decision may apply within 7 days to the High Court or, in Scotland, to the Court of Session for review of the Tribunal’s decision on the ground that the Tribunal made an error of law.

(5B) Where an application is made under this subsection—

(a) it shall be determined by a single judge by reference only to written submissions, unless the court on receiving such submissions is of the opinion that there are exceptional reasons for an oral hearing;

(b) the judge may affirm or reverse the Tribunal’s decision, or remit for rehearing to the Tribunal;

(c) if, in any application to the High Court, the judge thinks that the application had no merit he shall issue a certificate under this paragraph.

(5C) Where the High Court or in Scotland the Court of Session affirms or reverses a review under this section a party to the review may bring an appeal as a point of law within 7 days—

(a) where the original decision was that of a judge of the Court of Session in Scotland to the Inner House of that Court; or

(b) in any other case, to the Court of Appeal.
(5D) An appeal under subsection (5C) may be brought only with the permission of—

(a) the court that made it, or

(b) the court referred to in subsection (5C)(a) or (b) if the High Court or Court of Session in Scotland refuses permission.

(5E) An application made under subsection (5D)(b) must be made within 7 days of the refusal of permission to appeal by the High Court or Court of Appeal.’—(Mr Dominic Grieve.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 188.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Charlotte Atkins: 310.

Another Amendment (No. 33) proposed to the Bill, in page 41, line 24, in the second column, at the beginning, to insert the words ‘Section 55.’—(Mr Neil Gerrard.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Neil Gerrard, Ms Karen Buck: 84.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Charlotte Atkins: 305.

A Clause (NC8) (Initial decisions)—(Mr Humfrey Malins)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be added to the Bill.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 179.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Charlotte Atkins: 317.

The Speaker proceeded to put forthwith the Questions on the remaining Amendments and new Clauses moved by a Minister of the Crown.

Other Amendments (Nos. 78 to 86, 38 to 89, 39 to 45, 90, 91, 46 and 47) made to the Bill.

Clauses (NC2) (Provision of immigration services), (NC3) (Offences: advice of Director of Public Prosecutions), (NC4) (Enforcement powers: retention of documents), (NC5) (Seamen and aircrews: right of appeal), (NC6) (Control of entry) and (NC7) (Appeal from within United Kingdom)—(Mr John Heppell)—brought up, read the first time and added to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;
And it being Ten o’clock, the Speaker put the Question pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Nick Ainger: 304.


So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

9 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Firearms (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 9th February, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

10 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Prison (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 9th February, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

11 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 115 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (delegated legislation)), That the draft Budget (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 5th February, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

12 Police.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Independent Police Complaints Commission (Investigatory Powers) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 5th February, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.
13 Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 (Continuance in force of sections 21 to 23) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 20th January, be approved—(Bridget Prentice); and the Speaker’s opinion as to the decision of the Question being challenged, the Division was deferred till Wednesday 3rd March, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Deferred Divisions)].

14 Level of Certain Heavy Metals and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Ambient Air.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 11645/03, draft Directive relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air; and supports the Government objectives of ensuring appropriate levels of protection for human health and of the environment but also resists unnecessary measures that might have a disproportionate effect on United Kingdom industry—(Bridget Prentice);—It was agreed to.

15 Science and Technology.—Ordered, That Mr Tom Harris be discharged from the Science and Technology Committee and Kate Hoey be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

16 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Dibden residents against the erection of a TETRA telecommunications mast by Airwave mmO2 at Home Farm was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

17 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.) And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till nine minutes to Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.51 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Open Spaces.—Draft Royal Parks and Other Open Spaces (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].


Other Papers:

3 Air Force (Constitution).—Amendment List 8 to Regulations for the Royal Air Force Aeromedical Evacuation Service: Air Publication 3394 (Third Edition) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

4 Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland).—Summary of Health, Personal Social Services and Special Agencies Accounts for 2001–02 [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 334] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

5 Judicature (Northern Ireland).—Accounts of Funds in Court in Northern Ireland for 2000–02, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 398] [Clerk of the House].

6 National Audit.—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—

(1) Evaluation of Regulatory Impact Assessments Compendium Report 2003–04, and

(2) HM Customs and Excise: Tackling VAT Fraud [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 358 and 357] [Clerk of the House].

7 Reserve Forces.—Report under section 56(7) of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 on the making of a call-out order under section 56(1) of that Act [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) (Amendment) Regulations 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Kali Mountford and Mr Simon Thomas from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Ivan Henderson and Adam Price.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Gambling Bill.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-xvi] [Mr John Greenway].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Milk Pricing Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Milk Pricing]; to be printed [No. 335-iii] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Human Rights,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Human Rights and Deaths in Custody]; to be printed [No. 209-iv] [Jean Corston].

4 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Migration and Development]; to be printed [No. 79-iv] [Tony Baldry].

5 Public Accounts,—(1) Eleventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Helping consumers benefit from competition in telecommunications]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 405];

(2) Twelfth Report from the Committee [Getting it right: Improving decision-making and appeals in social security benefits]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 406];

(3) Thirteenth Report from the Committee [Excess Votes 2002–03]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 407]; and

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Strategic Rail Authority: Improving passenger rail services through new trains]; to be printed [No. 408-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

6 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Scientific Publications]; to be printed [No. 399-i] [Dr Ian Gibson].

7 Work and Pensions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Work and Pensions Committee [DWP’s Administration of IT Projects]; to be printed [No. 311-iv] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
Tuesday 2nd March 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock

PRAYERS.

1 Liaison Committee,—Mr Alan Williams reported, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee), That the Committee had directed him to report the following recommendation for the allocation of time for the consideration of Estimates on an allotted day (being the second allotted day in the present Session of Parliament):

That a day not later than 18th March be allotted for the consideration of the following Supplementary Estimates for the financial year 2003–04:

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, in so far as it relates to biofuels;

Department for Transport, in so far as it relates to aviation services.

Report to lie upon the Table.

2 Employment Relations Bill,—Mr Eric Forth reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Employment Relations Bill, and made Amendments thereunto, and had amended the Title, as follows:

A Bill to amend the law relating to the recognition of trade unions and the taking of industrial action; to make provision about means of voting in ballots under the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992; to amend provisions of that Act relating to rights of members and non-members of trade unions and to make other provision about rights of trade union members, employees and workers; to make further provision concerning the enforcement of legislation relating to minimum wages; to make further provision about proceedings before and appeals from the Certification Officer; to make further provision about the amalgamation of trade unions; to make provision facilitating the administration of trade unions and the carrying out by them of their functions; and for connected purposes.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 61].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 412].

3 Fire and Rescue Services Bill,—Sir Nicholas Winterton reported from Standing Committee G, That it had gone through the Fire and Rescue Services Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 62].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 413].

4 Higher Education Bill,—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee H, That it had agreed to the following Resolution in respect of the Higher Education Bill:

That the Standing Committee recommends that the Order of the House of 27th January (Higher Education Bill (Programme)) be further amended by the substitution in paragraph 2 (time for conclusion of proceedings in Standing Committee) for the words ‘Thursday 4th March’ of the words ‘Tuesday 9th March’.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

5 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill O’Brien reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) (Amendment) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Fisheries Jurisdiction,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for withdrawal from the Common Fisheries Policy of the European Union; to amend the Fisheries Limits Act 1976; to make provision about the exercise of functions under that Act by Scottish Ministers, the National Assembly for Wales, Northern Ireland Ministers and the Secretary of State; to provide that that Act shall have effect regardless of the provisions of the European Communities Act 1972; to define English, Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish waters; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Alex Salmond, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Nigel Dodds, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Eddie McGrady, Mr Austin Mitchell, Angus Robertson, Mr Anthony Steen, Mr Michael Weir and Ann Winterton do prepare and bring it in.

7 Fisheries Jurisdiction Bill,—Mr Alex Salmond accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for withdrawal from the Common Fisheries Policy of the European Union; to amend the Fisheries Limits Act 1976; to make provision about the exercise of functions under that Act by Scottish Ministers, the National Assembly for Wales, Northern Ireland Ministers and the Secretary of State; to provide that that Act shall have effect regardless of the
provisions of the European Communities Act 1972; to define English, Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish waters; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 21st May and to be printed [Bill 64].

8 Pensions Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Pensions Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House declines to give a Second Reading to the Pensions Bill because it fails to provide encouragement for individuals to save for their retirement or for companies to keep open existing pension schemes or start new ones and does nothing to mitigate the effect on the savings culture of the expansion of means-tested benefits in retirement; it omits measures permitting simplification and amendment of pension schemes’ terms, abolishing compulsory AVC provision, simplifying anti-franking provisions, permitting people to continue working part-time for a company after retirement, abolishing or modifying Guaranteed Minimum Pensions, and new vesting arrangements; and further fails to provide help for the estimated 60,000 people who have already lost all or most of their pension entitlement’, instead thereof.—(Mr David Willetts.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mark Field, Angela Watkinson: 154.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Vernon Coaker: 388.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading)—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

9 Pensions Bill (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Pensions Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 22nd April 2004.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on the day on which proceedings on consideration are commenced.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made by the House on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Bridget Prentice);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Vernon Coaker: 378.

Tellers for the Noes, Angela Watkinson, Mr Mark Field: 153.

So the Question was agreed to.

10 Pensions Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Pensions Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Pensions Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure of the Secretary of State or the Lord Chancellor under the Act, and
(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable under any other Act out of money so provided—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

11 Pensions Bill [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Pensions Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the levying of charges under the Act—
   (a) for the purpose of meeting expenditure of the Secretary of State relating to the establishment or expenses of the Board of the Pension Protection Fund;
   (b) for the purposes of the Pension Protection Fund maintained under the Act;
   (c) for the purpose of meeting expenditure payable out of the Fraud Compensation Fund maintained under the Act;

(2) the levying of charges under the Pension Schemes Act 1993 for the purpose of meeting—
   (a) the expenses of the Pensions Regulator (including the expenses of establishing it);
   (b) the costs of the legal assistance scheme established in connection with proceedings before the Pensions Regulator Tribunal;
   (c) the expenses of the Pensions Compensation Board;

(3) the making of payments into the Consolidated Fund—(Bridget Prentice);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Vernon Coaker: 326.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Nigel Evans: 20.
So the Question was agreed to.

12 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Rates (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 10th February, be approved—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

13 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till ten minutes past Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.10 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1  Social Security,—Draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2  Betting, Gaming and Lotteries,—(1) Gaming Act (Variation of Fees) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 531), and
   (2) Lotteries (Gaming Board Fees) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 532) dated 1st March 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

3  Health and Safety,—Health and Safety (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 456), dated 23rd February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

4  Insolvency,—(1) Insolvency Proceedings (Monetary Limits) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 547), dated 27th February 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt], and

Other Papers:

5  Consumer Protection,—Report by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on consumer safety for the period 1st April 1998 to 31st March 2003 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 411] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

6  Coroners,—(1) Berkshire (Coroners’ Districts) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 536), dated 29th February 2004,
   (2) Cumbria (Coroners’ Districts) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 458), dated 23rd February 2004, and
(3) Cumbria (Coroners’ Districts) (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 535), dated 29th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

7 Social Security Administration,—Report by the Social Security Advisory Committee under Section 174(1) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 and a statement by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions on the Draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6145] [Mr Secretary Smith].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) (Amendment) Regulations 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Kevan Jones and Mr Geoffrey Robinson from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Tony McWalter and Mr Neil Turner.

2 Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr David Heyes from Standing Committee C (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr John Hayes.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Third Report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Work of the Committee 2003]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 410] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Defence and Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence and Home Affairs Committees [Homeland Security]; to be printed [No. 417-i] [Mr Bruce George].

3 Draft Gambling Bill,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill; to be printed [No. 139-xvii] [Mr John Greenway].

4 Environmental Audit,—(1) Second Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [GM Food—Evaluating the Farm Scale Trials], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 90]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Water: the Periodic Review 2004 and the Environmental Programme]; to be printed [No. 416-i] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

5 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [South Africa]; to be printed [No. 117-iii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

6 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—Memoranda submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Postal Voting], to be printed [No. 400-II] [Andrew Bennett].

7 Statutory Instruments,—Tenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-x] [Mr David Tredinnick].

8 Trade and Industry,—(1) Third Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Resilience of the National Electricity Network], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 69]; and

   (2) Third Special Report from the Committee [Government Observations on the Sixteenth Report from the Committee, Session 2002–03, on Rewards for Failure]; to be printed [No. 415] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 47; WH, No. 27]

Tuesday 2nd March 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.29 p.m.]
Wednesday 3rd March 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Cummings reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Local Elections (Ordinary Day of Election 2004) Order 2004, the draft Local Authorities (Conduct of Referendums) England (Amendment) Regulations 2004, the draft Local Authorities (Mayoral Elections) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004, the draft European Parliamentary Elections Regulations 2004, and the draft Representation of the People (Combination of Polls) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Employment Act 2002 (Dispute Resolution) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jonathan Sayeed reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3311).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Eric Illsley reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Children (Leaving Care) Social Security Benefits (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords communicate that they have considered the Commons Message of 25th February in respect of the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] and have come to the following Resolution in respect of the said Bill:

That, notwithstanding anything in the Private Business Standing Orders or practice of the House, the promoters of the Bill, which originated in the House of Lords in Session 2001–02 and which has passed all its stages in that House but not in the House of Commons, may proceed with the Bill in the present Session;

That the petition for the Bill be deemed to have been deposited;

That all Standing Orders applicable be deemed to have been complied with;

That the Bill be deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments not later than noon on Thursday 4th March with a declaration annexed, signed by the agent, stating that it is the same in every respect as the Bill passed by the House of Lords; and

That the proceedings on the Bill in the present Session be pro forma in regard to every stage through which the Bill had passed in the last Session and that no new fees be charged.

6 House Building (Targets),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable local planning authorities to determine the number of houses built in their areas: And that Bob Spink, Mr Peter Lilley, Mr Eric Pickles, Mr Simon Burns, Mr David Amess, Mr Mark Francois, Sir Teddy Taylor, Andrew Rosindell, Angela Watkinson, Mr John Baron, Ann Winterton and Mr John Redwood do prepare and bring it in.

7 House Building (Targets) Bill,—Bob Spink accordingly presented a Bill to enable local planning authorities to determine the number of houses built in their areas: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 18th June and to be printed [Bill 65].

8 Opposition Day [6th allotted day],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Trade Justice for the Developing World.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed. That this House shares the concern of the Trade Justice Movement about the plight of the poorest people in the world, and congratulates the Movement on bringing their conditions to the attention of the public; notes with concern the fact that more than one billion people live on less than one dollar a day, that life expectancy in many African countries is declining, that 28 million people in Africa have HIV/AIDS, and that the poorest countries’ share of world trade has fallen sharply in the last two decades; recognises that the combination of trade distorting subsidies by rich countries
and barriers to products from poor countries have gravely damaged the latter; believes that trade liberalisation and increased international trade offer the best hope of alleviating poverty in the developing world; regrets the breakdown of the WTO talks in Cancún; and urges the Government both to press for the talks to restart and to publish its proposals for the reform of agricultural subsidies and the reduction of trade barriers to give poor countries the fair deal on international trade that will allow them to compete and grow—(Mr John Bercow);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes this debate and congratulates the Trade Justice Movement on its efforts to raise public awareness of this vital issue; reiterates the commitment made in the White Paper Eliminating World Poverty: Making Globalisation Work for the Poor to improve international trade rules; urges the European Union to make further progress on reforming the Common Agriculture Policy regimes for cotton, sugar, tobacco and olive oil; welcomes the UK’s call for action on HIV/AIDS; congratulates the Government on the £160 million it has allocated to trade-related capacity building in developing countries since 1998; welcomes the fact that the UK’s aid budget for Africa will rise to over £1 billion by 2005; welcomes the launch of a new initiative, the Commission for Africa, to take a fresh look at the challenges Africa faces; notes that a successful Doha Round could contribute substantially to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; congratulates the Government on the lead it has taken within the EU and the WTO to promote free and fair trade; believes that significant progress must be made to improve access for developing country exports to both developed and developing country markets, including through substantial reductions in trade distorting agricultural subsidies; calls on all WTO members to continue to demonstrate their commitment to the Doha Development Agenda; and underlines this House’s commitment to ensuring the Doha Round produces real benefits for the poor’, instead thereof.—(Secretary Hilary Benn.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Mark Field: 200.
Tellers for the Noes, Derek Twigg, Mr John Heppell: 326.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes this debate and congratulates the Trade Justice Movement on its efforts to raise public awareness of this vital issue; reiterates the commitment made in the White Paper Eliminating World Poverty: Making Globalisation Work for the Poor to improve international trade rules; urges the European Union to make further progress on reforming the Common Agriculture Policy regimes for cotton, sugar, tobacco and olive oil; welcomes the UK’s call for action on HIV/AIDS; congratulates the Government on the £160 million it has allocated to trade-related capacity building in developing countries since 1998; welcomes the fact that the UK’s aid budget for Africa will rise to over £1 billion by 2005; welcomes the launch of a new initiative, the Commission for Africa, to take a fresh look at the challenges Africa faces; notes that a successful Doha Round could contribute substantially to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; congratulates the Government on the lead it has taken within the EU and the WTO to promote free and fair trade; believes that significant progress must be made to improve access for developing country exports to both developed and developing country markets, including through substantial reductions in trade distorting agricultural subsidies; calls on all WTO members to continue to demonstrate their commitment to the Doha Development Agenda; and underlines this House’s commitment to ensuring the Doha Round produces real benefits for the poor.

Protection of Vulnerable Children.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House test that it is now more than 13 months since Lord Laming’s Report on Victoria Climbié and that 25th February 2004 marked the fourth anniversary of her tragic death; regrets that the Government has wasted too much time before bringing forward practical measures to make vulnerable children safer despite Laming’s contention that 84 of his recommendations could be implemented within six months and even now social services departments are in limbo awaiting Government recommendations in the Children’s Bill; is alarmed at the Government’s complete inability to clarify the position on data sharing between agencies, which is crucial to child protection measures; condemns the Government’s failure to address the crisis in recruitment of child protection social workers without whom the necessary improvements will not be achievable; is gravely concerned at their response to the recent Appeal Court judgements involving children taken away from parents on questionable
expert witness testimonies, which has failed to take account of potentially thousands of
other miscarriages of justice in the family courts; notes the additional pressures that this
is adding on already overstretched social services departments; further notes the
continued failure of the Government to produce the long promised National Service
Framework for Children; condemns recent moves to cut already committed grants to
important Children’s Fund projects working with vulnerable children; and calls upon the
Government to give vulnerable children the priority they need and deserve—(Tim
Loughton);

9 Deferred Divisions.—The Deputy Speaker announced the results of the Division which had
been deferred to this day, pursuant to the Orders of the House [28th June 2001 and
6th November 2003 (Deferred Divisions)]:

Prevention and Suppression of Terrorism,—That the draft Anti-terrorism, Crime and
Security Act 2001 (Continuance in force of sections 21 to 23) Order 2004, which was laid
before this House on 20th January, be approved.
Ayes: 370.
Noes: 49.
So the Question was agreed to.

10 Opposition Day,—Protection of Vulnerable Children,—The Question being again proposed;
An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word
‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the fact that this
Government acknowledged the importance of children’s issues by appointing the first
ever Minister with responsibility for children and young people; congratulates the
Government’s commitment to Lord Laming’s report on safeguarding children, shown in
the Green Paper Every Child Matters, and its determination to turn words into action
by publishing the Children’s Bill in the other place today; acknowledges that the
£885 million Quality Protects Programme is already improving the life chances of
vulnerable children; commends the Government for the 8.7% increase in funding for
children’s social services in the next financial year; and is alarmed by the Opposition’s
proposals to freeze spending on children’s services’, instead thereof.—(Margaret Hodge.)
And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;
Mr Patrick McLoughlin rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be
now put.
And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.
And the Question being accordingly put;
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 189.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Nick Ainger: 329.
So the Question was negatived.
And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith,
pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Nick Ainger: 364.
Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Mark Francois: 141.
So the Question was agreed to.

The Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.
Resolved, That this House welcomes the fact that this Government acknowledged the
importance of children’s issues by appointing the first ever Minister with responsibility
for children and young people; congratulates the Government’s commitment to Lord
Laming’s report on safeguarding children, shown in the Green Paper Every Child
Matters, and its determination to turn words into action by publishing the Children’s Bill
in the other place today; acknowledges that the £885 million Quality Protects Programme is already improving the life chances of vulnerable children; commends the
Government for the 8.7% increase in funding for children’s social services in the next
financial year; and is alarmed by the Opposition’s proposals to freeze spending on
children’s services.

11 Higher Education (Programme) (No. 3).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put
forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming
of Bills)], That in accordance with the Resolution of the Standing Committee of
2nd March 2004, the Programme Order of 27th January in relation to the Higher
Education Bill shall be further amended by the substitution in paragraph 2 (time for
conclusion of proceedings in Standing Committee) for the words ‘Thursday 4th March’
of the words ‘Tuesday 9th March’—(Bridget Prentice).
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Nick Ainger: 347.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Keith Simpson: 119.

So the Question was agreed to.

12 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 9th March, paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments) shall apply to the proceedings on any Motions in the name of Mr Alex Salmond or Mr Elfyn Llwyd as if the day were an Opposition Day; and proceedings on such Motions may continue, though opposed, for six hours after the first of them has been entered upon, or until Seven o’clock, whichever is the later.—(Bridget Prentice.)

13 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Bridget Prentice.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till six minutes past Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.06 p.m.]
8 School Standards and Framework.—Account of North Somerset ( Weston-Super-Mare) Education Action Zone for the period 31st March to 31st August 2003, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 409] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Gender Recognition Bill [Lords];

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A, and has appointed Mrs Marion Roe and David Taylor Chairmen; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Hugh Bayley, Geraint Davies, Maria Eagle, Dr Evan Harris, Lynne Jones, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr David Lammy, Siobhain McDonagh, Kali Mountford, Mr Stephen Pound, Bridget Prentice, Andrew Selous, Mr Gary Streeter, Angela Watkinson, Mr Shaun Woodward and Richard Younger-Ross.

2 Pensions Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B, and has appointed Mr Win Griffiths and Mr James Crai Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-five Members to serve on the Committee: Vera Baird, Gregory Barker, Kevin Brennan, David Cairns, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Paul Holmes, Mr Kevan Jones, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr John MacDougall, Margaret Moran, Mr George Osborne, Mr Chris Pond, Adam Price, John Robertson, Mr Andrew Rosindell, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Bill Tynan, Mr Robert Walter, Mr Nigel Waterson, Steve Webb and Malcolm Wicks.

3 Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill.—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

4 Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee F (transferred from Standing Committee C); and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr David Atkinson, Norman Baker, Andrew Bennett, Peter Bottomley, Peter Bradley, Valerie Davey, Jim Dobbins, Mr Michael Jabez Foster, Andrew George, Mr James Gray, Charles Hendry, Mr David Kidney, Mr David Lepper, Alun Michael, Laura Moffatt and Dr Desmond Turner.

5 Draft Community Legal Service (Scope) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Alistair Carmichael, Valerie Davey, Geraint Davies, Mr Michael Fallon, Mr Adrian Flook, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr David Heath, Mr David Lammy, Mr John Lyons, Anne Picking, Bridget Prentice, Mr Malcolm Savidge, Jim Sheridan, Mark Tami, Mr Paul Truswell and Angela Watkinson.

6 Draft Social Security (Intensive Activity Period 50 to 59 Pilot) Regulations 2004 and the draft Social Security (Intensive Activity Period 50 to 59 Pilot) (No. 2) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Jonathan Sayeed Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Colin Challen, Mrs Louise Ellman, Barbara Follett, Mr John Heppell, Paul Holmes, Mr David Lepper, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Mr Peter Lilley, Chris McCafferty, Kali Mountford, Mr George Osborne, Mr Ernie Ross, Steve Webb and David Winnick.

7 Draft Agricultural Statistics (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: David Burnsise, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr David Crausby, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Mark Field, Mrs Cheryl Gillan, Huw Irranca-Davies, Mrs Helen Liddell, Rob Marris, Mr Denis Murphy, Lembit Opik, Mr Ian Pearson, Mr Siôn Simon, Dr Gavin Strange and Mr John Taylor.
8 Draft Renewables Obligation (Amendment) Order 2003:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Roger Berry, Malcolm Bruce, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Mr David Drew, Angela Eagle, Mr Nick Gibb, Ian Lucas, Joyce Quin, Mr Laurence Robertson, Ian Stewart, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Stephen Timms, Joan Walley and Mr Mike Wood.

9 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading Scheme Regulations 2003 (S.I., 2003, No. 3311).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ann Clwyd from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Mark Hendrick.

10 Draft Social Security (Basic Skills Training Pilot) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mrs Irene Adams Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Richard Burden, Colin Burgon, Mr Tony Colman, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Paul Holmes, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr John Maples, Mr Austin Mitchell, Margaret Moran, Kali Mountford, Mr George Osborne, Mr Chris Pond, Mr Michael Trend, Steve Webb and Derek Wyatt.

11 The draft Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000 (Renewal of Temporary Provision) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Eric Forth Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Vernon Coaker, Jim Dowd, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Mark Field, Huw Irranca-Davies, Ms Sally Keeble, Jane Kennedy, Mr David Lidington, Chris Mole, Dr Doug Naysmith, Christine Russell, Mr David Trimble and David Wright.

12 Draft Paternity and Adoption Leave (Amendment) Regulations 2004, and the draft Statutory Paternity Pay and Statutory Adoption Pay (Weekly Rates) (Amendment) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Kevin Barron, Mr Henry Bellingham, Malcolm Bruce, Brian Cotter, Jon Cruddas, Mrs Lorna Fitzsimons, Jane Griffiths, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Rosemary McKenna, Mr Archie Norman, Linda Perham, Ian Stewart, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe and Mr Ian Taylor.

13 Draft Tax Credits Up-rating Regulations 2004, the draft Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance Up-rating Order 2004 and the draft Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance Up-rating (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Frank Doran, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr David Heyes, Mr David Laws, Dan Norris, Mr George Osborne, Dawn Primarolo, Joan Ruddock, Mr Mohammad Sarwar, Phil Sawford, Mr Richard Shepherd, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Paddy Tipping and Mr Tom Watson.

**APPENDIX III**

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Third Report from the Defence Committee [Lessons of Iraq]: together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 57] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Draft Disability Discrimination Bill,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Disability Discrimination Bill; to be printed [No. 352-v]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 352-vi] [Mr Tom Clarke].
The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr Vernon Coaker);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.48 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Eric Forth reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000 (Renewal of Temporary Provisions) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to confer further powers upon local authorities in London; and for related purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

3 Independent Milk Ombudsman, etc., Bill,—Mr Simon Thomas presented a Bill to make provision for the appointment of an Independent Milk Ombudsman and for his functions, including undertaking investigations and research into the price structure of the milk market; to make provision about the milk industry; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 18th June and to be printed [Bill 66].

4 Estimates,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee), That this House agrees with the Report [2nd March] of the Liaison Committee—(Gillian Merron)—It was agreed to.

5 Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill [Money].

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided by virtue of any other Act.—(Dr Stephen Ladyman.)

6 Adjournment (Women, Equality and Human Rights),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Charlotte Atkins);

And it being Six o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Six o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.30 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 International Immunities and Privileges,—Draft Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (Immunities and Privileges) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Northern Ireland,—Draft Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


5 Education.—School Governance (Transition from an Interim Executive Board) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 530), dated 1st March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].


Other Papers:

7 Government Resources and Accounts.—Treasury Minute, dated 4th March 2004, directing the application of certain amounts as appropriations in aid of the Estimates for the year ending 31st March 2003 [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

8 Supply Estimates, 2002–03.—Statement of the sums required to be granted in order to make good excesses on certain grants for 2002–03 [by Command]; to be printed [No. 351] [Mr Paul Boateng].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Gender Recognition Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Gary Streeter from Standing Committee A (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Tim Boswell.

2 Gender Recognition Bill [Lords] (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Tim Boswell, Geraint Davies, Dr Evan Harris, Mr David Lammy, Siobhain McDonagh, Bridget Prentice and Angela Watkinson members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

3 Pensions Bill.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Robert Walter from Standing Committee B (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Peter Atkinson.

4 Pensions Bill (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Gregory Barker, Ms Sally Keeble, Margaret Moran, John Robertson, Mr Nigel Waterson, Steve Webb and Malcolm Wicks members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

5 Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

6 Mink Keeping (Prohibition) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 100).—The Speaker has appointed Mr David Amess Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.

7 Draft Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Funds Payments) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

8 Draft Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000 (Renewal of Temporary Provisions) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Tony Clarke from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Ivan Henderson.

European Standing Committees

9 The Speaker has appointed Mr Martin Caton Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 15388/03 on Fisheries: Catch Quotas and Effort Limitation 2004.

10 The Speaker has appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 13853/03 on Value Added Tax.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [The Responsibilities of The Lord Warner, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health] to be printed [No. 397-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

2 Public Administration.—(1) Fourth Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Taming the Prerogative: Strengthening Ministerial Accountability to Parliament], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 422]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Civil Service Issues]; to be printed [No. 423-i]
[Tony Wright].

[No. 49; WH, No. 29]


The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Overcrowding on Public Transport—Seventh Report from the Transport Committee, Session 2002–03, and the Government’s response thereto),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Joan Ryan.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 9th March.

[Adjourned at 5.01 p.m.]

[No. 50.]

Friday 5th March 2004.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

1 The Speaker’s Absence,—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Sir Alan Haselhurst, the Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

PRAYERS.

2 The Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker, pursuant to the Standing Order.

3 Private Bills [Lords].—The Speaker laid upon the Table a certificate by the Clerk in the Private Bill Office that, in respect of the following Bill brought from the House of Lords, the Agents have deposited in the Private Bill Office declarations signed by them, stating that the Bill is the same, in every respect, as the Bill which was brought from the House of Lords in the last Session, viz.:

London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].

4 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The Order [25th February] relating to the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] being read;

The Bill was read the first and second time and committed to the Chairman of Ways and Means.

5 Promotion of Volunteering Bill,—The Promotion of Volunteering Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

6 Town and Country Planning (Enforcement Notices and Stop Notices) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Town and Country Planning (Enforcement Notices and Stop Notices) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

7 Town and Country Planning (Telecommunications Masts) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Town and Country Planning (Telecommunications Masts) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 21st May.

8 Trespassers on Land (Liability for Damage and Eviction) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Trespassers on Land (Liability for Damage and Eviction) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

9 Wild Mammals (Protection) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 6th February, That the Wild Mammals (Protection) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 30th April.
10 Telecommunications Masts (Registration) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Telecommunications Masts (Registration) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Thursday 20th May.

11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Gillian Merron.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 8th March.

[Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 National Health Service,—(1) North Essex Mental Health Partnership National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 541), dated 28th February 2004,

   (2) Patients’ Forums and Commission for Patient and Public Involvement in Health (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 546), dated 28th February 2004,

   (3) Public Benefit Corporation (Register of Members) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 539), dated 29th February 2004, and

   (4) Wolverhampton City Primary Care Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 542), dated 28th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

3 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Bedfordshire) (Districts of Mid-Bedfordshire and South Bedfordshire) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 538), dated 1st March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

4 Treaty Series (No. 13, 2004),—Convention, done at Geneva on 21st January 1994, on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers used in International Transport [by Command] [Cm. 6151] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Funds Payments) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Paul Holmes from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr David Laws.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The Chairman of Ways and Means reported, pursuant to Order [25th February]. That he had gone through the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] and made Amendments thereunto.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended by the Chairman of Ways and Means, do lie upon the Table.

2 Equitable Life Inquiry.—Ordered, That there be laid before this House a Return of the Report of the Equitable Life Inquiry, conducted by the Right Honourable Lord Penrose.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Community Legal Service (Scope) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Sleep Apnoea Bill.—The Order for reading the Sleep Apnoea Bill a second time on Tuesday 27th April was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 30th April.

5 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill (Programme) (No. 3),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill:

Consideration of Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments shall be completed at today’s sitting and shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion three hours after their commencement.

Subsequent stages

2. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any Question put.

3. Proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement.—(Jim Fitzpatrick);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Vernon Coaker: 265.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Randall, Mr Mark Francois: 166.

So the Question was agreed to.

6 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 15, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(c) Yorkshire and the Humber;
(d) North West.’—(Mr Christopher Leslie.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr John Heppell: 269.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Randall, Mr Mark Francois: 166.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment, as amended, was agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 2 was agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 3.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Christopher Leslie);
And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords Amendments, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Gillian Merron: 268.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Randall, Mr Mark Francois: 163.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question that this House agrees with the Lords in the remaining Lords Amendments:—It was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 4 to 50 were accordingly agreed to.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills):]

That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 3;

That Geraint Davies, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr David Heath, Mr Christopher Leslie and Bridget Prentice be members of the Committee;

That Mr Christopher Leslie be the Chairman of the Committee;

That three be the quorum of the Committee;

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Bridget Prentice);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Charlotte Atkins, Paul Clark: 266.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mark Francois, Mr John Randall: 124.

So the Question was agreed to.

7 Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred under the Act by a Minister of the Crown or government department or by a body performing functions on behalf of the Crown, and

(b) any increase attributable to the provisions of the Act in the sums payable out of such money under any other Act, and

(2) the making of payments into the Consolidated Fund—(Alun Michael);

And it being three-quarters of an hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills):—It was agreed to.

8 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill,—Mr Christopher Leslie reported from the Committee appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 3 to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 3 for the following Reason:

Because it is not appropriate to make the requirements to which the Lords Amendment relates.

The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendments.

9 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Vernon Coaker);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty-six minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.34 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

8. Education and Skills,—Paper, entitled School Travel Schemes—Draft Bill, containing a draft School Transport Bill with Explanatory Notes and a draft Partial Regulatory Impact Assessment [by Command] [Cm. 6156] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

9. Equitable Life Inquiry,—Report of the Equitable Life Inquiry by the Right Honourable Lord Penrose [pursuant to Order this day]; to be printed [No. 290] [Ruth Kelly].

10. National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Ministry of Defence: The Management of Defence Research and Technology [by Act]; to be printed [No. 360] [Clerk of the House].

11. Treasury,—HM Treasury Departmental Minute, on Dissolution and Reconfiguration of certain NHS Trusts: Remission of Outstanding Public Dividend Capital [by Command] [Mr Paul Boateng].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1. Promotion of Volunteering Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

2. Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman of Standing Committee F in respect of the Bill.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1. Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [The Work of Ofsted]; to be printed [No. 426-i] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2. Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Milk Pricing Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Milk Pricing]; to be printed [No. 335-iii] [Mr Michael Jack].
3 Human Rights.—Eighth Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Scrutiny of Bills: Third Progress Report]; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 427] [Jean Corston].

4 Public Accounts.—(1) Fourteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Inland Revenue: Tax Credits]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 89];

   (2) Fifteenth Report from the Committee [Procurement of vaccines by the Department of Health]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 429]; and

   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Income generated by the Museums and Galleries]; to be printed [No. 430-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

5 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Scientific Publications]; to be printed [No. 399-ii] [Dr Ian Gibson].

[No. 52.]

Tuesday 9th March 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill.—Mr Alan Hurst reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 30th April; and to be printed [Bill 69].

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 433].

2 Higher Education Bill.—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee H, That it had gone through the Higher Education Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 67].

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 436].

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Jonathan Sayeed reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security (Intensive Activity Period 50 to 59 Pilot) Regulations 2004 and the draft Social Security (Intensive Activity Period 50 to 59 Pilot) (No. 2) Regulations 2004.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr David Amess reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Mink Keeping (Prohibition) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 100).

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Funds Payments) Order 2004.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Bill O’Brien reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Renewables Obligation (Amendment) Order 2004.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for the prevention of sex discrimination in relation to membership of, or the benefits, facilities and services afforded by, clubs and other private associations: And that David Wright, Mr Parmjit Dhanda, Mr Robert Walter, Mr David Stewart, Vera Baird, Mr Tom Harris, Mr David Heath, Ann McKechin, Ms Meg Munn, Peter Bradley, Mrs Lorna Fitzsimons and Mrs Liz Blackman do prepare and bring it in.

8 Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations) Bill.—David Wright accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for the prevention of sex discrimination in relation to membership of, or the benefits, facilities and services afforded by, clubs and other private associations: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th May and to be printed [Bill 68].
9 Publication of the Advice of the Attorney General on Iraq.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed. That this House believes that all advice prepared by the Attorney General on the legality of the war in Iraq should be published in full—(Mr Elfyn Llwyd);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘notes the long-standing convention, followed by successive governments, that the advice of the Law Officers is given in confidence and is not disclosed publicly; notes, however, the Answer given in the House of Lords by the Attorney General on 17th March 2003 which set out his view of the legal basis of the use of force against Iraq, and the letter of the same date from the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee giving more detail of the legal position; and believes that the priority now for the Government is to help the Iraqi people rebuild Iraq’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question, pursuant to Order [3rd March] and Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Pete Wishart, Hywel Williams: 192.

Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr John Heppell: 283.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith:—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House notes the long-standing convention, followed by successive governments, that the advice of the Law Officers is given in confidence and is not disclosed publicly; notes, however, the Answer given in the House of Lords by the Attorney General on 17th March 2003 which set out his view of the legal basis of the use of force against Iraq, and the letter of the same date from the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee giving more detail of the legal position; and believes that the priority now for the Government is to help the Iraqi people rebuild Iraq.

10 Young People and Democracy.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed. That this House notes the concern shared by all political parties at the lack of participation in the political process by young people and the decreasing turnout in elections throughout the country; welcomes the work of many charities, political experts, young people and organisations representing them, who have worked together in their belief that lowering the voting age would improve the quality of politics in the United Kingdom; and calls on the Government to legislate to lower the voting age for all public elections to 16 years—(Angus Robertson);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 7, to leave out from the word ‘Kingdom’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘but notes that the independent Electoral Commission’s review of voting age and candidacy age is soon to be published and that the Government will carefully consider its conclusions, alongside the work of other organisations’, instead thereof.—(Mr Christopher Leslie.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question, pursuant to Order [3rd March] and Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);

Pete Wishart rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being proposed, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Simon Thomas, Pete Wishart: 50.

Tellers for the Noes, Charlotte Atkins, Mr Jim Murphy: 346.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Charlotte Atkins, Mr Jim Murphy: 310.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Ann Winterton: 10.

So the Question was agreed to.

And the Main Question, as amended, being put;
Resolved, That this House notes the concern shared by all political parties at the lack of participation in the political process by young people and the decreasing turnout in elections throughout the country; welcomes the work of many charities, political experts, young people and organisations representing them, who have worked together in their belief that lowering the voting age would improve the quality of politics in the United Kingdom but notes that the independent Electoral Commission’s review of voting age and candidacy age is soon to be published and that the Government will carefully consider its conclusions, alongside the work of other organisations.

11 Local Government,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Local Elections (Ordinary Day of Election 2004) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 29th January, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker)—It was agreed to.

12 Local Government,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Local Authorities (Conduct of Referendums) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 5th February, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker)—It was agreed to.

13 Local Government,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Local Authorities (Mayoral Elections) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 5th February, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker)—It was agreed to.

14 Representation of the People,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Representation of the People (Combination of Polls) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 5th February, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker)—It was agreed to.

15 Representation of the People,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Parliamentary Elections Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 5th February, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker)—It was agreed to.

16 Social Security,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Pneumoconiosis etc. (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) (Amendment) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 28th January, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker)—It was agreed to.

17 Social Security,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Children (Leaving Care) Social Security Benefits (Scotland) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 4th February, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker)—It was agreed to.

18 Employment Tribunals,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Employment Act 2002 (Dispute Resolution) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 20th January, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker)—It was agreed to.

19 Police,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000 (Renewal of Temporary Provisions) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 12th February, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker)—It was agreed to.

20 Legal Services Commission,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Community Legal Service (Scope) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 12th February, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker)—It was agreed to.

21 Welsh Grand Committee,—Ordered, That—

(1) the matter of the Budget Statement and its implications for Wales be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration;

(2) the Committee shall meet at Westminster on Wednesday 24th March between ten minutes to Nine o’clock and twenty minutes past Eleven o’clock and between Two o’clock and Four o’clock to consider the matter of the Budget Statement and its implications for Wales, under Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)).—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)
22 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from
(1) Parents and friends of Streethouse School, Pontefract, for additional provision to
cope with rising pupil numbers, and
(2) Weymouth HiFi and residents of South Dorset for an upgrade of the Weymouth
digital television transmitter, and for connected measures
were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

23 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do
now adjourn—(Mr Vernon Coaker);
And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having
continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question
put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty-six minutes to Nine o’clock,
till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.34 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:
1 Income Tax,—Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (New Zealand) Order 2004
[by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Dawn Primarolo].
2 Social Security,—Draft Employment Zones (Allocation to Contractors) Pilot Regulations
2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
3 Community Legal Service,—Community Legal Service (Funding) (Amendment) Order 2004
(S.I., 2004, No. 597), dated 8th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].
4 Education,—(1) Education (Hazardous Equipment and Materials) (England) Regulations
2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 571), dated 3rd March 2004,
(2) Kingston-upon-Hull City Council (School Meals) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 592), dated 4th March 2004, and
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].
5 Environmental Protection,—Environmental Protection (Waste Recycling Payments)
[Secretary Margaret Beckett].
6 Evidence,—Blood Tests (Evidence of Paternity) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004,
No. 596), dated 25th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].
7 Food,—Food for Particular Nutritional Uses (Addition of Substances for Specific
dated 8th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].
8 Land Registration,—Land Registration Fee Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 595), dated 3rd March 2004 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].
9 National Health Service,—(1) Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards)
(2) NHS Direct (Establishment and Constitution) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 569),
dated 28th February 2004, and
[by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].
10 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Approval) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004,
No. 623), dated 8th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].
11 Social Care,—(1) General Social Care Council (Description of Persons to be Treated as Social
Care Workers) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 561),
(2) General Social Care Council (Registration) (Description of Social Care Workers)
Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 562),
dated 3rd March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].
12 Social Security,—Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004,
No. 565), dated 1st March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

14 Tribunals and Inquiries.—Tribunals and Inquiries (Dairy Produce Quota Tribunal) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 594), dated 4th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].


Other Papers:

16 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Improving Procurement: Progress by the Office of Government Commerce in improving departments’ capability to procure cost-effectively [by Act]; to be printed [No. 361-I and II] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Gender Recognition Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged Kali Mountford from Standing Committee A (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Huw Irranca-Davies.

2 Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill.—The Committee of Selection has discharged David Taylor from Standing Committee C (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Jim Knight.

3 Higher Education Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson as an additional Chairman of Standing Committee H in respect of the Bill.

4 Mink Keeping (Prohibition) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 100).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Harold Best, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Helen Jones, Dr Nick Palmer and Dr Gavin Strang from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution Tony Cunningham, Gillian Merron, Diana Organ, Mr Siôn Simon and Paddy Tipping.

5 Draft Renewables Obligation (Amendment) Order 2003.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ian Stewart from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Andrew Miller.

6 Draft Tax Credits Up-rating Regulations 2004, the draft Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance Up-rating Order 2004 and the draft Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance Up-rating (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr George Osborne from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations and draft Orders) and nominated in substitution Mr Mark Prisk.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Civil Legal Aid: adequacy of provision]; to be printed [No. 391-ii] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport.—(1) Fourth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Work of the Committee in 2003], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 404]; and

(2) Fifth Report from the Committee [National Lottery Reform], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 196] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Foreign Affairs.—Third Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Iran], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 80] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Impact of EU Enlargement on Migration to the UK]; to be printed [No. 435-i] [Mr John Denham].

5 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Migration and Development]; to be printed [No. 79-vii] [Tony Worthington].
6 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—(1) Memoranda submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Role and Effectiveness of the Housing Corporation]; to be printed [No. 401-II];

(2) Fourth Report from the Committee [Coalfield Communities], with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 44-I]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Postal Voting]; to be printed [No. 400-i]

[Andrew Bennett].

7 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [The Proposed Whisky Strip Stamp]; to be printed [No. 419-ii] [Mrs Irene Adams].

8 Statutory Instruments.—Eleventh Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xi] [Brian White].

9 Trade and Industry.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Progress toward the knowledge driven economy]; to be printed [No. 262-v], and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [UK Automotive Industry]; to be printed [No. 437-i]

[Mr Martin O’Neill].

10 Treasury.—(1) Second Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Responses to the First Report from the Committee on Transparency of Credit Card Charges]; to be printed [No. 431]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [The Administrative Costs of Tax Compliance]; to be printed [No. 269-iv]

[Mr John McFall].

11 Work and Pensions.—Memoranda laid before the Work and Pensions Committee [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 52; WH, No. 30]

Tuesday 9th March 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr Fraser Kemp);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.30 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Regulatory Reform,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolution:
   
   That a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal for the Regulatory Reform 
   (National Health Service Charitable Trust Accounts and Audit) Order 2004, which was 
   laid before the House on 7th January, should be laid before the House.

2 Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill,—Mr Joe Benton reported from Standing Committee C, 
   That it had gone through the Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill, and made Amendments 
   thereunto, and had amended the Title as follows: 
   
   A Bill to place duties on local authorities and health bodies in respect of carers; and 
   for connected purposes. 
   
   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 14th May; 
   and to be printed [Bill 72].
   
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 442].

3 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Irene Adams reported from the 
   Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security (Basic 
   
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Eric Illsley reported from the 
   Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Paternity and Adoption 
   Leave (Amendment) Regulations 2004 and the draft Statutory Paternity Pay and 
   
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Nigel Beard reported from European Standing 
   Committee B the following Resolution: 
   
   That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 13853/03, 
   Commission Communication on the review and update of VAT strategy priorities; 
   welcomes both the progress made so far and the United Kingdom Government’s 
   continued aim to ensure a fair, responsive and robust VAT system based on unanimous 
   agreement amongst Member States. 
   
   Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

6 Illegal Hare-Coursing (Enforcement of Prohibition) Bill,—The Order for reading the Illegal 
   Hare-Coursing (Enforcement of Prohibition) Bill a second time on Friday 12th March 
   was read and discharged.
   
   Bill to be read a second time on Friday 26th March.

7 Referendums (Thresholds) Bill,—The Order for reading the Referendums (Thresholds) Bill 
   a second time on Friday 12th March was read and discharged.
   
   Bill to be read a second time on Friday 26th March.

8 Rights of Way (Amendment),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That 
   leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to public rights of way for 
   vehicles—(Janet Anderson); 
   
   And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member 
   who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, 
   pursuant to Standing Order No. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination 
   of select committees at commencement of public business):—It was agreed to. 
   
   Ordered, That Janet Anderson, Andy Burnham, Chris Bryant, Paddy Tipping, Mr 
   Kevin Barron, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr George Howarth, Mr Kevan Jones, Mr Greg 
   Pope and John Mann do prepare and bring in the Bill.

9 Rights of Way (Amendment) Bill,—Janet Anderson accordingly presented a Bill to amend 
   the law relating to public rights of way for vehicles: And the same was read the first time; 
   and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 21st May and to be printed [Bill 70].

10 Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second 
   Reading of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords]: 
   
   And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now 
   read a second time;
An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word 'That' to the end of the Question and add the words 'this House declines to give a Second Reading to the Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill because the Bill will weaken rather than strengthen the criminal justice system in Northern Ireland; will undermine the independence of the judiciary in Northern Ireland; will lead to the greater politicisation of the criminal justice system in Northern Ireland; and will weaken the principle of appointment to the judiciary solely on merit', instead thereof.—(Mr David Lidington.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Peter Atkinson: 145.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Bridget Prentice: 366.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Bridget Prentice: 358.
Tellers for the Noes, Mrs Iris Robinson, Mr Andrew Hunter: 141.

So the Question was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

11 Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords] [Programme].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [26th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords]:

Committal
1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee
2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 1st April 2004.
3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.
6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings
7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Charlotte Atkins);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Bridget Prentice: 335.
Tellers for the Noes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Hugo Swire: 129.

So the Question was agreed to.

12 Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty's Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords] [Money];
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
(a) any expenditure incurred by a Minister of the Crown by virtue of the Act, and
(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable by virtue of any other Act out of money so provided—(Charlotte Atkins).—It was agreed to.

13 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Dr M. D. Hellier and others for the introduction of a health warning on containers of alcoholic drink was presented and read, and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
14 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till a quarter past Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.15 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Criminal Law,—Draft Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Travel Notification Requirements) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Local Government Finance,—Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 126) [by Act]: to be printed [No. 425] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Agriculture,—Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuffs) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 676), dated 9th March 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Architects,—Architects (Professional Conduct Committee) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 655), dated 9th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


7 Education,—(1) Blackburn with Darwen (Maintained Nursery School Governance) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 657), dated 10th March 2004,


(3) Education (School Teachers’ Pay and Conditions) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 658), dated 10th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

8 Fees and Charges,—(1) Medicines for Human Use and Medical Devices (Fees Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 666), dated 10th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid], and

(2) Travel Documents (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 579), dated 4th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

9 Housing,—Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust (Dissolution) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 586), dated 5th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Immigration,—(1) Immigration (Leave to Remain) (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 580), dated 4th March 2004, and

(2) Immigration (Leave to Remain) (Prescribed Forms and Procedures) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 581), dated 3rd March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


(2) Local Government (Best Value) Performance Indicators and Performance Standards (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 589), dated 4th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

12 National Health Service,—(1) National Health Service (Pension Scheme and Injury Benefits) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 665),

(2) NHS Pensions Agency (Asiantaeth Pensiynau’r GIG) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 668), and
(3) NHS Pensions Agency (Asiantaeth Pensyynau'r GIG) (Establishment and Constitution) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 667), dated 10th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].


14 Pensions,—Local Government Pension Scheme (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 573), dated 4th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

     (2) Ministry of Defence Police (Conduct) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 653), and
     (3) Ministry of Defence Police (Conduct) (Senior Officers) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 654)
     dated 9th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

16 Public Health,—Commission for Healthcare Audit and Inspection (Fees and Frequency of Inspections) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 661), dated 10th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

17 Social Care,—Commission for Social Care Inspection (Fees and Frequency of Inspections) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 662), dated 10th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

18 Social Security,—(1) Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (Supply of Information) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 574), and
     dated 3rd March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

19 Supreme Court,—High Court Enforcement Officers (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 673), dated 6th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

20 Taxes,—Recovery of Duties and Taxes Etc. Due in other Member States (Corresponding UK Claims, Procedure and Supplementary) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 674), dated 9th March 2004 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Other Papers:

21 Culture, Media and Sport,—Department of Culture, Media and Sport Minute, dated 10th March 2004, concerning the Loan of Amedeo Modigliani’s ‘Reclining Nude on her left side 1917’ to the Tate Modern under the Government Indemnity Scheme [by Command] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

22 Defence,—Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 10th March 2004, concerning the gifting of a Messerschmitt 163B-1 (Kommet) to the Imperial War Museum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Courts Boards (Appointment and Procedure) Regulations 2004 and the draft Courts Boards Areas Order 2004:
     (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations and draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
     (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Clive Betts, Mr David Clelland, Mr Parmjit Dhanda, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr David Heath, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Christopher Leslie, Mr Peter Lilley, Laura Moffatt, Bridget Prentice, Bob Russell, Mr Brian Sedgemore, Mr John Smith, Mr Robert N. Wareing and Angela Watkinson.

2 Draft Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 (Destination of Fixed Penalties in Scotland) Order 2004 and the draft Primary Medical Services (Scotland) Act 2004 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004:
     (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
     (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Russell Brown, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Peter Duncan, Paul Farrelly, Mr Frank Field, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Kerry Pollard, Mr Andy Reed, Mr Alan Reid, Mrs Gillian Shephard, Bob Spink, Mr David Stewart, Dr Desmond Turner, Angela Watkinson and Pete Wishart.
3 Draft Driver and Vehicle Licensing Trading Fund Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on
       Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the
       Committee: Mr David Borrow, Mr William Cash, Mr Christopher Chope, Barbara
       Follett, Mr David Jamieson, Mr Peter Kilfoyle, Mr Paul Marsden, Mr David
       Marshall, Gillian Merron, Albert Owen, Mr James Plaskitt, Alan Simpson, Mr Ian
       Taylor, John Thurso and Mr David Wilshire.

4 Draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fourth Standing
       Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the
       Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Henry Bellingham, Malcolm
       Bruce, Brian Cotter, Clive Efford, Paul Flynn, Mr John Greenway, David Hamilton,
       Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Judy Mallaber, Mr Marsha Singh, Ian Stewart, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe,
       Mr John Taylor and Mr Mike Wood.

5 Draft Social Security (Basic Skills Training Pilot) Regulations 2004.—The Committee of
   Selection has discharged Richard Burden from the Sixth Standing Committee on
   Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in
   substitution Mr Kelvin Hopkins.

European Standing Committees

6 European Union Document No. 5916/04 relating to the Marketing of sweet corn from
   genetically modified maize, has been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Disability Discrimination Bill.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint
   Committee on the Draft Disability Discrimination Bill; to be printed [No. 352-vii]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 352-viii]
   [Mr Tom Clarke].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) Sixth Report from the Environment, Food and
   Rural Affairs Committee [The Marine Environment], together with Appendices to the
   Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of
   Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 76];
   (2) Fifth Special Report from the Committee [Government’s Reply to the Eighteenth
       Report from the Committee, Session 2002–03, on The Conduct of the GM Public
       Debate]; to be printed [No. 443];
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Agriculture and EU
       Enlargement]; to be printed [No. 421-ii];
   (4) Memorandum laid before the Committee [The Future of Waste Management];
   and
   (5) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The Marine Environment]
   [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Environmental Audit.—Third Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Pre-
   Budget Report 2003: Aviation follow-up], together with Appendices to the Minutes of
   Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings
   of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 233] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4 European Scrutiny.—Twelfth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed,
   with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xii]
   [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs.—(1) Third Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee
   [The Introduction of the Aggregates Levy in Northern Ireland: One year on], together
   with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed,
   with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 395]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Parades Commission and
       Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998]; to be printed [No. 224-iv]
   [Mr Michael Mates].
6 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Building Regulations]; to be printed [No. 432-i] [Andrew Bennett].

7 Procedure.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee [Programming of Legislation]; to be printed [No. 325-iii] [Sir Nicholas Winterton].

8 Public Accounts.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Early Years: Progress in developing high quality childcare and early education accessible to all]; to be printed [No. 444-i]; and

(2) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Estimating the level of spirits fraud: Memorandum by the Comptroller and Auditor General]

[Mr Edward Leigh].

9 Regulatory Reform.—Fifth Report from the Regulatory Reform Committee [Proposal for the Regulatory Reform (National Health Service Charitable Trust Accounts and Audit) Order 2004], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 438] [Mr Peter Pike].

10 Transport.—(1) Sixth Report from the Transport Committee [Disabled People’s Access to Transport], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 439]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Cars of the Future]; to be printed [No. 319-iv]

[Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

[No. 53; WH, No. 31]

Wednesday 10th March 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr John Heppell.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.29 p.m.]

[No. 54.]


The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill.—Mr Peter Pike reported from Standing Committee F, That it had gone through the Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 21st May.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 449].

2 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Nigel Beard reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Tax Credits Up-rating Regulations 2004, the draft Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance Up-rating Order 2004 and the draft Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance Up-rating (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 European Standing Committee A.—Mr Martin Caton reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 15388/03, draft Regulation fixing for 2004 the fishing opportunities and associated conditions for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Community waters and, for Community vessels, in waters where catch limitations are required; and notes that the Government was successful in negotiating Total Allowable Catches which take full account of scientific advice while securing the best possible fishing opportunities for United Kingdom fishermen.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.
Estimates [2nd allotted day].—The House proceeded, pursuant to Resolution [4th March], to consider the Estimates appointed for consideration under Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee).

Supplementary Estimates, 2003–04 (Department for Transport),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, that further resources, not exceeding £1,377,992,000, be authorised for use during the year ending on 31st March 2004, and that a further sum, not exceeding £41,854,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund for the year ending on 31st March 2004 for expenditure by the Department for Transport.—(Mr John Heppell);

The Debate was concluded, and the Question necessary to dispose of the proceedings was deferred, pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates).

Supplementary Estimates, 2003–04 (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, that further resources, not exceeding £1,251,750,000, be authorised for use during the year ending on 31st March 2004, and that a further sum, not exceeding £613,478,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund for the year ending on 31st March 2004 for expenditure by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs—(Joan Ryan);

And it being Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker interrupted the proceedings, and the Question necessary to dispose of proceedings was deferred, pursuant to paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates).

The Deputy Speaker, pursuant to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates), put the deferred Questions on Supplementary Estimates, 2003–04.

Resolved, That further resources, not exceeding £1,377,992,000, be authorised for use during the year ending on 31st March 2004, and that a further sum, not exceeding £41,854,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund for the year ending on 31st March 2004 for expenditure by the Department for Transport.

Supplementary Estimates, 2003–04: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Resolved, That further resources, not exceeding £1,251,750,000, be authorised for use during the year ending on 31st March 2004, and that a further sum, not exceeding £613,478,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund for the year ending on 31st March 2004 for expenditure by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

5 Estimates.—The Deputy Speaker then put the Questions required to be put, pursuant to Standing Order No. 55 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.).

Resolved, That, during the year ending on 31st March 2005, a number not exceeding 45,325 all ranks be maintained for Naval Service and that numbers in the Reserve Naval and Marine Forces be authorised for the purposes of Parts I, III, IV and V of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 up to the maximum numbers set out in House of Commons Paper No. 283 of this Session.

Resolved, That, during the year ending on 31st March 2005, a number not exceeding 128,195 all ranks be maintained for Army Service and that numbers in the Reserve Land Forces be authorised for the purposes of Parts I, III, IV and V of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 up to the maximum numbers set out in House of Commons Paper No. 283 of this Session.

Resolved, That, during the year ending on 31st March 2005, a number not exceeding 57,415 all ranks be maintained for Air Force Service and that numbers in the Reserve Air Forces be authorised for the purposes of Parts I, III, IV and V of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 up to the maximum numbers set out in House of Commons Paper No. 283 of this Session.

Resolved, That resources, not exceeding £15,975,062.02, be authorised for use to make good excesses of certain resources for defence and civil services for the year ended on 31st March 2003, and that a sum, not exceeding £1,188.38, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to make good excesses of certain grants for defence and civil services for the year ended on 31st March 2003, as set out in House of Commons Paper Nos. 351.
Resolved, That further resources, not exceeding £24,448,658,000, be authorised for use for defence and civil services for the year ending on 31st March 2004, and that a further sum, not exceeding £10,013,491,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to meet the costs of defence and civil services for the year ending on 31st March 2004, as set out in House of Commons Papers Nos. 349 and 350.

Ordered, That a Bill be brought in upon the foregoing Resolutions relating to Estimates, Excesses, 2002–03, and Supplementary Estimates, 2003–04: And that the Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Paul Boateng, Dawn Primarolo, Ruth Kelly and John Healey do prepare and bring it in.

Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill,—John Healey accordingly presented a Bill to authorise the use of resources for the service of the years ending with 31st March 2003 and 2004 and to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the years ending with 31st March 2003 and 2004: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 15th March and to be printed [Bill 71].

Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Inspector Homes Ltd for an inquiry into the quality standards and consumer protection for the building of new homes was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.31 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Justice,—Draft Lay Magistrates (Eligibility) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

2 Rating and Valuation,—Draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3 Representation of the People,—(1) Draft European Parliament (Disqualification) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004, and (2) draft European Parliament (Number of MEPs) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Agriculture,—(1) Evaluation of Active Substances for Pesticides (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 694), and (2) Fees for Assessment of Active Substances (Third Stage Review) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 695), dated 10th March 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


6 Electronic Communications,—Communications (Television Licensing) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 692), dated 10th March 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

7 Fees and Charges,—Kimberley Process (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 686), dated 8th March 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Straw].


9 Local Government,—Police Authorities (Best Value) Performance Indicators Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 644), dated 7th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

10 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Light Dues) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 610), dated 8th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].
   (2) National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) and (Travel Expenses and Remission of Charges) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 663), dated 10th March 2004,
   (3) National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 614), dated 8th March 2004,
   (4) National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Prescription of Drugs etc.) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 629), dated 8th March 2004,
   (5) National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) and (General Ophthalmic Services) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 642), dated 9th March 2004,
   (7) National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 627), dated 8th March 2004, and
   (8) NHS Professionals Special Health Authority (Establishment and Constitution) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 648), dated 9th March 2004,
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

12 Open Spaces,—Draft Greenwich Park, Hyde Park and The Regent’s Park (Vehicle Parking) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

   (2) Independent Police Complaints Commission (Staff Conduct) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 660), dated 9th March 2004,
   (4) Police (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 643), dated 8th March 2004, and
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

14 Social Security,—Income-related Benefits (Subsidy to Authorities) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 646), dated 9th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

15 Defence,—Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 11th March 2004, concerning contingent liabilities in respect of the submarine reactor fuel Core Factory and associated Neptune test reactor facility [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

16 Doctors’ and Dentists’ Remuneration,—Thirty-third Report of the Review Body on Doctors’ and Dentists’ Remuneration [by Command] [Cm. 6127] [The Prime Minister].

17 Government Trading Funds,—Treasury Minutes, dated 11th March 2004, on further financial objectives desirable of achievement by—
   (1) the Driving Standards Agency Trading Fund, and
   (2) the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency
   [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

18 Home Office,—Paper, entitled Reforming the Coroner and Death Certification Service [by Command] [Cm. 6159] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers withdrawn:

19 Local Government Finance,—Local Government Finance (England) Special Grant Report (No. 126) [laid 10th March].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Courts Board (Appointment and Procedure) Regulations 2004 and draft Courts Boards Areas Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations and draft Order.
2 Draft Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 (Destination of Fixed Penalties in Scotland) Order 2004 and the draft Primary Medical Services (Scotland) Act 2004 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

3 Draft Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency Trading Fund Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Forth Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Draft Agriculture Statistics (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee of the Environmental Audit Committee [Environmental Crime: Fly-tipping, Fly-posting, Litter, Graffiti and Noise]; to be printed [No. 445-i]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Water: the Periodic Review 2004 and the Environmental Programme]; to be printed [No. 416-iii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Obesity]; to be printed [No. 23-vi] [Mr David Hinchcliffe].

3 Liaison,—First Report from the Liaison Committee [Annual Report for 2003], to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 446] [Sir George Young].

4 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [The Honours System]; to be printed [No. 212-iv] [Tony Wright].

[No. 54; WH, No. 32]


The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Privacy and Media Intrusion—Fifth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 2002–03, and the responses thereto),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.-(Mr Fraser Kemp.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 16th March.

[Adjourned at 4.56 p.m.]

[No. 55.]

Friday 12th March 2004.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

1 The Speaker’s Absence,—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Sir Michael Lord, the Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

PRAYERS.

2 The Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker.

3 Cardiac Risk in the Young (Screening) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Cardiac Risk in the Young (Screening) Bill;
   And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;
   The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.
   Bill withdrawn.
4 Property Repairs (Prohibition of Cold-calling) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Property Repairs (Prohibition of Cold-calling) Bill:

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 26th March.

5 Health and Safety at Work (Offences) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Health and Safety at Work (Offences) Bill:

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th May.

6 Civil Service Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Civil Service Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th May.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till two minutes to Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 15th March.

[Adjourned at 2.58 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Pensions,—Personal Injuries (Civilians) (Amendment) Scheme 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 717), dated 10th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].


(2) Social Security (Industrial Injuries) (Dependency) (Permitted Earnings Limits) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 578), dated 3rd March 2004, and

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

3 Home Office,—Home Office Minute, dated 12th March 2004, concerning a contingent liability regarding payments to the City of London Police for enlarging the scope of its Economic Crime Basic Command Unit [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister,—Government Response to the Third Report of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee, Session 2003–04, on the Fire Service [by Command] [Cm. 6154] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Trade and Industry,—Department of Trade and Industry Minute, dated 12th March 2004, concerning the Renewal of an Indemnity to Nuclear Risk Insurers Ltd (formerly British Nuclear Insurers) [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee on 11th March [Foreign Policy Aspects of the War against Terrorism]; to be printed [No. 441-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Bombings in Madrid.—The House observed two minutes’ silence in memory of those who died as a result of the bombings in Madrid on 11th March.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Courts Boards Orders (Appointment and Procedure) Regulations 2004 and the draft Courts Boards Areas Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 56 (Consolidated Fund Bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

And the Question being put forthwith, That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

4 Fire and Rescue Services Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Fire and Rescue Services Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC1) (Fire and Rescue National Framework—Scrutiny)—(Mr Philip Hammond)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mark Francois, Hugh Robertson: 156.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Derek Twigg: 254.

Another Clause (NC2) (Retained firefighters)—(Mr Philip Hammond)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC4) (Limitation on power to authorise charging)—(Mr Philip Hammond)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 126.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Vernon Coaker: 317.

Another Clause (NC5) (Regional management structures)—(Mr Philip Hammond)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 149.

Tellers for the Noes, Charlotte Atkins, Mr John Heppell: 263.

Another Clause (NC7) (Directions relating to particular classes of fires and emergencies)—(Mr Philip Hammond)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

And it being Nine o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [26th January].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 153.

Tellers for the Noes, Charlotte Atkins, Mr John Heppell: 265.
The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on the Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Amendments (Nos. 7 to 13) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;

And it being Ten o’clock, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [26th January]:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Ordered. That Mr Harry Barnes be discharged from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and Mr Stephen Hepburn be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Mr and Mrs Luxton and others for research into molecular patches as a treatment for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10:28 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Criminal Law,—Draft Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Offensive Weapons) (Amendment) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Food,—Natural Mineral Water, Spring Water and Bottled Drinking Water (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 656), dated 8th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].


4 Social Security,—(1) Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 761), dated 15th March 2004 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo], and

(2) State Pension Credit (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 647), dated 8th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].


6 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—(1) ACAS Arbitration Scheme (Great Britain) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 753), dated 9th March 2004, and

(2) Compromise Agreements (Description of Person) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 754), dated 12th March 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

7 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—Statute, dated 26th June 2002, made by the Governing Body of Wadham College, Oxford, amending the Statutes of the College [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].


Other Papers:

9 Low Pay Commission,—Paper, entitled The National Minimum Wage: Report of the Low Pay Commission on Protecting Young Workers [by Command] [Cm. 6152] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].
10 National Audit.—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
   (1) Cambridge-MIT Institute, and
   (2) The United Kingdom’s Civil Space Activities
   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 362 and 359] [Clerk of the House].

11 Public Petitions.—(1) Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on—
   (i) the Petition [11th February] from residents of South West Bedfordshire for a
      review of the council tax system and the effect of the tax on those on fixed incomes
      and pensions, and
   (ii) the Petition [1st March] from Dibden residents against the erection of a TETRA
      telecommunications mast by Airwave mmO2 at Home Farm; and
   (2) Observations by Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Petition
      [25th February] from residents of North Kent against the sale of fireworks to the public
      [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

Pensions Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Martin Caton as an additional Chairman of
Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills
   Committee [National Skills Strategy: 14–19 Education]; to be printed [No. 197-vi] [Mr
   Barry Sheerman].

2 Human Rights.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Human Rights
   [Human Rights and Deaths in Custody]; to be printed [No. 209-v] [Jean Corston].

3 International Development.—(1) Second Special Report from the International
   Development Committee [Government Response to the Committee’s First Report, on
   Trade and Development at the WTO; Learning the lessons of Cancún to revive a genuine
   development round], together with an Appendix; to be printed [No. 452]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Migration and Development];
      to be printed [No. 79-viii]
      [Tony Baldry].

4 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the
   Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Urban Affairs Sub-Committee of the
   Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the
   Regions Committee [The Role and Effectiveness of the Housing Corporation]; to be
   printed [No. 401-i] [Clive Betts].

5 Public Accounts.—(1) Sixteenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Progress in
   improving the medical assessment of incapacity and disability benefits]; to be printed,
   together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report
   [No. 120]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Criminal Records Bureau:
      Delivering Safer Recruitment?]; to be printed [No. 453-i]
      [Mr Edward Leigh].

6 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology
   Committee [The Use of Science in UK International Development Policy]; to be printed
   [No. 133-iii] [Dr Ian Gibson].

THE SPEAKER’S CERTIFICATE
The Speaker certified that the Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill is a Money Bill within the
meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.
Tuesday 16th March 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] be now considered.
   Amendments made to the Bill.
   Bill to be read the third time.

2 Gender Recognition Bill [Lords].—Mrs Marion Roe reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Gender Recognition Bill [Lords] and made an Amendment thereunto.
   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 457].

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 (Destination of Fixed Penalties in Scotland) Order 2004 and the draft Primary Medical Services (Scotland) Act 2004 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords agree to the Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords disagree to the Amendment made by this House to a Lords Amendment to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pods) Bill and they insist on a Lords Amendment to which this House has disagreed, for which disagreement and insistence they assign Reasons.

5 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill,—Lords Reasons for disagreeing to an Amendment made by the Commons to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill and for insisting on an Amendment disagreed to by the Commons to be printed [Bill 74].

6 Prevention of Homelessness.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about homelessness: And that Mr Mohammad Sarwar, Mr Khalid Mahmood, Alice Mahon, Angus Robertson, Jim Dobbin, Mr Frank Roy, Sandra Osborne and Mrs Helen Liddell do prepare and bring it in.

7 Prevention of Homelessness Bill.—Mr Mohammad Sarwar accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about homelessness: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 18th June and to be printed [Bill 73].

8 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security (Basic Skills Training Pilot) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 12th February, be approved—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.

9 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security (Intensive Activity Period 50 to 59 Pilot) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 12th February, be approved—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.

10 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security (Intensive Activity Period 50 to 59 Pilot) (No. 2) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 12th February, be approved—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.

11 Value Added Tax,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 13853/03, Commission Communication on the review and update of VAT strategy priorities; and welcomes both the progress made so far and the United Kingdom Government’s continued aim to ensure a fair, responsive and robust VAT system based on unanimous agreement amongst Member States—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.
12 Traffic Management Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Traffic Management Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC11) (Power to Inspect Blue Badges)—(Mr Tony McNulty)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC1) (Civil enforcement of traffic contraventions (guidance))—(Mr Christopher Chope)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC2) (Permits issued under Part 3 (fees))—(Mr Christopher Chope)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 175.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr John Heppell: 285.

Another Clause (NC4) (Use of bus lanes)—(Mr Greg Knight)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC5) (Traffic Lights)—(Mr Greg Knight)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 167.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Vernon Coaker: 279.

Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 5, line 19, at the end to insert the words—

'(3) When exercising any powers made under provisions referred to in subsection (1), and before arranging for the removal of a broken-down vehicle, a traffic officer shall, when this can be done without compromising safety or unreasonably impeding traffic-flow—

(a) grant the driver of the vehicle, where present, a reasonable opportunity to contact a breakdown organisation or other service provider of their choice, and if that organisation confirms to the traffic officer that it will attend the broken-down vehicle as soon as practicable, then the traffic officer shall allow that organisation a reasonable period in which to attend the aforesaid vehicle; or

(b) where the driver of the broken-down vehicle is not a member of a breakdown organisation, take into account any wishes of the driver with regard to attendance on the relevant vehicle and accede to such wishes where this would fulfil the purpose or purposes specified in section 5(3).'—(Mr Christopher Chope.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Peter Atkinson: 174.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Paul Clark: 276.

It being after Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question on the Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown, pursuant to Order [5th January].

Amendments (Nos. 3 and 4) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;

And it being Seven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [5th January].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Paul Clark: 333.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 136.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.
13 Motions to sit in private.—Mr Patrick McLoughlin moved, That the House sit in private.

The Deputy Speaker put the Question forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 163 (Motions to sit in private).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 122.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Paul Clark: 311.

So the Question was negatived.

14 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill.—The House, pursuant to Order [8th March], proceeded to consider forthwith the Lords Reasons for disagreeing to a Commons Amendment to a Lords Amendment and insisting on a Lords Amendment to which the Commons have disagreed to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House does not insist on its Amendment No. 1A to Lords Amendment No. 1—(Mr Christopher Leslie);

And it being one hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords Message, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair, pursuant to Order [8th March]—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Lords Message.

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in lieu of Commons Amendment No. 1A, to leave out lines 16 to 18 and insert the words—

‘(c) Yorkshire and the Humber;
(d) North West.’

Postal voting is voting where no polling station is used and a person entitled to vote in person or by proxy must deliver by post or by such other means as is specified in a pilot order—

(a) the ballot paper, and

(b) the completed declaration of identity form.

The declaration of identity form is a form which is delivered along with the ballot paper and which is completed by being signed—

(a) by the person to whom the ballot paper is addressed, and

(b) by a witness to that signing whose name and address are clearly marked on the form.’; instead thereof—(Mr Christopher Leslie.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Margaret Moran: 274.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 152.

So the Question was agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 3.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House insists on its disagreement to Lords Amendment No. 3; and proposes the following Amendment ((a)) to the Bill in lieu thereof:—

In page 2, line 14, at the end, to insert the words—

‘( ) The pilot order must specify the form and content of the declaration of identity form.—(Mr Christopher Leslie);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Charlotte Atkins: 312.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 115.

So the Question was agreed to.

Message to the Lords, with the Bill and Amendments.

15 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Nine o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 9.30 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Social Security,—Draft Employment Zones (Allocation to Contractors) Pilot Regulations 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Education,—LEA Budget, Schools Budget and Individual Schools Budget and the Financing of Maintained Schools (No. 2) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., No. 659), dated 16th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

3 Food,—Welfare Food (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 723), dated 11th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].


5 Social Security,—(1) Social Security (Contributions, Categorisation of Earners and Intermediaries) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 770), dated 16th March [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo], and

   (2) Statutory Maternity Pay (Compensation of Employers) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 698), dated 10th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

6 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—Statutes made by the Governing Bodies of—

   (1) Exeter College, Oxford, dated 11th November 2003,

   (2) Magdalen College, Oxford, dated 14th July 2003, and

   (3) St Hilda’s College, Oxford, dated 5th December 2003

amending the Statutes of the Colleges [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

Other Papers:

7 Census,—Paper, entitled Census 2001: Key Statistics for parishes in England and communities in Wales [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

8 Home Office,—Home Office Minute, dated 15th March 2004, concerning a proposed contingent liability for the provision of an indemnity to operators of new detection technology [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

9 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Tackling cancer in England: saving more lives [by Act]; to be printed [No. 364] [Clerk of the House].

10 Nursing and Midwifery,—Accounts of the Nursing and Midwifery Council for 2002–03, with the Certificate of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr David Lammy].

11 Public Petitions,—(1) Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [18th November, in the last session of Parliament] from residents of the Cotswolds for the appointment of an independent inspector to consider an application by Huntsmans Quarries Ltd in relation to aggregate recycling, agricultural restoration and infilling works,

   (2) Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [9th December] from residents of Billington and Stanbridge for greater powers for local authorities regarding travellers,

   (3) Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [17th December] from residents of Osbaldwick, York, for a planning inquiry into proposals for housing development in Metcalfe Lane, Osbaldwick, York,

   (4) Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [13th January] from Bob Harris and others for smaller increases in council tax in Hastings in future years, and

   (5) Observations by the Secretary of State for Defence on the Petition [29th January] from Robert John Hodgson for an investigation into his treatment by the Royal Air Force at the time of his sister’s death

[by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

12 School Teachers,—Thirteenth Report of the School Teachers’ Review Body, Part 2: 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6164] [The Prime Minister].
Papers withdrawn:


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 (Destination of Fixed Penalties in Scotland) Order 2004 and the draft Primary Medical Services (Scotland) Act 2004 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Jim Murphy from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders) and nominated in substitution Paul Clark.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Gangmasters: follow up]; to be printed [No. 455-i]; and (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Gangmasters: follow up] [Mr Michael Jack].

2 Foreign Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Foreign Policy Aspects of the War against Terrorism]; to be printed [No. 441-ii]; and (2) First Special Report from the Committee [Implications for the Work of the House and its Committees of the Government’s Lack of Co-operation with the Foreign Affairs Committee’s inquiry into The Decision to go to War in Iraq]; to be printed [No. 440] [Donald Anderson].

3 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [The Rehabilitation of Prisoners]; to be printed [No. 66-ii] [Mr John Denham].

4 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Planning and the Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Planning and the Regions Committee [Postal Voting]; to be printed [No. 400-ii] [Andrew Bennett].

5 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [The Proposed Whisky Strip Stamp]; to be printed [No. 419-iii] [Mrs Irene Adams].

6 Statutory Instruments.—Twelfth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

7 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Restoring confidence in long-term savings]; to be printed [No. 71-iv] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 57; WH, No. 33]

Tuesday 16th March 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.) And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.42 p.m.]
PRAYERS.

1 Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report and Financial Statement and Budget Report,—
Ordered, That there be laid before this House a copy of the Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report and Financial Statement and Budget Report, March 2004, as laid before this House by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer when opening the Budget.—(Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer.)

2 Ways and Means.—Provisional Collection of Taxes,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 51 (Ways and means motions), That, pursuant to section 5 of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968, provisional statutory effect shall be given to the following Motions:—
(a) Rates of tobacco products duty (Motion No. 2);
(b) Rate of duty on beer (Motion No. 3);
(c) Rates of duty on wine and made-wine (Motion No. 4);
(d) Amusement machine licence duty (rates) (Motion No. 17)—(Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer):—It was agreed to.

3 Ways and Means.—Amendment of the Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That—
(1) It is expedient to amend the law with respect to the National Debt and the public revenue and to make further provision in connection with finance.
(2) This Resolution does not extend to the making of any amendment with respect to value added tax so as to provide—
(a) for zero-rating or exempting a supply, acquisition or importation;
(b) for refunding an amount of tax;
(c) for any relief, other than a relief that—
(i) so far as it is applicable to goods, applies to goods of every description, and
(ii) so far as it is applicable to services, applies to services of every description—
(Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer);
Ordered, That the Debate be now adjourned.—(Joan Ryan.)
Debate be resumed to-morrow.

4 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 24th March,—
(1) notwithstanding paragraph (2)(c) of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), proceedings on opposition business shall lapse at Four o’clock or three hours after their commencement, whichever is the later, and
(2) the Motion for the adjournment of the House relating to Equitable Life may be proceeded with, though opposed, until Seven o’clock or for three hours, whichever is the later, and shall then lapse.—(Joan Ryan.)

5 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—
(1) residents of South Bedfordshire for amendments to the Milton Keynes and South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy; and
(2) residents of the Bridgwater Constituency for amendments to the Children Act 1989 to ensure a legal presumption of contact between children and their parents and grandparents were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Mr George Henry Hamilton for measures providing recourse for those about whom references have been provided based on unreliable information was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Joan Ryan);
And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.29 p.m.]

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APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Administration of Estates.—Administration of Estates (Small Payments) (Increase of Limit) Order (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 68), dated 27th February 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].


5 Pharmacy.—Pharmacy (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R.(N.I.), 2004, No. 78), dated 3rd March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

6 Value Added Tax.—(1) Value Added Tax (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 767),
(2) Value Added Tax (Consideration for Fuel Provided for Private Use) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 776),
(3) Value Added Tax (Increase of Registration Limits) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 775),
(4) Value Added Tax (Reduced Rate) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 777), and
dated 17th March 2004 [by Act] [John Healey].

Other Papers:

7 Bank of England.—Notice given by the Treasury to the Bank of England specifying for the purposes of Section 11 of the Bank of England Act 1998 what price stability is taken to consist of and what the economic policy of Her Majesty’s Government is to be taken to be [by Act] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

8 Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report and Financial Statement and Budget Report.—Economic and Fiscal Strategy Report and Financial Statement and Budget Report, March 2004, entitled Prudence for a Purpose: A Britain of Stability and Strength [pursuant to Order this day]; to be printed [No. 301] [Ruth Kelly].

9 Finance.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Audit of Assumptions for Budget 2004 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 434] [Clerk of the House].

10 Government Trading Funds.—Treasury Minute, dated 17th March 2004, on the Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre Trading Fund [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

11 Treasury.—Paper, entitled Financing Britain’s Future: Review of the Revenue Departments [by Command] [Cm. 6163] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Gangmasters ( Licensing) Bill.—The Committee of Selection has nominated twenty Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill: Ms Candy Atherton, Peter Bradley, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Nicholas Brown, Andy Burnham, Jon Cruddas, Mr Frank Dobson, Andrew George, Mr Mark Lazarowicz, Mr Peter Luff, Rob Marris, Mr Eric Martlew, Alun Michael, Mr Owen Paterson, Mrs Gillian Shephard, Jim Sheridan, Mr Mark Simmonds, Geraldine Smith and Dr Gavin Strang.

2 Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords]:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Harry Barnes, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Roger Casale, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Tom Harris, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr Andrew Hunter, Huw Irranca-Davies, Ian Lucas, Mr Eddie McGrady, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr John Spellar, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Hugo Swire, Ms Dari Taylor, Gareth Thomas and Mr David Trimble.

3 Draft Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (Fees) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Graham Allen, Mr David Atkinson, Mr Harold Best, Ms Hazel Blears, Peter Bottomley, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mrs Helen Clark, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Wayne David, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Mr George Mudie, Mr James Paice, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Paul Stinchcombe and Ms Dari Taylor.

4 Draft Employment Zones (Allocation to Contractors) Pilot Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Peter Atkinson, Virginia Bottomley, Mr Desmond Browne, Richard Burden, Brian Cotter, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Iain Luke, Kali Mountford, Albert Owen, Linda Perham, Mr John Smith, Llew Smith, Sir Teddy Taylor and Steve Webb.

5 Draft Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Adrian Bailey, Tony Baldry, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Vernon Coaker, Jim Dobbin, Patrick Hall, Mr Tom Harris, Mr Dai Havard, Lady Hermon, Rob Marris, Mr Alan Milburn, Joyce Quin, Mrs Gillian Shephard, Mr John Spellar, Mr Desmond Swayne and Mr Hugo Swire.

6 Draft Agricultural Statistics (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mrs Helen Liddell, Rob Marris, Denis Murphy and Dr Gavin Strang from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Dr Ashok Kumar, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Mark Todd, Derek Twigg and David Wright.

7 Draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Richard Bacon, Mr Tony Banks, Chris Bryant, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Mr Mark Fisher, Mike Gapes, Mr Roger Godsiff, Paul Holmes, Mr Peter Luff, Margaret Moran, Kali Mountford, Mr Chris Pond, Mr Frank Roy and Steve Webb.

8 Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (New Zealand) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Keith Bradley, Mr John Burnett, Mr Jim Cousins, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Jim Fitzpatrick, Helen Jones, Mr David Laws, Andrew Mackinlay, Dawn Primarolo, Andrew Selous, Jonathan Shaw, Mr Richard Shepherd, Dr Gavin Strang, Mr Andrew Tyrie and Mr Tom Watson.

European Standing Committees

9 European Union Document No. 15185/03, relating to the Staff Regulations of officials of the European Communities, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Disability Discrimination Bill,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Disability Discrimination Bill; to be printed [No. 352-ix]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 352-x] [Mr Tom Clarke].
2 European Scrutiny.—Thirteenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xiii] [Michael Connarty].

3 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Postal Voting]; to be printed [No. 400-iii] [Andrew Bennett].

4 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Out of sight—not out of mind: Ofwat and the public sewer network in England and Wales]; to be printed [No. 463-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

5 Welsh Affairs.—(1) Third Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Provision of Railway Services in Wales], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 458];

   (2) Second Special Report from the Committee [The Government Response to the First Report of the Committee, Session 2003–04, on The Empowerment of Children and Young People in Wales]; to be printed [No. 459]; and

   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Manufacturing and Trade in Wales]; to be printed [No. 323-iii]

   [Mr Martyn Jones].

6 Work and Pensions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Health and Safety]; to be printed [No. 456-i]; and

   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Miscellaneous]

   [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 58; WH, No. 34]

Wednesday 17th March 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr Jim Murphy);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.30 p.m.]
PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords agree to an Amendment made by this House to a Lords Amendment to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill, with an Amendment, to which they desire the agreement of this House, and they do not insist on their remaining Amendment to which this House has disagreed, and they agree to the Amendment made by this House in lieu thereof.

2 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill.—Lords Amendment to a Commons Amendment to a Lords Amendment to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill to be considered on Monday 22nd March; and to be printed [Bill 75].

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Eric Forth reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency Trading Fund Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Roger Gale reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Draft Agricultural Statistics (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Ways and Means.—Amendment of the Law.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed yesterday, That—

(1) It is expedient to amend the law with respect to the National Debt and the public revenue and to make further provision in connection with finance.

(2) This Resolution does not extend to the making of any amendment with respect to value added tax so as to provide—

(a) for zero-rating or exempting a supply, acquisition or importation;
(b) for refunding an amount of tax;
(c) for any relief, other than a relief that—

(i) so far as it is applicable to goods, applies to goods of every description, and
(ii) so far as it is applicable to services, applies to services of every description;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

Ordered, That the Debate be now adjourned.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

Debate to be resumed on Monday 22nd March.

6 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Councillor Ronald Feldman and others against the closure of local post offices in Alwoodley Park and Sandhill Parade was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Six o’clock, adjourned till Monday 22nd March.

[Adjourned at 6.30 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Representation of the People (Northern Ireland).—Draft European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

2 Terms and Conditions of Employment.—Draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Agriculture,—Recovery of Agricultural Levies Due in Other Member States Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 800), dated 18th March 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Criminal Law,—Zimbabwe (Freezing of Funds and Economic Resources) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 816), dated 18th March 2004 [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

5 Education,—LEA Budget, Schools Budget and Individual Schools Budget (Wandsworth) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 804), dated 18th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

6 Immigration,—(1) Immigration Services Commissioner (Designated Professional Body) (Fees) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 801), and

(2) Immigration Services Commissioner (Registration Fee) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 802),
dated 16th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

7 Immigration and Asylum,—Asylum Support (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 763), dated 11th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


9 National Assistance Services,—National Assistance (Sums for Personal Requirements and Assessment of Resources) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 760), dated 15th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

10 Public Health,—Tobacco Advertising and Promotion (Point of Sale) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 765), dated 16th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

11 Public Petitions,—(1) Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [17th September 2003, in the last session of Parliament] from residents of Chenies, Buckinghamshire, and others against the installation of a telecommunications mast at Chenies,

(2) Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [11th December 2003] from the constituents of James Purnell against cuts to the budget of Gorse Hall day centre, and

(3) Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [10th February] from members and supporters of Breathe Easy York for provision of ambulatory oxygen and pulmonary rehabilitation services by the NHS [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

12 Regulatory Reform,—Proposal for a draft Regulatory Reform (Local Commissioner for Wales) Order 2004, together with a statement by the Wales Office [by Act] [Mr Peter Hain].

Papers withdrawn:


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Derek Conway Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

2 Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

3 Draft Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (Fees) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Forth Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Draft Employment Zones (Allocation to Contractors) Pilot Regulations 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jonathan Sayer Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.
5 Draft Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency Trading Fund Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr David Borrow from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Ann Coffey.

6 Draft Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

7 Draft Agricultural Statistics (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in place of Mr Eric Illsley in respect of the draft Order.

8 Draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) Regulations 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

Grand Committees

9 The Speaker has appointed Mr Martin Caton Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in respect of its meetings on Wednesday 24th March.

European Standing Committees

10 The Speaker has appointed Mr John Cummings Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of European Union Document No. 5188/04 on Review of the Working Time Directive.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [The Honours System]; to be printed [No. 212-v] [Tony Wright].

[No. 59; WH, No. 35]

Thursday 18th March 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (The Scientific Response to Terrorism—Eighth Report from the Science and Technology Committee, Session 2002–03, and the Government’s response thereto).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Charlotte Atkins);

And the sitting having continued for three hours, it was adjourned without Question put, till Tuesday 23rd March.

[Adjourned at 5.30 p.m.]

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation. — Mr Eric Forth reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (Fees) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Sovereignty of Parliament (European Communities) Bill. — Mr William Cash, supported by Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Eric Forth, Sir Nicholas Winterton, Mr Edward Leigh, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Richard Bacon, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Denzil Davies, Mr John Redwood and Sir Peter Tapsell, presented a Bill to provide that Community treaties, Community instruments and Community obligations shall only be binding in legal proceedings in the United Kingdom insofar as they do not conflict with a subsequent, expressly inconsistent, enactment of the Parliament of the United Kingdom: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 14th May; and to be printed [Bill 76].

3 Food Labelling. — Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make further provision for relevant information about food, including information about the country of origin, contents and standards of production of that food, to be made available to consumers by labelling, marking or in other ways; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Richard Bacon, Mr Frank Roy, Mr Kevan Jones, Mr Keith Simpson, Mr A. J. Beith, Angus Robertson, Mr Alan Williams, Alistair Burt, Mr Stephen Pound, Ms Candy Atherton, Mr David Ruffley and Sir Nicholas Winterton do prepare and bring it in.

4 Food Labelling Bill. — Mr Richard Bacon accordingly presented a Bill to make further provision for relevant information about food, including information about the country of origin, contents and standards of production of that food, to be made available to consumers by labelling, marking or in other ways; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th July and to be printed [Bill 77].

5 Royal Assent. — The Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, That Her Majesty had signified her Royal Assent to the following Act, agreed upon by both Houses:


6 Ways and Means. — Amendment of the Law. — The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 17th March, That—

(1) It is expedient to amend the law with respect to the National Debt and the public revenue and to make further provision in connection with finance.

(2) This Resolution does not extend to the making of any amendment with respect to value added tax so as to provide—

(a) for zero-rating or exempting a supply, acquisition or importation;

(b) for refunding an amount of tax;

(c) for any relief, other than a relief that—

(i) so far as it is applicable to goods, applies to goods of every description, and

(ii) so far as it is applicable to services, applies to services of every description; And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate. And it being Ten o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

7 Foreign Affairs. — Ordered, That Richard Ottaway be discharged from the Foreign Affairs Committee and Mr Andrew Mackay be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

8 Treasury. — Ordered, That Mr David Ruffley be discharged from the Treasury Committee and Mr David Heathcoat-Amory be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

9 Adjournment. — A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—(Paul Clark);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then half-past Ten o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 19th March 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):


2 Treaty Series (No. 15, 2004),—Exchange of Notes, done at Antananarivo on 25th June 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Madagascar concerning Certain Commercial Debts (The United Kingdom/Madagascar Debt Agreement No. 9 (2001)) [Cm. 6161] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 19th March 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Civil Aviation,—Civil Aviation (Working Time) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 756), dated 11th March 2004 [Mr Secretary Darling].


Other Papers:


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 22nd March 2004:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

8 Rating and Valuation,—Draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

9 Civil Aviation,—Air Navigation (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 705), dated 10th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

10 Dangerous Drugs,—Controlled Drugs (Substances Useful for Manufacture) (Intra-Community Trade) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 850), dated 18th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

11 European Communities,—European Communities (Designation) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 706), dated 10th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].


Other Papers:

13 Air Force (Constitution),—Amendments to the Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force relating to Retired Pay and Pensions [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].
14 Animal Health,—Return of Expenditure incurred and prosecutions taken under the Animal Health Act 1981 and incidences of disease in imported animals for the year 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

15 Civil List,—List of new and supplementary pensions granted under the Civil List Act 1972 for 2003–04 [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

16 Government Resources and Accounts,—General Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General, on Financial Auditing and Reporting: 2002–03 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 365] [Clerk of the House].

17 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
   (1) The Drug Treatment and Testing Order: early lessons, and
   (2) The Recovery of Debt by the Inland Revenue
   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 366 and 363] [Clerk of the House].

18 Pensions,—Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 708), dated 10th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

19 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minutes on the First and Second Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6130] [Ruth Kelly].

Papers withdrawn:


APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Eddie McGrady from Standing Committee D (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Seamus Mallon.

2 Draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) Regulations 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations in place of Mr George Stevenson.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sites of Special Scientific Interest Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Sites of Special Scientific Interest]; to be printed [No. 475-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

2 Human Rights,—Ninth Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Naval Discipline Act 1957 (Remedial) Order 2004]; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 477i][Jean Corston].

3 Science and Technology,—(1) Fifth Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Too little too late? Government Investment in Nanotechnology]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 56]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Director General for Higher Education: Introductory Hearing]; to be printed [No. 461-i] [Dr Ian Gibson].

4 Work and Pensions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Work and Pensions Committee [DWP’s Administration of IT Projects]; to be printed [No. 311-v] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
Tuesday 23rd March 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords].—The London Local Authorities Bill [Lords] was read the third time and passed, with Amendments.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jonathan Sayeed reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Employment Zones (Allocation to Contractors) Pilot Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Local Land Charges (Fees),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision in relation to fees payable in connection with local land charges: And that Mr David Borrow, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Kali Mountford, Mr George Howarth, Mr Peter Pike, Mr Mark Hendrick and Ms Dari Taylor do prepare and bring it in.

5 Local Land Charges (Fees) Bill,—Mr David Borrow accordingly presented a Bill to make provision in relation to fees payable in connection with local land charges: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April and to be printed [Bill 78].

6 Ways and Means,—Amendment of the Law,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 17th March, That—

(1) It is expedient to amend the law with respect to the National Debt and the public revenue and to make further provision in connection with finance.

(2) This Resolution does not extend to the making of any amendment with respect to value added tax so as to provide—

(a) for zero-rating or exempting a supply, acquisition or importation;

(b) for refunding an amount of tax;

(c) for any relief, other than a relief that—

(i) so far as it is applicable to goods, applies to goods of every description, and

(ii) so far as it is applicable to services, applies to services of every description;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate. And the Question being put:—It was agreed to.

The Speaker then, pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 51 (Ways and means motions), put forthwith the Questions necessary to dispose of the further Motions which were made by Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer.

2. Rates of tobacco products duty

Resolved, That—

(1) For the Table of rates of duty in Schedule 1 to the Tobacco Products Duty Act 1979 there shall be substituted—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Cigarettes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Cigars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Hand-rolling tobacco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Other smoking tobacco and chewing tobacco</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) This Resolution shall have effect as from 6 o’clock in the evening of 17th March 2004.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.
3. Rate of duty on beer

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 36(1AA)(a) of the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979, for “£12.22” there shall be substituted “£12.59”.

(2) This Resolution shall have effect as from midnight on 21st March 2004. And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

4. Rates of duty on wine and made-wine

Resolved, That—

(1) For Part 1 of the Table of rates of duty in Schedule 1 to the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979 there shall be substituted—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of wine or made-wine</th>
<th>Rates of duty per hectolitre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wine or made-wine of a strength not exceeding 4 per cent</td>
<td>£50.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine or made-wine of a strength exceeding 4 per cent but not exceeding 5.5 per cent</td>
<td>£69.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine or made-wine of a strength exceeding 5.5 per cent but not exceeding 15 per cent and not sparkling</td>
<td>£163.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sparkling wine or sparkling made-wine of a strength exceeding 5.5 per cent but less than 8.5 per cent</td>
<td>£166.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sparkling wine or sparkling made-wine of a strength of 8.5 per cent or of a strength exceeding 8.5 per cent but not exceeding 15 per cent</td>
<td>£220.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine or made-wine of a strength exceeding 15 per cent but not exceeding 22 per cent</td>
<td>£217.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) This Resolution shall have effect as from midnight on 21st March 2004. And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

5. Alcoholic liquor duties (duty stamps)

The Question being put, That provision may be made about stamps to be purchased for, affixed to and carried by retail containers of certain alcoholic liquors;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Joan Ryan: 309.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruftley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 205.

So the Question was agreed to.

6. Hydrocarbon oil etc duties (rates)

The Question being put, That provision may be made amending rates of duty and rebate in the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Joan Ryan: 311.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrrey Clifton-Brown, Hugh Robertson: 205.

So the Question was agreed to.

7. Hydrocarbon oil etc duties (road fuel gas)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979 in respect of road fuel gas.

8. Hydrocarbon oil etc duties (fuel oil)

Resolved, That provision may be made enabling the amendment of the definition of “fuel oil” for the purposes of the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979.
9. Hydrocarbon oil etc duties (mixing)

Resolved, That provision may be made imposing an excise duty on mixtures containing fully-rebated or partially-rebated hydrocarbon oil.

10. Hydrocarbon oil etc duties (bioethanol)

Resolved, That provision may be made—
(a) imposing an excise duty on bioethanol and mixtures containing bioethanol,
(b) for the application in relation to bioethanol of the provisions of the enactments relating to hydrocarbon oil or any description of hydrocarbon oil,
(c) for the modification in relation to bioethanol of the provisions of the enactments relating to hydrocarbon oil or any description of hydrocarbon oil, and
(d) defining bioethanol for those purposes and conferring power to amend the definition by order.

11. Hydrocarbon oil etc duties (sulphur-free petrol and diesel)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979 in respect of “sulphur-free petrol” and “sulphur-free diesel”.

12. Hydrocarbon oil etc duties (biodiesel)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending the provisions of the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979 in relation to biodiesel.

13. Hydrocarbon oil etc duties (fuel substitutes)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 6A of the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979.

14. Hydrocarbon oil etc duties (warehousing)

Resolved, That provision may be made enabling the application of Part VIII of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 to certain substances.

15. Hydrocarbon oil etc duties (treatment of energy products)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 10 of the Finance Act 1993 so as to permit the treatment of certain energy products as hydrocarbon oil or road fuel gas.

16. Betting duties (treatment of pool bets etc)

Resolved, That provision may be made about the charging of duty under the Betting and Gaming Duties Act 1981 in respect of pool betting and certain other betting.

17. Amusement machine licence duty (rates)

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 23 of the Betting and Gaming Duties Act 1981 for the Table in subsection (2) there shall be substituted—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period (in months) for which licence granted</th>
<th>Category A (£)</th>
<th>Category B (£)</th>
<th>Category C (£)</th>
<th>Category D (£)</th>
<th>Category E (£)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>1,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>1,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>990</td>
<td>1,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>515</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>1,095</td>
<td>1,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>1,190</td>
<td>1,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>1,275</td>
<td>1,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>680</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>1,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>665</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>1,415</td>
<td>1,915</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) This Resolution shall have effect in relation to any amusement machine licence for which an application is received by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise on or after 22nd March 2004.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.
18. Value added tax (groups of companies)

The Question being put, That provision may be made about the grouping of companies for the purposes of value added tax;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Joan Ryan: 358.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 146.

So the Question was agreed to.

19. Value added tax (gas and electricity supplied by persons outside UK)

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of value added tax about gas and electricity supplied by persons outside the United Kingdom.

20. Value added tax (private use of stock in trade cars by employees etc)

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of value added tax in relation to a supply which is a supply of services by virtue of paragraph 5(4) of Schedule 4 to the Value Added Tax Act 1994 where—

(a) the goods in question consist of a motor car,
(b) the person making the supply is a motor dealer or motor manufacturer,
(c) the supply is for a consideration, and
(d) the value of the supply for the purposes of value added tax is less than its open market value.

21. Income tax (charge and rates for 2004–05)

Resolved, That income tax shall be charged for the year 2004–05, and for that year—

(a) the starting rate shall be 10%;
(b) the basic rate shall be 22%;
(c) the higher rate shall be 40%.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

22. Income tax (personal allowances for those aged 65 or more)

Resolved, That—

(1) For the year 2004–05—

(a) the amount specified in section 257(2) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall be £6,830; and
(b) the amount specified in section 257(3) of that Act shall be £6,950.

(2) Accordingly, section 257C(1) of that Act, so far as it relates to the amounts so specified, shall not apply for that year.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

23. Corporation tax (charge and rate for 2005)

The Question being put, That corporation tax shall be charged for the financial year 2005 at the rate of 30%;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Joan Ryan: 342.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Simon Thomas, Mr Michael Weir: 16.

So the Question was agreed to.

24. Corporation tax (small companies' rate for 2004)

Resolved, That for the financial year 2004—

(a) the small companies' rate shall be 19%, and
(b) the fraction mentioned in section 13(2) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall be 11/400ths.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.
25. Corporation tax (starting rate for 2004)

Resolved, That for the financial year 2004—

(a) the corporation tax starting rate shall be 0%, and
(b) the fraction mentioned in section 13AA of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 shall be 19/400ths.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

26. Corporation tax (non-corporate distribution rate)

The Question being put, That—

(a) provision may be made for a special rate of corporation tax (the “non-corporate distribution rate”) where a company makes, or is treated as making, a distribution to a person other than a company, and
(b) the non-corporate distribution rate for the financial year 2004 shall be 19%;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Jim Murphy: 290.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 191.

So the Question was agreed to.

27. Special rates of tax applicable to trusts

Resolved, That in relation to the year 2004–05 and any subsequent year of assessment for which income tax is charged—

(a) the Schedule F trust rate shall be 32.5 per cent, and
(b) the rate applicable to trusts shall be 40 per cent.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

28. Sums paid to settlor otherwise than as income

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 677 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

29. Provision not at arm’s length

Resolved, That provision may be made amending Schedule 28AA to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

30. Company distributions (payments of excessive interest etc)

Resolved, That provision may be made for the repeal of section 209(2)(da) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

31. Investment companies and companies with investment business

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of corporation tax in relation to companies which are or have been—

(a) investment companies, as defined in section 130 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, or
(b) companies whose business consists wholly or partly in the making of investments.

32. Insurance companies

Resolved, That provision may be made about insurance companies and companies which have ceased to be insurance companies after a transfer of business.

33. Loan relationships etc

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made for the purposes of corporation tax in relation to—

(a) loan relationships; and
(b) other relationships where a company stands, or is treated as standing, in the position of a creditor or debtor in relation to a debt.

34. Derivative contracts

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made in relation to derivative contracts for the purposes of corporation tax.
35. Accounting practice

Resolved, That provision may be made as to the meaning of generally accepted accounting practice and otherwise amending provisions of the Tax Acts that operate by reference to accounting practice.

36. Construction Industry Scheme

The Question being put, That provision may be made in relation to sub-contractors in the construction industry;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Jim Murphy: 341.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Hugo Swire: 127.

So the Question was agreed to.

37. Employment income etc

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made amending, or making amendments connected with, the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003.

38. Income tax (property held jointly by spouses)

The Question being put. That provision may be made amending section 282A of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Jim Murphy: 334.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 130.

So the Question was agreed to.

39. Enterprise investment scheme


40. Venture capital trusts

Resolved, That provision may be made amending Schedule 28B to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 and repealing section 151A(3) of, and Schedule 5C to, the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992.

41. Corporate venturing scheme

Resolved, That provision may be made amending Schedule 15 to the Finance Act 2000.

42. Chargeable gains (gifts relief etc)

The Question being put. That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made—

(a) in relation to relief under section 165 or 260 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, and
(b) as to the meaning of “arrangements” in section 79(5) of that Act;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Jim Murphy: 287.
Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Mark Francois: 163.

So the Question was agreed to.

43. Chargeable gains (private residences)

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made in relation to relief under section 223 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992.

44. Individuals benefited by film relief

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made in relation to cases where relief is or has been claimed in respect of losses sustained in a trade whose profits or losses were computed in accordance with any of—

(a) sections 40A to 40C of the Finance (No. 2) Act 1992;
(b) sections 41 to 43 of that Act;
(c) section 48 of the Finance (No. 2) Act 1997.
45. Partnerships (income tax)

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made for the purposes of income tax in relation to individuals who are or have been members of partnerships.

46. Partnerships (corporation tax)

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of corporation tax in relation to companies which are or have been members of partnerships.

47. Leaseback of assets

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of income tax and corporation tax about arrangements for the sale and leaseback of assets or the lease and leaseback of assets.

48. Manufactured dividends

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made in relation to cases where payments are or have been made, or treated as made, which are representative of dividends on shares of companies resident in the United Kingdom.

49. Strips of government securities

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made in relation to strips, within the meaning of Schedule 13 to the Finance Act 1996.

50. Life policies etc

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made restricting the amount allowable as a deduction under section 549(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

51. Offshore funds

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made amending the provisions of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 relating to offshore funds.

52. Offshore installations

Resolved, That provision may be made amending provisions of the Tax Acts referring to offshore installations and oil rigs.

53. Immediate needs annuities

Resolved, That provision may be made in relation to contracts for life annuities (whenever entered into).

54. Corporation tax: Health Service bodies

Resolved, That provision may be made amending section 519A of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

55. Pension schemes etc

Resolved, That provision may be made in relation to pension schemes and similar schemes under which benefits are provided to or in respect of employees or former employees.

56. Petroleum revenue tax (allowable expenditure, receipts etc)

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made—
(a) in relation to expenditure allowable under the Oil Taxation Act 1975 or the Oil Taxation Act 1983,
(b) in relation to disposal receipts, within the meaning of section 7 of the Oil Taxation Act 1983,
(c) amending section 98 of the Finance Act 1999.

57. Oil extraction activities (tax-exempt tariffing receipts)

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made amending section 496 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

58. Petroleum revenue tax (allowable expenditure)

Resolved, That provision may be made amending paragraph 2 of Schedule 4 to the Oil Taxation Act 1975.

59. Petroleum revenue tax (terminal losses)

Resolved, That provision may be made in place of paragraph 15 of Schedule 17 to the Finance Act 1980.
60. Climate change levy (supplies to producers of commodities)

Resolved, That provision may be made for the purposes of climate change levy about supplies to producers of commodities.

61. Aggregates levy (transitional tax credit in Northern Ireland: existing scheme)

Resolved, That—

(1) In section 30A of the Finance Act 2001 after subsection (3) insert—

“(4) The Treasury may by order made by statutory instrument amend subsection (2) above so as to—

(a) change the period in relation to which the amount of a tax credit is to be reduced;

(b) change the amount by which a tax credit is to be reduced.

(5) An order under subsection (4) above shall not be made unless a draft of the order has been laid before Parliament and approved by a resolution of the House of Commons.”

(2) This Resolution shall have effect on and after 1st April 2004.

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

62. Aggregates levy (transitional tax credit in Northern Ireland: new scheme)

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made about tax credits in respect of aggregates levy charged on aggregate subjected to commercial exploitation in Northern Ireland.

63. Stamp duty land tax and stamp duty

The Question being put, That provision may be made amending Parts 4 and 5 of the Finance Act 2003;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Paul Clark: 322.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Simon Thomas, Pete Wishart: 15.

So the Question was agreed to.

64. Stamp duty land tax (miscellaneous amendments)

Resolved, That—

(1) Part 4 of the Finance Act 2003 shall be amended in accordance with the following provisions of this Resolution.

(2) In section 43—

(a) in paragraph (c) of subsection (3), after “interest” there shall be inserted “(other than a lease)”;

(b) after that paragraph there shall be inserted—

“(d) the variation of a lease is an acquisition and disposal of a chargeable interest only where it takes effect, or is treated for the purposes of this Part, as the grant of a new lease.”.

(3) After subsection (9) of section 44 there shall be inserted—

“(9A) Where—

(a) paragraph 12A of Schedule 17A applies (agreement for lease), or

(b) paragraph 19(3) to (6) of Schedule 17A applies (missives of let in Scotland),

it applies in place of subsections (4), (8) and (9).”.

(4) After that section there shall be inserted—

“44A Contract providing for conveyance to third party

(1) This section applies where a contract is entered into under which a chargeable interest is to be conveyed by one party to the contract (A) at the direction or request of the other (B)—

(a) to a person (C) who is not a party to the contract, or

(b) either to such a person or to B.
(2) B is not regarded as entering into a land transaction by reason of entering into the contract, but the following provisions have effect.

(3) If the contract is substantially performed B is treated for the purposes of this Part as acquiring a chargeable interest, and accordingly as entering into a land transaction.

The effective date of the transaction is when the contract is substantially performed.

(4) Where the contract is (to any extent) afterwards rescinded or annulled, or is for any other reason not carried into effect, the tax paid by virtue of subsection (3) shall (to that extent) be repaid by the Inland Revenue.

Repayment must be claimed by amendment of the land transaction return made in respect of the contract.

(5) Subject to subsection (6), section 44 (contract and conveyance) does not apply (except so far as it defines “substantial performance”) in relation to the contract.

(6) Where—

(a) this section applies by virtue of subsection (1)(b), and

(b) by reason of B’s direction or request, A becomes obliged to convey a chargeable interest to B,

section 44 applies to that obligation as it applies to a contract for a land transaction that is to be completed by a conveyance.

(7) Section 44 applies in relation to any contract between B and C, in respect of the chargeable interest referred to in subsection (1) above, that is to be completed by a conveyance.

References to completion in that section, as it so applies, include references to conveyance by A to C of the subject matter of the contract between B and C.

(8) In this section “contract” includes any agreement and “conveyance” includes any instrument.

(5) In section 45—

(a) after paragraph (b) of subsection (1) there shall be inserted “, and

(c) paragraph 12B of Schedule 17A (assignment of agreement for lease) does not apply.”;

(b) at the end of that subsection there shall be inserted “, and references to the transferor and the transferee shall be read accordingly.”;

(c) for subsection (5) there shall be substituted—

“(5) Where a transfer of rights relates to part only of the subject-matter of the original contract (“the relevant part”)—

(a) subsection (8)(b) of section 44 (restriction of charge to tax on subsequent conveyance) has effect as if the reference to the amount of tax chargeable on that contract were a reference to an appropriate proportion of that amount, and

(b) a reference in the second sentence of subsection (3) above to the original contract, or a reference in subsection (4) above to the secondary contract arising from an earlier transfer of rights, is to that contract so far as relating to the relevant part (and that contract so far as not relating to the relevant part shall be treated as a separate contract).”;

(d) after that subsection there shall be inserted—

“(5A) In relation to a land transaction treated as taking place by virtue of subsection (3)—

(a) references in Schedule 7 (group relief) to the vendor shall be read as references to the vendor under the original contract;

(b) other references in this Part to the vendor shall be read, where the context permits, as referring to either the vendor under the original contract or the transferor.”.
(6) After section 45 there shall be inserted—

"45A Contract providing for conveyance to third party: effect of transfer of rights

(1) This section applies where—
(a) a contract ("the original contract") is entered into under which a chargeable interest is to be conveyed by one party to the contract (A) at the direction or request of the other (B)—
(i) to a person (C) who is not a party to the contract, or
(ii) either to such a person or to B,

and
(b) there is an assignment or other transaction (relating to the whole or part of the subject-matter of the original contract) as a result of which a person (D) becomes entitled to exercise any of B's rights under the original contract in place of B.

References in the following provisions of this section to a transfer of rights are to any such assignment or other transaction.

(2) D is not regarded as entering into a land transaction by reason of the transfer of rights, but section 44A (contract providing for conveyance to third party) has effect in accordance with the following provisions of this section.

(3) That section applies as if—
(a) D had entered into a contract (a “secondary contract”) in the same terms as the original contract except with D as a party instead of B, and
(b) the consideration due from D under the secondary contract were—
(i) so much of the consideration under the original contract as is referable to the subject-matter of the transfer of rights and is to be given (directly or indirectly) by D or a person connected with him, and
(ii) the consideration given for the transfer of rights.

(4) The substantial performance of the original contract shall be disregarded if—
(a) it occurs at the same time as, and in connection with, the substantial performance of the secondary contract, or
(b) it occurs after the transfer of rights.

(5) Where there are successive transfers of rights, subsection (3) has effect in relation to each of them.

(6) The substantial performance of the secondary contract arising from an earlier transfer of rights shall be disregarded if—
(a) it occurs at the same time as, and in connection with, the substantial performance of the secondary contract arising from a subsequent transfer of rights, or
(b) it occurs after that subsequent transfer.

(7) Where a transfer of rights relates to only part of the subject matter of the original contract, or to only some of the rights under that contract—
(a) a reference in subsection (3)(a) or (4) to the original contract, or a reference in subsection (6) to the secondary contract arising from an earlier transfer, is to that contract so far as relating to that part or those rights, and
(b) that contract so far as not relating to that part or those rights shall be treated as a separate contract.

(8) The effective date of a land transaction treated as entered into by virtue of subsection (3) is not earlier than the date of the transfer of rights.

(9) In relation to such a transaction—
(a) references in Schedule 7 (group relief) to the vendor shall be read as references to A;
(b) other references in this Part to the vendor shall be read, where the context permits, as referring to either A or B.

(10) Section 839 of the Taxes Act 1988 (connected persons) applies for the purposes of subsection (3)(b).

(11) In this section “contract” includes any agreement.".
(7) After subsection (6) of section 48 there shall be inserted—

"(7) This section has effect subject to subsection (3) of section 44A (contract and conveyance to third party)."

(8) After subsection (4) of section 77 there shall be inserted—

"(5) A land transaction that a person is treated as entering into by virtue of subsection (3) of section 44A (contract and conveyance to third party) is notifiable."

(9) In section 57A—

(a) for paragraph (b) of subsection (3) there shall be substituted—

"(aa) that the sale transaction is entered into wholly or partly in consideration of the leaseback transaction being entered into,

(b) that the only other consideration (if any) for the sale is the payment of money or the assumption, satisfaction or release of a debt (or both),"

(b) after paragraph (c) of that subsection there shall be inserted—

"(d) that the sale is not a transfer of rights within the meaning of section 45 (contract and conveyance: effect of transfer of rights) or 45A (contract providing for conveyance to third party: effect of transfer of rights), and

(e) where A and B are both bodies corporate at the effective date of the leaseback transaction, that they are not members of the same group for the purposes of group relief (see paragraph 1 of Schedule 7) at that date."

(c) subsection (4) shall be omitted.

(10) In section 79(2), for the words from “other than” to the end of paragraph (b) there shall be substituted “other than a transaction treated as taking place—

(a) under subsection (4) of section 44 (contract and conveyance) or under that section as it applies by virtue of section 45 (contract and conveyance: effect of transfer of rights), or

(b) under subsection (3) of section 44A (contract providing for conveyance to third party) or under that section as it applies by virtue of section 45A (contract providing for conveyance to third party: effect of transfer of rights)."

(11) In section 119(2)—

(a) after the entry for section 44(4) there shall be inserted—

"section 44A(3) (contract providing for conveyance to third party),

section 45A(8) (contract providing for conveyance to third party: effect of transfer of rights)."

(b) at the end there shall be inserted—

"paragraph 12A(2) of Schedule 17A (agreement for lease followed by substantial performance),

paragraph 12B(3) of that Schedule (assignment of agreement for lease occurring after agreement substantially performed), and

paragraph 19(3) of that Schedule (missives of let in Scotland followed by substantial performance)."

(12) In section 122, in the entry for “vendor” there shall be inserted at the end “(see too sections 45(5A) and 45A(9)).”

(13) In Schedule 4—

(a) after sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 10 there shall be inserted—

"(2A) Where subsection (8) of section 44 (contract and conveyance) applies, so that there are two notifiable transactions (the first being the contract and the second being the transaction effected on completion), the condition in sub-paragraph (2)(a) is treated as met in relation to the second transaction if it is met in relation to the first.”

(b) after sub-paragraph (4) of paragraph 17 there shall be inserted—

"(4A) Sub-paragraphs (3) and (4) shall be disregarded for the purposes of determining whether the land transaction in question is notifiable.”
(14) After paragraph 1 of Schedule 5 there shall be inserted—

“Amounts payable in respect of periods before grant of lease

1A For the purposes of this Part “rent” does not include any chargeable consideration for the grant of a lease that is payable in respect of a period before the grant of the lease.”

(15) After paragraph 7 of Schedule 17A there shall be inserted—

“First rent review in final quarter of fifth year

7A Where—

(a) a lease contains provision under which the rent may be adjusted,
(b) under that provision the first (or only) such adjustment—
(i) is to an amount that (before the adjustment) is uncertain, and
(ii) has effect from a date (the “review date”) that is expressed as falling five years after a specified date,

and

(c) the specified date falls within the three months before the beginning of the term of the lease,

this Schedule has effect as if references to the first five years of the term of the lease were to the period beginning with the start of the term of the lease and ending with the review date.

References to the fifth year of the term of the lease shall be read accordingly.”.

(16) In paragraph 9(1) of that Schedule, at the end of paragraph (b) there shall be inserted “, or

(c) a person claiming relief against re-entry or forfeiture as under-lessee in relation to the original sub-lease (“the old lease”) is granted a lease (“the new lease”) in pursuance of an order of a court.”.

(17) After paragraph 12 of that Schedule there shall be inserted—

“Agreement for lease

12A (1) This paragraph applies where in England and Wales or Northern Ireland—

(a) an agreement for a lease is entered into, and
(b) the agreement is substantially performed without having been completed.

(2) The agreement is treated as if it were the grant of a lease in accordance with the agreement (“the notional lease”), beginning with the date of substantial performance.

The effective date of the transaction is that date.

(3) Where a lease is subsequently granted in pursuance of the agreement—

(a) the notional lease is treated as if it were surrendered at that time, and
(b) the lease itself is treated for the purposes of paragraph 9 (rent for overlap period in case of grant of further lease) as if it were granted in consideration of that surrender.

(4) Where sub-paragraph (1) applies and the agreement is (to any extent) afterwards rescinded or annulled, or is for any other reason not carried into effect, the tax paid by virtue of that sub-paragraph shall (to that extent) be repaid by the Inland Revenue.

Repayment must be claimed by amendment of the land transaction return made in respect of the agreement.

(5) In this paragraph “substantially performed” and “completed” have the same meanings as in section 44 (contract and conveyance).

Assignment of agreement for lease

12B (1) This paragraph applies, in place of section 45 (contract and conveyance: effect of transfer of rights) where in England and Wales or Northern Ireland a person assigns his interest as lessee under an agreement for a lease.

(2) If the assignment occurs without the agreement having been substantially performed, section 44 (contract and conveyance) has effect as if—

(a) the contract were with the assignee and not the assignor, and
(b) the consideration given by the assignee for entering into the contract included any consideration given by him for the assignment.

(3) If the assignment occurs after the agreement has been substantially performed—
   (a) the assignment is a separate land transaction, and
   (b) the effective date of that transaction is the date of the assignment.

(4) Where there are successive assignments, this paragraph has effect in relation to each of them.”.

(18) At the end of paragraph 16 of that Schedule there shall be inserted—
   “Paragraph 5 (exchanges) of Schedule 4 (chargeable consideration) does not apply in such a case.”.

(19) For paragraph 19(2) of that Schedule there shall be substituted—
   “(2) Where in Scotland there is a lease constituted by concluded missives of let (“the first lease”) and at some later time a lease is executed (“the second lease”)—
      (a) the first lease is treated as if it were surrendered at that time, and
      (b) the second lease is treated for the purposes of paragraph 9 (rent for overlap period in case of grant of further lease) as if it were granted in consideration of that surrender.

(3) Where in Scotland—
   (a) there are concluded missives of let that do not constitute a lease, and
   (b) the agreement represented by the missives of let is substantially performed without a lease having been executed,

   the missives of let are treated as if they did constitute a lease (“the notional lease”).

   The effective date of the transaction is when the agreement is substantially performed.

(4) Where sub-paragraph (3) applies and at some later time a lease is executed—
   (a) the notional lease is treated as if it were surrendered at that time, and
   (b) the lease itself is treated for the purposes of paragraph 9 as if it were granted in consideration of that surrender.

(5) References in sub-paragraphs (2) to (4) to the execution of a lease are to the execution of a lease that either—
   (a) is in conformity with the missives of let, or
   (b) relates to substantially the same property and period as the missives of let.

(6) Where subsection (3) applies and the agreement is (to any extent) afterwards rescinded or annulled, or is for any other reason not carried into effect, the tax paid by virtue of that sub-paragraph shall (to that extent) be repaid by the Inland Revenue.

   Repayment must be claimed by amendment of the land transaction return made in respect of the agreement.”.

(20) For paragraph 3(3)(c) of Schedule 19 there shall be substituted—
   “(c) if on or after that date there is an assignment, subsale or other transaction (relating to the whole or part of the subject-matter of the contract) as a result of which a person other than the purchaser under the contract becomes entitled to call for a conveyance to him.”.

(21) Paragraphs (4), (7) and (8) of this Resolution, and paragraphs (10) and (11) so far as relating to the section 44A inserted by paragraph (4), shall apply in relation to any contract entered into after 17th March 2004.

(22) Paragraphs (5), (6) and (12) of this Resolution, and paragraphs (10) and (11) so far as relating to the section 45A inserted by paragraph (6), shall apply in relation to any transfer of rights occurring after that date.

(23) Subject to paragraph (24) of this Resolution, the amendments made by the other provisions of this Resolution shall apply in relation to any transaction of which the effective date is after 17th March 2004.

(24) Paragraph (20) of this Resolution shall not apply in relation to a contract that was substantially performed before 17th March 2004.
(25) In this Resolution—

“effective date” and “substantially performed” have the same meaning as in Part 4 of the Finance Act 2003 (as amended by this Resolution);

“transfer of rights” has the same meaning as in section 45 of that Act or, as the case may require, section 45A of that Act (inserted by paragraph (6) of this Resolution).

And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

65. Stamp duty land tax (shared ownership leases)

Resolved, That—

(1) After paragraph 4 of Schedule 9 to the Finance Act 2003 there shall be inserted—

“Shared ownership lease: treatment of staircasing transaction

4A (1) This paragraph applies where under a shared ownership lease—

(a) the lessee or lessees have the right, on the payment of a sum, to require the terms of the lease to be altered so that the rent payable under it is reduced, and

(b) by exercising that right the lessee or lessees acquire an interest, additional to one already held, calculated by reference to the market value of the dwelling and expressed as a percentage of the dwelling or its value (a “share of the dwelling”).

(2) Such an acquisition is exempt from charge if—

(a) an election was made for tax to be charged in accordance with paragraph 2 or, as the case may be, paragraph 4 and any tax chargeable in respect of the grant of the lease has been paid, or

(b) immediately after the acquisition the total share of the dwelling held by the lessee or lessees does not exceed 80%.

(3) In this paragraph “shared ownership lease” means a lease granted—

(a) by a qualifying body, or

(b) in pursuance of the preserved right to buy,

in relation to which the conditions in paragraph 2(2) or 4(2) are met.

(4) Section 118 (meaning of “market value”) does not apply in relation to the references in this paragraph to the market value of the dwelling.”.

(2) In sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 5 of that Schedule, for “2 and 4” there shall be substituted “2, 4 and 4A”.

(3) In Schedule 19 to that Act, for sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 7 there shall be substituted—

“(2) In paragraph 3 of Schedule 9 (relief for transfer of reversion under shared ownership lease where election made for market value treatment) and paragraph 4A of that Schedule (shared ownership lease: treatment of staircasing transaction) as they apply in a case where the original lease was granted before the implementation date—

(a) a reference to a lease which paragraph 2 of that Schedule applies shall be read as a reference to a lease to which section 97 of the Finance Act 1980 applied (which made provision for stamp duty corresponding to that paragraph), and

(b) a reference to an election having been made for tax to be charged in accordance with paragraph 2 or 4 of that Schedule shall be read as a reference to the lease having contained a statement of the parties’ intention such as is mentioned in section 97(2)(d) of the Finance Act 1980 or, as the case may be, paragraph (d) of section 108(5) of the Finance Act 1981 (which made provision for stamp duty corresponding to paragraph 4).”.

(4) The amendments made by paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Resolution shall apply in relation to an acquisition after 17th March 2004.

(5) Paragraph (3) of this Resolution shall be deemed to have come into force on 1st December 2003.
And it is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that this Resolution should have statutory effect under the provisions of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968.

66. Period within which certain claims may be made

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made as to the period within which a claim may be made in respect of a mistake of law relating to a taxation matter under the care and management of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue.

67. Relief for shipbuilders (abolition)

Resolved, That provision (including provision having retrospective effect) may be made ending the availability of relief under section 2 of the Finance Act 1966.

68. Relief from tax (incidental and consequential charges)

Resolved, That it is expedient to authorise any incidental or consequential charges to any duty or tax (including charges having retrospective effect) that may arise from provisions designed in general to afford relief from taxation.

Procedure (Amounts deducted from Payments to sub-contractors).—Resolved, That, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the practice of the House relating to the matters that may be included in Finance Bills, any Finance Bill of the present Session may include provision authorising sums—

(a) deducted from payments to or for sub-contractors in the construction industry, and

(b) paid to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue,
to be treated as paid in respect of, or on account of, liabilities of the sub-contractor other than liabilities in respect of income tax or corporation tax.

Procedure (Savings Income).—Resolved, That, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the practice of the House relating to the matters that may be included in Finance Bills, any Finance Bill of the present Session may contain provision for implementing—


(b) any corresponding provision of arrangements made in relation to a territory other than a member State.

Procedure (Minimum Contributions to Personal Pension Schemes).—Resolved, That, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the practice of the House relating to the matters that may be included in Finance Bills, any Finance Bill of the present Session may make provision for the payment of sums out of the National Insurance Fund or the Northern Ireland National Insurance Fund in connection with provisions relating to the payment of minimum contributions under section 43 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993 or section 39 of the Pension Schemes (Northern Ireland) Act 1993.

Procedure (Mutual Assistance in Connection with Customs Union with Andorra).—Resolved, That, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the practice of the House relating to the matters that may be included in Finance Bills, any Finance Bill of the present Session may include provision to give effect to arrangements concerning mutual assistance made for the purposes of the Customs Union between the European Community and the Principality of Andorra.

Procedure (Future Taxation).—Resolved, That, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the practice of the House relating to the matters that may be included in Finance Bills, any Finance Bill of the present Session may contain the following provisions taking effect in a future year—

(a) provision for corporation tax to be charged for the financial year 2005;

(b) provision about childcare or childcare vouchers provided for an employee;

(c) provision amending Parts 3 and 4 of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 in relation to vans;

(d) provision about the enjoyment by an individual of property which is or represents property in which he previously owned an interest;

(e) provision about Lloyd’s underwriters;

(f) provision in relation to pension schemes and similar schemes under which benefits are provided to or in respect of employees or former employees.
Finance [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Finance [Money];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act of the present Session relating to finance (“the Act”), it is expedient to authorise—

(a) the deduction of sums from the gross revenues of the department of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue for the purpose of paying amounts in the implementation of—


(ii) any corresponding provision of arrangements made in relation to a territory other than a member State;

(b) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums paid out of the National Insurance Fund and the Northern Ireland National Insurance Fund under the Pension Schemes Act 1993 and the Pension Schemes (Northern Ireland) Act 1993;

(c) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of sums required by the Treasury and the Director of Savings to meet expenditure incurred with a view to securing—

(i) that the Treasury would be able to exercise their functions under sections 12 to 20A of (and Schedule 5A to) the National Loans Act 1968, and

(ii) that the Director of Savings would be able to exercise his functions, if the United Kingdom were to adopt the single currency in accordance with the Treaty establishing the European Communities.

Ordered, That a Bill be brought in upon the foregoing Resolutions, and that the Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Mr Secretary Reid, Mr Secretary Smith, Ms Secretary Hewitt, Mr Secretary Clarke, Mr Paul Boateng, Dawn Primarolo, Ruth Kelly and John Healey do prepare and bring it in.

7 Finance Bill,—Dawn Primarolo accordingly presented a Bill to grant certain duties, to alter other duties, and to amend the law relating to the National Debt and the Public Revenue, and to make further provision in connection with finance: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 89].

8 Animals,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Mink Keeping (Prohibition) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 100), dated 19th January 2004, a copy of which was laid before this House on 20th January, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

9 Electricity,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Renewables Obligation (Amendment) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 24th February, be approved.—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

10 Employment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Paternity and Adoption Leave (Amendment) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 9th February, be approved.—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

11 Social Security,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Statutory Paternity Pay and Statutory Adoption Pay (Weekly Rates) (Amendment) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 9th February, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

12 Social Security,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security (Contributions) (Re-rating and National Insurance Funds Payments) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 4th February, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

13 Social Security,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance Up-rating Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 23rd February, be approved.—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.
14 Social Security (Northern Ireland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance Up-rating (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 23rd February, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

15 Tax Credits.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Tax Credits Up-rating Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 23rd February, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

16 Supreme Court of England and Wales.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Courts Boards Areas Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 26th February, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

17 Supreme Court of England and Wales.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Courts Boards (Appointments and Procedure) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 26th February, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

18 Constitutional Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Primary Medical Services (Scotland) Act 2004 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 25th February, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

19 Constitutional Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 (Destination of Fixed Penalties in Scotland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 25th February, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

20 Government Trading Funds.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency Trading Fund Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 25th February, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

21 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Agricultural Statistics (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 12th February, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

22 Fisheries: Catch Quotas and Effort Limitation 2004.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 15388/03, draft Regulation fixing for 2004 the fishing opportunities and associated conditions for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Community waters and, for Community vessels, in waters where catch limitations are required; and notes that the Government was successful in negotiating Total Allowance Catches which take full account of scientific advice while securing the best possible fishing opportunities for United Kingdom fishermen—(Mr John Heppell);

And the Deputy Speaker’s opinion as to the decision of the Question being challenged, the Division was deferred till to-morrow, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003].

23 Adjournment (Easter).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Thursday 1st April, do adjourn till Monday 19th April—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

24 Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund.—Ordered, That Mr Eric Martlew, Ms Gisela Stuart and Dr Nick Palmer be discharged as Managing Trustees of the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund and Mr David Borrow, Mr Terry Rooney and Mr Andrew Love be appointed as Managing Trustees in pursuance of section 1 of the Parliamentary and other Pensions Act 1987.—(Mr John Heppell.)

25 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from readers of the Star newspaper, High Wycombe, for a reduction in levels of Council Tax in Buckinghamshire was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
26 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Margaret Moran);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o'clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then a quarter to Ten o'clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 9.45 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Licensing.—Draft Guidance to Police Officers on the Operation of Closure Powers in Part 8 of the Licensing Act 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 National Health Service,—General Medical Services and Personal Medical Services Transitional and Consequential Provisions Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 865), dated 22nd March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Pensions Bill,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr David Ruffley from Standing Committee B (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Virginia Bottomley.

2 Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Tom Harris, Huw Irranca-Davies, Mr John Spellar and Mr Hugo Swire members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

3 Draft Employment Zones (Allocation to Contractors) Pilot Regulations 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Richard Burden and Llew Smith from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Huw Irranca-Davies and Mark Tami.

Grand Committees

4 The Speaker has appointed Mr Win Griffiths an additional Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in respect of its meeting on Wednesday 24th March.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Civil Legal Aid: adequacy of provision]; to be printed [No. 391-iii]; and

(2) Further memoranda laid before the Committee [Civil Legal aid: adequacy of provision]; to be printed [No. 391-II]

[Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Draft Disability Discrimination Bill,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Disability Discrimination Bill; to be printed [No. 352-xi] [Tom Levitt].

3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—(1) Sixth Special Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The Food Standards Agency’s Reply to the Eighteenth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, Session 2002–03, on the Conduct of the GM Public Debate]; to be printed [No. 483]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Gangmasters: follow up]; to be printed [No. 455-ii]

[Mr Michael Jack].
4 International Development.—(1) Third Special Report from the International Development Committee [Government Response to the Committee’s Second Report, on Development Assistance and the Occupied Palestinian Territories]; to be printed, together with an Appendix [No. 487]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Migration and Development]; to be printed [No. 79-ix]
   [Tony Baldry].

5 Statutory Instruments,—Thirteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xiii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Treasury,—(1) Third Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee, on The 2003 Pre-Budget Report]; to be printed [No. 478]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The 2004 Budget]; to be printed [No. 479-i and ii]
   [Mr John McFall].

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Tuesday 23rd March 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Derek Twigg.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.22 p.m.

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Wednesday 24th March 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) Order 2004.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Welsh Grand Committee,—Mr Martin Caton reported from the Welsh Grand Committee, that it had considered the matter of the Budget Statement and its implications for Wales, referred to it on 9th March.

3 European Standing Committee C,—Mr John Cummings reported from European Standing Committee C the following Resolution:

   That the Committee takes note of the European Union Document No. 5188/04, Commission Communication on the re-examination of Directive 93/104/EC concerning certain aspects of the organisation of working time; welcomes the review, supports the retention of the opt-out to the working time limit and urges that a solution to the problems caused by the European Court of Justice cases of SiMAP and Jaeger is found.

   Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

4 Illegal Hare-Coursing (Enforcement of Prohibition) Bill.—The Order for reading the Illegal Hare-Coursing (Enforcement of Prohibition) Bill a second time on Friday 26th March was read and discharged.

   Bill to be read a second time on Friday 23rd April.

5 Restricted Byways,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make new provision about establishing the existence of byways open to all traffic: And that Mr Robert Walter, Sir George Young, Jeremy Corbyn, Sandra Gidley, Mr James Gray, Mr Robert Key, Mr David Drew, Mr Anthony Steen and Mr John Randall do prepare and bring it in.
6 Restricted Byways Bill.—Mr Robert Walter accordingly presented a Bill to make new provision about establishing the existence of byways open to all traffic: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th July and to be printed [Bill 80].

7 Opposition Day [7th allotted day: first part].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Post Office Services.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes that all Post Office customers who wish to continue receiving their benefits, pension payments and tax credits through the Post Office should be able to do so through a Post Office Card Account opened at the counter of a Post Office or sub-post office; notes that the Government has encouraged Post Office customers to use their own bank accounts or basic bank accounts, whilst preventing the promotion of the Post Office Card Account; further believes that the Government should use the roll out of Direct Payment to encourage the take-up of all benefits and tax credits; calls on the Government to clarify urgently how housebound, disabled and older people who are not able to cope with the three direct payment options will be able to claim their pensions and benefits after 2005; recognises the significant role played by local post offices in both rural and urban areas; appreciates that ending cash benefit payments will deprive sub-postmasters of an average of 35 per cent. of their income; notes that this will make many post offices commercially unviable and is likely to lead to yet further closures; further calls on the Government to ensure that the urban post office closure programme is conducted systematically and only after consulting all relevant parties including Post Office users; and condemns the Government’s failure to deliver benefits and tax credits in a simple, easy to understand manner while at the same time jeopardising the future prosperity of the Post Office—(Mr David Willetts);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘supports the Government’s strategy to modernise the way benefits and pensions are paid, and to provide customers with a choice of accounts; welcomes the fact that with Direct Payment customers will still be able to collect their cash from the Post Office if they wish using a current account or basic bank account with Post Office access or the Post Office Card Account; notes the Government’s plans for a cheque payment, cashable at post offices, for people who cannot be paid through an account; recognises that Direct Payment is a more modern, efficient and secure method of payment which will also help increase financial inclusion; welcomes the fact that more customers are now paid through an account than by order book without problems, including nearly six million pensioners; notes the previous government’s attempt to introduce a Benefit Payment Card, which wasted millions of pounds of tax-payers’ money; notes the fact that the Post Office had not until recently kept up with changes in customer demand and so had seen transaction volumes dropping and losses increasing; recognises the need for change and congratulates the Government for taking decisive action to help turn the business around; welcomes the record £2 billion investment in the Post Office network over a five-year period, including £450 million for the rural network and £210 million to modernise the urban network; and believes that this will help ensure a viable Post Office network that people will want to use’, instead thereof.—(Ms Secretary Hewitt.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;

Mr Peter Luff rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 200.

Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr John Heppell: 300.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr John Heppell: 297.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 196.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.
Resolved, That this House supports the Government’s strategy to modernise the way benefits and pensions are paid, and to provide customers with a choice of accounts; welcomes the fact that with Direct Payment customers will still be able to collect their cash from the Post Office if they wish using a current account or basic bank account with Post Office access or the Post Office Card Account; notes the Government’s plans for a cheque payment, cashable at post offices, for people who cannot be paid through an account; recognises that Direct Payment is a more modern, efficient and secure method of payment which will also help increase financial inclusion; welcomes the fact that more customers are now paid through an account than by order book without problems, including nearly six million pensioners; notes the previous government’s attempt to introduce a Benefit Payment Card, which wasted millions of pounds of tax-payers’ money; notes the fact that the Post Office had not until recently kept up with changes in customer demand and so had seen transaction volumes dropping and losses increasing; recognises the need for change and congratulates the Government for taking decisive action to help turn the business around; welcomes the record £2 billion investment in the Post Office network over a five-year period, including £450 million for the rural network and £210 million to modernise the urban network; and believes that this will help ensure a viable Post Office network that people will want to use.

8 Deferred Divisions.—The Deputy Speaker announced the results of the Division which had been deferred to this day, pursuant to the Orders of the House [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Deferred Divisions)].

Fisheries: Catch Quotas and Effort Limitation 2004.—That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 15388/03, draft Regulation fixing for 2004 the fishing opportunities and associated conditions for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks, applicable in Community waters and, for Community vessels, in waters where catch limitations are required; and notes that the Government was successful in negotiating Total Allowance Catches which take full account of scientific advice while securing the best possible fishing opportunities for United Kingdom fishermen.

Ayes: 255.
Noes: 149.

So the Question was agreed to.

9 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Message [18th March] relating to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment No. 1D to Commons Amendment No. 1C—(Mr Christopher Leslie);

And it being one hour after the commencement of proceedings on consideration of the Lords Message, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [8th March].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Derek Twigg, Mr Fraser Kemp: 308.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 185.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 1D to Commons Amendment No. 1C.

That Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr David Heath, Mr Christopher Leslie, Laura Moffatt and Bridget Prentice be members of the Committee.

That Mr Christopher Leslie be Chairman of the Committee.

That three be the quorum of the Committee.

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Mr Jim Murphy)—It was agreed to.

10 Adjournment (Equitable Life Inquiry).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Ruth Kelly);

And it being three hours after commencement of proceedings on the Motion, it lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to Order [17th March].
11 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill.—Mr Christopher Leslie reported from the Committee appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 1D to Commons Amendment No. 1C to Lords Amendment No. 1 to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill. That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 1D for the following Reason:
Because it is not necessary to seek further advice from the Electoral Commission.

The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendment.

12 Fees and Charges.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (Fees) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 23rd February, be approved—(Margaret Moran).—It was agreed to.

13 Public Accounts.—Ordered, That Mrs Cheryl Gillan be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mrs Angela Browning be added.—(Margaret Moran.)

14 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from customers of the Quiggins Centre in Liverpool against the closure of the Centre in order to redevelop its site was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

15 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Nine o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 9.30 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Merchant Shipping.—Draft Merchant Shipping (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 School Standards and Framework.—Accounts of—

(1) Blackburn with Darwen Education Action Zone,
(2) Lambeth Education Action Zone, and
(3) North East Lincolnshire (Grimsby) Education Action Zone

for the period 1st April to 31st August 2003, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 480, 482 and 481] [Clerk of the House].

4 Statutory Instruments.—Report to the Lord Chancellor and the Speaker from the Statutory Instruments Reference Committee—

That it has been notified, in accordance with Regulation 11(3) of the Statutory Instruments Regulations 1947, that the Secretary of State for the Home Department has certified under Regulation 6 of the said Regulations that the printing and sale of copies of the Cumbria (Coroners’ Districts) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 458) in accordance with the requirements of section 2(1) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946 is unnecessary having regard to the brevity of the period during which the instrument remained in force; and that the Committee is satisfied that the certificate is justified and has taken no further action in the matter [The Speaker].

through the United Kingdom Assistance Programme for the Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in the Russian Federation done at Moscow on 24th February 2003 and 6th October 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6165] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers withdrawn:


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Seamus Mallon from Standing Committee D (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Eddie McGrady.

2 Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords] (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Desmond Swayne in place of Mr Dominic Grieve as a member of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

3 Draft European Parliament (Disqualification) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004, and the draft European Parliament (Number of MEPS) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Ms Candy Atherton, Virginia Bottomley, Mrs Helen Clark, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Geraint Davies, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Dai Havard, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr David Heath, Mr Peter Lilley, Mr Mark Lazarowicz, Mr Christopher Leslie, Bridget Prentice, Angus Robertson, Ms Gisela Stuart and Mr Ian Taylor.

4 Draft Lay Magistrates (Eligibility) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Geraint Davies, Julia Drown, Lady Hermon, Mr Robert Jackson, Mr Christopher Leslie, Ann McKechin, John Mann, Mr Alan Milburn, Sandra Osborne, Bridget Prentice, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Mr John Redwood, Llew Smith and Mr Desmond Swayne.

5 Draft Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Dai Havard from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Michael Foster (Worcester).

European Standing Committees

6 European Union Documents Nos. 6232/04, relating to the Financial Perspective (2007–13), and COM(04)107, relating to the Structural and Cohesion Funds, have been referred to European Standing Committee B.

7 European Union Document No. 11646/03, relating to the Nutrition and health claims made on foods, has been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Defence White Paper: Delivering Security in a Changing World]; to be printed [No. 465-i] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Draft Disability Discrimination Bill.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Disability Discrimination Bill; to be printed [No. 352-xii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 352-xiii] [Mr Tom Clarke].

3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Agriculture and EU Enlargement]; to be printed [No. 421-iii];

(2) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Horticulture Research International]; and
(3) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Poultry Farming in the United Kingdom]
[Mr Michael Jack].

4 Environmental Audit,—(1) Third Special Report from the Environmental Audit Committee
[Government Response to the Thirteenth Report from the Committee, Session 2002–03, on Greening Government 2003]; to be printed [No. 489]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Budget 2004]; to be printed [No. 490-i]
[Mr Peter Ainsworth].

5 European Scrutiny,—(1) Fourteenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xiv]; and
(2) Fifteenth Report from the Committee [The EU’s Financial Perspective for 2007–13 and reform of Regional and Cohesion Funding]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xv]
[Mr Michael Connarty].

6 Health,—(1) Second Report from the Health Committee [Elder Abuse], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 111-I and -II]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Elder Abuse]
[Mr David Hinchliffe].

7 International Development,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Kenya: DFID’s Country Assistance Plan 2004–07 and progress towards the Millennium Development Goals] and Appendices; to be printed [No. 494-i]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Kenya: DFID’s Country Assistance Plan 2004–07 and progress towards the Millennium Development Goals]
[Tony Baldry].

8 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Connecting Parliament with the Public]; to be printed [No. 368-ii] [Mr Peter Hain].

9 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Social Housing Provision in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 493-i] [Mr Tony Clarke].

10 Procedure,—(1) Second Report from the Procedure Committee [Results of Sitting Hours Questionnaire], with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 491]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Programming of Legislation]; to be printed [No. 325-iv]
[Sir Nicholas Winterton].

11 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [English Regions: An early progress report on the New Deal for Communities programme]; to be printed [No. 492-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

12 Transport,—(1) Seventh Report from the Transport Committee [Future of the Railway], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 145-I and II]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [British Transport Police]; to be printed [No. 488-i]
[Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

13 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [The 2004 Budget]; to be printed [No. 479-iii] [Mr John McFall].

14 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Manufacturing and Trade in Wales]; to be printed [No. 323-iv] [Mr Martyn Jones].

15 Work and Pensions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Health and Safety]; to be printed [No. 456-ii] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Gillian Merron);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.59 p.m.]

[No. 63.]


The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Harbours Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to amend the procedure for dealing with applications for orders under section 14 or 16 of the Harbours Act 1964 and for making orders under section 15 of that Act; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

The Lords do not insist on their Amendment to an Amendment made by this House to a Lords Amendment to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill, to which this House has disagreed, but in lieu thereof they propose another Amendment to the Amendment made by this House; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill.—Lords Amendment to a Commons Amendment to a Lords Amendment to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 81].

3 Employment Relations Bill (Programme) (No. 3),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Programme Order of 14th January in relation to the Employment Relations Bill (as amended by the Order of 9th February (Employment Relations Bill (Programme) (No. 2)) be varied as follows—

Consideration and Third Reading

1. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Order of 14th January shall be omitted.
2. Proceedings on consideration shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion three hours after those proceedings are commenced.
3. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion four hours after the commencement of proceedings on consideration—(Mr Gerry Sutcliffe);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Charlotte Atkins, Paul Clark: 234.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Randall, Mr Hugo Swire, 128.

So the Question was agreed to.

4 Adjournment (Defence Policy).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jim Fitzpatrick);

And it being Six o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

5 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118, That the draft Employment Zones (Allocation to Contractors) Pilot Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 16th March, be approved—(Mr Fraser Kemp)—It was agreed to.

6 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Pickering, North Yorkshire, calling for an extension to the priority status of, and revised plans for, Pickering’s flood alleviation scheme was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
7 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Fraser Kemp);
And the Motion having been made after Six o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty-eight minutes to Seven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.32 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Criminal Law,—Draft Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Travel Notification Requirements) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Immigration,—Draft Accession (Immigration and Worker Registration) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Local Government Finance,—Limitation of Council Tax and Precepts (Alternative Notional Amounts) Report (England) 2004-05 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 474] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 National Health Service,—Primary Medical Services (Sale of Goodwill and Restrictions on Sub-contracting) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 906), dated 24th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

5 Criminal Injuries Compensation,—Reports and Accounts of the—

(1) Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeals Panel, and
(2) Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority for 2002-03, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 450 and 451] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

6 Food Standards,—Report and Accounts of the Food Standards Agency for 2002-03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 424] [Mr Secretary Reid].

7 Home Affairs,—Government Reply to the Second Report from the Home Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, on Asylum Applications [by Command] [Cm. 6166] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

8 Miscellaneous (No. 6, 2003).—Agreement, done at Canberra on 19th June 2001, on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels [by Command] [Cm. 5826] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 Public Petitions,—(1) Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [17th March] from residents of South Bedfordshire for amendments to the Milton Keynes and South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy, and
(2) Observations by the Secretary of State for Defence on the Petition [10th March 2003, in the last Session of Parliament] from members of the workforce at BAE Systems, Brough, for negotiations about the future of the plant and the manufacture of Hawk aircraft [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

10 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts of Great Yarmouth Education Action Zone, for 2002-03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 496] [by Act] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft European Parliament (Disqualification) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004 and the draft European Parliament (Number of MEPs) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders; and
(2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Nick Hawkins and Mr David Heath from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders) and nominated in substitution Mr Tim Boswell and Sir Robert Smith.

2 Draft Lay Magistrates (Eligibility) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3 Draft Job Seeker’s Allowance (Amendment) Regulations 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jonathan Sayeed Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

4 Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (New Zealand) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

European Standing Committees

5 The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Documents Nos. 5199/04 and 5205/04 on Recovery of Sole Stocks in the Western Channel and Bay of Biscay.

6 The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of European Union Document No. 5916/04 on Marketing of Sweet Corn from Genetically Modified Maize.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Gambling Bill.—Report from the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill, together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Joint Committee [No. 139] [Mr John Greenway].

2 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee [Environmental Crime: Fly-tipping, Fly-posting, Litter, Graffiti and Noise]; to be printed [No. 445-ii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

3 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Palliative Care]; to be printed [No. 454-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

4 Public Administration.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Review of Government Communications]; to be printed [No. 274-ii] [Tony Wright].

5 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Bank of England February 2004 Inflation Report]; to be printed [No. 495-i] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 63; WH, No. 38]


The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (China).—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 30th March.

[Adjourned at 5.11 p.m.

[No. 64.]

Friday 26th March 2004.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

1 The Speaker’s Absence.—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Sir Alan Haselhurst, the Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

PRAYERS.

2 The Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker, pursuant to the Standing Order.
3 Christmas Day (Trading) Bill.—The Christmas Day (Trading) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

4 Retirement Income Reform Bill.—The Order for reading the Retirement Income Reform Bill a second time this day was read and discharged.

5 Genetically Modified Organisms Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Genetically Modified Organisms Bill;

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

Mr Andrew Dismore moved, That the House sit in private.

The Deputy Speaker put the Question forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 163 (Motions to sit in private).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Barry Gardiner, Rob Marris: 0.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Andrew Dismore: 23.

And it appearing on the report of the Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Question was not decided, and the business under consideration stood over until the next Sitting of the House.

6 Performance of Companies and Government Departments (Reporting) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 30th January, That the Performance of Companies and Government Departments (Reporting) Bill be now read a second time;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 30th April.

7 Property Repairs (Prohibition of Cold-calling) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 12th March, That the Property Repairs (Prohibition of Cold-calling) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 30th April.

8 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr John Heppell);

And the Motion having been made after half-past Two o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then Three o’clock, till Monday 29th March.

[Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

National Health Service,—National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 922), dated 25th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Standards and Privileges,—Fourth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Conduct of Mr Iain Duncan Smith], together with Appendices and the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 18th March; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 476] [Sir George Young].
PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Parliament (Disqualification) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004, and the draft European Parliament (Number of MEPs) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jonathan Sayeed reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill, with Amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to amend Part 4 of the Family Law Act 1996, the Protection from Harassment Act 1997 and the Protection from Harassment (Northern Ireland) Order 1997; to make provision about homicide; to make common assault an arrestable offence; to make provision about alternative verdicts; to provide for a procedure under which a jury tries only sample counts on an indictment; to make provision about findings of unfitness to plead and about persons found unfit to plead or not guilty by reason of insanity; to amend section 58 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 and to amend Part 12 of that Act in relation to intermittent custody; and to make provision in relation to victims of offences, witnesses of offences and others affected by offences, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

Air Traffic Emissions Reduction Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to provide for the preparation and implementation of an integrated air transport plan to reduce air traffic emissions; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 82].

5 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords].—The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 83].

6 Local Land Charges (Fees) Bill,—The Order for reading the Local Land Charges (Fees) Bill a second time on Friday 23rd April was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 30th April.

7 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Message [25th March] relating to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment No. 1F to Commons Amendment No. 1C—(Mr Christopher Leslie);

And it being one hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords Message, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [8th March].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Vernon Coaker: 307.

Tellers for the Noes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 172.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 1F to Commons Amendment No. 1C.

That Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr David Heath, Mr Christopher Leslie, Laura Moffatt and Bridget Prentice be members of the Committee.

That Mr Christopher Leslie be the Chairman of the Committee.
That three be the quorum of the Committee.
That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Mr John Heppell).—It was agreed to.

8 Employment Relations Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Employment Relations Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC4) (Disapplication of qualifying period and upper age limit for unfair dismissal)—(Mr Gerry Sutcliffe)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC5) (Additional duties on employers informed of ballots)—(Mr Gerry Sutcliffe)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC6) (Unfair practices in relation to recognition ballots)—(Mr Gerry Sutcliffe)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC7) (Unfair practices in relation to derecognition ballots)—(Mr Gerry Sutcliffe)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC8) (Unfair practices: power to make provision about periods before notice of ballot)—(Mr Gerry Sutcliffe)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC1) (Dignity at work)—(Valerie Davey)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC2) (Intimidation)—(Mr Henry Bellingham)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mark Francois, Hugh Robertson: 152.

Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Charlotte Atkins: 309.

Another Clause (NC3) (Appeals)—(Mr Henry Bellingham)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC9) (Right to strike)—(John McDonnell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC10) (Collective bargaining)—(John McDonnell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC14) (Effect of continuation of contract order on transfer of undertakings)—(John McDonnell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC16) (Exclusion or expulsion from trade union)—(John McDonnell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC18) (Protection of journalists)—(John McDonnell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendments (Nos. 4 to 6) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 15) proposed to the Bill, in page 21, line 8, to leave out from ‘(1)’ to the word ‘of’ in line 9 and insert the words ‘An employer shall not make an offer or a threat to any worker with the purpose or the effect’, instead thereof.—(John McDonnell.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 30, line 9, at the end, to insert the words—

'(1A) The Secretary of State shall consult such persons as he considers appropriate on the establishment of works councils as an arrangement suitable for informing and consulting employees and shall publish the responses received pursuant to those consultations, together with guidance on best practice for works councils, before making the regulations referred to in subsection (1).'—(Brian Cotter.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 41, line 5, to leave out Clause No. 46.—(Mr Henry Bellingham.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [25th March].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 157.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Nick Ainger: 315.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;

And it being four hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [25th March].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr John Heppell: 331.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mark Francois, Hugh Robertson: 134.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

9 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill,—Mr Christopher Leslie reported from the Committee appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 1F to Commons Amendment No. 1C to Lords Amendment No. 1 to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill. That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 1F for the following Reason:

Because it is appropriate to pilot postal voting in four rather than three regions.

The Reason was agreed to.

MessagetotheLordstocommunicatethesaidReason,withtheBillandAmendment.

10 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 4th March, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

11 Terms and Conditions of Employment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 18th March, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

12 Review of the Working Time Directive,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 5188/04, Commission Communication on the re-examination of Directive 93/104/EC concerning certain aspects of the organisation of working time; welcomes the review; supports the retention of the opt-out to the working time limit; and urges that a solution to the problems caused by the European Court of Justice cases of SiMAP and Jaeger is found—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

13 Animals,—Ordered, That the Pet Travel Scheme (Pilot Arrangements) (England) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 828) be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Paul Clark.)

14 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty minutes past Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.20 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Merchant Shipping,—(1) Merchant Shipping (Dangerous or Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 930), and

   (2) Merchant Shipping (Gas Carriers) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 929),

dated 25th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

4 Security Industry,—(1) Private Security Industry Act 2001 (Designated Activities) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 917), and


dated 24th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


Other Papers:

6 Access to Justice,—Legal Services Commission Funding Code Procedures Amendments 2004 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

7 Civil Aviation,—Statement of Guarantee given on 29th March 2004 in respect of temporary borrowing by the Civil Aviation Authority in pursuance of section 14 of the Civil Aviation Act 1982 [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

8 Foreign Affairs,—Government Response to the Second Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, on Foreign Policy Aspects of the War Against Terrorism [by Command] [Cm. 6162] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 Home Office,—Paper, entitled One Step Ahead: A 21st Century Strategy to Defeat Organised Crime [by Command] [Cm. 6167] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

10 Juries,—Guidance for summoning officers when considering applications for deferral and excusal of jury service [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

11 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Connexions Service: Advice and guidance for all young people [by Act]: to be printed [No. 484] [Clerk of the House].


13 Sea Fisheries (Shellfish),—Report to Parliament under section 6 of the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967 of the applications to, and proceedings of, the Secretary of State under the provisions of the Act in the year ended 31st December 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

14 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts of—

   (1) Aston and Nechells Education Action Zone for 1st April 2003 to 31st December 2003,

   (2) Herefordshire Education Action Zone for 1st April 2003 to 31st August 2003, and

   (3) Kitts Green and Shard End Education Action Zone for 1st April 2003 to 31st December 2003

   with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]: to be printed [Nos. 110, 497 and 498] [Clerk of the House].

15 Water,—Statement by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on the value of the responsibilities of the Environment Agency Closed Pension Fund [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft European Parliament (Disqualification) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004, and the draft European Parliament (Number of MEPs) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Christopher Leslie from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders) and nominated in substitution Mr David Lammy.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [National Skills Strategy: 14-19 Education]; to be printed [No. 197-vii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Obesity]; to be printed [No. 23-vii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 Human Rights.—Tenth Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Scrutiny of Bills: Fourth Progress Report; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 503] [Jean Corston].

4 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Social Housing Provision in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 493-ii] [Mr Tony Clarke].

5 Public Accounts.—(1) Seventeenth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Hip replacements: An update]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 40];

(2) Eighteenth Report from the Committee [PFI: The New Headquarters for the Home Office]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 501];

(3) Nineteenth Report from the Committee [Making a difference: Performance of maintained secondary schools in England]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 104]; and

(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Cambridge-MIT Institute]; to be printed [No. 502-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

6 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The work of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils]; to be printed [No. 462-i] [Dr Ian Gibson].

7 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Manufacturing and Trade in Wales]; to be printed [No. 323-v] [Mr Martyn Jones].

8 Work and Pensions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Work and Pensions Committee [DWP’s Administration of IT Projects]; to be printed [No. 311-vi] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
Tuesday 30th March 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock

PRAYERS.

1 Regulatory Reform,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolution:

That a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Museum of London) (Location of Premises) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 22nd January, should be laid before the House.

2 European Standing Committee A,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Documents No. 5199/04, draft Regulation on the recovery of sole stocks in the Western Channel and the Bay of Biscay, and No. 5205/04, Commission Staff Working Paper on a draft Regulation establishing measures for the recovery of sole stocks in the Western Channel and the Bay of Biscay; takes note of the Government’s concerns about the target recovery and the impact of the proposals on vessels catching sole as part of a mixed fishery; and supports the Government’s intention to ensure a close dialogue with the fishing industry on these proposals.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

3 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords insist on their Amendment to an Amendment made by this House to a Lords Amendment to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill, to which this House has disagreed, for which insistence they assign their Reason.

4 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill,—Lords Reason for insisting on an Amendment to a Commons Amendment to a Lords Amendment to be printed [Bill 86].

5 Harbours Bill [Lords],—The Harbours Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th July and to be printed [Bill 85].

6 Corporate Killing,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to create a new offence of corporate killing that applies to all companies and unincorporated bodies: And that Mr Frank Doran, Tony Lloyd, Judy Mallaber, Ian Stewart, Geraldine Smith, Mr Andrew Dismore, Miss Anne Begg, Rob Marris, Joan Ruddock and Mr Bill Olner do prepare and bring it in.

7 Corporate Killing Bill,—Mr Frank Doran accordingly presented a Bill to create a new offence of corporate killing that applies to all companies and unincorporated bodies: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 21st May and to be printed [Bill 84].

8 Opposition Day [8th allotted day],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Immigration Entry Clearance Standards,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House condemns the Government’s failure to maintain immigration entry clearance standards; regrets the confusion as to whom the relaxed guidance actually applies; notes the unwillingness of Ministers to take responsibility for the operation of immigration policies; expresses deep concern that, at a time when homeland security is paramount, current fast-tracking procedures do not enable full and thorough checks on applicants; applauds those public servants who bring the Home Office’s failings and dishonest internal workings to the attention of honourable Members and the wider public; calls on Her Majesty’s Government to reinstate those officials currently suspended from duty; recognises with regret that recent revelations have exposed grave deficiencies in the immigration service; and believes that the Government has lost both the confidence and the trust of the British people in its ability to control immigration policy—(David Davis);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘congratulates the Government on having embarked on radical end-to-end reform of the immigration and asylum system including strengthening border controls, reducing asylum intake by more than half, increasing immigration removals to record levels and speeding up the processing of applications for leave to remain in the UK; notes that, as indicated in a statement published by the Government on 29th March, all Governments have instituted reasonable and proportionate measures to deal with backlogs of applications by people already in this country for permission to extend their stay; and applauds the fact that the
Government, by investing more staff resources than ever before, has reached the point where the Backlog Reduction Accelerated Clearance Exercise (BRACE) is no longer necessary. —(Mr Secretary Blunkett.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 156.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Vernon Coaker: 378.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House congratulates the Government on having embarked on radical end-to-end reform of the immigration and asylum system including strengthening border controls, reducing asylum intake by more than half, increasing immigration removals to record levels and speeding up the processing of applications for leave to remain in the UK; notes that, as indicated in a statement published by the Government on 29th March, all Governments have instituted reasonable and proportionate measures to deal with backlogs of applications by people already in this country for permission to extend their stay; and applauds the fact that the Government, by investing more staff resources than ever before, has reached the point where the Backlog Reduction Accelerated Clearance Exercise (BRACE) is no longer necessary.

Case for a Referendum on the Proposed European Constitution,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes that the draft European Constitution constitutes a fundamental change to the relationship between the European Union and the Member States and should only be ratified if the British people have freely consented to it in a referendum—(Mr Michael Ancram);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the intensified scrutiny of both Houses in respect of the draft Constitutional Treaty; believes that the Government’s policy of active engagement within the EU is in Britain’s national interests; supports its constructive approach to discussions within the Intergovernmental Conference to ensure that an enlarged Union works effectively; endorses paragraph 66 of the White Paper (Cm. 5934) in respect of issues which must remain the province of the nation state; notes that provided there is a satisfactory outcome on these and other matters of concern, the proposals currently being discussed would not alter the fundamental constitutional relationship between the member states and the Union and therefore does not believe there is reason to depart from previous practice for constitutional treaties; and reaffirms the primacy of Parliament to decide on whether any future Constitutional Treaty should become part of UK law’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Straw.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 212.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Charlotte Atkins: 328.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Charlotte Atkins, Mr Nick Ainger: 319.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr David Ruffley: 202.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the intensified scrutiny of both Houses in respect of the draft Constitutional Treaty; believes that the Government’s policy of active engagement within the EU is in Britain’s national interests; supports its constructive approach to discussions within the Intergovernmental Conference to ensure that an enlarged Union works effectively; endorses paragraph 66 of the White Paper (Cm. 5934) in respect of issues which must remain the province of the nation state; notes that provided there is a satisfactory outcome on these and other matters of concern, the proposals currently being discussed would not alter the fundamental constitutional relationship between the member states and the Union and therefore does not believe there is reason to depart from previous practice for constitutional treaties; and reaffirms the primacy of Parliament to decide on whether any future Constitutional Treaty should become part of UK law.
9 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, proceedings on the Motion in the name of Mr Peter Hain relating to Sittings of the House and consideration of any Lords Message that may be received may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Paul Clark)—It was agreed to.

10 European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill.—The House, pursuant to Order [8th March], proceeded forthwith to consider the Lords Message [this day] relating to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House insists on its disagreement to Lords Amendment No. 1F to Commons Amendment No. 1C, on which the Lords have insisted, but proposes the following Amendment in lieu thereof:

Line 13, at the end, to insert the words—

‘( ) The declaration of identity must contain a statement advising the voter that the ballot paper should be completed by him—

(a) outside the presence of any other person, or

(b) in the case of a voter who requires assistance, in accordance with such advice as is provided for in the pilot order’—(Mr Christopher Leslie);

And it being one hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords Message, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [8th March].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr John Heppell: 302.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David鲁泽, Mr Geo鲁维Clifton-Brown: 182.

So the Question was agreed to.

11 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Jobseeker’s Allowance (Amendment) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 2nd March, be approved—(Mr John Heppell)—It was agreed to.

12 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) Orpington College Student Union and National Union of Students members against the Higher Education Bill,

(2) persons living or working in the Parliamentary constituency of Christchurch for a referendum on the European Constitution following the Intergovernmental Conference,

(3) residents of Dumfries and Galloway for increased provision of NHS dentists in Dumfries and Galloway, and

(4) Mrs M. Hurrell and others for improvement of the Prittle Brook sewer, Southend, Essex,

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr John Heppell);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty-seven minutes to Ten o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 9.33 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


National Health Service,—(1) National Health Service (Travel Expenses and Remission of Charges) and (Optical Charges and Payments) and (General Ophthalmic Services) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 936), dated 28th March 2004, and
(2) NHS Professionals Special Health Authority (Establishment and Constitution) Revocation and Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 951), dated 30th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

6 Census,—Paper, entitled Census 2001: Key Statistics for postcode sectors in England and Wales [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

7 Enterprise,—Plan of the Office of Fair Trading for 2004–05 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 460] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

8 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minutes on the Fourth and Sixth to Eighth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6155] [Ruth Kelly].

9 Transport,—Government Response to the Second Report of the Transport Committee, Session 2003–04, on the Departmental Annual Report 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6157] [Mr Secretary Darling].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Civil Legal Aid: adequacy of provision]; to be printed [No. 391-iv] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Draft Disability Discrimination Bill,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Disability Discrimination Bill; to be printed [No. 352-xiv] [Tom Levitt].

3 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Budget 2004]; to be printed [No. 490-ii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Foreign Policy Aspects of the War against Terrorism]; to be printed [No. 441-iii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Social Housing Provision in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 493-iii] [Mr Tony Clarke].

6 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Urban Affairs Sub-Committee of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Role and Effectiveness of the Housing Corporation]; to be printed [No. 401-ii] [Clive Betts]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Urban Affairs Sub-Committee of the Committee [Supporting Vulnerable and Older People]; to be printed [No. 504-i] [Chris Mole].

7 Standards and Privileges,—Fifth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Privilege: Protection of a Witness], together with Appendices and the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 2nd and 9th March and Appendices thereto; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 447] [Sir George Young].

8 Statutory Instruments,—Fourteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xiv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [The work of the Export Credits Guarantee Department; UK Automotive Industry]; to be printed [Nos. 506-i and 437-ii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].
Tuesday 30th March 2004.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall
The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned. — (Margaret Moran.)
And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.38 p.m.

Wednesday 31st March 2004.
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,— Mr Bill O’Brien reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Lay Magistrates (Eligibility) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,— Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (New Zealand) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Message from the Lords,— A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have disagreed to one of the Amendments made by this House to the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords], for which disagreement they assign their Reason; and they have agreed, without Amendment, to the remaining Amendments made by this House.

4 Genetically Modified Organisms Bill,— Ordered, That the Genetically Modified Organisms Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th May.

5 Dolphins and other Cetaceans Protection,— Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for the protection of dolphins and to prohibit pair trawling for sea bass in UK waters: And that Mr Adrian Sanders, Andrew George, Mr Paul Tyler, Matthew Taylor, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Anthony Sleen, Richard Younger-Ross and Nick Harvey do prepare and bring it in.

6 Dolphins and other Cetaceans Protection Bill,— Mr Adrian Sanders accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for the protection of dolphins and to prohibit pair trawling for sea bass in UK waters: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 87].

7 Higher Education Bill (Programme) (No. 4),— A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Programme Order of 27th January in relation to the Higher Education Bill shall be further varied as follows—

(1) Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Order shall be omitted.

(2) Proceedings on consideration shall be taken in the order shown in the first column of the following Table.

(3) The proceedings shown in the first column of the Table shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the time specified in the second column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses relating to the general duties of the relevant authority for the purposes of Part 3; new Clauses relating to exercise by the National Assembly for Wales of functions relating to student fees and student support.</td>
<td>One hour after the commencement of proceedings on consideration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining new Clauses, Amendments to Clauses, new Schedules, Amendments to Schedules.</td>
<td>Five hours after the commencement of those proceedings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(4) Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion six hours after the commencement of proceedings on consideration— (Alan Johnson);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 354.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 206.

So the Question was agreed to.

8 Higher Education Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Higher Education Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC1) (General duties of the Director)—(Chris Grayling)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.
And it being one hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Hugh Robertson: 216.
Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 378.

Another Clause (NC5) (Abolition of tuition fees chargeable to qualifying student)—(Mr Tim Collins)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 227.
Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 378.

It being more than five hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Speaker put the Questions on Amendments selected for separate Division to be disposed of at that hour.

Amendment (No. 128) proposed to the Bill, in page 8, line 37, to leave out Clauses Nos. 22 to 27.—(Mr John Grogan.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Geraldine Smith, Mr Kelvin Hopkins: 288.
Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 316.

Another Amendment (No. 71) proposed to the Bill, in page 13, line 37, to leave out the words ‘Director (as defined by section 29(1))’ and insert the words ‘funding body (as defined in section 22(2))’, instead thereof.—(Mr Phil Willis.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 369.

The Speaker then put the Question on Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown.

Amendments (Nos. 129 and 130) made to the Bill.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Mr Secretary Clarke, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her Consent, as far as Her Majesty’s prerogative is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being proposed;

And it being six hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Bill, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 309.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Hugo Swire, Gregory Barker: 248.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

9 Representation of the People.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Parliament (Disqualification) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 11th March, be approved.—(Paul Clark.)—It was agreed to.
10 Representation of the People.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), that the draft European Parliament (Number of MEPs) (United Kingdom and Gibraltar) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 11th March, be approved—(Paul Clark).—It was agreed to.

11 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) Sandra Evelyn Cole and other residents of Royston, Hertfordshire, for local control of siting of mobile telephone masts, and

(2) citizens of the United Kingdom against the supply to school children of abortifacient birth control drugs and devices [two Petitions] were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Paul Clark);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then eight minutes past Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.08 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Competition,—(1) Draft Competition Act 1998 and Other Enactments (Amendment) Regulations 2004,

(2) draft Competition Act 1998 (Determination of Turnover for Penalties) (Amendment) Order 2004, and

(3) draft Competition Act 1998 (Land Agreements Exclusion and Revocation) Order 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Immigration,—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [by Act]; to be printed [No. 464] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


4 Trade Marks,—(1) Community Trade Mark (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 949),

(2) Trade Marks (Amendment) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 947),

(3) Trade Marks (International Registration) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 948), and

(4) Trade Marks (Proof of Use, etc.) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 946) dated 28th March 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].


Other Papers:

6 Animal Health,—Defra Contingency Plans on—

(1) Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease, and

(2) Foot and Mouth Disease [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

7 Government Trading Funds,—Treasury Minutes on the—

(1) ABRO Trading Fund,

(2) Defence Aviation Repair Agency Trading Fund,

(3) Defence Science and Technology Laboratory Trading Fund,

(4) Meteorological Office Trading Fund, and

(5) UK Hydrographic Office Trading Fund, dated 31st March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].
8 Health,—NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency Business Plan 2004–05 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Reid].

9 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Education and Skills on the Petition [9th March] from parents and friends of Streethouse School, Pontefract, for additional provision to cope with rising pupil numbers [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

10 Treaty Series (No. 53, 2003),—Fourth Supplementary List of Ratifications, Accessions, Withdrawals, etc., for 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6153] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Christmas Day (Trading) Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

2 Promotion of Volunteering Bill,—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill: Mr James Arbuthnot, Andrew Bennett, Mr Julian Brazier, Mr John Burnett, Andy Burnham, Mr Frank Dobson, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mrs Jacqui Lait, Fiona Mactaggart, Judy Mallaber, Mr Andrew Miller, Lembit Opik, Mr Andy Reed, Mr Ian Taylor and Derek Wyatt.

3 Draft Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Travel Notification Requirements) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: John Austin, Mr Tim Boswell, Virginia Bottomley, Annette Brooke, Ms Karen Buck, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Valerie Davey, Mr Barry Gardiner, Sandra Gidley, Paul Goggins, Mr John Heppell, Helen Jackson, Mr Robert Jackson, Siobhain McDonagh, Mr James Plaskitt and Jonathan Shaw.

4 Draft Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Offensive Weapons) (Amendment) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Clive Betts, Ms Hazel Blears, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr James Clappison, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Mr Barry Gardiner, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr Khalid Mahmood, Mr James Paice, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Graham Stringer and Mr Shaun Woodward.

5 Draft Merchant Shipping (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr David Borrow, Peter Bottomley, Mr David Cleggand, Mr Hilton Dawson, Dr Hywel Francis, Mr Damian Green, Mr David Jamieson, Tony Lloyd, Mr Tony McWalter, Mr Paul Marsden, Mr Alan Meale, Gillian Merron, Mr Alan Milburn, John Thurso, Mr Michael Trend and Mr David Wilshire.

6 Limitation of Council Tax and Precepts (Alternative Notional Amounts) Report (England) 2004–05:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Report to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr David Cameron, Paul Clark, Mr Edward Davey, Julia Drown, Mr Nigel Evans, Linda Gilroy, Matthew Green, Phil Hope, Mr Eric Martlew, Mr Austin Mitchell, Dr Doug Naysmith, Mr Clive Soley, Dr Gavin Strang and Mr Hugo Swire.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Hugh Bayley, Mr John Burnett, Ross Cranston, Mr Michael Fallon, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Adrian Flook, John Healey, Mr David Laws, Mr Michael Meacher, Julie Morgan, Mr Denis Murphy, Mr Mark Prisk, Mr Paul Truswell, Mr Tom Watson and Mr Anthony D. Wright.
Draft Cash Ratio Deposits (Value Bands and Ratios) Order 2004:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr John Battle, Mr Roger Berry, Mr Paul Boateng, Dr Vincent Cable, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr John Horam, Mr David Kidney, Norman Lamb, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr John Lyons, Diana Organ, Anne Picking, Helen Southworth and Mr Andrew Tyrie.

Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (New Zealand) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Jonathan Shaw and Dr Gavin Strang from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Roger Casale and Mr Kelvin Hopkins.

Pet Travel Scheme (Pilot Arrangements) (England) (Amendment) Order 2004:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Norman Baker, Mr Ben Bradshaw, Richard Burden, Mr Colin Challen, Mr James Gray, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr David Lepper, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Chris McCafferty, Mr Archie Norman, Dr Nick Palmer, Clare Short, Rachel Squire, Mr Roger Williams and Mr David Wilshire.

European Union Documents Nos. 7969/01 and 11794/03, relating to the Protection of animals during transport, have been referred to European Standing Committee A.

APPELLID III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Disability Discrimination Bill.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Disability Discrimination Bill; to be printed [No. 352-xv]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 352-xvi]
[Mr Tom Clarke].

2 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Draft School Transport Bill]; to be printed [No. 509-i][Mr Barry Sheerman].

3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Milk Pricing Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Milk Pricing]; to be printed [No. 335-xiv][Mr Michael Jack].

4 European Scrutiny.—(1) Sixteenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xvi]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [March European Council]; to be printed [No. 511-i]
[Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—Memorandum laid before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Scrutiny of European Matters in the House of Commons]; to be printed [No. 508][Mr Peter Hain].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs.—(1) Second Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Government’s Response to the First Report from the Committee, Session 2003-04, on The Committee’s work in 2003]; to be printed [No. 510]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Parades Commission and Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998]; to be printed [No. 224-v]
[Mr Michael Mates].

7 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [HM Customs and Excise: Tackling VAT Fraud]; to be printed [No. 512-x][Mr Edward Leigh].

8 Transport.—(1) Eighth Report from the Transport Committee [School Transport], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [Nos. 318-I and -II]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Work of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency]; to be printed [No. 500-i][Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].
9 Treasury.—Sixth Report from the Treasury Committee [The 2004 Budget], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [Nos. 479-I and -II] [Mr John McFall].

10 Work and Pensions.—Second Report from the Work and Pensions Committee [Child Poverty in the UK], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 85-I] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 67; WH, No. 40]

Wednesday 31st March 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr Nick Ainger);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.45 p.m.

[No. 68.]

Thursday 1st April 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Cory Collusion Inquiry,—Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, That she will be graciously pleased to give directions that there be laid before this House a Return of the Cory Collusion Inquiry Reports on Patrick Finucane, Robert Hamill, Billy Wright and Rosemary Nelson.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

2 Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords],—Mr Joe Benton reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto, and had amended the Title as follows:

A Bill to amend Part 1 of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002; to make further provision concerning the public prosecution service established by that Act; to impose a new duty on certain criminal justice organisations in Northern Ireland in relation to human rights standards; to make provision consequential on the dissolution of the Juvenile Justice Board; to amend the law relating to bail in Northern Ireland; to provide for the transfer of certain prisoners from Northern Ireland to another part of the United Kingdom; to amend section 103 of the Terrorism Act 2000: to provide for driving while disqualified to be an arrestable offence in Northern Ireland; to re-enact with amendments sections 79 to 81 of the Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2002 and make further provision about court security officers in Northern Ireland; to enable barristers in Northern Ireland to enter into contracts for the provision of their services; and for connected purposes.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Monday 19th April; and to be printed [Bill 88].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 515].

3 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords agree, without Amendment, to the Amendment proposed by this House to an Amendment made by this House to a Lords Amendment to the European Parliamentary and Local Elections (Pilots) Bill, and they do not insist on their Amendment to which this House has disagreed.


5 Royal Assent,—The Deputy Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, That Her Majesty had signified her Royal Assent to the following Act, agreed upon by both Houses:

6 Adjournment (Matters to be considered before the forthcoming adjournment).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jim Fitzpatrick);
   And it being Six o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

7 Adjournment.—A Motion was made and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Charlotte Atkins);
   And the Motion having been made at Six o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, till Monday 19th April, pursuant to Resolution [23rd March].

[Adjourned at 6.30 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Customs and Excise.—Customs and Excise Duties (Travellers’ Allowances and Personal Reliefs) (New Member States) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1002), dated 1st April 2004 [by Act] [John Healey].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture.—Feedingstuffs (Zootechnical Products) and Medicated Feedingstuffs (Amendment) (England, Scotland and Wales) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1036), dated 31st March 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


4 Council Tax.—(1) Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 927), and
   dated 25th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Customs and Excise.—Excise Duty Points (Etc.) (New Member States) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1005), dated 1st April 2004 [by Act] [John Healey].


7 Medicines.—Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1031), dated 31st March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

8 Pensions.—Local Government Pension Scheme and Discretionary Compensation (Members of County and County Borough Councils in Wales) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 928), dated 25th March 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

10 Air Force (Constitution).—Regulations of the Defence Council, dated 22nd March 2004, amending the Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force (Fifth Edition) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

11 Cory Collusion Inquiry.—Return to an Address to Her Majesty for a Return of the Cory Collusion Inquiry Reports on:—
   (1) Patrick Finucane,
   (2) Robert Hamill,
   (3) Billy Wright, and
   (4) Rosemary Nelson
   [pursuant to Resolution this day]; to be printed [Nos. 470, 471, 472 and 473] [Mr Secretary Murphy].
12 Foreign and Commonwealth Office,—Paper, entitled Review of Foreign and Commonwealth Office Travel Advice [by Command] [Cm. 6158] [Mr Secretary Straw].

13 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on:—
   (1) Ministry of Defence: Battlefield Helicopters, and
   (2) The Royal Parks: An Executive Agency
   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 486 and 485] [Clerk of the House].

14 Reserve Forces,—Report under section 56(7) of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 on the making of a call-out order under section 56(1) of that Act [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Draft Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Travel Notification Requirements) Regulations 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

2 Draft Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Offensive Weapons) (Amendment) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Jimmy Hood Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3 Draft Merchant Shipping (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.


5 Value Added Tax (Buildings and Land) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 778),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.

European Standing Committees

6 The Speaker has appointed David Taylor Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 10243/03 on Asylum Systems.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee on 31st March [Defence White Paper: Delivering Security in a Changing World]; to be printed [No. 465-ii] [Bruce George].

2 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [The Work of the Cabinet Office]; to be printed [No. 513-i] [Tony Weight].

3 Scottish Affairs,—(1) First Special Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [Government Response to the First Report (Session 2003–04) on the Coincidence of Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries in Scotland and the Consequences of Change]; to be printed [No. 514]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Proposed Whisky Strip Stamp]; to be printed [No. 419-iv] [Mrs Irene Adams].

[No. 68; WH, No. 41]

Thursday 1st April 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall
The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Caught in the net: by-catch of dolphins and porpoises off the UK coast—Third Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 20th April.

[Adjourned at 4.46 p.m.]
PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments Bill, without Amendment.

Patents Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to amend the law relating to Patents; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

The Lords have come to the following Resolution, to which they desire the concurrence of this House:

That it is expedient that a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons be appointed to consider and report on any draft Charities Bill presented to both Houses by a Minister of the Crown, and that the Committee should report on the draft Bill by 30th September 2004.

2 Patents Bill [Lords].—The Patents Bill [Lords] was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow; and printed pursuant to Standing Order No. 57A (Bills brought from the Lords) on 6th April [Bill 90].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Patents Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 90–EN].

3 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill (Programme) (No. 2),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill for the purpose of supplementing the Orders of 17th December 2002, 8th September 2003 and 8th December 2003:

Consideration of Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments shall be completed at today’s sitting.

2. Proceedings shall be taken in the order shown in the first column of the following Table.

3. The proceedings shown in the first column of the Table shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the time specified in the second column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 5</td>
<td>One and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lords Amendments Nos. 21 to 23, 26, 27, 41, 42, 45 to 47, 6 to 20, 24, 25, 28 to 40, 43, 44, 48 to 143</td>
<td>The moment of interruption.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subsequent stages

4. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any Question put.

5. Proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Keith Hill).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Derek Twigg, Jim Fitzpatrick: 260.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 149.

So the Question was agreed to.

4 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Keith Hill).

And it being one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords Amendments, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day].
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Derek Twigg: 289.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr David Wilshire: 166.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put the remaining Questions to be decided at that hour.

Lords Amendment No. 2 was disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 3.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Derek Twigg, Mr Nick Ainger: 288.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 167.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 4 and 5 were disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 21.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Charlotte Atkins, Mr Nick Ainger: 274.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 162.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 22, 23, 26 and 27 were disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 41.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Joan Ryan: 277.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 164.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 42 was disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 45.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Joan Ryan, Charlotte Atkins: 280.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 163.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

It being after Ten o’clock, the Speaker put the remaining Questions to be decided at that hour.

Lords Amendment No. 46 was disagreed to.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Bill in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 46 disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 47 was disagreed to.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Bill in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 47 disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 130 and 139 were disagreed to.

The remaining Lords Amendments (Nos. 6 to 20, 24, 25, 28 to 40, 43, 44, 48 to 129, 131 to 138 and 140 to 143) were agreed to.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 1 to 5, 21 to 23, 26, 27, 41, 42, 45, 130 and 139.

That Paul Clark, Linda Gilroy, Matthew Green, Mr John Hayes and Keith Hill be members of the Committee.

That Keith Hill be the Chairman of the Committee.

That three be the Quorum of the Committee.

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Paul Clark)—It was agreed to.

5 Pensions Bill (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the Order of 2nd March (Pensions Bill (Programme)) shall be amended by the substitution in paragraph 2 (time for conclusion of proceedings in Standing Committee) for the words ‘22nd April 2004’ of the words ‘29th April 2004’—(Mr Jim Murphy);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Joan Ryan: 310.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 113.

So the Question was agreed to.

6 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill,—Keith Hill reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of their Amendments to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 1, 4 and 5 for the following Reason:

Because it is not appropriate to restrict the application of a regional spatial strategy only to regions which have elected assemblies.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 2 for the following Reason:

Because it is not appropriate to make such provision.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 3 for the following Reason:

Because it is not appropriate to create more than one tier of regional spatial strategy.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment Nos. 21, 22 and 23 for the following Reason:

Because it is not consistent with measures to speed up the plan making process.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment Nos. 26 and 27 for the following Reason:

Because it is not appropriate to make such provision.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 41 for the following Reason:

Because it is not appropriate to make such provisions.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments No. 42 for the following Reason:

Because it will prevent the more speedy creation of simplified planning zones.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments No. 45 for the following Reason:

Because it is not necessary to make the provision to which the Lords Amendment relates.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 130 for the following Reason:

Because it is not appropriate to abolish simplified planning zones.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 139 for the following Reason:

Because it is not appropriate to retain the existing arrangements for the creation of simplified planning zones.

The Reasons were agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons, with the Bill and Amendments.

7 Income Tax,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (New Zealand) Order 2004 be made in the form of the draft laid before this House on 9th March—(Mr Jim Murphy)—It was agreed to.

Address to be presented to Her Majesty by such Members of the House as are of Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council or of Her Majesty’s Household.
8 Justice.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Lay Magistrates (Eligibility) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 11th March, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy)—It was agreed to.

9 Recovery of Sole Stocks in the Western Channel and the Bay of Biscay.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Documents No. 5199/04, draft Regulation on the recovery of sole stocks in the Western Channel and the Bay of Biscay, and No. 5205/04, Commission Staff Working Paper on a draft Regulation establishing measures for the recovery of sole stocks in the Western Channel and the Bay of Biscay; takes note of the Government’s concerns about the targets proposed for recovery and the impact of the proposals on vessels catching sole as part of a mixed fishery; and supports the Government’s intention to ensure a close dialogue with the fishing industry on these proposals—(Mr Jim Murphy)—It was agreed to.

10 Business of the House.—Ordered, That at the sitting on Thursday 29th April, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2)(c) of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), proceedings on any Motion in the name of the Leader of the Opposition shall be entered upon at the conclusion of Government business and may continue, though opposed, for three hours, and shall then lapse if not previously disposed of, and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

11 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Ordered, That—

(1) the matter of the social economy in Northern Ireland be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee;

(2) the Committee shall meet at Westminster on Thursday 29th April at half-past Two o’clock; and

(3) at that sitting—

(a) the Committee shall consider the matter referred to it under paragraph (1) above;

(b) the Chairman shall interrupt proceedings not later than two hours after their commencement; and

(c) at the conclusion of those proceedings, a motion for the adjournment of the Committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown, pursuant to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 116 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)).—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

12 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from persons on the Electoral Roll in the Parliamentary Constituency of Castle Point and others for a referendum on the European Constitution at the conclusion of the Intergovernmental Conference was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till seven minutes to Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow. [Adjourned at 10.53 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers presented by Her Majesty’s Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

Wednesday 14th April 2004

1 Vanuatu (No. 1, 2004).—Agreement, done at Port Vila on the 22nd December 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu for the Promotion and Protection of Investments, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 6169] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Thursday 15th April 2004

2 European Communities (No. 1, 2004).—Agreement, done at Luxembourg on the 14th October 2003, on the participation of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic in the European Economic Area including Final Act with Declarations, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 6171] [Mr Secretary Straw].
Friday 16th April 2004

3 Treaty Series (No. 17, 2004),—Cartagena Protocol, done at Montreal on 29th January 2000, on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity [Cm. 6170] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Friday 2nd April 2004


6 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Liability of Shipowners and Others) (New Rate of Interest) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 931), dated 25th March 2004 [Mr Secretary Darling].


8 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Surrey) (District of Mole Valley) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 914), dated 24th March 2004 [Mr Secretary Darling].


Monday 5th April 2004


11 Education,—Education Maintenance Allowance (Pilot Areas) (Revocation) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1006), dated 30th March 2004 [Mr Secretary Clarke].


15 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Crown Court (Amendment) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1047), dated 5th April 2004 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Tuesday 6th April 2004

16 Customs and Excise,—(1) Export of Goods, Transfer of Technology and Provision of Technical Assistance (Control) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1050), and

(2) Trade in Controlled Goods (Embargoed Destinations) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1049), dated 1st April 2004 [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

17 Disabled Persons,—(1) Rail Vehicle Accessibility (CrossCountry Trains Class 220 and Class 221) Exemption Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 955), and

(2) Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Midland Mainline Class 222 Vehicles) Exemption Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 954), dated 29th March 2004 [Mr Secretary Darling].
18 Education,—(1) Education (Mandatory Awards) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1038), and
(2) Education (Student Loans) (Amendment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1030),
dated 30th March 2004 [Mr Secretary Clarke].

19 Health and Safety,—Good Laboratory Practice (Codification Amendments Etc.) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 994), dated 30th March 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].


22 Magistrates’ Courts,—(1) Magistrates’ Courts (Foreign Travel Orders) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1051),
(3) Magistrates’ Courts (Risk of Sexual Harm Orders) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1053), and
dated 5th April 2004 [Mr Christopher Leslie].


Wednesday 7th April 2004


29 Legal Aid and Advice,—(1) Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 168), dated 24th March 2004,
(2) Legal Aid and Assistance (Amendment No. 3) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 169), dated 30th March 2004, and


32 Representation of the People,—(1) Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (Amendment) (No. 2) (England and Wales) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1040), and
(2) Local Elections (Principal Areas) (Amendment) (No. 2) (England and Wales) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1041),
dated 31st March 2004 [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Thursday 8th April 2004

   (2) Competition Act 1998 (Concurrence) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1077), and
   (3) EC Merger Control (Consequential Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1079),
dated 6th April 2004 [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

36 National Health Service,—National Health Service (Dental Charges) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1091), dated 7th April 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].

Tuesday 13th April 2004


Wednesday 14th April 2004

38 Legal Aid and Advice,—Legal Advice and Assistance (Amendment No. 4) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 180), dated 4th April 2004 [Mr David Lammy].


Thursday 15th April 2004

40 European Communities,—European Communities (Designation) (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1110), dated 14th April 2004 [Mr Secretary Straw].

41 National Health Service,—National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) and (General Ophthalmic Services) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1138), dated 13th April 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].

42 United Nations,—(1) Liberia (United Nations Sanctions) (Channel Islands) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1113), and
dated 14th April 2004 [Mr David Lammy].

Friday 16th April 2004

43 Food,—Food (Jelly Confectionery) (Emergency Control) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1151), dated 16th April 2004 [Mr Secretary Darl].

44 Health and Safety,—Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 568), dated 1st April 2004 [Mr Secretary Darling].

45 Police,—(1) International Joint Investigation Teams (International Agreement) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1127), and
dated 13th April 2004 [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

46 Transport,—Greater Manchester (Light Rapid Transit System) (Exemption) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1072), dated 5th April 2004 [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

Thursday 15th April 2004

47 Overseas Territories,—(1) Liberia (Restrictive Measures) (Overseas Territories) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1112), and
   (2) Overseas Territories (Zimbabwe) (Restrictive Measures) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1111),
dated 14th April 2004 [Mr Secretary Straw].
Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 19th April 2004:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

48 Competition,—Draft Competition Act 1998 (Land Agreements Exclusion and Revocation) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

49 Criminal Law,—Draft Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Conditional Cautions: Code of Practice) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

50 International Immunities and Privileges,—Draft Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (Immunities and Privileges) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

51 Fees and Charges,—Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials Fees Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1157), dated 19th April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

52 Pensions,—Occupational Pension Schemes (Winding Up) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1140), dated 15th April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

53 Air Force (Constitution),—Amendment List 9 to the Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force (Fifth Edition) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

54 Aircraft and Shipbuilding,—Report and Accounts of British Shipbuilders for 2002–03 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

55 Broadcasting,—Report and Financial Statements of the Channel Four Television Corporation for 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

56 Constitutional Affairs,—Government Response to the First Report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee on Judicial Appointments and a Supreme Court (court of final appeal), Session 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6150] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

57 Criminal Justice,—Code of Practice on Conditional Cautioning [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

58 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Account of the British Hallmarking Council for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 521] [Clerk of the House], and

(2) Treasury Minute, dated 19th April 2004, directing the application of certain amounts as appropriations in aid of the Estimates for the year ending 31st March 2005 [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

59 Industrial Organisation and Development,—Report and Accounts of the Milk Development Council for 2002–03 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

60 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—

(1) Improving public transport in England through light rail, and

(2) The UK Emissions Trading Scheme: A New Way to Combat Climate Change [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 518 and 517] [Clerk of the House].

61 National Health Service,—(1) Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 29th March 2004 on loans proposed to be raised by Nottingham City Hospital National Health Service Trust; and

(2) Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 31st March 2004 on loans proposed to be raised by Southampton University Hospitals National Health Service Trust [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

62 National Health Service Reform and Healthcare Professions,—Account of the Commission for Patient and Public Involvement in Health for the three month period to 31st March 2003, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 519] [Clerk of the House].

63 Parliamentary and Other Pensions,—Account of the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 520] [Clerk of the House].
64 Public Expenditure.—Paper, entitled Public Expenditure: Statistical Analyses 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6201] [Mr Paul Boateng].

65 Public Petitions.—(1) Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petitions—
   (i) [11th March] from Inspector Homes Ltd for an inquiry into the quality standards and consumer protection for the building of new homes; and
   (ii) [23rd March] from readers of the Star newspaper, High Wycombe, for a reduction in levels of Council Tax in Buckinghamshire;

   (2) Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [10th March] from Dr M. D. Hellier and others for the introduction of a health warning on containers of alcoholic drink; and

   (3) Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [15th March] from Mr and Mrs Luxton and others for research into molecular patches as a treatment for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy
   [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

66 Supply Estimates.—(1) Main Supply Estimates for 2004–05 for—
   (i) Central Government [by Command]; to be printed [No. 466] [Mr Paul Boateng],
   (ii) the Electoral Commission [by Command]; to be printed [No. 469] [The Speaker],
   (iii) the House of Commons: Administration [by Act]; to be printed [No. 467] [The Speaker], and
   (iv) the National Audit Office [by Act]; to be printed [No. 468] [Mr Alan Williams]; and

   (2) Central Government Supply Estimates: Supplementary Budgetary Information [by Command] [Cm. 6133] [Mr Paul Boateng].

Papers withdrawn:


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Travel Notification Requirements) Regulations 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Virginia Bottomley and Mr Barry Gardiner from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Edward Garnier and Shona McIsaac.

2 Draft Merchant Shipping (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Damian Green from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Christopher Chope.

European Standing Committees

3 The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Documents Nos. 7969/01 and 11794/03 on Protection of animals during transport.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [National Skills Strategy: 14–19 Education]; to be printed [No. 197-viii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Memoranda submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Local Government Revenue]; to be printed [No. 402-II] [Andrew Bennett].

3 Work and Pensions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of Work and Pensions Committee [DWP’s Administration of IT Projects]; to be printed [No. 311-vii] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
Tuesday 20th April 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill Olner reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Travel Notification Requirements) Regulations 2004.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Jimmy Hood reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Offensive Weapons) (Amendment) Order 2004.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 European Standing Committee A,—Mr Peter Pike reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:
That the Committee takes note of European Union Documents No. 7969/01 and ADD1, Report from the Commission and draft Regulation on the ventilation in road vehicles carrying livestock on long journeys, and No. 11794/03, Commission Communication and draft Regulation on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EEC, and supports the Government’s objectives of seeking a significant improvement in animal welfare during transport and better enforcement of those rules throughout the European Union.
Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

4 Finance Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Finance Bill; And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;
An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House declines to give a Second Reading to the Finance Bill because the provisions contained in its 574 pages increase the burden and complexity of taxation, particularly on small owner-managed businesses; do nothing to increase the savings rate or improve United Kingdom productivity; and will lead to a further decline in the competitiveness and relative attractiveness of the United Kingdom as a location for investment’, instead thereof.—(Mr Howard Flight.)
And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr David Ruzy: 190.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr John Heppell: 301.
So the Question was negatived.
And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading)—It was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read a second time.
Ordered, That—
(1) Clauses Nos. 4, 5, 20, 28, 57 to 77, 86, 111 and 282 to 289 and Schedules Nos. 1, 3, 11, 12, 21 and 37 to 39 shall be committed to a Committee of the whole House;
(2) the remainder of the Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee;
(3) when the provisions of the Bill considered, respectively, by the Committee of the whole House and by the Standing Committee have been reported to the House, the Bill shall be proceeded with as if it had been reported as a whole to the House from the Standing Committee.—(Dawn Primarolo.)
Committee to-morrow.

5 Finance Bill,—Ordered, That, during proceedings on the Finance Bill, the Standing Committee on the Bill shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it shall meet.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from readers of the Wales on Sunday newspaper for a posthumous knighthood for the footballer John Charles was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.30 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:


Other Papers:

2 College Charter,—Draft Charter of a new University of Manchester to be created by the merger of the Victoria University of Manchester and the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, together with a petition to Her Majesty The Queen for the creation of the University [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

3 European Union,—Paper, entitled Prospects for the EU in 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6174] [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 Industrial Organisation and Development,—Report and Accounts of the British Potato Council for 2002-03 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

5 Northern Ireland (Monitoring Commission etc.),—First Report of the Independent Monitoring Commission [by Act]; to be printed [No. 516] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

6 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [24th March] from customers of the Quiggins Centre in Liverpool against the closure of the Centre in order to redevelop its site [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

7 Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland),—Accounts of the Northern Ireland National Insurance Fund—
   (1) for 2000-01, and
   (2) for 2001-02
   with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 524 and 525] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Offensive Weapons) (Amendment) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Barry Gardiner from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Ms Dari Taylor.

2 Value Added Tax (Buildings and Land) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 778),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John Burnett from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution Dr Vincent Cable.

3 Draft European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004,—The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Mr Mike Hancock Chairman.

Grand Committees

4 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee and nominated in substitution Mr Desmond Swayne.

European Standing Committees

5 The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale as an additional Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Documents Nos. 7969/01 and 11794/03 on Protection of Animals During Transport.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Drugs and role models in sport]; to be printed [No. 499] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Defence White Paper: Delivering Security in a Changing World] to be printed [No. 465-iii] [Bruce George].
3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sites of Special Scientific Interest Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Sites of Special Scientific Interest]; to be printed [No. 475-ii] [Mr Michael Jack].

4 European Scrutiny.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the European Scrutiny Committee [The Lisbon Strategy]; to be printed [No. 528-i] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Identity Cards] to be printed [No. 130-v] [Mr John Denham].

6 Human Rights.—(1) Eleventh Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Commission for Equality and Human Rights: Structure, Function and Powers]; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 536]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Children Bill]; to be printed [No. 537-i] [Jean Corston].

7 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Migration and Development] to be printed [No. 79-x] [Tony Baldry].

8 Statutory Instruments.—Fifteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [The work of the Export Credits Guarantee Department]; to be printed [Nos. 506-ii and -iii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 70; WH, No. 42]

Tuesday 20th April 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Derek Twigg);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.30 p.m.]

[No. 71.]

Wednesday 21st April 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock

PRAYERS.

1 Mr Peter Pike reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Merchant Shipping (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 David Taylor reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 10243/03, Commission Communication; Towards more accessible, equitable and managed asylum systems; welcomes the Commission’s endorsement of the United Kingdom’s analysis of the problem; and notes that this is only an interim discussion paper pending the submission by the Commission of a more substantive report by June 2004.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

3 Sustainable Communities Bill.—The Order for reading the Sustainable Communities Bill a second time on Friday 23rd April was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 18th June.
4 Fireworks (Amendment).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Fireworks Act 2003: And that Mr George Howarth, Janet Anderson, Mr Joe Benton, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Alan Meale, Dr Lewis Mo meme, Mr Edward O’Hara, Dr John Pugh, Mr Bill Tynan and Sir Nicholas Winterton do prepare and bring it in.

5 Fireworks (Amendment) Bill.—Mr George Howarth accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Fireworks Act 2003: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 18th June and to be printed [Bill 91].

6 Opposition Day [9th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

   Doctors’ Hours in the NHS.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes the forthcoming implementation of the European Working Time Directive (EWTD) in relation to junior hospital doctors; further notes the changes to General Practitioner out-of-hours services following the implementation of the new GP contract; is concerned by the British Medical Association’s estimate that, from August 2004, the EWTD requirements could lose the NHS the equivalent of 3,700 junior doctors; is alarmed by the failure of Ministers to quantify adequately the likely demands of the EWTD in medical manpower and money costs; is further alarmed by the Government’s complacency over the ‘SIMAP/Jaeger’ judgements made by the European Court of Justice and the disproportionate impact they will have on smaller hospitals; notes that cost estimates for GP out-of-hours cover are rising yet the extent of cover is likely to decline; deprecates the failure by Ministers to anticipate the impact that the new GP contract will have on community hospitals and notes with alarm that several are already under threat; and wishes to see the implementation of out-of-hours cover in a form that maintains a GP-led service in which the high standards of care and accessibility traditionally associated with primary care in England are maintained—(Mr Andrew Lansley);

   An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the overall aims of the European Working Time Directive (EWTD) to ensure humane working hours for doctors in training; further welcomes the Government’s lobbying of the European Commission and other EU Member States which has resulted in the Commission’s giving assurances that they will bring forward legislative proposals on the EWTD before the summer; notes the dramatic reduction in the hours of doctors in training which means that 95 per cent. of them now work for 56 hours or fewer; congratulates the Government on the increases in workforce numbers and medical school places, which mean there are now almost 7,000 more consultants and 55,000 more nurses than there were in 1997, and that 6,030 students entered medical school in England in autumn 2003; welcomes the work being done in the National Health Service in implementing new ways of working that contribute to modernising and improving services and meeting the obligations of the Directive; and joins the Chairman of the BMA’s General Practitioners Committee in welcoming the new GP contract as being “better for patients and better for everyone working in general practice” and notes that it will allow primary care trusts to offer patients a safe, high quality service, with care delivered by the most appropriate professional, through better use of more joined-up services’, instead thereof.—(Mr John Hutton.)

   And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

   The House divided.

   Tellers for the Ayes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 197.


   So the Question was negatived.

   And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

   The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

   Resolved, That this House welcomes the overall aims of the European Working Time Directive (EWTD) to ensure humane working hours for doctors in training; further welcomes the Government’s lobbying of the European Commission and other EU Member States which has resulted in the Commission’s giving assurances that they will bring forward legislative proposals on the EWTD before the summer; notes the dramatic reduction in the hours of doctors in training which means that 95 per cent. of them now work for 56 hours or fewer; congratulates the Government on the increases in workforce numbers and medical school places, which mean there are now almost 7,000 more consultants and 55,000 more nurses than there were in 1997, and that 6,030 students entered medical school in England in autumn 2003; welcomes the work being done in the
National Health Service in implementing new ways of working that contribute to modernising and improving services and meeting the obligations of the Directive; and joins the Chairman of the BMA’s General Practitioners Committee in welcoming the new GP contract as being ‘better for patients and better for everyone working in general practice’ and notes that it will allow primary care trusts to offer patients a safe, high quality service, with care delivered by the most appropriate professional, through better use of more joined-up services.

London.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes pride in London’s heritage and status as a leading global capital city; notes that its outstanding success over many centuries has depended upon its rich mix of people, innovation and energy; further notes that it is an international leader in financial services, the arts, media, higher education, medicine and scientific research and tourism; regrets that this enviable competitive advantage is now threatened by the diminution in the quality of life of Londoners and those who come to work in the capital; recognises that insecurity brought about by the threat of terrorist action and rising levels of crime and anti-social behaviour, failing public services, overcrowded and unreliable transport, alongside an ever increasing tax burden on all Londoners, will undermine the capital’s global reputation as a great place to live and do business; and calls upon the Government and its Mayoral candidate, Ken Livingstone, to address the needs of the people of London and improve the quality and choice of services in the capital—(Mr Mark Field);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 5, to leave out from the word ‘tourism’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the Government’s commitment to London’s continuing economic, social and cultural success, and to enhancing its status as a world class city; applauds London’s high levels of productivity and success in attracting inward investment that benefits the whole of the UK; recognises that this success is backed by record levels of funding from this Government for education, health, the arts, culture, creative industries, crime prevention, transport and other key public services that have resulted in substantially higher employment, substantially lower unemployment, record police numbers including more community support officers and police on the beat, massive increases in bus services and people using them, with an extra 100 million bus trips and an extra 180 million Tube journeys taken a year; applauds the leadership of the Mayor of London, working in partnership with the Government in the key areas of transport, planning, economic development and policing; praises the work of the police and security services in remaining vigilant to keep the capital safe; and condemns outright Opposition attempts to talk down and undermine the continued success of our great capital city’, instead thereof.—(Keith Hill.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;
Mr Patrick McLoughlin rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 143.
Tellers for the Noes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Paul Clark: 308.
So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Paul Clark, Jim Fitzpatrick: 302.
Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 169.
So the Question was agreed to.

And the Main Question, as amended, being put;

Resolved, That this House takes pride in London’s heritage and status as a leading global capital city; notes that its outstanding success over many centuries has depended upon its rich mix of people, innovation and energy; further notes that it is an international leader in financial services, the arts, media, higher education, medicine and scientific research and tourism; welcomes the Government’s commitment to London’s continuing economic, social and cultural success, and to enhancing its status as a world class city; applauds London’s high levels of productivity and success in attracting inward investment that benefits the whole of the UK; recognises that this success is backed by record levels of funding from this Government for education, health, the arts, culture, creative industries, crime prevention, transport and other key public services that have resulted in substantially higher employment, substantially lower unemployment, record police numbers including more community support officers and police on the beat, massive increases in bus services and people using them, with an extra 100 million bus trips and an extra 180 million Tube journeys taken a year; applauds the leadership of
the Mayor of London, working in partnership with the Government in the key areas of transport, planning, economic development and policing; praises the work of the police and security services in remaining vigilant to keep the capital safe; and condemns outright Opposition attempts to talk down and undermine the continued success of our great capital city.

7 Deferred Divisions.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Deferred divisions)], That at this day’s sitting, the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply to the Motion in the name of Mr Ben Bradshaw relating to Protection of Animals during Transport—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

8 Protection of Animals during Transport.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Documents No. 7969/01 and ADD1, Report from the Commission and draft Regulation on the ventilation in road vehicles, carrying livestock on long journeys and No. 11794/03, Commission Communications and draft Regulation on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and amending Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EEC, and supports the Government’s objectives of seeking a significant improvement in animal welfare during transport and better enforcement of those rules throughout the European Union—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till four minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.56 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 European Communities,—Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Agreement on the Participation of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic in the European Economic Area) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Pesticides,—Plant Protection Products (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1159), dated 17th April 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


5 Social Security,—Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1141), dated 14th April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

6 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petitions [31st March] from citizens of the United Kingdom against the supply to school children of abortifacient birth control drugs and devices [two Petitions] [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

Papers withdrawn:

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Competition Act 1998 and Other Enactments (Amendment) Regulations 2004, the draft Competition Act 1998 (Determination of Turnover for Penalties) (Amendment) Order 2004, and the draft Competition Act 1998 (Land Agreements Exclusion and Revocation) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Derek Conway Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Henry Bellingham, Mr Bob Blizzard, Virginia Bottomley, Malcolm Bruce, Brian Cotter, Mr Hilton Dawson, Dr Hywel Francis, Lynne Jones, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Peter Lilley, Mr Tony McWalter, Mr John Smith, Ian Stewart and Mr Gerry Sutcliffe.

2 Draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Paul Clark, Mr Edward Davey, Linda Gilroy, Mr Philip Hammond, Mr Doug Henderson, Phil Hope, Helen Jones, John Mann, Mr John Maples, Mr Archie Norman, Mr Malcolm Savidge, Jim Sheridan, Mr Gerry Steinberg, Mr Hugo Swire, Derek Wyatt and Richard Younger-Ross.

3 Draft Accession (Immigration and Worker Registration) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed David Taylor Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated Sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr John Grogan, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Mr George Howarth, Mr Humphrey Malins, Mr Peter Mandelson, Mr Jim Marshall, Kali Mountford, Mr John Redwood, Bob Russell, Mrs Gillian Shephard, Joan Walley, Dr Alan Whitehead and Mr Shaun Woodward.

4 Draft Merchant Shipping (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Hywel Francis, Mr Tony McWalter and John Thurso from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Ross Cranston, Matthew Green and Mr David Kidney.

5 Draft Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (Imunities and Privileges) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Miss Anne Begg Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Colin Breed, Roger Casale, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Angela Eagle, Jeff Ennis, Mr John Maples, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Gordon Prentice, Mr Bill Rammell, Hugh Robertson, Mr Ernie Ross, Andrew Selous, Mr Gary Streeter, Mr Brian Wilson and Tony Worthington.

6 Limitation of Council Tax and Precepts (Alternative Notional Amounts) Report (England) 2004/05.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr David Cameron from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Report) and nominated in substitution Mr Philip Hammond.

7 Naval Discipline Act 1957 (Remedial) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 66) and the draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: John Austin, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr George Foulkes, Stephen Hesford, Mr Paul Keetch, Andy King, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Alice Mahon, Syd Rapson, Hugh Robertson, Joan Ryan, Jon Trickett, Mr Peter Viggers and Mrs Betty Williams.

8 Value Added Tax (Buildings and Land) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 778).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ross Cranston, Mr Paul Truswell and Mr Tom Watson from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution Shona McIsaac, Meg Munn and Ms Gisela Stuart.

9 Draft European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004.—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Seventh
Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations:
Mr Richard Allan, Mr Richard Bacon, Mr Adrian Bailey, Chris Bryant, Mr Ian Cawsey, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Jim Dowd, Julia Drown, Lady Hermon, Judy Mallaber, Jonathan Shaw, Mr John Spellar, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Hugo Swire and Paddy Tipping.

10 Customs and Excise Duties (Travellers’ Allowances and Personal Reliefs) (New Member States) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1002):
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Jon Cruddas, Denzil Davies, Mrs Louise Ellman, Jim Fitzpatrick, John Healey, Mr Michael Jack, Mr Brian Jenkins, Norman Lamb, Mr David Laws, Mr Alan Milburn, Mr Mark Prisk, Mr Richard Shepherd, Geraldine Smith, Helen Southworth and Keith Vaz.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence, International Development and Trade and Industry.—Part of Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence, International Development and Trade and Industry Committees [Strategic Export Controls]; to be printed [No. 390-ii] [Mr Roger Berry].

2 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [National Skills Strategy: 14–19 Education]; to be printed [No. 197-ix] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) Seventh Special Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Government’s Reply to the Third Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on Caught in the net: by-catch of dolphins and porpoises off the UK coast]; to be printed [No. 540]; and
(2) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Managing radioactive waste safely] [Mr Michael Jack].

4 European Scrutiny.—Seventeenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xvii] [Mr Jim Marshall].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Hate Crime in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 539-i] [Mr Michael Mates].

6 Procedure.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Procedure Committee [Programming of Legislation]; to be printed [No. 325-v] [Sir Nicholas Winterton].

7 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Improving Procurement: Progress by the Office of Government Commerce in improving departments’ capability to procure cost-effectively]; to be printed [No. 541-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

8 Science and Technology.—(1) Third Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government Response to the Committee’s Third Report, Session 2003–04, [The Work of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council]; to be printed [No. 526]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Scientific Publications]; to be printed [No. 399-iii] [Dr Ian Gibson].

9 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [The Administrative Costs of Tax Compliance]; to be printed [No. 269-v] [Mr John McFall].

10 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Manufacturing and Trade in Wales]; to be printed [No. 323-vii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

11 Work and Pensions.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Health and Safety]; to be printed [No. 456-iii]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Miscellaneous] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].


The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Gillian Merron.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.42 p.m.]

[No. 72.]

Thursday 22nd April 2004.
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock

PRAYERS.

1 London Local Authorities Bill [Lords],—The House proceeded to consider the Lords Reason for disagreeing to the Commons Amendment to the London Local Authorities Bill [Lords], in page 3, line 14, after the word ‘displayed’ to insert the words ‘on the date on which it is proposed that the vehicle should be disposed of’.

Resolved, That this House does not insist on its Amendment to which the Lords have disagreed.—(Siobhain McDonagh.)


Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Value Added Tax (Buildings and Land) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 778).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Mike Hancock reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Energy Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill to make provision for the decommissioning and cleaning up of installations and sites used for, or contaminated by, nuclear activities; to make provision relating to the civil nuclear industry; to make provision about radioactive waste; to make provision for the development, regulation and encouragement of the use of renewable energy sources; to make further provision in connection with the regulation of the gas and electricity industries; to make provision for the imposition of charges in connection with the carrying out of the Secretary of State’s functions relating to energy matters; to make provision for giving effect to international agreements relating to pipelines and offshore installations; and for connected purposes; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

6 Energy Bill [Lords],—The Energy Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 93].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Energy Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 93–EN].

7 Performance of Companies and Government Departments (Reporting) Bill,—The Order for resuming on Friday 30th April the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 30th January, That the Performance of Companies and Government Departments (Reporting) Bill be read a second time, was read and discharged.

Debate to be resumed on Friday 16th July.

8 Illegal Hare-Coursing (Enforcement of Prohibition) Bill,—The Order for reading the Illegal Hare-Coursing (Enforcement of Prohibition) Bill a second time on Friday 23rd April was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 21st May.

9 Age-Related Payments Bill,—Mr Secretary Smith, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Secretary Murphy, Mr Peter Hain and Malcolm Wicks, presented (under Standing Order No. 50 (Procedure upon bills whose main object is to
create a charge upon the public revenue) a Bill to make provisions for payments by the Secretary of State to persons over the age of 70; and to enable provision to be made for payments by the Secretary of State to persons over the age of 60: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 92].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Age-Related Payments Bill be printed [Bill 92–EN].

10 Motions to sit in private,—Mr Gerald Howarth moved, That the House sit in private.

The Speaker put the Question forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 163 (Motions to sit in private).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Gerald Howarth: 15.

Tellers for the Noes, Paul Clark, Charlotte Atkins: 211.

So the Question was negatived.

11 Security Screen,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House approves the installation of a permanent security screen between the Chamber and the Strangers' Gallery—(Mr Peter Hain); An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out the word 'approves' and insert the words 'declines to approve', instead thereof.—(Mr Paul Tyler.) And the Question being proposed, That the Amendment be made;

Derek Conway rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Murphy, Jim Fitzpatrick: 120.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Mackay, Mr Edward Leigh: 66.

So the Question was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Richard Younger-Ross, Alan Simpson: 92.

Tellers for the Noes, Paul Clark, Charlotte Atkins: 99.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Charlotte Atkins, Paul Clark: 112.

Tellers for the Noes, Richard Younger-Ross, Alan Simpson: 76.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House approves the installation of a permanent security screen between the Chamber and the Strangers' Gallery.

12 Visitor Facilities,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House approves the First Joint Report of the Accommodation and Works Committee and the Administration Committee on Visitor Facilities: Access to Parliament (House of Commons Paper No. 324) and endorses the Committee's proposals for a new reception and security building at the north end of Cromwell Green—(Mr Phil Woolas); And it being Six o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Debate to be resumed to-morrow.

13 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Colin Fairrie and others for rectification of faulty construction work to a small terraced house in the conservation area in St Albans was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

14 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-four minutes past Six o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.24 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3. European Community Finances,—Statement on the 2004 EC Budget and measures to counter fraud and financial mismanagement [by Command] [Cm. 6134] [Ruth Kelly].

4. Government Trading Funds,—Treasury Minute, dated 22nd April 2004, on the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency Trading Fund [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

5. Treaty Series (No. 18, 2004),—Treaty, done at Le Touquet on 4th February 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the French Republic concerning the Implementation of Frontier Controls at the Sea Ports of both Countries on the Channel and North Sea [by Command] [Cm. 6172] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1. Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman of Standing Committee C in place of Derek Conway in respect of the Bill.

2. Draft Cash Ratio Deposits (Value Bands and Ratios) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

Grand Committees

3. The Speaker has appointed Mrs Marion Roe Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of its meeting on Thursday 29th April.

European Standing Committees

4. The Speaker has appointed Mrs Irene Adams Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of European Union Document No. 15494/03 on Disposal of Batteries and Accumulators.

5. The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Forth Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of European Union Document No. 5916/04 on Marketing of Sweet Corn from Genetically Modified Maize.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1. Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee on 30th March [Drugs and role models in sport]; to be printed [No. 499-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

2. Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Subcommittee [Environmental Crime: Fly-tipping, Fly-Posting, Litter, Graffiti and Noise]; to be printed [No. 445-iii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

3. Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Palliative Care]; to be printed [No. 454-ii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

4. Scottish Affairs Committee,—Third Report from the Scottish Affairs Committee [The Proposed Whisky Strip Stamp], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 419] [Mrs Irene Adams].

5. Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Powers of the Children’s Commissioner for Wales]; to be printed [No. 538-i] [Mr Martyn Jones].
The sitting commenced at half-past Two o'clock.

Adjournment (Transparency of Credit Card Charges—First Report from the Treasury Committee, Session 2003–04, and the Responses thereto),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 27th April.

[Adjourned at 6.11 p.m.]

[No. 73.]

Friday 23rd April 2004.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

1 The Speaker's Absence,—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Mrs Sylvia Heal, First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

2 The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker.

3 Local Land Charges (Fees) Bill,—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Local Land Charges (Fees) Bill be printed [Bill 78–EN].

4 Protective Headgear for Young Cyclists Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Protective Headgear for Young Cyclists Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

Mr Eric Forth moved, that the House sit in private.

The Deputy Speaker put the Question forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 163 (Motions to sit in private).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Edward Leigh: 0.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Dismore, Shona McIsaac: 25.

And it appearing from the report of the Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Question was not decided, and the business under consideration stood over until the next Sitting of the House.

5 Constitution for the European Union (Referendum) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Constitution for the European Union (Referendum) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

And it being half-past Two o'clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 18th June.

6 Older People's Commissioners Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Older People's Commissioners Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Three o'clock, adjourned till Monday 26th April.

[Adjourned at 2.59 p.m.]
[No. 74.]


The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Derek Conway reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Competition Act 1998 and Other Enactments (Amendment) Regulations 2004, the draft Competition Act 1998 (Determination of Turnover for Penalties) (Amendment) Order 2004 and the draft Competition Act 1998 (Land Agreements Exclusion and Revocation) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Eric Illsley reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—David Taylor reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Accession (Immigration and Worker Registration) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 European Standing Committee C,—Mr Eric Forth reported from European Standing Committee C the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 5916/04, draft Council Decision authorising the placing on the market of sweet corn from genetically modified maize line Bt11; and supports the Government’s view that the sweet corn meets the necessary requirements for authorisation under Regulation (EC) No. 258/97.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

5 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords insist on certain of their Amendments to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill, to which the this House has disagreed, for which insistence they assign their Reasons; they do not insist on another Amendment to which this House has disagreed but propose an Amendment in lieu thereof; to which they desire the agreement of this House; they do not insist on certain other Amendments to which this House has disagreed and agree to the Amendments proposed by this House in lieu thereof; and they do not insist on their remaining Amendments to which this House has disagreed.

6 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill,—Lords Reasons for insisting on certain Lords Amendments to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill and a Lords Amendment in lieu of a Lords Amendment to the Bill to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 94].

7 Protective Headgear for Young Cyclists Bill,—The Order for reading the Protective Headgear for Young Cyclists Bill a second time this day was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 18th June.

8 Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC4)—(Anti-social behaviour: Report)—(Mr Desmond Swayne)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment (No. 4) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 3, to leave out from the word ‘Chancellor’ to the end of line 5.—(Lembit Öpik.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bob Russell, Mr Don Foster: 147.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Derek Twigg: 276.

Another Amendment (No. 23) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, to leave out lines 26 to 40.—(Mr Andrew Hunter.)
Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nigel Dodds, Mrs Iris Robinson: 113.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Derek Twigg: 307.
Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 25, to leave out Clause No. 5.—(Mr Desmond Swayne.)
Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 151.
Tellers for the Noes, Paul Clark, Gillian Merron: 266.
Another Amendment (No. 22) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 38, after the word 'shall', to insert the words 'within his discretion'.—(Mr Andrew Hunter.)
Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Nigel Dodds: 137.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Vernon Coaker: 248.
Another Amendment (No. 7) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, line 13, to leave out Clause No. 7.—(Mr Alistair Carmichael.)
Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Sir Robert Smith, Mr David Heath: 132.
Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Charlotte Atkins: 254.
Another Amendment (No. 16) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, line 38, at the end, to insert the words 'contained in binding treaties ratified by the United Kingdom.'—(Mr David Trimble.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Amendments (Nos. 2 and 3) made to the Bill.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read the third time;
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Murphy, Charlotte Atkins: 294.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Mark Francois: 102.
So the Question was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

9 Criminal Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Sexual Offences Act 2003 (Travel Notification Requirements) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 25th March, be approved—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.

10 Criminal Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Offensive Weapons) (Amendment) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 15th March, be approved—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.

11 Merchant Shipping.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Merchant Shipping (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (Amendment) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 24th March, be approved—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.

12 Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Local Government Finance (England) Limitation of Council Tax and Precepts (Alternative Notional Amounts) Report (England) 2004–05, which was laid before this House on 25th March, be approved—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.
13 Representation of the People (Northern Ireland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Parliamentary Elections (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 18th March, be approved—(Joan Ryan)—It was agreed to.

14 Value Added Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Value Added Tax (Buildings and Land) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 778), dated 17th March 2004, a copy of which was laid before this House on 17th March, be approved—(Joan Ryan)—It was agreed to.

15 Asylum Systems.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 10243/03, Commission Communication: Towards more accessible, equitable and managed asylum systems; welcomes the Commission’s endorsement of the United Kingdom’s analysis of the problem; and notes that this is only an interim discussion paper pending the submission by the Commission of a more substantive report by June 2004—(Joan Ryan)—It was agreed to.

16 Adjournment (May).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Friday 30th April, do adjourn till Tuesday 4th May—(Joan Ryan)—It was agreed to.

17 European Scrutiny.—Ordered, That Tony Cunningham and Mr Colin Breed be discharged from the European Scrutiny Committee and Sandra Osborne and Nick Harvey be added.—(Joan Ryan.)

18 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Joan Ryan);

And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

19 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Joan Ryan.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till six minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.06 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Criminal Law.—Draft Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Conditional Cautions: Code of Practice) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 European Communities.—Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Agreement on Enlargement of the European Economic Area) Order 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Education,—Education (Student Loans) (Repayment) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1175), dated 20th April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

4 Environmental Protection.—Packaging (Essential Requirements) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1188), dated 21st April 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

5 Legal Profession.—European Communities (Services of Lawyers) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1117), dated 14th April 2004 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

6 Legal Services Commission.—(1) Criminal Defence Service (General) (No. 2) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1196), and


dated 23rd April 2004 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

7 Local Government.—(1) Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1158), dated 19th April 2004, and
(2) Local Government (Best Value) Performance Indicators and Performance Standards (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1176), dated 21st April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

8 National Health Service.—Health Service Commissioner for England (Special Health Authorities) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1119), dated 14th April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].


10 Trusts.—King’s College London Act 1978 (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1194), dated 22nd April 2004 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

Other Papers:

11 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Paper entitled, Energy Efficiency: The Government’s Plan for Action [by Command] [Cm. 6168] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

12 Home Office.—Paper, entitled Legislation on Identity Cards: A Consultation, together with a draft Identity Cards Bill and Explanatory Notes [by Command] [Cm. 6178] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

13 National Health Service.—Summarised Accounts of Strategic Health Authorities, Primary Care Trusts and NHS Trusts in England, of the Dental Practice Board and Special Health Authorities providing central services in England, and of funds held on Trust by Health Authorities, Primary Care Trusts, NHS Trusts, Special Health Authorities and Special Trustees in England for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 505-I and -II] [Clerk of the House].

14 School Standards and Framework.—Accounts of—

(1) Barnsley Education Action Zone for 1st April to 31st August 2003,
(2) Dingle Granby Toxteth Education Action Zone for 2002–03,
(3) East Basildon Education Action Zone for 1st April to 31st December 2003,
(4) Halifax Education Action Zone for 1st April to 31st December 2003,
(5) Nottingham Education Action Zone for 1st April to 31st December 2003,
(6) Sheffield Education Action Zone for 1st April to 31st December 2003, and
(7) Speke Garston Education Action Zone for 2002–03,

with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547 and 548] [Clerk of the House].

15 Terrorism.—Report on the Operation in 2002 and 2003 of the Terrorism Act 2000 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers withdrawn:


17 European Communities.—Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Agreement on the Participation of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic in the European Economic Area) Order 2004 [laid 21st April].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Promotion of Volunteering Bill.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr James Arbuthnot from Standing Committee C (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Tim Boswell.

2 Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Eric Martlew from Standing Committee C (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Anne Picking.

3 Draft Non-domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Linda Gilroy from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations); and nominated in substitution Mr Terry Rooney.
4 Draft Cash Ratio Deposits (Value Bands and Ratios) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Paul Boateng and Helen Southworth from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution John Healey and Mr Tom Watson.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [National Skills Strategy: 14–19 Education]; to be printed [No. 197-x] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Reform of the Sugar Regime Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Reform of the Sugar Regime]; to be printed [No. 550-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Northern Ireland Affairs.—(1) Fourth Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [The Compensation Agency], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 271]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Parades Commission and Public Processions (Northern Ireland) Act 1998]; to be printed [No. 224-vi] [Mr Michael Mates].

4 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister; Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Urban Affairs Sub-Committee of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister; Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Egan Review: Skills for Sustainable Communities]; to be printed [No. 549-i] [Andrew Bennett].

5 Public Accounts.—(1) Twentieth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Improving Service Delivery: The Veterans Agency]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 551]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Increased resources to improve public services: a progress report on the departments’ preparations]; to be printed [No. 552-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

6 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Use of Science in UK International Development Policy]; to be printed [No. 133-iv] [Dr Ian Gibson].

[No. 75.]

Tuesday 27th April 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAIERS.

1 Pensions Bill.—Mr James Cran reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Pensions Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 96].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 554].

2 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—David Taylor reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Cash Ratio Deposits (Value Bands and Ratios) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Telecommunications (Permitted Development Rights) (Amendment).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 to require that the erection of a telecommunications mast can only take place under permitted development rights when it has been shown that the operator has complied with the Code of Practice of the operators of mobile telecommunications systems: And that Jim Dowd, Andy Burnham, Sir Sydney Chapman, Siobhain McDonagh, Mr Andrew Miller, Mr Andrew Mitchell, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Greg Pope, Mr Stephen Pound, Bob Russell and Brian White do prepare and bring it in.
4 Telecommunications (Permitted Development Rights) (Amendment) Bill.—Jim Dowd accordingly presented a Bill to amend the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 to require that the erection of a telecommunications mast can only take place under permitted development rights when it has been shown that the operator has complied with the Code of Practice of the operators of mobile telecommunications systems: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 21st May and to be printed [Bill 95].

5 Finance Bill.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 4, 5, 20, 28, 57 to 77, 86, 111 and 282 to 289 and Schedules Nos. 1, 3, 11, 12, 21 and 37 to 39).

(In the Committee)

Ordered. That the Order in which proceedings in the Committee of the whole House on the Finance Bill are to be taken shall be: Clause 4; Schedule 1; Clauses 5, 20 and 28; Schedule 3; Clauses 57 to 64; Schedule 11; Clauses 65 to 76; Schedule 12; Clauses 77, 86 and 111; Schedule 21; Clause 282; Schedule 37; Clauses 283 and 284; Schedule 38; Clauses 285 to 288; Schedule 39; Clause 289.—(Dawn Primarolo.)

Clause No. 4 (Duty stamps for spirits etc).

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Derek Twigg, Mr Vernon Coaker: 298.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruzy, Mr Geo Vrey Clifton-Brown: 186.

Schedule No. 1 agreed to.

Clause No. 5 (Rates).

Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 4, line 9, to leave out ‘£0.0664’ and insert ‘£0.0435’.—(Mr Andrew Tyrie.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr David Ruzy: 166.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Derek Twigg: 294.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 20 agreed to.

Clause No. 28 (The non-corporate distribution rate).

Amendment (No. 3) proposed, in page 22, line 26, at the end, to insert the words ‘and—(c) the company does not retain at least £10,000 of its distributable profits for the period.’.—(Mr Howard Flight.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Fraser Kemp: 280.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruzy, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 186.

Schedule No. 3 agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 57 to 64 agreed to.

Schedule No. 11 agreed to.

Clause No. 65 agreed to.

Clause No. 66 (Cancellation of registration of gross payment).

Amendment (No. 40) proposed in page 68, line 25, after the word ‘it’, to insert the words ‘twice within a period of five years’.—(Mr David Laws.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 67 to 69 agreed to.
Clause No. 70 (Periodic returns by contractors etc).
Amendment (No. 41) proposed, in page 70, line 44, after the word ‘that’, to insert the words ‘he has taken appropriate steps to confirm that to the best of his knowledge’.—(Mr David Laws.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Clause agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 71 to 76 agreed to.
Schedule No. 12 agreed to.
Clause No. 77 agreed to.
To report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Charlotte Atkins reported, That the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that she was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
Committee again to-morrow.

6 Immigration,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Accession (Immigration and Worker Registration) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 25th March, be approved—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

7 Competition,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Competition Act 1998 (Land Agreements Exclusion and Revocation) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 19th April, be approved—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

8 Competition,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Competition Act 1998 and Other Enactments (Amendment) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 31st March, be approved—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

9 Competition,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Competition Act 1998 (Determination of Turnover for Penalties) (Amendment) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 31st March, be approved—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

10 Marketing of Sweet Corn from Genetically Modified Maize,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 5916/04, draft Council Decision authorising the placing on the market of sweet corn from genetically modified maize line Bt11; and supports the Government’s view that the sweet corn meets the necessary requirements for authorisation under Regulation (EC) No. 258/97—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

11 Standing Committee on Regional Affairs,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 117 (Standing Committee on Regional Affairs), That—

(1) the matter of regional economic performance and the northern way, being a matter relating to regional affairs in England, be referred to the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs;
(2) the Committee do meet at a quarter-past Two o’clock on Tuesday 15th June at Westminster to consider the matter referred to it under paragraph (1) above; and
(3) the proceedings at the meeting be brought to a conclusion at a quarter past Five o’clock—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

12 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 5th May—

(1) notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (2)(b) and (2)(c)(i) of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), proceedings on Opposition business may continue for three hours or until Four o’clock, whichever is the later, and shall then lapse if not previously disposed of; and
(2) proceedings on the Motion for the adjournment of the House relating to Genetically Modified Crops may continue, though opposed, for three hours or until Seven o’clock, whichever is the later, and shall then lapse if not previously disposed of.—(Charlotte Atkins.)
13 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the parents, staff and students of Cheadle Hulme College, Cheadle, for improved provision of school equipment was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

14 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till one minute to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.59 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Disabled Persons,—Disability Discrimination (Questions and Replies) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1168), dated 20th April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

3 Medicines,—(1) Medicines (Pharmacy and General Sale—Exemption) Amendment (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1190), and
   (2) Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use) Amendment (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1189), dated 22nd April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

4 Police (Northern Ireland),—Tenth Report of the Oversight Commissioner [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

5 Public Petitions,—Observations from the—
   (1) Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [31st March] from Sandra Evelyn Cole and other residents of Royston, Hertfordshire, for local control of siting of mobile telephone masts; and
   (2) Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on the Petition [3rd April, in the last Session of Parliament] from Mrs Irene Haylock, Ashleigh Sharp, Jessica Arnold, members of the Benfleet Hard of Hearing Club and others for amendments to the Communications Bill to end exclusion of hearing-impaired persons from digital television, radio and telephone services
   [by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Promotion of Volunteering Bill,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Barry Gardiner and Mr Andrew Miller from Standing Committee C (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Kali Mountford and Kate Hoey.

2 Christmas Day (Trading) Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D (transferred from Standing Committee C).

3 Draft Cash Ratio Deposits (Value Bands and Ratios) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed David Taylor as an additional Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Agreement on Enlargement of the European Economic Area) Order 2004,—The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation and has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Civil Legal Aid: Adequacy of provision]; to be printed [No. 391-v] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Drugs and role models in sport]; to be printed [No. 499-iii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].
[No. 75; WH, No. 45]

Tuesday 27th April 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.29 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Income Tax.—The Vice-Chamberlain of the Household reported to the House, that its Address of 19th April had been presented to Her Majesty; and that Her Majesty had been pleased to receive the same very graciously and to give the following Answer:

I have received your Address praying that the Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (New Zealand) Order 2004 be made in the form of the draft laid before your House on 9th March.

I will comply with your request.

2 Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill.—Mr Eric Illsley reported from Standing Committee C, that it had gone through the Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill, and made Amendments thereunto, and had amended the Title, as follows:

A Bill to make provision for the licensing of activities involving the supply or use of workers in connection with agricultural work, the gathering of wild creatures and wild plants, the harvesting of fish from fish farms, and certain processing and packaging.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 21st May; and to be printed [Bill 98].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 563].

3 European Standing Committee C.—Mrs Irene Adams reported from European Standing Committee C the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 15494/03, draft Directive on batteries and accumulators and spent batteries and accumulators; supports the Government’s intention to welcome the draft Directive and supports the Government’s aim of securing legislation that achieves a high level of environmental protection and harmonisation of the single market, at lowest cost, taking a risk-based and proportional approach, and of ensuring that final collection and recycling targets for spent portable batteries and accumulators are challenging, but achievable.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

4 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Human Rights Act 1998 (Making of Remedial Orders) Amendment Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to amend Schedule 2 to the Human Rights Act 1998 in respect of the periods of time applying to the stages in making a remedial order under section 10 of that Act; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

5 Schools (Vending Machines) Bill.—The Order for reading the Schools (Vending Machines) Bill a second time on Friday 30th April was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 18th June.

6 Rural Broadband Facilitation.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to promote the extension of high-speed broadband connectivity in rural areas, to encourage private investment in essential engineering; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Adrian Flook, Mr Bill Wiggin, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Peter Atkinson, Angela Watkinson, Mr Paul Goodman and Mr Kevan Jones do prepare and bring it in.

7 Rural Broadband Facilitation Bill.—Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger accordingly presented a Bill to promote the extension of high-speed broadband connectivity in rural areas, to encourage private investment in essential engineering; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 97].

8 Finance Bill.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into a Committee on the Finance Bill (Clauses Nos. 4, 5, 20, 28, 57 to 77, 86, 111 and 282 to 289 and Schedules Nos. 1, 3, 11, 12, 21 and 37 to 39).
Clause No. 86 (Income of spouses: jointly held property).

Question put, That the Clause stand part of the Bill.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Charlotte Atkins: 266.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 160.

Clause No. 111 agreed to.

Schedule No. 21 (Chargeable gains: restriction of gifts relief etc.).

Amendment (No. 8) proposed, in page 382, line 10, at the end, to insert the words ‘; or (c) a person who would qualify for one or more of such benefits mentioned in paragraph (b) above if the appropriate claim were made.’.—\(\text{(Mr Howard Flight.)}\)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 42) proposed, in page 386, line 15, to leave out the words ‘10th December 2003’ and insert the words ‘1st April 2005’.—\(\text{(Mr John Burnett.)}\)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Schedule agreed to.

Clause No. 282 agreed to.

Schedule No. 37 (Stamp duty land tax and stamp duty).

Amendment (No. 11) proposed, in page 506, line 30, to leave out the words ‘or request’.—\(\text{(Mr Mark Prisk.)}\)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 12) proposed, in page 510, to leave out lines 2 to 5.—\(\text{(Mr Mark Prisk.)}\)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 14) proposed, in page 532, line 17, at the end, to insert the words ‘in the case of leases assigned within three years of grant.’.—\(\text{(Mr Mark Prisk.)}\)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 13) proposed, in page 534, line 29, to leave out from the beginning to the end of line 7 on page 537.—\(\text{(Mr Mark Prisk.)}\)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 127.

Tellers for the Noes, Margaret Moran, Paul Clark: 336.

Schedule agreed to.

Clause No. 283 (Notification, registration and penalties).

Amendment (No. 16) proposed, in page 237, line 16, to leave out the words ‘the land consists entirely of residential property and’.—\(\text{(Mr Mark Prisk.)}\)

Question proposed that the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause agreed to.

Clause No. 284 (Claims not included in returns).

Amendments (Nos. 17 and 18) made.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.
Schedule No. 38 agreed to.
Clauses Nos. 285 to 288 agreed to.
Schedule No. 39 (Stamp duty land tax: application to certain partnership transactions).
Amendment (No. 19) proposed, in page 548, line 36, at the end, to add the words 'which constitutes a chargeable interest.'—(Mr Mark Prisk.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 20) proposed, in page 549, line 7, at the end, to insert the words—
'(c) any interest in land wholly or partly situated in disadvantaged areas which would be exempt from charge if disposed of at market value.'—(Mr Mark Prisk.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 21) proposed, in page 549, to leave out lines 8 to 16.—(Mr Mark Prisk.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 22) proposed, in page 549, line 20, to leave out the word 'three' and insert the word 'two'.—(Mr Mark Prisk.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 31) proposed, in page 550, line 12, at the end, to insert the words—
'(4) The provisions of sub-paragraph (1) do not apply where the provisions of paragraph 10 apply.'—(Mr Mark Prisk.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 26) proposed, in page 552, line 19, to leave out the words '20th October 2003' and insert the words '8th April 2004.'—(Mr Mark Prisk.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 32) proposed, in page 554, to leave out lines 31 to 44.—(Mr Mark Prisk.)
Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The Committee divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Gregory Barker: 182.
Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Paul Clark: 295.
Another Amendment (No. 34) proposed, in page 555, line 46, after the first word 'the', to insert the words 'capital profits or (if no separate allocation is made of capital profits) the residuary allocation (after prior charges and allocations).'.—(Mr Mark Prisk.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Schedule agreed to.
Clause No. 289 agreed to.
Bill (Clauses Nos. 4, 5, 20, 28, 57 to 77, 86, 111 and 282 to 289 and Schedules Nos. 1, 3, 11, 12, 21 and 37 to 39), as amended, to be reported.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair; and Joan Ryan reported, that the Committee had gone through the Bill (Clauses Nos. 4, 5, 20, 28, 57 to 77, 86, 111 and 282 to 289 and Schedules Nos. 1, 3, 11, 12, 21 and 37 to 39), and made Amendments thereto.

Ordered, That the Bill (Clauses Nos. 4, 5, 20, 28, 57 to 77, 86, 111 and 282 to 289 and Schedules Nos. 1, 3, 11, 12, 21 and 37 to 39), as amended in the Committee, do lie upon the Table.
9 Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Bill (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the Order of 9th February 2004 (Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Bill (Programme)) be varied by substituting for paragraph 5 the following:

‘Programming Committee

5. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on the Bill’—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.

10 Rating and Valuation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Non-Domestic Rating (Chargeable Amounts) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 22nd March, be approved—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.

11 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

  (1) Sarah Jean Borman and other electors in the Richmondshire District of Yorkshire for the investigation of their complaints against the District Council and for the effective discharge by Local Government Commissioners of their duties, and

  (2) citizens of the United Kingdom for amendments to the Gender Recognition Bill were presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Joan Ryan);

And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

13 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Joan Ryan.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till six minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.06 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Health Care and Associated Professions.—Draft Health Professions (Operating Department Practitioners and Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Reid].

2 Northern Ireland.—Direction given by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland under section 51B(2) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 on 28th April 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Other Papers:


  (1) Cabinet Office [by Command] [Cm. 6226] [Mr Douglas Alexander].

  (2) Department of Trade and Industry [by Command] [Cm. 6216] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

4 Health and Social Care.—The Government’s Annual Report on Learning Disabilities for 2004 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 507] [Mr Secretary Reid].


6 Public Accounts.—Treasury Minutes on the Fifth, Ninth and Tenth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6175] [Ruth Kelly].

7 Treaty Series (No. 19, 2004).—Agreement, done at New York on 4th August 1995, for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10th December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks [by Command] [Cm. 6176] [Mr Secretary Straw].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Christmas Day Trading Bill.—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill: Mr Colin Breed, Ann Coffey, Brian Cotter, Mr David Crausby, Mr Gerald Howarth, Helen Jones, Mr Kevan Jones, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Shona McIsaac, John Mann, Mr Colin Pickthall, Mr Terry Rooney, Andrew Selous, Ian Stewart, Mr Gary Streeter and Mr Gerry Sutcliffe.

2 Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 4, 5, 20, 28, 57 to 77, 86, 111 and 282 to 289 and Schedules Nos. 1, 3, 11, 12, 21 and 37 to 39):

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated thirty-three Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Richard Bacon, Mr Paul Boateng, Colin Burgon, Chris Bryant, Mr John Burnett, Dr Vincent Cable, Jon Cruddas, John Cryer, Mr Quentin Davies, Mrs Louise Ellman, Jeff Ennis, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mrs Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr Howard Flight, John Healey, Mr David Heyes, Mr Michael Jack, Ruth Kelly, Norman Lamb, Mr David Laws, Mr Calum MacDonald, Mr George Osborne, Mr Stephen Pound, Dawn Primarolo, Mr Mark Prisk, James Purnell, Lawrie Quinn, Ian Stewart, Mr Mark Todd, Andrew Tyrie and Mr Tom Watson.

3 Draft Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (Immunities and Privileges) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Ernie Ross from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order); and nominated in substitution Joan Ruddock.

4 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Agreement on Enlargement of the European Economic Area) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order: Virginia Bottomley, Chris Bryant, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Wayne David, Mr Michael Moore, Nick Harvey, Mr George Mudie, Mr Chris Mullin, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Gordon Prentice, Hugh Robertson, Mr Richard Spring, Mr Gerry Steinberg, Mr John Taylor and Mr Mark Todd.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) Seventh Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Implementation of CAP Reform in the UK], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 226];

(2) Eighth Special Report from the Committee [Government’s Reply to the Fourth Report from the Committee on End of Life Vehicles and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directives]; to be printed [No. 557];

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Climate Change and Water Security]; to be printed [No. 558-i]; and

(4) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Implementation of CAP Reform in the UK]

[Mr Michael Jack].

2 Environmental Audit.—Fourth Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Water: the Periodic Review 2004 and the Environmental Programme], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 416] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

3 European Scrutiny.—(1) Eighteenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xviii]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [European Evidence Warrant]; to be printed [No. 562-i]

[Mr Jimmy Hood].

4 Public Accounts.—(1) Twenty-first Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Housing the Homeless]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 559];

(2) Twenty-second Report from the Committee [Excess Votes (Northern Ireland) 2002-03]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 560]; and
(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Department for Regional Development: Management of Industrial Sickness Absence]; to be printed [No. 561-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

5 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee [Navigational Hazards]; to be printed [No. 555-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

6 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [The Merger of Customs & Excise and the Inland Revenue]; to be printed [No. 556-i] [Mr John McFall].

7 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Manufacturing and Trade in Wales]; to be printed [No. 323-vii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 76; WH, No. 46]

Wednesday 28th April 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr Nick Ainger);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.44 p.m.

[No. 77.]

Thursday 29th April 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Miss Anne Begg reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organisation (Immunities and Privileges) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Naval Discipline Act 1957 (Remedial) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 66) and the draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Nigel Beard reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Customs and Excise Duties (Travellers’ Allowances and Personal Reliefs) (New Member States) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1002).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Agreement on Enlargement of the European Economic Area) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Mrs Marion Roe reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of the social economy in Northern Ireland, referred to it on 19th April.

6 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords agree to the Amendments made by this House to the Justice (Northern Ireland) Bill, without Amendment.

Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to establish the Health Protection Agency and make provision as to its functions, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
7 Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords].—The Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords] was read
the first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 99].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 99–EN].

8 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to
consider the Lords Reasons for insisting on certain Amendments to which the Commons
have disagreed and a Lords Amendment in lieu of another Lords Amendment to the
Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House insists on its
disagreement to the Lords Amendment—(Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Bridget Prentice: 235.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Randall, Mr Hugo Swire: 140.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House insists on its disagreement to the Lords Amendment.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Bill in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 1.

Lords Amendment No. 3.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House insists on its
disagreement to the Lords Amendment—(Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Bridget Prentice: 235.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Randall, Mr Hugo Swire: 141.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House insists on its disagreement to the Lords Amendment.

It being more than one hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords
Message, the Deputy Speaker put forthwith the Question on the remaining Lords
Amendment, pursuant to Order [19th April].

Lords Amendment No. 41B in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 41 was agreed to.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th
June 2002 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That a Committee be
appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for insisting on disagreeing
to their Amendment No. 3.

That Paul Clark, Linda Gilroy, Matthew Green, Mr John Hayes and Keith Hill be
Members of the Committee.

That Keith Hill be the Chairman of the Committee.

That three be the quorum of the Committee.

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

9 Opposition Day [7th allotted day: second part].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of
the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of
public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Government’s Record on Animal and Plant Diseases.—A Motion was made, and the
Question being proposed, That this House recognises the potential risk posed to British
agriculture and to the environment of the UK by the importation of animal and plant
diseases; acknowledges the crucial importance of preventing diseases from entering the
country; notes with concern the increase in the number of diseases in Britain emanating
from abroad and the spread of virulent epidemics across the world; recognises the
implications for biosecurity of the enlargement of the European Union; condemns the
Government for failing to learn the lessons from the recent outbreak of foot and mouth
disease; regrets the failure of the Government to address these problems and to instil
confidence in the farming community; and calls on the Government to take urgent action
to put in place the stringent measures necessary to prevent animal and plant disease from
entering the UK.—(Mrs Theresa May);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word
‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘commends the action taken by this
Government to eradicate exotic plant and animal disease when it occurs, and to control
endemic disease; congratulates the Government on its actions that have succeeded in
reducing the number of BSE clinical cases to just 184 last year; further congratulates the
Government on eradicating a major outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in seven
months and on implementing the recommendations of the Lessons Learned and Royal
Society Inquiries so that Government is better prepared to tackle a future outbreak of a major livestock disease; welcomes the significant progress made to tackle illegal imports both by increasing enforcement activity at the border and by increasing public awareness; applauds the Government on its action taken against other animal and plant diseases, notably Salmonella Java and potato ring rot; and notes the Government’s continuing commitment to prevent serious animal and plant disease’, instead thereof.—(Mr Ben Bradshaw.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;

David Maclean rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put. And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

The House divided.

 Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Randall, Mr Hugo Swire: 132.

 Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Joan Ryan: 235.

 So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

 The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

 Resolved, That this House commends the action taken by this Government to eradicate exotic plant and animal disease when it occurs, and to control endemic disease; congratulates the Government on its actions that have succeeded in reducing the number of BSE clinical cases to just 184 last year; further congratulates the Government on eradicating a major outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in seven months and on implementing the recommendations of the Lessons Learned and Royal Society Inquiries so that Government is better prepared to tackle a future outbreak of a major livestock disease; welcomes the significant progress made to tackle illegal imports both by increasing enforcement activity at the border and by increasing public awareness; applauds the Government on its action taken against other animal and plant diseases, notably Salmonella Java and potato ring rot; and notes the Government’s continuing commitment to prevent serious animal and plant disease.

10 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill,—Keith Hill reported from the Committee appointed to draw up a Reason for insisting on the House’s disagreement to one of the Lords Amendments to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill. That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House:

 The Commons insist on their disagreement to Lords Amendment No. 3 for the following Reason:

 Because it is not appropriate to create more than one tier of regional spatial strategy.

 The Reason was agreed to.

 Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, together with the Bill and Amendments.

11 Draft Charities Bill (Joint Committee),—Ordered, That the Lords Message of 19th April, relating to a Joint Committee of both Houses to consider and report on any draft Charities Bill presented to both Houses by a Minister of the Crown, be now considered.

 That this House concurs with the Lords that it is expedient that a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons be appointed to consider and report on any draft Charities Bill presented to both Houses by a Minister of the Crown, and that the Committee shall report on the draft Bill by 30th September 2004.

 That a Select Committee of six honourable Members be appointed to join with the Committee appointed by the Lords to consider the draft Charities Bill.

 That the Committee shall have power—

 (i) to send for persons, papers and records;
 (ii) to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House;
 (iii) to report from time to time;
 (iv) to appoint specialist advisers;
 (v) to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom; and

 That the quorum of the Committee shall be two.

 That Mr Alan Campbell, Mr George Foulkes, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Alan Milburn, Mr Andrew Mitchell and Bob Russell be members of the Committee.—(Paul Clark.)

 Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.
12 Standards and Privileges.—Ordered, That Richard Ottaway be discharged from the Committee on Standards and Privileges and Mrs Angela Browning be added.—(Paul Clark.)

13 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Paul Clark);

And the Motion having been made after Six o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then thirteen minutes to Seven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.47 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education,—Yeovil Schools (School Day and School Year Regulations) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1191), dated 22nd April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

2 Immigration,—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [by Act]; to be printed [No. 523] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Transport,—Cableway Installations (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1230), dated 27th April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:


   (1) Department for Culture, Media and Sport and DCMS Sponsored Bodies [by Command] [Cm. 6220] [Secretary Tessa Jowell];

   (2) Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Forestry Commission [by Command] [Cm. 6219] [Secretary Margaret Beckett];

   (3) Department for International Development [by Command] [Cm. 6214] [Secretary Hilary Benn];

   (4) Department for Work and Pensions [by Command] [Cm. 6221] [Mr Secretary Smith];

   (5) Department of Health [by Command] [Cm. 6204] [Mr Secretary Reid];

   (6) Food Standards Agency [by Command] [Cm. 6205] [Mr Secretary Reid]; and

   (7) Foreign and Commonwealth Office [by Command] [Cm. 6213] [Mr Secretary Straw].

5 Regulatory Reform,—Proposal for a Regulatory Reform (Trading Stamps) Order 2004, together with a Statement by the Department of Trade and Industry [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

6 Water Industry,—Report of the Director General of Water Services for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 522] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Finance Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr John McWilliam and Sir John Butterfill Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

2 Promotion of Volunteering Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr David Amess Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

3 Customs and Excise Duties (Travellers’ Allowances and Personal Reliefs) (New Member States) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1002).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Helen Southworth from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Tom Watson.

   European Standing Committees

4 The Speaker has appointed Mr John Cummings Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of European Union Document No. 15529/03 on Doha Development Agenda.
5 The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of European Union Document No. 11646/03 on nutrition and health claims made on foods.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [The Honours System]; to be printed [No. 212-vi] [Tony Wright].

[No. 77; WH, No. 47]

Thursday 29th April 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o'clock.

Adjournment (Development Assistance and the Occupied Palestinian Territories—Second Report from the International Development Committee, Session 2003–04, and the Government’s response thereto).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Derek Twigg);

And the sitting having continued for three hours, it was adjourned without Question put, till Tuesday 4th May.

[Adjourned at 5.55 p.m.]

[No. 78.]

Friday 30th April 2004.

The House met at half-past Nine o'clock.

1 The Speaker’s Absence.—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Sir Michael Lord, the Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

PRAYERS.

2 The Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker.

3 Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC1) (Buildings of special historical or architectural interest)—(Mr Andrew Stunell)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 6, line 30, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(4A) The registers shall contain such information and documents that relate to the requirements placed on local authorities under the Sustainable Energy Act 2003, outlining any achievements beyond the statutory minimum in pursuit of warm homes and energy conservation.’—(Mr John Hayes.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 7, line 3, at the end, to insert the words—

‘91B Accessible housing registers for the disabled
(1) Each local housing authority must maintain an “accessible housing register”.
(2) The accessible housing register must outline—
(a) current and proposed accessible residential properties in the local authority area (whether purpose-built or adapted) with details of the access features relating to each property; and
(b) the provisions available for disabled people who require accessible housing.'
(3) For the purpose of this section “accessible residential properties” means dwellings, flats and HMOs which provide a reasonable means of access and ease of use for disabled people, or which may be easily adapted to provide such access and ease of use.’.—[Mr John Hayes.]

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

4 Criminal Justice (Justifiable Conduct) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Criminal Justice (Justifiable Conduct) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 14th May.

5 Organ Donation (Presumed Consent and Safeguards) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Organ Donation (Presumed Consent and Safeguards) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 14th May.

6 Wild Mammals (Protection) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 6th February, That the Wild Mammals (Protection) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 21st May.

7 Local Land Charges (Fees) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Local Land Charges (Fees) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 18th June.

8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Joan Ryan.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Three o’clock, adjourned till Tuesday 4th May; pursuant to Resolution [26th April].

[Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Highways.—Crime Prevention (Designated Areas) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1239), dated 29th April 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Housing.—(1) Allocation of Housing and Homelessness (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1235), dated 29th April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott];

(2) Allocation of Housing Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 198), dated 29th April 2004 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Murphy]; and

(3) Homelessness Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 199), dated 29th April 2004 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

3 Immigration.—Immigration (European Economic Area) and Accession (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1236), dated 28th April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


(2) Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance (Administration) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1240), dated 29th April 2004 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo]; and

(3) Social Security (Habitual Residence) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1232), dated 28th April [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].
6 Tax Credits.—(1) Tax Credits (Miscellaneous Amendments No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1241), dated 29th April 2004; and
(2) Tax Credits (Residence) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1243), dated 30th April 2004 [by Act] [Dawn Primarolo].

Other Papers:

(1) Department for Constitutional Affairs, Northern Ireland Court Service, The National Archives, and HM Land Registry [by Command] [Cm. 6210] [Mr David Lammy];
(2) Department for Education and Skills [by Command] [Cm. 6202] [Mr Secretary Clarke];
(3) Department for Transport [by Command] [Cm. 6207] [Mr Secretary Darling];
(4) HM Treasury [by Command] [Cm. 6222] [Mr Paul Boateng];
(5) Home Office [by Command] [Cm. 6208] [Mr Secretary Blunkett];
(6) Law Officers’ Departments [by Command] [Cm. 6211] [The Solicitor General];
(7) National Savings and Investments [by Command] [Cm. 6230] [Mr Paul Boateng];
(8) Northern Ireland Office [by Command] [Cm. 6229] [Mr Secretary Murphy];
(9) Office for National Statistics [by Command] [Cm. 6231] [Mr Paul Boateng];
(10) Office for Standards in Education [by Command] [Cm. 6203] [Mr Secretary Clarke];
(11) Scotland Office and Offices of the Advocate General for Scotland [Cm. 6227] [Mr Secretary Darling]; and
(12) Wales Office [by Command] [Cm. 6228] [Mr Peter Hain].

8 Representation of the People (Wales).—(1) Local Elections (Communities) (Welsh Forms) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1233) and
(2) Local Elections (Principal Areas) (Welsh Forms) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1234),
dated 29th April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

9 Social Security.—Report by the Social Security Advisory Committee under section 174(1) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 and the statement by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions in accordance with Section 174(2) of that Act relating to the Social Security (Habitual Residence) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1232) [by Command] [Cm. 6181] [Mr Secretary Smith].
Tuesday 4th May 2004.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

   The Lords have agreed to the Child Trust Funds Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Child Trust Funds Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Child Trust Funds Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 101].

3 Domestic Energy Efficiency.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for energy efficiency in relation to fuel poverty and social housing: And that Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr John Lyons, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Andy King, Mr Bill Olner and Mr Brian Jenkins do prepare and bring it in.

4 Domestic Energy Efficiency Bill.—Mr Jim Cunningham accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for energy efficiency in relation to fuel poverty and social housing; and the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th July and to be printed [Bill 100].

5 Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Bill.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee on the Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Bill.

(In the Committee)

Clause No. 1 (Constituencies and regions).

Amendment (No. 8) proposed, in page 1, to leave out lines 5 to 11.—(Mr Jimmy Hood.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Hugo Swire: 138.

Tellers for the Noes, Derek Twigg, Charlotte Atkins: 347.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses Nos. 2 to 4 agreed to.

Schedule No. 1 (Substitution of Schedule 1 to the Scotland Act 1998).

Amendment (No. 1) proposed, in page 3, line 12, to leave out from the word ‘Shetland)’ to the end of line 14.—(Mr Brian H. Donohoe.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 11) proposed, in page 10, line 10, at the end, to insert the words—

‘Rule 5

Wherever the boundary of a constituency for the Scottish Parliament is not coterminous with the boundary of a constituency for Parliament, the Electoral Commission or the Boundary Committee (as the case may be) shall ensure that the names for the different types of constituencies shall be different.’.—(Mr Alan Reid.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

It being Nine o’clock, the Chairman put the remaining Question necessary to bring proceedings in the Committee to a conclusion, pursuant to Order [9th February].

Schedule agreed to.

Schedules Nos. 2 and 3 agreed to.

Whereupon the Chairman left the Chair to report the Bill to the House.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and Gillian Merron reported, That the Committee had gone through the Bill and directed her to report the same, without Amendment.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time—(Mrs Anne McGuire);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Gillian Merron: 326.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Mark Francois: 104.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

6 Defence.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Naval Discipline Act 1957 (Remedial) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 66), dated 14th January 2004, a copy of which was laid before this House on 15th January, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

7 Defence.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 26th February, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

8 Banks and Banking.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Cash Ratio Deposits (Value Bands and Ratios) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 3rd March, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

9 Customs and Excise.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Customs and Excise Duties (Travellers' Allowances and Personal Reliefs) (New Member States) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1002), dated 1st April, a copy of which was laid before this House on 1st April, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

10 International Immunities and Privileges.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (Immunities and Privileges) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 19th April, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

11 European Communities.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Agreement on Enlargement of the European Economic Area) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 26th April, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

12 Disposal of Batteries and Accumulators.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 15494/03, draft Directive on batteries and accumulators and spent batteries and accumulators; supports the Government's intention to welcome the draft Directive and supports the Government's aim of securing legislation that achieves a high level of environmental protection and harmonisation of the single market, at lowest cost, taking a risk-based and proportional approach, and of ensuring that final collection and recycling targets for spent portable batteries and accumulators are challenging, but achievable—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

13 Education.—Ordered, That the Education (Pupil Exclusions) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 402), dated 23rd February 2004, be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

14 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Ordered, That Mr Peter Robinson be discharged from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and Mr Gregory Campbell be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

15 Transport.—Ordered, That Mr Gregory Campbell be discharged from the Transport Committee and Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

16 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Vernon Coaker);
And it being Ten o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

17 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Ten o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.29 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:
1 Human Fertilisation and Embryology.—Draft Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (Disclosure of Donor Information) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:
3 Education.—Education (National Curriculum) (Attainment Targets and Programmes of Study in Science in respect of the First, Second, Third and Fourth Key Stages) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1217), dated 27th April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].
5 Nuclear Safeguards.—Nuclear Safeguards (Notification) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1255), dated 1st May 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Other Papers:
7 National Audit.—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
   (1) Financial management of the European Union: A progress report, and
   (2) PFI: The STEPS Deal [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 529 and 530] [Clerk of the House].
8 Video Recordings.—Report and Accounts of the British Board of Film Classification for 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Statutory supervision of legal professionals: the work of the Legal Services Ombudsman]; to be printed [No. 575-i] [Mr A. J. Beith].
2 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Drugs and role models in sport]; to be printed [No. 499-iv] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].
3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Reform of the Sugar Regime Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Reform of the Sugar Regime]; to be printed [No. 550-ii] [Mr Michael Jack].
4 Environmental Audit.—Fifth Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [GM Food—Evaluating the Farm Scale Trials: the Government Response]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 564] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].
5 European Scrutiny.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the European Scrutiny Committee [Regional and Cohesion Policy]; to be printed [No. 574-i] [Mr Anthony Steen].
6 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Foreign Policy Aspects of the War against Terrorism]; to be printed [No. 441-iv] [Mr Donald Anderson].
7 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Identity Cards]; to be printed [No. 130-vii] [Mr John Denham].
8 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [AIDS Orphans]; to be printed, together with Appendices [No. 573-i] [Chris McCafferty].
9 Statutory Instruments.—Seventeenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xvii] [Mr David Tredinnick].
10 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee
[The UK Automotive Industry]; to be printed [No. 437-iii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

11 Transport.—Ninth Report from the Transport Committee [Navigational Hazards and the
Energy Bill], with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the
Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to
the Report [No. 555] [Mr Brian H. Donohoe].

12 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Powers
of the Children’s Commissioner for Wales]; to be printed [No. 538-ii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 79; WH, No. 48]

Tuesday 4th May 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be
now adjourned—(Charlotte Atkins);

And it being Two o’clock, the sitting was adjourned without Question put, till to-
morrow.

[Adjourned at 2 p.m.]

[No. 80.]

Wednesday 5th May 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 European Standing Committee C,—Mr John Cummings reported from European Standing
Committee C the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 15529/03,
Commission Communication ‘Reviving the Doha Development Agenda negotiations—
the European Union’s Perspective’; welcomes the European Commission’s commitment
to the successful conclusion of the negotiations and urges the European Commission to
show leadership in taking this forward; welcomes the signs of the European
Commission’s flexibility, particularly on the Singapore issues and urges other World
Trade Organisation members to do likewise; and supports the Government’s aim of
ensuring that the negotiations deliver benefits for all countries, especially the world’s
poorest, recognising the contribution this could make to the achievement of the
Millennium Development Goals.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

2 Human Rights Act 1998 (Making of Remedial Orders) Amendment Bill [Lords],—The
Human Rights Act 1998 (Making of Remedial Orders) Amendment Bill [Lords] was read
the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 18th June and to be printed
[Bill 103].

3 Arms Trade,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about any
Treaty on International Arms Transfers adopted by an International Conference held
under the auspices of the United Nations: And that Tony Baldry, John Barrett, Mr John
Battle, Hugh Bayley, Mr Tony Colman, Mr Quentin Davies, Chris McCafferty and Tony
Worthington do prepare and bring it in.

4 Arms Trade Bill,—Tony Baldry accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about any
Treaty on International Arms Transfers adopted by an International Conference held
under the auspices of the United Nations: And the same was read the first time; and
ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th July and to be printed [Bill 102].

5 Opposition Day [10th allotted day: first part],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the
Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public
business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Government’s Record on Housing.—A Motion was made, and the Question being
proposed, that this House regrets the Government’s failure effectively to address the
worsening problems of housing affordability, homelessness, sustainable development
and house price inflation; laments the failure to diagnose correctly the underlying causes
of house price inflation, including the insecurity of savings under the present
Government; notes the Council of Mortgage Lenders’ survey which found that 81 per
cent. of the population aspire to home ownership and believes that key workers should
not be penalized by high property prices; further regrets the rising numbers of vulnerable people living in temporary accommodation; urges the Government to explore new options for accessing empty homes to meet demand for social housing, as well as enabling people to move from social housing to owning their own homes; further notes that there was no ministerial statement or debate in Government time in response to the Barker Review which itself fails to provide acceptable solutions to these acute problems and poses a serious threat to the nation’s green fields, to sustainable communities and to robust local democracy by its recommendation that housing targets be set at a regional level—(Mrs Caroline Spelman);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘commends the Government’s record on housing, and the progress it has made in delivering sustainable communities, as set out in Making it Happen: The Northern Way and elsewhere; notes that one million more people own their homes now than in 1997, whilst mortgage rates are at their lowest since the 1950s; notes that since 1997 there are one million fewer social homes below the decency standard and welcomes the Government’s approval of 58 new schemes that could make decent another 170,000 social homes; applauds the fact that the number of families with children in bed and breakfast accommodation for longer than six weeks has reduced by at least 99.3 per cent. since March 2002; supports the Government’s plans in the Thames Gateway and newer growth areas to deliver new sustainable communities and provide an extra 200,000 homes; further welcomes the action the Government has taken to support the creation of 230,000 affordable homes since 1997, to help over 10,000 key workers into home ownership in areas of high demand, and to reduce rough sleeping to the lowest level since records began; further supports the Government’s creation of a £500 million Market Renewal Fund to tackle the worst cases of low housing demand and abandonment; applauds the creation of regional housing boards to ensure investment is focused on regional priorities; and welcomes the fact that the Government has added 25,000 hectares to the green belt with a further 12,000 hectares in prospect, and is exceeding its brownfield target, having built 64 per cent. of new homes on previously developed land in 2003’, instead thereof.—(Keith Hill.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question; David Maclean rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put. And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 203.
Tellers for the Noes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Vernon Coaker: 317.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Vernon Coaker: 317.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 199.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House commends the Government’s record on housing, and the progress it has made in delivering sustainable communities, as set out in Making it Happen: The Northern Way and elsewhere; notes that one million more people own their homes now than in 1997, whilst mortgage rates are at their lowest since the 1950s; notes that since 1997 there are one million fewer social homes below the decency standard and welcomes the Government’s approval of 58 new schemes that could make decent another 170,000 social homes; applauds the fact that the number of families with children in bed and breakfast accommodation for longer than six weeks has reduced by at least 99.3 per cent. since March 2002; supports the Government’s plans in the Thames Gateway and newer growth areas to deliver new sustainable communities and provide an extra 200,000 homes; further welcomes the action the Government has taken to support the creation of 230,000 affordable homes since 1997, to help over 10,000 key workers into home ownership in areas of high demand, and to reduce rough sleeping to the lowest level since records began; further supports the Government’s creation of a £500 million Market Renewal Fund to tackle the worst cases of low housing demand and abandonment; applauds the creation of regional housing boards to ensure investment is focused on regional priorities; and welcomes the fact that the Government has added 25,000 hectares to the green belt with a further 12,000 hectares in prospect, and is exceeding its brownfield target, having built 64 per cent. of new homes on previously developed land in 2003.
6 Christmas Day (Trading) Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Christmas Day (Trading) Bill [Money],

Resolved. That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Christmas Day (Trading) Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums which under any other Act are payable out of money so provided.—(Mr Gerry Sutcliffe.)

7 Adjournment (Genetically modified crops).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Derek Twigg);

And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, it lapsed, pursuant to Order [27th April].

8 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Ordered, That—

(1) the proposal for a draft Special Educational Needs and Disability (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee;

(2) the Committee shall meet at Westminster on Thursday 20th May at half-past Two o’clock; and

(3) at that sitting—

(a) the Committee shall take questions under Standing Order No. 110 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)), and shall then consider the legislative proposal referred to it under paragraph (1) above;

(b) the Chairman shall interrupt proceedings not later than two and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the legislative proposal referred to the Committee; and

(c) at the conclusion of those proceedings, a motion for the adjournment of the Committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown, pursuant to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 116 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)).—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to Nine o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.31 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Criminal Law,—Liberia (Freezing of Funds and Economic Resources) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1264), dated 5th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ruth Kelly].

2 Disabled Persons,—Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Seaton Tramway Tramcars 9, 10 and 11) Exemption Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1205), dated 23rd April 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

3 Food,—Food (Emergency Control) (England) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1265), dated 4th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

4 Air Force (Constitution),—Amendment List 9 to Regulations for the Royal Air Force Aeromedical Evacuation Service: Air Publication 3394 (Third Edition) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

5 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts of—

(1) Kingston-upon-Hull Education Action Zone for 1st April to 31st December 2003,

(2) Leigh (Wigan) Education Action Zone for 1st April to 31st December 2003,

(3) Middlesbrough Education Action Zone for 1st April to 25th October 2003,

(4) North Southwark Education Action Zone for 1st April to 31st December 2003,

(5) South Tyneside Education Action Zone for 1st April to 31st December 2003 and

(6) Thetford Education Action Zone for 1st April to 31st December 2003, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 566, 571, 567, 568, 569 and 570] [Clerk of the House].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Finance Bill.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ian Stewart from Standing Committee A (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Harry Cohen.

2 Draft Human Rights Act 1998 (Amendment) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Graham Allen, Tony Baldry, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Russell Brown, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Geraint Davies, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr David Heath, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr David Lammy, Rosemary McKenna, Mr James Plaskitt, Bridget Prentice, Mr Chris Smith, Dr Desmond Turner and Joan Walley.

3 Northern Ireland Act 1998 and Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) Order 2004 and Direction given by the Secretary of State under section 51B(2) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 on 28th April 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order and the Direction to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Mr Tom Harris, Mrs Joan Humble, Ian Lucas, Mr Iain Luke, Chris Mole, Lembit Öpik, Mr Andy Reed, Mr Andrew Robathan, Llew Smith, Mr John Spellar, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr David Trimble and David Wright.

4 Draft Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Conditional Cautions: Code of Practice) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Peter Bottomley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Parmjit Dhanda, Mr Neil Gerrard, Mr Nick Gibb, Paul Goggins, Mr Dominic Grieve, Jane Griffiths, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Shona McIsaac, Mr Tony McWalter, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr Paul Stinchcombe and Mr Brian Wilson.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Vera Baird, Mr Kevin Barron, Mr Mark Francois, Mr Mark Hoban, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Ivan Lewis, Mr Denis Murphy, Dr John Pugh, Mr Ernie Ross, Dr Gavin Strang, Mr Paul Truswell, Mr Andrew Turner, Derek Twigg, Mr Robert Walter, Brian White and Mr Phil Willis.

Standing Committee on Regional Affairs

6 Standing Committee on Regional Affairs.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Candy Atherton from the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs and nominated in substitution Kali Mountford.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development and Trade and Industry.—First Joint Report from the Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development and Trade and Industry Committees [Strategic Export Controls: being the Fourth Report from the Defence Committee, the Sixth Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, the Fifth Report from the International Development Committee and the Fourth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee] with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committees; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 390] [Mr Roger Berry].

2 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Defence Procurement]; to be printed [No. 572-i] [Bruce George].

3 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Draft School Transport Bill]; to be printed [No. 509-ii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].
4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Climate Change, Water Security and Flooding]; to be printed [No. 558-ii]; and
(2) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Rural Broadband] [Mr Michael Jack].

5 Environmental Audit.—Sixth Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Environmental Crime and the Courts], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 126] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

6 European Scrutiny.—Nineteenth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xix] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

7 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Foreign Policy Aspects of the War against Terrorism]; to be printed [No. 441-v] [Mr Donald Anderson].

8 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Scrutiny of European Matters in the House of Commons]; to be printed [No. 565-i] [Mr Peter Hain].

9 Northern Ireland Affairs.—(1) Third Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Government’s Response to the Second Report from the Committee, Session 2003-04, on The Separation of Paramilitary Prisoners at HMP Maghaberry]; to be printed [No. 583]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Hate Crime in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 539-ii] [Mr Michael Mates].

10 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—(1) Sixth Report from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Social Cohesion], with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 45-I] [Andrew Bennett]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Urban Affairs Sub-Committee of the Committee [The Role and Effectiveness of the Housing Corporation]; to be printed [No. 401-iii] [Clive Betts].

11 Procedure.—(1) Third Report from the Procedure Committee [Joint activities with the National Assembly for Wales], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 582]; and
(2) First Special Report from the Committee [Estimates and Appropriation Procedure: The Government’s Response to the Committee’s First Report], to be printed [No. 576]
[Sir Nicholas Winterton].

12 Public Accounts.—(1) Twenty-third Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Government Communications Headquarters: New Accommodation Programme]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 65];
(2) Twenty-fourth Report from the Committee [Transforming the performance of HM Customs and Excise through electronic service delivery]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 138]; and
(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Recovery of Debt by the Inland Revenue]; to be printed [No. 584-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

13 Science and Technology.—(1) Sixth Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Within REACH: the EU’s new chemicals strategy]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 172-I and -II]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Scientific Publications]; to be printed [No. 399-iv] [Dr Ian Gibson].
14 Transport.—(1) Tenth Report from the Transport Committee [The Work of the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency and the Vehicle Certification Agency], with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 250];

(2) Eleventh Report from the Committee [National Rail Enquiry Service], with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 580]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [European Union Competence and Transport]: to be printed [No. 581-i]

[Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

15 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [Appointment Hearing: the Chief Executive of the Office of Government Commerce]; to be printed [No. 579-i] [Mr John McFall].

16 Work and Pensions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Health and Safety]: to be printed [No. 456-iv] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 80; WH, No. 49]

**Wednesday 5th May 2004.**

*The House sitting in Westminster Hall*

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.55 p.m.]

[No. 81.]

**Thursday 6th May 2004.**

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

**PRAYERS.**

1 European Standing Committee C.—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from European Standing Committee C the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 11646/03, a draft Regulation on nutrition and health claims made on foods; and supports the Government’s view that the measure will promote informed consumer choice and facilitate intra-Community trade.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

2 Balance Charitable Foundation for Unclaimed Assets (Allocation) Bill.—Mr Frank Field, supported by Mr Jon Owen Jones, Derek Wyatt, Kevin Brennan, Mr David Willetts, Mr Nigel Waterson, Steve Webb, Annabelle Ewing, Sandra Osborne, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson and Adam Price, presented a Bill to make provision about the allocation of unclaimed assets secured by the Balance Charitable Foundation for Unclaimed Assets: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 18th June and to be printed [Bill 104].

3 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC1) (Reservists’ personal pension plans)—(Mr Julian Brazier)—brought up and read the first time.

Question, That the Clause be read a second time, put and negatived.

Another Clause (NC2) (Armed Forces Pay Review Body)—(Mr Gerald Howarth)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Clause (NC3) (Burden of proof)—(Mr Gerald Howarth)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr John Randall: 144.
Tellers for the Noes, Charlotte Atkins, Bridget Prentice: 254.

Another Clause (NC4) (Full career pensions)—(Mr Gerald Howarth)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC7) (Widows’ pensions for life)—(Mr Gerald Howarth)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

And it being Five o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [22nd January].
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Randall, Mr Hugo Swire: 132.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Charlotte Atkins: 252.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on the Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown.

Amendments (Nos. 1 to 3) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read the third time;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Charlotte Atkins, Mr John Heppell: 267.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr John Randall: 113.

So the Question was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

4 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes to Seven o’clock, adjourned till Monday 10th May.

[Adjourned at 6.35 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Regulatory Reform,—Draft Regulatory Reform (Museum of London) (Location of Premises) Order 2004, with a statement by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Merchant Shipping,—Merchant Shipping (Updating of References to Maritime Conventions) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1266), dated 4th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].


Other Papers:

4 Defence,—Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 6th May 2004, concerning the gifting of non-lethal military equipment to the Government of Nepal [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hoon].
5 Public Petitions.—Observations from the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Petition [17th March] from Mr George Henry Hamilton for measures providing recourse for those about whom references have been provided based on unreliable information [by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

6 Security Commission.—Paper, entitled Report of the Security Commission [by Command] [Cm. 6177] [The Prime Minister].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Promotion of Volunteering Bill.—The Speaker has appointed David Taylor as an additional Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

2 Christmas Day (Trading) Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Frank Cook Chairman of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

3 Draft Human Rights Act 1998 (Amendment) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Northern Ireland Act 1998 and Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1164) and the direction given by the Secretary of State under section 51B(2) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 on 28th April 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.

5 Education (Pupil Exclusions) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 402).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

European Standing Committees

6 The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 15409/03 on Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals (REACH).

7 The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 12441/03 on Co-operation with the Occupied Territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Palliative Care]; to be printed [No. 454-iii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

2 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Restoring confidence in long-term savings]; to be printed [No. 71-vi] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 81; WH, No. 50]


The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Ports—Ninth Report from the Transport Committee, Session 2002–03, and the Government’s response thereto).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr John Heppell);

And the sitting having continued for three hours, it was adjourned without Question put, till Tuesday 11th May.

[Adjourned at 6.15 p.m.]
PRAYERS.

1 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Education (Pupil Exclusions) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 402).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee of six Lords to join with the Committee appointed by the Commons to consider and report on any draft Charities Bill presented to both Houses by a Minister of the Crown;

That the Committee have power to agree with the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman;

That the Committee have leave to report from time to time;

That the Committee have power to appoint specialist advisers;

That the Committee have power to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom;

That the quorum of the Committee shall be two;

That the reports of the Committee from time to time shall be printed, notwithstanding any adjournment of the House; and

That the Committee do report on the draft Bill by 30th September 2004.


4 Energy Bill [Lords],—The Energy Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time.

5 Energy Bill [Lords] (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Energy Bill [Lords]:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 24th June 2004.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on the day on which proceedings on consideration are commenced.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made by the House on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords amendments or on any further message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Charlotte Atkins)—It was agreed to.

6 Energy Bill [Lords] [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Energy Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Energy Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State under or as a result of—
(a) any option under which he or his nominee may acquire an undertaking or property from British Energy plc or a company that is or has been a subsidiary of British Energy plc, or

(b) any agreement entered into for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of such an option, or of continuing or modifying their effect,

(2) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by a Minister of the Crown or the Treasury in respect of the acquisition of securities of a company to which transfers authorised by the Act are made or in respect of the acquisition of rights to subscribe for such securities,

(3) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenditure incurred by a Minister of the Crown for or in connection with the carrying out of any of his functions under the Act, and

(4) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided by virtue of any other Act—

(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

7 Energy Bill [Lords] [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Energy Bill [Lords] (‘the Act’) it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the making of provision for the purposes of corporation tax, capital allowances, stamp duty and stamp duty reserve tax,

(2) the making of provision in connection with the responsibilities of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (as established under the Act) for—

(a) requirements for payments to be made to the Secretary of State, and

(b) the levying of charges by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority,

(3) the transfer of property and rights to the Secretary of State or the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority,

(4) the making of payments under the Act to the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority in connection with benefits received in respect of the use or disposal of interests or rights in installations, sites and facilities,

(5) the imposition, by virtue of the Act, of charges under licences issued under the Electricity Act 1989 or the Gas Act 1986,

(6) the levying of charges under the Act in connection with powers and duties conferred or imposed on the Secretary of State by or under the Act or other enactments or provisions of Community instruments, and

(7) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

8 Doha Development Agenda.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Document No. 15529/03, Commission Communication ‘Reviving the Doha Development Agenda negotiations—the European Union’s Perspective’; welcomes the European Commission’s commitment to the successful conclusion of the negotiations and urges the European Commission to show leadership in taking this forward; welcomes the signs of the European Commission’s flexibility, particularly on the Singapore issues, and urges other World Trade Organisation members to do likewise; and supports the Government’s aim of ensuring that the negotiations deliver benefits for all countries, especially the world’s poorest, recognising the contribution this could make to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals—(Mr Fraser Kemp):—It was agreed to.

9 Adjournment (Whitsun).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Thursday 27th May, do adjourn till Monday 7th June—(Mr Fraser Kemp):—It was agreed to.

10 Standards and Privileges.—Ordered, That Mr Michael Jabez Foster be discharged from the Committee on Standards and Privileges.—(Mr Bob Ainsworth.)

11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Bob Ainsworth.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 7th May 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Transport,—Government Response to the Third Report from the Transport Committee, Session 2003–04, on the Regulation of Taxis and Private Hire Vehicle Services in the UK [Cm. 6183] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 7th May 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 10th May 2004:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

4 Broadcasting,—Draft Broadcasting (Original Productions) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].


6 Northern Ireland,—(1) Draft Licensing (Indoor Arenas) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy], and

(2) Mental Health (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1272), dated 6th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

7 Civil Aviation,—EC/Swiss Air Transport Agreement (Consequential Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1256), dated 4th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

8 Education,—Education (Outturn Statements) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1279), dated 7th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

9 Road Traffic,—(1) Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Surrey) (Borough of Guildford) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1278), dated 6th May 2004, and

(2) Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Surrey) (Borough of Reigate and Banstead) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1285), dated 7th May 2004,

[by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

10 Covent Garden Market,—Statement of remuneration and allowances payable to members of the Covent Garden Market Authority [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

11 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—

(1) Health and Safety Executive: Improving health and safety in the construction industry, and

(2) Network Rail—Making a Fresh Start

[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 531 and 532] [Clerk of the House].

12 Public Petitions,—(1) Observations by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Petition [30th March] from persons living or working in the Parliamentary constituency of Christchurch and the Petition [19th April] from persons on the Electoral Roll in the Parliamentary Constituency of Castle Point and others for a referendum on the European Constitution following the Intergovernmental Conference; and
(2) Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [28th April] from Sarah Jean Borman and other electors in the Richmondshire District of Yorkshire for the investigation of their complaints against the District Council and for the effective discharge by Local Government Commissioners of their duties [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

13 Regulatory Reform,—Proposal for a Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2004, with a statement by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [National Skills Strategy: 14–19 Education]; to be printed [No. 197-xi] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Health,—Third Report from the Health Committee [Obesity], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 23-I to -III] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [English Regions: Success in the regions]; to be printed [No. 592-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

4 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Manufacturing and Trade in Wales]; to be printed [No. 323-viii and -ix] [Mr Martyn Jones].

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Regulatory Reform,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolution:

That the draft Regulatory Reform (Museum of London) (Location of Premises) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 6th May, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

2 European Standing Committee B,—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 12441/03, draft regulation amending Council Regulation (E.C.) No. 1734/94 on financial and technical cooperation with the Occupied Territories; welcomes this amendment; and supports the European Commission’s continued support for Palestinian development and the Middle East Peace Process.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

3 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords do not insist on one of their Amendments to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill, in respect of which this House has insisted on its disagreement, and they agree without Amendment to the Amendment proposed by this House in lieu thereof; they do not insist on their remaining Amendment, in respect of which this House has insisted on its disagreement, but propose further Amendments to the Bill in lieu thereof, to which Amendments they desire the concurrence of this House.

Smoking in Public Places (Wales) Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill to enable the prohibition or restriction of the smoking of tobacco by any person in Wales while in a public place, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill,—Lords Amendments in lieu of a Lords Amendment in respect of which the Commons have insisted on their disagreement to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 106].
5 Prime Minister (Direct Election).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for the direct election of the Prime Minister; to require such elections to be held on the same day as a General Election; to make consequential provision in relation to the office and powers of the Prime Minister; to make consequential amendments to the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000; and for connected purposes—(Mr Graham Allen);

And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business);—It was negatived.

6 Housing Bill (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Programme Order of 12th January 2004 in relation to the Housing Bill be varied as follows—

1. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Order shall be omitted.

2. Proceedings on consideration shall be taken in the order shown in the first column of the following Table. In that column, any reference to new Clauses, Amendments or new Schedules relating to any of Parts 1 to 7 does not include new Clauses, Amendments or new Schedules relating to overcrowding or the definition of ‘house in multiple occupation’.

3. The proceedings shown in the first column of the Table shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the time specified in the second column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses, Amendments and new Schedules relating to Part 1</td>
<td>One and a quarter hours after the commencement of proceedings on the motion for this order.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses, Amendments and new Schedules relating to Part 2; new Clauses, Amendments and new Schedules relating to the definition of ‘house in multiple occupation’; new Clauses, Amendments and new Schedules relating to Part 3; new Clauses, Amendments and new Schedules relating to Part 4</td>
<td>Two and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the motion for this order.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses, Amendments and new Schedules relating to Part 5</td>
<td>Three and three quarter hours after the commencement of proceedings on the motion for this order.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses, Amendments and new Schedules relating to Part 6; new Clauses, Amendments and new Schedules relating to overcrowding; new Clauses, Amendments and new Schedules relating to Part 7 and any remaining proceedings on the Bill</td>
<td>Five and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the motion for this order.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion six and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion for this Order—(Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Bridget Prentice: 246.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Mark Francois: 146.

So the Question was agreed to.

7 Housing Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Housing Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 100) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, to leave out lines 10 to 19 and insert the words—

‘(1) Meanings of “category 1 hazard” and “category 2 hazard” shall be prescribed for the purposes of this Act.

(2) Those meanings shall be so prescribed by reference to—

(a) hazards of prescribed descriptions, and
(b) a ranking system for the severity of such hazards by which the question of whether a hazard achieves a particular ranking is decided by reference to—

(i) the results of a qualitative assessment of the hazard in question, and

(ii) an assessment of whether those results meet prescribed qualitative criteria’, instead thereof.—(Mr Edward Davey.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being one and a quarter hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to Housing Bill (Programme) (No. 2), the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [this day], put the Question already proposed from the Chair:—It was negatived.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on the Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Amendments (Nos. 6 to 13 and 29) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 127) proposed to the Bill, in page 36, line 9, to leave out the words ‘the following’ and insert the word ‘all’, instead thereof.—(Mr John Hayes.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being two and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to Housing Bill (Programme) (No. 2), the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair:—It was negatived.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Questions on the Amendments and new Clauses moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Amendments (Nos. 31 to 34 and 14) made to the Bill.

A Clause (NC6) (HMO declarations)—(Keith Hill)—brought up, read the first time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC7) (Revocation of HMO declarations)—(Keith Hill)—brought up, read the first time and added to the Bill.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on an Amendment selected by the Speaker for separate Division to be disposed of at that hour.

Another Amendment (No. 124) proposed to the Bill, in page 218, line 1, to leave out paragraph 5.—(Matthew Green.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Gregory Barker: 166.

Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr John Heppell: 294.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 125, 50 to 53, 126, 56 to 59, 65 to 69, 35 to 43, 17 and 62 to 64) made to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC13) (Section 138: imposition of conditions)—(Keith Hill)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

And it being three and three quarter hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to Housing Bill (Programme) (No. 2), the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair:—It was agreed to.

Clause added to the Bill.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on an Amendment selected for separate Division to be disposed of at that hour.

Another Amendment (No. 88) proposed to the Bill, in page 94, line 21, to leave out from the beginning to the word ‘have’ and insert the words ‘As a matter of voluntary discretion, a person may’, instead thereof.—(Mr Robert Syms.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 177.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Derek Twigg: 290.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on the Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.
Other Amendments (Nos. 81 to 86 and 44 to 46) made to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC8) (Exceptions to the right to buy: determination whether exception for dwelling-house suitable for elderly persons applies)—(Yvette Cooper)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC9) (Right to buy: claim terminated by demolition notice)—(Paul Clark)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC10) (Landlord’s notice to complete)—(Paul Clark)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC11) (Right to buy: suspension by court order)—(Paul Clark)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC12) (Right of assured tenant to acquire dwelling not affected by collective enfranchisement)—(Paul Clark)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC2) (Tenancy Deposit Scheme (regulation-making power)—(Dr Desmond Turner)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

And it being five and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to Housing Bill (Programme) (No. 2), the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair:—It was negatived.

The Deputy Speaker then proceeded to put the Question on a new Clause selected by the Speaker for separate Division.

Another Clause (NC18) (Market Plan for right-to-buy sales)—(Mr John Hayes)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be added to the Bill.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Gregory Barker: 135.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Derek Twigg: 333.

The Deputy Speaker then proceeded to put the Questions on the remaining Amendments and new Clauses moved by a Minister of the Crown.

Other Amendments (Nos. 70 to 78, 18 and 19) made to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC5) (Overcrowding)—(Paul Clark)—brought up, read the first time and added to the Bill.

Other Amendments (Nos. 15, 16, 20, 47 to 49, 21, 60, 61, 22 to 28, 79, 80 and 30) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;

And it being six and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to Housing Bill (Programme) (No. 2), the Deputy Speaker put the Question.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Nick Ainger: 292.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 159.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

8 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the Motion in the name of Mr Peter Hain relating to Visitor Facilities may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour.—(Mr Fraser Kemp):—It was agreed to.

9 Visitor Facilities.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 22nd April, That this House approves the First Joint Report of the Accommodation and Works Committee and the Administration Committee on Visitor Facilities: Access to Parliament (House of Commons Paper No. 324) and endorses the Committees’ proposals for a new reception and security building at the north end of Cromwell Green;

And the Question being again proposed:—The House resumed the adjourned Debate.

Mr Roger Gale moved, That the House sit in private.
The Deputy Speaker put the Question forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 163 (Motions to sit in private).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Roger Gale, Mr Eric Forth: 9.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Gillian Merron: 184.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question being again proposed;

Mr Bob Ainsworth rose in his place, and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Nick Ainger: 161.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Roger Gale: 35.

So the Question was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

And the Deputy Speaker’s opinion as to the decision of the Question being challenged, the Division was deferred till to-morrow, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Deferred divisions)].

10 Nutrition and Health Claims Made on Foods.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 11646/03, a draft Regulation on nutrition and health claims made on foods; and supports the Government’s view that the measure will promote informed consumer choice and facilitate intra-Community trade—[Mr John Heppell].—It was agreed to.

11 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Geoff Lyus and others against the relocation of the Postern Gate Surgery in Rye was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—[Mr John Heppell.]

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-one minutes to Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.39 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Urban Development,—London Thames Gateway Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 2004, dated 6th May [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture,—Feeding Stuffs, the Feeding Stuffs (Sampling and Analysis) and the Feeding Stuffs (Enforcement) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1301), dated 6th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

3 Fees and Charges,—Measuring Instruments (EEC Requirements) (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1300), dated 10th May 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

4 Mental Health,—Court of Protection (Amendment No. 2) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1291), dated 6th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

5 National Debt,—Draft Government Stock Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ruth Kelly].

6 Public Health,—Tobacco Advertising and Promotion (Specialist Tobacconists) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1277), dated 6th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

(2) Courts Boards Areas (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1303), dated 5th May 2004,
(3) Criminal Appeal (Amendment) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1293), dated 5th May 2004, and
[by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Other Papers:

8 Armed Forces Pay,—Supplement to the Thirty-third Report 2004 of the Armed Forces’ Pay Review Body: Service Medical and Dental Officers [by Command] [Cm. 6182] [The Prime Minister].


10 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [22nd April] from Colin Fairrie and others for rectification of faulty construction work to a small terraced house in the conservation area in St Albans [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Human Rights Act 1998 (Amendment) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Tony Baldry from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Eric Forth.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [The Work of the Information Commissioner]; to be printed [No. 593-i] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) Second Special Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Broadcasting in transition: replies to the Committee’s Third Report]; to be printed [No. 585]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Arts Development: Dance]; to be printed [No. 387-i]
   [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Reform of the Sugar Regime Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Reform of the Sugar Regime]; to be printed [No. 550-iii] [Mr Michael Jack].

4 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Local Government Revenue]; to be printed [No. 402-ii]; and
   (2) Seventh Report from the Committee [Postal Voting], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 400-I]
   [Andrew Bennett].

5 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Review of Government Communications]; to be printed [No. 274-iii] [Tony Wright].

6 Regulatory Reform,—Seventh Report from the Regulatory Reform Committee [Draft Regulatory Reform (Museum of London) (Location of Premises) Order 2004]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 594] [Mr Peter Pike].

7 Statutory Instruments,—Eighteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xviii] [Brian White].
PRAYERS.

1 Ipswich Market Bill,—The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Committee on Unopposed Bills, That it had examined the allegations contained in the Preamble to the Ipswich Market Bill and found the same to be true; and had gone through the Bill and made Amendments thereunto.

   Bill, as amended in the Committee, to lie upon the Table.

2 Christmas Day (Trading) Bill,—Frank Cook reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Christmas Day (Trading) Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

   Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 18th June.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 600].

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill O’Brien reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Human Rights Act 1998 (Amendment) Order 2004.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

   Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to confer further functions on the Auditor General for Wales; to make provision about the audit of accounts of public bodies in Wales and related matters; to make provision about economy, efficiency and effectiveness in relation to public bodies and registered social landlords in Wales; and for connected purposes.

   Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 108-EN].

5 Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords].—The Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords] was read the first time and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 108].

6 Sovereignty of Parliament (European Communities) Bill,—The Order for reading the Sovereignty of Parliament (European Communities) Bill a second time on Friday 14th May was read and discharged.

   Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15th October.
7 Interest Rates (Limits on Charges),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to impose limits on the interest rate and associated charges which may be charged by those providing loans and other forms of credit: And that Adam Price, Tony Lloyd, Harry Cohen, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Frank Field, Sue Doughty, Alan Simpson, David Taylor, Mr Roger Williams, Annabelle Ewing, Mr Elfyn Llwyd and Sir Teddy Taylor do prepare and bring it in.

8 Interest Rates (Limits on Charges) Bill,—Adam Price accordingly presented a Bill to impose limits on the interest rate and associated charges which may be charged by those providing loans and other forms of credit: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 18th June and to be printed [Bill 107].

9 Age-Related Payments Bill,—The Age-Related Payments Bill was, according to Order, read a second time.

10 Age-Related Payments Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2002 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Age-Related Payments Bill:

Committal
1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee
2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 27th May 2004.
3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

Programming Committee
6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Programming of proceedings
7. All other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Mr Vernon Coaker);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Joan Ryan, Charlotte Atkins: 344.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Peter Atkinson: 112.
So the Question was agreed to.

11 Age-Related Payments Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Age-Related Payments Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Age-Related Payments Bill it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of expenditure of the Secretary of State under or by virtue of the Act—(Jim Fitzpatrick)—It was agreed to.

12 Deferred Divisions,—The Deputy Speaker announced the result of a Division which had been deferred to this day, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Deferred divisions)]:

Visitor Facilities,—That this House approves the First Joint Report of the Accommodation and Works Committee and the Administration Committee on Visitor Facilities: Access to Parliament (House of Commons Paper No. 324) and endorses the Committees’ proposals for a new reception and security building at the north end of Cromwell Green.

Ayes, 333.
Noes, 46.
So the Question was agreed to.
13 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill. — The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill in lieu of a Lords Amendment in respect of which this House has insisted on its disagreement.

Lords Amendments Nos. 3E, 3F, 3G, 3H, 3I and 3J were agreed to.

14 Promotion of Volunteering Bill [Money]. — Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Promotion of Volunteering Bill [Money]:

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Promotion of Volunteering Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any administrative expenses incurred by a Minister of the Crown by virtue of the Act. — (Fiona Mactaggart.)

15 Estimates and Appropriation Procedure. — Resolved, That this House approves the First Report from the Procedure Committee of the current Session, on Estimates and Appropriation Procedure, House of Commons Paper No. 393. — (Mr Paul Boateng.)

16 Questions on Voting of Estimates, &c. — Ordered, That the following be substituted for Standing Order No. 55 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.):

Questions on voting of estimates, &c.

‘55.—(1) On any day to which the provisions of paragraphs (2), (3) or (4) of this order apply the Speaker shall at the moment of interruption put the questions on—

(a) any outstanding vote relating to numbers for defence services;
(b) any motion authorising amounts and limits on appropriations in aid, set out in outstanding estimates.

(2) The provisions of paragraph (1) of this order shall apply on a day not later than 6th February, if any of the following total amounts have been put down for consideration:

(a) votes on account for the coming financial year;
(b) supplementary and new estimates for the current financial year which have been presented at least fourteen days previously.

(3) The provisions of paragraph (1) of this order shall apply on a day not later than 18th March, if any of the following numbers or total amounts have been put down for consideration:

(a) votes relating to numbers for defence services;
(b) supplementary and new estimates for the current financial year which have been presented at least fourteen days previously;
(c) excess votes, provided that the Committee of Public Accounts has reported that it sees no objection to the amounts and modifications to limits on appropriations in aid necessary being authorised by excess vote.

(4) The provisions of paragraph (1) of this order shall apply on a day not later than 5th August in respect of any motion authorising amounts, and limits on appropriations in aid, set out in outstanding estimates.

(5) At least two days’ notice shall be given of the motions which are to be put down for consideration under paragraphs (2), (3) or (4) of this order.

(6) The provisions of this order shall not apply to any vote of credit or votes for supplementary or additional estimates for war expenditure.’ — (Mr John Heppell.)

17 Public Accounts. — Ordered, That Mr George Osborne be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mr David Curry be added. — (Mr John Heppell.)

18 Adjournment. — Resolved, That this House do now adjourn. — (Mr John Heppell.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till seven minutes past Six o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.07 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Criminal Law.—Draft Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (Amendment) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Immigration,—Immigration (Passenger Transit Visa) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1304), dated 11th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Nurses Midwives and Health Visitors,—Nurses Agencies (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1269), dated 5th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

5 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the Petition [15th January, in the last Session of Parliament] from residents of the constituency of Hammersmith and Fulham and others for ethical investment [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

6 Trade and Industry,—Paper, entitled Fairness for All: A New Commission for Equality and Human Rights [by Command] [Cm. 6185] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Energy Bill [Lords]:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-two Members to serve on the Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Norman Baker, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Colin Challen, Nigel Griffiths, Mr Robert Key, Mr Calum MacDonald, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Denis Murphy, Mr Richard Page, Anne Picking, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr David Ruffley, Ian Stewart, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Stephen Timms, Paddy Tipping, Dr Desmond Turner, Joan Walley, Mr Michael Weir, Brian White and Dr Alan Whitehead.

2 Draft Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (Disclosure of Donor Information) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Ms Diane Abbott, Mrs Patay Calton, Mr James Clappison, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mrs Janet Dean, Barbara Follett, Mr Mark Francois, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Brian Jenkins, Miss Melanie Johnson, Mr Andrew Lansley, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Dan Norris, Joan Ryan, Jim Sheridan and Claire Ward.

3 Draft Human Rights Act 1998 (Amendment) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Geo Verry Clifton-Brown from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Hugh Robertson.

4 Northern Ireland Act 1998 and Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) Order 2004, Direction given by the Secretary of State under section 51B(2) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 on 28th April 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Vernon Coaker from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution Mr John Heppell.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [MoD Annual Report and Accounts]; to be printed [No. 589-i]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Defence Procurement] to be printed [No. 572-ii]

[Bruce George].

2 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Draft School Transport Bill]; to be printed [No. 509-iii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—(1) Eighth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Gangmasters: follow-up], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee: to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 455];
Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Bridget Prentice.)
And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.44 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill Olner reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) Order 2004 (S.I. 2004, No. 1164) and the Direction given by the Secretary of State under section 51B(2) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 on 28th April 2004. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Smoking in Public Places (Wales) Bill [Lords],—The Smoking in Public Places (Wales) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 109].

3 Child Trust Funds Bill (Programme) (No. 3),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Child Trust Funds Bill for the purpose of supplementing the Order of 15th December 2003 (Child Trust Funds Bill (Programme))—

Consideration of Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement.

Subsequent stages

2. Any further message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any Question put.

3. The proceedings on any further message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Mr Nick Ainger);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Murphy, Gillian Merron: 247.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mark Francois, Mr Hugo Swire: 120.

So the Question was agreed to.

4 Child Trust Funds Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Child Trust Funds Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 6 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 7. An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 8, at the end, to add the words—

‘(5) The regulations may include provision that, in the case of any child who is to be treated as being an eligible child by virtue of subsection (4), further contributions are to be made by the Inland Revenue only if a person who is legally responsible in relation to the child has informed the Inland Revenue in a prescribed manner that he is satisfied as to the good conduct of the child in the year ending one month before the date on which the further contribution falls to be made.’.—(Mr George Osborne.)

And the Question being proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being one hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords Amendments, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mark Francois, Gregory Barker: 92.
Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Jim Murphy: 263.

So the Question was negatived.

The Deputy Speaker then put the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Lords Amendments.

The Lords Amendment was agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

Lords Amendments Nos. 8 to 13 were agreed to.
5 Adjournment (Armed Forces Personnel).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Derek Twigg);

6 Royal Assent.—The Deputy Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, That Her Majesty had signified her Royal Assent to the following Acts, agreed upon by both Houses:
   National Insurance Contributions and Statutory Payments Act 2004
   Justice (Northern Ireland) Act 2004
   Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
   Child Trust Funds Act 2004

7 Adjournment (Armed Forces Personnel).—The Question being again proposed, That this House do now adjourn;

And it being Six o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

8 Medicines,—Ordered, That the Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1031), dated 1st April 2004, be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

9 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Scott Fewster and others for the introduction of the vaccine Prevanar to combat pneumococcal disease was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till half-past Six o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.30 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Urban Development,—West Northamptonshire Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 2004, dated 4th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture,—Beef Carcase (Classification) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1317), dated 12th May 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

3 Immigration and Asylum,—Asylum Support (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1313), dated 11th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Local Government,—Recreation Grounds (Revocation of Parish Council Byelaws) (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1281), dated 6th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Seeds,—Seed Potatoes (Fees) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1316), dated 11th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

6 Air Force (Constitution).—Amendment List 12 to Air Publication 1269—The Royal Air Force Manual of Medical Management and Administration (Eighth Edition) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Energy Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien and Mr Jonathan Sayeed Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (Disclosure of Donor Information) Regulations 2004.—The Speaker has appointed David Taylor Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.
3 Draft Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Conditional Cautions: Code of Practice) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Miss Anne Begg Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Pet Travel Scheme (Pilot Arrangements) (England) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 828)—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Draft School Transport Bill]; to be printed [No. 509-iv] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee of the Environmental Audit Committee [Environmental Crime: Wildlife Crime]; to be printed [No. 605-i] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

3 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Government by Inquiry]; to be printed [No. 606-i] [Tony Wright].

[No. 85; WH, No. 53]
Thursday 13th May 2004.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Poverty and South Asia),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 18th May.

[Adjourned at 5.07 p.m.]

[No. 86.]
Friday 14th May 2004.
The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

1 The Speaker’s Absence,—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Sir Alan Haselhurst, the Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

PRAYERS.

2 The Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker, pursuant to the Standing Order.

3 Motion to sit in private,—Mr Andrew Dismore moved, That the House do sit in private.

   The Deputy Speaker put the Question forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 163 (Motions to sit in private).

   The House divided.

   Tellers for the Ayes, David Wright, Mr Andrew Dismore: 0.

   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Huw Edwards, Jonathan Shaw: 36.

   So the Question was negatived.

4 Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

   The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

5 Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill,—The Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

6 Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations) Bill,—The Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations) Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.
7 Health and Safety at Work (Offences) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Health and Safety at Work (Offences) Bill;
   And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;
   And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.
   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 16th July.

8 Civil Service Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Civil Service Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 16th July.

9 Genetically Modified Organisms Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Genetically Modified Organisms Bill;
   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 18th June.

10 Criminal Justice (Justifiable Conduct) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 30th April, That the Criminal Justice (Justifiable Conduct) Bill be now read a second time;
   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 21st May.

11 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Nick Ainger);
   And the Motion having been made after half-past Two o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then Three o’clock, till Monday 17th May.
   [Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Social Security,—(1) Social Security (Contributions) (Amendment No. 3) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1362), dated 14th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Dawn Primarolo], and
   (2) Social Security (Crediting and Treatment of Contributions, and National Insurance Numbers) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1361), dated 14th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Other Papers:

3 Industrial Training,—Report and Financial Statements of the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB—ConstructionSkills) for 2003, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Fisheries Jurisdiction Bill.—The Order for reading the Fisheries Jurisdiction Bill a second time on Friday 21st May was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 16th July.

2 Opposition Day [11th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the leader of the second largest opposition party in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Security situation in Iraq.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes with concern the deteriorating security situation in Iraq and the Middle East and the impact on public opinion in Iraq of the reports of mistreatment of Iraqi citizens and detainees; believes that progress in Iraq is only possible if the role of the United Nations is expanded and enhanced and the transfer of sovereignty to the Iraqis on 30th June is real and visible; recalls that on 18th March 2003 when this House endorsed military action against Saddam Hussein it did so on an understanding that progress on the road map for a peace settlement between Israel and the Palestinians would be a priority for Her Majesty’s Government; expresses its disappointment that recent events have made the achievement of a negotiated two state solution more difficult and less likely; recognises the bravery and professionalism of British armed forces serving in Iraq in difficult and dangerous circumstances; calls upon Her Majesty’s Government not to commit any further troops unless requested by United Kingdom commanders in Iraq for the purposes of securing the safety of British forces and the fulfilling of Britain’s legal obligations under international law towards the inhabitants of Iraq; and further declares that any such troops should remain under United Kingdom operational command and within the area currently under United Kingdom control.—(Sir Menzies Campbell);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the work being done by the UK and its Coalition partners to establish stability and security in Iraq; regards any mistreatment of Iraqis by Coalition forces to be unacceptable; recognises the bravery and professionalism of British forces in Iraq in assisting the Iraqi people in rebuilding Iraq; applauds the work of the UN Secretary-General’s special adviser, Lakhdar Brahimi, for his contribution to helping establish a sovereign Iraqi Interim Government which will assume power by 30th June; and supports the Government in its efforts to secure a new Security Council resolution and deliver the wishes of the Iraqi people for a sovereign, stable and democratic Iraq’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Hoon.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Richard Younger-Ross, Mr Alan Reid: 60.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Vernon Coaker: 393.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the work being done by the UK and its Coalition partners to establish stability and security in Iraq; regards any mistreatment of Iraqis by Coalition forces to be unacceptable; recognises the bravery and professionalism of British forces in Iraq in assisting the Iraqi people in rebuilding Iraq; applauds the work of the UN Secretary-General’s special adviser, Lakhdar Brahimi, for his contribution to helping establish a sovereign Iraqi Interim Government which will assume power by 30th June; and supports the Government in its efforts to secure a new Security Council resolution and deliver the wishes of the Iraqi people for a sovereign, stable and democratic Iraq.

Local Government Finance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that council tax has risen by 70 per cent. since Labour came to power and that the Budget Red Book forecasts a rise in council tax receipts next year of over 7 per cent; further notes that these rises are hitting particularly hard those on low and modest incomes because of the way council tax was designed by the last Conservative Government; is concerned that this manifest unfairness of council tax now means that the poorest 10 per cent. of people pay over four times more of their income in council tax than the richest 10 per cent; notes that the whole system of local government finance
needs major reform owing to the problems caused by the dependency of councils on central government grants that produces the gearing effect whereby on average councils must raise council tax by 4 per cent. to offset a grant reduction of one per cent; believes that the Labour Government have made the bad situation they inherited from the Conservative Government even worse by their excessive reliance on ring-fencing, passporting and centrally-imposed targets and regulations; and therefore calls on the Government’s Balance of Funding Review to make far-reaching proposals for reform when it reports shortly, including the introduction of a local income tax to replace council tax, the return of business rates to local authorities, reformed in line with land values, and a radical reduction in central government interference—(Mr Edward Davey);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the Government support for local government with its 30 per cent. real terms increase in grant since 1997; notes that the average increase in council tax in 2004–05 is the lowest for nine years; supports the Government’s proposals to take action against a number of authorities which have set excessive budgets and council tax increases in 2004–05; and looks forward to the report of the Balance of Funding Review of how local government in England is funded which is due in summer 2004’, instead thereof.—(Mr Nick Raynsford.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question; Mr Andrew Stunell rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the Government support for local government with its 30 per cent. real terms increase in grant since 1997; notes that the average increase in council tax in 2004–05 is the lowest for nine years; supports the Government’s proposals to take action against a number of authorities which have set excessive budgets and council tax increases in 2004–05; and looks forward to the report of the Balance of Funding Review of how local government in England is funded which is due in summer 2004.

3 Human Rights,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Human Rights Act 1998 (Amendment) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 22nd April, be approved—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

4 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1164), dated 20th April, a copy of which was laid before this House on 20th April, be approved—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

5 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the direction given by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland under section 51B(2) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 on 28th April 2004, which was laid before this House on 28th April, be approved—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

6 Co-operation with the Occupied Territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 12441/03, draft regulation amending Council Regulation (EC) No. 1734/94 on financial and technical cooperation with the Occupied Territories; welcomes this amendment; and supports the European Commission’s continued support for Palestinian development and the Middle East Peace Process—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.
7 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, for the purposes of its approval, the draft Guidance proposed to be issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, which was laid before this House on 23rd March, shall be treated as if it were an instrument subject to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation).—(Gillian Merron.)

8 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Gillian Merron);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Disabled Persons,—Rail Vehicle Accessibility (South Eastern Trains Class 376) Exemption Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1302), dated 6th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

2 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (Metropolitan Borough of Wigan) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1305), dated 7th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].


Other Papers:

4 Constitutional Affairs,—Paper, entitled Draft Criminal Defence Service Bill Consultation Paper and Explanatory Notes [by Command] [Cm. 6194] [Mr David Lammy].


(1) H. M. Customs and Excise; and

(2) Inland Revenue

[by Command] [Cm. 6224 and 6225] [Mr Paul Boateng].

6 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on The Management of Sickness Absence in the Prison Service [by Act]; to be printed [No. 533] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

2 Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations) Bill,—The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee C.

3 Energy Bill [Lords] (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Charlotte Atkins, Nigel Griffiths, Mr Laurence Robertson, Mr David Ruffley, Ian Stewart, Mr Andrew Stunell and Dr Alan Whitehead members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

4 Pet Travel Scheme (Pilot Arrangements) (England) (Amendment) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Richard Burden, Mr David Lepper, Clare Short and Rachel Squire from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution Mrs Ana Cryer, John Cryer, Llew Smith and Mr Michael Wills.
Grand Committees

5 The Speaker has appointed Mr James Cran Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of its meeting on Thursday 20th May.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [National Skills Strategy: 14–19 Education]; to be printed [No. 197-xii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the GM Planting Regime Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [GM Planting Regime]; to be printed [No. 607-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Urban Affairs Sub-Committee of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Role and Effectiveness of the Housing Corporation]; to be printed [No. 401-iv] [Clive Betts].

4 Public Accounts,—(1) Twenty-fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Managing resources to deliver better public services]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 181];

   (2) Twenty-sixth Report from the Committee [Difficult Forms: How government departments interact with citizens]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 255];

   (3) Twenty-seventh Report from the Committee [Identifying and tracking livestock in England]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 326];

   (4) Twenty-eighth Report from the Committee [Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency: Trust Statement Report 2002–03]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 336]; and

   (5) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Drug Treatment and Testing order: early lessons]; to be printed [No. 609-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

[No. 88.]

Tuesday 18th May 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—David Taylor reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (Disclosure of Donor Information) Regulations 2004.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Miss Anne Begg reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Conditional Cautions: Code of Practice) Order 2004.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Pet Travel Scheme (Pilot Arrangements) (England) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 828).

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

   University of Manchester Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill to transfer to The University of Manchester all rights, properties, assets and obligations of The Victoria University of Manchester and University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology and to dissolve those bodies; to enact provisions with regard to The University of Manchester, and for other purposes, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.
5 University of Manchester Bill [Lords].—The University of Manchester Bill [Lords] was read the first time.

Bill referred to the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.

6 Children’s Food Bill,—Ms Debra Shipley, supported by Mr Robert Walter, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Graham Allen, Vera Baird, Mr Ernie Ross, Peter Bottomley, Mr Andy Reed, Mr Paul Tyler, Alan Howarth, Angela Eagle and Mr Simon Thomas, presented a Bill to make provision regarding the marketing, promotion and sale of food and drink to and for children; to make provision for education and the dissemination of information about children’s diet, nutrition and health; to place certain duties on the Food Standards Agency; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 110].

7 Doorstep Selling (Property Repairs),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to prohibit unsolicited household visits to sell property repairs, maintenance and improvements; to provide penalties and powers of arrest in connection with this prohibition; to require all doorstep vendors of property repairs, maintenance and improvements to give seven days’ notice in writing of an intended visit to a home; and to extend property owners’ rights to cancel any contract entered into for the provision of property repairs, maintenance or improvement; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Gordon Marsden, Mr Paul Truswell, Mr Andrew Robathan, Sandra Gidley, Dr Julian Lewis, Mrs Joan Humble, Lawrie Quinn, Ann Clwyd, Dr Howard Stoate, Mr Mike Hancock and Mr David Drew do prepare and bring it in.

8 Doorstep Selling (Property Repairs) Bill,—Mr Gordon Marsden accordingly presented a Bill to prohibit unsolicited household visits to sell property repairs, maintenance and improvements; to provide penalties and powers of arrest in connection with this prohibition; to require all doorstep vendors of property repairs, maintenance and improvements to give seven days’ notice in writing of an intended visit to a home; and to extend property owners’ rights to cancel any contract entered into for the provision of property repairs, maintenance or improvement; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th July and to be printed [Bill 111].

9 Pensions Bill (Programme) (No. 3),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Order of 2nd March 2004 (Pensions Bill (Programme)) as amended by the Order of 19th April 2004 be amended by the substitution for paragraphs 4 and 5 of the following—

4. Proceedings on consideration shall be taken in the order shown in the first column of the following Table. In that column, any reference to new Clauses or Amendments relating to Part 1, 3, 4 or 5 does not include new Clauses or Amendments relating to any arrangements for financial assistance for members where pension schemes are wound up.

5. The proceedings shown in the first column of the Table shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the time specified in the second column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for Conclusion of Proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses standing in the name of a Minister of the Crown, other than new Clauses relating to Part 2 or to any other arrangements for financial assistance for members where pension schemes are wound up; remaining new Clauses and Amendments relating to Part 1; remaining new Clauses and Amendments relating to Part 3; remaining new Clauses and amendments relating to Part 4; remaining new Clauses and amendments relating to part 5</td>
<td>At the moment of interruption on the first allotted day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses and Amendments relating to any arrangements otherwise than through the Pension Protection Fund for financial assistance for members where pension schemes are wound up or relating to the categories of scheme in relation to which the Pension Protection Fund applies</td>
<td>Two hours before the moment of interruption on the second allotted day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses and Amendments relating to Part 2; remaining new Clauses and Amendments relating to Part 6; remaining new Clauses and Amendments relating to Part 7; remaining new Clauses; Amendments relating to Schedules; new Schedules</td>
<td>Three hours before the moment of interruption on the third allotted day.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5A. In the Table ‘allotted day’ means a day on which the Bill is put down on the main business as first Government Order of the Day.
5B. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the moment of interruption on the third allotted day—

(Malcolm Wicks);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Vernon Coaker: 260.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Alan Reid, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 154.

So the Question was agreed to.

10 Pensions Bill [1st allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Pensions Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC24) (Early leavers: cash transfer sums and contribution refunds)—

(Malcolm Wicks)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC25) (Categories of pension scheme)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC26) (UK-based occupational pension scheme to be trust with effective rules)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC27) (Non-EC occupational pension scheme to be trust with UK-resident trustee)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC28) (Representative of non-EC occupational pension scheme to be treated as trustee)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC29) (Activities of occupational pension schemes)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC30) (Payment of surplus to employer)—(Malcolm Wicks)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Derek Twigg, Charlotte Atkins: 317.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Alan Reid: 48.

Clause added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC31) (Payments of surplus to employer: transitional power to amend scheme)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC18) (Power to make regulations governing investment by trustees of occupational pension schemes)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC19) (Borrowing by trustees of occupational pension schemes)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC5) (Occupational pension scheme receiving contributions from European employer)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC6) (General authorisation to accept contributions from European employers)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC7) (Approval in relation to particular European employer)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC8) (Notification of legal requirements of host member State outside United Kingdom)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC9) (Duty of trustees or managers to act consistently with law of host member State)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC10) (Functions of Regulator in relation to institutions administered in other member States)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.
Another Clause (NC11) (Interpretation of Part)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC12) (Restoration orders where transactions at an undervalue)—(Malcolm Wicks)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC13) (Restoration orders: supplementary)—(Mr John Heppell)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC14) (Content and effect of a restoration order)—(Mr John Heppell)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC15) (Contribution notice where failure to comply with restoration order)—(Mr John Heppell)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC16) (Content and effect of a section [Contribution notice where failure to comply with restoration order] contribution notice)—(Mr John Heppell)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC17) (Debt due from the employer in the case of multi-employer schemes)—(Mr John Heppell)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Amendment (No.1) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 11, to leave out from the word ‘the’ to the end of line 12 and insert the words ‘Chairman and approved by the Secretary of State.’, instead thereof.—(Mr George Osborne.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 181) proposed to the Bill, in page 2, line 25, to leave out from the word ‘Act’ to the word ‘and’ in line 26.—(Mr Harry Barnes.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendments (Nos. 62 to 79, 213 to 215, 80 to 88, 59, 89 to 91, 60 and 92 to 96) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 205) proposed to the Bill, in page 137, line 28, after the word ‘on’, to insert the word ‘material’.—(Mr George Osborne.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 46) proposed to the Bill, in page 144, line 40, after the word ‘employers’, to insert the words ‘and annuity providers’.—(Vera Baird.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC33) (Annual meeting)—(Mr George Osborne)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC35) (Auditors’ right to information)—(Steve Webb)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 15) proposed to the Bill, in page 145, line 31, after the second word ‘trustees’, to insert the words ‘and that not less than one third of this number shall be nominated by a recognised pensioners’ association and in the case of a closed fund, the majority shall be member nominated trustees’.—(Mr George Osborne.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 123) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 53) proposed to the Bill, in page 152, to leave out lines 43 to 46 and insert the words ‘is certified by the actuary to be broadly comparable to the occupational pension scheme referred to in section 228(1)(c).’, instead thereof.—(John Robertson.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Another Amendment (No. 51) proposed to the Bill, in page 153, line 44, at the end, to insert the words—

'(3A) Where an employer has failed to comply with the requirements of this section, a complaint may be presented to an employment tribunal on that ground—

(a) in the case of failure relating to representatives of a trade union, by the trade union,

(b) in any other case, by any of his employees who are affected employees.

(3B) Where the tribunal finds a complaint under subsection (3A) above well-founded it shall make a declaration to that effect and may order the employer to pay appropriate compensation to such descriptions of affected employees as may be specified in the award.

(3C) In this section—

(a) “appropriate compensation” means such sum not exceeding thirteen weeks’ pay for the employee in question as the tribunal considers just and equitable having regard to the seriousness of the failure of the employer to comply with his duty.

(b) “affected employee” means an employee who is a member of the scheme or who would have been eligible to become a member if a prescribed decision within the meaning of subsection (1) had not taken effect.

(3D) Chapter 2 of Part 14 of the Employment Rights Act 1996 shall apply for calculating the amount of a week’s pay for any employee for the purposes of subsection (3C) above.’—(John Robertson.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being Seven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair, pursuant to Order [this day]:—It was negatived.

The Deputy Speaker then proceeded to put the Question on the remaining Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 124 to 126) made to the Bill.

It being after Seven o’clock, further proceedings on the Bill stood adjourned.

Bill to be further considered to-morrow.

11 Architects,—Ordered, That the Architects (Professional Conduct Committee) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 655), dated 10th March 2004, be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Margaret Moran.)

12 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-three minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.23 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Consumer Protection,—Fireworks (Safety) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1372), dated 17th May 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

2 European Communities,—(1) European Communities (Designation) (No. 3) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1283), dated 6th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Straw], and


3 Health and Safety,—Adventure Activities Licensing Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1309), dated 13th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].


Other Papers:

5 Immigration and Asylum,—Explanatory Memorandum to the Asylum Support (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1313) [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

European Standing Committees

1 European Union Document No. 8235/04, relating to the Marketing of maize genetically modified for glyphosphate tolerance, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

2 European Union Document No. 8875/04, relating to the Industrial policy for an enlarged Europe, has been referred to in European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 European Scrutiny,—Twentieth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xx] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

2 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Local Government Revenue]; to be printed [No. 402-iii] [Mr Clive Bets].

3 Statutory Instruments,—Nineteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xix] [Mr David Tredinnick].

4 Trade and Industry,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [The Post Office Urban Network Reinvention Programme]; to be printed [No. 611-i]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Royal Mail Renewal]; to be printed [No. 612-i and -ii]

   [Mr Martin O’Neill].

5 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Regional Productivity]; to be printed [No. 308-ii] [Mr John McFall].

6 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Manufacturing and Trade in Wales]; to be printed [No. 323-x] [Mr Martyn Jones].
1 Promotion of Volunteering Bill.—Mr David Amess reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Promotion of Volunteering Bill, and made Amendments thereof.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 16th July; and to be printed [Bill 113].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 617].

2 Telecommunications Masts (Need and Safety Tests).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish need and safety tests before telecommunications masts can be erected; to amend the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the General Permitted Development Order 1995; and for connected purposes: And that Mr David Amess, Mr Simon Burns, Mr Howard Flight, Mr David Atkinson, Mr Michael Clapham, Andrew Rosindell, Andrew Selous, Mr Richard Spring, Tom Cox, Janet Anderson and Dr Ian Gibson do prepare and bring it in.

3 Telecommunications Masts (Need and Safety Tests) Bill.—Mr David Amess accordingly presented a Bill to establish need and safety tests before telecommunications masts can be erected; to amend the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and the General Permitted Development Order 1995; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 18th June and to be printed [Bill 112].

4 Pensions Bill [2nd allotted day].—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Pensions Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

Another Clause (NC34) (Financial assistance scheme for members of certain pension schemes)—(Malcolm Wicks)—brought up, and read the first and second time.

It being Five o’clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [yesterday] put the Question on an Amendment selected by the Speaker for separate Division.

Amendment (c) proposed to the proposed Clause, in line 73, at the end, to insert the words—

'( ) Assistance from the financial assistance scheme shall be at least sufficient to provide total benefits to qualifying members as they would have received had their scheme fallen within the scope of the Pension Protection Fund.’.—(Steve Webb.)

Question put, That the Amendment to the proposed Clause be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Heath, Sue Doughty: 203.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Gillian Merron: 339.

Clause added to the Bill.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on the remaining Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 216 to 218) made to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC20) (Reviewable ill health pensions)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC21) (Effect of a review)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC22) (Interpretation of sections [Reviewable ill health pensions] and [Effect of a review])—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC23) (Referral of questions of law)—(Mr Chris Pond)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 25) proposed to the Bill, in page 67, line 32, at the end, to insert the words—

'(4A) Any person appointed as an ordinary member shall have knowledge and understanding of—

(a) the law relating to pensions and trusts,
(b) the principles relating to—
(i) the funding of occupational pension schemes, and
(ii) investment of the assets of such schemes, and
(c) such other matters as may be prescribed’.—(Mr Nigel Waterson.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendments (Nos. 97 to 100) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 101) proposed to the Bill, in page 84, line 7, to leave out the words ‘for that period’.—(Malcolm Wicks.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being Seven o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed to-morrow.

5 Sittings in Westminster Hall.—Ordered, That, on Thursday 10th June, there shall be no sitting in Westminster Hall.—(Mr John Heppell.)

6 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Mr Peter Finnegan and residents of South Yorkshire for a review of hospice services for children and their funding was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

7 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.31 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Environmental Protection,—Landfill (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1375), dated 17th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Health and Safety,—Adventure Activities (Enforcing Authority) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1359), dated 14th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

3 Museums and Galleries,—Natural History Museum (Authorised Repositories) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1392), dated 17th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

Papers subject to Special Parliamentary Procedure:

4 Water Industry,—Northumbrian Water Limited (Land at the Public Car Park, West of Dunes Court, Beadnell) Compulsory Purchase Order 2003, together with a Certificate of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under section 2 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

5 Broadcasting,—Report and Accounts of the Independent Television Commission for the period 1st January to 28th December 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

6 Miscellaneous (No. 3, 2004),—The Antarctic Treaty: Measures adopted at the Twenty-sixth Consultative Meeting held at Madrid on 9th–20th June 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6179] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland),—Account of the Northern Ireland National Insurance Fund for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 595] [Clerk of the House].

8 Transport,—Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Transport Committee, Session 2003–04, on Disabled People’s Access to Transport [by Command] [Cm. 6184] [Mr Secretary Darling].
   [by Command] [Cm. 6190 and 6189] [Mr Secretary Smith].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill.—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill: Mr Douglas Alexander, Mr Richard Allan, Norman Baker, Ms Karen Buck, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Andrew Dismore, Clive Efford, Mr Michael Jabez Foster, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Mr Andrew Love, Siobhain McDonagh, Linda Perham, Mr Stephen Pound, Lawrie Quinn and Mr John Taylor.

2 Age-Related Payments Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Miss Anne Begg, Mr Paul Goodman, Mr Ivan Henderson, Paul Holmes, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Andrew Love, Mr John MacDougall, Margaret Moran, Mr George Osborne, Mr Frank Roy, Mr David Tredinnick, Mr Neil Turner, Claire Ward, Steve Webb and Malcolm Wicks.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Harold Best, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr James Clappison, Paul Farrelly, Mr Mark Francois, Mr Mike Hall, Dr Evan Harris, Mr Dai Havard, Mr George Howarth, Mr Robert Jackson, Miss Melanie Johnson, Mr David Lepper, Dr Andrew Murrison, Mrs Barbara Roche, Joan Ryan and Rachel Squire.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty Members to serve on the Committee: Ms Candy Atherton, Richard Burden, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Vernon Coaker, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Eddie McGrady, Ann McKechin, Linda Perham, Mr Andrew Robathan, Iris Robinson, Angela Smith, The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr Desmond Swainy, Mr Hugo Swire, Mark Tami, Gareth Thomas, Mr Paul Truswell and Mr Andrew Turner.

5 Beer from Small Breweries (Extension of Reduced Rates of Excise Duty) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1296):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr John Battle, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Michael Fallon, Mr Mark Fisher, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Adrian Flook, John Healey, Mr Nigel Jones, Mr Paul Keetch, Mr Alan Milburn, Mr Mark Prisk, James Purnell, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Brian Seddmore and Mr Marsha Singh.

6 Draft Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Guidance to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Ben Chapman, Mr Tom Clarke, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Clive Efford, Mr Don Foster, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Mark Lazarowicz, Ian Lucas, Mr Andrew Mackay, Mr John Maples, Mr David Marshall, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Adrian Sanders, Phil Sawford and Clare Short.

7 Draft Health Professions (Operating Department Practitioners and Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Tony Baldry, Mr Paul Burstow, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Jim Cousins, Mr Mark Francois, Alan Howarth, Mr John Hutton, Siobhain McDonagh, John McDonnell, Mr Khalid Mahmood, Dr Andrew Morrison, Sandra Osborne, Joan Ryan, Sarah Teather, Claire Ward and Mr Robert N. Wareing.

8 Draft Licensing (Indoor Arenas) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Roy Beggs, Ms Karen Buck, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Robin Cook, Mr David Drew, Mr Edward Garnier, Mr Tom Harris, Mr Doug Henderson, Alan Keen, Lembit Opik, Mr John Redwood, Mr Mohammad Sarwar, Mr John Spellar, Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Hugo Swire and Mr Bill Tynan.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Draft School Transport Bill]; to be printed [No. 509-v] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Climate Change, Water Security and Flooding]; to be printed [No. 558-iv] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Budget 2004]; to be printed [No. 490-iv] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4 Human Rights,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Prosecution Policy]; to be printed [No. 619-i] [Jean Corston].

5 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Connecting Parliament with the Public]; to be printed [No. 368-iii] [Mr Peter Hain].

6 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) Fifth Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee ['Hate Crime': the Draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2004]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 613]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Committee [Social Housing Provision in Northern Ireland; Future Post-Primary Education arrangements in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [Nos. 493-v and 616-i] [Mr Tony Clarke].

7 Procedure,—(1) Second Special Report from the Procedure Committee [Procedures for Debates, Private Members' Bills and the Powers of the Speaker: Government Response to the Committee's Fourth Report, Session 2002-03], to be printed [No. 610];

(2) Third Special Report from the Committee [Sessional Orders and Resolutions: Government Response to the Committee’s Third Report, Session 2002-03], to be printed [No. 613]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Programming of Legislation]; to be printed [No. 325-vi] [Sir Nicholas Winterton].

8 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Department for Education and Skills: Connexions Service—Advice and guidance for all young people]; to be printed [No. 618-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

9 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Research Assessment Exercise: a follow-up]; to be printed [No. 586-i] [Dr Ian Gibson].

10 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee [European Community Competence and Transport]; to be printed [No. 581-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

11 Work and Pensions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Health and Safety]; to be printed [No. 456-vii] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
Wednesday 19th May 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Derek Twigg);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.30 p.m.

[No. 90.]

Thursday 20th May 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Ipswich Market Bill.—The House proceeded to consider the Ipswich Market Bill, as amended in the Committee.

Bill to be read the third time.

2 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—Mr James Cran reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the proposal for a draft Special Educational Needs and Disability (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 referred to it on 5th May.

3 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Civil Service (No. 2) Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill to make provision relating to the appointment and conduct of, and general duties relating to, civil servants and special advisers; to make provision for and in connection with the removal of general restrictions as to nationality which apply to persons employed or holding office in any civil capacity under the Crown; and for connected purposes, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Corporate Killing Bill,—The Order for reading the Corporate Killing Bill a second time on Friday 21st May was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 18th June.

5 Pensions Bill[3rd allotted day].—The Order of the day being read for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed yesterday on consideration of the Pensions Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, That the Amendment (No. 101) be made,

Which Amendment was, in page 84, line 7, to leave out the words ‘for that period’;

Question again proposed, That the Amendment be made.

Question put and agreed to.

Other Amendments (Nos. 102 to 105) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 219) proposed to the Bill, in page 90, to leave out lines 14 to 16 and insert the words—

‘(b) audited accounts covering the period from the date of the latest statutory annual accounts of the scheme to a date no later than three months prior to the day the application is made:’, instead thereof.—(Steve Webb.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 106 to 119) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 33) proposed to the Bill, in page 105, line 5, after the word ‘regulations’, to insert the words ‘, which shall be no earlier than the day on which the basis for calculating the risk-based levy in the first financial year after the initial period has been published.’.—(Mr Nigel Waterson.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 120) proposed to the Bill, in page 110, line 27, after the word ‘not’, to insert the words ‘a prescribed scheme or a scheme’.—(Mr Chris Pond.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being Three o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [18th May]:—It was agreed to.
The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on the remaining Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Other Amendments (Nos. 121 and 122, 127 to 133, 61, 134 to 167, 175 to 178, 168 to 173, 179, 180 and 174) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Six o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.29 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Constitutional Law (Scotland),—Draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers etc.) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

2 Transport,—Draft British Transport Police (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Animals,—Horse Passports (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1397), dated 19th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Disability Discrimination,—Draft Codes of Practice on—
   (1) Employment and Occupation, and
   (2) Trade Organisations and Qualifications Bodies
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Smith].

5 Supreme Court (Northern Ireland),—Crown Court (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 233), dated 17th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].

Other Papers:

6 Railways,—Report of the Office of the Rail Regulator for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

7 Regulatory Impact Assessments,—List of Regulatory Impact Assessments for 1st July to 31st December 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 5813] [Mr Douglas Alexander].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Age-Related Payments Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike and Derek Conway Chairmen of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr George Osborne from Standing Committee D (in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Nigel Waterson.

2 Age-Related Payments Bill (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Ivan Henderson, Margaret Moran, Mr George Osborne, Claire Ward, Steve Webb and Malcolm Wicks members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

3 Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1031),—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Cummings Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

4 Mental Health (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1272),—The Speaker has appointed Miss Anne Begg Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.

5 Beer from Small Breweries (Extension of Reduced Rates of Excise Duty) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1296),—The Speaker has appointed Mr David Amess Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.
6 Draft Guidance Issued Under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Guidance.

7 Draft Health Professions (Operating Department Practitioners and Miscellaneous) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Memoranda laid before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [The work of the Information Commissioner]; to be printed [No. 593-i] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee [Environmental Crime: Wildlife Crime]; to be printed [No. 605-ii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

3 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [The Responsibilities of the Minister of State for Health]; to be printed [No. 608-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

4 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Orphans and Children made vulnerable by AIDS]; to be printed [No. 573-ii] [Tony Baldry].

5 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [The Honours System]; to be printed [No. 212-vii] [Tony Wright].

6 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Restoring confidence in long-term savings]; to be printed [No. 71-viii] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 90; WH, No. 56]

Thursday 20th May 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Foreign Policy Aspects of the War against Terrorism—Second Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, and the Government’s Response thereto),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Gillian Merron.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 25th May.

[Adjourned at 5.29 p.m.

[No. 91.]

Friday 21st May 2004.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

1 The Speaker’s Absence,—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Sir Michael Lord, the Second Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

PRAYERS.

2 The Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker.

3 Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

4 Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

5 Town and Country Planning (Telecommunications Masts) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Town and Country Planning (Telecommunications Masts) Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Eric Forth: 10.
Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Gillian Merron: 2.

And it appearing on the report of the Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Question was not decided, and the business under consideration stood over until the next sitting of the House.

6 Rights of Way (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Rights of Way (Amendment) Bill;
And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;
And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.
Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 16th July.

7 Telecommunications (Permitted Development Rights) (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Telecommunications (Permitted Development Rights) (Amendment) Bill;
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 16th July.

8 Wild Mammals (Protection) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 6th February, That the Wild Mammals (Protection) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill be now read a second time;
Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 15th October.

9 Criminal Justice (Justifiable Conduct) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 14th May, That the Criminal Justice (Justifiable Conduct) Bill be now read a second time;
Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 18th June.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Derek Twigg.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 24th May.

[Adjourned at 3 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Agriculture,—Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels in Crops, Food and Feeding Stuffs) (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1393), dated 18th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Criminal Law (Northern Ireland),—Prisoner Custody Officers (Searching of Prisoners) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1408), dated 20th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

3 Magistrates’ Courts,—(1) Collection of Fines (Pilot Schemes) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1406), and
(2) Fines Collection (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1407), dated 20th May 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Christopher Leslie].


Other Papers:

5 Foreign Affairs,—Government Response to the Third Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 2002–03, on Iran [by Command] [Cm. 6198] [Mr Secretary Straw].

6 Treaty Series (No. 20, 2004),—Agreement, done at The Hague on 11th March 2004, between the United Nations and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Enforcement of Sentences of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia [by Command] [Cm. 6186] [Mr Secretary Straw].
PRAYERS.

1 Civil Contingencies Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Civil Contingencies Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC11) (Scotland: cross-border collaboration)—(Ms Hazel Blears)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC1) (Emergency Volunteer Reserve)—(Patrick Mercer)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 141.
Tellers for the Noes, Joan Ryan, Mr Nick Ainger: 283.

Another Clause (NC2) (Emergency Public Education and Training Board)—(Patrick Mercer)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 112.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Jim Murphy: 306.

Another Clause (NC3) (Emergency Powers Committee)—(Mr Oliver Heald)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

And it being Nine o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [19th January].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 136.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr John Heppell: 278.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the Question on the Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown.

Amendments (Nos. 78 to 99) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read the third time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr John Heppell: 271.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Douglas Hogg: 0.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

2 Criminal Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Conditional Cautions: Code of Practice) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 26th April, be approved—(Jim Fitzpatrick):—It was agreed to.

3 Human Fertilisation and Embryology.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (Disclosure of Donor Information) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 4th May, be approved—(Jim Fitzpatrick):—It was agreed to.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Government Resources and Accounts.—(1) Draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Health Service Bodies) Order 2004, and
   (2) Draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Public Bodies) Order 2004
   [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Ruth Kelly].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Government Resources and Accounts.—Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Summarised Accounts of Special Health Authorities) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1416), dated 24th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ruth Kelly].


Other Papers:

6 Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland),—Account of the Legal Aid Fund (Northern Ireland) for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 622] [Clerk of the House].

7 Home Office.—Home Office Departmental Minute concerning a contingent liability for the provision of an indemnity in respect of new detection technology (NDT), the structures housing it, and to the operators of NDT [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the GM Planting Regime Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [GM Planting Regime]; to be printed [No. 607-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

2 Public Accounts.—(1) Twenty-ninth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Improving public services for older people]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 626];
   (2) Thirtieth Report from the Committee [Out of sight—not out of mind: Ofwat and the public sewer network in England and Wales]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 463];
   (3) Thirty-first Report from the Committee [Cambridge—MIT Institute]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 902]; and
   (4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Health and Safety Executive: Improving health and safety in the construction industry]; to be printed [No. 627-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Regulatory Reform,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolution:
   That the proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Local Commissioner for Wales) Order 2004, which was laid before the House on 18th March, should be amended before an Order is laid before the House.

2 Age-Related Payments Bill,—Mr Peter Pike reported from Standing Committee D, That it had agreed to the following Resolution in respect of the Age-Related Payments Bill:
   Leave out paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Order, and insert—
   ‘Proceedings on consideration and Third Reading should (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion three hours after the commencement of proceedings on consideration or, if earlier, at the moment of interruption.’

3 Age-Related Payments Bill,—Mr Peter Pike reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Age-Related Payments Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

4 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Cummings reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1031).

5 Regulation of Hormone Disrupting Chemicals,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about the regulation of hormone disrupting chemicals; and for connected purposes: And that Geraint Davies, Siobhain McDonagh, Laura Moffatt, Ms Dari Taylor, Mr Alan Campbell, Andy Burnham, Julie Morgan, Mr Alan Meale, Syd Rapson, Mrs Betty Williams, Donald Anderson and Mr Andrew Love do prepare and bring it in.

6 Regulation of Hormone Disrupting Chemicals Bill,—Geraint Davies accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about the regulation of hormone disrupting chemicals; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th July and to be printed [Bill 114].

7 Gender Recognition Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Gender Recognition Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.
   A Clause (NC1) (Religion)—(Mr Edward Leigh)—brought up, and read the first time.
   Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Andrew Selous, Chris Grayling: 104.
   Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr John Heppell: 296.

   Another Clause (NC2) (Application following issue of an interim gender recognition certificate)—(Hugh Bayley)—brought up, and read the first time.
   Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

   Another Clause (NC3) (Olympic athletes)—(Mr Tim Boswell)—brought up, and read the first time.
   Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

   Another Clause (NC4) (Marriage between transgendered persons)—(Mr Tim Boswell)—brought up, and read the first time.
Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC5) (Disclosure of purposes of Criminal Records Bureau checks)—(Mr Tim Boswell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC7) (Successful applications: married couples)—(Mr Andrew Mitchell)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Richard Younger-Ross, Mr Paul Goodman: 94.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Joan Ryan: 303.

It being after Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [23rd February], put the Question on the Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Amendments (Nos. 3 and 4) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read the third time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Joan Ryan: 355.

Tellers for the Noes, Angela Watkinson, Mr Eric Forth: 46.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

8 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Ordered, That—

(1) the matter of the future direction of community relations policy in Northern Ireland be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee;

(2) the Committee shall meet at Westminster on Thursday 17th June at half-past Two o’clock; and

(3) at that sitting—

(a) the Committee shall take questions under Standing Order No. 110 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (questions for oral answer)), and shall then consider the matter referred to it under paragraph (1) above;

(b) the chairman shall interrupt proceedings not later than two and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the matter referred to the Committee; and

(c) at the conclusion of those proceedings, a motion for the adjournment of the Committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown, pursuant to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 116 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)).—(Margaret Moran.)

9 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 8th June, proceedings on the Motion for the adjournment of the House relating to the Future of Air Transport White Paper may continue, though opposed, for three hours or until Seven o’clock, whichever is the later, and shall then lapse if not previously disposed of.—(Margaret Moran.)

10 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Margaret Moran);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then eighteen minutes to Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.42 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Consumer Protection,—Dangerous Substances and Preparations (Safety) (Consolidation) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1417), dated 20th May 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Other Papers:

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 2003–04, on the National Lottery [by Command] [Cm. 6232] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

3 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Asylum and migration: a review of Home Office statistics [by Act]; to be printed [No. 625] [Clerk of the House].

4 Public Petitions,—Observations from the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on the Petition [9th March] from Weymouth HiFi and residents of South Dorset for an upgrade of the Weymouth digital television transmitter, and for connected measures [by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Mental Health (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1272),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Richard Burden, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Dr Brian Iddon, Linda Perham and Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West) from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution Mrs Liz Blackman, Mr Tom Harris, Andrew Miller, Dr Nick Palmer and Mr Colin Pickthall.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Constitutional Reform Bill: the Government’s Proposals]; to be printed [No. 628-i and -ii] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [BBC Charter Renewal] and Appendices thereto; to be printed [No. 598-i] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Defence Procurement]; to be printed [No. 572-iii] [Bruce George].

4 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [European Council, June 2004]; to be printed [No. 631-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [The Rehabilitation of Prisoners]; to be printed [No. 66-iii] [Mr John Denham].

6 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [DFID’s Agriculture Policy]; to be printed [No. 602-ii] [Tony Baldry].

7 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister; Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister; Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Local Government Revenue]; to be printed [No. 402-iv] [Andrew Bennett].

8 Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Government by Inquiry]; to be printed [No. 606-ii] [Tony Wright].

9 Statutory Instruments,—Twentieth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xx] [Mr David Tredinnick].

10 Trade and Industry,—(1) Fifth Special Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Responses to the Third Report from the Trade and Industry Committee, Resilience of the National Electricity Network]; to be printed [No. 630]; and
Tuesday 25th May 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Gareth Thomas (Harrow West)).

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.44 p.m.]

Wednesday 26th May 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock

PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills [Lords] (No Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable),—The Speaker laid upon the Table a Report from one of the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills. That, in the case of the following Bill, originating in the House of Lords and referred after the First Reading thereof, no Standing Order not previously inquired into is applicable thereto:

University of Manchester Bill [Lords].

Bill to be read a second time.

2 Ipswich Market Bill,—The Ipswich Market Bill was read the third time, and passed.

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Miss Anne Begg reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Mental Health (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1272).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr David Amess reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Beer from Small Breweries (Extension of Reduced Rates of Excise Duty) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1296).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill Olner reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Opposition Day [12th allotted day],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Financial Burdens Imposed on Local Authorities by Central Government,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, that this House notes that each year the Government has pledged a ‘generous’ increase in local government funding, yet council tax in England has on average risen by three times the rate of inflation every year since 1997; observes that the cumulative additional council tax burden since 1997–98 is £1,716 for a typical Band D household; deplores the failure of the Government to recognise its role in generating the underlying pressures leading to council tax increases, including new responsibilities, compliance requirements, red tape, targets and assessments imposed by central Government on local authorities; further notes that unfunded cost pressures force councils either to introduce disproportionate increases in council taxes or cut local front line services; and believes that this is a further indicator of growing centralisation and Whitehall interference in local communities, eroding local democracy and weakening democratic accountability—(Mr Philip Hammond);
An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘notes that the Government has increased grant to local authorities by 30 per cent. in real terms since 1997, in contrast to real terms grant cuts under the previous government; endorses the firm action taken by the Government to reduce council tax increases in 2004-05 to the lowest level for nine years; notes that Labour councils have the lowest average Council Tax increases at 4.7 per cent. and the lowest average level of Council Tax at £870; congratulates the Government on its commitment to enhancing the delivery of public services by local authorities and notes the evidence from the Comprehensive Performance Assessment of significant improvement in local authority performance; welcomes the extension of substantial freedoms and flexibilities to local authorities, including the prudential borrowing regime replacing the capital controls imposed by the previous government; notes with concern that all of these advances would be jeopardised by the policies of the official Opposition which would freeze expenditure on most local authority services; contrasts the Opposition’s current rhetoric with its track record of centralisation when in government; rejects its opportunistic approach; and endorses the Government’s commitment to high performing local authorities delivering effective local leadership and quality public services in the most cost-effective way‘, instead thereof.—(Mr Nick Raynsford.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;

Mr Patrick McLoughlin rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 189.

Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Margaret Moran: 326.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to,

Resolved, That this House notes that the Government has increased grant to local authorities by 30 per cent. in real terms since 1997, in contrast to real terms grant cuts under the previous government; endorses the firm action taken by the Government to reduce council tax increases in 2004-05 to the lowest level for nine years; notes that Labour councils have the lowest average Council Tax increases at 4.7 per cent. and the lowest average level of Council Tax at £870; congratulates the Government on its commitment to enhancing the delivery of public services by local authorities and notes the evidence from the Comprehensive Performance Assessment of significant improvement in local authority performance; welcomes the extension of substantial freedoms and flexibilities to local authorities, including the prudential borrowing regime replacing the capital controls imposed by the previous government; notes with concern that all of these advances would be jeopardised by the policies of the official Opposition which would freeze expenditure on most local authority services; contrasts the Opposition’s current rhetoric with its track record of centralisation when in government; rejects its opportunistic approach; and endorses the Government’s commitment to high performing local authorities delivering effective local leadership and quality public services in the most cost-effective way.

Town Cramming and Urban Sprawl,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that development of the Green Belt continues unabated under this Government; believes the Government’s Communities Plan will be unsustainable and will damage the quality of life of millions of people in this country by concreting over green fields and destroying rural communities; further notes that the Government’s targets for brown field development have actually led to the loss of green spaces in suburban areas through infill development; and further believes that communities through their local authorities, not remote regional bodies, should be able to decide the priorities for local development—(Mr John Hayes);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘applauds the Government for maintaining the amount of Green Belt in England and its pledge to maintain or increase the amount of Green Belt; notes that development of previously developed sites for housing has a crucial role in meeting local needs for housing in the Green Belt and welcomes the Government’s crackdown on urban sprawl, by adopting a sequential approach to the release of land and planning growth where it is needed; supports its proactive approach in improving the sustainability of rural communities; applauds the Government’s success in achieving its previously developed land target early and increasing average densities of new development, which have helped to take the pressure
off green fields; applauds the Government for introducing new planning policies in PPG17 to protect open spaces of value to the local community; and praises the Government for introducing the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 to improve the speed and quality of decision making and place sustainability at the heart of the planning system, and for its new emphasis on community involvement, ensuring local people’s views are an integral part of the plan making process’, instead thereof.—

(Keith Hill.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Randall, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 175.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Nick Ainger: 321.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Vernon Coaker: 299.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr John Randall: 164.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House applauds the Government for maintaining the amount of Green Belt in England and its pledge to maintain or increase the amount of Green Belt; notes that development of previously developed sites for housing has a crucial role in meeting local needs for housing in the Green Belt and welcomes the Government’s crackdown on urban sprawl, by adopting a sequential approach to the release of land and planning growth where it is needed; supports its proactive approach in improving the sustainability of rural communities; applauds the Government’s success in achieving its previously developed land target early and increasing average densities of new development, which have helped to take the pressure off green fields; applauds the Government for introducing new planning policies in PPG17 to protect open spaces of value to the local community; and praises the Government for introducing the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 to improve the speed and quality of decision making and place sustainability at the heart of the planning system, and for its new emphasis on community involvement, ensuring local people’s views are an integral part of the plan making process.

7 Welsh Grand Committee,—Ordered, That—

(1) the matter of the Report of the Richard Commission be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration; and

(2) the Committee shall meet at Westminster on Tuesday 6th July at twenty-five minutes past Nine o’clock and between Two o’clock and half-past Four o’clock to consider the matter of the Report of the Richard Commission, under Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)).—(Derek Twigg.)

8 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) Councillor Dave Cross, Councillor Tom Skipp and others against the proposed closure of the Post Office in the High Road, Benfleet, Essex; and

(2) Miss Elizabeth Govier, Councillor Beverley Egan and others against the proposed closure of the Post Office at Victoria Corner, Benfleet, Essex

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

9 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Derek Twigg);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then three minutes past Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.03 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Constitutional Law.—(1) Draft Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002 (Consequential Provisions and Modifications) Order 2004, and
   (2) draft Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004
   [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

2 Consumer Protection.—Draft Tobacco Advertising and Promotion (Brandsharing) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Social Security.—Pneumoconiosis, etc., (Workers’ Compensation) (Payment of Claims) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 214), dated 6th May [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Other Papers:

4 Regulatory Reform.—Proposal for a Regulatory Reform (Unsolicited Goods and Services Act 1971) (Directory Entries and Demands for Payment) Order 2004, with a statement by the Department of Trade and Industry [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

5 Treaty Series (No. 54, 2003),—Index to Treaty Series 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6192] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Architects (Professional Conduct Committee) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 655):
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr David Chaytor, Mrs Helen Clark, Paul Clark, Mr Ian Davidson, Jim Dobbin, Mr Adrian Flook, Linda Gilroy, Dr Evan Harris, Phil Hope, Dr Brian Iddon, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Brian Sedgemore, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Robert Syms, Ann Winterton and Richard Younger-Ross.

2 Draft Broadcasting (Original Productions) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Paul Flynn, Mr Don Foster, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Estelle Morris, Linda Perham, Mr Kerry Pollard, Bob Russell, Christine Russell, Dr Howard Stoate, Mr Michael Trend, Mr John Wilkinson and Mr Brian Wilson.

3 Draft Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ian Lucas from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Guidance) and nominated in substitution Albert Owen.

European Standing Committees

4 European Union Documents Nos. 12058/03 and 6470/04, relating to the Global navigation satellite system, have been referred to European Standing Committee A.

5 Unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum dated 11th May 2004, submitted by HM Treasury, relating to the Preliminary Draft Budget 2005, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—(1) First Special Report from the Defence Committee [Lessons of Iraq: Government Response to the Committee’s Third Report of Session 2003–04]; to be printed [No. 635]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Duty of Care]; to be printed [No. 620-i]
[Bruce George].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—(1) Ninth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Milk Pricing], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Milk Pricing Sub-committee of the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 335];

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Bovine TB]; to be printed [No. 638-i]; and

(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Milk Pricing]
[Mr Michael Jack].

3 Environmental Audit,—(1) Seventh Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Aviation: Sustainability and the Government Response]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 623]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Sustainable Development Strategy: illusion or reality?]; to be printed [No. 624-i]
[Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4 European Scrutiny,—Twenty-first Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxi] [Mr Jim Marshall].

5 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Palliative Care]; to be printed [No. 454-iv] [Mr David Hinchcliffe].

6 Human Rights,—Thirteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Scrutiny of Bills: Sixth Progress Report], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 640] [Jean Corston].

7 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—First Report from the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Connecting Parliament with the Public]; to be printed, with Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 368] [Mr Peter Hain].

8 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Waste Management Strategy in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 637-i] [Mr Tony Clarke].

9 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Network Rail—Making a Fresh Start]; to be printed [No. 639-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

10 Science and Technology,—(1) Fifth Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government Response to the Committee’s Second Report, Session 2003–04, [Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council: Introductory Hearing]; to be printed [No. 629]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Use of Science in UK International Development Policy]; to be printed [No. 133-v]
[Dr Ian Gibson].

11 Transport,—(1) Twelfth Report from the Transport Committee [British Transport Police], with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 488]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [European Community Competence and Transport]; to be printed [No. 581-iii]
[Mr Michael Jack].

12 Treasury,—Seventh Report from the Treasury Committee [The Administrative Costs of Tax Compliance], together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 269] [Mr John McFall].
Wednesday 26th May 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.42 p.m.

Thursday 27th May 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Nigel Beard reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Health Professions (Operating Department Practitioners and Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2004. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Adjournment (Matters to be considered before the forthcoming adjournment),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Bridget Prentice);

The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

3 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) supporters of the Regenerate.com lunch club in Roehampton against the proposed withdrawal of support for lunch clubs by Wandsworth Borough Council;

(2) Councillor Enid Isaacs, Councillor Norman Ladzrie and others against the proposed closure of the Post Office in Woodfield Road, Hadleigh, and for policies to enable Post Offices to remain open; and

(3) Mrs Abi Nawaz and others for the release of Maajid Nawaz from jail in Egypt were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

4 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes to Seven o’clock, adjourned till Monday 7th June, pursuant to Resolution [10th May].

[Adjourned at 6.32 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Police,—Draft Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture,—Home-Grown Cereals Authority (Rate of Levy) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1445), dated 25th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


4 National Health Service,—(1) Health and Social Care Act 2001 (Isles of Scilly) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1425), and

(2) Local Authority (Overview and Scrutiny Committees Health Scrutiny Functions) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1427), dated 24th May 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

5 Plant Health,—Polish Potatoes (Notification) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1452), dated 27th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].
6 Road Traffic.—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (Metropolitan Borough of Rochdale) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1402), dated 19th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

7 Home Office.—Draft Charities Bill with Explanatory Notes and draft Regulatory Impact Assessment [by Command] [Cm. 6199] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

8 Police and Criminal Evidence.—Draft Codes of Practice—
   (1) for the detention, treatment and questioning of persons by police officers (Code C),
   (2) for the exercise by: police officers of statutory powers of stop and search; police
      officers and police staff of requirements to record public encounters (Code A),
   (3) for the identification of persons by police officers (Code D),
   (4) for searches of premises by police officers and the seizure of property found by
      police officers on persons or premises (Code B),
   (5) on tape recording interviews with suspects (Code E), and
   (6) on visual recording with sound of interviews with suspects (Code F)
   [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

9 Post Office.—Report and Accounts of Royal Mail Holdings plc for the year ended 28th March 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].


11 Public Petitions.—Observations from the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on the Petition [25th March] from residents of Pickering, North Yorkshire, calling for an extension to the priority status of, and revised plans for, Pickering’s flood alleviation scheme [by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

12 Wales.—Draft Transport (Wales) Bill with Explanatory Notes and a draft Regulatory Impact Assessment [by Command] [Cm. 6195] [Mr Peter Hain].

Papers withdrawn:

13 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Health Service Bodies) Order 2004, and
   (2) Draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Public Bodies) Order 2004
   [laid 24th May 2004].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft Broadcasting (Original Productions) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3 Draft Licensing (Indoor Arenas) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

[No. 95; WH, No. 59]

Thursday 27th May 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Judicial appointments and a Supreme Court (court of final appeal)—First Report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, and the Government’s response thereto)—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Jim Fitzpatrick).

And the sitting having continued for three hours, it was adjourned without Question put, till Tuesday 8th June.

[Adjourned at 5.30 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Death of a Member.—The Speaker made the following communication to the House:
   I regret to have to report to the House the death of James Marshall Esquire, Member for Leicester South. I am sure that Members on all sides of the House will join me in mourning the loss of a colleague and in extending our sympathy to the honourable Member’s family and friends.

2 Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill.—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 652].

3 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Nigel Beard reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Broadcasting (Original Productions) Order 2004.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 European Standing Committee A.—Mr Peter Pike reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:
   That the Committee takes note of European Union Documents Nos. 12058/03, draft regulation on the establishment of structures for the management of the European Satellite Radionavigation Programme, and 6470/04, a Commission communication on progress on the Galileo research programme; endorses the Government’s support for the draft Regulation to put in place effective supervision of the private sector concessionaire; and supports the Government’s wider aims in seeking a lead role in the Galileo programme.
   Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

5 Patents Bill [Lords].—The Patents Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time.

6 Patents Bill [Lords] (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of bills)]. That the following provisions shall apply to the Patents Bill [Lords]—

   Committal
   1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

   Proceedings in Standing Committee
   2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Thursday 17th June 2004.
   3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on the day on which proceedings on consideration are commenced.
   6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

   Other proceedings
   7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Paul Clark).—It was agreed to.

7 Joint Activities with the National Assembly for Wales.—Ordered, That this House approves the Third Report of the Procedure Committee, on Joint Activities with the National Assembly for Wales, House of Commons Paper No. 582, and that the following Order be a Standing Order of this House until the end of the present Parliament:

   ‘The Welsh Affairs Committee may invite members of any specified committee of the National Assembly for Wales to attend and participate in its proceedings (but not to vote).’—(Paul Clark.)
8 Nomination of Select Committees.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Standing Orders be amended as follows—

(1) In Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), line 18, leave out from ‘committees’ to ‘which’ in line 20 and insert ‘to which that paragraph applies’

(2) In Standing Order No. 121 (Nomination of select committees), line 10, leave out from ‘under’ to ‘or’ in line 13 and insert ‘the Standing Orders of this House (with the exception of the Liaison Committee, the Committee of Selection, the Committee on Standards and Privileges and any Committee established under a temporary Standing Order)’—(Mr Phil Woolas);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 7, to leave out from the first word ‘Committee’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘and the Committee of Selection’, instead thereof.—(Mr Eric Forth.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Eric Forth, Sir George Young: 23.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Charlotte Atkins: 128.

So the Question was negatived.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Paul Clark, Charlotte Atkins: 136.
Tellers for the Noes, Pete Wishart, Hywel Williams: 1.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That the Standing Orders be amended as follows—

(1) In Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), line 18, leave out from ‘committees’ to ‘which’ in line 20 and insert ‘to which that paragraph applies’

(2) In Standing Order No. 121 (Nomination of select committees), line 10, leave out from ‘under’ to ‘or’ in line 13 and insert ‘the Standing Orders of this House (with the exception of the Liaison Committee, the Committee of Selection, the Committee on Standards and Privileges and any Committee established under a temporary Standing Order)’.

9 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jim Fitzpatrick);

And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eight minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.08 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented by Her Majesty’s Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

Friday 28th May 2004

1 Miscellaneous (No. 4, 2004),—Amendment to the Agreement Establishing the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in order to admit Mongolia as a Country of Operations [Cm. 6193] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Friday 28th May 2004


4 Disabled Persons,—(1) Disability Discrimination (Providers of Services) (Adjustment of Premises) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1429), dated 25th May 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Smith]; and
(2) Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Hull Trains Class 170/3) Exemption Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1410), dated 21st May 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

Wednesday 2nd June 2004

5 Civil Aviation,—Air Carrier Liability Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1418), dated 24th May 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].


Thursday 3rd June 2004


Friday 4th June 2004

8 Lands Tribunal,—Lands Tribunal (Salaries) Order (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), No. 194), dated 28th April 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 7th June 2004:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

9 Atomic Energy and Radioactive Substances,—Draft Uranium Enrichment Technology (Prohibition on Disclosure) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

10 Civil Aviation,—Draft Transport Act 2000 (Consequential Amendment) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

11 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Health Service Bodies) Order 2004, and
(2) draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Public Bodies) Order 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Ruth Kelly].

12 Landlord and Tenant,—Draft Rights of Re-entry and Forfeiture (Prescribed Sum and Period) (England) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

13 Regulatory Reform,—Draft Regulatory Reform (Patents) Order 2004, together with a statement by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

15 Disability Discrimination,—Explanatory Memoranda on the draft Code of Practice (Trade Organisations and Qualifications Bodies) and the draft Code of Practice (Employment and Occupation), laid on 20th May [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

16 National Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Recoupment of Drainage Infrastructure Costs [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 614] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

17 Police (Northern Ireland),—Account of the Northern Ireland Policing Board for 2002-03, together with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 646] [Clerk of the House].
18 Postal Services.—Royal Mail National Report to Postcomm and Postwatch for 2003–04 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

19 Public Petitions.—Observations from—

(1) the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on the Petition [30th March] from Mrs M. Hurrell and others for improvement of the Prittle Brook sewer, Southend, Essex; and

(2) the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [19th May] from Mr Peter Finnegan and residents of South Yorkshire for a review of hospice services for children and their funding

[by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

20 Strategic Export Controls.—Report on United Kingdom Strategic Export Controls for 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6173] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees
European Standing Committees

The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Documents Nos. 12058/03 and 6470/04 on Global Navigation Satellite Systems.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [International Education]; to be printed [No. 647-i] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Research Assessment Exercise: a follow-up]; to be printed [No. 586-ii] [Dr Ian Gibson].

[No. 97.]

Tuesday 8th June 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 University of Manchester Bill [Lords].—The University of Manchester Bill [Lords] was read a second time and committed.

2 Lighter Evenings.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to advance time by one hour in England and Wales throughout the year; to provide that the power to make decisions in relation to time zones in Northern Ireland and Scotland be devolved to the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Scottish Parliament; and for connected purposes; and that Mr Nigel Beard, Chris Bryant, Sir John Butterfill, Dr Vincent Cable, Derek Conway, Dr Brian Iddon, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr David Kidney, Norman Lamb, Mr Seamus Mallon, Syd Rapson and David Taylor do prepare and bring it in.

3 Lighter Evenings Bill,—Mr Nigel Beard accordingly presented a Bill to advance time by one hour in England and Wales throughout the year; to provide that the power to make decisions in relation to time zones in Northern Ireland and Scotland be devolved to the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Scottish Parliament; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 115].

4 Global Navigation Satellite System,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Documents Nos. 12058/03, draft regulation on the establishment of structures for the management of the European Satellite Radionavigation Programme, and 6470/04, a Commission communication on progress on the Galileo research programme; endorses the Government’s support for the draft Regulation to put in place effective supervision of the private sector concessionaire; and supports the Government’s wider aims in seeking a lead role in the Galileo programme—(Joan Ryan)—It was agreed to.
5 Age-Related Payments Bill (Programme) (No. 2).—Ordered. That, in accordance with the Resolution of the Standing Committee of 25th May, the Programme Order of 12th May in relation to the Age-Related Payments Bill be varied as follows:

Consideration and Third Reading

1. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Order (consideration and Third Reading) shall be omitted.

2. Proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion three hours after the commencement of proceedings on consideration or, if earlier, at the moment of interruption.—(Malcolm Wicks.)

6 Age-Related Payments Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Age-Related Payments Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 6, to leave out paragraph (b) and insert the words—

'(b) is already 70 years old at the start of the financial year ending 31st March 2005, or attains that age at any time during the said financial year, or was living with such a person who dies during the said financial year,’; instead thereof.—(Mr George Osborne.)

Question proposed. That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 8) proposed, in page 4, line 14, to leave out Clause No. 7.—(Mr George Osborne.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 109.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Bridget Prentice: 253.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

7 Adjournment (The Future of Air Transport White Paper).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Derek Twigg);

The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

8 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 15th June,

(1) notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2)(c)(i) of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business) and the limits on half-days in paragraph (2)(b) of that Order, proceedings on a Motion in the name of the Leader of the Opposition may be proceeded with, though opposed, for three hours, or until Four o’clock, whichever is the later, and shall then lapse if not previously disposed of; and

(2) notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents), the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion in the name of the Prime Minister relating to New Financial Perspective and EU regional policy not later than Seven o’clock, or three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, whichever is the later; proceedings may continue after the moment of interruption; and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

9 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Southfields in the constituency of Putney against the proposed closure of Princes Way Post Office, Southfields, was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Vernon Coaker);

And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-two minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.22 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Civil Aviation,—Draft Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Revocation) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

2 Northern Ireland,—Draft Budget (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Building and Buildings,—(1) Building (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1465), and
   (2) Building (Approved Inspectors etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1466),
   dated 28th May 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

5 Public Petitions,—Observations from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs on the Petition [28th April] from citizens of the United Kingdom for amendments to the Gender Recognition Bill [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].


APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Constitutional Reform Bill: the Government’s Proposals]; to be printed [No. 628-iii] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [BBC Charter Renewal]; to be printed [No. 598-ii] [Mr Gerald Kaufman].

3 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Foreign Policy Aspects of the War against Terrorism]; to be printed [No. 441-vi] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Identity Cards]; to be printed [No. 130-viii] [Mr John Denham].

5 Trade and Industry,—Sixth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [The work of the Export Credits Guarantee Department], together with Appendices to the Report; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 506] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

6 Treasury,—(1) Fourth Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Committee, The 2004 Budget]; to be printed [No. 654];
   (2) Fifth Special Report from the Committee [Responses to the Fifth Report from the Committee, Restoring confidence in long-term savings: Endowment mortgages]; to be printed [No. 655];
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Bank of England May 2004 Inflation Report]; to be printed [No. 656]; and
   (4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Restoring confidence in long-term savings]; to be printed [No. 71-x]
   [Mr John McFall].
The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o'clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.29 p.m.]

[No. 98.]

Wednesday 9th June 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Licensing (Indoor Arenas) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 House of Lords (Reform),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for a fully appointed House of Lords—(Mr John Maples);

And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business):—It was negatived.

3 Adjournment (Veterans' affairs),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Gillian Merron);

And it being Seven o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

4 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—(1) Mr Len Canter, Mr Vilbert Luthers, Mr A. R. Tregent and members of the Furzedown Project against the proposed closure of four post offices in Tooting, in the London Borough of Wandsworth; and

(2) Members and supporters of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers' campaign regarding false allegations against teachers for legislation to secure the right to anonymity for teachers accused of sexual abuse were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

5 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Mrs I. O'Neill and others for an independent ombudsman to deal with complaints against the veterinary profession was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes past Seven o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.28 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Consumer Credit,—(1) Consumer Credit (Advertisements) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1484),

(2) Consumer Credit (Agreements) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1482),
(3) Consumer Credit (Disclosure of Information) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1481), and
(4) Consumer Credit (Early Settlement) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1483), dated 5th June 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

2 Education,—Education and Libraries (Exclusion of Non-commercial Considerations) Order (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 217), dated 7th May 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

3 Immigration,—Immigration Employment Document (Fees) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1485), dated 8th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Medicines,—Medicines (Advertising) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1480), dated 4th June 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].


Other Papers:

6 Constitutional Affairs,—Government Response to the Second Report, Session 2003–04, from the Constitutional Affairs Committee on Asylum and Immigration Appeals [by Command] [Cm. 6236] [Mr David Lammy].

7 National Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Use of Consultants [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 641] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

8 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for International Development on the Petition [27th April] from the parents, staff and students of Cheadle Hulme College, Cheadle, for improved provision of school equipment [by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations) Bill,—The Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill: Vera Baird, Peter Bottomley, Sue Doughty, Matthew Green, Jim Knight, Mr Andrew Love, Ian Lucas, Ann McKechin, Rob Marris, Chris Mole, Mr John Randall, Jacqui Smith, Mr Hugo Swire, Mark Tami, Mr Robert Walter and David Wright.

2 Patents Bill [Lords]:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr James Arbuthnot, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Adrian Bailey, Malcolm Bruce, Brian Cotter, Mrs Ann Cryer, Mr Mark Fisher, Paul Flynn, Mr David Lepper, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Mr Andrew Love, Gillian Merron, Mr Mohammad Sarwar, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mr John Taylor and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

3 Draft Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (Amendment) Order 2004
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Caroline Flint, Dr Hywel Francis, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Andy King, Shona McIsaac, Andrew Mackinlay, Judy Mallaber, Mr Mark Oaten, Jonathan Shaw, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Siôn Simon, Sir Teddy Taylor and David Winnick.

4 Draft British Transport Police (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Order 2004:
(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Roger Berry, Peter Bottomley, Ann Coffey, Mr David Crausby, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Michael Jack, Helen Jones, Mr David Kidney, Mr Greg Knight, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Paul Marsden, Gillian Merron, Julie Morgan, Dr Doug Naysmith, John Thurso and Mr David Wilshire.
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Virginia Bottomley, Mr Stephen Byers, David Cairns, Julia Drown, Annabelle Ewing, Mr Neil Gerrard, John Mann, Mr Alan Milburn, Margaret Moran, Mrs Gillian Shephard, Jon Trickett, Mr Nigel Waterson, Steve Webb and Malcolm Wicks.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Richard Bacon, Hugh Bayley, David Cairns, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr John Grogan, David Hamilton, Paul Holmes, Mr Peter Lilley, Margaret Moran, Clare Short, Mr Graham Stringer, Mr Nigel Waterson, Steve Webb, Malcolm Wicks and Tony Worthington.

European Standing Committees

7 European Union Document No. 9149/04, relating to the establishment of a Community Fisheries Control Agency, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

8 European Union Document No. 8241/04, relating to the general arrangements for excise, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

9 Unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum dated 26th May 2004, submitted by Ministry of Defence, relating to Establishing a European Defence Agency, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Charities Bill.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Charities Bill; to be printed [No. 660-i]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 660-ii]
   [Mr Alan Milburn].

2 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Every Child Matters: Next Steps]; to be printed [No. 658] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

3 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [The Sustainable Development Strategy: illusion or reality?]; to be printed [No. 624-ii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4 European Scrutiny.—Twenty-second Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Fourth Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Government’s Response to the Third Report of the Committee, Session 2003-04, on The Introduction of the Aggregates Levy in Northern Ireland: One Year On]; to be printed [No. 666] [Mr Michael Mates].

6 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Use of Science in UK International Development Policy]; to be printed [No. 133-vi] [Dr Ian Gibson].
Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Charlotte Atkins);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till Monday 14th June, pursuant to Order [19th May].

[Adjourned at 4.30 p.m.]

THE SPEAKER’S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Age-Related Payments Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.

[No. 99.]

Thursday 10th June 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed, without Amendment, to the Amendments made by this House to the Gender Recognition Bill [Lords].

2 Adjournment (Disability).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Maria Eagle);

And it being Six o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

3 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes past Six o’clock, adjourned till Monday 14th June.

[Adjourned at 6.29 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Contracting Out,—Draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to Broadcast Advertising) and Specification of Relevant Functions Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

2 Criminal Law,—Draft Discharge of Fines by Unpaid Work (Prescribed Hourly Sum) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

3 Immigration,—Draft Immigration (Provision of Physical Data) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Northern Ireland,—Draft Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Designation of Public Authorities) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

5 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Draft Courts Act 2003 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

6 Supreme Court of Northern Ireland,—Draft Maximum Number of Judges (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

7 Legal Aid and Advice.—Legal Aid in Criminal Proceedings (Costs) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 262), dated 10th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].

8 Merchant Shipping.—Ship and Port Facility (Security) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1495), dated 8th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].


[by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

10 Veterinary Surgeons.—Veterinary Surgery (Artificial Insemination of Mares) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1504), dated 9th June [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

11 Public Accounts.—Treasury Minutes on the Eleventh, Twelfth and Sixteenth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6191] [Ruth Kelly].

12 Special Procedure Orders.—Report by the Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords and the Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons, under section 3 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945, that no Petition has been presented against the Northumbrian Water Limited (Land at the Public Car Park, West of Dunes Court, Beadnell) Compulsory Purchase Order 2003 [by Act] [Chairman of Ways and Means].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations) Bill,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of Standing Committee C in respect of the Bill.

2 Patents Bill [Lords] (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Mr James Arbuthnot, Mr Peter Atkinson, Malcolm Bruce, Mr David Lepper, Mr Andrew Love, Gillian Merron and Mr Gerry Sutcliffe members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

3 Patents Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Mr David Amess and Miss Anne Begg Chairmen of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

4 Architects (Professional Conduct Committee) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 655).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.

5 Draft British Transport Police (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Mike Hancock Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

Grand Committees

6 The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of its meeting on 17th June.

Standing Committee on Regional Affairs

7 The Speaker has appointed Mr George Stevenson Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs in respect of its meeting on 15th June.

European Standing Committees

8 The Speaker has appointed Mrs Irene Adams Chairman of European Standing Committee A in place of Mr Peter Pike in respect of European Union Document No. 15409/03 on Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals (REACH).
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations) Bill,—Mr Roger Gale reported from Standing Committee C, That it had gone through the Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations) Bill and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Friday 18th June.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 679].

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Mike Hancock reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft British Transport Police (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Order 2004.
Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords].—The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time.

4 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords] (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords]:

Committal
1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.
   Proceedings in Standing Committee
2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Tuesday 6th July 2004.
3. The Standing 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 commenced.
5. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.
6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.
   Other proceedings
7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further Message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Mr John Heppell).—It was agreed to.

5 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords] [Money];
   A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (1) any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State in consequence of the Act, and
   (2) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money provided by Parliament under another enactment—(Mr John Heppell).—It was agreed to.

6 Health Care and Associated Professions.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Health Professions (Operating Department Practitioners and Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 28th April, be approved—(Mr John Heppell).—It was agreed to.
Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Mental Health (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1272), dated 6th May 2004, a copy of which was laid before this House on 10th May, be approved—(Mr John Heppell)—It was agreed to.

Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Licensing (Indoor Arenas) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 10th May, be approved—(Mr John Heppell)—It was agreed to.

Broadcasting.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Broadcasting (Original Productions) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 10th May, be approved—(Mr John Heppell)—It was agreed to.

Licensing.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation) and Order [17th May], That this House approves the draft Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003, which was laid before this House on 23rd March, insofar as it relates to guidance to licensing authorities on the discharge of their functions under that Act—(Mr John Heppell)—It was agreed to.

Customs and Excise.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Beer from Small Breweries (Extension of Reduced Rates of Excise Duty) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1296), dated 10th May 2004, a copy of which was laid before this House on 10th May, be approved—(Mr John Heppell)—It was agreed to.

Culture, Media and Sport.—Ordered, That Charles Hendry be discharged from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee and Mr Nick Hawkins be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

European Scrutiny.—Ordered, That Mr Mark Hendrick be discharged from the European Scrutiny Committee and Anne Picking be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr John Heppell);

And the Motion having been made at Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Road Traffic.—Draft Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Amendment) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

3 Culture, Media and Sport.—Government Response to the Second Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 2003–04, on the DCMS Annual Report: Work of the Department in 2002–03 [by Command] [Cm. 6242] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

4 Gambling.—Government Response to the First Report from the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill, Session 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6253] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

5 National Audit.—Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General on—

(1) London Underground: Are the Public Private Partnerships likely to work successfully?, and

(2) London Underground PPP: Were they good deals?

[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 644 and 645] [Clerk of the House].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Energy Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale as an additional Chairman of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft British Transport Police (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr David Crausby and Dr Doug Naysmith from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Keith Vaz and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

Standing Committee on Regional Affairs

3 The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Forth Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs in respect of its meeting on 15th June in place of Mr George Stevenson.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [National Skills Strategy: 14–19 Education]; to be printed [No. 197–xiii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Urban Affairs Sub-Committee of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Role and Effectiveness of the Housing Corporation]; to be printed [No. 401-v] [Clive Betts];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Committee [English Partnerships]; to be printed [No. 677-i] [Clive Betts]; and
   (3) Memoranda submitted to the Committee [Gypsy and Traveller Sites]; to be printed [No. 633-II] [Andrew Bennett].

3 Public Accounts.—(1) Thirty-second Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [HM Customs and Excise Standard Report]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 284];
   (2) Thirty-third Report from the Committee [Income generated by the Museums and Galleries]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 430];
   (3) Thirty-fourth Report from the Committee [Strategic Rail Authority: Improving passenger rail services through new trains]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 408]; and
   (4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The management of sickness absence in the prison service]; to be printed [No. 680-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

4 Science and Technology.—(1) Seventh Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Director General for Higher Education: Introductory Hearing]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 461];
   (2) Eighth Report from the Committee [The Work of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 462];
   (3) Sixth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Committee’s Fifth Report, Session 2003–04, Too little too late?: Government Investment in Nanotechnology]; to be printed [No. 650]; and
   (4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Human reproductive technologies and the law]; to be printed [No. 599-i] [Dr Ian Gibson].
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Regulatory Reform.—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolution:

That the draft Regulatory Reform (Patents) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 8th May, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

2 Patents Bill [Lords].—Mr David Amess reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Patents Bill [Lords], and made an Amendment thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 117].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 689].

3 Standing Committee on Regional Affairs.—Mr Eric Forth reported from the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs, That it had considered the matter of regional economic performance and the northern way, referred to it on 27th April.

4 Independent Milk Ombudsman Etc. Bill.—The Order for reading the Independent Milk Ombudsman Etc. Bill a second time on Friday 18th June was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

5 Sustainable Communities Bill.—The Order for reading the Sustainable Communities Bill a second time on Friday 18th June was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

6 Trade Unions (Political Funds) Reform.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to limit the requirement to re-ballot on the maintenance of trade union political funds to a total of three consecutive ballots—(John Mann);

And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Love, Tony Lloyd: 136.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Nigel Evans: 98.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That John Mann, Angela Eagle, Helen Jones, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr Parmjit Dhandha, David Winnick, Tony Lloyd, Geraldine Smith, Mr David Crausby, Brian White, David Taylor and Mr Bill Tynan do prepare and bring in the Bill.

7 Trade Unions (Political Funds) Reform Bill.—John Mann accordingly presented a Bill to limit the requirement to re-ballot on the maintenance of trade union political funds to a total of three consecutive ballots: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 116].

8 Opposition Day [10th allotted day: second part].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Government’s Transport Policy.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that the Government has failed to meet its target of reducing congestion on Britain’s roads by 5 per cent., that congestion is set to rise by up to 20 per cent. by 2010 and that, according to the CBI, traffic congestion costs British industry £15 billion to £20 billion a year; recognises that the Government is failing to meet its targets for increased passenger and freight use of the railways and that rail freight declined by 0.3 billion net tonne kilometres in 2002; regrets the fact that one in five trains is still running late and that reliability on the railways has not even returned to the levels achieved before the Hatfield crash; condemns the Government’s failure to decide the future of Crossrail, the East London Line Extension and Thameslink 2000 and the delay of improvements such as the upgrading of the East Coast Main Line; further notes that the Transport Committee stated that the Government has had ‘years to address the problems of the railway but failed to take effective action’; calls on the Government to acknowledge that its Ten Year Transport Plan has failed in all its key objectives; deplors the Government’s failure to develop a coherent planning strategy for Britain’s ports;
further condemns the Government for the confusion and blight caused by the Aviation White Paper to many communities near airports; and further calls, in the light of these failures, for a re-evaluation of transport policy which properly recognises the needs of both drivers and users of public transport—(Mr Tim Yeo);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘recognises that the problems with the transport system stem from decades of under-investment; welcomes the Government’s commitment to long-term funding for transport through the Ten Year Plan; acknowledges that one of the main reasons for the continuing pressure on transport networks is that the United Kingdom is enjoying the longest period of sustained economic growth for more than 200 years; supports the Government’s determination to face the tough decisions which will be required to meet these pressures and put UK transport on a sustainable footing, including runway capacity at UK airports, management of road space and re-organising Britain’s railways following a failed privatisation; and welcomes the early signs of success, including the halt in the decline in bus use, the biggest replacement programme for railway rolling stock ever seen in this country, the major programme of investment in the West Coast Main Line and the 22 per cent. decline in the numbers of people killed or seriously injured on the roads since the mid-1990s’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Darling.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question; David Maclean rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put. And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put; The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr David Wilshire: 177.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Margaret Moran: 281.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House recognises that the problems with the transport system stem from decades of under-investment; welcomes the Government’s commitment to long-term funding for transport through the Ten Year Plan; acknowledges that one of the main reasons for the continuing pressure on transport networks is that the United Kingdom is enjoying the longest period of sustained economic growth for more than 200 years; supports the Government’s determination to face the tough decisions which will be required to meet these pressures and put UK transport on a sustainable footing, including runway capacity at UK airports, management of road space and re-organising Britain’s railways following a failed privatisation; and welcomes the early signs of success, including the halt in the decline in bus use, the biggest replacement programme for railway rolling stock ever seen in this country, the major programme of investment in the West Coast Main Line and the 22 per cent. decline in the numbers of people killed or seriously injured on the roads since the mid-1990s.

9 New Financial Perspective and EU Regional Policy,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note of European Union Documents No. 6232/04, Commission Communication: Building our common future: Policy challenges and Budgetary means of the Enlarged Union 2007-2013, and No. COM (04) 107, Commission Communication: ‘Third report on economic and social cohesion’; supports the Government’s efforts to refocus allocations within a budget of 1 per cent. of EU Gross National Income in support of the European Union’s goals, with structural funding focused on the poorest member states; and in particular, supports the Government’s view that the Commission’s overall proposals are unrealistic and unacceptable, that its structural funds proposals are inconsistent with the United Kingdom’s objectives for reform, and that the future European Union Budget should be reprioritised and refocused in line with the principles of subsidiarity and spending that adds value at the European Union level.—(Dawn Primarolo);

The Question was amended, in line 13, at the end, by adding the words ‘and calls on the Government to set out its principles and plans for those objectives and how it will achieve them’.—(Mr Mark Prisk.)

And the Main Question, as amended, being put;

Resolved, That this House takes note of European Union Documents No. 6232/04, Commission Communication: Building our common future: Policy challenges and Budgetary means of the Enlarged Union 2007-2013, and No. COM (04) 107, Commission Communication: ‘Third report on economic and social cohesion’; supports the Government’s efforts to refocus allocations within a budget of 1 per cent. of EU
Gross National Income in support of the European Union’s goals, with structural funding focused on the poorest member states; and in particular, supports the Government’s view that the Commission’s overall proposals are unrealistic and unacceptable, that its structural funds proposals are inconsistent with the United Kingdom’s objectives for reform, and that the future European Union Budget should be reprioritised and refocused in line with the principles of subsidiarity and spending that adds value at the European Union level and calls on the Government to set out its principles and plans for those objectives and how it will achieve them.

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till nineteen minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.41 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Broadcasting.—Draft Community Radio Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

2 Environmental Protection.—Draft Landfill (Scheme Year and Maximum Landfill Amount) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Agriculture.—Pig Carcase (Grading) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1505), dated 12th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Merchant Shipping.—Merchant Shipping (Hours of Work) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1469), dated 1st June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

5 Isle of Man.—Account for 2002–03 of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise in Account with the Government of the Isle of Man, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [John Healey].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Food Information Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Food Information]; to be printed [No. 690-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

2 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Identity Cards]; to be printed [No. 130-ix] [Mr John Denham].

3 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [DFID’s bilateral programme of assistance to India]; to be printed, together with Appendices [No. 692-i] [Tony Baldry].

4 Public Administration.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Government by Inquiry]; to be printed [No. 606-iii] [Tony Wright].

5 Regulatory Reform.—(1) Eighth Report from the Regulatory Reform Committee [Draft Regulatory Reform (Patents) Order 2004]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 683]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2004]; to be printed [No. 684-i] [Mr Peter Pike].

6 Statutory Instruments.—Twenty-first Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments; to be printed [No. 82-xxi] [Mr David Tredinnick].
The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)
And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

Adjourned at 4.44 p.m.

[No. 102.]

Wednesday 16th June 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock

PRAYERS.

1 Medway Council Bill.—The Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Committee on Unopposed Bills, That it had examined the allegations contained in the Preamble to the Medway Council Bill and found the same to be true; and had gone through the Bill and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Committee, to lie upon the Table.

2 Liaison.—Mr Alan Williams reported, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee), That the Liaison Committee had directed him to report the following recommendation for the allocation of time for the consideration of Estimates on an allotted day (being the third allotted day in the present Session):

That a day not later than 5th August be allotted for the consideration of the following Estimates for the financial year 2003–04:

Department for Transport, insofar as it relates to the work of the Highways Agency.
Department for Transport, insofar as it relates to Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles.

Report to lie upon the Table.

3 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Architects (Professional Conduct Committee) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 655).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 European Standing Committee A.—Mrs Irene Adams reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 15409/03, draft Regulation concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing a European Chemicals Agency and amending Directive 1999/45/EC and Regulation (EC) (on Persistent Organic Pollutants); and draft Directive amending Council Directive 67/548/EEC to adapt it to the proposed Regulation; and supports the Government’s objectives of developing a fast, efficient and workable process to test and screen chemicals and tackle those of most concern first, whilst minimising animal testing and maintaining or enhancing the competitiveness of the chemicals industry and downstream users.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

5 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Gambling (Regional Casinos).—The Lords have come to the following Resolution, to which they desire the agreement of this House:

That it is expedient that a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons be appointed to consider and report on the Government’s response to recommendations 79, 80, 81, 83, 84 and 85 of the report of the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill (Cm. 6253), which focus upon the definition, location and economic and other implications of the largest casinos, and on the further statement of Government policy on casinos published with Cm 6253;

They communicate that they have appointed a Committee of eight Lords to join with a Committee appointed by the Commons for this purpose;
They have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman;
that the Committee have leave to report from time to time;
that the Committee have power to appoint specialist advisers;
that the Committee have power to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom;
that the Reports of the Committee from time to time shall be printed, notwithstanding any adjournment of the House;
and that the Committee do report by 22nd July 2004.

6 Directors’ and Employees’ Pensions (Provision of Information) Bill,—Harry Cohen, supported by Dr Rudi Vis, Mr Alex Salmond and Mr Neil Gerrard, presented a Bill to require companies to provide information about payments in respect of directors’ and employees’ pensions: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 118].

7 Marine Wildlife Conservation,—Ordered. That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to nature conservation and the protection of wildlife in respect of the marine environment; to provide enforcement powers for marine wildlife conservation to competent marine authorities; and for connected purposes: And that Mr John Randall, Mr Michael Meacher, Mrs Helen Clark, Andrew Bennett, Andrew George, Richard Ottaway, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Peter Luff, Tim Loughton, Mr Andrew Robathan and Mr David Kidney do prepare and bring it in.

8 Marine Wildlife Conservation Bill,—Mr John Randall accordingly presented a Bill to amend the law relating to nature conservation and the protection of wildlife in respect of the marine environment; to provide enforcement powers for marine wildlife conservation to competent marine authorities; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th July and to be printed [Bill 119].

9 Adjournment (European Affairs),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Murphy);
And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

10 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from residents of Faversham, Kent, and supporters of Kingsfield Traffic Action Group for traffic calming measures and a 20 mph speed limit in parts of Kingsfield, Faversham, was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

11 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jim Fitzpatrick);
And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then half-past Seven o’clock, till tomorrow.

[Adjourned at 7.30 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Countryside,—(1) Draft Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004, and
(2) draft Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Representation of the People,—Draft Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

3 Social Security,—Draft Social Security (Income Support and Jobseeker’s Allowance) Amendment Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Education,—Education (Prohibition from Teaching or Working with Children) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1493), dated 9th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

Other Papers:

5 National Audit,—Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
(1) Department for International Development: Responding to HIV/AIDS, and
(2) Visa Entry to the United Kingdom: The Entry Clearance Operation [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 664 and 367] [Clerk of the House].

6 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [13th May] from Scott Fewster and others for the introduction of the vaccine Prevenar to combat pneumococcal disease [by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee E; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-one Members to serve on the Committee: Vera Baird, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mrs Ann Cryer, Mr Hilton Dawson, Sandra Gidley, Mrs Cheryl Gillan, Paul Goggins, Mr Dominic Grieve, Ms Harriet Harman, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Lady Hermon, Huw Irranca-Davies, Ms Sally Keeble, Ann Ken, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Mr Christopher Leslie, Julie Morgan, Kali Mountford, Ms Meg Munn and Mr Robert Walter.

2 Architects (Professional Conduct Committee) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 655).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Ian Davidson and Dr Brian Iddon from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Alan Campbell and Claire Ward.

3 Draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Health Service Bodies) Order 2004 and the draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Public Bodies) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr David Atkinson, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Adrian Bailey, Richard Burden, Mr David Clelland, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Jim Fitzpatrick, Ruth Kelly, Norman Lamb, Mr David Laws, Ian Lucas, Mr Tony McWalter, Mr Gwyn Prosser, James Purnell, Alan Simpson and Mr Andrew Tyrie.

4 London Thames Gateway Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Paul Clark, Mr Tony Clarke, Jon Cruddas, Mr Edward Davey, Valerie Davey, Mr Nigel Evans, Patrick Hall, Mr John Hayes, Keith Hill, Glenda Jackson, Mr Kevan Jones, Mr Terry Rooney, Joan Ruddock, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Ian Taylor and Richard Younger-Ross.

5 Draft Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr John Battle, Ms Hazel Blears, Mr Keith Bradley, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Roger Gale, Mike Gapes, Alan Howarth, Lynne Jones, Mr Eric Martlew, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr James Paise, Ms Dari Taylor, Ann Winterton and Mr Mike Wood.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Tony Colman, Ross Cranston, Mr Jim Cunningham, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Mr John Lyons, Mr John MacDougall, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Jim Murphy, Diana Organ, Mr Alan Reid, Mr Malcolm Savidge, Mr David Stewart, Mr Hugo Swire and Pete Wishart.

7 Draft Maximum Number of Judges (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Kevin Brennan, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Geraint Davies, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Mr Derek Foster, Lady Hermon, Mr David Lammy, Mr Michael Mates, Mr Archie Norman, Lembit Öpik, The Reverend Ian Paisley, Mr Greg Pope, Bridget Prentice, Joyce Quin, Mr Frank Roy and Ms Gisela Stuart.

European Standing Committees

8 European Union Documents Nos. 9824/03, 7549/04 and 9643/04, relating to Services of general interest, have been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Duty of Care]; to be printed [No. 620-ii] [Bruce George].

2 Draft Charities Bill,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Charities Bill; to be printed [No. 660-iii]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 660-iv]
[Mr George Foulkes].

3 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Public Expenditure]; to be printed [No. 687-i] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—(1) Tenth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Marine Environment: Government Response]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 706]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Departmental Annual Report 2004]; to be printed [No. 707-i]
[Mr Michael Jack].

5 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Housing: Building a Sustainable Future?]; to be printed [No. 709-i] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

6 European Scrutiny,—(1) Twenty-third Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxiii]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Competition policy in the draft EU treaty]; to be printed [No. 700-i]
[Mr Michael Connarty].

7 Human Rights,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Counter-Terrorism Powers]; to be printed [No. 713-i] [Jean Corston].

8 Procedure,—Fourth Special Report from the Procedure Committee [Joint Activities with the National Assembly for Wales: The Government’s Response to the Committee’s Third Report]; to be printed [No. 681] [Sir Nicholas Winterton].

9 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Tackling cancer in England: saving more lives]; to be printed [No. 712-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

10 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee [European Community Competence and Transport]; to be printed [No. 581-iv] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

11 Welsh Affairs,—Third Special Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Government Response to the Third Report of the Committee, Session 2003-04: The Provision of Rail Services in Wales]; to be printed [No. 708] [Mr Martyn Jones].

12 Work and Pensions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Service Delivery to Minority Ethnic Customers]; to be printed [No. 665-i] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr John Heppell.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.24 p.m.]

[No. 103.]

Thursday 17th June 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Report on the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment,—Resolved, That an Humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, That she will be graciously pleased to give directions that there be laid before this House a Return of the Report made by AHL Ltd in June 2004 in respect of the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

2 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of the future direction of Community Relations Policy in Northern Ireland, referred to it on 25th May.

3 Corporate Killing Bill,—The Order for reading the Corporate Killing Bill a second time to-morrow was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 16th July.

4 Balance Charitable Foundation for Unclaimed Assets (Allocation) Bill,—The Order for reading the Balance Charitable Foundation for Unclaimed Assets (Allocation) Bill a second time to-morrow was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

5 Mental Capacity Bill,—Mr David Lammy, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Mr Secretary Reid, Ms Rosie Winterton and Mr Christopher Leslie, presented a Bill to make new provision relating to persons who lack capacity; to establish a superior court of record called the Court of Protection in place of the office of the Supreme Court called by that name; to make provision in connection with the Convention on the International Protection of Adults signed at the Hague on 13th January 2000; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 120].

6 Mental Capacity Bill,—Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Mental Capacity Bill be printed [Bill 120–EN].

7 Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords],—The Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time.

8 Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords] (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords]:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Thursday 1st July 2004.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Paul Clark)—It was agreed to.

9 Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to the Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords] [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords] it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any increase attributable to that Act in the sums payable, by virtue of any other Act, out of money so provided; and

(b) any expenses of the Secretary of State under that Act—(Paul Clark)—It was agreed to.

10 Transport.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft British Transport Police (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 20th May, be approved—(Paul Clark)—It was agreed to.

11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till five minutes past Four o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.05 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Extradition,—(1) Draft Extradition Act 2003 (Repeals) Order 2004; and

(2) Draft Extradition Act 2003 (Amendment to Designations) Order 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blankett].

2 Representation of the People.—Draft Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (Scotland) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

3 Terms and Conditions of Employment.—Draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Competition,—Enterprise Act 2002 (Bodies Designated to make Super-complaints) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1517), dated 16th June 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

5 Justices of the Peace.—Justices of the Peace (Size and Chairmanship of Bench) (Amendment) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1514), dated 7th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Other Papers:


7 Census.—Paper, entitled Census 2001: Key Statistics for urban areas in England and Wales [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

8 Chemical Weapons.—Report for 2003 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Act 1996 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

9 Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment.—Return to an Address to Her Majesty for a Return of the Report made by AHL Ltd in June 2004 in respect of the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment [pursuant to Resolution this day]; to be printed [No. 678] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].
10 Industrial Organisation and Development.—Report and Accounts of the Horticultural Development Council for 2002–03 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

11 Miscellaneous (No. 5, 2004).—Protocol of 2003, done at London on 16th May 2003, to the International Convention for the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992 [by Command] [Cm. 6245], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

12 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on the Petition [27th May] from Mrs Abi Nawaz and others for the release of Maajid Nawaz from jail in Egypt [by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

13 Trade Union and Labour Relations.—Draft ACAS Code of Practice: Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords] (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mrs Cheryl Gillan, Paul Goggins, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Kali Mountford and Ms Meg Munn members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee E in respect of the Bill.

2 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Dame Marion Roe and Mr Joe Benton Chairmen of Standing Committee E in respect of the Bill.

3 Draft Criminal Justice and Courts Services Act 2000 (Amendment) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Health Service Bodies) Order 2004 and the draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Public Bodies) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

5 London Thames Gateway Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.

6 Draft Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed David Taylor Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

7 Draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers Etc.) Order 2004; the draft Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002 (Consequential Provisions and Modifications) Order 2004 and the draft Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

8 Draft Maximum Number of Judges (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

European Standing Committees

9 The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 8235/04 on Marketing of Maize Genetically Modified for Glyphosate Tolerance.

10 The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 15185/03 on Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Communities.

11 The Speaker has appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document, UEM on Establishing a European Defence Agency.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [The Provision of Allergy Services]; to be printed [No. 696-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

2 Northern Ireland Affairs.— (1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 15th June [Social Housing Provision in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 493-vi]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee on 15th June [Waste Management Strategy in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 637-ii] [Mr Tony Clarke].

3 Welsh Affairs.—Memoranda laid before the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Draft Transport (Wales) Bill] [Mr Martyn Jones].

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[No. 103; WH, No. 64]

**Thursday 17th June 2004.**

*The House sitting in Westminster Hall*

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (European Social Fund—Sixth Report from the Work and Pensions Committee, Session 2002-03, and the Government’s Response thereto),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 22nd June.

[Adjourned at 4.13 p.m.

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[No. 104.]

**Friday 18th June 2004.**

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

1 The Speaker’s Absence,—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Sylvia Heal, the First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

**PRAYERS.**

2 The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker.

3 Christmas Day (Trading) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Christmas Day (Trading) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC1) (Cultural and non-Christian exemption)—(Mr Greg Knight)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment (No. 6) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 8, at the end, to insert the words—

'(2A) Subsection (1) does not apply to any shop where the trade or business consists wholly or mainly of the sale of books.'—(Mr Eric Forth.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 5) proposed to the Bill, in page 1, line 15, at the end, to insert the words—

'(5) In its application for the purposes of subsection (2), Schedule 3 to the 1994 Act (loading and unloading at large shops on Sunday morning) has effect as if the reference to Sunday were a reference to Christmas Day.'—(Mr Eric Forth.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

4 Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee; Ordered, That the Bill be considered on Friday 15th October.

5 Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations) Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Deputy Speaker interrupted the business.

Ordered, That the Bill be further considered on Friday 15th October.

6 Constitution for the European Union (Referendum) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 23rd April, That the Constitution for the European Union (Referendum) Bill be now read a second time; Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 16th July.
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Animals,—TSE (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1518), dated 17th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge,—(1) Statute, dated 29th January 2004, made by the Governing Body of St. John’s College, Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the College, and
   (2) Statute, dated 7th March 2004, made by the Governing Body of Pembroke College, Oxford, amending the Statutes of the College [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Other Papers:

3 Companies,—Report of an investigation under section 432(2) of the Companies Act 1985 into Queen’s Moat Houses plc [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Roger Gale from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Edward Leigh.
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill Olner reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (Amendment) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Health Service Bodies) Order 2004 and the draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Public Bodies) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the London Thames Gateway Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 European Standing Committee A,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 8235/04, draft Council Decision concerning the placing on the market, in accordance with Directive 2001/18/EC, of a maize product (Zea mays L Line NK603) genetically modified for glyphosate tolerance; and supports the Government’s view that Monsanto’s NK603 maize, to be used as any other maize but excluding cultivation, meets the necessary requirements for authorisation under Directive 2001/18/EC.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

5 Prevention of Homelessness Bill,—Ordered, That the Prevention of Homelessness Bill be read a second time on Friday 16th July.

6 Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords],—The Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time.

7 Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords] (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords]:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Thursday 1st July 2004.

3. The Standing Committee shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it meets.

Proceedings on 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Programming of other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Mr Nick Ainger);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Derek Twigg, Mr John Heppell: 230.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Mark Francois, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 36.

So the Question was agreed to.
8 Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords] [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills). That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords] it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State by virtue of the Act;
(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums so payable under any other enactment—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.

9 Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals (REACH).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees). That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 15409/03, draft Regulation concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing a European Chemicals Agency and amending Directive 1999/45/EC and Regulation (EC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants; and draft Directive amending Council Directive 67/548/EEC to adapt it to the proposed Regulation; and supports the Government’s objectives of developing a fast, efficient and workable process to test and screen chemicals and tackle those of most concern first, whilst minimising animal testing and maintaining or enhancing the competitiveness of the chemicals industry and downstream users—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.

10 Estimates.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee). That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 15409/03, draft Regulation concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing a European Chemicals Agency and amending Directive 1999/45/EC and Regulation (EC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants; and draft Directive amending Council Directive 67/548/EEC to adapt it to the proposed Regulation; and supports the Government’s objectives of developing a fast, efficient and workable process to test and screen chemicals and tackle those of most concern first, whilst minimising animal testing and maintaining or enhancing the competitiveness of the chemicals industry and downstream users—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.

11 Adjournment (Summer).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments). That this House, at its rising on Thursday 22nd July, do adjourn till Tuesday 7th September 2004—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.

12 Draft Gambling Bill: Regional Casinos (Joint Committee).—Ordered, That the Lords Message of 16th June relating to a Joint Committee of both Houses to consider and report on the Government’s response to recommendations 79, 80, 81, 83, 84 and 85 of the report of the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill (Cm. 6253), which focus upon the definition, location and economic and other implications of the largest casinos, and on the further statement of Government policy on casinos published with Cm. 6253, be now considered.

That this House concurs with the Lords in their Resolution relating to the said Joint Committee.

That a Select Committee of eight honourable Members be appointed to join with the Committee appointed by the Lords for this purpose.

That the Committee shall have power:
(i) to send for persons, papers and records;
(ii) to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House;
(iii) to report from time to time;
(iv) to appoint specialist advisers;
(v) to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom; and

That the Committee shall report by 22nd July 2004.

That Janet Anderson, Mr Tony Banks, Jeff Ennis, Mr John Greenway, Mr Alan Meale, Mr Richard Page, Dr John Pugh, and Mr Anthony D. Wright be members of the Committee.

And that the Committee do meet with the Committee appointed by the Lords on Wednesday 23rd June at half past Nine o’clock in Committee Room 8.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

13 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit until nine minutes to Nine o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 European Communities,—Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, and the Republic of Croatia) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:


3 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [27th May] from supporters of the Regenerate.com lunch club in Roehampton against the proposed withdrawal of support for lunch clubs by Wandsworth Borough Council [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

4 United States (No. 1, 2004),—Amendment to the Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the United States of America, done at Washington on 14th June 2004, for Cooperation on the Uses of Atomic Energy for Mutual Defence Purposes [by Command] [Cm. 6261], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (Amendment) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Dr Hywel Francis from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Kevin Brennan.

2 Draft Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Hazel Blears from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Desmond Browne.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Visa Entry to the United Kingdom: The Entry Clearance Operation]; to be printed [No. 737-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

[No. 106.]

Tuesday 22nd June 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Disqualification of a Member,—The Speaker laid upon the Table a notification, That Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer had this day appointed the Right honourable Terence Anthony Gordon Davis, Member for Birmingham, Hodge Hill, to the office of Steward or Bailiff of Her Majesty’s Three Chiltern Hundreds of Stoke, Desborough and Burnham, in the county of Buckingham.

2 Report on Child Protection Procedures in Humberside Police and Cambridgeshire Constabulary,—Resolved, That an Humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, That she will be graciously pleased to give directions that there be laid before this House a Return of the Report on child protection procedures in Humberside Police and Cambridgeshire Constabulary, particularly the effectiveness of relevant intelligence-based record keeping, vetting practices since 1995 and information sharing with other agencies.—(Ms Hazel Blears.)

3 Energy Bill [Lords].—Mr Bill O’Brien reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Energy Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 123].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 742].
4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—David Taylor reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice) Order 2004. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 European Standing Committee B.—Mr Nigel Beard reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of the unnumbered explanatory memorandum of 26th May 2004 from the Ministry of Defence on the Council Joint Action on the establishment of a European Defence Agency; endorses the Government’s support for the Council Joint Action to create the European Defence Agency and its swift implementation; and supports the Government’s wider aims in seeking a key role for the Agency in the development of European Union military capabilities.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

6 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords agree to the Higher Education Bill, with Amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

7 Higher Education Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Higher Education Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 124].

8 Food in Schools.—Ordered. That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require all schools in England to have a food policy; to provide support for schools in drawing up, implementing and developing food policies; to make permanent the scheme for free fruit in schools and to extend it; to extend entitlement to free school meals, including to breakfasts; to amend the law relating to the nutritional values of school meals; and for connected purposes: And that Mr David Kidney, Mrs Janet Dean, Julia Drown, Dr Ian Gibson, Helen Jones, Mr Stephen McCabe, Laura Moffatt, Mr Kevin McNamara, Linda Perham, Bob Russell, Joan Walley and David Wright do prepare and bring it in.

9 Food in Schools Bill.—Mr David Kidney accordingly presented a Bill to require all schools in England to have a food policy; to provide support for schools in drawing up, implementing and developing food policies; to make permanent the scheme for free fruit in schools and to extend it; to extend entitlement to free school meals, including to breakfasts; to amend the law relating to the nutritional values of school meals; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 16th July and to be printed [Bill 122].

10 Opposition Day [13th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Integrity of the Electoral System.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes the constitutional importance of the forthcoming referendums on the Government’s proposed regional assemblies; expresses grave concern at the threat to the integrity of the British electoral system through the Government’s ill-conceived widespread extension of exclusively all-postal voting in the recent elections against the advice of the Electoral Commission and in the face of opposition from across the political spectrum; notes the public concern over reported instances of fraud, corruption and electoral malpractice; believes that the fragmentation of voting systems and methods under this Government is confusing and o-putting to the electorate; expresses concern that the integrity of the electoral roll is becoming undermined; and calls on the Government to restore a person’s right to vote in a secret ballot at a polling station should they so choose—(Mr Alan Duncan);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘recognises that the all-postal pilots in June 2004 were part of a process of testing alternative voting mechanisms for the benefit of making voting easier and more convenient for electors; further recognises that turnout in European elections had fallen to its lowest ever level in 1999 and that all-postal pilots assisted in making the 2004 European election turnout the UK’s highest ever; welcomes the fact that voter participation for the European elections in the pilot regions more than doubled in 2004 compared with 1999, believes that allegations of fraud have been reported disproportionately and that there is currently no evidence to show that all-postal ballots are more susceptible to fraud than traditional elections; recognises that further reforms will be necessary to widen participation and engagement in the electoral system; and further believes that the integrity of elections and referendums, including the proposed referendums on elected regional assemblies, is adversely affected by declining turnout which puts in jeopardy the democratic mandate’; instead thereof.—(Mr Christopher Leslie.)
And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr John Randall: 184.
Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Vernon Coaker: 308.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House recognises that the all-postal pilots in June 2004 were part of a process of testing alternative voting mechanisms for the benefit of making voting easier and more convenient for electors; further recognises that turnout in European elections had fallen to its lowest ever level in 1999 and that all-postal pilots assisted in making the 2004 European election turnout the UK’s highest ever; welcomes the fact that voter participation for the European elections in the pilot regions more than doubled in 2004 compared with 1999; believes that allegations of fraud have been reported disproportionately and that there is currently no evidence to show that all-postal ballots are more susceptible to fraud than traditional elections; recognises that further reforms will be necessary to widen participation and engagement in the electoral system; and further believes that the integrity of elections and referendums, including the proposed referendums on elected regional assemblies, is adversely affected by declining turnout which puts in jeopardy the democratic mandate.

NHS Staff Recruitment and Retention.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House recognises the central role of NHS professionals in delivering high quality healthcare through the NHS; notes the need for substantial increases in NHS staffing to meet future demand for healthcare; further notes that the levels of bureaucracy, red tape and imposed targets within the NHS demoralise NHS staff; regrets the problems in the implementation of the consultant and GP contracts; further regrets the delay in progress on ‘Agenda for Change’; expresses its concern over staff shortages in general practice, hospital specialties, nursing, especially community nursing, midwifery, radiography and biomedical sciences; is alarmed at the extent of recruitment of health professionals from developing countries which are unable to sustain the loss of such staff; and urges the Government to give the NHS the freedoms and incentives needed to support a growing workforce—(Mr Andrew Lansley);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the Government’s record extra investment in the National Health Service which has resulted in increases of 19,400 more doctors and 67,500 more nurses since 1997; supports the extra investment in training which has increased the intake of medical school students by 61 per cent. and nurse training students by 53 per cent. since 1997; notes that over one million NHS staff will benefit from improved terms and conditions; recognises that the international recruitment of healthcare professionals has already made a significant impact on the delivery of NHS services; notes the Government’s commitment to ethical international recruitment, with its robust Code of Practice, the first of its kind in the world, ensuring that NHS organisations do not recruit staff from developing countries without the agreement of their government; and welcomes the sharing and transfer of experience and ideas that international recruitment brings to the health service’, instead thereof.—(Mr John Hutton.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;
And it being Seven o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

11 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the motion in the name of Mr Michael Howard relating to NHS staff recruitment and retention may be proceeded with, though opposed, until Eight o’clock—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

12 Opposition Day.—NHS Staff Recruitment and Retention.—The Question being again proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;
And the Question being put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 158.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Jim Fitzpatrick: 282.
So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.
Resolved. That this House welcomes the Government’s record extra investment in the National Health Service which has resulted in increases of 19,400 more doctors and 67,500 more nurses since 1997; supports the extra investment in training which has increased the intake of medical school students by 61 per cent. and nurse training students by 53 per cent. since 1997; notes that over one million NHS staff will benefit from improved terms and conditions; recognises that the international recruitment of healthcare professionals has already made a significant impact on the delivery of NHS services; notes the Government’s commitment to ethical international recruitment, with its robust Code of Practice, the first of its kind in the world, ensuring that NHS organisations do not recruit staff from developing countries without the agreement of their government; and welcomes the sharing and transfer of experience and ideas that international recruitment brings to the health service.

13 Electoral Commission.—Ordered. That the Motion in the name of the Leader of the House relating to the Electoral Commission shall be treated as if it related to an instrument subject to the provisions of Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation) in respect of which notice has been given that the instrument be approved.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

14 Welsh Grand Committee.—Ordered, That—

(1) the matter of the draft Transport (Wales) Bill be referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for its consideration;

(2) the Committee shall meet at Westminster on Tuesday 20th July at twenty-five minutes past Nine o’clock and between Two o’clock and half-past Four o’clock to consider the matter of the Draft Transport (Wales) Bill, under Standing Order No. 107 (Welsh Grand Committee (matters relating exclusively to Wales)).—(Charlotte Atkins.)

15 Northern Ireland Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 116 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)), That—

(1) the draft Budget (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 be referred to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee;

(2) the Committee shall meet at Westminster on Thursday 8th July at half-past Two o’clock; and

(3) at that sitting—

(a) the Committee shall consider the instrument referred to it under paragraph (1) above; and

(b) at the conclusion of those proceedings, a motion for the adjournment of the Committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown, pursuant to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 116 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings))—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

16 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from residents of Southfields in the constituency of Putney against certain planning applications made by the Orange mobile telephone company to the London Borough of Wandsworth, and for changes in the law relating to planning applications for the erection of mobile telephone masts in urban areas [three Petitions] were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

17 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Vernon Coaker);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty-seven minutes to Nine o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.33 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Environmental Protection.—Draft Landfill (Scheme Year and Maximum Landfill Amount) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Northern Ireland.—Draft Dangerous Wild Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Food,—Food Labelling (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1512), dated 15th June 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

4 Northern Ireland,—(1) Criminal Justice (Evidence) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1501) and
   (2) Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1500), dated 10th June 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy]

Other Papers:

5 Child Protection Procedures in Humberside Police and Cambridgeshire Constabulary,—Return to an Address to Her Majesty for a Return of the Report made by Sir Michael Bichard on child protection procedures in Humberside Police and Cambridgeshire Constabulary, particularly the effectiveness of relevant intelligence-based record keeping, vetting practices since 1995 and information sharing with other agencies [pursuant to Resolution this day]; to be printed [No. 653] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

6 Government Trading Funds,—HM Treasury Departmental Minute, dated 22nd June 2004, on the Companies House Trading Fund [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

7 Health,—Departmental Minute, dated 22nd June 2004, concerning a proposed contingent liability relating to indemnity for witnesses giving evidence to the Inquiry into the handling of complaints against William Kerr and Michael Haslam [by Command] [Mr Secretary Reid].

8 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Improving the Speed and Quality of Asylum Decisions [by Act]; to be printed [No. 535] [Clerk of the House].


Papers withdrawn:

11 Environmental Protection,—Draft Landfill (Scheme Year and Maximum Landfill Amount) Regulations 2004 [laid 15th June].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

European Standing Committees

The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 15185/03 on Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Communities in place of Mr Eric Illsley.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Draft Criminal Defence Service Bill]; to be printed [No. 746-i]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Draft Criminal Defence Service Bill]; to be printed [No. 746] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—(1) Sixth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Arts Development: Dance], together with Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 11th May and Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 587]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [BBC Charter Renewal]; to be printed [No. 598-iii] [Sir Gerald Kaufman].

3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Food Information Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Food Information]; to be printed [No. 690-ii] [Mr Michael Jack].
4 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Foreign and Commonwealth Office Annual Report 2003-04]; to be printed [No. 745-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Department for International Development: Departmental Report 2004]; to be printed, together with Appendices [No. 749-i] [Tony Baldry].

6 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—(1) Eighth Report from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Role and Effectiveness of the Housing Corporation], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 401-I]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Gypsy and Traveller Sites]; to be printed [No. 633-i]
   [Andrew Bennett].

7 Public Administration.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Government by Inquiry]; to be printed [No. 606-iv] [Tony Wright].

8 Statutory Instruments.—Twenty-second Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xxii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Trade and Industry.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [The Post Office Urban Network Reinvention Programme]; to be printed [611-ii];

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Pubcos]; to be printed [751-i]; and

   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Fuel Disconnections]; to be printed [752-i]
   [Mr Martin O’Neill].

10 Welsh Affairs.—Memorandum laid before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Transcript of hearings held on 21st June by the Economic Development and Transport Committee of the National Assembly for Wales enlarged by the Welsh Affairs Committee, on the Draft Transport (Wales) Bill] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 106; WH, No. 65]

Tuesday 22nd June 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Fiona Mactaggart);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.30 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 European Standing Committee B.—Mr Roger Gale reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 15185/03, draft Council Regulation amending the Staff Regulations of officials and the Conditions of Employment of other servants of the European Communities; supports the Government’s view that this is a major step in the Commission’s reform programme in establishing a modernised human resources policy for the European Union institutions; and welcomes the adoption of the new Staff Regulations in promoting merit, efficiency, staff development and providing for significant long-term savings in the European Union budget.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

2 Prevention of Homelessness Bill.—The Order for reading the Prevention of Homelessness Bill a second time on Friday 16th July was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

3 Food Justice Strategies Bill.—Alan Simpson, supported by Mr David Amess, Mr Don Foster, Mr Simon Thomas, Dr Ian Gibson, Mr David Drew and Dr Howard Stoate, presented a Bill to require the Secretary of State and the National Assembly for Wales to draw up and implement strategies to promote food justice and to eradicate food poverty; to specify certain matters that shall be considered in the strategies; and for related purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 125].

4 Cinemas (Rural Areas).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about cinemas in rural areas: And that Mr David Rendel, Mr Don Foster, Sue Doughty, Andrew George, Sandra Gidley, Mr Phil Willis, Nick Harvey, John Mann, Jane Griffiths, Derek Bayley and Mr David Curry do prepare and bring it in.

5 Cinemas (Rural Areas) Bill.—Mr David Rendel accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about cinemas in rural areas: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 126].

6 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords] [Ways and Means].—Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment into the Consolidated Fund of any amounts recovered in respect of payments made under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme.—(Paul Goggins.)

7 Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund.—Ordered, That Mr Barry Gardiner be discharged as a Managing Trustee of the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund and Mr Tony Colman be appointed as a Managing Trustee in pursuance of section 1 of the Parliamentary and other Pensions Act 1987.—(Mr Phil Woolas.)

8 House of Commons Members’ Fund.—Ordered, That Mr Barry Gardiner be discharged as a Managing Trustee of the House of Commons Members’ Fund and Mr Tony Colman be appointed as a Managing Trustee in pursuance of section 2 of the House of Commons Members’ Fund Act 1939.—(Mr Phil Woolas.)

9 Higher Education Bill (Programme) (No. 5).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], that the following provisions shall apply to the Higher Education Bill for the purpose of supplementing the Orders of 27th January 2004 and 31st March 2004:

1. Proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion three hours after their commencement at this day’s sitting.

2. Those proceedings shall be taken in the order shown in the first column of the following Table, and each part of those proceedings shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the time shown in the second column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lords Amendments</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amendments Nos. 5, 15 to 20, 22 to 24</td>
<td>One hour after the commencement of proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments Nos. 3, 4, 2, 6 to 8, 13, 9 to 12, 14, 1, 21, 25 to 27</td>
<td>Three hours after the commencement of those proceedings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any further question being put.

4. The proceedings on any further message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Gillian Merron);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Gillian Merron: 267.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 140.

So the Question was agreed to.

10 Higher Education Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Higher Education Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 5.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Alan Johnson);

And it being one hour after the commencement of proceedings on consideration of the Lords Amendments, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day]:—It was agreed to.

The Lords Amendments was accordingly disagreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business to be concluded at that hour.

Lords Amendment No. 20.

Amendments ((a) and (b)) were made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, as amended, was agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

Lords Amendment No. 23.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, as amended, was agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 15.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Derek Twigg);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Gillian Merron: 309.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Gregory Barker: 149.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 16 was disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 19 was disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 18, 22 and 24 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 3 was disagreed to.

Amendments ((a) and (b)) were made to the Bill, in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 3 disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 4.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Alan Johnson);
And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords Amendments, the Deputy Speaker put the Question.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Vernon Coaker: 291.
Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 194.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business to be concluded at that hour.

Lords Amendment No. 2.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Vernon Coaker: 302.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geo Vrey Clifton-Brown, Gregory Barker: 187.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1, 6 to 14, 21 and 25 to 27 were agreed to.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 2, 4, 5, 15 to 17 and 19;

That Chris Grayling, Alan Johnson, Mr Bob Laxton, Derek Twigg and Mr Phil Willis be members of the Committee;

That Alan Johnson be Chairman of the Committee;

That three be the Quorum of the Committee;

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Derek Twigg)—It was agreed to.

11 Criminal Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (Amendment) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 12th May, be approved—(Mr Nick Ainger)—It was agreed to.

12 Government Resources and Accounts.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Health Service Bodies) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 7th June, be approved—(Mr Nick Ainger)—It was agreed to.

13 Government Resources and Accounts.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Public Bodies) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 7th June, be approved—(Mr Nick Ainger)—It was agreed to.

14 Urban Development.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the London Thames Gateway Development Corporation (Area and Constitution) Order 2004, dated 6th May, a copy of which was laid before this House on 11th May, be approved—(Mr Nick Ainger);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Paul Clark, Bridget Prentice: 294.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Williams, Mr Geoffery Clifton-Brown: 163.

So the Question was agreed to.

15 Marketing of Maize Genetically Modified for Glyphosate Tolerance.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 8235/04, draft Council Decision concerning the placing on the market, in accordance with Directive 2001/18/EC, of a maize product (Zea mays L Line NK603) genetically modified for glyphosate tolerance; and supports the Government’s view that Monsanto’s NK603 maize, to be used as any other maize but excluding cultivation, meets the necessary requirements for authorisation under Directive 2001/18/EC—(Mr Nick Ainger);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Paul Clark, Bridget Prentice: 282.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Williams, Richard Younger-Ross: 66.

So the Question was agreed to.

16 Higher Education Bill,—Alan Johnson reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of their Amendments to the Higher Education Bill. That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments No. 2 for the following Reason:
Because any special assistance for students on longer courses is better targeted through grants, loans and bursaries.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 4 for the following Reason:
Because it involves a charge on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 5 for the following Reason:
Because the recruitment code of the Civil Service Commissioners is not appropriate to the appointment of the Director of Fair Access to Higher Education.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 15 for the following Reason:
Because it is desirable to require separate plans for the purposes of the fees provisions and to require those plans to be approved only by the relevant authority in accordance with regulations.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 16 for the following Reason:
Because it is inappropriate to confer a regulation-making power on the Higher Education Funding Council for England or the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 17 for the following Reason:
Because it is desirable that the Director of Fair Access to Higher Education should have power to enforce the general provisions of an English approved plan.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments No. 19 for the following Reason:
Because it is desirable that the relevant authority in relation to Wales should have power to enforce the general provisions of a Welsh approved plan.

The Reasons were agreed to.

Message to the Lords, to communicate the said Reasons, together with the Bill and Amendments.

17 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—
(1) residents of the Isle of Wight and others against the proposed closure of Shanklin Jobcentre, and
(2) Martin Ball for an inquiry into the treatment of the history of the reign of King George III
were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

18 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till eight minutes past Six o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.08 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Transport,—British Transport Police (Police Services Agreement) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1522), dated 21st June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

2 Defence,—Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 23rd June 2004, concerning the gifting of Non-Lethal Military Equipment to the Government of Sierra Leone [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

3 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of ABRO for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 590] [Mr Secretary Hoon].
4 Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance.—Report of the Northern Ireland Court Service on Legal Aid in Northern Ireland in 2002–03, with the Report of the Lord Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Legal Aid in Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 675] [Mr David Lammy].

5 Race Relations.—Accounts of the Commission for Racial Equality for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 736] [Clerk of the House].

6 Treaty Series (No. 22, 2004),—Agreement, done at Copenhagen on 27th May 1998, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Czech Republic on International Road Transport [Cm. 6246] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 Treaty Series (No. 23, 2004),—Agreement, done at Prague on 30th May 2000, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on International Road Transport [Cm. 6247] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 Treaty Series (No. 24, 2004),—Agreement, done at Bratislava on 11th January 2001, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Slovak Republic on International Road Transport [Cm. 6248] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Martin Caton, Dr Hywel Francis, Mr Dai Havard, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Ian Lucas, Diana Organ, Mr Andrew Robathan, Chris Ruane, Jim Sheridan, Mr Hugo Swire, Mark Tami, Mr Don Touhig, Mr Bill Wiggin, Hywel Williams and Mr Roger Williams.

2 Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee F; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Adrian Bailey, Kevin Brennan, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Mark Francois, Mr Mike Hall, Mr GeorgeHowarth, Miss Melanie Johnson, Mr Peter Lilley, Siobhain McDonagh, Rosemary McKenna, Patrick Mercer, Dr Andrew Murrison, Joan Ryan, Sarah Teather, Claire Ward and David Wright.

3 Draft Transport Act 2000 (Consequential Amendment) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr William Cash, Ann Coffey, Mr David Crausby, Mr Ian Davidson, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr Greg Knight, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Paul Marsden, Gillian Merron, Dr Doug Naysmith, Jonathan Shaw, John Thurso and Mr David Wilshire.

4 Draft Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Revocation) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr David Borrow, Ms Karen Buck, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Frank Field, Mr John Greenway, Helen Jackson, Mr Tony McNulty, Mr Paul Marsden, Gillian Merron, Clare Short, Mr Clive Soley, John Thurso, Mr Michael Trend, Mr David Wilshire and Derek Wyatt.

5 Draft Rights of Re-Entry and Forfeiture (Prescribed Sum and Period) (England) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Ronnie Campbell, Paul Clark, Mr Michael Connarty, Yvette Cooper, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr Brian Jenkins, Lynne Jones, Mr Michael Mates, Mr Terry Rooney, Mr Graham Stringer, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Robert Syms, Mr Shaun Woodward and Richard Younger-Ross.
6 Draft Discharge of Fines by Unpaid Work (Prescribed Hourly Sum) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr David Atkinson, Mr Clive Betts, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Geraint Davies, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr David Heath, Mr Christopher Leslie, Mrs Helen Liddell, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Mr Austin Mitchell, Bridget Prentice, Mr John Redwood, John Robertson, Bob Russell and Mr John Smith.

7 Draft Courts Act 2003 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Graham Allen, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Geraint Davies, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Mr Frank Dobson, Paul Flynn, Mr David Heath, Kate Hoey, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Christopher Leslie, Mr Michael Meacher, Bridget Prentice, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr Marsha Singh and Mr Ian Taylor.

8 Draft Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004 and the draft Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, John Austin, Norman Baker, Virginia Bottomley, Mr Ben Bradshaw, Mr Stephen Byers, Jeremy Corbyn, Sue Doughty, Jim Dowd, Mr James Gray, Alan Keen, Tony Lloyd, Mr John Maples, Mr Alan Meale, Dr Nick Palmer and Mr David Wilshire.

9 Draft Tobacco Advertising and Promotion (Brandsharing) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Kevin Barron, Mr Nicholas Brown, Mr Paul Burstow, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Mr Tam Dalyell, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Mark Francois, Mr John Horam, Dr Brian Iddon, Miss Melanie Johnson, Tim Loughton, Mr Andy Reed, Joan Ryan, Geraldine Smith, Claire Ward and Pete Wishart.

European Standing Committees

10 European Union Documents No. 9317/04 relating to approximation, mutual recognition and enforcement of criminal sanctions, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—(1) Fifth Report from the Defence Committee [The Defence White Paper 2003]; with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 465]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Iraq]; to be printed [No. 721-i]
[Mr Peter Viggers].

2 Draft Charities Bill,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Charities Bill; to be printed [No. 660-v]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 660-vi]
[Mr Alan Milburn].

3 Education and Skills,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [UK eUniversity]; to be printed [No. 755-ii]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [International Education]; to be printed [No. 647-iii]
[Mr Barry Sheerman].

4 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Housing: Building a Sustainable Future?]; to be printed [No. 709-ii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].
5 European Scrutiny.—Twenty-fourth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxiv] [Mr Michael Connarty].

6 Joint Committees (Choice of Chairman).—Mr John Greenway reported from the Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the Lords as the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill (Regional Casinos), that he had been chosen Chairman of the Joint Committee.

7 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Scrutiny of European Matters in the House of Commons]; to be printed [No. 565-ii] [Mr Peter Hain].

8 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister; Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Local Government revenue]; to be printed [No. 402-v] [Andrew Bennett].

9 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [London Underground: Are the Public Private Partnerships likely to work successfully? and London Underground PPP: Were they good deals?]; to be printed [No. 783-i] [Mr Alan Williams].

10 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Human reproductive technologies and the law]; to be printed [No. 599-ii] [Dr Ian Gibson].

11 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee [Tonnage Tax]; to be printed [No. 738-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

12 Treasury.—(1) Sixth Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Supplementary Government Response to the First Report from the Committee, Transparency of Credit Card Charges]; to be printed [No. 761]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Restoring confidence in long-term savings]; to be printed [No. 71-xi] [Mr John McFall].

13 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee (enlarged by the Economic Development and Transport Committee, National Assembly for Wales) [Draft Transport (Wales) Bill]; to be printed [No. 759-i] [Mr Martyn Jones].

14 Work and Pensions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Service Delivery to Minority Ethnic Customers]; to be printed [No. 665-ii] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 107; WH, No. 66]

Wednesday 23rd June 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 5.51 p.m.]
Thursday 24th June 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Leicester South Writ,—Ordered, That the Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown, to make out a new Writ for the electing of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the Borough Constituency of Leicester South in the room of James Marshall Esquire, deceased.—(Hilary Armstrong.)

2 Birmingham, Hodge Hill,—Ordered, That the Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown, to make out a new Writ for the electing of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the Borough Constituency of Birmingham, Hodge Hill in the room of the Right honourable Terence Anthony Gordon Davis, who since his election for the said Borough Constituency has accepted the Office of Steward or Bailiff of Her Majesty’s Three Chiltern Hundreds of Stoke, Desborough and Burnham, in the county of Buckingham.—(Hilary Armstrong.)

3 Finance Bill,—Sir John Butterfill reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Finance Bill (except Clauses Nos. 4, 5, 20, 28, 57 to 77, 86, 111 and 282 to 289 and Schedules Nos. 1, 3, 11, 12, 21 and 37 to 39), and made Amendments thereunto. Bill, as amended in the Committee and in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 127].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 792].

4 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Pikereported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers, etc.) Order 2004, the draft Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002 (Consequential Provisions and Modifications) Order 2004 and the draft Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Nigel Beard reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Maximum Number of Judges (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Estimates Day [3rd allotted day].—The House proceeded, pursuant to Resolution [21st June], to consider the Estimate appointed for consideration under Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee).

Estimates, 2004–05 (Department for Transport).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That, for the year ending with 31st March 2005, for expenditure by the Department for Transport—

(1) further resources, not exceeding £5,665,964,000, be authorised for use as set out in House of Commons Paper No. 466,

(2) a further sum, not exceeding £5,144,950,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to meet the costs as so set out, and

(3) limits as so set out be set on appropriations in aid—(Joan Ryan);

And it being Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates), put the Question:—It was agreed to.

7 Estimates, 2004–05.—The Deputy Speaker then put the Question required to be put, pursuant to paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 55 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.).

Resolved, That, for the year ending with 31st March 2005—

(1) further resources, not exceeding £195,591,528,000, be authorised for use for defence and civil services as set out in House of Commons Papers Nos. 466, 467, 468 and 469,

(2) a further sum, not exceeding £177,378,551,000, be granted to Her Majesty out of the Consolidated Fund to meet the costs of defence and civil services as so set out, and
Ordered, That a Bill be brought in upon the foregoing Resolutions: And that the Chairman of Ways and Means, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Paul Boateng, Dawn Primarolo, Ruth Kelly and John Healey do prepare and bring it in.

8 Consolidated Fund ( Appropriation) Bill,—Ruth Kelly accordingly presented a Bill to authorise the use of resources for the service of the year ending with 31st March 2005 and to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending with 31st March 2005; to appropriate the supply authorised in this Session of Parliament; and to repeal certain Consolidated Fund and Appropriation Acts: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 28th June and to be printed [Bill 121].

9 Establishing a European Defence Agency,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of the unnumbered explanatory memorandum of 26th May 2004 from the Ministry of Defence on the Council Joint Action on the establishment of a European Defence Agency; endorses the Government’s support for the Council Joint Action to create the European Defence Agency and its swift implementation; and supports the Government’s wider aims in seeking a key role for the Agency in the development of European Union military capabilities—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

10 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 29th June,—

(1) proceedings on the Motion for the adjournment of the House relating to London schools may continue for three hours or until Four o’clock, whichever is the later, and shall then lapse if not previously disposed of; and

(2) the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion in the name of Mr Edward Leigh relating to Public Accounts not later than Seven o’clock or three hours after their commencement, whichever is the later; proceedings may continue after the moment of interruption; and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply.—(Charlotte Atkins.)


12 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions—

(1) from residents of St Albans, Hertfordshire, for a new acute hospital and centre of excellence to serve St Albans; and

(2) from residents of Rossendale, Lancashire, for provision for the protection of pets, and for the return of stolen pets to their rightful owners

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes to Seven o’clock, adjourned till Monday 28th June.

[Adjourned at 6.33 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Devolution,—(1) Draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Counting Officers’ Charges) Order 2004,

(2) draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Expenses Limits for Permitted Participants) Order 2004, and

(3) draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums Order 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2 Local Government (Wales),—Draft Regulatory Reform (Local Commissioner for Wales) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Peter Hain].
Northern Ireland.—(1) Draft Age-Related Payments (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, and
(2) draft Solicitors (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004
[by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Financial Services and Markets.—(1) Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Regulated
Activities) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1610), and
(2) Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Transitional Provisions) (Complaints
Relating to General Insurance and Mortgages) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004,
No. 1609)
dated 24th June 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda [by Command] [Ruth
Kelly].

Other Papers:

5 Government Resources and Accounts (Northern Ireland),—General Report by the
Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland, on Financial Auditing and
Reporting: 2002–03 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 673] [Clerk of the House].

6 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of the Queen Elizabeth II Conference
Centre for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon
[by Act]; to be printed [No. 621] [Clerk of the House].

2003–04, on Elder Abuse [by Command] [Cm. 6270] [Mr Secretary Reid].

8 National Health Service,—(1) Paper, entitled The NHS Improvement Plan: Putting People
at the Heart of Public Services [by Command] [Cm. 6268], and
(2) Statement of Guarantee given by the Secretary of State for Health on 2nd June
2004 on loans proposed to be raised by Gateshead Health National Health Service Trust
[by Act]
[Mr Secretary Reid].

9 Transport,—Government Response to the Eighth Report of the Transport Committee,
Session 2003–04, on School Transport [by Command] [Cm. 6254] [Mr Secretary
Darling].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Mr Win Griffiths Chairman
of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

2 Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords] (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has
appointed Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Nick Ainger, Dr Hywel Francis, Chris Ruane, Mr
Don Touhig, Mr Bill Wiggin and Mr Roger Williams members of the Programming
Sub-Committee of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

3 Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Irene Adams and
Mr Eric Forth Chairmen of Standing Committee F in respect of the Bill.

4 Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords] (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has
appointed Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Mark Francois, Mr George Howarth, Miss Melanie
Johnson, Dr Andrew Murrison, Joan Ryan and Claire Ward members of the Programming
Sub-Committee of Standing Committee F in respect of the Bill.

5 Draft Transport Act 2000 (Consequential Amendment) Order 2004,—The Speaker has
appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated
Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

6 Draft Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Revocation) Order 2004,—The Speaker has
appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated
Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

7 Draft Rights of Re-Entry and Forfeiture (Prescribed Sum and Period) (England) Regulations
2004,—The Speaker has appointed David Taylor Chairman of the Third Standing
Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

8 Draft Discharge of Fines by Unpaid Work (Prescribed Hourly Sum) Regulations 2004,—The
Speaker has appointed Mr David Amess Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee
on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.
Draft Courts Act 2003 (Consequential Amendment) Order 2003.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

Draft Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004 and draft Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

Draft Maximum Number of Judges (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Gisela Stuart from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Gordon Prentice.

European Standing Committees

The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document, UEM on the Preliminary Draft Budget 2005.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [The Sustainable Development Strategy: illusion or reality?]; to be printed [No. 624-iii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [GP Out of Hours Services]; to be printed [No. 697-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 Human Rights,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Human Rights on 23rd June [Children Bill]; to be printed [No. 537-ii] [Jean Corston].

4 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 23rd June [Waste Management Strategy in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 637-iii] [Mr Tony Clarke].

5 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Bank of England May 2004 Inflation Report]; to be printed [No. 656-ii] [Mr John McFall].

6 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee (enlarged by the Economic Development and Transport Committee, National Assembly for Wales) [Draft Transport (Wales) Bill]; to be printed [No. 759-ii and -iii] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 108; WH, No. 67]

Thursday 24th June 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Too little too late? Government Investment in Nanotechnology—Fifth Report from the Science and Technology Committee, Session 2003-04, and the Government’s response thereto),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 29th June.

[Adjourned at 4.49 p.m.]
Monday 28th June 2004.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Transport Act 2000 (Consequential Amendment) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill;

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 56 (Consolidated Fund Bills), That the Bill be now read a second time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

And the Question being put forthwith, That the Bill be now read the third time:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

3 Human Tissue Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Human Tissue Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC7) (Powers of court to dispense with need for consent)—(Ms Rosie Winterton)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC6) (Interpretation of Part I)—(Ms Rosie Winterton)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC8) (Activities involving material from adults who lack capacity to consent)—(Ms Rosie Winterton)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC9) (Duties in relation to carrying out functions)—(Ms Rosie Winterton)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC10) (Power of Human Tissue Authority to assist other public authorities)—(Margaret Moran)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC1) (Determination of consent for removal, storage and use of organs from adults for purpose of transplantation)—(Dr Evan Harris)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Mackay, John Barrett: 60.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Charlotte Atkins: 307.

Amendments (Nos. 108, 109, 67, 48 to 53, 29, 54 to 56, 30, 57, 19, 20, 71, 58, 72, 75, 59, 60, 25, 26, 76, 77, 27 and 78 to 84) made to the Bill.

It being Nine o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question on the remaining Amendments to be moved by a Minister of the Crown, pursuant to Order [15th January].

Other Amendments (Nos. 31 to 43, 114, 45, 46, 73, 74, 61, 66, 85, 99, 86, 100, 87, 101, 88, 102, 110, 89, 103, 90, 104, 111, 91, 105, 112, 62, 63, 28, 64, 47, 92, 106, 93 to 96, 21 to 23, 68, 97, 69, 24, 70, 98, 113, 107 and 65) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed.

4 Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Communities.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 15185/03, draft Council Regulation amending the Staff Regulations of officials and the Conditions of Employment of other servants of the European Communities; supports the Government’s view that this is a major step in the Commission’s reform programme in establishing a modernised human resources policy for the European Union institutions; and welcomes the adoption of the new Staff Regulations in promoting merit, efficiency, staff development and providing for significant long-term savings in the European Union budget—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.
5 Police.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Codes of Practice) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 27th May, be approved.—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.

6 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Nick Ainger);
And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

7 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till seven minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.07 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 25th June 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Public Accounts.—Treasury Minutes on the Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Eighteenth and Nineteenth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 2003–04 [Cm. 6244] [Ruth Kelly].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 25th June 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4 Legal Profession.—European Communities (Lawyer’s Practice) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1628), dated 25th June 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr David Lammy].

5 Social Security.—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1520), dated 19th June 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Smith].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 28th June 2004:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

6 Northern Ireland.—Draft Anti-social Behaviour (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

7 Road Traffic.—Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1519), dated 18th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

8 Further and Higher Education.—Account of the Higher Education Funding Council for England for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 793] [Clerk of the House].

9 Government Resources and Accounts.—Report of the Financial Reporting Advisory Board to the Treasury for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 634] [Mr Paul Boateng].

10 Government Trading Funds.—Report and Accounts of the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office for 2003-04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 657] [Clerk of the House].

11 Law Commission.—Report of the Law Commission for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 642] [Mr Christopher Leslie].
12 Pensions.—Report and Accounts of the Pensions Compensation Board for 6th April 2003 to 5th April 2004, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 672] [Clerk of the House].

13 Police.—Report of the Chief Surveillance Commissioner to the Prime Minister and to the Scottish Ministers for 2003–04, [by Act]; to be printed [No. 668] [The Prime Minister].

14 Proceeds of Crime.—Report of the Appointed Person for England and Wales and Northern Ireland for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

15 University of Manchester Bill [Lords].—Report by the Attorney General on the University of Manchester Bill [Lords] [by Standing Order] [The Solicitor General].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords] (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Hugo Swire in place of Mr Peter Atkinson as a member of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Revocation) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Christopher Chope from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Greg Knight.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills.—Third Report from the Education and Skills Committee [The Draft School Transport Bill], together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 509] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [The Sustainable Development Strategy: illusion or reality?]; to be printed [No. 624-iv] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

3 Public Accounts.—(1) Thirty-fifth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Early Years: Progress in developing high quality childcare and early education accessible to all]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 444];

(2) Thirty-sixth Report from the Committee [Tackling VAT Fraud]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 512];

(3) Thirty-seventh Report from the Committee [Risk management: The nuclear liabilities of British Energy plc]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 354];

(4) Thirty-eighth Report from the Committee [An early progress report on the New Deal for Communities programme]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 492]; and

(5) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Department for International Development: Responding to HIV/AIDS]; to be printed [No. 807-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

4 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Restoring confidence in long-term savings]; to be printed [No. 71-xii] [Mr John McFall].

THE SPEAKER’S CERTIFICATE

The Speaker certified that the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act 1911.
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Medway Council Bill.—The House proceeded to consider the Medway Council Bill.
   Bill to be read the third time.

2 Regulatory Reform.—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolution:
   That the proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Trading Stamps) Order 2004, which was laid before the House on 8th May, should be amended before a draft Order is laid before the House.

3 Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords].—Mr Win Griffiths reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto.
   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 129].
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 824].

4 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Nigel Beard reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Revocation) Order 2004.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—David Taylor reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Rights of Re-entry and Forfeiture (Prescribed Sum and Period) (England) Regulations 2004.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Mersey Tunnels Bill, without Amendment.

7 Anti-social Behaviour.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about anti-social behaviour: And that Mr Wayne David, Mark Tami, Siobhain McDonagh, Tony Lloyd, David Wright, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Peter Kilfoyle, Mr Parmjit Dhanda, Ian Lucas, Diana Organ, Mrs Jackie Lawrence and Chris Ruane do prepare and bring it in.

8 Anti-social Behaviour Bill.—Mr Wayne David accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about anti-social behaviour: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 128].

9 Adjournment (London schools).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Stephen Twigg);
   And it being Four o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put, pursuant to Order [24th June].

10 Public Accounts.—Resolved, That this House takes note of the 1st to the 16th, and the 18th and 19th Reports of the Committee of Public Accounts of Session 2003-04, and of the Treasury Minutes and the Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel Memorandum on these Reports, Cm. 6130, 6136, 6155, 6175, 6191 and 6244.—(Mr Edward Leigh.)

11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)
   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

   [Adjourned at 7.27 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland.—(1) Draft Criminal Justice (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, and (2) draft Vehicle Testing (Temporary Exemptions) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Environmental Protection.—Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1633), dated 28th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:


4 Government Trading Funds.—Report and Accounts of the Meteorological Office for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 578] [Clerk of the House].

5 Intelligence Services.—Report of the Intelligence and Security Committee for 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6240] [The Prime Minister].

6 National Heritage.—Permanent and temporary allocations of items accepted in lieu of tax under the National Heritage Act 1980 for 2002–03 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

7 Parliamentary Commissioner.—First Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, Session 2003–04: Investigations Completed, July 2003 to June 2004 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 701] [Clerk of the House].

8 Police (Northern Ireland).—Report of the Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland for 2003–04 [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

9 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Petitions—

(1) [26th May] [two Petitions] from Councillor Dave Cross, Councillor Tom Skipp and others against the proposed closure of the Post Office in the High Road, Benfleet, Essex; and Miss Elizabeth Govier, Councillor Beverley Egan and others against the proposed closure of the Post Office at Victoria Corner, Benfleet, Essex

(2) [27th May] from Councillor Enid Isaacs, Councillor Norman Ladzrie and others against the proposed closure of the Post Office in Woodfield Road, Hadleigh, and for policies to enable Post Offices to remain open;

(3) [8th June] from residents of Southfield in the constituency of Putney against the proposed closure of Princes Way Post Office, Southfields; and

(4) [9th June] Mr Len Canter, Mr Vilbert Luthers, Mr A. R. Tregent and members of the Furzedown Project against the proposed closure of four post offices in Tooting, in the London Borough of Wandsworth [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

10 Terrorism.—Report of the Independent Assessor of Military Complaints Procedures in Northern Ireland for 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Revocation) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged David Borrow, Ms Karen Buck, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Frank Field, Helen Jackson, Mr Clive Soley and Mr David Wilshire from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution John Austin, Mr Harry Barnes, Ann Coffey, Mrs Helen Liddell, Tony Lloyd, Mr Mark Prisk and John Robertson.

2 Draft Rights of Re-Entry and Forfeiture (Prescribed Sum and Period) (England) Regulations 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Brian Jenkins from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Dave Watts.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Draft Criminal Defence Service Bill]; to be printed [No. 746-ii] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [BBC Charter Renewal]; to be printed [No. 598-iv] [Sir Gerald Kaufman].

3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Food Information Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Food Information]; to be printed [No. 690-iii] [Mr Michael Jack].
The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The meeting began at half-past Nine o'clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Derek Twigg.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.29 p.m.]

The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock

PRAYERS.

1 University of Manchester Bill [Lords].—The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Committee on Unopposed Bills, that it had examined the allegations contained in the Preamble to the University of Manchester Bill [Lords] and found the same to be true; and had gone through the Bill and had directed her to report the same without Amendment.

Bill to be read the third time.

2 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Ipswich Market Bill, without Amendment.
3 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr David Amess reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Draft Discharge of Fines by Unpaid Work (Prescribed Hourly Sum) Regulations 2004. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 European Standing Committee B.—Mr Roger Gale reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum from HM Treasury dated 11th May 2004 relating to the Preliminary Draft General Budget of the European Communities for the financial year 2005; and supports the Government’s efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

5 Northern Ireland (Severe Learning Disability).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for the identification of persons in Northern Ireland with severe learning disability; to make provision for the assessment of their health, social care and other needs; to make provision for appropriate services for such persons and for independent advocates to act on their behalf; and for connected purposes: And that The Reverend Martin Smyth, Mr David Amess, Mr Roy Beggs, David Burnside, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson, Mr Tom Clarke, Lady Hermon, Mr Eddie McGrady, Lembit Öpik and Mr David Trimble do prepare and bring it in.

6 Northern Ireland (Severe Learning Disability) Bill.—The Reverend Martin Smyth accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for the identification of persons in Northern Ireland with severe learning disability; to make provision for the assessment of their health, social care and other needs; to make provision for appropriate services for such persons and for independent advocates to act on their behalf; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 130].

7 Opposition Day [14th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Regional Government.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House deplores the continuing confusion surrounding the Government’s regional policy; notes in particular that the disagreement about all-postal voting between the Government and the Electoral Commission has thrown into doubt plans for the referendums in the autumn on the Government’s proposed elected regional assemblies in the North of England; further notes the continuing splits in the Government over the powers that the proposed assemblies may be granted; regrets a similar lack of clarity relating to the projected costs of the proposed assemblies and of local government reorganisation; further notes that the Government’s information campaign on elected regional assemblies fails to resolve any of this confusion; demands that the draft Bill, setting out in detail the proposed powers of elected regional assemblies promised by the Government, be published in good time to be debated by this House before rising for the summer recess and that Government time be provided for such a debate; and further demands that any referendums should be conducted by a system that restores the voters’ choice to vote in person and in secret at polling stations on polling day, rather than by all-postal ballot—(Mr Bernard Jenkin);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes progress the Government is making in implementing its proposals for elected regional assemblies set out in the White Paper, Your Region, Your Choice: Revitalising the English Regions, based on the principles of increasing prosperity, pride and democracy in the regions; applauds the opportunity afforded to people in the three northern regions of England to have their say about whether they want an elected assembly for their region; welcomes the decision to hold the referendum by all-postal ballot while noting the Government’s preparedness to give a clear undertaking not to proceed with all-postal referendums as planned if the Electoral Commission produces convincing evidence leading to the conclusion that it would be unsafe to do so; welcomes the Government’s decision to have one assistance and delivery point per 50,000 electors, giving the choice as to whether to return their vote by post, to deliver it by hand, or to vote at a place supervised by electoral officials; further notes the Boundary Committee’s estimates of the savings from local government restructuring in regions which choose to establish an elected regional assembly; looks forward to the publication of the draft Bill which would establish elected assemblies, once the date for the referendums has been set by Parliament; commends the Government’s endeavours to ensure that people voting in the referendums have information on which to base their choice; and notes that the principal confusion about regional policy appears to be on the Opposition benches’, instead thereof.—(Mr Nick Raynsford.)
And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 119.

Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Charlotte Atkins: 320.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes progress the Government is making in implementing its proposals for elected regional assemblies set out in the White Paper, Your Region, Your Choice: Revitalising the English Regions, based on the principles of increasing prosperity, pride and democracy in the regions; applauds the opportunity afforded to people in the three northern regions of England to have their say about whether they want an elected assembly for their region; welcomes the decision to hold the referendum by all-postal ballot while noting the Government’s preparedness to give a clear undertaking not to proceed with all-postal referendums as planned if the Electoral Commission produces convincing evidence leading to the conclusion that it would be unsafe to do so; welcomes the Government’s decision to have one assistance and delivery point per 50,000 electors, giving the choice as to whether to return their vote by post, to deliver it by hand, or to vote at a place supervised by electoral officials; further notes the Boundary Committee’s estimates of the savings from local government restructuring in regions which choose to establish an elected regional assembly; looks forward to the publication of the draft Bill which would establish elected assemblies, once the date for the referendums has been set by Parliament; commends the Government’s endeavours to ensure that people voting in the referendums have information on which to base their choice; and notes that the principal confusion about regional policy appears to be on the Opposition benches.

Business Deregulation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House regrets the decision of the Government to replace ‘deregulation’ with ‘better regulation’ and condemns its failure to deliver deregulation for British business; is alarmed that the Government is unable to quantify the number of new regulations generated since 1997; deplores the fact that the total cost of major regulations to business approved since 1998 now exceeds £30 billion, and notes with concern the negative consequences this is having and will have on small businesses in particular; further condemns the Government’s decision to agree to a European Constitutional Treaty that will extend the legislative competences of the European Commission; calls on the Government to take urgent measures to reduce the burden of complex and European regulation on British business; and further condemns Labour MEPs for voting in the European Parliament in favour of the Agency Workers Directive and the extension of the Working Time Directive in the UK,—(Mr Stephen O’Brien);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the Government’s commitment to better regulation and enterprise, which has contributed to the UK becoming one of the best locations in the world in which to start and run a business; welcomes the recent independent endorsements of the UK’s light touch regulatory environment; applauds the deregulatory initiatives brought forward since 1997 which have contributed to a significant decline in the total number of regulations imposing a cost on British business; rejects outright the allegations claiming that the regulatory burden on business now exceeds £30 billion; supports measures taken to improve the regulatory environment for smaller businesses such as the removal of statutory audit requirements for small and medium-sized enterprises and the introduction of two specific commencement dates for employment regulations; congratulates the Government on signing up to the new European Constitution which promotes competitiveness and flexibility and which will ensure that national governments have new powers to scrutinise EU regulatory proposals; notes with concern proposals put forward by the Opposition which would damage Britain’s relationship with Europe to the detriment of British business by withdrawing the UK from the world’s largest common market; recognises the Government’s constructive stance on the Agency Workers and Working Time Directives where it has maintained a position that promotes both fairness and flexibility; and calls on the Opposition to examine its own European policies which are consistently flouted by its own MEPs and Party members’, instead thereof.—(Jacqui Smith.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;

Mr Patrick McLoughlin rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.
And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.
And the Question being accordingly put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Randall, Mr David Ruffley: 114.
Tellers for the Noes, Margaret Moran, Jim Fitzpatrick: 320.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Margaret Moran: 261.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr John Randall: 153.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the Government’s commitment to better regulation and enterprise, which has contributed to the UK becoming one of the best locations in the world in which to start and run a business; welcomes the recent independent endorsements of the UK’s light touch regulatory environment; applauds the deregulatory initiatives brought forward since 1997 which have contributed to a significant decline in the total number of regulations imposing a cost on British business; rejects outright the allegations claiming that the regulatory burden on business now exceeds £30 billion; supports measures taken to improve the regulatory environment for smaller businesses such as the removal of statutory audit requirements for small and medium-sized enterprises and the introduction of two specific commencement dates for employment regulations; congratulates the Government on signing up to the new European Constitution which promotes competitiveness and flexibility and which will ensure that national governments have new powers to scrutinise EU regulatory proposals; notes with concern proposals put forward by the Opposition which would damage Britain’s relationship with Europe to the detriment of British business by withdrawing the UK from the world’s largest common market; recognises the Government’s constructive stance on the Agency Workers and Working Time Directives where it has maintained a position that promotes both fairness and flexibility; and calls on the Opposition to examine its own European policies which are consistently flouted by its own MEPs and Party members.

8 Supreme Court of Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Maximum Number of Judges (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 10th June, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

9 Constitutional Law (Scotland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Transfer of Functions to the Scottish Ministers, etc.) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 20th May, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

10 Constitutional Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 26th May, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

11 Constitutional Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scottish Public Services Ombudsman Act 2002 (Consequential Provisions and Modifications) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 26th May, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

12 Civil Aviation.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Transport Act 2000 (Consequential Amendment) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 7th June, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

13 Regulatory Reform.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 18 (Consideration of draft regulatory reform orders), That the draft Regulatory Reform (Patents) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 7th June, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.
Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Vernon Coaker);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then one minute to Eight o’clock, till tomorrow.

Adjourned at 7.59 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Acquisition of Land,—Home Loss Payments (Prescribed Amounts) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1631), dated 28th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

4 Broadcasting,—(1) Report, and
(2) Statement of Accounts of S4C for 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

5 Duchies of Lancaster and Cornwall,—Report and Financial Statements of the Duchy of Cornwall for the year ended 31st March 2004 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 744] [Ruth Kelly].


7 Industrial Training,—Report, Financial Statement and Accounts of the Engineering Construction Industry Training Board for 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

8 Local Government,—Proposal for a draft Local Authorities’ Plans and Strategies (Disapplication) Order 2004, with a statement by the Deputy Prime Minister [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

9 Miscellaneous (No. 6, 2004),—Protocol, done at New York on 15th November 2000, against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6257] [Mr Secretary Straw].

10 National Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Introducing Gas Central Heating in Housing Executive Homes [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 725] [Clerk of the House].

11 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Petition [24th May] from Jean Hourihan, Kathy Barnes, Mr and Mrs H. C. Pateland others against the closure of Kinfauns Post Office in Hornchurch [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

12 Treaty Series (No. 21, 2004),—First Supplementary List of Ratifications, Accessions, Withdrawals, etc., for 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6259] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Landfill (Scheme Year and Maximum Landfill Amount) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Norman Baker, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Crispin Blunt, Ms Karen Buck, Mr William Cash, Tony Cunningham, Sue Doughty, Mrs Lorna Fitzsimons, Dr Hywel Francis, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Helen Jackson, Miss Anne McIntosh, Mr Elliot Morley, Mr Bill Tynan and Mr David Wilshire.
2 Draft Dangerous Wild Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Ainsworth, Colin Burgon, David Burriside, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Wayne David, Mr Tom Harris, Anne Picking, Mr Stephen Pound, Jonathan Shaw, Angela Smith, Bob Spink, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Ian Taylor, Joan Walley and Mrs Betty Williams.

3 Draft Discharge of Fines by Unpaid Work (Prescribed Hourly Sum) Regulations 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Anne Campbell from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Parmjit Dhanda.

4 Draft Social Security (Income Support and Jobseeker’s Allowance) Amendment Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Tony Baldry, David Cairns, Mr James Clappison, Mrs Helen Clark, Mr Frank Dobson, Mr George Foulkes, Paul Holmes, Mr Peter Mandelson, Margaret Moran, Mr George Osborne, Mr Ken Purchase, Mr Geoffrey Robinson, Mr Graham Stringer and Steve Webb.

5 Draft Courts Act 2003 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Bridget Prentice from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Derek Twigg.

6 Draft Solicitors (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Stephen Byers, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Michael Clapham, Mr Vernon Coaker, Angela Eagle, Lady Hermon, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Robert Jackson, Mr Kevin McNamara, Chris Mole, Mr Archie Norman, Mr Ian Pearson, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Hugo Swire, Gareth Thomas and Dr Alan Whitehead.

7 Draft Immigration (Provision of Physical Data) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Desmond Browne, Chris Bryant, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Harry Cohen, Jeff Ennis, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Mr Iain Luke, Mr Humfrey Malins, Kali Mountford, Mr Denis Murphy, Mr Mark Oaten, Bridge Prentice, Sir Teddy Taylor, Dr Desmond Turner and Mr John Wilkinson.

8 Draft Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Designation of Public Authorities) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr John Battle, Peter Bottomley, Mr Vernon Coaker, John Cryer, Denzil Davies, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr Tom Harris, Mr Peter Lilley, Rob Marris, Lembit Opik, Mr John Spellar, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr David Trimble, Dr Rudi Vis and Ann Winterton.

9 Motion relating to the Electoral Commission:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Motion to the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Colin Challen, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Michael Fallon, Mr John Greenway, Mr Oliver Heald, Mr David Heath, Stephen Hesford, Martin Linton, Chris McCafferty, Andrew Mackinlay, Mr Dennis Skinner, Mr Clive Soley, Mr Paul Stinchcombe, Mr Paul Tyler and Mr Phil Woolas.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Tony Banks, Peter Bradley, Barbara Follett, Andrew George, Mr James Gray, Mr Nick Hawkins, Lynne Jones, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Alun Michael, Dan Norris, Llew Smith, Mr Roger Williams, Mr Michael Wills, Mr David Wilshire and Mr Brian Wilson.

11 Draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to Broadcast Advertising) and Specification of Relevant Functions Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Ben Chapman, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Jane Griffiths, Mr Dai Havard, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr Peter Lilley, Alice Mahon, Linda Perham, Bob Russell, Mr Adrian Sanders, Mr Richard Shepherd and Mr Robert N. Wareing.

12 Draft Age-Related Payments (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourteenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Vernon Coaker, Clive Efford, Mr Frank Field, Mr Tom Harris, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Lembit Öpik, Jim Sheridan, Mr John Spellar, Bob Spink, Rachel Squire, Mr Hugo Swire and Derek Wyatt.

European Standing Committees

13 European Union Document No. 9675/04, relating to the Europe 2005 Action Plan, has been referred to European Standing Committee C.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Duty of Care]; to be printed [No. 620-iii] [Bruce George].

2 Draft Charities Bill,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Charities Bill; to be printed [No. 660-vii]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 660-viii] [Mr Alan Milburn].

3 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Prison Education]; to be printed [No. 825-i] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—(1) Eleventh Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [GM Planting Regime]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the GM Planting Regime Sub-Committee of the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 607];
   (2) Twelfth Report from the Committee [Reform of the Sugar Regime], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Reform of the Sugar Regime Sub-Committee of the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 550];
   (3) Thirteenth Report from the Committee [Bovine TB], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 638];
   (4) Fourteenth Report from the Committee [Sites of Special Scientific Interest: conserving the jewels of England’s natural heritage], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sites of Special Scientific Interest Sub-Committee of the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 475];
   (5) Memoranda laid before the Committee [GM Planting Regime];
   (6) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Bovine TB];
   (7) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Sites of Special Scientific Interest]; and
   (8) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Dismantling defunct ships in the UK]; to be printed [No. 834-i] [Mr Michael Jack].
5 European Scrutiny.—Twenty-fifth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxv] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Human Rights.—Fourteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill: New Clauses]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 828] [Jean Corston].

7 Northern Ireland Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Social Housing Provision in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 493-vii] [Mr Tony Clarke].

8 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Improving the Speed and Quality of Asylum Decisions]; to be printed [No. 837-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

9 Science and Technology.—(1) Ninth Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Director General of the Research Councils: Introductory Hearing]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 577]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Human reproductive technologies and the law]; to be printed [No. 599-iii] [Dr Ian Gibson].

10 Transport.—(1) Thirteenth Report from the Transport Committee [The Rail Regulator’s last consultations]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 805];
   (2) Fourteenth Report from the Committee [The Work of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency], together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 500]; and
   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Financial Protection for Air Travellers and Package Holidaymakers]; to be printed [No. 806-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

11 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [Inland Revenue Spring Departmental Report 2004]; to be printed [No. 835-i] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 111; WH, No. 69]

Wednesday 30th June 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.29 p.m.]

[No. 112.]

Thursday 1st July 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords].—Mrs Irene Adams reported from Standing Committee F, That it had gone through the Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords], and made an Amendment thereunto.

   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Monday 5th July.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 838].

2 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Courts Act 2003 (Consequential Amendment) Order 2004.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.
3 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Eric Illsley reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004 and draft Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords do not insist on their Amendments to the Higher Education Bill to which this House has disagreed; they agree, without Amendment, to the Amendments proposed by this House in lieu of an Amendment; and they agree, without Amendment, to the Amendments proposed by this House to the remaining Lords Amendments.

The Lords have agreed to the Age-Related Payments Bill, without Amendment.

5 Royal Assent.—The Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, That Her Majesty had signified her Royal Assent to the following Acts, agreed upon by both Houses:

- Gender Recognition Act 2004
- Higher Education Act 2004
- Mersey Tunnels Act 2004

6 Adjournment (Zimbabwe).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Charlotte Atkins);

And it being Six o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

7 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) Anna Peschek and others for speed restrictions in rural villages, and
(2) Mr R. Patel and others against the proposed closure of Earls Hall Parade Post Office, Southend,

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

8 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Gillian Merron.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes past Six o’clock, adjourned till Monday 5th July.

[Adjourned at 6.28 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Atomic Energy and Radioactive Substances.—Draft Uranium Enrichment Technology (Prohibition on Disclosure) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

2 Education.—Draft Student Fees (Amounts) (England) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Education.—(1) Daventry Tertiary College (Dissolution) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1598), and
(2) Education (Student Support) (No. 2) Regulations 2002 (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1602) dated 23rd June 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

4 Health Care and Associated Professions.—Nursing and Midwifery Council (Fees) Rules Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1654), dated 9th June 2004 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Reid].

5 Income Tax.—(1) Individual Savings Account (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1677), and
(2) Personal Equity Plan (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1676) dated 1st July 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Ruth Kelly].
6 Value Added Tax.—Value Added Tax (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1675), dated 1st July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ruth Kelly].

Other Papers:

7 Government Resources and Accounts.—Report and Accounts of—
   (1) the Army Personnel Centre, and
   (2) the Duke of York’s Royal Military School
for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 758 and 643] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

8 Industrial Development,—Report for 2003–04 by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, the First Minister of the Scottish Executive and the First Secretary of the National Assembly for Wales under the Industrial Development Act 1982 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 787] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

9 Ombudsman (Northern Ireland).—Report of the Assembly Ombudsman for Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Complaints for 2003–04 [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 659] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

10 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on the Petition [20th January] from those living near Bromborough Waste Water Treatment Works, Merseyside, for remedial work to prevent odours from the works and for legislation on the subject [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

11 Ragwort Control.—Code of Practice on how to prevent the spread of Ragwort [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers withdrawn:

12 Atomic Energy and Radioactive Substances,—Draft Uranium Enrichment Technology (Prohibition on Disclosure) Regulations 2004 [laid 7th June].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Landfill (Scheme Year and Maximum Landfill Amount) Regulations 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

2 Draft Dangerous Wild Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Bob Spink from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Desmond Swayne.

3 Occupational Pensions Schemes (Winding Up and Deficiency on Winding Up etc.) (Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 403).—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Cummings Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

4 Draft Social Security (Income Support and Jobseeker’s Allowance) Amendment Regulations 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

5 Draft Solicitors (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Richard Shepherd from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Desmond Swayne.

6 Draft Chilterns Area of Outstanding Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004 and the draft Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged John Austin, Mr Stephen Byers and Dr Nick Palmer from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders) and nominated in substitution Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Mark Hendrick and Mr Brian Sedgemore.

7 Draft Tobacco Advertising and Promotion (Brandsharing) Regulations 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.
8 Draft Immigration ( Provision of Physical Data) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004,—
The Speaker has appointed Derek Conway Chairman of the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

9 Draft Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Designation of Public Authorities) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman of the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Peter Lilley from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Desmond Swayne.

10 Motion relating to the Electoral Commission,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman of the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Motion.

11 Horse Passports (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1397),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

12 Draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to Broadcasting Advertising) and Specification of Relevant Functions Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman of the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

13 Draft Age-Related Payments (Northern Ireland) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Crispin Blunt from the Fourteenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Desmond Swayne.

Grand Committees

14 The Speaker has appointed Mr Win Griffiths Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in respect of its meetings on 6th July.

15 The Speaker has appointed Mr James Cran Chairman of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee in respect of its meeting on 8th July.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Gambling Bill (Regional Casinos),—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill (Regional Casinos); to be printed [No. 843-i] [Mr John Greenway].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [The Provision of Allergy Services]; to be printed [No. 696-ii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Sentencing Guidelines]; to be printed [No. 844-i] [Mr John Denham].

4 Transport,—Letter from the Rail Regulator laid before the Transport Committee [The Rail Regulator’s last consultations] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

[No. 112; WH, No. 70]

Thursday 1st July 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Elder Abuse—Second Report from the Health Committee, Session 2003–04, and the Government’s Response thereto),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Dr Stephen Ladyman.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 6th July.

[Adjourned at 5.02 p.m.]
Monday 5th July 2004.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Landfill (Scheme Year and Maximum Landfill Amount) Regulations 2004.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Dangerous Wild Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords agree to the Consolidated Fund ( Appropriation) Bill, without Amendment.

   Civil Partnership Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to make provision for and in connection with civil partnership, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

   University of Wales, Cardiff Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to dissolve the University of Wales College of Medicine; to transfer all rights, properties and liabilities of the said College to the University of Wales, Cardiff; to make provision as to the funds held by or on behalf of the University of Wales, Cardiff; and for connected and other purposes, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Civil Partnership Bill [Lords].—The Civil Partnership Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 132].
   Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Civil Partnership Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 132–EN].

5 University of Wales, Cardiff Bill [Lords].—The University of Wales, Cardiff Bill [Lords] was read the first time.
   Bill referred to the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills.

6 Foundation for Unclaimed Assets Bill,—Mr Frank Field, supported by Mr Jon Owen Jones, Derek Wyatt, Kevin Brennan, Mr David Willetts, Mr Nigel Waterson, Steve Webb, Annabelle Ewing, Sandra Osborne, The Reverend Marini Smyth, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson and Adam Price, presented a Bill to establish the Foundation for Unclaimed Assets and make provision as to its functions: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 131].

7 Opposition Day [15th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.
   Postal Services,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes the failure of Royal Mail plc to deliver first and second class mail reliably and on time and regrets the damage this is doing to businesses and private customers alike; notes with particular dismay the threatened closure in Leicester of the Knighton Church Road Post Office, Knighton, and the East Park Road Post Office, Spinney Hills; calls on the Government to end the uncertainty facing the future of rural post offices as a result of the Government’s refusal to announce further funding until after 2006; deplores the inadequate consultation procedure of the Urban Reinvention Programme despite the Government’s recent announcement to review urgently the arrangements for the consultation currently employed; expresses continued concern about the Government’s implementation of the different Direct Payment options which has caused significant problems particularly for elderly and disabled customers in Stechford, Shard End and Hodge Hill in Birmingham; condemns the Government for its failure adequately to promote the take-up of Post Office Card Accounts; and further calls on the Government to provide more details on the implementation of the Exceptions Service—(Michael Fabricant);
   An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘supports the Government’s strategy for a viable Post Office network; welcomes the delivery by Royal Mail of 93 per cent. of first class letters the next day in the first half of 2003–04; shares the Government’s disappointment over the drop in performance since then, which rightly falls short of customers’ expectations: calls on Royal Mail and the unions to work together to improve the quality of service; notes that the closure of any post office is
regrettable but supports the Government’s view that, without rationalisation, unplanned closures would continue, leaving damaging gaps in the network; supports the Government’s commitment to ensure that at least 95 per cent. of the urban population will live within one mile of their nearest post office; supports the Government’s commitment to ensure funding of rural post offices until at least 2006; welcomes the changes to the urban reinvention consultation process and the extension of the consultation process from four to six weeks; supports the Government’s move to Direct Payment and welcomes the fact that already more than half of customers are getting their benefits, pensions and tax credits paid straight into accounts, of which 3.2 million are Post Office card accounts; notes that the Opposition wasted millions of pounds of taxpayers’ money on the Benefit Payment Card scheme; supports the facility for those who cannot be paid through an account, particularly the most vulnerable older people, to receive a cheque payment; and recognises that change was needed and congratulates the Government for its strong, decisive action’, instead thereof.—(Mr Stephen Timms.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mark Francois, Hugh Robertson: 163.
Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 253.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments)—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House supports the Government’s strategy for a viable Post Office network; welcomes the delivery by Royal Mail of 93 per cent. of first class letters the next day in the first half of 2003–04; shares the Government’s disappointment over the drop in performance since then, which rightly falls short of customers’ expectations; calls on Royal Mail and the unions to work together to improve the quality of service; notes that the closure of any post office is regrettable but supports the Government’s view that, without rationalisation, unplanned closures would continue, leaving damaging gaps in the network; supports the Government’s commitment to ensure that at least 95 per cent. of the urban population will live within one mile of their nearest post office; supports the Government’s commitment to ensure funding of rural post offices until at least 2006; welcomes the changes to the urban reinvention consultation process and the extension of the consultation process from four to six weeks; supports the Government’s move to Direct Payment and welcomes the fact that already more than half of customers are getting their benefits, pensions and tax credits paid straight into accounts, of which 3.2 million are Post Office card accounts; notes that the Opposition wasted millions of pounds of taxpayers’ money on the Benefit Payment Card scheme; supports the facility for those who cannot be paid through an account, particularly the most vulnerable older people, to receive a cheque payment; and recognises that change was needed and congratulates the Government for its strong, decisive action.

Personal Indebtedness and Savings.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that household indebtedness has now reached £1 trillion; is concerned that the household savings rate has halved since 1997; and believes that the Government, through the extension of dependency on means-tested benefits in retirement, its attack on the tax advantages of savings vehicles, and its £5 billion a year raid on pension funds, has diminished incentives to save—(Mr Oliver Letwin);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘believes that a strong and stable economy is the foundation of families’ confidence in their own finances; notes that economic stability has delivered low and stable inflation, interest rates have been at their lowest since the 1950s, employment is at a record high and unemployment at its lowest since the 1970s; further notes that as a result households are better able to judge their long-term commitments as macroeconomic stability has reduced the risks to household finances of sudden and sharp rises in interest rates as seen in the past; believes that the Government has tackled the scandals it inherited and created a world leading system of financial regulation allowing people to save with confidence, simplified savings markets allowing people to make informed choices about what and how to save and taken action to tackle financial exclusion; recognises that most households do have affordable and that total interest payments are now 7.6 per cent. of disposal income compared with 15 per cent. in 1990; believes the biggest risk to household finances and consumer confidence would be a return to economic instability; and rejects the short-term boom and bust economic policies of the past that saw interest rates hit 15 per cent. and inflation hit 10 per cent. in which circumstances households had to save more to make up for the loss of value of their savings due to inflation and prepare in the event of becoming unemployed’, instead thereof.—(Mr Paul Boateng.)
And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question; Mr Peter Luff rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put. And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to. And the Question being accordingly put; The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 165.

Tellers for the Noes, Joan Ryan, Margaret Moran: 269.

So the Question was negatived. And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments); The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Joan Ryan, Margaret Moran: 264.

Tellers for the Noes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Mark Francois: 162.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House believes that a strong and stable economy is the foundation of families’ confidence in their own finances; notes that economic stability has delivered low and stable inflation, interest rates have been at their lowest since the 1950s, employment is at a record high and unemployment at its lowest since the 1970s; further notes that as a result households are better able to judge their long-term commitments as macroeconomic stability has reduced the risks to household finances of sudden and sharp rises in interest rates as seen in the past; believes that the Government has tackled the scandals it inherited and created a world leading system of financial regulation allowing people to save with confidence, simplified savings markets allowing people to make informed choices about what and how to save and taken action to tackle financial exclusion; recognises that most household debt remains affordable and that total interest payments are now 7.6 per cent. of disposal income compared with 15 per cent. in 1990; believes the biggest risk to household finances and consumer confidence would be a return to economic instability; and rejects the short-term boom and bust economic policies of the past that saw interest rates hit 15 per cent. and inflation hit 10 per cent. in which circumstances households had to save more to make up for the loss of value of their savings due to inflation and prepare in the event of becoming unemployed.

8 Landlord and Tenant,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Rights of Re-entry and Forfeiture (Prescribed Sum and Period) (England) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 7th June, be approved.—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.

9 Civil Aviation,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Revocation) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 8th June, be approved.—(Mr Nick Ainger);

And the Deputy Speaker’s opinion as to the decision of the Question being challenged, the Division was deferred till Wednesday 7th July, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Deferred divisions)].

10 Criminal Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Discharge of Fines by Unpaid Work (Prescribed Hourly Sum) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 10th June, be approved.—(Mr Nick Ainger);—It was agreed to.

11 Preliminary Draft Budget 2005,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of the unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum from HM Treasury dated 11th May 2004 relating to the Preliminary Draft General Budget of the European Communities for the financial year 2005; and supports the Government’s efforts to maintain budget discipline in the Community.—(Mr Nick Ainger);—It was agreed to.

12 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Wilmslow, Cheshire, and the surrounding area against plans by Tesco to close the Finney Green Post Office; and
(2) the congregation of St Edward’s Roman Catholic Church in Romford, Essex, against the threatened closure of Romford’s post offices were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Nick Ainger);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then two minutes past Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.02 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 2nd July 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Treaty Series (No. 25, 2004).—Protocol, adopted at Kingston on 27th March 1998, on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Seabed Authority [Cm. 6260] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 2nd July 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Environmental Protection.—Passenger Car (Fuel Consumption and CO₂ Emissions Information) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1661), dated 29th June 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 5th July 2004:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

3 Family Law.—Draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

4 Food.—Charges for Inspections and Controls (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1697), dated 5th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

5 Plant Health.—The Plant Health (Export Certification) (Forestry) (Great Britain) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1684), dated 30th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


7 Terms and Conditions of Employment.—Redundancy Payments (Continuity of Employment in Local Government, etc.) (Modification) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No.1682), dated 30th June 2004 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Other Papers:

8 Courts and Legal Services.—Report and Financial Statement of the Legal Services Ombudsman for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 729] [Mr David Lammy].

9 Government Resources and Accounts.—Report and Resource Accounts of the Office of Fair Trading for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]: to be printed [No. 739] [Ruth Kelly].

10 Government Trading Funds.—Report and Accounts of HM Land Registry for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]: to be printed [No. 753] [Clerk of the House].

11 Home Office.—Home Office Departmental Minute concerning a contingent liability for the provision of an indemnity in respect of new detection technology (NDT), the structures housing it, and to the operators of NDT [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

12 Housing.—Reports and Accounts of Tower Hamlets Housing Action Trust for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
13 New Roads and Street Works.—Annual Report to Parliament for 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

14 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for Transport on the Petition [16th June] from residents of Faversham, Kent, and supporters of Kingsfield Traffic Action Group for traffic calming measures and a 20 mph speed limit in parts of Kingsfield, Faversham [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].


16 Standards and Privileges.—Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards for 2003–04 [by Standing Order]; to be printed [No. 716] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Dangerous Wild Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Colin Burgon from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Anthony D. Wright.

2 Draft Social Security (Income Support and Jobseeker’s Allowance) Amendment Regulations 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr George Foulkes from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Peter Kilfoyle.

3 Draft Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Designation of Public Authorities) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ann Winterton from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Peter Lilley.

4 Draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to Broadcast Advertising) and Specification of Relevant Functions Order 2004:

   (1) The Speaker has appointed Sir Nicholas Winterton Chairman of the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order in place of Mr Peter Pike; and

   (2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown from the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr John Randall.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 International Development.—(1) Fourth Special Report from the International Development Committee (Government Response to the Committee’s Fourth Report, on Kenya: DFID’s Country Assistance Plan 2004–07 and progress towards the Millennium Development Goals); to be printed [No. 857]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [DFID’s bilateral programme of assistance to India]; to be printed [No. 692-ii] [Tony Baldry].

2 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Beagle 2]; to be printed [No. 711-i] [Dr Ian Gibson].

3 Transport.—Fifteenth Report from the Transport Committee [Financial Protection for Air Travellers]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 806-I] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].
Tuesday 6th July 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 University of Manchester Bill [Lords],—A Motion being made, That the University of Manchester Bill [Lords] be now read the third time;

The Chairman of Ways and Means, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, that Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her consent, as far as Her Majesty’s prerogative and interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being put:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

2 Medway Council Bill,—The Medway Council Bill was read the third time, and passed.

3 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords],—Dame Marion Roe reported from Standing Committee E, That it had gone through the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 134].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 867].

4 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Eric Illsley reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Social Security (Income Support and Jobseeker’s Allowance) Amendment Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill O’Brien reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Solicitors (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Welsh Grand Committee,—Mr Win Griffiths reported from the Welsh Grand Committee, That it had considered the matter of the Report of the Richard Commission, referred to it on 26th May.

7 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Gangmasters (Licensing) Bill, without Amendment.

Statute Law (Repeals) Bill [Lords],—The Lords have passed a Bill to promote the reform of the statute law by the repeal, in accordance with recommendations of the Law Commission and the Scottish Law Commission, of certain enactments which (except in so far as their effect is preserved) are no longer of practical utility, and to make other provision in connection with the repeal of those enactments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

8 Statute Law (Repeals) Bill [Lords],—The Statute Law (Repeals) Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 135].

9 Buses (Concessionary Fares),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about concessionary fares on buses for elderly persons: And that Mr Michael Foster, Peter Bradley, Mr Alan Campbell, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Parmjit Dhanda, Mr David Drew and Mr James Plaskitt do prepare and bring it in.

10 Buses (Concessionary Fares) Bill,—Mr Michael Foster accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about concessionary fares on buses for elderly persons: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 133].

11 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, notwithstanding the practice of the House as to the intervals between stages of Bills brought in upon Ways and Means Resolutions, more than one stage of the Finance Bill may be taken at any sitting of the House.—(Dawn Primarolo.)

12 Finance Bill [Ways and Means],—Rent factoring of leases of plant or machinery,—Resolved, That provision may be made in the Finance Bill for the purposes of income tax and corporation tax in relation to arrangements for the transfer of a person’s right to receive rentals under a lease of plant or machinery.—(Dawn Primarolo.)
13 Finance Bill [Ways and Means].—Manufactured dividends and interest.—Resolved. That provision may be made in the Finance Bill in relation to payments, and deemed payments, by companies of—
(a) manufactured dividends,
(b) manufactured interest, or
(c) manufactured overseas dividends,
within the meaning of Schedule 23A to the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.—(Dawn Primarolo.)

14 Finance Bill [Ways and Means].—Gifts etc. of shares, securities or real property to charities.—Resolved. That provision may be made in the Finance Bill amending section 587B of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.—(John Healey.)

15 Finance Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Finance Bill, as amended in the Committee and in the Standing Committee.

Ordered, That the Finance Bill, as amended, be considered in the following order, namely, new Clauses, Amendments relating to Clauses 1 to 4, Schedule 1, Clauses 5 to 19, Schedule 2, Clauses 20 to 28, Schedule 3, Clause 29, Schedule 4, Clause 30, Schedule 5, Clauses 31 to 41, Schedule 6, Clauses 42 to 47, Schedule 7, Clause 48, Schedule 8, Clause 49, Schedule 9, Clauses 50 to 52, Schedule 10, Clauses 53 to 64, Schedule 11, Clauses 65 to 76, Schedule 12, Clauses 77 and 78, Schedule 13, Clauses 79 and 80, Schedule 14, Clauses 81 to 84, Schedule 15, Clause 85, Schedule 16, Clauses 86 to 92, Schedule 17, Clause 93, Schedule 18, Clause 94, Schedule 19, Clause 95, Schedule 20, Clauses 96 to 116, Schedule 21, Clause 117, Schedule 22, Clauses 118 to 134, Schedule 23, Clause 135, Schedule 24, Clauses 136 to 141, Schedule 25, Clause 142, Schedule 26, Clause 143, Schedule 27, Clauses 144 to 162 and 164, Schedule 28, Clauses 163 and 165, Schedule 29, Clauses 166 to 175, Schedule 30, Clauses 176 to 200, Schedule 31, Clauses 201 to 212, Schedule 32, Clauses 213 to 275, Schedule 33, Clauses 276 and 277, Schedule 34, Clauses 278 and 279, Schedule 35, Clause 280, Schedule 36, Clauses 281 to 290, Schedule 37, Clauses 291 and 292, Schedule 38, Clauses 293 to 296, Schedule 39, Clauses 297 to 317, new Schedules, Amendments relating to Clause 318, Schedule 40 and Clauses 319 and 320.—(Dawn Primarolo.)

A Clause (NC9) (Rent factoring of leases of plant or machinery)—(Dawn Primarolo)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC10) (Manufactured payments under arrangements having an unallowable purpose)—(Dawn Primarolo)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC11) (Gifts of shares, securities and real property to charities etc)—(John Healey)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC12) (Overseas pension schemes: migrant member relief)—(Ruth Kelly)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC13) (Non-UK schemes: application of certain charges)—(Ruth Kelly)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC14) (Appeal against decision to exclude recognised overseas pension scheme)—(Ruth Kelly)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC15) (Leases)—(Ruth Kelly)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC16) (Chargeable consideration)—(Ruth Kelly)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC2) (Access for disabled persons)—(Mr Richard Bacon)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC5) (Amendment of Individual Savings Account Regulations 1998 (SI 1998/1870))—(Mr Mark Prisk)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC7) (Application of sections 298 to 301)—(Mr Howard Flight)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Mark Francois, Mr Hugo Swire: 128.

Tellers for the Noes, Charlotte Atkins, Joan Ryan: 268.
Amendment (No. 35) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 11, to leave out Clause No. 4.—(Mr David Laws.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Alan Reid, Sir Robert Smith: 147.

Tellers for the Noes, Margaret Moran, Charlotte Atkins: 252.

Amendments (Nos. 50 to 70) made to the Bill.

Ordered, That further consideration of the Bill be now adjourned.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

Bill to be further considered to-morrow.

16 Supreme Court of England and Wales.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Courts Act 2003 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 10th June, be approved—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.

17 Countryside.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Chiltern Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 16th June, be approved—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.

18 Countryside.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Establishment of Conservation Board) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 16th June, be approved—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.

19 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Coventry against the proposed closure of sub-post offices in Coventry was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

20 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Nick Ainger);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then five minutes past Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.05 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Tests) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1632), dated 28th June 2004 [by Statutory Instrument], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].


Other Papers:

5 Charities,—Report and Accounts of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 676-I and -II] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

6 Foreign Affairs,—Government Response to the Fourth Report of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, on the Annual Report on Human Rights 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6275] [Mr Secretary Straw].
7 Government Resources and Accounts.—Report and Accounts of the Army Training and Recruiting Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 799] [Mr Secretary Hoon].


9 House of Commons.—Report of the House of Commons Commission for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 791] [The Speaker].

10 Intelligence Services.—Government Response to the Report of the Intelligence and Security Committee for 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6241] [The Prime Minister].

11 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petitions [22nd June] from residents of Southfields in the constituency of Putney against certain planning applications made by the Orange mobile telephone company to the London Borough of Wandsworth, and for changes in the law relating to planning applications for the erection of mobile telephone masts in urban areas [three Petitions] [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

12 Trade and Investment.—Paper, entitled Trade and Investment White Paper: Making globalisation a force for good [by Command] [Cm. 6278] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Solicitors (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Angela Eagle from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Dan Norris.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—(1) Fourth Report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Civil Legal Aid: adequacy of provision], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 391-I];

(2) Third Special Report from the Committee [Further Government Response to the Committee's Second Report, on Asylum and Immigration Appeals]; to be printed [No. 868]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Draft Criminal Defence Service Bill]; to be printed [No. 746-iii]

[Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [BBC Charter Renewal]; to be printed [No. 598-v] [Sir Gerald Kaufman].

3 Draft Gambling Bill (Regional Casinos).—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill (Regional Casinos); to be printed [No. 843-ii and -iii] [Mr John Greenway].

4 Liaison.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Liaison Committee [The Prime Minister]; to be printed [No. 310-ii] [Mr Alan Williams].

5 Statutory Instruments.—Twenty-fourth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xxiv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

6 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Pubcos]; to be printed [No. 751-ii] [Mr Martin O'Neill].

7 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Regional Productivity]; to be printed [No. 308-iii] [Mr John McFall].
Tuesday 6th July 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Derek Twigg.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.29 p.m.]

[No. 115.]

Wednesday 7th July 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Cummings reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Occupational Pensions Schemes (Winding Up and Deficiency on Winding Up etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 403).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Tobacco Advertising and Promotion (Brandsharing) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Derek Conway reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Draft Immigration (Provision of Physical Data) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill, with Amendments, to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

5 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 137].

6 Domestic Tradable Quotas (Carbon Emissions),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to introduce a domestic trading scheme for carbon emissions; to set a national ceiling for carbon emissions; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Colin Challen, Mr Peter Ainsworth, Mr David Chaytor, Joan Walley, Mr Tony McWalter, Brian White, Mr John Battle, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Simon Thomas, Sue Doughty and Mr Gordon Prentice do prepare and bring it in.

7 Domestic Tradable Quotas (Carbon Emissions) Bill,—Mr Colin Challen accordingly presented a Bill to introduce a domestic trading scheme for carbon emissions; to set a national ceiling for carbon emissions; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 136].

8 Finance Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded further to consider the Finance Bill, as amended in the Committee and in the Standing Committee.

Another Amendment (No. 16) proposed to the Bill, in page 4, line 24, at the beginning, to insert the words ‘Subject to the provisions of subsection (7).’—(Mr Andrew Tyrie.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 109.

Tellers for the Noes, Derek Twigg, Gillian Merron: 250.

Another Amendment (No. 38) proposed to the Bill, in page 23, line 26, to leave out ‘19%’ and insert ‘5%’, instead thereof.—(Dr Vincent Cable.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 224) proposed to the Bill, in page 23, line 40, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(5) This section shall not apply to the income of a settlement in any year of assessment if the trustees of the settlement have elected that section 691(2) of the Taxes Act (certain income of maintenance funds for historic houses not to become the income of the settlor etc) shall have effect in the case of—

(a) the settlement, or
(b) any part of the settlement in relation to that year of assessment’.—(Mr Howard Flight.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 71 to 90) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 356, line 20, at the beginning, to insert the words ‘Subject to sub-paragraph (6) below.’.—(Mr Howard Flight.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 2) proposed to the Bill, in page 356, line 26, to leave out the words ‘17th March 1986’ and insert the words ‘19th June 2003’, instead thereof.—(Mr Howard Flight.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Peter Atkinson: 153.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Vernon Coaker: 265.

Other Amendments (Nos. 91 to 111) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 27) proposed to the Bill, in page 151, line 16, to leave out the words ‘70% of the basis amount for the alternatively secured pension year’ and insert the words ‘the greater of:

(i) the total amount of alternatively secured pension which could have been paid to the member in all previous alternatively secured pension years less the amount actually paid to the member in those alternatively secured pension years (“the undrawn alternatively secured pension”), and
(ii) 70% of the basis amount for that alternatively secured pension year (calculated after deducting from the sums and assets representing the member’s alternatively secured pension fund on the nominated date the amount of the undrawn alternatively secured pension).’, instead thereof.—(Mr George Osborne.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

9 Deferred Divisions.—The Deputy Speaker announced the results of the Division which had been deferred to this day, pursuant to the Orders of the House [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Deferred Divisions)]:

Civil Aviation,—That the draft Stansted Airport Aircraft Movement Limit (Revocation) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 8th June, be approved.

Ayes: 248.

Noes: 138.

So the Question was agreed to.

10 Finance Bill.—The House, according to Order, again proceeded further to consider the Finance Bill, as amended in the Committee and in the Standing Committee.

Other Amendments (Nos. 112 to 137) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 25) proposed to the Bill, in page 489, line 20, to leave out ‘25 x ARP’ and insert the words ‘the aggregate of—

(a) the amount of any lump sum paid to the individual, increased from the date of payment to 5th April 2006 by the lesser of 5% per annum and the increase in the retail prices index over that period; and
(b) 20 x ARP’, instead thereof.—(Mr Howard Flight.)
Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 138 to 149) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 13) proposed to the Bill, in page 522, line 9, to leave out ‘6%’ and insert ‘12%’ instead thereof.—(Mr Alex Salmond.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Other Amendments (Nos. 160 to 165, 150 to 159 and 166 to 222) made to the Bill.

A Schedule (NS1) (Overseas Pension Schemes: Migrant Member Relief)—(Dawn Primarolo)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Schedule (NS2) (Non-UK Schemes: Application of Certain Charges)—(Dawn Primarolo)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 223) made to the Bill.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Dawn Primarolo, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her Consent, as far as Her Majesty’s interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

Dawn Primarolo, by Command of the Prince of Wales, acquainted the House, That His Royal Highness, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives his Consent, as far as the Prince of Wales’s interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Paul Clark: 249.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Gregory Barker: 136.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed.

11 Environmental Protection.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Landfill (Scheme Year and Maximum Landfill Amount) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 22nd June, be approved—(Derek Twigg):—It was agreed to.

12 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Dangerous Wild Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 22nd June, be approved—(Derek Twigg):—It was agreed to.

13 Regulatory Reform,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 18 (Consideration of draft regulatory reform orders), That the draft Regulatory Reform (Museum of London) (Location of Premises) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 6th May, be approved—(Derek Twigg):—It was agreed to.

14 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group and supporters for amendments to planning and settlement guidelines to prevent racial discrimination against Romani and other ethnic Traveller peoples was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

15 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Nick Ainger);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty minutes to Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Education.—Draft Student Fees (Approved Plans) (England) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 British Nationality.—British Nationality (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1726), dated 7th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Education.—Education (Grants for Disabled Postgraduate Students) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1658), dated 29th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].


5 Licences and Licensing.—Licensing Act 2003 (First appointed day and personal licences transitional period) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1651), dated 25th June 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].


7 Medicines.—Medicines (Standard Provisions for Licences and Certificates) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1678), dated 30th June 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

8 Sports Grounds and Sporting Events.—Football Spectators (Seating) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1737), dated 7th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

Other Papers:

9 National Audit (Northern Ireland).—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Department for Employment and Learning: Jobskills [by Statutory Instrument]: to be printed [No. 762] [Clerk of the House].


11 Telecommunications.—Direction, dated 5th July 2004, by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry under section 94 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

12 Treaty Series (No. 26, 2004).—Exchange of Notes, done at Lusaka on 7th April 2003 and 24th March 2004, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Zambia concerning Certain Commercial Debts (The United Kingdom/Zambia Debt Agreement No. 8 (2002)) [by Command] [Cm. 6262] [Mr Secretary Straw].

13 Treaty Series (No. 27, 2004).—Agreement, done at Dublin 25th November 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing the Independent Monitoring Commission [by Command] [Cm. 6263] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Uranium Enrichment Technology (Prohibition on Disclosure) Regulations 2004:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Ainsworth, Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Vera Baird, Brian Cotter, Mr Hilton Dawson, Angela Eagle, Michael Fabricant, Mrs Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr Edward Leigh, Rosemary McKenna, Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews, Ian Stewart, Mr Graham Stringer, Mr Andrew Stunell and Mr Stephen Timms.
2 Draft Community Radio Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr David Atkinson, Chris Bryant, Ms Karen Buck, Colin Burgon, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Don Foster, Mr Boris Johnson, John McDonnell, Estelle Morris, Mr Denis Murphy, Bob Russell, Joan Ryan, Bob Spink and Dr Howard Stoate.

3 Draft Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Amendment) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Harold Best, Mr Christopher Chope, Tom Cox, Mr Frank Doran, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Paul Farrelly, Barbara Follett, Mr David Heyes, Mr David Jamieson, Alan Keen, Mr Paul Marsden, Gillian Merron, Mr David Ruffley, Mrs Gillian Shephard and John Thurso.

4 Occupational Pensions Schemes (Winding Up and Deficiency on Winding Up etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 403),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Stephen Byers from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations) and nominated in substitution John Cryer.

5 Draft Anti-Social Behaviour (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 and the draft Criminal Justice (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Tom Clarke, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Jim Cousins, Mr Nigel Dodds, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Tom Harris, Mr Mark Lazarowicz, Mr Terry Lewis, Mr Seamus Mallon, Mr Martin Salter, Mr John Spellar, Mr Desmond Swainey, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Ian Taylor and Mr David Trimble.

6 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, and the Republic of Croatia) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Colin Breed, Mr Iain Coleman, Mr Mark Fisher, Mr Calum MacDonald, Ann McKechin, Mr Denis MacShane, Mr Michael Mates, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Kerry Pollard, Hugh Robertson, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Richard Spring, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Mr Paul Truswell and Mr Robert N. Wareing.

7 Draft Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004 and the draft Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (Scotland) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Peter Bottomley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Geraint Davies, Mr David Drew, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr John Greenway, Mr David Heath, Mr George Howarth, Mr Christopher Leslie, Siobhain McDonagh, Bridget Prentice, Adam Price, Mr Mohammad Sarwar, Mr Chris Smith, Mark Tami and Keith Vaz.

8 Draft Extradition Act 2003 (Amendment to Designations) Order 2004 and the draft Extradition Act 2003 (Repeals) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Roger Berry, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Jim Dobbin, Caroline Flint, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr Doug Henderson, Shona McIsaac, Mr John Maples, Gillian Merron, Julie Morgan, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr Siôn Simon and Ann Winterton.

9 Draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Crispin Blunt, Malcolm Bruce, Brian Cotter, Mr Tam Dalyell, Valerie Davey, Mr John Lyons, Andrew Mackinlay, Judy Mallaber, Mr Gordon Prentice, Joan Ruddock, Ian Stewart, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Sir Teddy Taylor and Mr Andrew Tyrie.

10 Draft Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Designation of Public Authorities) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged John Cryer and Rob Marris from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr George Howarth and Ian Stewart.

11 Draft Vehicle Testing (Temporary Exemptions) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-one Members to serve on the Committee: Virginia Bottomley, Mr William Cash, Mr David Clelland, Ann Clwyd, Mr Vernon Coaker, Sir Patrick Cormack, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson, Tom Harris, Lady Hermon, Mr Brian Jenkins, Mr Kevan Jones, Andy King, Mr Khalid Mahmood, Lembit Opik, Albert Owen, Joyce Quin, Mr Andy Reed, Phil Sawford, Angela Smith, Mr Desmond Swayne and Mr Hugo Swire.

12 Draft Student Fees (Amounts) (England) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr David Chaytor, Mr Adrian Flook, Chris Grayling, Alan Johnson, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr David Kidney, Mr Bob Laxton, Ian Lucas, Mr Tony McWalter, Mr Archie Norman, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Dr John Pugh, Mr David Rendel, Mr David Ruffley, Derek Twigg and Mr Mike Wood.

13 Draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to Broadcast Advertising) and Specification of Relevant Functions Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Tim Boswell and Mr Robert N. Wareing from the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Malcolm Moss and Kali Mountford.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Duty of Care]; to be printed [No. 620-iv] [Mike Gapes].

2 Draft Charities Bill,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Charities Bill; to be printed [No. 660-ix]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 660-x]
[Mr Alan Milburn].

3 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Public Expenditure on Education and Skills]; to be printed [No. 687-ii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

4 Environmental Audit,—(1) Eighth Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Greening Government 2004], together with an Appendix to the Report; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 881];

(2) Ninth Report from the Committee [Environmental Crime: Fly-tipping, Fly-posting, Litter, Graffiti and Noise], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 445]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Housing: Building a Sustainable Future?]; to be printed [No. 709-iii]
[Mr Peter Ainsworth].

5 European Scrutiny,—Twenty-sixth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxvi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Human Rights,—Fifteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [The Civil Partnership Bill]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 885] [Jean Corston].
The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Joan Ryan.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.39 p.m.]
Thursday 8th July 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Nigel Beard reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Designation of Public Authorities) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Eric Illsley reported from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Motion in the name of the Leader of the House relating to the Electoral Commission.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Horse Passports (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1397).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir Nicholas Winterton reported from the Twelfth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to Broadcast Advertising) and Specification of Relevant Functions Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Mr James Cran reported from the Northern Ireland Grand Committee the draft Budget (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, referred to it on 22nd June.

6 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Traffic Management Bill, with Amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

7 Traffic Management Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Traffic Management Bill to be considered on Monday 12th July; and to be printed [Bill 138].

8 Royal Assent,—The Deputy Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, That Her Majesty had signified her Royal Assent to the following Acts, agreed upon by both Houses:

- Appropriation Act 2004
- Age-Related Payments Act 2004
- Gangmasters (Licensing) Act 2004
- University of Manchester Act 2004.

9 Adjournment (Intelligence and Security Committee Annual Report 2003–04),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Joan Ryan);

The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

10 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Murphy);

And it being Six o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

11 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes past Six o’clock, adjourned till Monday 12th July.

[Adjourned at 6.25 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1. Council Tax,—Draft Council Tax Limitation (England) (Maximum Amounts) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

2. Devolution,—(1) Draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (North East Region) Order 2004,
   (2) draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (North West Region) Order 2004, and
   (3) draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (Yorkshire and the Humber Region) Order 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

3. Legal Services,—Draft Legal Services Complaints Commissioner (Maximum Penalty) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].

4. Northern Ireland,—Draft Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) (No. 2) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


6. Education,—Rother Valley College (Dissolution) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1681), dated 1st July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].


8. Local Government,—(1) Local Authorities (Categorisation) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1704), and
   (2) Local Government (Best Value Authorities) (Power to Trade) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1705) dated 5th July 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

9. Road Traffic,—Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1706), dated 5th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

10. Air Force (Constitution),—Amendment List 24 to Air Publication 1269A—The Royal Air Force Manual of Assessment of Medical Fitness (Third Edition) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

11. Census,—Paper, entitled Census 2001 Definitions [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

12. Church Commissioners,—Report and Accounts of the Church Commissioners for England for 2003 [by Measure] [Mr David Lammy].

13. Education,—Paper, entitled Department for Education and Skills: Five Year Strategy for Children and Learners [by Command] [Cm. 6272] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

14. Government Resources and Accounts,—Report and Accounts of—
   (1) Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 527] [Secretary Margaret Beckett],
   (2) Defence Geographic & Imagery Intelligence Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 840] [Mr Secretary Hoon], and
(3) Pay and Personnel Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 731] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

15 Government Trading Funds,—Ordnance Survey for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 856] [Clerk of the House].

16 Health and Social Care,—Report of the Healthcare Commission for 2004 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 820] [Mr Secretary Reid].

17 Learning and Skills,—Report and Accounts of the Adult Learning Inspectorate for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 670] [Mr Secretary Clarke].


20 Northern Ireland,—Reports and Accounts of the—
   (1) Northern Ireland Health Estates, and
   (2) Valuation and Lands Agency
   for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [Nos. 815 and 819] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

21 Police (Northern Ireland),—Report and Accounts of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Uranium Enrichment Technology (Prohibition on Disclosure) Regulations 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Forth Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations 2004.

2 Draft Community Radio Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Miss Anne Begg Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

3 Draft Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Amendment) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr David Amess Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Occupational Pensions Schemes (Winding Up) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1140),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Martin Caton Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

5 Draft Anti-Social Behaviour (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 and draft Criminal Justice (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Mike Hancock Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

6 Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, and the Republic of Croatia) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Forth Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

7 Draft Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004 and draft Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (Scotland) Regulations 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr John Cummings Chairman of the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

8 Draft Extradition Act 2003 (Amendment to Designations) Order 2004 and draft Extradition Act 2003 (Repeals) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Irene Adams Chairman of the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

9 Draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman of the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.
10 Draft Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Designation of Public Authorities) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Roger Godsiff from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Stephen McCabe.

11 Draft Vehicle Testing (Temporary Exemptions) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

12 Draft Student Fees (Amounts) (England) Regulations 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Joe Benton Chairman of the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

13 Horse Passports (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1397).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Barbara Follett and Dan Norris from the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Wayne David and Mr Stephen Hepburn.

14 Draft Age-Related Payments (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the Fourteenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Gambling Bill (Regional Casinos).—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill (Regional Casinos); to be printed [No. 843-iv] [Mr John Greenway].

2 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee of the Environmental Audit Committee [Environmental Crime: Wildlife Crime]; to be printed [No. 605-iii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

3 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [GP Out of Hours Services]; to be printed [No. 697-ii] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

4 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Anti-Terrorism Powers]; to be printed [No. 886-i] [Mr John Denham].

[No. 116; WH, No. 73]

Thursday 8th July 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Asylum Applications—Second Report from the Home Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, and the Government’s response thereto),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Derek Twigg);

And the sitting having continued for three hours, it was adjourned without Question put, till Tuesday 13th July.

[Adjourned at 5.30 p.m.]
Monday 12th July 2004.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Private Bills [Lords] (No Standing Order not previously inquired into applicable).—The Speaker laid upon the Table a Report from one of the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills, That, in the case of the following Bill, originating in the Lords and referred after the First Reading thereof, no Standing Order not previously inquired into is applicable thereto:

   University of Wales, Cardiff Bill [Lords]

   Bill to be read a second time.

2 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation. — Mr Eric Forth reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Uranium Enrichment Technology (Prohibition on Disclosure) Regulations 2004.

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, Etc.) Bill (Programme) (No. 3).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the Programme Orders of 17th December 2003 and 1st March 2004 relating to the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill be supplemented as follows—

   Consideration of Lords Amendments

   1. Proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments shall be taken at this day’s sitting in the order shown in the following table and shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the time specified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amendments Nos. 28, 29 and 42 to 62</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amendments Nos. 15, 30, 31, 17, 18, 14 and 16</td>
<td>1 hour 15 minutes after the commencement of proceedings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments Nos. 21 to 27, 19, 20, 32, 40, 41, 33, 34, 1 to 13, 35 to 39 and 63 to 69</td>
<td>3 hours 30 minutes after the commencement of proceedings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.00 p.m.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

   Subsequent stages

   2. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any question being put.

   3. The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—

      (Margaret Moran);

      The House divided.

      Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Mr Vernon Coaker: 244.

      Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Randall, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 125.

      So the Question was agreed to.

4 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, Etc.) Bill. — The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, Etc.) Bill.

   Lords Amendment No. 28.

   An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 14, to leave out ‘10 working’ and insert ‘5’, instead thereof.—(Mr David Lammy.)

   And the Question being proposed, That the Amendment be made;

   And it being one and a quarter hours after the commencement of proceedings on consideration of the Lords Amendments, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [this day], put the Question already proposed from the Chair:—It was agreed to.

   Amendment ((a)) was accordingly made to the Lords Amendment.

   The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business to be concluded at that hour.

   Other Amendments ((b) to (g)) were made to the Lords Amendment.
The Lords Amendment, as amended, was agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

Lords Amendment No. 62.

Amendment ((a)) was made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, as amended, was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 42 to 44 and 46 were disagreed to.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Bill in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 46, disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 61 was disagreed to.

Other Amendments ((a) to (c)) were made to the Bill in lieu of Lords Amendments Nos. 42 to 44 and 61, disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 29, 45 and 47 to 60 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 15.

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 5, after the word ‘may’, to insert the words ‘, following consultation with the bodies listed in subsection (5A).’—(Mr Humfrey Malins.)

And the Question being proposed, That the Amendment be made:—The Amendment was, by the leave of the House, withdrawn.

Another Amendment ((e)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 32, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(ia) prescribe the circumstances which constitute a breach of a requirement to participate in community activities;’.—(Mr Humfrey Malins.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 130.

Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Charlotte Atkins: 240.

So the Question was negatived.

The Lords Amendment was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 30 and 31 were agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 17.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Desmond Browne);

And it being three and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on consideration of the Lords Amendments, the Deputy Speaker put the Question already proposed from the Chair:—It was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put forthwith the remaining Questions necessary to dispose of the business to be concluded at that hour.

Lords Amendments Nos. 18, 14 and 16 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 18.

Lords Amendment No. 21.

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 17, to leave out the word ‘seven’ and insert the word ‘fourteen’, instead thereof.—(Mr Humfrey Malins.)

And the Question being proposed, That the Amendment be made:—The Amendment was, by the leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Lords Amendment was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 22 to 27, 19, 20, 32, 40, 41, 33, 34, 1 to 13, 35 to 39 and 63 to 69 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 27.

5 Patents Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 2),—Ordered, That the programme order of 7th June 2004 in relation to the Patents Bill [Lords] be varied as follows—

Consideration and Third Reading

1. Paragraphs 4 and 5 (consideration and Third Reading) shall be omitted.
2. Proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at 1.30 p.m. on the day on which they are commenced.—(Mr John Heppell.)

6 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Solicitors (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 24th June, be approved—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

7 Immigration.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Immigration (Provision of Physical Data) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 10th June, be approved—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

8 Consumer Protection.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Tobacco Advertising and Promotion (Brandsharing) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 26th May, be approved—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

9 Social Security.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Social Security (Income Support and Jobseeker’s Allowance) Amendment Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 16th June, be approved—(Charlotte Atkins):—It was agreed to.

10 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Charlotte Atkins);
And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Charlotte Atkins.)
And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twelve minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.12 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:
Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 9th July 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Treaty Series (No. 28, 2004).—Protocol, done at London on 7th May 2003, amending the Convention between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Canada for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and Capital Gains, signed at London on 8th September 1978, as amended by the Protocol signed at Ottawa on 15th April 1980 and as further amended by the Protocol signed at London on 16th October 1985, with Exchange of Notes [Cm. 6264] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 9th July 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Food.—Food Safety (General Food Hygiene) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1727), dated 7th July 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].

4 Health Care and Associated Professions.—(1) European Nursing and Midwifery Qualifications Designation Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1766),
(3) Nursing and Midwifery Council (Education, Registration and Registration Appeals) Rules Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1767),
(4) Nursing and Midwifery Council (Fitness to Practise) Rules Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1761),
Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 12th July 2004:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

10 Electricity,—Electricity (Exemption from the Requirement for a Generation Licence) (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1776), dated 8th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

11 Town and Country Planning,—Town and Country Planning (Costs of Inquiries etc.) (Examination in Public) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1716), dated 5th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


Other Papers:

13 2004 Spending Review,—Papers, entitled—

(1) 2004 Spending Review: New Public Spending Plans 2005–08, and
(2) 2004 Spending Review: Public Service Agreements 2005–08
[by Command] [Cm. 6237 and 6238] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

14 Atomic Energy Authority,—Account of the Atomic Energy Authority for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 887] [Clerk of the House].

15 Betting, Gaming and Lotteries,—Report and Accounts of:

(1) the Horserace Betting Levy Board for 2003–04, and
(2) the Horserace Totalisator Board for 2004
[by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

16 Coal Industry,—Account of the Coal Authority for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 888] [Clerk of the House].

17 Competition,—Account of the Competition Commission for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 889] [Clerk of the House].

18 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of the Defence Aviation Repair Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 699] [Clerk of the House].
19 Health Professions.—Report and Accounts of the Health Professions Council for 2003–04 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Reid].

20 House of Commons Members’ Fund.—Account of the House of Commons Members’ Fund for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 891] [Clerk of the House].

21 Law Commission.—Report of the Law Commission: In The Public Interest: Publication of Local Authority Inquiry Reports [by Command] [Cm. 6274] [Mr David Lammy].

22 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Improving patient care by reducing the risk of hospital acquired infection: A progress report [by Act]; to be printed [No. 876] [Clerk of the House].

23 Prisons.—Report of the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman for 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6256] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

**APPENDIX II**

*Standing Committees*

Draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Andrew Tyrie from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Henry Bellingham.

**APPENDIX III**

*Reports from Select Committees*

1 Culture, Media and Sport.—Seventh Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Drugs and role models in sport: making and setting examples], together with Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee and Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 499] [Sir Gerald Kaufman].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Food Information Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Food Information]; to be printed [No. 690-iv] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Ninth Report from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Local Government Revenue], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 402-I] [Andrew Bennett].

4 Science and Technology.—(1) Seventh Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government Response to the Committee’s Sixth Report, Session 2003–04, Within REACH: The EU’s new chemicals strategy]; to be printed [No. 895]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Beagle 2]; to be printed [No. 711-ii] [Dr Ian Gibson].
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Regulatory Reform,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolution:

That the draft Regulatory Reform (Local Commissioner for Wales) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 24th June, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Miss Anne Begg reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Community Radio Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr David Amess reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Amendment) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Mike Hancock reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Anti-Social Behaviour (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 and the draft Criminal Justice (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Eric Forth reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, and the Republic of Croatia) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

6 Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr John Cummings reported from the Seventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004 and the draft Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

7 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Bill, without Amendment.

8 Fisheries Jurisdiction Bill,—The Order for reading the Fisheries Jurisdiction Bill a second time on Friday 16th July was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

9 Motor Vehicle Manslaughter,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to create offences of motor vehicle manslaughter and aggravated motor vehicle manslaughter; to amend the law relating to road traffic; and for connected purposes: And that Jim Knight, Alice Mahon, Ian Lucas, Mr Andrew Miller, Bob Russell, Tim Loughton, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Denis Murphy, Mr David Kidney, Mr Alan Campbell, Clive Efford and Mr David Amess do prepare and bring it in.

10 Motor Vehicle Manslaughter Bill,—Jim Knight accordingly presented a Bill to create offences of motor vehicle manslaughter and aggravated motor vehicle manslaughter; to amend the law relating to road traffic; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 139].

11 Statute Law (Repeals) Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Statute Law (Repeals) Bill [Lords]; And a Motion being made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 58 (Consolidation bills), that the Bill be now read a second time;—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, That the Bill be not committed—(Jim Fitzpatrick)—It was agreed to.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, That the Bill be now read the third time—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

12 Energy Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Energy Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC4) (Microgeneration)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC5) (Annual report on security of energy supplies)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC7) (Imposition of renewable transport fuel obligations)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC8) (Administrator)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC9) (Further provision relating to RTF orders)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC10) (Renewable transport fuel certificates)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC11) (Discharge of obligation by payment)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC12) (Imposition of civil penalties)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC13) (Objections to civil penalties)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC14) (Appeals against civil penalties)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC15) (Interpretation of Chapter 4 of Part 2)—(Mr Stephen Timms)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC1) (Regulations relating to proposed disconnection of electricity supply)—(Miss Anne McIntosh)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC17) (Environmental principles for purposes of Part 1)—(Norman Baker)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bob Russell, Mr Alan Reid: 39.


It being after Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [10th May], put the Questions on the Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Amendment (No. 5) proposed to the Bill, in page 79, line 23, at the end, to insert the words—

‘36B Duties in relation to navigation

(1) Neither the Secretary of State nor the Scottish Ministers may grant a consent in relation to any particular offshore generating activities if he considers, or (as the case may be) they consider, that interference with the use of recognised sea lanes essential to international navigation—

(a) is likely to be caused by the carrying on of those activities; or

(b) is likely to result from their having been carried on.

(2) It shall be the duty both of the Secretary of State and of the Scottish Ministers, in determining—

(a) whether to give a consent for any particular offshore generating activities, and
(b) what conditions to include in such a consent,
to have regard to the extent and nature of any obstruction of or danger to navigation
which (without amounting to interference with the use of such sea lanes) is likely to be
caused by the carrying on of the activities, or is likely to result from their having been
carried on.

(3) In determining for the purposes of this section what interference, obstruction or
danger is likely and its extent and nature, the Secretary of State or (as the case may be)
the Scottish Ministers must have regard to the likely overall effect (both while being
carried on and subsequently) of—

(a) the activities in question; and

(b) such other offshore generating activities as are either already the subject of
consents or are activities in respect of which it appears likely that consents will be
granted.

(4) For the purposes of this section the effects of offshore generating activities
include—

(a) how, in relation to those activities, the Secretary of State and the Scottish
Ministers have exercised or will exercise their powers under section 36A above and
section 101 of the Energy Act 2004 (extinguishment of public rights of
navigation); and

(b) how, in relation to those activities, the Secretary of State has exercised or will
exercise his powers under sections 94 and 95 and Chapter 3 of Part 2 of that Act
(safety zones and decommissioning).

(5) If the person who has granted a consent in relation to any offshore generating
activities thinks it appropriate to do so in the interests of the safety of navigation, he may
at any time vary conditions of the consent so as to modify in relation to any of the
following matters the obligations imposed by those conditions—

(a) the provision of aids to navigation (including, in particular, lights and signals);

(b) the stationing of guard ships in the vicinity of the place where the activities are
being or are to be carried on; or

(c) the taking of other measures for the purposes of, or in connection with, the
control of the movement of vessels in that vicinity.

(6) A modification in exercise of the power under subsection (5) must be set out in a
notice given by the person who granted the consent to the person whose obligations are
modified.

(7) In this section—

‘consent’ means a consent under section 36 above;

‘offshore generating activities’ means—

(a) the construction or operation of a generating station that is to comprise or
comprises (in whole or in part) renewable energy installations; or

(b) an extension of a generating station that is to comprise (in whole or in part)
renewable energy installations or an extension of such an installation;

‘the use of recognised sea lanes essential to international navigation’ has the same
meaning as in Article 60(7) of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982
(Cmnd. 8941).

(8) In subsection (7) ‘extension’, in relation to a renewable energy installation, has the
same meaning as in Chapter 2 of Part 2 of the Energy Act 2004.’.—(Mr Stephen Timms.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

Amendment (b) made to the proposed Amendment.

Amendment, as amended, made to the Bill.

Other Amendments (Nos. 1 to 4, 6, 7, 13, 14, 18, 8, 9, 19, 10 to 12 and 15 to 17) made
to the Bill.

A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Ms Secretary Hewitt, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her
Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her Consent, as far as Her
Majesty’s interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

Ms Secretary Hewitt, by Command of the Prince of Wales, acquainted the House,
That His Royal Highness, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives his
Consent, as far as the Prince of Wales’s interest is concerned, That the House may do
therein as it shall think fit.
And the Question being proposed;
And it being Seven o’clock, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [10th May]—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

13 Electoral Commission.—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Electoral Commission;

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation) and Order [22nd June], That, with effect from 1st April 2004, the Resolution of the House of 26th March 2001 making provision with respect to the remuneration and expenses of any Electoral Commissioner other than the Chairman of the Electoral Commission (‘a relevant Commissioner’) be amended by substituting, for paragraph (1) of that Resolution, the following:

'(1) In respect of remuneration a relevant Commissioner shall be paid for each day he performs functions as such (“a relevant day”):

(a) £275 for a relevant day up to 31st March 2004;
(b) £313 for a relevant day from 1st April 2004 up to 31st March 2005; and
(c) For a relevant day in any year starting with 1st April thereafter, the sum payable in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution in respect of a relevant day in the immediately preceding year, increased by the percentage by which the salary of a High Court judge having effect on that 1st April has increased compared to that having effect on the previous 1st April.'—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

14 Atomic Energy and Radioactive Substances.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Uranium Enrichment Technology (Prohibition on Disclosure) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 1st July, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

15 Contracting Out.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Contracting Out (Functions relating to Broadcast Advertising) and Specification of Relevant Functions Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 10th June, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

16 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Designation of Public Authorities) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 10th June, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

17 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 115 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee ((delegated legislation)), That the draft Budget (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 8th June, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

18 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of the Rise Park area of Romford, against the proposed closure of Rise Park Post Office,
(2) residents of the Ardleigh Green area of Romford, against the proposed closure of Ardleigh Green Post Office, and
(3) residents of Fareham, Hampshire, for amendments to the law relating to planning to give a greater role to local authorities and residents in implementing housing policy were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

19 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Derek Twigg);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Speaker adjourned the House, without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty-four minutes to Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.36 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education,—Davies Lane Infant School (Change to School Session Times) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1712), dated 6th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

2 Merchant Shipping,—Fishing Vessels (Working Time: Sea-fishermen) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1713), dated 5th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

3 National Health Service,—General Medical Services (Transitional Measure Relating to Non-Clinical Partners) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1772), dated 8th July 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

4 Broadcasting,—(1) Paper, entitled The BBC’s investment in Freeview: National Audit Office review and response to the review from the BBC Board of Governors, and (2) Report and Accounts of the British Broadcasting Corporation for 2003–04 [by Command] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

5 Coroners,—West Midlands (Coroners’ Districts) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1799), dated 12th July 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


7 Data Protection,—Report and Accounts of the Information Commissioner for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 669] [Clerk of the House].

8 Government Resources and Accounts,—Report and Accounts of the UK Passport Service for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 803] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

9 Government Trading Funds,—Report and Accounts of OGCbuying.solutions for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 649] [Clerk of the House].

10 Health Service Commissioners,—Third Report of the Health Service Ombudsman for England for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 703] [Mr Secretary Reid].

11 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister,—Government Response to the Sixth Report of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee, Session 2003–04, on Social Cohesion [by Command] [Cm. 6284] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

12 Parliamentary Commissioner,—Second Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 702] [Clerk of the House].


14 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on the Petition [9th June] from Mrs I. O’Neill and others for an independent ombudsman to deal with complaints against the veterinary profession [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

15 Race Relations,—Report of the Commission for Racial Equality for 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

16 Science and Technology,—Report and Accounts of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 667] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Community Radio Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Chris Bryant and Mrs Anne Campbell from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Neil Gerrard and Ian Lucas.

2 Draft Anti-Social Behaviour (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 and the draft Criminal Justice (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Mark Lazarowicz and Mr Terry Lewis from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders) and nominated in substitution Mr Bob Laxton, Syd Rapson and John Robertson.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Department for Constitutional Affairs Departmental Report 2003–04]; to be printed [No. 907-i] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [BBC Report and Accounts 2003–04]; to be printed [No. 862-i] [Sir Gerald Kaufman].

3 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee of the Environmental Audit Committee [Environmental Crime: Wildlife Crime]; to be printed [No. 605-iv] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Gypsy and Traveller Sites]; to be printed [No. 633-iii] [Andrew Bennett].

5 Public Administration.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Government by Inquiry]; to be printed [No. 606-v] [Tony Wright].

6 Regulatory Reform.—Tenth Report from the Regulatory Reform Committee [Draft Regulatory Reform (Local Commissioner for Wales) Order 2004]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 900] [Mr Peter Pike].

7 Scottish Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Implications for Grangemouth of BP’s plans for its petrochemicals business] [No. 905-i] [Mrs Irene Adams].

8 Statutory Instruments.—Twenty-fifth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xxv] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Progress towards the knowledge driven economy]; to be printed [No. 262-vi] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 118; WH, No. 74]

Tuesday 13th July 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.30 p.m.]
Wednesday 14th July 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Review of Intelligence on Weapons of Mass Destruction,—*Ordered*, That there be laid before this House a Return of the Report of the Review of Intelligence on Weapons of Mass Destruction.—(Bridget Prentice.)

2 Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mrs Irene Adams reported from the Eighth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Extradition Act 2003 (Amendment to Designations) Order 2004 and the draft Extradition Act 2003 (Repeals) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Student Fees (Amounts) (England) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Fourteenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the Fourteenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Age-Related Payments (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Corporate Killing Bill,—The Order for reading the Corporate Killing Bill a second time on Friday 16th July was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

6 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords agree without Amendment to the Amendments made by this House to the Lords Amendments to the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill with consequential Amendments to certain Lords Amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and they agree without Amendment to the Amendments proposed by this House in lieu of the remaining Lords Amendments.

Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill,—The Lords have passed a Bill to amend the law relating to company auditors and accounts and company investigations; to make provision for community interest companies; and for connected purposes, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

7 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill,—Lords Amendments to Lords Amendments, consequential on Commons Amendments to the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 141].

8 Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords].—The Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords] was read the first time and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 142].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 142–EN].

9 Regional Assemblies’ Referendums (Voting Arrangements),—*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about the voting arrangements for regional assemblies’ referendums: And that Charles Hendry, Mr Graham Brady, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr Frank Field, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr Stephen O’Brien, Mr George Osborne, Mr Graham Stringer, Miss Anne McIntosh and Mr Tim Collins do prepare and bring it in.

10 Regional Assemblies’ Referendums (Voting Arrangements) Bill,—Charles Hendry accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about the voting arrangements for regional assemblies’ referendums: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 140].

11 Patents Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Patents Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC1) (Costs and expenses in infringement proceedings etc.)—(*Mr Gerry Sutcliffe*)—brought up, read the first and second time and added to the Bill.

Amendments (Nos. 1 and 2) made to the Bill.
A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time:

And it being half-past One o'clock, the Speaker, pursuant to Order [12th July], put the Question already proposed from the Chair:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

12 Adjournment (Public expenditure),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Margaret Moran);

And it being Seven o'clock, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

13 Business of the House,—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 21st July, notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents), the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motions in the name of Mr Secretary Prescott relating to Devolution not later than three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the first Motion; proceedings may continue after the moment of interruption; and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply.—(Bridget Prentice.)

14 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Mr Brian Keeler and others for a change of Government policy on post office closures and for provision of full banking services at post offices to improve their viability was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

15 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Derek Twigg.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to Eight o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.31 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Criminal Law,—Draft Penalties for Disorderly Behaviour (Amendment of Minimum Age) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Landlord and Tenant,—Agricultural Holdings (Units of Production) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1811), dated 13th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

3 Pesticides,—Plant Protection Products (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1810), dated 13th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

4 Albania (No. 1, 2004).—Agreement, done at Tirana on 14th October 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Albania on the Readmission of Persons and Protocol for the implementation of the Agreement, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6267] [Mr Secretary Straw].

5 Animal Welfare,—Draft Animal Welfare Bill with Explanatory Notes and Regulatory Impact Assessment [by Command] [Cm. 6252] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

6 Enterprise,—Review and Accounts of the Competition Commission for 2003–04 [by Act][Ms Secretary Hewitt].

7 Gaming,—Report of the Gaming Board for Great Britain for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 866] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

8 Government Resources and Accounts,—Report and Accounts of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 841] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

9 Housing,—Report and Accounts of —

(1) Castle Vale Housing Action Trust, and
(2) Stonebridge Housing Action Trust
for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 National Audit (Northern Ireland),—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland on Imagine Belfast 2008 [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 826] [The Clerk of the House].

11 Pensions,—Report and Accounts of the Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 674] [Clerk of the House].

12 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minutes on the Seventeenth and Twentieth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6271] [Ruth Kelly].

13 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions on the Petition [23rd June] from residents of the Isle of Wight and others against the proposed closure of Shanklin Jobcentre [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

14 Review of Intelligence on Weapons of Mass Destruction,—Report of the Review of Intelligence on Weapons of Mass Destruction [pursuant to Order this day]; to be printed [No. 898] [The Prime Minister].

15 Science and Technology,—Report and Accounts of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 813] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

16 Social Security,—Report by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions on the Social Fund for 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6235] [Mr Secretary Smith].

17 Treaty Series (No. 29, 2004),—Agreement, done at Sofia on 21st February 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria on the Readmission of Persons and Protocol for the implementation of the Agreement [by Command] [Cm. 6279] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (North West Region) Order 2004, draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (North East Region) Order 2004, and the draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (Yorkshire and the Humber Region) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Richard Allan, Mr Graham Brady, Paul Clark, Mr David Clelland, Mr Edward Davey, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr John Grogan, Mr Philip Hammond, Phil Hope, Mr George Howarth, Mr Michael Jack, Mr Greg Pope, Joyce Quinn, Mr Marsha Singh, Mr Hugo Swire and Mr Dave Watts.

2 Draft Student Fees (Amounts) (England) Regulations 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Bob Laxton, Ian Lucas and Mr Mike Wood from the Eleventh Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Ian Cawsey, Tony Cunningham, Mr Greg Pope and Mr Ernie Ross.

3 Draft Age-Related Payments (Northern Ireland) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Candy Atherton from the Fourteenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr George Foulkes.

European Standing Committees

4 European Union Document No. 15820/03, relating to driving licences, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

5 European Union Document No. 10249/04, relating to the EU’s Justice and Home Affairs work programme for the next five years, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

6 European Union Document No. 4156/04, relating to the integration of financial markets, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—(1) Sixth Report from the Defence Committee [Defence Procurement]; with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 572]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Duty of Care]; to be printed [No. 620-v]
[Mr Bruce George].

2 Draft Charities Bill.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Charities Bill; to be printed [No. 660-xi and -xii];
and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 660-xiii]
[Mr Mr Alan Milburn].

3 Education and Skills.—Fourth Report from the Education and Skills Committee [Secondary Education: School Admissions], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 58-I and -II]
[Mr Mr Barry Sheerman].

4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) Tenth Special Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Government’s Reply to the Seventh Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on Implementation of CAP Reform in the UK]; to be printed [No. 916];
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Dismantling defunct ships in the UK]; to be printed [No. 834-ii]; and
(3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [New Covent Garden: a follow-up]
[Mr Michael Jack].

5 European Scrutiny.—(1) Twenty-seventh Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxvii]; and
(2) Twenty-eighth Report from the Committee [The EU’s Justice and Home Affairs work programme for the next five years]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxviii]
[Mr Michael Connarty].

6 Health.—Fourth Report from the Health Committee [Palliative Care], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 454-I and -II]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Palliative Care]
[Mr John Austin].

7 Human Rights.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Human Rights and Deaths in Custody]; to be printed [No. 209-vi] [Mr Jean Corston].

8 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Iraq: The role of humanitarian agencies in post-conflict situations]; to be printed [No. 918-i] [Mr Tony Baldry].

9 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Scrutiny of European Matters in the House of Commons]; to be printed [No. 565-iii] [Mr Peter Hain].

10 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [OST Scrutiny 2004]; to be printed [No. 315-iii and -iv] [Dr Ian Gibson].

11 Trade and Industry.—Memoranda laid before the Trade and Industry Committee on 13th July [Employment Regulation]; to be printed [No. 923] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

12 Transport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee [Traffic Law and its Enforcement: Road Safety]; to be printed [No. 105-ii]; [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

13 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Spending Review 2004]; to be printed [No. 906-i] [Mr John McFall].

14 Work and Pensions.—Fourth Report from the Work and Pensions Committee [Health and Safety], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 456-I] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
Wednesday 14th July 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.——(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.23 p.m.

Thursday 15th July 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Martin Caton reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Occupational Pensions Schemes (Winding Up) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1140). Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Ninth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Vehicle Testing (Temporary Exemptions) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have come to the following Resolution, to which they desire the agreement of this House:

That it is expedient that a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons be appointed to consider and report on any draft Mental Health Bill presented to both Houses by a Minister of the Crown, and that the Committee should report on the draft Bill by 31st March 2005.

The Lords agree without Amendment to certain of the Amendments made by this House to the Energy Bill [Lords]; they disagree to an Amendment made by this House but propose Amendments to the words so restored to the Bill, to which they desire the agreement of this House; and they agree to the remaining Amendment made by this House with an Amendment, to which they desire the agreement of this House.

5 Energy Bill [Lords].—Lords Amendment to a Commons Amendment to the Energy Bill [Lords] and Lords Amendments to words restored to the Bill by disagreement to a Commons Amendment to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 143].

6 Domestic Energy Efficiency Bill,—The Order for reading the Domestic Energy Efficiency Bill a second time on Friday 16th July was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

7 Doorstep Selling (Property Repairs) Bill,—The Order for reading the Doorstep Selling (Property Repairs) Bill a second time on Friday 16th July was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

8 Marine Wildlife Conservation Bill,—The Order for reading the Marine Wildlife Conservation Bill a second time on Friday 16th July was read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 15th October.
9 Traffic Management Bill [Ways and Means] (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Traffic Management Bill, it is expedient to authorise the charging of fees in connection with permit schemes—(Mr Tony McNulty);

And it being three-quarters of an hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Paul Clark, Charlotte Atkins: 214.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr John Randall: 75.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Traffic Management Bill, it is expedient to authorise the charging of fees in connection with permit schemes.

10 Traffic Management Bill (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)]. That the following provisions shall apply to the Traffic Management Bill for the purpose of supplementing the Order of 5th January 2004:

Consideration of Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at Six o’clock at this day’s sitting.

2. The Lords Amendments shall be taken in the following order, namely Nos. 4 to 15, 1 to 3 and 16 to 109.

Subsequent stages

3. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any Question put.

4. The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Mr Tony McNulty);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Paul Clark, Charlotte Atkins: 213.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Peter Atkinson: 77.

So the Question was agreed to.

11 Traffic Management Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Traffic Management Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 4.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Tony McNulty);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Joan Ryan: 199.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Hugo Swire: 78.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 5 to 11 were disagreed to.

Amendments ((a) and (b)) were made to the words restored to the Bill by disagreement to Lords Amendment No. 11.

Lords Amendments Nos. 12 to 15 were disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 3 and 16 to 51 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 28 and 29.
Lords Amendment No. 52.

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 2, to leave out the words ‘(whether or not regulations under it have been made)’.—(Mr Christopher Chope.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Peter Atkinson: 61.

Tellers for the Noes, Joan Ryan, Gillian Merron: 186.

So the Question was negatived.

The Lords Amendment was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 53 to 70 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 56.

Lords Amendment No. 71.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Tony McNulty);

And it being Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day]:—It was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question, That this House agrees with the Lords in their remaining Amendments:—It was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 72 to 109 were accordingly agreed to.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 4 to 10 and 12 to 15;

That Mr Christopher Chope, Ann Coffey, Mr Tony McNulty, Gillian Merron and John Thurso be members of the Committee;

That Mr Tony McNulty be the Chairman of the Committee;

That three be the Quorum of the Committee;

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Gillian Merron);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Joan Ryan: 181.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr John Horam: 45.

So the Question was agreed to.

12 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Anti-social Behaviour (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 28th June, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

13 Northern Ireland,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Criminal Justice (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 29th June, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

14 European Communities,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, and the Republic of Croatia) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 21st June, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

15 Road Traffic,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Motor Vehicles (International Circulation) (Amendment) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 14th June, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.
Broadcasting.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Community Radio Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 15th June, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

Representation of the People.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 16th June, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

Representation of the People.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Representation of the People (Form of Canvass) (Scotland) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 17th June, be approved—(Paul Clark):—It was agreed to.

Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Eileen Chubb of the ‘BUPA 7’ and others for a public inquiry into the case of the ‘BUPA 7’ was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

Traffic Management Bill.—Mr Tony McNulty reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of their Amendments to the Traffic Management Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 4 to 10 and 12 to 15 for the following Reason:

Because intervention powers are necessary in order to enforce the duties in Part 2.

The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords, to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendments.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Paul Clark.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty minutes to Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.40 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Legal Services.—Draft Legal Services Ombudsman (Extension of Remit) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Education.—Education (Mandatory Awards) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1792), dated 8th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

3 Environmental Protection.—Controls on Nonylphenol and Nonylphenol Ethoxylate Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1816), dated 13th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


Other Papers:

5 Constitutional Affairs.—Paper, entitled Transforming Public Services: Complaints, Redress and Tribunals [by Command] [Cm. 6243] [Mr David Lammy].

6 Duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster.—Report and Accounts of the Duchy of Lancaster for 2003–04 [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].
7 Foreign Affairs.—Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, on South Africa [by Command] [Cm. 6283] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 Government Resources and Accounts.—(1) Report and Accounts for 2003–04 of the—
   (i) Disposal Services Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 827] [Mr Secretary Hoon],
   (ii) Equal Opportunities Commission, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 671] [Ms Secretary Hewitt],
   (iii) HM Prison Service, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 718] [Mr Secretary Blankett],
   (iv) Medical Supplies Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 733] [Mr Secretary Hoon],
   (v) Rent Service Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 735] [Mr Secretary Prescott], and
   (vi) Valuation Office Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 811] [Dawn Primarolo]; and
   (2) Resource Accounts of the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 896] [Ruth Kelly].

9 Health and Safety at Work.—Report and Accounts of the Health and Safety Commission for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 727] [Mr Secretary Smith].

10 Housing.—Report and Accounts of the Liverpool Housing Action Trust for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

11 Judicial Statistics.—Report by the Lord Chancellor on Judicial Statistics for 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6251] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

12 National Heritage.—Report and Accounts of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 705] [Clerk of the House].

13 New Towns.—Statement of Guarantee given on 15th July 2004 on loans proposed to be raised by the Commission for the New Towns from Barclays Bank plc [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

14 Northern Ireland.—Report and Accounts of the—
   (1) Northern Ireland Child Support Agency, and
   (2) Planning Service for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [Nos. 831 and 845] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

15 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.—Government Response to the Fifth Report of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee, Session 2003–04, on Decent Homes [by Command] [Cm. 6266] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


17 Science and Technology.—Report and Accounts of the Economic and Social Research Council for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 686] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

18 Shipman Inquiry.—Fourth Report: The Regulation of Controlled Drugs in the Community [by Command] [Cm. 6249] [Mr Secretary Blankett].

19 Trade Union and Labour Relations.—Report of the Certification Officer for 2003–04 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

20 Transport.—Paper, entitled The Future of Rail [by Command] [Cm. 6233] [Mr Secretary Darling].

21 Utilities.—Report and Financial Statements of the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 786] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].
22 Work and Pensions.—Government Response to the Report from the Joint Committee on the Draft Disability Discrimination Bill, Session 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6276] [Mr Secretary Smith].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (North West Region) Order 2004, draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (North East Region) Order 2004, and draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (Yorkshire and Humber Region) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Orders.

2 Draft Vehicle Testing (Temporary Exemptions) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr David Clelland, Lady Hermon, Andy King, Joyce Quin, Mr Andy Reed and Phil Sawford from the Tenth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Roy Beggs, Mr Stephen Byers, Jim Dobbin, Jim Dowd, Paul Farrelly and Mr Anthony D. Wright.

Grand Committees

3 The Speaker has appointed Mr Win Griffiths Chairman of the Welsh Grand Committee in respect of its meetings on Tuesday 20th July.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Gambling Bill (Regional Casinos),—Report from the Joint Committee on the Draft Gambling Bill (Regional Casinos), together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee [No. 843-I] [Mr John Greenway].

2 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Spending Review 2004]; to be printed [No. 906-ii] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 120; WH, No. 76]

Thursday 15th July 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Work of the Inter-Parliamentary Union).—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Bill Rammell.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 20th July.

[Adjourned at 6.26 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

1 The Speaker’s Absence,—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Sylvia Heal, the First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

PRAYERS.

2 The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker.

3 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from the Cod Crusaders Community Campaign for the return of British sovereign waters to national control of fishing was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

4 Motion to sit in private,—Mr Julian Brazier moved, That this House sit in private.

   The Deputy Speaker put the Question forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 163 (Motions to sit in private).

   The House divided.

   Tellers for the Ayes, Dr Julian Lewis, Mr Eric Forth: 0.

   Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Burnett, Sir George Young: 34.

   And it appearing from the report of the Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Question was not decided.

5 Promotion of Volunteering Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Promotion of Volunteering Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee.

   A Clause (NC29) (Declaration as to extent of liability in negligence)—(Mr Julian Brazier)—brought up, and read the first time.

   Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

   And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 15th October.

6 Food Labelling Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Food Labelling Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

7 Restricted Byways Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Restricted Byways Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

8 Harbours Bill [Lords],—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Harbours Bill [Lords];

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

9 Performance of Companies and Government Departments (Reporting) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 30th January, That the Performance of Companies and Government Departments (Reporting) Bill be now read a second time;

   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 15th October.

10 Civil Service Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Civil Service Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

11 Rights of Way (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 21st May, That the Rights of Way (Amendment) Bill be now read a second time;

   Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 15th October.

12 Telecommunications (Permitted Development Rights) (Amendment) Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Telecommunications (Permitted Development Rights) (Amendment) Bill;

   Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 24th December.

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

14 Telecommunications Masts (Need and Safety Tests) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Telecommunications Masts (Need and Safety Tests) Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

15 Criminal Justice (Justifiable Conduct) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 30th April, That the Criminal Justice (Justifiable Conduct) Bill be now read a second time;

Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 15th October.

16 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till three minutes past Three o’clock, adjourned till Monday 19th July.

[Adjourned at 3.03 p.m.]

APPENDIX

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Commonhold,—(1) Commonhold (Land Registration) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1830), and (2) Commonhold Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1829), dated 14th July 2004 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].

2 Education,—(1) Education (National Curriculum) (Attainment Targets and Programmes of Study in Design and Technology in respect of the First, Second and Third Key Stages) (England) (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1794), and (2) Education (National Curriculum) (Attainment Targets and Programmes of Study in Modern Foreign Languages in respect of the Third Key Stage) (England) (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1793), dated 12th July 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memorandum thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

3 Fireworks,—Fireworks Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1836), dated 14th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Other Papers:

4 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Report and Accounts of the—(i) Defence Estates Agency, (ii) Defence Housing Executive Agency, and (iii) Ministry of Defence Police Agency for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 661, 842 and 740] [Mr Secretary Hoon], (2) Veterinary Medicines Directorate for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 760] [Secretary Margaret Beckett], and (3) Wilton Park Executive Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 795] [Mr Secretary Straw].

5 Northern Ireland,—Report of the Life Sentence Review Commissioners for 2003–04 [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 789] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

6 Northern Ireland (Sentences).—Report of the Sentence Review Commissioners for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 790] [Mr Secretary Murphy].
PRAYERS.

1 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Eric Illsley reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (North West Region) Order 2004, the draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (North East Region) Order 2004 and the draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (Yorkshire and the Humber Region) Order 2004. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Carers (Equal Opportunities) Bill, without Amendment.

The Lords have agreed, without Amendment, to the Amendments made by this House to the Patents Bill [Lords].

Children Bill [Lords].—The Lords have passed a Bill to make provision for the establishment of a Children’s Commissioner; to make provision about services provided to and for children and young people by local authorities and other persons; to make provision in relation to Wales about advisory and support services relating to family proceedings; to make provision about private fostering, child minding and day care, adoption review panels, the defence of reasonable punishment, the making of grants as respects children and families and about child safety orders; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

3 Children Bill [Lords].—The Children Bill [Lords] was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 144].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Children Bill [Lords] be printed [Bill 144–EN].

4 Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 2),—Ordered, That the Programme Order of 21st June 2004 in relation to the Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords] be varied as follows:

Proceedings on consideration and Third Reading

1. Paragraphs 4 and 5 (proceedings on consideration and Third Reading) shall be omitted.

2. Proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion two hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion for this Order.—(Miss Melanie Johnson.)

5 Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC1) (Infection Control Standards)—(Mr Andrew Lansley)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 163.

Tellers for the Noes, Charlotte Atkins, Mr John Heppell: 297.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 5, line 6, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(2A) To facilitate co-operation the Agency shall consult with other bodies and publish protocols for co-operation.’.—(Mr Paul Burstow.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.


Tellers for the Noes, Charlotte Atkins, Jim Fitzpatrick: 287.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;
And it being two hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion (Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 2)), the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day]:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with an Amendment.

6 Council Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the draft Council Tax Limitation (England) (Maximum Amounts) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 8th July, be approved—(Mr Nick Raynsford);

And it being one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Vernon Coaker: 278.

Tellers for the Noes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Peter Atkinson: 175.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Council Tax Limitation (England) (Maximum Amounts) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 8th July, be approved.

7 Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 2),—Ordered, That the Programme Order of 17th June 2004 in relation to the Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords] be varied as follows:

Consideration and Third Reading

1. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Order shall be omitted.
2. Proceedings on consideration and Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion:
   (a) at the moment of interruption at this day’s sitting, or
   (b) one hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion for this Order, whichever is the later.—(Mr Don Touhig.)

8 Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Public Audit (Wales) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 1) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

9 Extradition.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Extradition Act 2003 (Amendment to Designations) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 17th June, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

10 Extradition.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Extradition Act 2003 (Repeals) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 17th June, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

11 Terms and Conditions of Employment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft National Minimum Wage Regulations 1999 (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 17th June, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

12 Education.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Student Fees (Amounts) (England) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 1st July, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Nick Ainger: 250.

Tellers for the Noes, Hugh Robertson, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 153.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That the draft Student Fees (Amounts) (England) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 1st July, be approved.

13 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Age-Related Payments (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 24th June, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.
Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Vehicle Testing (Temporary Exemptions) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 29th June, be approved—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

Welsh Grand Committee.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 108 (Welsh Grand Committee (sittings)), That the Order of the House of 22nd June relating to sittings of the Welsh Grand Committee on Tuesday 20th July be amended, in paragraph (2), by leaving out ‘Two o’clock and half-past Four o’clock’ and inserting ‘Three o’clock and half-past Five o’clock’—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

Environmental Audit.—Ordered, That Mr Jon Owen Jones be discharged from the Environmental Audit Committee and Mr John McWilliam be added.—(Mr Bob Ainsworth, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from people of the Gidea Park area of Romford against the proposed closure of the Gidea Park Post Office was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Jim Murphy);

And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.25 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Criminal Law.—Draft Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (Amendment) and Police Reform Act 2002 (Modification) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Education.—Education (National Curriculum) (Attainment Targets and Programmes of Study in Science in respect of the First, Second, Third and Fourth Key Stages) (England) (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1800), dated 12th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].


4 Road Traffic.—Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1773), dated 7th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

5 Agriculture.—Report and Accounts of the Meat and Livestock Commission for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

6 Animals.—Review of the Controls on Imports of Animal Products for 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6286] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

7 Audit Commission.—Accounts of the Audit Commission for Local Authorities and the National Health Service in England and Wales for the seventeen month period ended 31st March 2004, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 930] [Clerk of the House].

8 British Library.—Report and Accounts of the British Library Board for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 732] [Clerk of the House].
9 Broadcasting.—Account of the Broadcasting Standards Commission for the period from 1st April to 31st December 2003, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 932] [Clerk of the House].

10 Criminal Justice.—Report of the Serious Fraud Office for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 850] [The Solicitor General].

11 Education,—Account of the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 942] [Clerk of the House].

12 Environmental Protection,—Report and Financial Statements of the Joint Nature Conservation Committee for 2003–04 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

13 Exchange Equalisation Account,—Report and Accounts of the Exchange Equalisation Account for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 893] [Ruth Kelly].

14 Foreign and Commonwealth Office,—Paper, entitled Provisional Text of the Constitutional Treaty for the European Union [by Command] [Cm. 6289] [Mr Secretary Straw].

15 Government Resources and Accounts.—(1) Accounts of the Oil and Pipelines Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 941] [Clerk of the House]; and

(2) Reports and Accounts for 2003–04 of the—
(i) Central Science Laboratory, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 849] [Secretary Margaret Beckett];
(ii) National Weights and Measures Laboratories, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 784] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].
(iii) Pesticides Safety Directorate, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 829] [Secretary Margaret Beckett];
(iv) Planning Inspectorate, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 723] [Mr Secretary Prescott]; and

(3) Resource Accounts of HM Treasury for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 920] [Ruth Kelly].

16 Government Trading Funds.—Reports and Accounts of the—
(1) Driving Standards Agency, and
(2) Patent Office
for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 821 and 861] [Clerk of the House].

17 Home Office,—Papers, entitled—
(1) Confident Communities in a Secure Britain: The Home Office Strategic Plan 2004–08; and
(2) Cutting Crime, Delivering Justice: A Strategic Plan for Criminal Justice 2004–08 [by Command] [Cms. 6287 and 6288] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

18 Local Government,—Financial Statements of the South Bank Centre for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

19 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
(1) Managing National Lottery Distribution Fund balances, and
(2) Ofgem: Social Action Plan and Household Energy Efficiency [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 875 and 878] [Clerk of the House].

20 National Lottery,—(1) Report and Accounts of the National Lottery Commission for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 715] [Clerk of the House] and

(2) Accounts for 2003–04 of the—
(i) Arts Council of Northern Ireland Lottery Distribution Fund, and
(ii) Sports Council for Wales Lottery Distribution,
with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 929 and 944] [Clerk of the House].
21 Northern Ireland,—Report and Accounts of—
   (1) Driving and Vehicle Licensing Northern Ireland,
   (2) the Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland, and
   (3) the Rivers Agency,
   for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern
   Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [Nos. 847, 832 and 846] [Mr
   Secretary Murphy].

22 Parliamentary Commissioner,—Third Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for
   Administration, Session 2003–04: A Further Investigation of the Prudential Regulation
   of Equitable Life? [by Act]; to be printed [No. 910] [Clerk of the House].

23 Pensions and Yeomanry,—Amendments 37 and 38 to the Army Pensions Warrant 1977 [by
   Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

24 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Secretary of State for Transport on the Petition [1st
   July] from Anna Peschek and others for speed restrictions in rural villages [by Standing
   Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

25 Teaching and Higher Education,—Account of the General Teaching Council for England for
   2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to
   be printed [No. 937] [Clerk of the House].

26 Transport,—Report and Accounts of British Waterways for 2003–04 [by Act] [Secretary
   Margaret Beckett].

27 Treasury Solicitor,—Account of the Crown’s Nominee for 2003–04, with the Report of the
   Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums,
   Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (North West Region) Order 2004,
draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums,
   Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (North East Region) Order 2004, and
the draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of
   Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (Yorkshire and the
   Humber Region) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Richard
   Allan from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in
   respect of the draft Orders) and nominated in substitution Matthew Green.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Health,—Fifth Report from the Health Committee [GP Out of Hours Services], together
   with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed,
   with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 697-I and
   -II] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

2 Treasury,—Eighth Report from the Treasury Committee [Restoring confidence in long-term
   savings], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be
   printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report
   [No. 71-I and -II]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Restoring confidence in long-term savings]
   [Mr John McFall].
Tuesday 20th July 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 University of Wales, Cardiff Bill [Lords].—The University of Wales, Cardiff Bill [Lords] was read a second time and committed.

2 Regulatory Reform.—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolution:
   That the proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2004, which was laid before the House on 10th May, should be amended before a draft Order is laid before the House.

3 Welsh Grand Committee.—Mr Win Griffiths reported from the Welsh Grand Committee, that it had considered the matter of the draft Transport (Wales) Bill, referred to it on 22nd June.

4 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords agree without Amendment to the Amendment made by this House to the Health Protection Agency Bill [Lords].
   The Lords agree to the Fire and Rescue Services Bill, with Amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.
   The Lords do not insist on their Amendments to the Traffic Management Bill to which this House has disagreed and they agree without Amendment to the Amendments made by this House to the words so restored to the Bill.

5 Fire and Rescue Services Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Fire and Rescue Services Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 146].

6 New Members sworn.—Parmjit Singh Gill, Esquire, Member for the Borough Constituency of Leicester South, was sworn.
   Liam Dominic Byrne, Esquire, Member for the Borough Constituency of Birmingham, Hodge Hill, was sworn.

7 Pensions (Clawbacks).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about pension clawbacks: And that Mr Kerry Pollard, Mr Tony McWalter, Linda Perham, Mr Ernie Ross, Mr David Chaytor, Jim Dobbin, Mr Harold Best and Mr Mike Wood do prepare and bring it in.

8 Pensions (Clawbacks) Bill.—Mr Kerry Pollard accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about pension clawbacks: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 145].

9 Adjournment (Iraq).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Margaret Moran):
   And it being Seven o’clock, the Debate stood adjourned.

10 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the Motion for the Adjournment of the House in the name of the Prime Minister may be proceeded with, though opposed, until Eight o’clock and that the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill, Energy Bill [Lords] and any Lords Messages and Amendments that may be received may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Mr Jim Murphy):—It was agreed to.

11 Adjournment (Iraq).—The Question being again proposed, That this House do now adjourn:
   Mr Tam Dalyell rose in his place, and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.
   And the Question being put, That the Question be now put;
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, David Taylor: 41.
   Tellers for the Noes, Joan Ryan, Gillian Merron: 255.
   So the Question was negatived.
   It being after Eight o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.
12 Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to Lords Amendments, consequential on Commons Amendments, to the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 28DA and 28H were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 28H.

13 Energy Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Energy Bill [Lords] for the purpose of supplementing the Order of 10th May 2004:

Consideration of Lords Message of 15th July

1. Proceedings on consideration of the Lords Message of 15th July relating to the Bill shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement at this day’s sitting.

Subsequent stages

2. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any Question put.

3. Proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Bridget Prentice);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Murphy, Bridget Prentice: 311.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Simon Thomas, Pete Wishart: 46.

So the Question was agreed to.

14 Energy Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to words restored to the Energy Bill [Lords] by the Lords’ disagreement to Commons Amendments, and a Lords Amendment to a Commons Amendment to the Bill.

Resolved, That this House does not insist on its Amendment and agrees with the Lords in their Amendments Nos. 10A and 10B to the words so restored to the Bill.—(Mr Stephen Timms.)

Lords Amendment No. 17A to Commons Amendment No. 17 was agreed to.

15 Devolution.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (North West Region) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 8th July, be approved—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

16 Devolution.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (North East Region) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 8th July, be approved—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

17 Devolution.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Date of Referendums, Referendum Question and Explanatory Material) (Yorkshire and the Humber Region) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 8th July, be approved—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

18 Draft Mental Health Bill (Joint Committee).—Ordered, That the Lords Message of 15th July, relating to a Joint Committee of both Houses to consider and report on any draft Mental Health Bill presented to both Houses by a Minister of the Crown, be now considered; That this House concurs with the Lords that it is expedient that a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons be appointed to consider and report on any draft Mental Health Bill presented to both Houses by a Minister of the Crown, and that the Committee should report on the draft Bill by 31st March 2005; That a Select Committee of twelve honourable Members be appointed to join with the Committee appointed by the Lords to consider the draft Mental Health Bill; That the Committee shall have power—

(i) to send for persons, papers and records;
(ii) to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House;
(iii) to report from time to time;
(iv) to appoint specialist advisers;
(v) to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom;

That the quorum of the Committee shall be two; and

That Mrs Liz Blackman, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr David Hinchliffe, Mr George Howarth, Tim Loughton, Mr Paul Marsden, Laura Moffatt, Ms Meg Munn, Dr Doug Naysmith, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Dr Howard Stoate and Huwel Williams be members of the Committee.—(Gillian Merron.)

Message to the Lords to acquaint them therewith.

19 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Dumfries and Galloway against further increases in petrol duty; and
(2) people of the Victoria Road area of Romford against the closure of Victoria Road Post Office

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

20 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Gillian Merron.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-six minutes past Nine o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 9.26 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Food,—Charges for Inspections and Controls (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1871), dated 19th July 2004 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


4 Housing,—Approval of Codes of Management Practice (Residential Property) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1802), dated 13th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Immigration,—Immigration and Asylum Appeals (Fast Track Procedure) (Amendment) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1891), dated 20th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].

Other Papers:

6 Access to Justice,—(1) Corporate Plan of the Legal Services Commission for 2004–05 to 2006–07 [by Act], and
[Mr David Lammy].

7 Agricultural Marketing,—Report and Accounts of Food from Britain for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

8 Coal Authority,—Report and Accounts of the Coal Authority, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, with the Environmental Review, and Health and Safety Report, for 2003–04 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

9 Companies,—Report of Companies in 2003–04 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

10 Criminal Justice and Court Services,—Report and Accounts of the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 801] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

11 Development of Tourism,—Account of VisitBritain for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 931] [Clerk of the House].
12 Enterprise.—Accounts of the Competition Appeal Tribunal and Competition Service for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 935] [Clerk of the House].

13 Environment.—Report and Accounts of the Environment Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

14 Environmental Protection.—Report and Accounts of English Nature for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 741] [Clerk of the House].

15 Government Resources and Accounts.—Reports and Accounts for 2003–04 of the—

(1) Armed Forces Personnel Administration Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 693] [Mr Secretary Hoon],

(2) Compensation Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 734] [Mr Secretary Murphy],

(3) Defence Analytical Services Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 730] [Mr Secretary Hoon],

(4) Defence Bills Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 873] [Mr Secretary Hoon],

(5) Defence Dental Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 922] [Mr Secretary Hoon],

(6) Defence Intelligence and Security Centre, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 864] [Mr Secretary Hoon],

(7) Defence Medical Education and Training Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 724] [Mr Secretary Hoon],

(8) Defence Transport and Movements Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 695] [Mr Secretary Hoon],

(9) Defence Vetting Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 854] [Mr Secretary Hoon],

(10) Employment Tribunals Service, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 714] [Ms Secretary Hewitt],

(11) Forensic Science Northern Ireland, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 853] [Mr Secretary Murphy],

(12) Government Car and Despatch Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 855] [Mr Douglas Alexander],

(13) Maritime and Coastguard Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 691] [Mr Secretary Darling],

(14) National Savings and Investments, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 682] [Ruth Kelly],

(15) Naval Manning Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 794] [Mr Secretary Hoon],

(16) Royal Air Force Personnel Management Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 839] [Mr Secretary Hoon],

(17) The Queen Victoria School, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 698] [Mr Secretary Hoon],

(18) Vehicle Certification Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 904] [Mr Secretary Darling],

(19) Veterans Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 809] [Mr Secretary Hoon], and

(20) Youth Justice Agency of Northern Ireland, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 726] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

16 Government Trading Funds.—(1) Report and Accounts of NHS Estates for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 852] [Mr Secretary Reid], and

(2) Report and Accounts for 2003–04 of—

(i) the Royal Mint,

(ii) the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency

with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 688 and 814] [Clerk of the House].
17 Health and Social Care,—Accounts of—
   (1) the Commission for Healthcare Audit and Inspection, and
   (2) the Commission for Social Care Inspection
   for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
   to be printed [Nos. 933 and 934] [Clerk of the House].

18 Hong Kong,—Six-monthly Report on Hong Kong: January–June 2004 [by Command]
   [Cm. 6292] [Mr Secretary Straw].

19 International Labour Conference,—Paper, entitled International Labour Conference: Presentation of a Convention revising the Seafarers’ Identity Documents Convention, 1958 (No. 185), adopted at the 91st Session of the International Labour Conference (2003) and the proposed action by Her Majesty’s Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Convention [by Command] [Cm. 6290] [Mr Secretary Smith].

20 Marshall Aid Commemoration,—Account of the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 938] [Clerk of the House].

21 Miscellaneous (No. 7, 2004),—Amendments to the Convention on the Control and Marking of Articles of Precious Metals proposed by the Standing Committee in accordance with Paragraph 4 of Article 10 of the Convention and accepted on 13th December 1999 by the Standing Committee at its forty-eighth meeting held in Morges (Switzerland) on 13th and 14th December 1999; amended by the Standing Committee at its fiftieth meeting held in Geneva on 9th January 2001, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6277] [Mr Secretary Straw].

22 National Lottery,—(1) Account of the English Sports Council Lottery Distribution for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 936] [Clerk of the House], and
   (2) Report and Accounts of the Millennium Commission for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 810] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

23 Northern Ireland,—(1) Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel Memorandum on the Twenty-first Report from the Committee of Public Accounts 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6282] [Mr Secretary Murphy], and
   (2) Report and Accounts of the—
      (i) Business Development Service,
      (ii) Forest Service,
      (iii) Public Record Office of Northern Ireland,
      (iv) Rate Collection Agency
   for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [Nos. 816, 912, 871 and 833] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

24 Northern Ireland (Monitoring Commission etc.),—Second Report of the Independent Monitoring Commission [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 913] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

25 Police,—Report and Accounts of the Police Information Technology Organisation (PITO) for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 911] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

26 Police (Northern Ireland),—Account of the Office of the Oversight Commissioner for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 940] [Clerk of the House].

27 Prisons (Northern Ireland),—Report and Accounts of the Northern Ireland Prison Service for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 804] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

28 Public Expenditure,—Paper, entitled Public Expenditure 2003–04: Provisional Outturn [by Command] [Cm. 6293] [Mr Paul Boateng].

29 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [7th July] from the Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group and supporters for amendments to planning and settlement guidelines to prevent racial discrimination against Romani and other ethnic Traveller peoples [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

30 Science and Technology,—Account of the Research Councils’ Pension Scheme for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 943] [Clerk of the House].
31 Social Security Administration.—Report by the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council reviewing the prescription of the vascular and sensorineural components of Hand-Arm Vibration Syndrome in accordance with section 171 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 [by Command] [Cm. 6098] [Mr Secretary Smith].

32 Transport.—Paper, entitled The Future of Transport: a network for 2030 [by Command] [Cm. 6234] [Mr Secretary Darling].

33 Tribunals and Inquiries.—Report of the Council on Tribunals for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 750] [Mr David Lammy].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—Fifth Report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Draft Criminal Defence Service Bill]; together with an Appendix to the Report and Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 746-I and -II] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Food Information Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Food Information]; to be printed [No. 690-v] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Home Affairs.—(1) Fourth Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Identity Cards], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 130]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Home Office Departmental Report: Work of the Department in 2003–04]; to be printed [No. 951-i] [Mr John Denham].

4 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Planning for Town Centres (PPS6)]; to be printed [No. 952] [Andrew Bennett].

5 Regulatory Reform.—Eleventh Report from the Regulatory Reform Committee [Proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2004], together with Appendices: to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 684] [Mr Peter Pike].

6 Statutory Instruments.—(1) Twenty-sixth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xxvi]; and

(2) First Report from the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments; to be printed [No. 949-i] [Mr David Tredinnick].

7 Trade and Industry.—(1) Seventh Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [The Post Office Urban Network Reinvention Programme], together with Appendices to the Report; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 611];

(2) Eighth Report from the Committee [The UK Automotive Industry], together with Appendices to the Report; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 457]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Pubcos]; to be printed [No. 751-iii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 123; WH, No. 77]

Tuesday 20th July 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr Vernon Coaker);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.30 p.m.]

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Finance Bill, without Amendment.

2 Interest Rates (Limits on Charges) Bill,—Ordered, That the Interest Rates (Limits on Charges) Bill be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

3 Fishery Limits (United Kingdom),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision for the United Kingdom to withdraw from the Common Fisheries Policy of the European Union; to amend the Fisheries Limits Act 1976; to make provision about fishing and the discarding of fish; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Anthony Steen, Sir Michael Spicer, Sir Paul Beresford, Mr Austin Mitchell, Mr David Amess, Mr Alex Salmond, Mr Andrew Turner, Mr Martin Salter, Peter Bottomley, Mr James Clappison, Mr John Horam and Mr Peter Viggers do prepare and bring it in.

4 Fishery Limits (United Kingdom) (No. 2) Bill,—Mr Anthony Steen accordingly presented a Bill to make provision for the United Kingdom to withdraw from the Common Fisheries Policy of the European Union; to amend the Fisheries Limits Act 1976; to make provision about fishing and the discarding of fish; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday 7th September and to be printed [Bill 147].

5 Devolution,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 24th June, be approved—(Mr Nick Raynsford);

And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [14th July].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Charlotte Atkins, Mr John Heppell: 349.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 140.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker put forthwith the Questions on the remaining Motions to be disposed of at that hour.

Resolved, That the draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Counting Officers’ Charges) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 24th June, be approved.—(Paul Clark.)

Resolved, That the draft Regional Assembly and Local Government Referendums (Expenses Limits for Permitted Participants) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 24th June, be approved.—(Paul Clark.)

6 Fire and Rescue Services Bill (Programme) (No. 2),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Fire and Rescue Services Bill for the purpose of supplementing the Order of 26th January 2004:

Consideration of Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion two hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion for this Order at this day’s sitting.

Subsequent stages

2. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any Question put.

3. Proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Paul Clark).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Charlotte Atkins, Mr John Heppell: 348.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 132.

So the Question was agreed to.
7 Fire and Rescue Services Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Fire and Rescue Services Bill.

Lords Amendment Nos. 1 to 19 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 10.

8 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) supporters of The Causeway Campaign for the inclusion of The Causeway, London SW19, in the jurisdiction of the Wimbledon and Putney Commons Conservators and its continued use as a free parking area;

(2) the people of the Rush Green and Crowlands areas of Romford, in Essex, against the closure of Rush Green and Crowlands Post Office;

(3) staff in the Department of Trade and Industry against job cuts in the Department of Trade and Industry;

(4) staff in the Department for Education and Skills against job cuts in the Department for Education and Skills;

(5) the Penistone Against Greenspace Encroachment campaign and others for a review by the Deputy Prime Minister of Planning Application B/03/2171/PU relating to a proposed development on the Recreation Ground at Penistone, in South Yorkshire;

(6) the Yellow Advertiser newspaper and others for the deployment of extra police officers in Southend, in Essex;

(7) driving instructors in and around North West Leicestershire against the introduction of a further theory examination for qualified driving instructors;

(8) residents of Gloucester against plans by Morrisons to close the Post Office in Abbeydale; and

(9) Action for M.E. for legislation to provide a cross-government response to M.E. and for a fully-funded research programme

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

9 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr John Heppell);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o'clock, and the Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty-three minutes past Eight o'clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8.23 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Local Government,—Draft Local Authorities (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Healthcare and Associated Professions (Scotland),—Health Act 1999 (Consequential Amendments) (Nursing and Midwifery) (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1860), dated 19th July 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

3 Local Government,—Local Authorities (Elected Mayors) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1815), dated 14th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

4 Social Security Administration,—Social Security (Claims and Payments) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1821), dated 14th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Smith].


6 Tax Credits,—Tax Credits (Provision of Information) (Functions Relating to Health) (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1895), dated 20th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Dawn Primarolo].
7 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons,—Paper, entitled Research and Development Work Relating to Assistive Technology 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

8 Defence,—Paper, entitled Delivering Security in a Changing World: Future Capabilities [by Command] [Cm. 6269] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

9 Disability Rights Commission,—Report and Accounts of the Disability Rights Commission for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 880] [Mr Secretary Smith].

10 Education and Skills,—Paper, entitled Parental Separation: Children’s Needs and Parents’ Responsibilities [by Command] [Cm. 6273] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

11 Employment Relations,—Report of the Central Arbitration Committee for 2003–04 [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

12 Explosives,—Report of Her Majesty’s Inspectors of Explosives for Northern Ireland for 2003 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 802] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

13 Export and Investment Guarantee,—Review and Resource Accounts of the Export Credits Guarantee Department for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 862] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

14 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Accounts for 2003–04 of the—
   (i) Food from Britain, 
   (ii) Royal Marines Museum, and 
   (iii) Royal Naval Museum, 
   with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 948, 966 and 967 ] [Clerk of the House],

(2) Reports and Accounts for 2003–04 of the—
   (i) Appeals Service, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 785] [Mr Secretary Smith],
   (ii) Insolvency Service, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 812] [Ms Secretary Hewitt],
   (iii) Jobcentre Plus, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 909] [Mr Secretary Smith],
   (iv) Meat Hygiene Service, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 848] [Mr Secretary Reid],
   (v) Naval Recruiting and Training Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 859] [Mr Secretary Hoon],
   (vi) NHS Pensions Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 851] [Mr Secretary Reid],
   (vii) NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 858] [Mr Secretary Reid],
   (viii) Office for National Statistics, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 925] [Ruth Kelly],
   (ix) Pension Service, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 722] [Mr Secretary Smith],
   (x) The Royal Parks, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 901] [Secretary Tessa Jowell], and 
   (xi) United Kingdom Debt Management Office, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 914] [Ruth Kelly],

(3) Report and Resource Accounts of the—
   (i) National Archives for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 897] [Ruth Kelly],
   (ii) Small Business Service for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 899] [Ms Secretary Hewitt],

(4) Resource Accounts of the—
   (i) Central Office of Information for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 902] [Ruth Kelly],
   (ii) Department for International Development Overseas Superannuation scheme for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 719] [Ruth Kelly],
   (iii) National Audit Office for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 953] [Mr Alan Williams], and
(iv) Serious Fraud Office for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 917] [Ruth Kelly], and

(5) Review and Resource Accounts of the Export Credits Guarantee Department for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 662] [Ruth Kelly].

15 Government Trading Funds,—Reports and Accounts of—

(1) Companies House for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 717] [Ms Secretary Hewitt],

(2) Defence Science and Technology Laboratory for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 728] [Clerk of the House],

(3) Fire Service College for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 903] [Clerk of the House],

(4) Forensic Science Service for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 743] [Clerk of the House], and

(5) Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 869] [Clerk of the House].

16 Human Fertilisation and Embryology,—Accounts of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 962] [Clerk of the House].

17 Immigration and Asylum,—Report and Accounts of the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 663] [Clerk of the House].

18 Justices of the Peace,—Report of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of the Magistrates’ Courts Service for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 648] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

19 Medicines,—Reports of the Medicines Commission, Committee on Safety of Medicines, Advisory Board on the Registration of Homoeopathic Products, Veterinary Products Committee, the British Pharmacopoeia Commission, the Independent Review Panel for Advertising and the Independent Review Panel for Borderline Products for 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

20 Merchant Shipping,—Accounts of the General Lighthouse Fund for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 921] [Mr Secretary Darling].

21 Museums and Galleries,—Accounts for 2003–04 of the—

(1) Board of Trustees of the Tate Gallery,

(2) British Museum,

(3) National Gallery,

(4) National Maritime Museum,

(5) National Portrait Gallery, and

(6) Victoria and Albert Museum,

with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 969, 971, 963, 964, 965 and 970] [Clerk of the House].

22 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Providing services beyond the Reading Rooms [by Act]; to be printed [No. 879] [Clerk of the House].

23 National Health Service,—Accounts for 2003–04 of the—

(1) Dental Practice Board,

(2) Dental Vocational Training Authority,

(3) Family Health Services Appeal Authority (Special Health Authority),

(4) Health Development Agency,

(5) Health Protection Agency,

(6) National Blood Authority,

(7) National Clinical Assessment Authority,

(8) National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Special Health Authority),
(9) National Patient Safety Agency,
(10) National Treatment Agency,
(11) NHS Appointments Commission,
(12) NHS Information Authority,
(13) NHS Litigation Authority,
(14) NHS Logistics Authority,
(15) NHS University (Special Health Authority),
(16) Prescription Pricing Authority,
(17) Retained Organs Commission, and
(18) UK Transplant (Special Health Authority),
with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 800, 779, 780 and 781] [Mr Secretary Reid].

24 National Heritage,—(1) Accounts of the Board of Trustees of the Armouries for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 958] [Clerk of the House], and
(2) Report and Accounts of the National Heritage Memorial Fund for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 747] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

25 National Loans,—Report and Accounts of the Debt Management Account for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 915] [Ruth Kelly].

26 National Lottery etc.,—(1) Accounts of the Arts Council of Wales Lottery Distribution for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 957] [Clerk of the House], and
(2) Report and Accounts of the Heritage Lottery Fund and National Heritage Memorial Fund Lottery Distribution for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 748] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

27 Northern Ireland,—(1) Report and Accounts for 2003–04 of the—
(i) Environment and Heritage Service,
(ii) Land Registers of Northern Ireland,
(iii) Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency,
(iv) Roads Service, and
(v) Water Service,
with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [Nos. 919, 872, 874, 927 and 926] [Mr Secretary Murphy],
(2) Report of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission for 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy], and
(3) Statement of Accounts of the Driver & Vehicle Testing Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 830] [Mr Secretary Murphy].


29 Radiological Protection,—Accounts of the National Radiological Protection Board for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 939] [Clerk of the House].

30 Railways,—Report and Accounts of the Strategic Rail Authority for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

31 Regulatory Reform,—Proposal for a Regulatory Reform (Execution of Deeds and Documents) Order 2004, with a Statement by the Department for Constitutional Affairs [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].
32 Science and Technology.—Report and Accounts for 2003–04 of the—
   (1) Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council, and
   (2) National Environment Research Council,
   with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed
   [Nos. 694 and 756] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].
33 Trade Union and Labour Relations.—Report and Resource Accounts of the Advisory,
   Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) for 2003–04, with the Report of the
   Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 651] [Ms Secretary
   Hewitt].
34 Transport.—Accounts of the Strategic Rail Authority for 2003–04, with the Report of the
   Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 945] [Clerk of
   the House].
35 Utilities.—Accounts of the Gas and Electricity Consumer Council (Energywatch) for
   2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to
   be printed [No. 961] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Draft Penalties for Disorderly Behaviour (Amendment of Minimum Age) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on
       Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the
       Committee: Vera Baird, Ms Hazel Blears, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Iain
       Coleman, Clive Efford, Barbara Follett, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Mr Brian
       Jenkins, Siobhain McDonagh, Mr Archie Norman, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr James Paice,
       Ms Gisela Stuart, Ms Dari Taylor and Mr Ian Taylor.
2 Draft Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) (No. 2) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on
       Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the
       Committee: Ms Candy Atherton, Mr Adrian Bailey, Mr Bob Blizzard, Mr Vernon
       Coaker, Mr Parmjit Dhanda, Mr Nigel Dodds, Mr Tom Harris, Lady Hermon, Mr Ian
       Liddell-Grainger, Lembit Opik, Diana Organ, Sandra Osborne, Mr John Spellar,
       Mr Desmond Swayne, Mr Hugo Swire and Paddy Tipping.
3 Draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fourth Standing
       Committee on Delegated Legislation, and has appointed Janet Anderson Chairman; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the
       Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Liam Byrne, Mr Bill Etherington, Mr Paul
       Goodman, Paul Holmes, Huw Irranca-Davies, Andy King, Mr Khalid Mahmood,
       Mr Michael Meacher, Margaret Moran, Dr Doug Naysmith, Mr Chris Pond, Mr Siôn
       Simon, Sir Teddy Taylor, Mr Michael Trend and Steve Webb.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Draft Charities Bill.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft
   Charities Bill; to be printed [No. 660-xiv]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 660-xv]
   [Mr Alan Milburn].
2 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills
   Committee [UK eUniversity]; to be printed [No. 755-ii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].
3 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) Eleventh Special Report from the Environment,
   Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Government’s Reply to the Sixteenth Report from
   the Committee, Session 2002–03, on Vets and Veterinary Services]; to be printed
   [No. 974]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Dismantling defunct ships in
       the UK]; to be printed [No. 834-iii]
   [Mr Michael Jack].
4 Environmental Audit.—(1) Tenth Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Budget 2004 and Energy]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 490];

(2) Fourth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Committee’s Fourth Report, Session 2003–04, on Water: the Periodic Review 2004 and the Environmental Programme]; to be printed [No. 950]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Housing: Building a Sustainable Future?]; to be printed [No. 709-iv]

[Mr Peter Ainsworth].

5 European Scrutiny.—Twenty-ninth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxix] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Foreign Affairs.—Seventh Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Foreign Policy Aspects of the War against Terrorism], together with an Appendix to the Report and Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 441] [Mr Donald Anderson].

7 Human Rights.—(1) Sixteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Commission on Equality and Human Rights: The Government’s White Paper], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 998];

(2) Seventeenth Report from the Joint Committee [Scrutiny of Bills: Seventh Progress Report], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 999]; and

(3) Eighteenth Report from the Joint Committee [Review of Counter-terrorism Powers], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 713]

[Jean Corston].

8 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Sitting Hours]; to be printed [No. 892-i] [Mr Peter Hain].

9 Northern Ireland Affairs.—(1) Fifth Special Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Government’s Response to the Fifth Report of the Committee, Session 2003–04, on ‘Hate Crime’: the Draft Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2004]; to be printed [No. 954];

(2) Sixth Special Report from the Committee [Government’s Response to the Fourth Report of the Committee, Session 2003–04, on The Compensation Agency]; to be printed [No. 955]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The functions of the Office of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 956-i]

[Mr Michael Mates].

10 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—(1) Tenth Report from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Supporting Vulnerable and Older People], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 504];

(2) Eleventh Report from the Committee [The Role of Historic Buildings in Urban Regeneration], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 47-I];

(3) Twelfth Report from the Committee [Draft Planning Policy Statement 6: Planning for Town Centres], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 952-I];

(5) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Draft Regional Assemblies Bill]; to be printed [No. 972-II]; and
(6) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Postal Voting: Follow-up]; to be printed [No. 400-IV]
[Andrew Bennett].

11 Public Accounts.—(1) Thirty-ninth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Ministry of Defence: Operation TELIC—United Kingdom military operations in Iraq]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 273];
(2) Fortieth Report from the Committee [Youth Offending: The delivery of community and custodial sentences]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 307];
(3) Forty-first Report from the Committee [Improving departments’ capability to procure cost-effectively]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 541];
(4) Forty-second Report from the Committee [Increased resources to improve public services: a progress report on departments’ preparations]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 552];
(5) Forty-third Report from the Committee [Major Projects Report 2003]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 383];
(6) Forty-fourth Report from the Committee [Protecting England and Wales from plant pests and diseases]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 208]; and
(7) Forty-fifth Report from the Committee [Criminal Records Bureau: delivering safer recruitment?]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 453]
[Mr Edward Leigh].

12 Science and Technology.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Human reproductive technologies and the law]; to be printed [No. 599-iv] [Dr Ian Gibson].

13 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [HM Customs and Excise Spring Departmental Report 2004]; to be printed [No. 908-i] [Mr John McFall].

14 Welsh Affairs.—Fifth Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Powers of the Children’s Commissioner for Wales], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 538] [Mr Martyn Jones].

15 Work and Pensions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Child Support Agency]; to be printed [No. 928-i] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 124; WH, No. 78]


The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Charlotte Atkins.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.28 p.m.]
Thursday 22nd July 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Sustainable and Secure Buildings Bill, without Amendment.
   The Lords communicate that they have appointed a Committee of twelve Lords to join with the Committee appointed by this House to consider and report on any draft Mental Health Bill presented to both Houses by a Minister of the Crown;
   They have ordered that the Committee have power to agree with the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman;
   That the Committee have leave to report from time to time;
   That the Committee have power to appoint specialist advisers;
   That the Committee have power to adjourn from place to place within the United Kingdom;
   That the quorum of the Committee shall be two;
   That the reports of the Committee from time to time shall be printed, notwithstanding any adjournment of the House;
   That the Committee do report on the draft Bill by 31st March 2005; and
   That the Committee do meet with the Committee appointed by the Commons on Wednesday 15th September at Ten o’clock.

2 Royal Assent,—The Deputy Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, That Her Majesty had signified her Royal Assent to the following Acts, agreed upon by both Houses:
   Finance Act 2004
   Scottish Parliament (Constituencies) Act 2004
   Statute Law (Repeals) Act 2004
   Carers (Equal Opportunities) Act 2004
   Patents Act 2004
   Health Protection Agency Act 2004
   Traffic Management Act 2004
   Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc.) Act 2004
   Energy Act 2004
   Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004.

3 Adjournment (Matters to be considered before the forthcoming adjournment),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jim Fitzpatrick);
   And it being Six o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

4 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—
   (1) Mr Robert O’Neill and other residents of Reading for the retention of Kings Meadow and Caversham Lock as public amenities,
   (2) Mr Hobday and others against the proposed closure of the Bridgwater Drive Post Office, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, and
   (3) Rob and Mojisola Green, the staff of the Humberstone Park Café, Leicester, and others against the proposed sale of the Café building by Leicester City Council were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

5 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Jennifer Anne Lewis, John Lewis, Duncan Cairns and others for extension of the services which sub-post offices are allowed to provide was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)
   And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-seven minutes to Seven o’clock, adjourned till Tuesday 7th September, pursuant to Resolution [21st June].

[Adjourned at 6.33 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Freedom of Information,—Draft Environmental Information Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Building and Buildings,—Building (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1808), dated 13th July 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


5 Land Registration,—Land Registration Fee (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1833), dated 20th July 2004 [by Act] [Mr David Lammy].


Other Papers:

9 Audit Commission,—Report and Summary Financial Statement of the Audit Commission for 31st October 2002 to 31st March 2004 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 860] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

10 Broadcasting,—Report and Accounts of the Radio Authority for 2003 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

11 Care Standards,—Account of the General Social Care Council for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1004] [Clerk of the House].

12 Courts and Legal Services,—Report of the Magistrates' Courts Business Returns for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 865] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

13 Census,—Papers, entitled Census 2001: Key Statistics for urban areas in the—(1) Midlands, (2) North, (3) South East, and (4) South West and Wales [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

14 Charities,—Report of the Charity Commission for England and Wales for 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6209] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

15 Constitutional Affairs,—Government Response to the Eleventh Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights, Session 2003–04, on Commission for Equality and Human Rights: Structure, Functions and Powers [by Command] [Cm. 6295] [Mr David Lammy].
16 Education,—Account of the Teacher Training Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the
Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 968] [Clerk of
the House].

17 Export and Investment Guarantees,—Statutory Return, as at 31st March 2004, of the Export
Credit Guarantee Department under the Export and Investments Guarantees Act 1991
[by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

18 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Accounts for 2003 of the—
   (i) Construction Industry Training Board, and
   (ii) Engineering Construction Industry Training Board
   with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed
   [Nos. 1000 and 1001] [Clerk of the House],
   (2) Accounts for 2003–04 of the Meat and Livestock Commission, with the Report of
   the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1002]
   [Secretary Margaret Beckett], and
   (3) Report and Accounts for 2003–04 of the—
      (i) Child Support Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General
      thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 782] [Mr Secretary Smith],
      (ii) Court Service, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon
      [by Act]; to be printed [No. 788] [Mr Christopher Leslie], and
      (iii) Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and
      Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 863] [Mr Secretary Darling].

19 Government Trading Funds,—Reports and Accounts of the Central Office of Information
for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
to be printed [No. 757] [Clerk of the House].

20 Greenwich Hospital,—Accounts of the Greenwich Hospital and Travers Foundation for
2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to
be printed [No. 947] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

21 National Health Service,—Accounts of the Counter Fraud and Security Management Service
for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
to be printed [No. 763] [Mr Secretary Reid].

22 National Health Service Reform and Health Care Professions,—Accounts of the Council for
the Regulation of Health Care Professionals for—
   (1) 2002–03, and
   (2) 2003–04,
   with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed
   [Nos. 959 and 960] [Clerk of the House].

23 Political Parties, Elections and Referendums,—(1) Corporate Plan of the Electoral
Commission for 2004–05 to 2008–09, and
   (2) First Report of the Speaker’s Committee, 2004
   [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 797 and 924] [The Speaker].

24 Public Administration,—Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Select
Committee on Public Administration, Session 2003–04, on Taming the Prerogative:
Strengthening Ministerial Accountability to Parliament [by Command] [Cm. 6187] [Mr
David Lammy].

Secretary Blunkett].

26 Regional Assemblies,—Paper, entitled Draft Regional Assemblies Bill with Explanatory
Notes and Regulatory Impact Assessment [by Command] [Cm. 6285] [Mr Secretary
 Prescott].

27 Regional Development Agencies,—Reports and Accounts for 2003–04 of—
   (1) Advantage West Midlands Development Agency,
   (2) East Midlands Development Agency,
   (3) East of England Development Agency,
   (4) Northwest Development Agency,
   (5) One NorthEast Development Agency,
(6) South East England Development Agency,
(7) South West of England Regional Development Agency, and
(8) Yorkshire Forward Development Agency,
with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

28 Regulation of Investigatory Powers.—Reports for 2003 of the—
(1) Intelligence Services Commissioner, and
(2) Interception of Communications Commissioner
[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 884 and 883] [The Prime Minister].

29 Regulatory Reform.—Proposal for a Regulatory Reform (Registration of Births and Deaths) (England and Wales) Order 2004, together with a statement by the General Register Office and a regulatory impact assessment [by Act] [Ruth Kelly].

30 Science and Technology.—Report and Accounts of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 685] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].


32 Statutory Instruments (Notification).—Communication declaring that the undermentioned Statutory Instrument had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament, and explaining why such copies had not been so laid before the Instruments came into operation:
[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

33 Superannuation.—(1) Civil Service Additional Voluntary Contribution Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 2004,
(2) Civil Service Compensation Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 2004,
(3) Civil Service Injury Benefits Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 2004, and
(4) Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (Amendment) Scheme 2004
[by Command] [Mr Douglas Alexander].

34 Teaching and Higher Education.—Report of the General Teaching Council for England for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

35 Utilities.—Report and Accounts of energywatch for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

APPENDIX II

European Standing Committees

The Speaker has appointed Miss Anne Begg Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 9149/04 on the Establishment of a Community Fisheries Control Agency.

[No. 125; WH, No. 79]
Thursday 22nd July 2004.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall
The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Child Poverty—Second Report of the Work and Pensions Committee, Session 2003–04, and the Government’s response thereto).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed. That the sitting be now adjourned—[Mr John Heppell];
And the sitting having continued for three hours, it was adjourned without Question put, till Tuesday 7th September.

[Adjourned at 5.30 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Fishery Limits (United Kingdom) (No. 2) Bill.—Ordered, That the Fishery Limits (United Kingdom) (No. 2) Bill be read a second time on Wednesday 15th September.

2 Disposals of Public Land and Property (Design Competitions).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable the Secretary of State to require public bodies to hold design competitions when drawing up planning briefs in respect of the disposal of publicly-owned land and property: And that Roger Casale, Peter Bottomley, Mrs Anne Campbell, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Mike Hancock, Alan Howarth, Christine Russell, Derek Wyatt and Richard Younger-Ross do prepare and bring it in.

3 Disposals of Public Land and Property (Design Competitions) Bill.—Roger Casale accordingly presented a Bill to enable the Secretary of State to require public bodies to hold design competitions when drawing up planning briefs in respect of the disposal of publicly-owned land and property: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 148].

4 Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords],—The Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read a second time and stood committed to a Standing Committee.

5 Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords] [Money].

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any expenses of the Secretary of State under that Act—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.

6 Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords] [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—

(a) provisions enabling a levy to be imposed on bodies or persons specified, or of a description specified, in regulations for the purpose of meeting expenses incurred (or treated as incurred) by a grant-aided body within the meaning of those provisions, and

(b) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.

7 Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords].—Ordered, That, during proceedings on the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords], the Standing Committee on the Bill shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it shall meet.—(Joan Ryan.)

8 Health,—Ordered, That Mr Paul Burstow be discharged from the Health Committee and Mrs Patsy Calton be added.—(Mr Bob Ainsworth, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

9 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from,—

(1) Mr and Mrs Pownall, Jeff Stanley and other residents of Castle Point against the installation of additional equipment to an existing mobile telephone mast in Rayleigh Road, Thundersley, Essex, and

(2) residents of Dumfries and Galloway and others against any change to the structure of the Scottish regiments

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Joan Ryan.)

And accordingly the House, having continued to sit till twenty-two minutes past Nine o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 9.22 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers presented by Her Majesty’s Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Tuesday 3rd August 2004

1 Immigration,—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [Cm. 6297] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

Friday 23rd July 2004

2 Disability Discrimination,—Paper, entitled Delivering equality for disabled people [Cm. 6255] [Mr Secretary Smith].

3 European Communities (No. 2, 2004),—Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement, done at Rome on 15th December 2003, between the European Community and its Member States of the one part, and the Andean Community and its Member Countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela), of the other part [Cm. 6280], with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Straw].

4 European Communities (No. 3, 2004),—Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement, done at Rome on 15th December 2003, between the European Community and its Member States of the one part, and the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, of the other part [Cm. 6281], with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Straw].

Friday 30th July 2004

5 Miscellaneous (No. 8, 2004),—Agreement, done at Brussels on 9th December 2003, between the Government of the French Republic, the Government of the Kingdom of Norway and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland relating to the Joint Ownership of a Submarine Rescue System [Cm. 6296], with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Straw].

Wednesday 11th August 2004

6 Treaty Series (No. 30, 2004),—Exchange of Notes, done at Ottawa on 22nd January and 27th February 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Canada to extend the Agreement regarding the Sharing of Forfeited or Confiscated Assets or their Equivalent Funds signed at London on 21st February 2001 to Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Gibraltar, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands [Cm. 6299] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Monday 16th August 2004

7 Environmental Pollution,—Government Response to the Twenty-fourth Report from the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, on Chemicals in Products [Cm. 6300] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Wednesday 18th August 2004


Friday 20th August 2004

9 Law Commission,—Report of the Law Commission on Partial Defences to Murder [Cm. 6301] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

10 Mozambique (No. 1, 2004),—Agreement, done at Maputo on 18th March 2004, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Mozambique for the Promotion and Protection of Investments [Cm. 6308], with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Straw].
Friday 27th August 2004


12 Miscellaneous (No. 9, 2004),—Convention, done at Joensuu (Finland) on 28th August 2003, on the European Forest Institute [Cm. 6311], with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Straw].

Wednesday 1st September 2004

13 Treaty Series (No. 33, 2004),—First Protocol, done at Brussels on 19th December 1988, on the Interpretation by the Court of Justice of the European Communities of the Convention on the Law Applicable to Contractual Obligations, opened for signature in Rome on 19 June 1980 [Cm. 6313] [Mr Secretary Straw].

14 Treaty Series (No. 34, 2004),—Second Protocol, done at Brussels on 19th December 1988, conferring on the Court of Justice of the European Communities Certain Powers to interpret the Convention on the Law Applicable to Contractual Obligations, opened for signature in Rome on 19th June 1980 [Cm. 6314] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Thursday 2nd September 2004

15 Transport,—Government Response to the Tenth Report of the Transport Committee, Session 2003–04, on the Work of VOSA and VCA [Cm. 6307] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

Friday 30th July 2004


Friday 13th August 2004


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Friday 23rd July 2004

18 Companies,—Companies (Disqualification Orders) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1940), dated 21st July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Ms Secretary Hewitt].


Monday 26th July 2004


Tuesday 27th July 2004


Wednesday 28th July 2004


26 Ecclesiastical Law.—(1) Church Representation Rules (Amendment) Resolution 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1889), dated 10th July 2004,
   (2) Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1888), dated 9th July 2004, and


28 Fire Services.—Firemen’s Pension Scheme (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1912), dated 20th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Prescott].

29 Health Care and Associated Professions.—European Qualifications (Health and Social Care Professions and Accession of New Member States) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1947), dated 21st July 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].


Thursday 29th July 2004

31 Civil Aviation.—Air Carrier Liability (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1974), dated 27th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

   (2) Summary Appeal Court (Army) (Amendment) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1950),
   (3) Summary Appeal Court (Navy) (Amendment) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1949), and
   (2) Summary Appeal Courts (Warrant Officers) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1937), dated 22nd July 2004, with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [Mr Secretary Hoon].


34 Family Proceedings.—(1) Children (Allocation of Proceedings) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 310), and
   dated 10th July 2004, with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [Mr David Lammy].

Friday 30th July 2004

35 Education.—(1) Education (Assisted Places) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1965), and
   dated 22nd July 2004, with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [Mr Secretary Clarke].

36 Legal Services Commission.—(1) Criminal Defence Service (Funding) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2045), and
   (2) Criminal Defence Service (General) (No. 2) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2046),
   dated 29th July 2004, with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [Mr David Lammy].
Monday 2nd August 2004


Wednesday 4th August 2004


39 Education,—Cannington College (Dissolution) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2024), dated 27th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Clarke].


Thursday 5th August 2004


42 Income Tax,—(1) Capital Allowances (Energy-saving Plant and Machinery) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2093), and
(2) Capital Allowances (Environmentally Beneficial Plant and Machinery) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2094),


Friday 6th August 2004

45 Disabled Persons,—Public Service Vehicles Accessibility (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1881), dated 14th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

46 Education,—Education (Student Support) (No. 2) Regulations 2002 (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2041), dated 29th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Clarke].

(2) Public Service Vehicles (Operators' Licences) (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1876), and
(3) Road Transport (International Passenger Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1882),
dated 14th July 2004, with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [Mr Secretary Darling].

(2) Goods Vehicles (Licensing of Operators) (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1878),
(4) International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1884),
(7) Passenger and Goods Vehicles (Recording Equipment) (Approval of Fitters and Workshops) (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1885), and
(8) Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1872)
dated 14th July 2004, with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [Mr Secretary Darling].

Monday 9th August 2004

49 Civil Aviation,—(1) Air Navigation (Overseas Territories) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2038), dated 27th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Straw], and
(2) Single European Sky (National Supervisory Authority) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1938), dated 22nd July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

50 Education,—School Governance (Federations) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2042), dated 29th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Clarke].

51 European Communities,—European Communities (Designation) (No. 4) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1984), dated 27th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Straw].


53 Overseas Territories,—Sovereign Base Areas (Judicial Authorities) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2036), dated 27th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Straw].

54 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Lancashire) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2028), dated 28th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

Tuesday 10th August 2004

55 Children and Young Persons,—Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults and Care Standards Tribunal (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2073), dated 3rd August 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].

56 Customs and Excise,—(1) Biofuels and Other Fuel Substitutes (Payment of Excise Duties etc.) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2065), dated 6th August 2004,
(2) Excise Duties (Road Fuel Gas) (Reliefs) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2069), dated 6th August,
(3) Excise Duties (Surcharges or Rebates) (Hydrocarbon Oils etc.) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2063), dated 4th August 2004,

57 Health Care and Associated Professions,—General Chiropractic Council (Continuing Professional Development) Rules Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1877), dated 12th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Christopher Leslie].

58 Housing,—Rent Officers (Housing Benefit Functions) (Student Accommodation) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2101), dated 6th August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Smith].


60 Partnership,—Limited Liability Partnerships Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 307), dated 22nd July, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Murphy].

61 Protection of Vulnerable Adults,—Care Standards Act 2000 (Extension of Protection of Vulnerable Adults Scheme) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2070), dated 2nd August 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].
62 Road Traffic.—Motor Vehicles (Evidence of Test Certificates) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1896), dated 19th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].


Wednesday 11th August 2004

64 British Nationality.—British Nationality (General) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2109), dated 10th August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


Thursday 12th August 2004

66 Environmental Protection.—Non-Road Mobile Machinery (Emission of Gaseous and Particulate Pollutants) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2034), dated 28th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

Monday 16th August 2004

67 Merchant Shipping.—Merchant Shipping (Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Reporting Requirements) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2110), dated 10th August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

Thursday 19th August 2004


69 Education.—Education (School Teachers' Pay and Conditions) (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2142), dated 13th August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Clarke].

70 Police.—Police Service of Northern Ireland (Conduct etc) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 315), dated 22nd July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Murphy].

71 Road Traffic.—Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2102), dated 5th August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

Monday 23rd August 2004

72 Agriculture.—Feeding Stuffs (Sampling and Analysis) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2146), dated 12th August 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].


74 Food.—Food Safety (Act of Accession concerning the Czech Republic and other States) (Consequential Amendments) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2145), dated 12th August 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].

75 Road Traffic.—Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2099), dated 5th August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

Tuesday 24th August 2004

76 National Health Service.—National Clinical Assessment Authority (Establishment and Constitution) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2147), dated 15th August 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].

77 Road Traffic.—Motor Vehicles (Type Approval and Approval Marks) (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2106), dated 4th August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].
Wednesday 25th August 2004


Thursday 26th August 2004


82 Disabled Persons,—Agricultural Wages (Abolition of Permits to Incapacitated Persons) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2178), dated 22nd August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

83 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of East Sussex) (District of Lewes) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2111), dated 11th August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].


Friday 27th August 2004

86 Criminal Law,—(1) Discharge of Fines by Unpaid Work (Issue of Summons) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2197), and

dated 24th August 2004, with Explanatory Memoranda [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


(2) Overseas Life Insurance Companies Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2200), and

(3) Venture Capital Trust (Winding up and Mergers) (Tax) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2199),
dated 27th August 2004, with Explanatory Memoranda [Dawn Primarolo].

88 Social Security,—Income Support (General) (Standard Interest Rate Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2174), dated 23rd August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Smith].

Tuesday 31st August 2004

89 Health Care and Associated Professions,—General Chiropractic Council (Continuing Professional Development) Rules Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1877), dated 12th July 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Wednesday 1st September 2004

90 Coal Industry,—Coal Mining Subsidence (Subsidence Adviser) (Revocation) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2241), dated 26th August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Ms Secretary Hewitt].


92 Disabled Persons,—(1) Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Gatwick Express Class 460 Vehicles) Exemption (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2150), and


Thursday 2nd September 2004


96 Merchant Shipping,—Fishing Vessels (Safety Training) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2169), dated 17th August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].


Friday 3rd September 2004

98 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (EC Type Approval) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2186), dated 25th August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

Monday 6th September 2004


100 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Hampshire) (Borough of Eastleigh) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2188), dated 25th August 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].


Other Papers:

Wednesday 28th July 2004

102 Overseas Territories,—(1) Burma (Restrictive Measures) (Overseas Territories) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1979), and
dated 27th July 2004 [Mr Secretary Straw].

(2) Iraq (United Nations Sanctions) (Isle of Man) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1982), dated 27th July 2004 [Mr David Lammy], and

Monday 9th August 2004

104 Caribbean and North Atlantic Territories,—Cayman Islands (Constitution) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2029), dated 27th July 2004 [Mr Secretary Straw].

105 County Courts,—County Court Fees (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2098), dated 4th August 2004 [Mr Christopher Leslie].


Friday 3rd September 2004


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Tuesday 7th September 2004:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

109 Education.—Draft Student Fees (Approved Plans) (England) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

110 Local Government.—Draft Business Improvement Districts (England) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

111 Northern Ireland.—Draft Roads (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

112 Income Tax.—Finance Act 2004, Sections 38 to 40 and 45 and Schedule 6 (Consequential Amendment of Enactments) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2310), dated 7th September 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Dawn Primarolo].

113 Local Government.—Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (Amendment) (No. 2) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2211), dated 26th August 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


(7) Town and Country Planning (Regions) (National Parks) (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2207), and


dated 26th August 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


117 Universities and Colleges (Trusts) Act.—Scheme made by the Council of the University of Oxford, amending the scheme of the University for the administration of certain trust funds, dated 14th July 2003 [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Other Papers:


119 Animals.—Statistics of Scientific Procedures on Living Animals in Great Britain for 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6291] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
120 Animals (Scientific Procedures).—Report of the Animal Procedures Committee for 2003 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1017] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

121 Aviation Security.—Report on the number of notices served, directions given and enforcement notices served under the Aviation Security Act 1982 as amended by the Aviation and Maritime Security Act 1990 during 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

122 Aviation and Maritime Security.—Report on the number of notices served, directions given and enforcement notices served under the Aviation and Maritime Security Act 1990 during 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

123 Channel Tunnel (Security).—Report on the number of notices served, directions given and enforcement notices served under the Channel Tunnel (Security) Order 1994 during 2003 [by Statutory Instrument] [Mr Secretary Darling].

124 European Union.—Paper, entitled Update on Prospects for the EU in 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6310] [Mr Secretary Straw].

125 Government Resources and Accounts.—Accounts of the Housing Corporation for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 946] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

126 Law Commissions.—Report of the Scottish Law Commission on Registration of Rights in Security by Companies [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1003] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

127 Local Government.—Report and Accounts of The Standards Board for England for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

128 National Health Service Reform and Health Care Professions.—Report of the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].


130 Opticians.—Accounts of the General Optical Council for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

131 Public Petitions.—Observations by the—

(1) Deputy Prime Minister on the Petitions—

(i) [13th July] from residents of Fareham, Hampshire, for amendments to the law relating to planning to give a greater role to local authorities and residents in implementing housing policy, and

(ii) [21st July] from the Penistone Against Greenspace Encroachment campaign and others for a review by the Deputy Prime Minister of Planning Application B/03/2171/PLU relating to a proposed development on the Recreation Ground at Penistone, in South Yorkshire; and

(2) Secretary of State for Education and Skills on the Petition [21st July] from staff in the Department for Education and Skills against job cuts in the Department for Education and Skills; and

(3) Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [21st July] from Action for M.E. for legislation to provide a cross-government response to M.E. and for a fully-funded research programme; and

(4) Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Petitions—

(i) [1st July] from Mr R. Patel and others against the proposed closure of Earls Hall Parade Post Office, Southend, and

(ii) [14th July] from Mr Brian Keeler and others for a change of Government policy on post office closures and for provision of full banking services at post offices to improve their viability; and

(5) Secretary of State for Transport on the Petition [21st July] from driving instructors in and around North West Leicestershire against the introduction of a further theory examination for qualified driving instructors; [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

132 Railways.—Report on the number of notices served, instructions given and enforcement notices served under the Railways Act 1993 during 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

133 Reserve Forces.—(1) Amendment 27 to the Territorial Army Regulations 1978, and

(2) Change 4 to BR 60 Royal Navy Reserve Regulations [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].
Papers withdrawn:

134 Education,—Draft Student Fees (Approved Plans) (England) Regulations 2004 [laid 7th July].

135 Housing,—Explanatory Memorandum to the Rent Officers (Housing Benefit Functions) (Student Accommodation) Amendment Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2101) [laid 10th August].

136 Health Care and Associated Professions,—General Chiropractic Council (Continuing Professional Development) Rules Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1877) [laid 10th August].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Penalties for Disorderly Behaviour (Amendment of Minimum Age) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Derek Conway Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order, in place of Mr Kevin Hughes.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [BBC Charter Renewal]; to be printed [No. 598-vi] [Sir Gerald Kaufman].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the draft Animal Welfare Bill Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The draft Animal Welfare Bill]; to be printed [No. 1032-i and -ii] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 International Development,—(1) Seventh Report from the International Development Committee [DFID’s Agriculture Policy], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 602]; and

   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [DFID’s Agriculture Policy] [Tony Baldry].

4 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-seventh Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xxvii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

5 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [UK-ASEAN Trade Relations]; to be printed [No. 388-iii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 126; WH, No. 80]

Tuesday 7th September 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr David Jamieson.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 1.59 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Disqualification of a Member,—The Speaker laid upon the Table a notification, That Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer had this day appointed the Right Honourable Peter Benjamin Mandelson to be Steward or Bailiff of Her Majesty’s Manor of Northstead in the County of York.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Derek Conway reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Penalties for Disorderly Behaviour (Amendment of Minimum Age) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 European Standing Committee A,—Miss Anne Begg reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 9149/04 and Addendum I, draft Council Regulation establishing a Community Fisheries Control Agency and amending Regulation (EC) No. 2847/93 establishing a control system applicable to the Common Fisheries Policy; takes note of the Government’s welcome of the proposal and supports the Government’s objective of playing a constructive part in detailed discussion of the proposal whilst seeking to ensure that the role of the Agency will not undermine the control and enforcement responsibilities of individual Member States or cut across the policy aim of increased regionalisation of the Common Fisheries Policy.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

4 Access to Literature (Visually-Impaired Children),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about accessible formats for printed works for visually-impaired children; And that Annette Brooke, Mr David Heath, Sandra Gidley, Mr Phil Willis, Brian White, Linda Perham, Mr David Amess and Peter Bottomley do prepare and bring it in.

5 Access to Literature (Visually-Impaired Children) Bill,—Annette Brooke accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about accessible formats for printed works for visually-impaired children: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 149].

6 Opposition Day [16th allotted day],—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Funded Pensions and Government Policies for Older People,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House regrets the Government’s failure to tackle the pensions crisis; expresses concern that present and former employees of Turner & Newall and those in a similar position do not know what assistance, if any, they will get from either the Financial Assistance Scheme or the Pension Protection Fund; regrets the inadequacies of Government efforts to encourage people to build up retirement savings in funded pensions; condemns the spread of means-tested benefits; draws attention to the Government’s recent failure to deliver benefits to pensioners competently; further regrets the Government’s wider failure to reform the welfare system for older people; notes that the National Pensioners Convention is lobbying Parliament on 8th September; and calls for Government action to tackle the crisis in funded pensions and to ensure dignity and security in retirement for older people—(Mr David Willetts);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘supports the Government’s strategy to enable people to save securely for their retirement and to promote retirement flexibility and informed choice; welcomes the Government’s Pensions Bill and Pension Protection Fund, which will bring real security for over 10 million defined benefit pension scheme members if their employer becomes insolvent and their pension scheme winds up; further welcomes the £400 million Financial Assistance Scheme which will help people who have already lost out; believes that the Pensions Bill will enable many more people to save with confidence with a new proactive pensions regulator, measures to simplify pensions legislation and improved incentives to work past the state pension age; supports the pensions tax simplification proposals being taken forward in the Finance Act 2004, which will replace eight tax regimes with one simplified system; commends proposals in the Pensions Bill to allow individuals to defer their state pension and draw it as a lump sum; welcomes measures to enable people to make an informed choice in pension provision, including new pilots to provide information and advice in the workplace; condemns the inheritance of 1997, with the legacy of pension mis-selling and millions in poverty, whereby many were expected by the previous Government to live on under £69...
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a week; believes that the Opposition parties’ policies will be unfair to the poorest pensioners, unaffordable and unsustainable; commends the Government’s historic commitment to tackling pensioner poverty; and welcomes the extra £10 billion that the Government is spending on pensioners in 2004–05 compared with the 1997 system’, instead thereof.—(Malcolm Wicks.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 191.
Tellers for the Noes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Joan Ryan: 310.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House supports the Government’s strategy to enable people to save securely for their retirement and to promote retirement flexibility and informed choice; welcomes the Government’s Pensions Bill and Pension Protection Fund, which will bring real security for over 10 million defined benefit pension scheme members if their employer becomes insolvent and their pension scheme winds up; further welcomes the £400 million Financial Assistance Scheme which will help people who have already lost out; believes that the Pensions Bill will enable many more people to save with confidence with a new proactive pensions regulator, measures to simplify pensions legislation and improved incentives to work past the state pension age; supports the pensions tax simplification proposals being taken forward in the Finance Act 2004, which will replace eight tax regimes with one simplified system; commends proposals in the Pensions Bill to allow individuals to defer their state pension and draw it as a lump sum; welcomes measures to enable people to make an informed choice in pension provision, including new pilots to provide information and advice in the workplace; condemns the inheritance of 1997, with the legacy of pension mis-selling and millions in poverty, whereby many were expected by the previous Government to live on under £69 a week; believes that the Opposition parties’ policies will be unfair to the poorest pensioners, unaffordable and unsustainable; commends the Government’s historic commitment to tackling pensioner poverty; and welcomes the extra £10 billion that the Government is spending on pensioners in 2004–05 compared with the 1997 system.

Hospital-acquired Infection.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes with deep concern the increased levels of hospital-acquired infection and, in particular, that the incidence of methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) has doubled since 1997; welcomes the report by the National Audit Office ‘Improving Patient Care by Reducing the Risk of Hospital-Acquired Infection: a Progress Report’ (HC 876); regrets the lack of timely action by the Government which this discloses, including higher bed occupancies and the resultant impact of Government waiting list targets on infection control measures, lack of surveillance data other than hospital-wide MRSA and post-discharge surveillance and isolation facilities, and lack of progress on a national infection control manual; is deeply concerned that recommendations for bed or ward closures by infection control teams have been refused; and calls on the Government now to act urgently to secure the action needed to reduce hospital-acquired infections.—(Mr Andrew Lansley);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the Government’s commitment to ensure that patients can have confidence that National Health Service hospitals are clean, safe environments within infection firmly under control; congratulates the Government on its action plans for reducing infection rates, “Winning Ways” and “Towards cleaner hospitals and lower rates of infection”, which include the new target for a year-on-year reduction in MRSA, and the designation of directors of infection prevention and control to bring about local change; notes that the National Audit Office report concluded that the introduction in 2001 of mandatory MRSA surveillance raised the profile of infection control with senior managers; expects that the new target will act in a similar way, and deplores therefore the suggestion that the target be abolished; acknowledges that improving patient safety is a difficult medical issue that calls for the hard work and care that is the hallmark of NHS staff; welcomes therefore the 77,500 extra nurses and almost 19,400 extra doctors that have become a part of patient care since 1997; and therefore congratulates the Government on a comprehensive programme of investment and reform that has equipped the NHS to deliver improvements in patient safety, and to reduce hospital-acquired infections’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Reid.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;

Mr Patrick McLoughlin rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.
And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.
And the Question being accordingly put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 190.
Tellers for the Noes, Margaret Moran, Mr John Heppell: 307.

So the Question was negatived.
And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Mr John Heppell: 291.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 177.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the Government’s commitment to ensure that patients can have confidence that National Health Service hospitals are clean, safe environments with infection firmly under control; congratulates the Government on its action plans for reducing infection rates, ‘Winning Ways’ and ‘Towards cleaner hospitals and lower rates of infection’, which include the new target for a year-on-year reduction in MRSA, and the designation of directors of infection prevention and control to bring about local change; notes that the National Audit Office report concluded that the introduction in 2001 of mandatory MRSA surveillance raised the profile of infection control with senior managers; expects that the new target will act in a similar way, and deplores therefore the suggestion that the target be abolished; acknowledges that improving patient safety is a difficult medical issue that calls for the hard work and care that is the hallmark of NHS staff; welcomes therefore the 77,500 extra nurses and almost 19,400 extra doctors that have become a part of patient care since 1997; and therefore congratulates the Government on a comprehensive programme of investment and reform that has equipped the NHS to deliver improvements in patient safety, and to reduce hospital-acquired infections.

7 Adjournment (Party Conferences).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments), That this House, at its rising on Thursday 16th September, do adjourn till Monday 11th October—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

8 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John Heppell.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Constitutional Law,—Primary Medical Services (Scotland) Act 2004 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2261), dated 1st September 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

2 Road Traffic,—(1) Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Essex) (Tendring, Rochford, Uttlesford, Braintree and Castle Point) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2194), and

(2) Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Hertfordshire) (City and District of St Albans) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2212) dated 26th August 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].


Other Papers:

5 European Communities.—Report by the Department of Trade and Industry on the exercise of powers conferred by certain sections of the European Communities Act 1972 and the Customs and Excise Duties (General Reliefs) Act 1979, for the year ended 31st March 2004 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1008] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

6 Mental Health.—Draft Mental Health Bill, with Explanatory Notes [by Command] [Cm. 6305-I and -II] [Mr Secretary Reid].

7 Public Accounts.—Treasury Minutes on the—
   (1) Twenty-third, Twenty-fourth, Twenty-sixth, Twenty-eighth and Thirty-first Reports, and
   (2) Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 2003-04 [by Command] [Cm. 6302 and Cm. 6303] [Ruth Kelly].

8 School Standards and Framework.—Accounts of the East Brighton Education Action Zone for 1st April to 31st December 2003, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1027] [Clerk of the House].

9 Treaty Series (No. 35, 2004).—Agreement, done at Vienna on 12th November 1999, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization on the conduct of activities, including post-certification activities, relating to International Monitoring Facilities for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty [by Command] [Cm. 6317] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A, and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr John Battle, Brian Cotter, Clive Eiford, Paul Farrelly, Mr Mark Fisher, Mr Andrew Love, Mr Andrew Mitchell, Mr Michael Moore, Mr Mike O’Brien, Mr Martin Salter, Mrs Gillian Shephard, Jacqui Smith, Mr Clive Soley and Mr Ian Taylor.

2 Draft Student Fees (Approved Plans) (England) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Kevin Brennan, Mr Colin Challen, Mr Adrian Flook, Chris Grayling, Patrick Hall, Alan Johnson, Mr Bob Laxton, Mr Terry Lewis, Judy Mallaber, Mr Archie Norman, Anne Picking, Mr James Plaskitt, Dr John Pugh, Mr David Rendel, Mr David Ruffley and Derek Twigg.

3 Draft Legal Services Complaints Commissioner (Maximum Penalty) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Geo Clifton-Brown, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Mike Gapes, Mr David Heath, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr Robert Jackson, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr David Lammy, John Mann, Laura Moffatt, Bridget Prentice, Mr Andy Reed, Mr Malcolm Savidge, Jonathan Shaw, Sir Teddy Taylor and Mr Paul Tyler.

4 Draft Penalties for Disorderly Behaviour (Amendment of Minimum Age) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Dari Taylor from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Shona McIsaac.

5 Draft Business Improvement Districts Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Crispin Blunt, Chris Bryant, Paul Clark, Mr Edward Davey, Paul Flynn, Mr Edward Garnier, Linda Gilroy, Phil Hope, Mr David Lepper, Tony Lloyd, Mr Tony McWalter, Mr Eric Pickles, Phil Sawford, Dr Gavin Strang, Mr Hugo Swire and Richard Younger-Ross.
6 Draft Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) (No. 2) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Tom Harris and Diana Organ from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Jim Knight and Mr Eddie McGrady.

7 Draft Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (Amendment) and Police Reform Act 2002 (Modification) Order 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Ms Hazel Blears, Mr Keith Bradley, Mr William Cash, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr David Heath, Mr John Heppell, Mr Peter Lilley, Mr Mark Oaten, Mr James Paise, Ms Gisela Stuart, Ms Dari Taylor, David Winnick, Mr Shaun Woodward and David Wright.

8 Draft Legal Services Ombudsman (Extension of Remit) Regulations 2004:

(1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Ainsworth, Richard Burden, Colin Burgon, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mrs Ann Cryer, Mr Ian Davidson, Geraint Davies, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Mr David Heath, Helen Jones, Mr David Lammy, Mr Eric Martlew, Diana Organ, Bridget Prentice and Mr John Redwood.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—(1) Fifteenth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The Departmental Annual Report 2004], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 707];

(2) Sixteenth Report from the Committee [Climate Change, Water Security and Flooding]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 558];

(3) Twelfth Special Report from the Committee [Government’s Reply to the Eighth Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on Gangmasters—(follow-up)]; to be printed [No. 1035];

(4) Thirteenth Special Report from the Committee [Government’s Reply to the Ninth Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on Milk Pricing in the UK]; to be printed [No. 1036];


(6) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Draft Animal Welfare Bill Sub-Committee of the Committee [The draft Animal Welfare Bill]; to be printed [No. 1032-iii]; and

(7) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Climate Change, Water Security and Flooding]

[Mr Michael Jack].

2 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Police Reform]; to be printed [No. 1038-i] [Mr John Denham].

3 Human Rights,—Nineteenth Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Children Bill]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 537] [Jean Corston].

4 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Scrutiny of European Matters in the House of Commons]; to be printed [No. 565-iv] [Mr Peter Hain].

5 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Waste Management Strategy in Northern Ireland; Northern Ireland Departments’ Resource Accounts 2002–03]; to be printed [Nos. 637-iv and 1040-i] [Mr Tony Clarke].

6 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Draft Regional Assemblies Bill]; to be printed [No. 972-i] [Andrew Bennett].
7 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Improving patient care by reducing the risk of hospital-acquired infection: A progress report]; to be printed [No. 1044-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

8 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Human reproductive technologies and the law]; to be printed [No. 599-v] [Dr Ian Gibson].

   (2) Sixth Special Report from the Committee [The Government Reply to the Committee's Fifth Report, on Support to businesses from Regional Development Agencies]; to be printed [No. 1042];
   (3) Seventh Special Report from the Committee [The Government Reply to the Committee's Sixth Report, on the Work of the Export Credits Guarantee Department]; to be printed [No. 1043]; and
   (4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Pubcos]; to be printed [No. 751-iv]
   [Mr Martin O'Neill].

10 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [The Statistics Commission’s Annual Report 2003–04]; to be printed [No. 1039-i] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 127; WH, No. 81]

Wednesday 8th September 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.41 p.m.

[No. 128.]

Thursday 9th September 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 New Writ,—Ordered, That the Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a New Writ for the electing of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the Borough Constituency of Hartlepool in the room of the Right Honourable Peter Benjamin Mandelson, who since his election for the said Borough Constituency has accepted the Office of Steward or Bailiff of Her Majesty's Manor of Northstead in the County of York.—(Hilary Armstrong.)

2 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill Olner reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) (No. 2) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Janet Anderson reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords agree to the Employment Relations Bill, with Amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

The Lords agree to the Amendments made by this House to the Public Audit (Wales) Bill, without Amendment.

5 Employment Relations Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Employment Relations Bill to be considered on Monday 13th September and to be printed [Bill 151].
6 Hunting Bill.—Mr Alun Michael, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Secretary Blunkett, Secretary Margaret Beckett and Mr Peter Hain, presented a Bill to make provision about hunting wild mammals with dogs; to prohibit hare coursing; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Monday 13th September and to be printed [Bill 150].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Hunting Bill be printed [Bill 150–EN].

7 Local Government (Wales).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 18 (Consideration of draft regulatory reform orders), That the draft Regulatory Reform (Local Commissioner for Wales) Order 2004, which was laid before the House on 24th June, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker);—It was agreed to.

8 Criminal Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Penalties for Disorderly Behaviour (Amendment of Minimum Age) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 14th July, be approved—(Mr Vernon Coaker);—It was agreed to.

9 Adjournment (European Constitution).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Vernon Coaker);

And it being Six o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

10 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) the Endometriosis SHE Trust (UK) for a review of the Government’s policy on the care and treatment of endometriosis, and

(2) Cathy Franklin and others for limiting to three months the time available to carry out a second post-mortem examination before a body is released for burial

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

11 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Joan Ryan.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes to Seven o’clock, adjourned till Monday 13th September.

[Adjourned at 6.32 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Constitutional Law.—(1) Draft Scotland Act 1998 (Functions Exercisable in or as Regards Scotland) Order 2004, and

(2) Draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Schedule 5) Order 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Education.—Religious Character of Schools (Designation Procedure) (Independent Schools) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2262), dated 2nd September 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].


5 Insolvency.—Enterprise Act 2002 (Insolvency) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2312), dated 3rd September 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

6 Merchant Shipping.—(1) Merchant Shipping (Additional Safety Measures for Bulk Carriers) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2151), and

(2) Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances For Ships Other Than Ships of Classes III to VI (A)) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2259), dated 31st August 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].


10 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (Borough of Blackburn with Darwen) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2260), dated 31st August 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].


12 Taxes,—Tonnage Tax (Training Requirement) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2255), dated 31st August 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].


14 Trade Marks,—Trade Marks (International Registrations Designating the European Community, etc.) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2332), dated 7th September 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Other Papers:

15 Foreign and Commonwealth Office,—White Paper on the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe [by Command] [Cm. 6309] [Mr Secretary Straw].

16 Government Resources and Accounts,—Report and Accounts of the Defence Communication Services Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1006] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

17 Health,—Reports of the Committees of Inquiry— (1) Independent Investigation into how the NHS Handled Allegations about the Conduct of Clifford Ayling, and (2) To Investigate how the NHS Handled Allegations about the Performance and Conduct of Richard Neale [by Command] [Cm. 6298 and Cm. 6315] [Mr Secretary Reid].

18 University of Wales, Cardiff Bill [Lords],—Report by the Attorney General on University of Wales, Cardiff Bill [Lords] [by Standing Order] [The Solicitor General].

APPENDIX II
Standing Committees

1 Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords],—The Speaker has appointed Derek Conway and David Taylor Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft Student Fees (Approved Plans) (England) Regulations 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

3 Draft Legal Services Complaints Commissioner (Maximum Penalty) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Draft Business Improvement Districts Regulations 2004: (1) The Speaker has appointed Sir John Butterfill Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations, and
(2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Eric Pickles from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr Robert Syms.

5 Draft Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (Amendment) and Police Reform Act 2002 (Modification) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Win Griffiths Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

6 Draft Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) (No. 2) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Parmjit Dhanda and Mr John Spellar from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Ian Pearson and Jonathan Shaw.

7 Draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Liam Byrne and Andy King from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Charlotte Atkins and Mrs Louise Ellman.

European Standing Committees

8 The Speaker has appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 15820/03 on Driving Licences.

9 The Speaker has appointed Mr James Cran Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 9317/04 on Approximation, Mutual Recognition and Enforcement of Criminal Sanctions.

10 European Union Document No. 6406/1/04 relating to the security features and biometrics in EU passports, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the draft Animal Welfare Bill Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The draft Animal Welfare Bill]; to be printed [No. 1032-iv] [Mr Michael Jack].

2 European Scrutiny,—Thirtieth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxx] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

3 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [The Influence of the Pharmaceutical Industry]; to be printed [No. 1030-i] [Dr Doug Naysmith].

4 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Draft Regional Assemblies Bill]; to be printed [No. 972-ii] [Andrew Bennett].

[No. 128; WH, No. 82]

Thursday 9th September 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Within REACH: the EU’s new chemicals strategy—Sixth Report from the Science and Technology Committee, Session 2003–04, and the Government’s response thereto).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr John Heppell); And the sitting having continued for three hours, it was adjourned without Question put, till Tuesday 14th September.

[Adjourned at 5.30 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Two o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Roger Gale reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Student Fees (Approved Plans) (England) Regulations 2004.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Legal Services Complaints Commissioner (Maximum Penalty) Order 2004.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Sir John Butterfill reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Business Improvement Districts Regulations 2004.
   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 European Standing Committee A,—Mr Nigel Beard reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:
   That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 15820/03, draft Directive on driving licences (Recasting); and endorses the Government’s objective to combat driving licence fraud and improve road safety without imposing undue burdens on industry, private individuals or law enforcers.
   Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

5 Children Bill [Lords],—The Children Bill [Lords] was, according to Order, read as a second time.

6 Children Bill [Lords] (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Children Bill [Lords]:

   **Commitittal**
   1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

   **Proceedings in Standing Committee**
   2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Thursday 21st October 2004.
   3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.
   6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made by the House on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

   **Other proceedings**
   7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further message from the Lords) may be programmed—(Mr Tom Watson);
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr John Heppell: 241.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr David Ruffley: 72.
   So the Question was agreed to.

7 Children Bill [Lords][Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Children Bill [Lords] [Money];
   A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Children Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (a) any expenditure incurred by the Secretary of State by virtue of the Act, and
(b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other Act—(Mr Tom Watson)—It was agreed to.

8 Establishment of a Community Fisheries Control Agency.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 9149/04 and Addendum 1, draft Council Regulation establishing a Community Fisheries Control Agency and amending Regulation (EC) No. 2847/93 establishing a control system applicable to the Common Fisheries Policy; takes note of the Government’s welcome of the proposal and supports the Government’s objective of playing a constructive part in detailed discussion of the proposal whilst seeking to ensure that the role of the Agency will not undermine the control and enforcement responsibilities of individual Member States or cut across the policy aim of increased regionalisation of the Common Fisheries Policy—(Mr Tom Watson)—It was agreed to.

9 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Tom Watson);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock, and Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then ten minutes past Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.10 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:
Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 10th September pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Animals,—(1) Non Commercial Movement of Pet Animals (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2363), and
dated 8th September 2004, with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


5 Fire and Rescue Services,—(1) Fire and Rescue Services (England) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2305), and
   (2) Firefighters’ Pension Scheme (England and Scotland) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2306),
dated 7th September 2004, with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [Mr Secretary Prescott].

6 Food,—Welfare Food (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2311), dated 7th September 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].


8 National Assistance Services,—National Assistance (Assessment of Resources) (Amendment) (No. 2) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2328), dated 7th September 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].

9 Police,—Police Pensions (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2354), dated 8th September 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

11 Social Security.— (1) Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2303), dated 27th August 2004, and
(2) Social Security (Incapacity) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2301), dated 2nd September 2004,
with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [Mr Secretary Johnson].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 13th September 2004:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


13 European Communities,—European Public Limited-Liability Company Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2326), dated 6th September 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

14 Food,—Genetically Modified Food (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2335), dated 1st September 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].


16 Social Security,— (1) Social Security (Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit, State Pension Credit and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2327), dated 7th September 2004, and
(2) Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 3) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2308), dated 6th September 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Johnson].

Other Papers:

17 Government Resources and Accounts,—Report and Accounts of the Rural Payments Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1009] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

18 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
(1) Helping Farm Businesses in England, and
(2) Welfare to Work: Tackling the Barriers to the Employment of Older People [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1028 and 1026] [Clerk of the House].

19 Postal Services,—Report of the Postal Services Commission for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1016] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

20 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts for 2003–04 for:—
(1) Ashington Education Action Zone,
(2) Clacton and Harwich Education Action Zone, and
(3) Ellesmere Port Education Action Zone
with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1047, 1045 and 1046] [Clerk of the House]

21 Work and Pensions,—Report by the Department for Work and Pensions for 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6239] [Mr Secretary Johnson].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged Charlotte Atkins from Standing Committee A (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Tom Watson.

2 Draft Student Fees (Approved Plans) (England) Regulations 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Secretary Johnson, Mr Terry Lewis and Anne Picking from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Mr David Crausby, Dr Kim Howells and Mr Khalid Mahmood.

3 Draft Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (Amendment) and Police Reform Act 2002 (Modification) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr James Pajce from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Humfrey Malins.
APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Draft Animal Welfare Bill Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The draft Animal Welfare Bill]; to be printed [No. 1032-v] [Mr Michael Jack].

2 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee ['Hate Crime’ in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [Nos. 539-iv & -v] [Mr Michael Mates].

3 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Ofgem: Social Action Plan and Household Energy Efficiency]; to be printed [No. 1053-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

[No. 130.]

Tuesday 14th September 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Regulatory Reform,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolution:

That the proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Unsolicited Goods and Services Act 1971) (Directory Entries and Demands for Payment) Order 2004, which was laid before the House on 26th May, should be amended before an Order is laid before the House.

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Win Griffiths reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (Amendment) and Police Reform Act 2002 (Modification) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Employment Relations Bill,—The Lords request that this House may be pleased to return the Employment Relations Bill, because Lords Amendment No. 11 is incorrect.

The Lords have agreed to the Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Employment Relations Bill,—Ordered, That the Lords Message this day relating to the Employment Relations Bill be now considered.

The House accordingly proceeded to consider the Lords Message.

Ordered, That the Bill be returned to the Lords, as desired by their Lordships.

5 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

Employment Relations Bill,—The Lords return the Employment Relations Bill corrected.

6 Employment Relations Bill,—Ordered, That the Lords Amendments to the Employment Relations Bill be printed [Bill 153].

7 Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 154].

8 Representation of the People (Ballot Papers),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about the order of names on ballot papers used in elections where more than one candidate is to be elected; and for connected purposes: And that Ms Meg Munn, Mr Andrew Mackay, Mr Andy Reed, Jonathan Shaw, Mr Barry Sheerman, Dr Alan Whitehead, Brian White and Mr Phil Willis do prepare and bring it in.

9 Representation of the People (Ballot Papers) Bill,—Ms Meg Munn accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about the order of names on ballot papers used in elections where more than one candidate is to be elected; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 152].
Opposition Day [17th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the leader of the second largest opposition party in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Fair Access to Higher Education.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes with regret the emerging consequences of the passage of the Higher Education Act 2004; believes that fees and expanding student debt create significant disincentives for those considering university entry, particularly from less well-off backgrounds; congratulates the efforts of those in the House of Lords who achieved significant concessions during the passage of the Higher Education Bill, particularly for part-time students; regrets that Her Majesty’s Official Opposition has completely ignored the needs of part-time students in its new policy; notes that Conservative proposals ask students to pay for the abolition of tuition fees through higher interest payments on their loans, leaving them no better off; further notes the conclusion of the Institute of Fiscal Studies and others that Conservative proposals penalise the poor in order to subsidise the rich; notes the recent Times Higher Education Supplement/Opinion Panel Research opinion poll of students which finds that 47 per cent. support the Liberal Democrats, 20 per cent. support Labour and 23 per cent. are backing the Conservatives; and therefore calls for the immediate abolition of all tuition fees, the introduction of maintenance grants of up to £2,000 for students from low-income homes, and the development of a higher education system which brings together universities, further education and e-learning, opens up routes to vocational and technical as well as academic qualifications, and makes it easier for those who wish to study part-time.—(Mr Phil Willis);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the passage of the Higher Education Act 2004; approves the further steps the Government is taking to widen participation, including the establishment of the Office for Fair Access, and enhanced bursaries; welcomes the improvement in support for part-time students being introduced by the Government, including the first ever grant package available from this autumn; rejects the Liberal Democrat policy of abolition of tuition fees, depriving universities of a dedicated income stream; congratulates the Government on maintaining fair and affordable loan repayment terms and rejects the policies proposed by the Official Opposition which would require those graduates who can least afford it to pay the most for their higher education; recognises the need to maintain UK universities at the forefront of world research and to equip the UK workforce with the high-level skills needed to compete in the global marketplace; congratulates the Government on record levels of investment in higher education, to almost £10 billion by 2005–06, with a 9 per cent. increase in research funding to 2007–08, additional income from variable fees, and further increases in Government funding to be announced shortly; looks forward to the introduction of a £2,700 maintenance grant for new students from 2006 alongside the improved student support package available from fee deferral, increased maintenance loans and loan write-offs for new students after 25 years; and welcomes the impact these policies will have on encouraging students from less well-off backgrounds to consider entering higher education’, instead thereof.—(Dr Kim Howells);

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.


Tellers for the Noes, Bridget Prentice, Derek Twigg: 386.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Derek Twigg: 257.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 185.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the passage of the Higher Education Act 2004; approves the further steps the Government is taking to widen participation, including the establishment of the Office for Fair Access, and enhanced bursaries; welcomes the improvement in support for part-time students being introduced by the Government, including the first ever grant package available from this autumn; rejects the Liberal Democrat policy of abolition of tuition fees, depriving universities of a dedicated income stream; congratulates the Government on maintaining fair and affordable loan repayment terms and rejects the policies proposed by the Official Opposition which
would require those graduates who can least afford it to pay the most for their higher education; recognises the need to maintain UK universities at the forefront of world research and to equip the UK workforce with the high-level skills needed to compete in the global marketplace; congratulates the Government on record levels of investment in higher education, to almost £10 billion by 2005–06, with a 9 per cent. increase in research funding to 2007–08, additional income from variable fees, and further increases in Government funding to be announced shortly; looks forward to the introduction of a £2,700 maintenance grant for new students from 2006 alongside the improved student support package available from fee deferral, increased maintenance loans and loan write-offs for new students after 25 years; and welcomes the impact these policies will have on encouraging students from less well-off backgrounds to consider entering higher education.

Impact of Government Policy on Older Women.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes that women have historically always been the poorest pensioners and believes that they will continue to be so unless urgent action is taken; further notes that the average basic state pension entitlement of a newly retired woman is barely £50 per week; recognises that women’s state pension rights are frequently damaged by periods of caring for children or people with disabilities and by periods of low paid employment; further notes that the improved rights for carers under the state second pension do not apply to women with children over the age of five, do not apply to carers not in receipt of carers benefits, will take decades to be fully implemented, and will still produce a pension that leaves most recipients needing a means-tested supplement during their retirement; condemns the policy of the Government to force pensioners to surrender their pension books, a policy which affects women in particular; expresses concern that age discrimination within the NHS means that many older women are not invited for routine breast cancer screening; expresses further concern that the Government has failed to abolish mixed-sex wards in all hospital trusts, a practice which many older patients find particularly distressing; and calls on the Government to introduce a decent state pension, based on a citizenship requirement, providing real choices for older people, take steps to tackle age discrimination, and put an end to mixed-sex wards—(Steve Webb);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the Pensions Green Paper as the first ever statement of government policy to explicitly consider the needs of women; further welcomes the commitment by the Government to report next year on the pensions position of women; supports stepsto improve the incomes of women pensioners and enable more women than ever to build up pensions; welcomes in particular the introduction of Pension Credit, benefiting over two million women, and the state second pension, helping millions of the lowest paid women and women with caring responsibilities to build up a second pension; believes that both main Opposition parties’ policies are unaffordable, unworkable and do nothing for the very poorest; notes that the Liberal Democrat policies will be financed by scrapping DTI programmes, which boost the wealth of the nation through investment in research and innovation; supports the conclusion of the Pensions Policy Institute that “the average woman will lose” under proposed Conservative policy; notes that 99 per cent. of NHS trusts provide single-sex sleeping accommodation for planned admissions; and, as there are 10,000 wards in use across the NHS, congratulates the Government on this achievement; applauds the extension of breast screening to women aged 65 to 70, resulting in an additional 200,000 women being invited since April 2001; commends the Government’s historic commitment to tackling pensioner poverty, which is continuing to do most for the poorest women pensioners; and welcomes the £10 billion extra that the Government is spending on pensioners this year compared with the 1997 system’, instead thereof.—(Malcolm Wicks.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question;

Mr Andrew Stunell rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put;

The House divided.


Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Paul Clark: 250.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);
The House divided.

Tellors for the Ayes, Paul Clark, Gillian Merron: 248.


So the Question was agreed to.

The Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the Pensions Green Paper as the first ever statement of government policy to explicitly consider the needs of women; further welcomes the commitment by the Government to report next year on the pensions position of women; supports steps to improve the incomes of women pensioners and enable more women than ever to build up pensions; welcomes in particular the introduction of Pension Credit, benefiting over two million women, and the state second pension, helping millions of the lowest paid women and women with caring responsibilities to build up a second pension; believes that both main Opposition parties’ policies are unaffordable, unworkable and do nothing for the very poorest; notes that the Liberal Democrat policies will be financed by scrapping DTI programmes, which boost the wealth of the nation through investment in research and innovation; supports the conclusion of the Pensions Policy Institute that ‘the average woman will lose’ under proposed Conservative policy; notes that 99 per cent. of NHS trusts provide single-sex sleeping accommodation for planned admissions; and, as there are 10,000 wards in use across the NHS, congratulates the Government on this achievement; applauds the extension of breast screening to women aged 65 to 70, resulting in an additional 200,000 women being invited since April 2001; commends the Government’s historic commitment to tackling pensioner poverty, which is continuing to do most for the poorest women pensioners; and welcomes the £10 billion extra that the Government is spending on pensioners this year compared with the 1997 system.

11 Family Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Child Support (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 5th July, be approved—(Mr Tom Watson):—It was agreed to.

12 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Northern Ireland Act 2000 (Modification) (No. 2) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 8th July, be approved—(Mr Tom Watson):—It was agreed to.

13 Local Government.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Business Improvement Districts (England) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 7th September, be approved—(Mr Tom Watson):—It was agreed to.

14 Education.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Student Fees (Approved Plans) (England) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 7th September, be approved—(Mr Tom Watson):—It was agreed to.

15 Driving Licences.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 15820/03, draft Directive on driving licences (Recasting); and endorses the Government’s objective to combat driving licence fraud and improve road safety without imposing undue burdens on industry, private individuals or law enforcers—(Mr Tom Watson):—It was agreed to.

16 Public Petitions.—Public Petitions from—

(1) people of the Romford Parliamentary Constituency against the building of a Crossrail depot within Romford, and

(2) constituents of Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale and of Roxburgh and Berwickshire and others against disbandment or amalgamation of the King’s Own Scottish Borderers or other Scottish regiments

were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

17 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Tom Watson);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 8 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Constitutional Law,—Draft Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Worcestershire) (District of Wychavon) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2263), dated 31st August 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

4 European Parliament (Pay and Pensions),—Fifth Quinquennial Report of the Managers of the European Parliament (United Kingdom Representatives) Pension Scheme and the European Parliament (United Kingdom Representatives) Pension (Additional Voluntary Contributions) Scheme [by Act] [Mr Peter Hain].

5 Government Resources and Accounts,—Report and Accounts of the Defence Storage and Distribution Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1005] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

6 Public Lending Right,—Report and Account of the Public Lending Right for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1013] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

7 Public Petitions,—Observations by—

(1) Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer on the Petition [20th July] from residents of Dumfries and Galloway against further increases in petrol duty, and

(2) the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on the Petition [16th July] from the Cod Crusaders Community Campaign for the return of British sovereign waters to national control of fishing

[by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Martin Salter from Standing Committee A (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Wayne David.

2 Draft Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (Amendment) and Police Reform Act 2002 (Modification) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Tony Clarke and Ms Dari Taylor from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Lindsay Hoyle and Shona McIsaac.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Implementation of the Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed [No. 1065-1] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [BBC Charter Renewal]; to be printed [No. 598-vii] [Sir Gerald Kaufman].

3 Education and Skills,—Fifth Report from the Education and Skills Committee [Secondary Education: Teacher Retention and Recruitment], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1057-I and -II] [Mr Barry Sheerman].
4 Foreign Affairs,—Eighth Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee [Foreign and Commonwealth Office Annual Report 2003–04], together with Annexes and the Minutes of Evidence; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 745] [Donald Anderson].

5 Home Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Police Reform]; to be printed [No. 1038-ii] [Mr John Denham].

6 International Development,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [The humanitarian crisis in the Darfur region of Sudan]; to be printed [No. 1058-i] [Tony Baldry].

7 Northern Ireland,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [‘Hate Crime’ in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 539-vi] [Mr Michael Mates].

8 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Draft Regional Assemblies Bill]; to be printed [No. 972-iii] [Andrew Bennett].

9 Regulatory Reform,—Twelfth Report from the Regulatory Reform Committee [Proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Unsolicited Goods and Services Act 1971) (Directory Entries and Demands for Payment) Order 2004], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1056] [Mr Peter Pike].

10 Standards and Privileges,—Sixth Report from the Committee on Standards and Privileges [Privilege: Protection of a Witness (Government Response)], together with an Appendix; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1055] [Sir George Young].

11 Statutory Instruments,—Twenty-eighth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xxviii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

12 Treasury,—(1) Seventh Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Committee, on The Administrative Costs of Tax Compliance]; to be printed [No. 1054]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Regional Productivity]; to be printed [No. 308-iv] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 130; WH, No. 83]

Tuesday 14th September 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr Vernon Coaker); At Eleven o’clock, a minute’s silence was observed in memory of those killed in Beslan, Russia, on 3rd September. And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.57 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 European Standing Committee B,—Mr James Cran reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 9317/04, Green Paper on the approximation, mutual recognition and enforcement of criminal sanctions in the European Union; notes that this forms part of the wider Justice and Home Affairs agenda, and supports the Government’s position that the Green Paper is a preliminary document which will need considerable further discussion.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

2 Pensions (Clawbacks) Bill,—The Order for reading the Pensions (Clawbacks) Bill a second time on Friday 15th October was read and discharged.

3 Fishery Limits (United Kingdom) (No. 2) Bill,—Ordered, That the Fishery Limits (United Kingdom) (No. 2) Bill be read a second time on Friday 15th October.

4 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords agree to the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill, with Amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

5 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill,—Lords Amendment to the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill to be considered to-morrow, and to be printed [Bill 157].

6 Legislation (Memoranda of European Derivation) Bill,—Mr William Cash, supported by Mr Richard Shepherd, Sir Nicholas Winterton, Mrs Angela Browning, Sir Peter Tapsell, Sir John Butterfill, Mr David Amess and Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, presented a Bill to require a Minister of the Crown, the National Assembly for Wales, a Northern Ireland Minister or a Scottish Minister in respect of any primary or subordinate legislation which gives effect to any European Community treaty, obligation or instrument to publish a memorandum specifying the relevant European Community treaty, obligation or instrument from which it is derived and identifying which provisions in the legislation are so derived; And the same was read the first time; and to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 155].

7 Desecration of National Flags,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish a criminal offence of desecrating national flags; to establish penalties in relation to the offence; and for connected purposes—(Mrs Angela Browning); And the Motion being opposed, after permitting a short explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business):—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Christopher Chope, Michael Fabricant, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Dame Marion Roe, Andrew Rosindell and Angela Watkinson do prepare and bring in the Bill.

8 Desecration of National Flags Bill,—Mrs Angela Browning accordingly presented a Bill to establish a criminal offence of desecrating national flags; to establish penalties in relation to the offence; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 156].

9 Hunting Bill (Procedure),—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the following provisions shall have effect in relation to the Hunting Bill—

1. Proceedings on Second Reading shall be brought to a conclusion, unless already concluded, five hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion for this Order.

2. At the conclusion of proceedings on Second Reading—

(1) the Bill shall be treated as having been committed to a Committee of the whole House and as having been reported from the Committee without amendment, and

(2) the House shall proceed to consider any Motion standing in the name of a Minister of the Crown under section 2(4) of the Parliament Act 1911 for a suggested amendment to the Bill.
3. Proceedings on that Motion shall be brought to a conclusion, unless already concluded, three hours after their commencement (for which purpose the Speaker shall put only the Question on any amendment to the Motion selected by him and the Question on the Motion).

4. Proceedings on Third Reading—
   (1) may be taken immediately after the conclusion of proceedings on the Motion mentioned in paragraphs 2(2) and 3, and
   (2) shall be brought to a conclusion half an hour after their commencement.

5. No motion may be made to recommit the Bill.

6. In relation to the proceedings mentioned in paragraphs 1 to 4 above—
   (1) Standing Order No. 15(1) shall apply,
   (2) the proceedings shall not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House,
   (3) the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply,
   (4) the proceedings shall not be interrupted by a Motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (and any such Motion shall stand over until the conclusion of such of the proceedings mentioned in paragraphs 1 to 4 as are to be taken at the sitting concerned),
   (5) no dilatory motion may be made except by a Minister of the Crown,
   (6) the Question on any dilatory motion made by a Minister of the Crown shall be put forthwith, and
   (7) if the House is adjourned or the sitting is suspended during the course of the proceedings, no notice shall be required of a Motion made by a Minister of the Crown at the next sitting of the House varying or supplementing the provisions of this Order.

7. The Question on any Motion varying or supplementing the provisions of this Order (whether by making provision about Lords messages or otherwise) shall be put forthwith—(Alan Michael);

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Question, in line 4, to leave out from the word ‘after’ to the end of the paragraph and insert the words ‘their commencement’, instead thereof.—(Mr Oliver Heald.)

And the Question being proposed, That the Amendment be made;

Mr Bob Ainsworth rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Gillian Merron: 310.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Hugo Swire: 158.

So the Question was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Peter Atkinson: 174.

Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 303.

So the Question was negatived.

Another Amendment ((n)) was proposed to the Question, in line 9, to leave out from the word ‘any’ to the word ‘under’ in line 10 and insert the word ‘Motions’, instead thereof.—(Mr Oliver Heald.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Hugo Swire: 170.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Bridget Prentice: 297.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Bridget Prentice: 309.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Gregory Barker: 157.

So the Question was agreed to.
10 Hunting Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Hunting Bill; And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Tom Watson, Derek Twigg: 356.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bill Wiggin, Mr Crispin Blunt: 166.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time and, pursuant to Order [this day], was treated as having been committed to a Committee of the whole House and as having been reported from the Committee without Amendment.

11 Hunting Bill (Commons Suggested Amendments).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That pursuant to section 2(4) of the Parliament Act 1911, this House suggests to the Lords the following Amendment to the Hunting Bill—

Leave out Clause No. 15 and insert the following new Clause—

‘Commencement

(1) The following provisions of this Act shall come into force at the end of the period of two years beginning with the date on which it is passed—

(a) sections 1 to 4,
(b) Part 2 in so far as it relates to sections 1 to 4,
(c) sections 11 to 14 in so far as they relate to sections 1 to 4,
(d) Schedule 1, and
(e) Schedules 2 and 3, except in so far as they change the law in relation to an activity to which section 5 applies.

(2) The following provisions of this Act shall come into force at the end of the period of three months beginning with the date on which it is passed—

(a) section 5,
(b) Part 2 in so far as it relates to section 5,
(c) sections 11 to 13 in so far as they relate to section 5, and
(d) Schedules 2 and 3 in so far as they change the law in relation to an activity to which section 5 applies.’.—(Alun Michael.)

An Amendment ((d)) was proposed to the Question, in line 6, to leave out from the word ‘force’ to the end of line 7 and insert the words ‘on 31st July 2006’, instead thereof.—(Mr Tony Banks.)

And the Question being proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Paul Clark: 342.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Gerald Howarth: 15.

So the Question was agreed to.

And the Main Question, as amended, being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Paul Clark: 329.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Roger Gale, Miss Ann Widdecombe: 8.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That pursuant to section 2(4) of the Parliament Act 1911, this House suggests to the Lords the following Amendment to the Hunting Bill—

Leave out Clause No. 15 and insert the following new Clause—

‘Commencement

(1) The following provisions of this Act shall come into force on 31st July 2006—

(a) sections 1 to 4,
(b) Part 2 in so far as it relates to sections 1 to 4,
(c) sections 11 to 14 in so far as they relate to sections 1 to 4,
(d) Schedule 1, and
(e) Schedules 2 and 3, except in so far as they change the law in relation to an activity to which section 5 applies.

(2) The following provisions of this Act shall come into force at the end of the period of three months beginning with the date on which it is passed—

(a) section 5,
(b) Part 2 in so far as it relates to section 5,
12 Hunting Bill.—A Motion being made, That the Bill be now read the third time;

Alun Michael, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her Consent, as far as Her Majesty’s prerogative is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

Alun Michael, by Command of the Prince of Wales, acquainted the House, That His Royal Highness, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives his Consent, as far as the Prince of Wales’s interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being proposed;

And it being half an hour after the commencement of proceedings, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr John Heppell: 339.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Bill Wiggin, Mr Crispin Blunt: 155.

So the Question was agreed to.

Ordered, That the Amendment suggested by this House to the Bill be communicated to the Lords.

13 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) residents of Coatbridge and Chryston for the creation of new offences of motor vehicle manslaughter and aggravated motor vehicle manslaughter;

(2) the ‘Clear the Debt Campaign’ for a review of the debts of the Royal United Hospital, Bath; and

(3) Roger Smith of Hook, East Yorkshire, against the conversion of Holland House Nursing and Residential Care Home into a unit for people with personality disorders were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

14 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till twelve minutes to Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.48 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Northern Ireland,—Draft Financial Assistance for Young Farmers (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Criminal Law,—Costs in Criminal Cases (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2408), dated 7th September 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].

4 Fees and Charges,—European Public Limited-Liability Company (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2407), dated 13th September 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].


(5) Seed (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2390), and
(6) Vegetable Seed (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2389), dated 10th September 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


Other Papers:

7 Air Force (Constitution),—(1) Amendment List 25 to Air Publication 1269A—The Royal Air Force Manual of Assessment of Medical Fitness (Third Edition); and
(2) Amendment list 10 to Queen’s Regulations for the Royal Air Force (Fifth Edition) [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

8 Electoral Law (Northern Ireland),—Report for 2003–04 of the Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 1029] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

9 European Communities (No. 4, 2004),—Protocol, done at Brussels on 27th November 2003, drawn up on the basis of Article 43(1) of the Convention on the Establishment of a European Police Office (Europol Convention) amending that Convention [Cm. 6323], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

10 Food,—Account of the Home Grown Sugar Beet (Research and Education) Fund for 2000–01, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1050] [Clerk of the House].

11 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Account of the Royal Naval Submarine Museum for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1051] [Clerk of the House], and
(2) Report and Accounts for 2003–04 of the Service Children’s Education Agency, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1024] [Mr Secretary Hoon].
(3) Resource Accounts for 2003–04 of—
(i) Armed Forces Pension Scheme,
(ii) Charity Commission,
(iii) Crown Prosecution Service,
(iv) Department for Culture, Media and Sport,
(v) Department for International Development,
(vi) Northern Ireland Court Service,
(vii) Office of Telecommunications, and
(viii) Office of Water Services
with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1023, 1019, 1011, 1010, 1025, 1018, 1021 and 1022] [Mr Stephen Timms].

12 Museums and Galleries,—Account for 2003–04 of the Natural History Museum, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1061] [Clerk of the House].

13 National Lottery,—Accounts for 2003–04 of the—
(1) UK Film Council (Formerly Film Council) Lottery, and
(2) United Kingdom Sports Council Lottery Distribution Fund
with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1052 and 1033] [Clerk of the House].

14 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minutes on the Thirty-second to Thirty-fourth and Thirty-sixth Reports of the Committee on Public Accounts, Session 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6304] [Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer].

15 Transport,—Department of Transport Minutes, dated 15th September 2004, concerning
(1) a contingent liability in support of Network Rail’s Debt Issuance Programme, and
(2) a non-statutory contingent liability in support of Network Rail’s Debt Issuance Programme [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

16 Wildlife and Countryside,—Report and Accounts of the Countryside Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1049] [Clerk of the House].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Children Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-two Members to serve on the Committee: Annette Brooke, Mr James Clappison, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mrs Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr Tom Harris, Margaret Hodge, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Mrs Eleanor Laing, Tim Loughton, Siobhain McDonagh, Chris Mole, Julie Morgan, Ms Meg Munn, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr David Ruffley, Jonathan Shaw, Ms Dari Taylor, Mr Don Touhig, Mr Andrew Turner, Derek Twigg, Hywel Williams and Mr Phil Willis.

2 Draft Roads (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: David Burnside, Mr Liam Byrne, Mrs Helen Clark, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Parmjit Dhanda, Patrick Hall, Mr Tom Harris, Mr Robert Jackson, Mr David Lidington, Mr Michael Maters, Mr Alan Meale, Lembit Öpik, Mr John Spellar, Dr Gavin Strang, Mr Hugo Swire and Brian White.

European Standing Committees

3 European Union Document No. 11422/04, relating to flood prevention, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—(1) Second Special Report from the Defence Committee [Defence White Paper 2003: Government Response to the Committee’s Fifth Report of Session 2003–04]; to be printed [No. 1048]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Future Capabilities]; to be printed [No. 1031-i]
[Bruce George].

2 Draft Charities Bill.—Report from the Joint Committee on the Draft Charities Bill, together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Joint Committee [No. 660] [Mr George Foulkes].

3 Education and Skills.—(1) Sixth Report from the Education and Skills Committee [The Work of OFSTED]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 426]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Prison Education]; to be printed [No. 825-ii]
[Mr Barry Sheerman].

4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Draft Animal Welfare Bill Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The draft Animal Welfare Bill]; to be printed [No. 1032-vi] [Mr Michael Jack].

5 Environmental Audit,—(1) Eleventh Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Aviation: Sustainability and the Government’s second response]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1063]; and
   (2) Twelfth Report from the Committee [Wildlife Crime], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 605]
[Mr Peter Ainsworth].

6 European Scrutiny,—(1) Thirty-first Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxi]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The EU’s constitutional treaty]; to be printed [No. 1064-i]
[Jimmy Hood].

7 International Development,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [DFID’s bilateral programme of assistance to India]; to be printed [No. 692-iii] [Tony Baldry].
8 Modernisation of the House of Commons.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Sitting Hours]; to be printed [No. 892-ii]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Scrutiny of European Business];
to be printed [No. 565-v]
[Mr Peter Hain].

9 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Draft Regional Assemblies Bill];
to be printed [No. 972-iv] [Andrew Bennett].

10 Public Accounts.—(1) Forty-sixth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The UK Emissions Trading Scheme: A new way to combat climate change]; to be printed [No. 604];
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The BBC’s investment in Freeview];
to be printed [No. 1065-i]
[Edward Leigh].

11 Science and Technology.—(1) Eighth Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government Response to the Committee’s Seventh Report, Session 2003–04, Director General for Higher Education: Introductory Hearing];
to be printed [No. 1015];
(2) Ninth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Committee’s Ninth Report, Session 2003–04, Director General of the Research Councils: Introductory Hearing];
to be printed [No. 1059];
(3) Eleventh Report from the Committee [Research Assessment Exercise: a re-assessment];
together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee;
to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 586]; and
(4) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Human reproductive technologies and the law];
to be printed [No. 599-vi]
[Dr Ian Gibson].

[No. 131; WH, No. 84]

Wednesday 15th September 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Derek Twigg.)
And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 5.22 p.m.]

[No. 132.]

Thursday 16th September 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords].—Derek Conway reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto, and had amended the Title as follows:
A Bill to amend the law relating to company auditors and accounts, to the provision that may be made in respect of certain liabilities incurred by a company’s officers, and to company investigations; to make provision for community interest companies; and for connected purposes.
Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Monday 11th October; and to be printed [Bill 158].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 1067].
2 Criminal Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 (Amendment) and Police Reform Act 2002 (Modification) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 19th July, be approved—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.

3 Employment Relations Bill (Programme) (No. 4).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June and 6th November 2003 (Programming of bills)], That the following provision shall apply to the Employment Relations Bill for the purpose of supplementing the Programme Order of 14th January 2004:

**Consideration of Lords Amendments**

Proceedings on Consideration of Lords Amendments shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion two hours after their commencement at this day's sitting—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.

4 Employment Relations Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Employment Relations Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 71 were agreed to.

5 Adjournment (HIV/AIDS in the developing world).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Vernon Coaker);

6 Royal Assent.—The Deputy Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, That Her Majesty had signified her Royal Assent to the following Acts, agreed upon by both Houses:

- Sustainable and Secure Buildings Act 2004
- Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004

7 Adjournment (HIV/AIDS in the developing world).—The Question being again proposed, That this House do now adjourn; The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

8 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Tewkesbury Constituency against proposed closures of post offices in Innsworth, Churchdown and Leckhampton was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

9 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the Parish Council of Little Missenden, Buckinghamshire, the citizens of the village of Holmer Green and others against the proposed closure of Turners Place Post Office, Holmer Green, was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Gillian Merron);

And it being Six o'clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

11 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Gillian Merron);

And the Motion having been made at Six o'clock, and Debate having continued for half an hour, the Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, till Monday 11th October, pursuant to Resolution [8th September].

[Adjourned at 6.30 p.m.]

**APPENDIX I**

**Papers presented or laid upon the Table:**

**Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:**

1 Damages.—Draft Damages (Variation of Periodical Payments) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].

2 International Immunities and Privileges.—Draft Agency for International Trade Information and Co-operation (Legal Capacities) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

**Papers subject to Negative Resolution:**

3 Environmental Protection.—(1) Genetically Modified Organisms (Deliberate Release) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2411), and
(2) Genetically Modified Organisms (Traceability and Labelling) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2412), dated 14th September 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Magistrates’ Courts,—Magistrates’ Courts (Reports Relating to Adult Witnesses) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2419), dated 13th September 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—Crown Court (Reports Relating to Adult Witnesses) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2420), dated 13th September 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


Other Papers:

7 Communications,—Report and Accounts of the Office of Communications for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

8 Culture, Media and Sport,—Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 2003–04, on Arts Development: Dance [by Command] [Cm. 6326] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

9 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Accounts of the Radiocommunications Agency for 1st April to 28th December 2003, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1066] [Mr Stephen Timms],

(2) Report and Accounts for 2003–04 of—
   (i) Sir John Soane’s Museum, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1007] [Secretary Tessa Jowell], and
   (ii) the Treasury Solicitor’s Department, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1012] [The Solicitor General], and

(3) Resource Accounts for 2003–04 of HM Procurator General and Treasury Solicitor, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1020] [Mr Stephen Timms].

10 Health,—Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Health Committee, Session 2003–04, on Palliative Care [by Command] [Cm. 6327] [Mr Secretary Reid].

11 Northern Ireland,—Accounts of—

(1) Altnagelvin Hospitals HSS Trust,
(2) Armagh and Dungannon HSS Trust,
(3) Belfast City Hospital HSS Trust,
(4) Causeway Health and Social Services Trust,
(5) Craigavon and Banbridge Community Health and Social Services Trust,
(6) Craigavon Area Hospital Group (HSS) Trust,
(7) Down Lisburn Health and Social Services Trust,
(8) Eastern Health and Social Services Board,
(9) Foyle Health and Social Services Trust,
(10) Green Park Healthcare HSS Trust,
(11) Homefirst Community Trust,
(12) Mater Hospital HSS Trust,
(13) Newry & Mourne HSS Trust,
(14) North and West Belfast HSS Trust,
(15) Northern Health and Social Services Board,
(16) Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Health and Social Services Trust,
(17) Royal Group of Hospitals and Dental Hospital Health & Social Services Trust,
(18) South & East Belfast Health and Social Services Trust,
(19) Southern Health and Social Services Board,
(20) Sperrin Lakeland Health and Social Services Trust,
(21) Ulster Community & Hospitals HSS Trust,
(22) United Hospitals HSS Trust, and
(23) Western Health and Social Services Board
for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [Nos. 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 988, 994, 987, 989, 990, 995, 991, 992, 993 and 997] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

12 North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Northern Ireland).—Report and Statement of Accounts of InterTradeIreland for 2003, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 1034] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Children Bill [Lords].—The Speaker has appointed Dame Marion Roe and Mr Joe Benton Chairmen of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

2 Children Bill [Lords] (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Annette Brooke, Margaret Hodge, Tim Loughton, Ms Meg Munn, Mr David Ruffley, Ms Dari Taylor and Derek Twigg members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

3 Draft Roads (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Irene Adams Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

4 Draft Legal Services Ombudsman (Extension of Remit) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

European Standing Committees

5 The Speaker has appointed Mr Edward O’Hara Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of European Union Document No. 8875/04 on Industrial Policy for an Enlarged Europe.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Draft Animal Welfare Bill Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The draft Animal Welfare Bill]; to be printed [No. 1032-vii] [Mr Michael Jack].

2 Treasury.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [EU Single Market in Financial Services]; to be printed [No. 1068-i]; and

(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [EU Single Market in Financial Services] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 132; WH, No. 85]

Thursday 16th September 2004.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Postal Voting—Seventh Report and First Special Report from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee, Session 2003–04).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr John Heppell);

And the sitting having continued for three hours, it was adjourned without Question put, till Tuesday 12th October.

[Adjourned at 5.30 p.m.]
Tuesday 11th October 2004.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows: The Lords have agreed to the Christmas Day (Trading) Bill, with Amendments: to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

2 Christmas Day (Trading) Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Christmas Day (Trading) Bill to be considered on Friday 15th October; and to be printed [Bill 159].

3 New Member sworn,—Iain David Wright, Member for Hartlepool, was sworn.

4 Mental Capacity Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Mental Capacity Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Jim Murphy: 326.

Tellers for the Noes, Ann Winterton, Mr David Amess: 62.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

5 Mental Capacity Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Mental Capacity Bill—

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 28th October 2004.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Joan Ryan);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Jim Murphy: 289.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 106.

So the Question was agreed to.

6 Mental Capacity Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Mental Capacity Bill [Money];

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Mental Capacity Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(a) any expenditure of a Minister of the Crown under that Act, and

(b) any increase attributable to that Act in the sums payable under any other Act out of money so provided—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.
7 Mental Capacity Bill (Carry-over).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Order [29th October 2002 (Carry-over of Bills)], That if at the conclusion of this Session of Parliament, proceedings on the Mental Capacity Bill have not been completed, they shall be resumed in the next Session—(Joan Ryan);—It was agreed to.

8 Approximation, Mutual Recognition and Enforcement of Criminal Sanctions.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 9317/04, Green Paper on the approximation, mutual recognition and enforcement of criminal sanctions in the European Union; notes that this forms part of the wider Justice and Home Affairs agenda; and supports the Government’s position that the Green Paper is a preliminary document which will need considerable further discussion—(Joan Ryan);—It was agreed to.

9 Home Affairs.—Ordered, That Mr David Cameron be discharged from the Home Affairs Committee and Mr Damian Green be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

10 Trade and Industry.—Ordered, That Mr Andrew Lansley be discharged from the Trade and Industry Committee and Miss Julie Kirkbride be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

11 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Gloucester for joint working between the Government, police, retail employers and shop workers to tackle retail crime was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

12 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Wakefield against the Wakefield Resettlement Project was presented; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Joan Ryan);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock, and Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then two minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.58 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented by Her Majesty’s Command and delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Friday 24th September 2004

1 Immigration.—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [Cm. 6339] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

Friday 17th September 2004

2 Treaty Series (No. 36, 2004).—Agreement, done at Skopje on 10th March 2000, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Macedonia on Co-operation in the Fields of Education, Science and Culture [Cm. 6319] [Mr Secretary Straw].

3 Treaty Series (No. 32, 2004).—Treaty, done at Athens on 16th April 2003, between the Kingdom of Belgium, the Kingdom of Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Hellenic Republic, the Kingdom of Spain, the French Republic, Ireland, the Italian Republic, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Republic of Austria, the Portuguese Republic, the Republic of Finland, the Kingdom of Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Member States of the European Union) and the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic concerning the accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic to the European Union, including the Protocols and Final Act with Declaration [Cm. 6312] [Mr Secretary Straw].
Wednesday 22nd September 2004

4 Education and Skills.—Government Response to the Third Report from the Education and Skills Committee, Session 2003–04, on the draft School Transport Bill [Cm. 6331] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

5 Gambling.—Government Response to the First Report of the Joint Committee on the draft Gambling Bill (Regional Casinos), Session 2003–04 [Cm. 6330] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

6 Treaty Series (No. 37, 2004).—Convention, done at Geneva on 22nd October 1996, concerning the Inspection of Seafarers’ Working and Living Conditions (ILO Convention No. 178) [Cm. 6324] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Wednesday 29th September 2004

7 Foreign Affairs.—Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, on Foreign Policy Aspects of the War Against Terrorism [Cm. 6340] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 Treaty Series (No. 38, 2004).—Agreement, done at Canberra on 19th June 2001, on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels [Cm. 6333] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Friday 1st October 2004

9 Treaty Series (No. 40, 2004).—Agreement, done at St John’s on 10th March 1997, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Antigua and Barbuda concerning the Investigation, Restraint and Confiscation of the Proceeds and Instruments of Crime [Cm. 6336] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Wednesday 6th October 2004

10 European Communities (No. 5, 2004).—Protocol, done at Brussels on 28th November 2002, amending the Convention on the Establishment of a European Police Office (Europol Convention) and the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of Europol, the Members of its Organs, the Deputy Directors and the Employees of Europol, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 6337] [Mr Secretary Straw].

11 Treaty Series (No. 39, 2004).—Second Supplementary List of Ratifications, Accessions, Withdrawals, etc., for 2004 [Cm. 6335] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Friday 8th October 2004

12 Miscellaneous (No. 11, 2004).—Draft Headquarters Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the European Police College, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 6342] [Mr Secretary Straw].

13 Transport.—Government Response to the Fourteenth Report from the Transport Committee, Session 2003–04, on The Work of the Maritime and Coast Guard Agency [Cm. 6343] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on the undermentioned dates during the adjournment pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

Tuesday 21st September 2004

14 Sea Fisheries.—Fishing Boats (Satellite-Tracking Devices) (England) Scheme 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2467), dated 14th September 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

Friday 17th September 2004


20 Sports Grounds and Sporting Events,—(1) Football (Offences) (Designation of Football Matches) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2410), and


22 Employment and Training,—(1) Employment Equality (Religion or Belief) Regulations 2003 (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2520), and


(2) Transnational Information and Consultation of Employees Regulations 1999 (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2518), and

26 Health Care and Associated Professions,—(1) Health Professions (Parts of and Entries in the Register) (Amendment) Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2522), and


28 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Cambridgeshire) (City of Cambridge) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2424), dated 15th September 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

Wednesday 29th September 2004


31 Partnership,—Limited Liability Partnerships (Fees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 396), dated 16th September 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Thursday 30th September 2004


Friday 1st October 2004


Monday 4th October 2004


40 Road Traffic,—Motor Cycles Etc. (EC Type Approval) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2539), dated 23rd September 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Darling].

Tuesday 5th October 2004


Wednesday 6th October 2004


Thursday 7th October 2004

43 Health Care and Associated Professions,—(1) General Medical Council (Constitution of Panels and Investigation Committee) Rules Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2611),

(2) General Medical Council (Fitness to Practise) Rules Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2608),

(3) General Medical Council (Fitness to Practise) (Disqualifying Decisions and Determinations by Regulatory Bodies) Procedure Rules Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2607),

(4) General Medical Council (Voluntary Erasure and Restoration following Voluntary Erasure) Regulations Order of Council 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2609), and


51 Food.—Miscellaneous Food Additives (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2601), dated 5th October 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].

Friday 8th October 2004

48 Acquisition of Land.—Compulsory Purchase of Land (Written Representations Procedure) (Ministers) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2594), dated 4th October 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Prescott].

49 Consumer Credit.—Consumer Credit (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2619), dated 7th October 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Ms Secretary Hewitt].


52 Sea Fisheries.—Fal and Helford (Prohibition of Scallop Dredging) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2567), dated 29th September 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers present or laid upon the Table on Monday 11th October 2004:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

53 Building Societies.—Draft Building Societies Act 1986 (International Accounting Standards and Other Accounting Amendments) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Stephen Timms].

54 Companies.—(1) Companies (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2621), dated 6th October 2004, and

(2) draft Companies Act 1985 (International Accounting Standards and Other Accounting Amendments) Regulations 2004, [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

55 Constitutional Law.—Draft National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Peter Hain].

56 Partnership.—Limited Liability Partnerships (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2620), dated 6th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

57 Health Care and Associated Professions.—General Medical Council (Legal Assessors) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2625), dated 11th October 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].


60 Road Traffic.—Goods Vehicles (Evidence of Test Certificates) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2577), dated 30th September 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

61 Social Security.—Social Fund Cold Weather Payments (General) Amendment Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2600), dated 5th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Johnson].

Other Papers:

62 Culture, Media and Sport.—Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Culture, Media and Sport Committee, Session 2003–04, on Drugs and Role Models in Sport: Making and Setting Examples [by Command] [Cm. 6347] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

63 Defence.—Government Response to the Sixth Report from the Defence Committee, Session 2003–04, on Defence Procurement [by Command] [Cm. 6338] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

64 Employment and Training.—Report and Financial Statements of Investors in People UK Ltd for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

65 Government Resources and Accounts.—Report and Accounts of the Sea Fish Industry Authority for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1014] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

66 Miscellaneous (No. 10, 2004).—Optional Protocol, done at New York on 6th October 1999, to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6316] [Mr Secretary Straw].

67 National Audit.—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—

   (1) Energywatch and Postwatch: Helping and Protecting Consumers, and

   (2) Improving Emergency Care in England

[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1076 and 1075] [Clerk of the House].

68 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.—(1) Minute by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister concerning an indemnity issued under the Land Stabilisation Programme for the Northwich Salt Mines Project [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott], and

   (2) Government Response to the Ninth Report from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee, Session 2003–04, on Local Government Revenue [by Command] [Cm. 6321] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

69 Police (Northern Ireland).—Eleventh Report of the Oversight Commissioner [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

70 Public Petitions.—Observations by—

   (1) the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petitions [22nd July]—

      (i) from Mr Robert O’Neill and other residents of Reading for the retention of Kings Meadow and Caversham Lock as public amenities, and

      (ii) from Rob and Mojisola Green, the staff of the Humberstone Park Café, Leicester, and others against the proposed sale of the Café building by Leicester City Council;

   (2) the Secretary of State for the Home Department on the Petition [21st July] from the Yellow Advertiser newspaper and others for the deployment of extra police officers in Southend, in Essex;

   (3) the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Petition [21st July] from residents of Gloucester against plans by Morrisons to close the Post Office in Abbeydale; and

   (4) the Secretary of State for Transport on the Petition [14th September] from people of the Romford Parliamentary Constituency against the building of a Crossrail depot within Romford

[by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

71 Reserve Forces.—(1) Amendment List 10 to Regulations for the Reserve Air Forces (Air Publication 3392, Volume 7), and

   (2) Report under section 56(7) of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 of a call-out order under section 56(1) of that Act

[by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].
Transport,—Statement of salaries of members of the British Waterways Board [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Work and Pensions,—Department for Work and Pensions Minute concerning an indemnity agreement between the Department for Work and Pensions and Help the Aged in respect of the Better Government for Older People programme [by Command] [Mr Secretary Johnson].

Papers withdrawn:

Freedom of Information,—Draft Environmental Information Regulations 2004 [laid 22nd July].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Children Bill [Lords].—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Tom Harris, Jonathan Shaw, Derek Twigg and Mr Phil Willis from Standing Committee B (nominated in respect of the Bill); and has nominated in substitution Mr Vernon Coaker, Huw Irranca-Davies, Mark Tami and Mr Roger Williams.

2 Children Bill [Lords] (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Vernon Coaker in place of Derek Twigg as a member of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

THE SPEAKER'S CERTIFICATE (PARLIAMENT ACTS)

The Speaker has certified, under the provisions of the Parliament Acts 1911 and 1949, that the Hunting Bill, as compared with the Hunting Bill sent up to the House of Lords in the last Session, contains only such alterations as are necessary owing to the time which has elapsed since the date of that Bill.

[No. 134.]

Tuesday 12th October 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o'clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords agree to the Medway Council Bill, without Amendment.

2 Balance Charitable Foundation for Unclaimed Assets (Allocation) Bill.—The Order for reading the Balance Charitable Foundation for Unclaimed Assets (Allocation) Bill a second time on Friday 15th October was read and discharged.
   Bill withdrawn.

3 Foundation for Unclaimed Assets Bill.—The Order for reading the Foundation for Unclaimed Assets (Allocation) Bill a second time on Friday 15th October was read and discharged.
   Bill withdrawn.

4 Local Land Charges (Fees) Bill.—The Order for reading the Local Land Charges (Fees) Bill a second time on Friday 15th October was read and discharged.
   Bill withdrawn.

5 Rite of Passage (Welcoming and Coming of Age),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish Civil Welcoming Ceremonies, Responsibility to Children Agreements and Coming of Age Ceremonies; to make provision as to their conduct; and for connected purposes; And that Mr Frank Field, Ross Cranston, Mrs Ann Cryer, Ms Meg Munn, Mr David Kidney, Mr David Willetts, Tony Wright, Mrs Louise Ellman, Alice Mahon and Angela Eagle do prepare and bring it in.

6 Rite of Passage (Welcoming and Coming of Age) Bill.—Mr Frank Field accordingly presented a Bill to establish Civil Welcoming Ceremonies, Responsibility to Children Agreements and Coming of Age Ceremonies; to make provision as to their conduct; and for connected purposes; And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 160].
7 Civil Partnership Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Civil Partnership Bill [Lords]:

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Bridget Prentice: 426.
Tellers for the Noes, Miss Ann Widdecombe, Mr Edward Leigh: 49.
So the Question was agreed to.
The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

8 Civil Partnership Bill [Lords] (Programme).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Civil Partnership Bill [Lords]:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 21st October 2004.
3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

Programming Committee

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Programming of proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Jim Fitzpatrick);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Bridget Prentice: 337.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr David Ruffley: 105.
So the Question was agreed to.

9 Civil Partnership Bill [Lords] [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Civil Partnership Bill [Lords] [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Civil Partnership Bill [Lords], it is expedient to authorise—

1. the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—
   (a) any expenditure incurred under or by virtue of the Act by a person holding office under Her Majesty or by a government department, and
   (b) any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable under any other Act out of money so provided, and

2. the payment out of the Consolidated Fund of any increase attributable to the Act in the sums payable under any other Act out of that Fund—(Jim Fitzpatrick).—It was agreed to.

10 Mental Capacity Bill (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the Programme Order of 11th October 2004 in relation to the Mental Capacity Bill be amended by the substitution in paragraph 2 (time for conclusion of proceedings in Standing Committee) for the words ‘28th October’ of the words ‘4th November’—(Jim Fitzpatrick).—It was agreed to.
11 Legal Services.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), that the draft Legal Services Complaints Commissioner (Maximum Penalty) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 8th July, be approved—(Jim Fitzpatrick).—It was agreed to.

12 Section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.—Ordered, That, for the purposes of its approval under section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993, the Government’s assessment as set out in the Budget 2004 shall be treated as if it were an instrument subject to the provisions of Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation).—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

13 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the family and friends of Natalie McCabe, Vicky Browne and Rebecca Fish, and others, for legislation to increase the penalties for driving offences, to require the display of a valid driving licence and insurance documents in the windscreen of vehicles and to create a separate category of offence for drivers who cause injury or death while driving without a licence was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

14 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till five minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.55 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Constitutional Law.—Draft Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 National Health Service.—(1) Leicestershire Partnership National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2605); and
   (2) Northamptonshire Healthcare National Health Service Trust (Transfer of Trust Property) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2606), dated 5th October 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

3 Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.—(1) Statute, dated 1st March 2004, made by the Governing Body of St. Catherine’s College, Oxford, amending the Statutes of the College; and
   (2) Statutes, dated 14th January and 5th March 2004, made by the University of Cambridge, amending the Statutes of the University [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

Other Papers:

4 Crime and Disorder.—Account of the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1099] [Clerk of the House].

5 Criminal Injuries Compensation (Northern Ireland).—Account of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeals Panel for Northern Ireland for 2002–03, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 1095] [Clerk of the House].

6 Defence.—Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 12th October 2004, concerning the gifting of surplus Challenger 1 tank ammunition to Jordan [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

7 Government Resources and Accounts.—(1) Account of the Hearing Aid Council for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1090] [Clerk of the House]; and
   (2) Report and Accounts of the Ministry of Defence for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1080] [Mr Stephen Timms].

8 Government Trading Funds.—Treasury Minute on the Companies House Trading Fund, dated 12th October 2004 [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].
9 National Health Service. — Accounts of the Mental Health Act Commission for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 769] [Mr Secretary Reid].

10 Office of Communications. — Account of the Office of Communications for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1069] [Clerk of the House].

11 Police (Northern Ireland). — Accounts of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1098] [Clerk of the House].

12 Public Processions (Northern Ireland). — Account of the Northern Ireland Parades Commission for 1999–2002, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1097] [Clerk of the House].

13 Public Petitions. — Observations by—
   (1) the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [7th September] from Mr and Mrs Pownall, Jeff Stanley and concerned residents of Castle Point against the installation of additional equipment to an existing mobile telephone mast in Rayleigh Road, Thundersley, Essex; and
   (2) the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Petition [22nd July] from Jennifer Anne Lewis, John Lewis, Duncan Cairns and others for extension of the services which sub-post offices are allowed to provide
   [by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

14 Regulatory Reform. — Proposal for a Regulatory Reform (Joint Nature Conservation Committee) Order 2005, together with a statement by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

15 Treasure. — Treasure Annual Report for 2002 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Roads (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004. — The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill Olner Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order in place of Mrs Irene Adams.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs. — Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Implementation of the Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed [No. 1060-ii] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. — Minutes of Evidence taken before the draft Animal Welfare Bill Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The draft Animal Welfare Bill]; to be printed [No. 1032-viii and -ix] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Foreign Affairs. — Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Western Balkans]; to be printed [No. 1121-i] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Health. — (1) Sixth Report from the Health Committee [The Provision of Allergy Services], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 696-I and -II], and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [The Provision of Allergy Services]
   [Mr David Hinchliffe].

5 Home Affairs. — Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Police Reform]; to be printed [No. 1038-iii] [Mr John Denham].

6 International Development. — Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee [Policy Coherence for Development and the Commission for Africa]; to be printed [No. 1124-i] [Tony Baldry].

7 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions. — (1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [ODPM Annual Report and Accounts 2004]; to be printed [No. 1115-3]; and
(2) Memoranda submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Homelessness]; to be printed [No. 1116-II] [Andrew Bennett].

8 Statutory Instruments.—Twenty-ninth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Joint Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xxix] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9 Treasury.—(1) Eighth Special Report from the Treasury Committee [Responses to the Eighth Report from the Committee, Restoring confidence in long-term savings]; to be printed [No. 1119]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [EU Single Market in Financial Services]; to be printed [No. 1068-ii] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 134; WH, No. 86]
Tuesday 12th October 2004.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall
The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Gillian Merron.)
And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.22 p.m.]

[No. 135.]
Wednesday 13th October 2004.
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Bill Olner reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Roads (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Alan Hurst reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Legal Services Ombudsman (Extension of Remit) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 European Standing Committee C,—Mr Edward O’Hara reported from European Standing Committee C the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 8875/04, Commission Communication entitled Fostering Structural Change: an Industrial Policy for an Enlarged Europe; and supports the actions proposed by the Commission to facilitate the process of structural change, namely better lawmaking, better exploitation of synergies between different Community policies impacting on competitiveness and analysis of the specific needs of various sectors; but believes that such analysis should concentrate on sectors with potential for growth.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

4 Tenant Obligations and Vetting Arrangements,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to establish minimum obligations to be imposed on new tenants; to make provision about the vetting of such tenants; and for connected purposes: And that Mr Stephen McCabe, Mr David Amess, Mr Adrian Bailey, Mr Liam Byrne, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Ivan Henderson, Andy King, Siobhain McDonagh, Ms Gisela Stuart, Mr John Taylor and Mr Anthony D. Wright do prepare and bring it in.

5 Tenant Obligations and Vetting Arrangements Bill,—Mr Stephen McCabe accordingly presented a Bill to establish minimum obligations to be imposed on new tenants; to make provision about the vetting of such tenants; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 15th October and to be printed [Bill 161].
Opposition Day [18th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Pensions and Welfare Reform.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House condemns the Government’s continued failure to bring forward proposals to strengthen pensions and savings or to reform the welfare state; takes note of the deeply worrying interim findings of the Turner Commission and of the contrast between the Commission’s detailed analysis and the Prime Minister’s empty and inadequate rhetoric on pensions and welfare reform; further notes with concern the high levels of economic inactivity; condemns the lack of incentive to make private pension provision and the failure to help 1.7 million people, including many of the poorest pensioners, who are entitled to the Pension Credit but do not receive it; regrets the failure of the Government to address the crisis in state, personal and company pensions; observes that the Pensions Bill is still widely regarded as poorly drafted and that the Pension Protection Fund does not provide the ‘guarantee’ claimed for it by Ministers; and urges the Government to join the growing consensus of organisations representing pensioners, pension providers, employers and trade unions that the basic state pension needs to be significantly improved and that the spread of means-testing should be reversed so that older people can be assured of dignity and security in retirement—(Mr David Willetts);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the Pensions Report commissioned by the Government; notes that it reinforces the conclusions of the 2002 Green Paper identifying the need for all to work longer or save more; commends the Government’s commitment to face the challenges of an ageing society and to tackle inactivity by helping those who want to work; welcomes Pension Credit, benefiting over 3.1 million people, and the state second pension, helping millions build decent second pensions; further welcomes new tax credits making a huge difference to saving incentives for 3 million lower earners; commends steps to restore confidence in pensions through the Pension Protection Fund and the £400 million Financial Assistance Scheme; notes the Government’s commitment to tackling age discrimination, and to rewarding those continuing to work after state pension age; believes both main Opposition parties’ policies are unaffordable and do nothing for the very poorest; notes that Conservative policies would create a £500 million deficit within four years and be unsustainable in the longer term; commends proposals building on the Government’s historic success in tackling pensioner poverty, which will continue to build a pension system with the basic state pension at its core, while still helping the poorest and offering saving incentives for hard-working families’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Johnson.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question; The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Peter Atkinson: 201.

Tellers for the Noes, Margaret Moran, Mr Tom Watson: 313.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Mr Tom Watson: 308.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Hugo Swire, Gregory Barker: 192.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the Pensions Report commissioned by the Government; notes that it reinforces the conclusions of the 2002 Green Paper identifying the need for all to work longer or save more; commends the Government’s commitment to face the challenges of an ageing society and to tackle inactivity by helping those who want to work; welcomes Pension Credit, benefiting over 3.1 million people, and the state second pension, helping millions build decent second pensions; further welcomes new tax credits making a huge difference to saving incentives for 3 million lower earners; commends steps to restore confidence in pensions through the Pension Protection Fund and the £400 million Financial Assistance Scheme; notes the Government’s commitment to tackling age discrimination, and to rewarding those continuing to work after state pension age; believes both main Opposition parties’ policies are unaffordable and do nothing for the very poorest; notes that Conservative policies would create a £500 million deficit within four years and be unsustainable in the longer term; commends proposals building on the Government’s historic success in tackling pensioner poverty, which will continue to build a pension system with the basic state pension at its core, while still helping the poorest and offering saving incentives for hard-working families.
7 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Joan Ryan.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till two minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.58 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1 Environmental Protection,—Draft Landfill Allowances and Trading Scheme (England) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Environmental Protection (Northern Ireland),—Draft Landfill (Maximum Landfill Amount) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


4 Food,—Olive Oil (Marketing Standards) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2661), dated 12th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


6 Tax Credits,—Tax Credits (Miscellaneous Amendments No. 3) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2663), dated 13th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Dawn Primarolo].

Other Papers:

7 European Communities (No. 6, 2004),—Decision, done at Brussels on 28th April 2004, of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, of 28th April 2004 concerning Privileges and Immunities granted to ATHENA, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6345] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 European Communities (No. 7, 2004),—Agreement, done at Brussels on 28th April 2004, between the Member States of the European Union concerning Claims introduced by each Member State against any other Member State for Damage to any Property owned, used or operated by it or Injury or Death suffered by any Military or Civilian Staff of its Services, in the context of an EU Crisis Management Operation, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6346] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minute on the Twenty-seventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts, Session 2003–04 [by Command] [Cm. 6332] [Mr Stephen Timms].

10 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts of the—

(1) Bedford Education Action Zone;
(2) Dudley Education Action Zone;
(3) Greenwich Education Action Zone;
(4) North Gillingham Education Action Zone;
(5) North Islington Education Action Zone;
(6) Slough Education Action Zone;
(7) Southend Education Action Zone;
(8) Wednesbury Education Action Zone;
(9) Withernsea and Southern Holderness Education Action Zone; and
(10) Wolverhampton Education Action Zone

for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1102, 1109, 1104, 1111, 1110, 1103, 1108, 1106, 1107 and 1105] [Clerk of the House].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Mental Capacity Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated nineteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr David Atkinson, Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Kevin Barron, Mr Tim Boswell, Mrs Angela Browning, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr Liam Byrne, Mr Tom Clarke, Mrs Claire Curtis-Thomas, Dr Hywel Francis, Paul Holmes, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr David Lammy, Laura Moffatt, Ms Meg Munn, Bridget Prentice, Ann Winterton, Ms Rosie Winterton and David Wright.

2 Civil Partnership Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee D; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated eighteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr John Bercow, Mr David Borrow, Malcolm Bruce, Chris Bryant, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Parmjit Dhanda, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson, Mr Alan Duncan, Angela Eagle, Mr Andrew Love, Mrs Anne McGuire, Ann McKechnie, Andrew Selous, Mr Siôn Simon, Jacqui Smith, Mr David Stewart and Mr Tom Watson.

3 Draft Roads (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mrs Helen Clark and Patrick Hall from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Colin Pickthall and Phil Sawford.

4 Government’s Assessment under section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Assessment to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Richard Bacon, Gregory Barker, Mr Henry Bellingham, Mr Clive Betts, Peter Bottomley, Mrs Helen Clark, Jim Fitzpatrick, Alan Howarth, Helen Jones, Norman Lamb, Mr David Laws, Judy Mallaber, Rob Marris, Mr Brian Sedgemore, Ian Stewart and Mr Stephen Timms.

5 Draft Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Richard Burden, Ross Cranston, Jon Cruddas, Mr Adrian Flook, Mr Robert Jackson, Miss Melanie Johnson, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Alan Meale, Dr Andrew Murrison, Lembit Öpik, Christine Russell, Joan Ryan, Alan Simpson, Llew Smith, The Reverend Martin Smyth and Claire Ward.

6 Draft Financial Assistance for Young Farmers (Northern Ireland) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-one Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Harold Best, Ms Karen Buck, David Burnside, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson, Andrew George, Mr Roger Godsiff, Mr James Gray, Mr Tom Harris, Dr Brian Iddon, Lynne Jones, Mr Peter Luff, Mr Michael Mates, Mr Ian Pearson, Mr Stephen Pound, Mr Mohammad Sarwar, Mr Paul Stinchcombe, Mr John Taylor, Mr David Tredinnick and Iain Wright.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Orders to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Dr Vincent Cable, John Cryer, Mr Jim Cunningham, Julia Drown, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Mark Francois, Mr Ivan Henderson, Mr David Laws, Mr Terry Lewis, Dawn Primarolo, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Richard Shepherd, Ms Debra Shipley, Mr Ian Taylor, Mr Bill Tynan and Mrs Betty Williams.
8 Draft Local Authorities (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Paul Clark, Mr Huw Edwards, Linda Gilroy, Matthew Green, Phil Hope, Helen Jackson, Mr Peter Kilfoyle, Andy King, Mr John MacDougall, Mr Eric Pickles, Bob Spink, Mr Gerry Steinberg, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Michael Trend, Dr Alan Whitehead and Richard Younger-Ross.

9 Draft Damages (Variation of Periodical Payments) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr John Burnett, Geraint Davies, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Mr David Heath, Mr Michael Jack, Mr David Lammy, Mr Iain Luke, Mr David Marshall, Dan Norris, Anne Picking, Bridget Prentice, Sir John Stanley, Jon Trickett, Dr Desmond Turner and Mr Mike Wood.

European Standing Committees

10 European Union Document No. 11491/04, relating to the Common Agricultural Policy: reform of the sugar sector, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

11 European Union Documents Nos. 11557/04 and 11495/04 and Addenda 1–9, relating to the financing of agricultural and rural development policy, have been referred to European Standing Committee A.

12 European Union Documents Nos. 11890/04 and 11981/04 and Addenda 1–2, relating to the fight against fraud, have been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Duty of Care]; to be printed [No. 620-vi];
   (2) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Tri-Service Armed Forces Bill]; to be printed [No. 1139]; and
   (3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Duty of Care] [Mr Bruce George].

2 Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development and Trade and Industry,—Memoranda laid before the Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development and Trade and Industry Committees [Strategic Export Controls]; to be printed [No. 390-II] [Mr Roger Berry].

3 Draft Mental Health Bill,—Memoranda laid before the Joint Committee on the Draft Mental Health Bill; to be printed [No. 1127-i] [Mr George Howarth].

4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—(1) Seventeenth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Agriculture and EU Enlargement], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 421]:
   (2) Fifteenth Special Report from the Committee [Government’s Reply to the Eleventh Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on the GM Planting Regime]; to be printed [No. 1128];
   (3) Sixteenth Special Report from the Committee [Government’s Reply to the Twelfth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, on Reform of the Sugar Regime]; to be printed [No. 1129];
   (4) Seventeenth Special Report from the Committee [Government’s Reply to the Thirteenth Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on Bovine TB]; to be printed [No. 1130];
   (5) Minutes of Evidence taken before the draft Animal Welfare Bill Sub-Committee of the Committee [The draft Animal Welfare Bill]; to be printed [No. 1032-x];
   (6) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Agriculture and EU Enlargement];
   (7) Memorandum laid before the Committee [GM Planting Regime];
   (8) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Marine Environment]; and
   (9) Memorandum laid before the Committee [Biofuels] [Mr Michael Jack].
5 Environmental Audit,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [Housing: Building a Sustainable Future?]; to be printed [No. 709-v] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

6 European Scrutiny,—Thirty-second Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxxii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

7 Health,—Memorandum laid before the Health Committee [Public Expenditure on Health and Personal Social Services 2004]; to be printed [No. 1113] [Mr David Hinchcliffe].

8 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Waste Management Strategy in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 637-v] [Mr Tony Clarke].

9 Public Accounts,—(1) Forty-seventh Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [The management of suspensions of clinical staff in NHS hospitals and ambulance trusts in England]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 296]; and

    (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Helping Farm Businesses in England]; to be printed [No. 1131-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

10 Science and Technology,—(1) Twelfth Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government support for Beagle 2]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 711]; and

    (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Human reproductive technologies and the law]; to be printed [No. 599-vii] [Dr Ian Gibson].

11 Transport,—(1) Sixteenth Report from the Transport Committee [Traffic Law and its Enforcement], together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 105-I and -II];

    (2) Seventeenth Report from the Committee [Cars of the Future], together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 319-I and -II];

    (3) First Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Eleventh Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on the National Rail Enquiry Service]; to be printed [No. 1132];

    (4) Second Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Ninth Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on Navigational Hazards and the Energy Bill]; to be printed [No. 1133]; and

    (5) Third Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Twelfth Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on the British Transport Police]; to be printed [No. 1134] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

12 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [The Merger of Customs & Excise and the Inland Revenue]; to be printed [No. 356-iii] [Mr John McFall].

13 Welsh Affairs,—Fourth Special Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Powers of The Children’s Commissioner for Wales: The Government Response to the Fifth Report of the Welsh Affairs Committee (Session 2003–04)]; to be printed [No. 1126] [Martyn Jones].

14 Work and Pensions,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Child Support Agency]; to be printed [No. 928-ii];

    (2) Second Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to Third Report from the Work and Pensions Committee, DWP’s Administration of IT Projects]; to be printed [No. 1125]; and

    (3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Miscellaneous] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].
Wednesday 13th October 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Bridget Prentice);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.30 p.m.]

Thursday 14th October 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Promotion of Volunteering Bill.—The Order for resuming to-morrow the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 16th July, on consideration of the Promotion of Volunteering Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee. That the Clause (NC29) (Declaration as to extent of liability in negligence) be read a second time, was read and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

2 Northern Ireland (Severe Learning Disability) Bill,—The Order for reading the Northern Ireland (Severe Learning Disability) Bill a second time to-morrow was read and discharged.

Bill withdrawn.

3 Food Labelling Bill,—The Order for reading the Food Labelling Bill a second time to-morrow was read and discharged.

4 School Transport Bill,—Mr Secretary Clarke, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Secretary Johnson, Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Stephen Twigg and Dr Stephen Ladyman, presented a Bill to make provision for school travel schemes; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 162].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the School Transport Bill be printed [Bill 162–EN].

5 The EU’s Justice and Home Affairs Work Programme for the Next Five Years,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note of European Union document No. 10249/04, with ADD 1 and ADD 2, Commission Communication on the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice: assessment of the Tampere Programme and future orientations; notes that the Communication forms the basis of negotiations for the next European Union Justice and Home Affairs Work Programme; and supports the Government’s position that the Work Programme should focus on measures that complement the efforts of Member States and will be of most benefit to European Union citizens—(Caroline Flint);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 5, to leave out from the word ‘orientations’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘but believes that the Government has failed adequately to support the national interest in its response to the Tampere Programme, including its failure to halt the proposal to introduce co-decision and Qualified Majority Voting on immigration, asylum, visas and border measures and the Commission’s aim further to harmonise the civil and criminal justice systems of Member States.’, instead thereof—(Mr Jonathan Djanogly);

And the Question being proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr John Randall: 115.

Tellers for the Noes, Joan Ryan, Mr Tom Watson: 277.

So the Question was negatived.
And the Main Question being put;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Tom Watson, Joan Ryan: 275.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr John Randall: 114.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House takes note of European Union document No. 10249/04, with ADD 1 and ADD 2, Commission Communication on the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice: assessment of the Tampere Programme and future orientations; notes that the Communication forms the basis of negotiations for the next European Union Justice and Home Affairs Work Programme; and supports the Government’s position that the Work Programme should focus on measures that complement the efforts of Member States and will be of most benefit to European Union citizens.

6 Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill for the purpose of supplementing the Order of 8th January 2004.

Consideration of Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement at this day’s sitting.

Subsequent stages

2. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any further Question being put.
3. The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Mr Nick Ainger)—It was agreed to.

7 Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 4 were agreed to.

8 Adjournment (School Sport).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Stephen Twigg);

And it being Six o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

9 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from parents and pupils of Crowlands Junior School in Romford, Essex, for greater choice in secondary education in the London Road area of Romford was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

10 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till half-past Six o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 6.30 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Child Trust Funds.—(1) Child Trust Funds (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2676); and

2 Education.—Education (Student Support) (No. 2) Regulations 2002 (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2598), dated 5th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

3 Fees and Charges.—European Economic Interest Grouping (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2643), dated 11th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

4 Local Government.—(1) Local Authorities (Code of Conduct) (Local Determination) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2617); and
(2) Standards Board for England (Functions) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2618), dated 7th October 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

5 Police,—Police Federation (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2660), dated 12th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

6 Road Traffic,—Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (County of Surrey) (Borough of Runnymede) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2616), dated 7th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

7 Currency,—Treasury Minute, dated 14th October 2004, directing a raising of the limit on the amount of the Bank of England’s fiduciary note issue [by Act] [Mr Stephen Timms].

8 Firearms,—Twelfth Report of the Firearms Consultative Committee [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1082] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

9 Government Resources and Accounts,—Resource Accounts of the Privy Council Office for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1090] [Mr Stephen Timms].

10 Health,—Government Response to the Fifth Report from the Health Committee, Session 2003–04, on GP Out-of-Hours Services [by Command] [Cm. 6352] [Mr Secretary Reid].

11 Police,—Account of the National Crime Squad for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1073] [Clerk of the House].

12 Postal Services,—Report and Financial Accounts of Postwatch for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].


APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Mental Capacity Bill (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Tim Boswell, Mr Paul Burstow, Mr David Lammy, Laura Moffatt and Bridget Prentice members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

2 Mental Capacity Bill:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Alan Hurst and Mr James Cran Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Ms Meg Munn from Standing Committee A (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr George Howarth.

3 Civil Partnership Bill [Lords] (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Chris Bryant, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Alan Duncan, Mr Andrew Love, Mrs Anne McGuire and Mr Tom Watson members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.

4 Civil Partnership Bill [Lords]:
   (1) The Speaker has appointed Frank Cook, Mr Roger Gale and Mr George Stevenson Chairmen of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill; and
   (2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Parmjit Dhanda from Standing Committee D (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Ms Diane Abbott.

5 Government’s Assessment under section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Mike Hancock Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Assessment.

6 Draft Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Miss Anne Begg Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

7 Draft Financial Assistance for Young Farmers (Northern Ireland) Order 2004,—The Speaker has appointed Mr Mike Hancock Chairman of the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.
8 Value Added Tax (Disclosure of Avoidance Schemes) (Designations) Order 2004 and Value Added Tax (Groups: eligibility) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Win Griffiths Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Orders.

9 Draft Local Authorities (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Bill.

10 Draft Damages (Variation of Periodical Payments) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Ilsey Chairman of the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.

European Standing Committees

11 The Speaker has appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 4156/04 on Integration of Financial Markets.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—Fourth Special Report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Additional Government Response to the Second Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04 on Asylum and Immigration Appeals]; to be printed [No. 1136] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the draft Animal Welfare Bill Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The draft Animal Welfare Bill]; to be printed [No. 1032-xii] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee [Environmental Crime: Corporate Crime]; to be printed [No. 1135-i] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

4 Health.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [The Influence of the Pharmaceutical Industry]; to be printed [No. 1030-ii] [Dr Doug Naysmith].

5 Science and Technology.—Thirteenth Report from the Science and Technology Committee [The Use of Science in UK International Development Policy]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 133-I and -II]; [Dr Ian Gibson].

6 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Manufacturing and Trade in Wales]; to be printed [No. 323-xi] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 136; WH, No. 88]

Thursday 14th October 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (UN International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition),—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Jim Murphy.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 19th October.

[Adjourned at 5.13 p.m.]

[No. 137.]

Friday 15th October 2004.

The House met at half-past Nine o’clock.

1 The Speaker’s Absence.—The House being met, and the Speaker having leave of absence pursuant to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 3 (Deputy Speaker), Sylvia Heal, the First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table.

PRAYERS.

2 The First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means took the Chair as Deputy Speaker.

3 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from the Cod Crusaders Community Campaign for the restoration of British sovereign waters to national control was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.
4 Motion to sit in Private.—Mr Andrew Dismore moved, That the House sit in private.

The Deputy Speaker put the Question forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 163 (Motions to sit in private).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Dismore, Lawrie Quinn: 0.

Tellers for the Noes, David Wright, Mr Nigel Beard: 25.

And it appearing from the report of the Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Question was not decided.

5 Christmas Day (Trading) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Christmas Day (Trading) Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in page 1, line 7, to leave out ‘9’ and insert ‘10’, instead thereof.—(Mr Greg Knight.)

And the Question being proposed, That the Amendment be made to the Lords Amendment:—The Amendment was, by the leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Lords Amendment was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 2 to 6 were agreed to.

The Title was accordingly amended, as follows: A Bill to prohibit the opening of large shops on Christmas Day and to restrict the loading or unloading of goods at such shops on Christmas Day.

6 Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC1) (Appeals)—(Mr Christopher Chope)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Christopher Chope: 1.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Andrew Dismore, David Wright: 21.

And it appearing from the report of the Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Question was not decided and the business under consideration stood over until the next sitting of the House.

7 Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Sex Discrimination (Clubs and Other Private Associations) Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee.

Amendment (No. 3) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 35, at the end, to insert the words—

‘29E Unreasonable works and alterations
Nothing in the provisions of sections 29A to 29D requires unreasonable works or alterations to be carried out on existing buildings.’.—(Mr Christopher Chope.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Edward Leigh: 7.

Tellers for the Noes, David Wright, Mr Stephen Pound: 20.

And it appearing from the report of the Division that fewer than forty Members had taken part in the Division, the Deputy Speaker declared that the Question was not decided and the business under consideration stood over until the next sitting of the House.

8 Children’s Food Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Children’s Food Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 22nd October.

9 Lighter Evenings Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Lighter Evenings Bill;

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.
10 Cinemas (Rural Areas) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Cinemas (Rural Areas) Bill;
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

11 Marine Wildlife Conservation Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Marine Wildlife Conservation Bill;
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

12 Harbours Bill [Lords].—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Harbours Bill [Lords];
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

13 Rights of Way (Amendment) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 21st May, That the Rights of Way (Amendment) Bill be now read a second time;
Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 24th December.

14 Criminal Justice (Justifiable Conduct) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 14th May, That the Criminal Justice (Justifiable Conduct) Bill be now read a second time;
Ordered, That the Debate be resumed on Friday 24th December.

15 Rite of Passage (Welcoming and Coming of Age) Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Rite of Passage (Welcoming and Coming of Age) Bill;
Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Friday 5th November.

16 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Paul Clark);
And the Motion having been made after half-past Two o'clock, and Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then seven minutes past Three o'clock, till Monday 18th October.
[Adjourned at 3.07 p.m.]

APPENDIX I
Papers presented or laid upon the Table:
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education.—New Relationship with Schools (Governors’ Annual Report) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2683), dated 6th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

2 Highways.—Crime Prevention (Designated Areas) (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2674), dated 12th October [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].


Other Papers:

4 Government Resources and Accounts.—Resource Accounts of the Assets Recovery Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1071] [Mr Stephen Timms].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

Human Rights.—Memorandum laid before the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Civil Partnership Bill] [Jean Corston].
PRAYERS.

1 Gambling Bill.—Secretary Tessa Jowell, supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Secretary Prescott, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Secretary Blankett, Mr Secretary Darling, Mr Secretary Reid, Mr Secretary Murphy, Ms Secretary Hewitt, Mr Peter Hain, Margaret Hodge and Mr Richard Caborn, presented a Bill to make provision about gambling: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 163].

Ordered, That the Explanatory Notes relating to the Gambling Bill be printed [Bill 163–EN].

2 Opposition Day [19th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

Crime.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House notes the rising tide of firearms offences that has led to one gun crime being committed every hour; is appalled by the recent spate of gun-related incidents across the country; believes that after seven years the Government has failed to deal with the scourge of guns in towns and cities; further notes the link between gun crime and drugs; deplores the rise in violent crime; resolves that 40,000 more police are needed on the streets to reverse this trend; and believes that local communities should be given greater freedom to direct the efforts of their police force if streets are to be made safer—(David Davis);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 1, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the record falls in crime achieved by this Government since 1997, recognising that the chances of becoming a victim of crime are now at their lowest level since records began and that gun crime fatalities are falling; recognises that these achievements are the result of record numbers of police officers on the streets, reinforced for the first time by Community Support Officers; welcomes the Government’s achievements in reducing anti-social behaviour which has blighted the lives of too many of the most vulnerable people; and supports the Government’s continuing programme of action to tackle crime, including the recruitment of 25,000 Community Support Officers and wardens, the provision of extra prison capacity and tougher penalties for those who break the law’, instead thereof.—(Mr Secretary Blunkett.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question; Mr Patrick McLoughlin rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question being accordingly put; The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr John Randall: 163.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Gillian Merron: 290.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments); The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 287.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr John Randall: 162.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the record falls in crime achieved by this Government since 1997, recognising that the chances of becoming a victim of crime are now at their lowest level since records began and that gun crime fatalities are falling; recognises that these achievements are the result of record numbers of police officers on the streets, reinforced for the first time by Community Support Officers; welcomes the Government’s achievements in reducing anti-social behaviour which has blighted the lives of too many of the most vulnerable people; and supports the Government’s continuing programme of action to tackle crime, including the recruitment of 25,000 Community Support Officers and wardens, the provision of extra prison capacity and tougher penalties for those who break the law.
3 Civil Partnership Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the Order of 12th October 2004 (Civil Partnership Bill [Lords] (Programme)) be varied by the substitution in paragraph 2 (time for conclusion of proceedings in Standing Committee) for the words ‘21st October 2004’ of the words ‘26th October 2004’—(Mr Nick Ainger)—It was agreed to.

4 Legal Services.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Legal Services Ombudsman (Extension of Remit) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 15th July, be approved—(Mr Nick Ainger)—It was agreed to.

5 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Roads (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 7th September, be approved—(Mr Nick Ainger)—It was agreed to.

6 Industrial Policy for an Enlarged Europe.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 8875/04, Commission Communication entitled Fostering Structural Change: an Industrial Policy for an Enlarged Europe; and supports the actions proposed by the Commission to facilitate the process of structural change, namely better lawmaking, better exploitation of synergies between different Community policies impacting on competitiveness, and analysis of the specific needs of various sectors; but believes that such analysis should concentrate on sectors with potential for growth—(Mr Nick Ainger)—It was agreed to.

7 Employment Tribunals.—Ordered, That the Employment Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1861), dated 19th July 2004, be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

8 Public Accounts.—Ordered, That Ruth Kelly be discharged from the Committee of Public Accounts and Mr Stephen Timms be added.—(Mr Bob Ainsworth, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

9 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Nick Ainger);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock, and Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then five minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.55 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Criminal Law.—International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (Freezing of Funds and Economic Resources) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2690), dated 18th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Stephen Timms].

2 Immigration.—Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1112] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Landlord and Tenant.—Service Charges (Consultation Requirements) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2665), dated 11th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Papers subject to Special Parliamentary Procedure:

4 Water Industry.—Yorkshire Water Services Limited (Langthwaite Water Treatment Works First Time Filtration Scheme) Compulsory Purchase Order 2004, dated 14th January 2004, together with a Certificate by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under section 2(2) of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

5 Armenia (No. 1, 2004).—Agreement, done at Yerevan on 15th July 2004, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Republic of Armenia on the Establishment and Activities of Cultural Centres, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6350] [Mr Secretary Straw].
6 Development of Tourism.—Statement of appointment and salary of Lord Marshall of Knightsbridge as Chairman of the British Tourist Authority [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

7 Government Resources and Accounts.—(1) Account of the Royal Air Force Museum for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1168] [Clerk of the House]; and
   (2) Report and Accounts of the Defence Procurement Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1079] [Mr Secretary Hoon].


9 Justice (Northern Ireland).—Report of the Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

10 National Audit.—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Managing Risks to Improve Public Services [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1078-I and -II] [Clerk of the House].

11 Postal Services.—Account of the Consumer Council for Postal Services for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1166] [Clerk of the House].

12 Public Health.—Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Scallops) (Irish Sea) (Revocation) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2686), dated 15th October 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

13 Regulatory Reform.—Proposal for a Regulatory Reform (Prison Officers) (Industrial Action) Order 2004, together with a statement by Her Majesty’s Prison Service [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

14 Reserve Forces.—Report under section 56(7) of the Reserve Forces Act 1996 of a call-out order under section 56(1) of that Act [by Act] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

15 School Standards and Framework.—Accounts of the—
   (1) Bolton Education Action Zone;
   (2) Corby Education Action Zone; and
   (3) Sunderland Education Action Zone for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1163, 1164 and 1165] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Mental Capacity Bill (Programming Sub-Committee).—The Speaker has appointed Mr George Howarth as a member of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

2 Draft Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Jon Cruddas from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Angela Smith.

3 Draft Local Authorities (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mrs Irene Adams Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order in place of Mr Kevin Hughes.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Education Outside the Classroom], to be printed [No. 1170-i] [Mr Barry Sheerman].
Tuesday 19th October 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Mike Hancock reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Government’s Assessment under section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Miss Anne Begg reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Mike Hancock reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Financial Assistance for Young Farmers (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Congenital Heart Disease (Exemption from Prescription Charges),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to exempt those who suffer from congenital heart disease from prescription charges: And that Mr Ivan Henderson, Mr Stephen McCabe, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Anthony D. Wright, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Ms Dari Taylor, Dr Howard Stoate, Bob Russell, Mr Kevan Jones, Andrew George, Mr John Bercow and Dr Doug Naysmith do prepare and bring it in.

5 Congenital Heart Disease (Exemption from Prescription Charges) Bill,—Mr Ivan Henderson accordingly presented a Bill to exempt those who suffer from congenital heart disease from prescription charges: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 164].

6 Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords],—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC1) (Amendment of Companies Act 1985: limit on auditor’s liability (No. 1))—(Mr Andrew Mitchell)—brought up and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 155.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Heppell, Mr Tom Watson: 283.

Another Clause (NC9) (Amendment of the Companies Act 1985: Auditors—ineligibility)—(Mr Jim Cousins)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment (No. 1) proposed to the Bill, in page 27, line 29, at the beginning, to insert the words ‘Where there appears to be good reason,’.—(Mr Andrew Mitchell.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Andrew Selous: 158.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Jim Murphy: 255.

Another Amendment (No. 24) proposed to the Bill, in page 29, line 32, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(9) The Secretary of State may on the written request of the inspector or investigator—

(a) if satisfied that it is necessary for the purpose mentioned in subsection 1(b) extend for a period which he may specify beyond the initial 30 days the period of authorisation under subsection 1(a); or

(b) extend the number of consecutive days during which the inspector or investigator may remain on the relevant premises.

(10) There shall be no limit on the number of extensions which may be requested of or granted by the Secretary of State under subsection (9).’.—(Mr Andrew Mitchell.)
Question put, That the Amendment be made.
The House divided.
  Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Andrew Selous: 159.
  Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Jim Murphy: 264.

Another Amendment (No. 19) proposed to the Bill, in page 32, line 7, to leave out subsections (2) and (3) and insert the words—

‘(2) The Secretary of State shall by regulations make provision about—
  (a) the formation of new community interest companies, and
  (b) the types of existing company that may become a community interest company.’;
  instead thereof.—(Mr Andrew Mitchell.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendments (Nos. 17 and 18) made to the Bill.

The Bill was read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

7 Public Petitions,—A Public Petition from Mr and Mrs Archer and others for the decision on the planning application to build flats opposite Castleview School in Canvey Island, Essex, to be taken by the Planning Committee of Castle Point Borough Council, rather than under delegated powers, and for the Committee to reject the application, was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

8 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Gillian Merron);
  And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Fraser Kemp.)
  And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till eleven minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.11 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


2 Environmental Protection,—Genetically Modified Organisms (Transboundary Movements) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2692), dated 17th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

3 Police,—(1) Police Service of Northern Ireland (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 402); and
  (2) Police Service of Northern Ireland Reserve (Full-time) (Appointment and Conditions of Service) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 403), dated 19th September [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].


Other Papers:

5 Environmental Protection,—Report by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under section 47A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, on recycling and composting by English waste authorities [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

6 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister,—Government Response to the Tenth Report of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee, Session 2003–04, on Supporting Vulnerable and Older People: The Supporting People Programme [by Command] [Cm. 6348] [Mr Secretary Prescott].
7 Statutory Instrument (Notification).—Communication declaring that the undermentioned Statutory Instrument had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament, and explaining why such copies had not been so laid before the Instrument came into operation:


[by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

8 Trade and Industry.—Department of Trade and Industry Minute concerning a contingent liability to indemnify in the course of their duties the two Trustees of the Nuclear Trust appointed by British Energy [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Financial Assistance for Young Farmers (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Tony Clarke from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution John Cryer.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Implementation of the Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed [No. 1060-iii] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [BBC Charter Renewal]; to be printed [No. 598-vii] [Sir Gerald Kaufman].

3 Foreign Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Western Balkans]; to be printed [No. 1121-ii]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Cyprus]; to be printed [No. 1172-i]

[Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Liaison.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Liaison Committee [Evidence to Select Committees]; to be printed [No. 1180-i] [Mr Alan Williams].

5 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [ODPM Annual Report and Accounts 2004]; to be printed [No. 1115-ii]; and

(2) Memoranda submitted to the Committee [The Role and Effectiveness of the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment]; to be printed [No. 1117-II] [Andrew Bennett].

6 Statutory Instruments.—Thirtieth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xxx]; and

(2) Second Report from the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 949-ii]

[Brian White].

7 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [UK–ASEAN Trade Relations]; to be printed [No. 388-iv] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

8 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Credit Card Charges and Marketing]; to be printed [No. 1177] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 139; WH, No. 89]

Tuesday 19th October 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Joan Ryan.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.26 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 University of Wales, Cardiff Bill [Lords].—The Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means reported from the Committee on Unopposed Bills, That it had examined the allegations contained in the Preamble to the University of Wales, Cardiff Bill [Lords] and found the same to be true; and had gone through the Bill and had directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill to be read the third time.


Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mrs Irene Adams reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Local Authorities (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Eric Illsley reported from the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Damages (Variation of Periodical Payments) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 European Standing Committee B.—Mr Nigel Beard reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 4156/04 and Addendum 1, Financial Services Committee Report on Financial Integration; and supports the United Kingdom’s five priorities for the future approach to financial services in the European Union.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

6 Historic Counties (Traffic Signs and Mapping).—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law so as to require traffic authorities to cause traffic signs to be placed on or near roads for the purpose of indicating the location of historic county boundaries; to require the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to mark the boundaries of the historic counties on its maps; and for connected purposes; And that Mr Adrian Flook, Mr John Randall, Sir Nicholas Winterton, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Mr Nigel Evans, Mr David Wilshire and Mr David Amess do prepare and bring it in.

7 Historic Counties (Traffic Signs and Mapping) Bill.—Mr Adrian Flook accordingly presented a Bill to amend the law so as to require traffic authorities to cause traffic signs to be placed on or near roads for the purpose of indicating the location of historic county boundaries; to require the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to mark the boundaries of the historic counties on its maps; and for connected purposes: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 165].

8 Section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That this House takes note with approval of the Government’s assessment as set out in Budget 2004 for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993—(Joan Ryan).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Joan Ryan: 250.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 162.

So the Question was agreed to.

Resolved, That this House takes note with approval of the Government’s assessment as set out in Budget 2004 for the purposes of section 5 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1993.
9 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill for the purpose of supplementing the Order of 22nd January 2004:

Consideration of Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion three hours after their commencement at this day’s sitting.

Subsequent stages

2. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any further Question being put.

3. The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Paul Clark);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Joan Ryan, Gillian Merron: 260.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 166.

So the Question was agreed to.

10 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Ivor Caplin);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Margaret Moran: 269.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 181.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 2.

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 3, after the word ‘widows’, to insert the word ‘or’.—(Mr Gerald Howarth.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made to the Lords Amendment;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gregory Barker, Andrew Selous: 181.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Margaret Moran: 270.

So the Question was negatived.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Ivor Caplin);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Margaret Moran: 279.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Andrew Selous: 180.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 3 and 4 were agreed to.

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 1 and 2.

That Mrs Liz Blackman, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Gerald Howarth and Derek Twigg be members of the Committee.

That Mr Ivor Caplin be the Chairman of the Committee.

That three be the Quorum of the Committee.

That the Committee do withdraw immediately.—(Derek Twigg.)

11 Adjournment (National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Dr Stephen Ladyman);

And it being Seven o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.
Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill.—Mr Ivor Caplin reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of their Amendments to the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill. That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 1 for the following Reason:
Because it could allow a claim to succeed even though the conditions for entitlement were probably not fulfilled.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 2 for the following Reason:
Because it would involve a charge on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.

The Reasons were agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons, with the Bill and Amendments.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Gillian Merron.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.25 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Other Papers:

1 Defence, Foreign Affairs, International Development and Trade and Industry,—Government Response to the First Joint Report from the Defence Committee, the Foreign Affairs Committee, the International Development Committee and the Trade and Industry Committee, Session 2003–04, on Strategic Export Controls [by Command] [Cm. 6357] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2 Sea Fisheries,—Solent European Marine Site (Prohibition of Method of Dredging) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2696), dated 19th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Civil Partnership Bill [Lords] (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Andrew Selous as a member of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee D in respect of the Bill.


(1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

(2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Richard Bacon, Gregory Barker, Mr Henry Bellingham, Mr Clive Betts, Malcolm Bruce, Brian Cotter, Mr Parmjit Dhanda, Mr Neil Gerrard, Jane Griffiths, Lynne Jones, Chris McCafferty, Rosemary McKenna, Lawrie Quinn, Mr Richard Shepherd, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe and Mr Tom Watson.

3 Value Added Tax (Disclosure of Avoidance Schemes) (Designations) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1933) and the Value Added Tax (Groups: eligibility) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1931),—The Committee of Selection has discharged John Cryer and Mr Terry Lewis from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Orders) and nominated in substitution Mr Jim Cousins and Jon Cruddas.

4 Draft Local Authorities (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order 2004,—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John MacDougall from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Alan Howarth.

European Standing Committees

5 European Union Document No. 12343/04, relating to the marketing of oilseed rape genetically modified for glyphosate tolerance, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.
6 European Union Document No. 11545/04 and Addenda 1–3, relating to credit institutions and investment firms, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Future Capabilities]; to be printed [No. 1031-ii] [Bruce George].

2 Draft Mental Health Bill,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Mental Health Bill; to be printed [No. 1127-ii]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 1127-iii]
   [Mr George Howarth].

3 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Prison Education]; to be printed [No. 825-iii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Water Pricing Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Water Pricing]; to be printed [No. 1186-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

5 Environmental Audit,—(1) Fifth Special Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Government Response to the Tenth Report of the Committee, Session 2003–04, on Budget 2004 and Energy]; to be printed [No. 1185]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Hazardous Waste and Waste Policy]; to be printed [No. 1184-i]
   [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

6 European Scrutiny,—(1) Thirty-third Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxxiii]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The CBI and European Scrutiny]; to be printed [No. 1185-i]
   [Jimmy Hood].

7 Human Rights,—(1) Twentieth Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Scrutiny of Bills: Eighth Progress Report], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1187];
   (2) Twenty-first Report from the Committee [The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights]; together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1188]
   [Jean Corston].

8 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Sitting Hours]; to be printed [No. 892-iii] [Mr Peter Hain].

9 Northern Ireland Affairs,—(1) Sixth Report from the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Social Housing Provision in Northern Ireland], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 493-i]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The functions of the Office of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 956-ii]
   [Mr Michael Mates].

10 Procedure,—Fifth Special Report from the Procedure Committee [Programming of Legislation: The Government’s Response to the Committee’s Fourth Report of Session 2003–04]; to be printed [No. 1169] [Sir Nicholas Winterton].

11 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [The Work of the Economic and Social Research Council]; to be printed [No. 1122-i] [Dr Ian Gibson].

12 Welsh Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Police Service, Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in Wales]; to be printed [No. 1182-i] [Mr Martyn Jones].
13 Work and Pensions.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Departmental Report]; to be printed [No. 1171]; and
   (2) Third Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Work and Pensions Committee, Health and Safety]; to be printed [No. 1137]
   [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 140; WH, No. 90]

Wednesday 20th October 2004.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall
The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.
Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Derek Twigg.)
And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.
[Adjourned at 4.53 p.m.]

Thursday 21st October 2004.
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Children Bill [Lords].—Dame Marion Roe reported from Standing Committee B, That it had gone through the Children Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto, and had amended the Title as follows:

A Bill to make provision for the establishment of a Children’s Commissioner; to make provision about services provided to and for children and young people by local authorities and other persons; to make provision in relation to Wales about advisory and support services relating to family proceedings; to make provision about private fostering, child minding and day care, adoption review panels, the defence of reasonable punishment, the making of grants as respects children and families, child safety orders, the Children’s Commissioner for Wales, the publication of material relating to children involved in certain legal proceedings and the disclosure by the Inland Revenue of information relating to children.

Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Monday 25th October; and to be printed [Bill 166].

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 1189].

2 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed, without Amendment, to the Amendments made by this House to the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill [Lords].

3 Adjournment (Defence in the World).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Derek Twigg);

And it being Six o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

4 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Jim Fitzpatrick);

And the Motion having been made at Six o’clock, and Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, till Monday 25th October.

[Adjourned at 6.30 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:
Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Legal Services Commission.—Draft Criminal Defence Service (Choice in Very High Cost Cases) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 European Communities.—European Communities (Designation) (No. 5) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2642), dated 13th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

Other Papers:

3 Government Resources and Accounts.—Report and Consolidated Resource Accounts of the Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Inland Revenue for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1062] [Mr Stephen Timms].

4 Northern Ireland.—Accounts for 2003–04 of—
   (1) the Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service;
   (2) the Northern Ireland Guardian Ad Litem Agency;
   (3) the Northern Ireland Health Promotion Agency;
   (4) the Northern Ireland Regional Medical Physics Agency; and
   (5) the Social Security Agency
with Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [Nos. 1084, 1086, 1085, 1087 and 1138] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

5 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.—Government Response to the Eighth Report of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee, Session 2003–04, on the Role and Effectiveness of the Housing Corporation [by Command] [Cm. 6351] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

6 Senior Salaries.—Fifty-seventh Report of the Review Body on Senior Salaries on the Review of Parliamentary Pay and Allowances 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6354-1 and -2] [The Prime Minister].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Employment Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004 No. 1861),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

European Standing Committees

2 The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Forth Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 8241/04 on General Arrangements for Excise.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Public Administration,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Government by Inquiry]; to be printed [No. 606-vi] [Tony Wright].

[No. 141; WH, No. 91]

Thursday 21st October 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.


And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 26th October.

[Adjourned at 5.24 p.m.]
The House met at Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Opposition Day [20th allotted day].—It being an allotted day at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition in pursuance of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), the House proceeded to consider Opposition business.

University Admissions Policy.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House believes that universities should be solely and wholly in charge of their own admissions policies, without regard to any externally imposed quotas, targets or benchmarks; affirms that access to higher education should be determined on the basis of academic merit, not social, economic or geographical background; welcomes and supports the efforts of universities to seek out, find and encourage talent in all parts of society, endeavours which long pre-date Government intervention and which are threatened, not encouraged, by it; recognises that attempts to force universities to use politically-determined criteria threaten academic excellence and independence alike; notes that the Government’s policies on these issues have sparked deep-seated anger and resentment among universities, whose leaders have in consequence warned Ministers not to interfere with university admissions policy and even openly contemplated self-privatisation as a means of escape; regrets the appointment of a University Access Regulator who has declared himself to be of the view that the principal issue facing higher education is class; and urges the immediate abolition of the Office of Fair Access and the removal of state interference from issues which lie at the heart of university independence, freedom and standards—(Mr Tim Collins);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 3, to leave out from the word ‘policies’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘a point which was repeatedly made clear during the passage of the Higher Education Act 2004 and is now enshrined in that legislation; notes that the Opposition opposed the passage of that Act; welcomes the annual publication of the higher education performance indicators which enable institutions to reflect on their own position; abhors the recent misinterpretation of those indicators as targets or quotas linked to funding; agrees that admissions to higher education should always be based on merit; further welcomes the recent report from Professor Schwartz on fair admissions to higher education; agrees that it is for institutions themselves to decide how to implement the Schwartz principles; supports the Government’s policies to widen participation in higher education and open access for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds with the potential to benefit; congratulates the Government and the higher education sector on the steps they are taking to achieve this goal; notes that the most powerful driver of increased participation is to raise standards in schools; commends the new student support arrangements which will make higher education free at the point of use and fair at the point of repayment; further commends the establishment of the Office for Fair Access (OFFA) which will result in more financial support for students and more outreach work to boost applications from under-represented groups; and further notes that universities’ admissions policies will be outside OFFA’s remit’, instead thereof.—(Dr Kim Howells.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Crispin Blunt: 136.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Paul Clark: 332.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments):—It was agreed to.

And the Main Question, as amended, being put;

Resolved, That this House believes that universities should be solely and wholly in charge of their own admissions policies, a point which was repeatedly made clear during the passage of the Higher Education Act 2004 and is now enshrined in that legislation; notes that the Opposition opposed the passage of that Act; welcomes the annual publication of the higher education performance indicators which enable institutions to reflect on their own position; abhors the recent misinterpretation of those indicators as targets or quotas linked to funding; agrees that admissions to higher education should always be based on merit; further welcomes the recent report from Professor Schwartz on fair admissions to higher education; agrees that it is for institutions themselves to decide how to implement the Schwartz principles; supports the Government’s policies to widen participation in higher education and open access for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds with the potential to benefit; congratulates the Government and the higher education sector on the steps they are taking to achieve this goal; notes that the most powerful driver of increased participation
is to raise standards in schools; commends the new student support arrangements which will make higher education free at the point of use and fair at the point of repayment; further commends the establishment of the Office for Fair Access (OFFA) which will result in more financial support for students and more outreach work to boost applications from under-represented groups; and further notes that universities’ admissions policies will be outside OFFA’s remit.

Wind Farms.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House recognises that climate change is a major challenge for the twenty-first century and that renewable energy can help to cut carbon dioxide emissions; regrets the fact that renewable energy supplies only 2.7 per cent. of Britain’s energy needs; deplores the Government’s policy of relying exclusively on onshore wind farms to meet its renewable energy targets; condemns changes to the planning system which may lead to the construction of wind farms in inappropriate places against the wishes of local communities; and urges the Government to develop a wider mix of renewable energy technologies including hydro, off-shore wind, wave, tidal, solar, and bio-fuels and biomass, combined heat and power, microgeneration, and energy efficiency—

(Mr Tim Yeo);

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 1, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘recognises the passing of the Energy Act 2004 and the positive actions taken by the Government to increase the amount of energy supplied from renewable sources; welcomes the global leadership shown by the Government on climate change and commends actions taken to meet the UK’s Kyoto targets; condemns the Official Opposition for opposing the development of renewables while claiming to support them in principle; notes the abject failure of the Official Opposition to provide coherent policy proposals to meet the climate change challenge and its continued opposition to the Climate Change Levy; praises the Government for providing significant resources and support to the development of wind energy, including £117 million for the development of offshore wind energy; further notes that a growing proportion of wind farm developments will occur offshore; supports steps taken by the Government to promote energy efficiency and notes with approval that the planning regime allows for wind farm proposals to be thoroughly considered in terms of their impacts on local communities and environments and their contributions to national energy needs and policies; commends the Government’s commitment to diversifying the sources of the UK’s energy supply and the related investment in a wide range of renewable technologies including energy crops, £60 million investment for biomass, £31 million towards photovoltaics and £50 million for wave and tidal; and further condemns the Official Opposition’s energy policy that would drastically reduce the UK’s investment in renewable technologies’, instead thereof.—(Mr Mike O’Brien.)

And the Question being proposed, That the original words stand part of the Question; Mr Patrick McLoughlin rose in his place and claimed to move, That the Question be now put.

And the Question being put, That the Question be now put:—It was agreed to.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments); The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Crispin Blunt: 183.

Tellers for the Noes, Margaret Moran, Mr John Heppell: 298.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question, That the proposed words be there added, being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments); The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Margaret Moran: 325.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr David Ruffley: 140.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House recognises the passing of the Energy Act 2004 and the positive actions taken by the Government to increase the amount of energy supplied from renewable sources; welcomes the global leadership shown by the Government on climate change and commends actions taken to meet the UK’s Kyoto targets; condemns the Official Opposition for opposing the development of renewables while claiming to support them in principle; notes the abject failure of the Official Opposition to provide coherent policy proposals to meet the climate change challenge and its continued opposition to the Climate Change Levy; praises the Government for providing significant resources and support to the development of wind energy, including £117 million for the development of offshore wind energy; further notes that a growing
proportion of wind farm developments will occur offshore; supports steps taken by the Government to promote energy efficiency and notes with approval that the planning regime allows for wind farm proposals to be thoroughly considered in terms of their impacts on local communities and environments and their contributions to national energy needs and policies; commends the Government’s commitment to diversifying the sources of the UK’s energy supply and the related investment in a wide range of renewable technologies including energy crops, £60 million investment for biomass, £31 million towards photovoltaics and £50 million for wave and tidal; and further condemns the Official Opposition’s energy policy that would drastically reduce the UK’s investment in renewable technologies.

2 Local Government.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Local Authorities (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 21st July, be approved—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

3 Value Added Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Value Added Tax (Disclosure of Avoidance Schemes) (Designations) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1933), dated 22nd July 2004, a copy of which was laid before this House on 22nd July, be approved—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

4 Value Added Tax.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Value Added Tax (Groups: eligibility) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1931), dated 22nd July 2004, a copy of which was laid before this House on 22nd July, be approved—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

5 Northern Ireland.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Financial Assistance for Young Farmers (Northern Ireland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 15th September, be approved—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

6 Constitutional Law.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 (Consequential Amendments) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 14th September, be approved—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

7 Damages.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Damages (Variation of Periodical Payments) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 16th September, be approved—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

8 Integration of Financial Markets.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 4156/04 and Addendum 1, Financial Services Committee Report on Financial Integration; and supports the United Kingdom’s five priorities for the future approach to financial services in the European Union—(Gillian Merron):—It was agreed to.

9 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Tuesday 26th October, the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motions in the name of Mr Peter Hain relating to Programming of Bills, Procedures for Debates, etc., Carry-over of Bills, Deferred Divisions, Short Speeches and Removal of References to Strangers not later than Six o’clock; such Questions shall include the Questions on any Amendments selected by the Speaker which may then be moved; the Questions may be put after the moment of interruption and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to Deferred Divisions shall not apply.—(Gillian Merron.)

10 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Wincham and Lostock Gralam, Cheshire, against proposals to build an incinerator between Lostock Gralam and Rudheath was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

11 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Gillian Merron);

And the Motion having been made after Ten o’clock, and Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then three minutes to Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.57 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 22nd October 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1. Foreign and Commonwealth Office,—Paper, entitled The United Kingdom in the United Nations [Cm. 6325] [Mr Secretary Straw].

2. Miscellaneous (No. 12, 2004).—Stockholm Convention, done at Stockholm on 22nd May 2001, on Persistent Organic Pollutants, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Cm. 6353] [Mr Secretary Straw].


Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 22nd October 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 25th October 2004:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

7. Criminal Law,—Draft Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Categories of Offences) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].


Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


10. Education,—Albion Junior School (Change to School Session Times) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2685), dated 18th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].


12. Housing,—Housing (Right to Buy) (Designated Rural Areas and Designated Regions) (England) (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2681), dated 14th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].


14. National Health Service,—National Health Service (Primary Medical Services) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2694), dated 18th October 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].


Other Papers:

17 Government Resources and Accounts.—Resource Accounts of the Office of the Rail Regulator for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1094] [Mr Stephen Timms].

18 National Audit,—Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on English Regions: Getting Citizens Involved: Community Participation in Neighbourhood Renewal [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1070] [Clerk of the House].

19 Pitcairn Islands,—Pitcairn Court of Appeal (Amendment) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2669), dated 13th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Public Accounts,—(1) Forty-eighth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Connexions Service]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 618];

(2) Forty-ninth Report from the Committee [The recovery of debt by the Inland Revenue]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 584]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Ministry of Defence: Battlefield Helicopters]; to be printed [No. 1191-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

[No. 143.]

Tuesday 26th October 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Civil Partnership Bill [Lords],—Frank Cook reported from Standing Committee D, That it had gone through the Civil Partnership Bill [Lords], and made Amendments thereunto. Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 168]. Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 1208].

2 Prepared Foods (Provision of Information),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require manufacturers and retailers of prepared foods to provide information about the content and nutritional quality of the foods: And that Helen Southworth, Mr David Stewart, Rosemary McKenna, David Taylor, Mrs Liz Blackman, Mr Colin Pickthall, Christine Russell, Linda Perham, Mr Khalid Mahmood, Dr Phyllis Starkey, Mr James Plaskitt and Mr George Howarth do prepare and bring it in.

3 Prepared Foods (Provision of Information) Bill,—Helen Southworth accordingly presented a Bill to require manufacturers and retailers of prepared foods to provide information about the content and nutritional quality of the foods: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 5th November and to be printed [Bill 167].

4 Programming of Bills,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the House takes note of the Fourth Report of the Procedure Committee, on Programming of Legislation, HC 325, and the Government’s Response thereto (published as the Committee’s Fifth Special Report of the current Session, HC 1169); and makes the following provision:

That, with effect from the beginning of the next Session of Parliament, the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 relating to Programming of Bills be Standing Orders of the House, with the following Amendments:

(1) In Order A (Programme Motions), in paragraph (6), leave out ‘or where paragraph (8) of Sessional Order B (Programming Committees) applies.’.

(2) In Order A, in paragraph (10), leave out ‘In an excepted case’ and insert ‘If any of the exceptions applies’.

(3) In Order B (Programming Committees), leave out paragraphs (8) to (10).

(4) In Order C (Programming Sub-Committees), in paragraph (1), after ‘and’, insert ‘subject to paragraph (9A) of this order’.
(5) In Order C, after paragraph (9), insert—

‘(9A) a Minister of the Crown may make any motion in a standing committee which could have been the subject of a resolution of the Programming Sub-Committee; and for the purposes of this order the motion shall be treated as if it were in the terms of a resolution of the Programming Sub-Committee: provided that proceedings on such a motion shall lapse if any member of the committee signifies objection to it.’

(6) In Order D (Programme orders: conclusion of proceedings in Standing Committee or in Committee of the whole House), in paragraph (2), after ‘others’ insert ‘in the same order as they would fall to be put if this order did not apply’; and in sub-paragraph (c), leave out ‘division’ and insert ‘decision’.

(7) In Order D, in paragraph (5), at end insert ‘except that the question shall be put separately on any clause or schedule to the bill which a Minister of the Crown has signified an intention to leave out’.

(8) In Order E (Programme orders: conclusion of proceedings on consideration or third reading), in paragraph (2), after ‘others’ insert ‘in the same order as they would fall to be put if this order did not apply’; and in sub-paragraph (c), leave out ‘division’ and insert ‘decision’—

(Mr Peter Hain);

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Question, in line 4, after ‘1169), to insert the words ‘approves the recommendation in paragraph 52 of the Report relating to a statement of clauses and schedules not debated in standing committee’.—(Sir Nicholas Winterton.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir Nicholas Winterton, Sir Robert Smith: 191.

Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 265.

So the Question was negatived.

Another Amendment ((b)) was proposed to the Question, in line 8, at the end, to insert the words—

‘( ) In Order A (Programme Motions), leave out paragraph (1) and insert—

“(1) A motion, of which notice has been given, providing for any proceedings on a bill to be programmed may be made at or after the second sitting of the House after the bill has been read a second time and the question shall be put—

(a) forthwith, if the motion stands in the name of members of three or more parties including a Minister of the Crown and a member of the party to which the Leader of the Opposition belongs; or

(b) not later than one hour after the commencement of proceedings on the motion, in any other case.

(1A) Before putting the question under sub-paragraphs (a) or (b) above, the Speaker shall put the question on any amendment to the motion which has been selected by him which may then be moved.

(1B) Such a motion may also provide for committal of the bill (including the discharge of any order previously made in respect of the committal of the bill).”.—(Sir Nicholas Winterton.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.


Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 271.

So the Question was negatived.

It being after Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [yesterday], proceeded to put the Questions on the remaining Amendment, the Main Question, and on the Motions relating to Procedures for Debates, etc., Carry-over of Bills, Deferred Divisions, Short Speeches and Removal of References to Strangers.

Another Amendment ((d)) was proposed to the Question, in line 22, at the end, to insert the words—

‘(5A) In Order D (Programme orders: conclusion of proceedings in standing committee or in committee of the whole House), after paragraph (1), insert—

“(1A) The chairman of a standing committee shall defer the putting of any question in accordance with a programme order by a period equal to that for which that sitting of the committee has been suspended owing to divisions in the House or in a committee of the whole House; and the chairman may also defer the putting of any such question by a period not exceeding a quarter of an hour if he considers it to be for the general convenience of the committee.
Provided that if the time at which a question falls to be put is thereby deferred beyond the hour specified in the proviso to paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of standing committees), the question shall be put instead at the corresponding time after the commencement of the next sitting of the committee.”.—(Sir Nicholas Winterton.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir Nicholas Winterton, Sir Robert Smith: 182.
Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 257.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Derek Twigg: 261.

Resolved, That the House takes note of the Fourth Report of the Procedure Committee, on Programming of Legislation, HC 325, and the Government’s Response thereto (published as the Committee’s Fifth Special Report of the current Session, HC 1169).

Ordered, That, with effect from the beginning of the next Session of Parliament, the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 relating to Programming of Bills be Standing Orders of the House, with the following Amendments:

1. In Order A (Programme Motions), in paragraph (6), leave out ‘or where paragraph (8) of Sessional Order B (Programming Committees) applies,’.
2. In Order A, in paragraph (10), leave out ‘In an excepted case’ and insert ‘If any of the exceptions applies’.
3. In Order B (Programming Committees), leave out paragraphs (8) to (10).
4. In Order C (Programming Sub-Committees), in paragraph (1), after ‘and’, insert ‘subject to paragraph (9A) of this order’.
5. In Order C, after paragraph (9), insert—

‘(9A) a Minister of the Crown may make any motion in a standing committee which could have been the subject of a resolution of the Programming Sub-Committee; and for the purposes of this order the motion shall be treated as if it were in the terms of a resolution of the Programming Sub-Committee: provided that proceedings on such a motion shall lapse if any member of the committee signifies objection to it.’

6. In Order D (Programme orders: conclusion of proceedings in Standing Committee or in Committee of the whole House), in paragraph (2), after ‘others’ insert ‘in the same order as they would fall to be put if this order did not apply’; and in sub-paragraph (c), leave out ‘division’ and insert ‘decision’.

7. In Order D, in paragraph (5), at end insert ‘, except that the question shall be put separately on any clause of or schedule to the bill which a Minister of the Crown has signified an intention to leave out’.

8. In Order E (Programme orders: conclusion of proceedings on consideration or third reading), in paragraph (2), after ‘others’ insert ‘in the same order as they would fall to be put if this order did not apply’; and in sub-paragraph (c), leave out ‘division’ and insert ‘decision’.

Resolved. That this House takes note of the Fourth Report of the Procedure Committee, Session 2002–03, on Procedures for Debates, Private Members’ Bills and the Powers of the Speaker, HC 333, and the Government’s Response thereto (published as the Committee’s Second Special Report of the current Session, HC 610); and endorses the proposals for an experiment with shorter back-bench speeches set out in paragraphs 13 to 15 of the Committee’s Report.—(Mr Phil Woolas.)

Ordered, That, with effect from the beginning of the next Session of Parliament until the end of the next but one Session of Parliament, the following Order be a Standing Order of the House:

The Speaker may call Members between certain hours to speak for a specified maximum time (not being less than three minutes) and during this time the reference to eight minutes in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 47 (Short speeches) and the provisions of paragraph (2) of that order shall not apply.—(Mr Phil Woolas.)
Deferred Divisions.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That, with effect from the beginning of the next Session of Parliament, the Order of the House of 28th June 2001 relating to Deferred Divisions be a Standing Order of the House—(Mr Phil Woolas);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Derek Twigg: 300.

Tellers for the Noes, Angela Watkinson, Sir George Young: 130.

So the Question was agreed to.

Carry-over of Bills.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That, with effect from the beginning of the next Session of Parliament, the Order of the House of 29th October 2002 relating to Carry-over of Bills be a Standing Order of the House, with the following amendments:

(1) After paragraph (4), insert—

‘(4A) a carry-over motion may be made only in respect of a bill presented by a Minister of the Crown.

(4B) the provisions of this order shall not apply to a carry-over motion made in respect of a bill brought from the Lords.’

(2) In paragraph (8)(a), after ‘committed’, insert ‘to a standing committee’, and leave out from first ‘Session’ to end of the sub-paragraph.

(3) After paragraph (9) insert—

‘(9A) A programme order relating to a bill which is carried over to the next session of Parliament shall continue to apply in the next session.’—(Mr Phil Woolas);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Derek Twigg: 296.

Tellers for the Noes, Angela Watkinson, Mr Paul Goodman: 137.

So the Question was agreed to.

Short Speeches.—Ordered, That, with effect from the beginning of the next Session of Parliament, Standing Order No. 47 (Short speeches) be amended by leaving out ‘between certain hours’ in line 4 of paragraph (1), and inserting ‘at certain times’.—(Mr Phil Woolas.)

Removal of References to Strangers.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That, with effect from the beginning of the next Session of Parliament, the following amendments be made to the Standing Orders of the House:

No. 89 (Procedure in standing committees): in paragraph (2), leave out ‘Strangers’ and insert ‘The public’;

No. 125 (Strangers (select committees)): leave out the title and insert ‘Select committees (admission of the public)’; and in paragraph (1), leave out ‘strangers’ and insert ‘the public’;

No. 149 (Committee on Standards and Privileges): in paragraph (8), leave out ‘strangers’ and insert ‘the public’;

No. 161 (Duties of Serjeant at Arms with respect to strangers): in the title, leave out ‘strangers’ and insert ‘the public’; in paragraph (1), leave out ‘stranger’ in the two places where it appears and insert ‘member of the public’ in each place, and leave out ‘strangers’ and insert ‘the public’; and in paragraph (2), leave out ‘strangers’ and insert ‘members of the public’.

No. 162 (Places to which strangers are not admitted): in the title, leave out ‘strangers’ and insert ‘the public’; and, in the Standing Order, leave out ‘stranger’ and insert ‘member of the public”—(Mr Phil Woolas);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Paul Clark, Mr Jim Murphy: 242.

Tellers for the Noes, Angela Watkinson, Mr Paul Goodman: 167.

So the Question was agreed to.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr John Heppell);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then eighteen minutes to Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.42 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Other Papers:

2. Government Resources and Accounts,—Report and Accounts of the Public Guardianship Office for 2003-04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 754] [Mr David Lammy].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1. Constitutional Affairs,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Implementation of the Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed [No. 1060-iv]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Implementation of the Freedom of Information Act]; to be printed [No. 1060-II]
   [Mr A. J. Beith].

2. Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [BBC Charter Renewal]; to be printed [No. 598-ix] [Sir Gerald Kaufman].

3. Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Western Balkans]; to be printed [No. 1121-iii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4. Home Affairs,—(1) Fifth Report from the Home Affairs Committee [Draft Sentencing Guidelines 1 and 2], with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1207]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Police Reform]; to be printed [No. 1038-iv]
   [Mr John Denham].

5. Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—(1) Thirteenth Report from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [Gypsy and Traveller Sites], with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 633-I]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Homelessness]; to be printed [No. 1116-i]
   [Andrew Bennett].

6. Regulatory Reform,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Regulatory Reform Committee [Proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Registration of Births and Deaths) (England and Wales) Order 2004]; to be printed [No. 1201-1] [Mr Peter Pike].

7. Statutory Instruments,—Thirty-first Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xxx] [Mr David Tredinnick].

8. Trade and Industry,—(1) Tenth Report from the Trade and Industry Committee [Post Office Urban Network Reinvention Revisited]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1204];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The DTI: Structure, Aims and Resources; Progress towards the knowledge driven economy]; to be printed [Nos. 1205-I and 262-vii]; and
   (3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [ECGD and the BTC pipeline project]
   [Mr Martin O’Neill].

9. Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Credit card charges and marketing]; to be printed [No. 1177-ii] [Mr John McFall].
The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Phil Hope);

And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.30 p.m.]

[No. 144.]

Wednesday 27th October 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

The Chairman of Ways and Means, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her consent, as far as Her Majesty’s prerogative is concerned, that the House may do therein as it shall see fit.

And the Question being put:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, without Amendment.

European Standing Committee B.—Mr Eric Forth reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 8241/04, Commission Report and draft Council Directive relating to Directive 92/12/EEC on the general arrangements for products subject to excise duty and on the holding, movement and monitoring of such products; and welcomes the principle of reducing administrative burdens for businesses but supports the United Kingdom Government’s position that the ‘distance-purchasing’ elements of the current proposal are unacceptable, as they weaken the United Kingdom’s law enforcement and revenue-raising ability.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

St George’s Day (Public Holiday).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make St. George’s Day a public holiday in England in place of the May Day public holiday—(Andrew Rosindell);

And the Motion being opposed, after permitting a short explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bob Spink, Mrs Angela Browning: 83.

Tellers for the Noes, Chris Bryant, John Cryer: 112.

So the Question was negatived.

Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the programme order of 14th June 2004 in relation to the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords] be varied as follows—

Consideration and Third Reading

1. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Order shall be omitted.

2. Proceedings on consideration shall be taken in the order shown in the first column of the following Table.
3. The proceedings shown in the first column of the Table shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the time specified in the second column of the Table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Clauses, New Schedules and Amendments to Clauses Nos. 1 to 15</td>
<td>Two and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the motion for this Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments to Clauses Nos. 16 to 21 and Schedule No. 1</td>
<td>Four and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the motion for this Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments to Clauses Nos. 22 to 24, Schedule No. 2, Clauses Nos. 25 and 26, Schedule No. 3, Clause No. 27, Schedule No. 4, Clauses Nos. 28 and 29, Schedule No. 5, Clauses Nos. 30 and 31, Schedule No. 6, Clauses Nos. 32 to 41, Schedule No. 7, Clause No. 42, Schedule No. 8, Clauses Nos. 43 to 47, Schedule No. 9, Clauses Nos. 48 to 52, Schedules Nos. 10 and 11, Clause No. 53, Schedule No. 12, Clauses Nos. 54 to 57 and remaining proceedings on the Bill</td>
<td>Five and half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the motion for this Order</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the moment of interruption on the day on which proceedings on consideration are commenced—(Paul Goggins); The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Joan Ryan, Margaret Moran: 280.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 144.

So the Question was agreed to.

5 Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC10) (Victims of persons subject to hospital order with restriction order: representations)—(Paul Goggins)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC11) (Victims of persons subject to hospital order with restriction order: information)—(Mr John Heppell)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC12) (Victims of persons subject to hospital direction and limitation direction: representations)—(Mr John Heppell)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC13) (Victims of persons subject to hospital direction and limitation direction: information)—(Mr John Heppell)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC14) (Victims of persons subject to transfer direction and restriction direction: representations)—(Mr John Heppell)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC15) (Victims of persons subject to transfer direction and restriction direction: information)—(Mr John Heppell)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC1) (Parental contact with children after separation in cases involving ill-treatment of the child or another person (No. 1))—(Mr Hilton Dawson)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Clause (NC3) (Amendments to the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999 to extend the category of witnesses eligible for assistance on grounds of fear or distress about testifying)—(Mr David Heath)—brought up and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

It being two and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 2), the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [this day], put the Question on an Amendment selected for separate Division.
Amendment (No. 10) proposed to the Bill, in page 3, line 17, at the end, to insert the words—

'( ) For the purposes of subsection (1)(d)(ii), in determining the reasonableness of the steps which D could have been expected to take, the court shall have particular regard to the extent to which D has been subjected to domestic violence or is in fear of being subjected to domestic violence.'.—(Mr David Heath.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Richard Younger-Ross: 176.

Tellers for the Noes, Paul Clark, Derek Twigg: 297.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on the Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Amendments (Nos. 26 to 29) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 65) proposed to the Bill, in page 10, line 22, to leave out Clause No. 16.—(Mrs Cheryl Gillan.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made:—Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Another Amendment (No. 11) proposed to the Bill, in page 10, line 29, to leave out from the word ‘driving’ to the end of line 31.—(Mr David Heath.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Hugo Swire, Sir Robert Smith: 175.

Tellers for the Noes, Derek Twigg, Paul Clark: 290.

Another Amendment (No. 8) proposed to the Bill, in page 11, line 32, to leave out subsection (9).—(Mr David Heath.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And being four and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 2), the Deputy Speaker put the Question.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Hugo Swire, Bob Russell: 180.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Murphy, Bridget Prentice: 296.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on an Amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown to be disposed of at that hour.

Another Amendment (No. 33) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 67) proposed to the Bill, in page 13, line 24, to leave out Clause No. 22.—(Mr Dominic Grieve.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being five and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 2), the Deputy Speaker put the Question.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Peter Atkinson: 172.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Murphy, Bridget Prentice: 294.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on the remaining Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown.

Motion made, and Question put, That Amendments Nos. 30 to 32, 34 to 52, 21 and 53 to 58 be made to the Bill.—(Mr John Heppell.)

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Murphy, Bridget Prentice: 282.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 175.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;

And it being after Seven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day]:—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time and passed, with Amendments.
6 Motion to sit in private.—Mr Patrick McLoughlin moved, That the House sit in private.

The Deputy Speaker put the Question forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 163 (Motions to sit in private).

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 24.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Murphy, Bridget Prentice: 316.

So the Question was negatived.

7 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Gillian Merron);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then six minutes to Eight o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.54 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Freedom of Information,—Draft Environmental Information Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Other Papers:

2 Criminal Injuries Compensation,—Report and Accounts of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeals Panel for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1120] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

3 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Report and Accounts of the Football Licensing Authority for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1089] [Secretary Tessa Jowell]; and

(2) Resource Accounts of the Postal Services Commission for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1181] [Mr Stephen Timms].

4 Home Affairs,—Government Reply to the Fourth Report from the Home Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, on Identity Cards [by Command] [Cm. 6359] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

5 Identity Cards,—Paper, entitled Identity Cards: A Summary of Findings from the Consultation on Legislation on Identity Cards [by Command] [Cm. 6358] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

6 Miscellaneous (No. 13, 2004),—Protocol, done at Geneva on 18th March 2004, on the Privileges and Immunities of the European Organization for Nuclear Research, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6356] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 School Standards and Framework,—Accounts of—

(1) Bridgwater Education Action Zone;

(2) Derbyshire North East Coalfields Education Action Zone;

(3) Dingle granby toxetth Education Action Zone;

(4) Downham & Bellingham Education Action Zone;

(5) Hamilton Oxford Education Action Zone;

(6) Leigh Park Education Action Zone;

(7) South East England Virtual Education Action Zone; and

(8) Telford & Wrekin Education Action Zone

for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1083, 1192, 1193, 1194, 1195, 1196, 1197 and 1198] [Clerk of the House].

8 Science and Technology,—Report and Accounts of the Medical Research Council for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1123] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Employment Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1861),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Chris McCafferty from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Kevan Jones.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Graham Allen, Tony Baldry, Mr Ben Bradshaw, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr James Clappison, Mr Tony Clarke, Mr Tony Colman, Jeff Ennis, Andrew George, Mr Fabian Hamilton, Ian Lucas, Dr Nick Palmer, Mr Owen Paterson, Joan Walley and Mr David Wilshire.

3 Draft National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Peter Atkinson, John Austin, Mrs Helen Clark, Mr Nigel Evans, Patrick Hall, Mr Nick Hawkins, Mr Kelvin Hopkins, Mr Jon Owen Jones, Chris Ruane, Geraldine Smith, Mr Don Touhig, Mr Bill Wiggin, Mrs Betty Williams, Hywel Williams and Mr Roger Williams.

4 Draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Schedule 5) Order 2004, the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Functions Exercisable in or as Regards Scotland) Order 2004 and the draft Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Orders to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Harold Best, Mr Tom Harris, Mr Stephen Hepburn, Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, Mr Iain Luke, Mr John Lyons, Mr John MacDougall, Mrs Anne McGuire, Mr Jim Murphy, Mr Richard Page, Linda Perham, Mr Alan Reid, Andrew Selous, Keith Vaz, Mr John Wilkinson and Pete Wishart.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Malcolm Bruce, Mr David Chaytor, Brian Cotter, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr Kevan Jones, Ms Sally Keeble, Mr Edward Leigh, Mr Andrew Love, Mr Gerry Sutcliffe, Mark Tami, Mr Tom Watson and Ann Winterton.

European Standing Committees

6 European Union Document No. 13244/04 and Addenda 1 and 2, relating to Turkish accession to the European Union, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Tri-Service Armed Forces Bill]; to be printed [No. 1139-i] [Bruce George].

2 Draft Mental Health Bill,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Mental Health Bill; to be printed [No. 1127-iv]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 1127-v] [Mr George Howarth].

3 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Prison Education]; to be printed [No. 825-iv] [Mr Barry Sheerman].
4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Draft Animal Welfare Bill Sub-Committee of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The Draft Animal Welfare Bill]; to be printed [No. 1032-xii]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Water Pricing Sub-Committee of the Committee [Water Pricing]; to be printed [No. 1186-ii]
   [Mr Michael Jack].

5 Environmental Audit,—(1) Thirteenth Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [The Sustainable Development Strategy: Illusion or Reality?], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 624]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Housing: Building a Sustainable Future?]; to be printed [No. 709-vi]
   [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

6 European Scrutiny,—Thirty-fourth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxxiv] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

7 Human Rights,—Twenty-second Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [The Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 (Specification of Particularly Serious Crimes) Order 2004]; together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1212] [Jean Corston].

8 Public Accounts,—Part of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [PFI: The STEPS Deal]; to be printed [No. 1211-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

9 Science and Technology,—(1) Tenth Special Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Government Response to the Committee’s Eighth Report, Session 2003–04, The Work of the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils]; to be printed [No. 1199]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Human reproductive technologies and the law]; to be printed [No. 599-viii];
   [Dr Desmond Turner].

10 Transport,—(1) Fourth Special Report from the Transport Committee [Government, Health and Safety Commission and Executive, and Office of the Rail Regulator Responses to the Seventh Report from the Committee, on Future of the Railway]; to be printed [No. 1209]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee, together with Appendices [Galileo]; to be printed [No. 1210-i]
   [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

11 Treasury,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [Office for National Statistics: Annual Report and Accounts 2003–04]; to be printed [No. 1203-i] [Mr John McFall].

12 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Police Service, Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in Wales; Manufacturing and Trade in Wales]; to be printed [Nos. 1182-ii and No. 323-xi] [Mr Martyn Jones].

[No. 144; WH, No. 93]

Wednesday 27th October 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.39 p.m.]
Thursday 28th October 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Nigel Beard reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Employment Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1861).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Royal Assent,—The Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, That Her Majesty had signified her Royal Assent to the following Acts, agreed upon by both Houses:

- Horserace Betting and Olympic Lottery Act 2004
- Christmas Day (Trading) Act 2004
- Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004
- Medway Council Act 2004
- University of Wales, Cardiff Act 2004.

3 School Transport Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the School Transport Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the Bill be now read a second time;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr John Heppell: 248.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Randall, Mr Hugo Swire: 130.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

4 School Transport Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the School Transport Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 11th November 2004.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.

Programming Committee

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Mr Vernon Coaker);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr John Heppell: 270.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Randall, Mr Hugo Swire: 110.

So the Question was agreed to.
5 School Transport Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to
the proposed Motion relating to School Transport Bill [Money];
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing
Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with
bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the School Transport Bill, it is
expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of any increase
attributable to the Act in the sums payable out of money so provided under any other
enactment—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.

6 School Transport Bill ( Carry-over).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put
forthwith pursuant to Order [29th October 2002 ( Carry-over of Bills)], That, if at the
conclusion of this Session of Parliament proceedings on the School Transport Bill have
not been completed, they shall be resumed in the next Session— (Mr Vernon Coaker);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr John Heppell: 245.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Randall, Mr Hugo Swire: 130.
So the Question was agreed to.

7 Standards and Privileges,—Ordered, That Mr Ross Cranston be discharged from the Select
Committee on Standards and Privileges and Mr Wayne David be added.—(Mr Vernon
Coaker.)

8 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—
(1) citizens of the town and district of Llanidloes, Powys, against the erection of a
TETRA mast on the Maes y Llan industrial estate; and
(2) residents of the Parliamentary Constituency of Leigh, Lancashire, against the
closure of local post offices
were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

9 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John Heppell.)
And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit a quarter to Seven o’clock,
adjourned till Monday 1st November.

[Adjourned at 6.45 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Children and Young Persons,—Draft Health and Social Care (Community Health and
with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Agriculture,—Feeding Stuffs, the Feeding Stuffs (Sampling and Analysis) and the Feeding
Stuffs (Enforcement) (Amendment) (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004,
No. 2688), dated 13th October 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

Other Papers:

3 Education,—Report on Powers to Facilitate Innovation for the academic year 2003–04 [by
Act] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

4 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Report and Resource Accounts of the Cabinet
Office; and
(i) Resource Accounts of the—
(ii) Forestry Commission England/Great Britain
for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
to be printed [Nos. 1190, 1173 and 1093] [Mr Stephen Timms].

5 House of Commons Members’ Fund,—Report by the Government Actuary on the Valuation
of the House of Commons Members’ Fund as at 30th September 2003 [by Act]; to be
printed [No. 1081] [Clerk of the House].
6 National Lottery. — Report and Accounts of the —
   (1) Community Fund; and
   (2) New Opportunities Fund
for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
to be printed [Nos. 1092 and 1091] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 Fishing Boats (Satellite-Tracking Devices) (England) Scheme Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2467), — The Speaker has appointed Derek Conway Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.

2 Draft National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 2004, — The Speaker has appointed Mr Jonathan Sayeed Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Order.


4 Companies (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2621) and Limited Liability Partnerships (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2620), — The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Pike Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Regulations.

European Standing Committees

5 The Speaker has appointed David Taylor Chairman of European Standing Committee A in respect of European Union Document No. 1234/04 on Marketing of Oilseed Rape.

6 The Speaker has appointed Janet Anderson Chairman of European Standing Committee C in respect of European Union Document Nos. 9824/03, 7549/04 and 9643/04 on Services of General Interest.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit, — Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee of the Environmental Audit Committee [Environmental Crime]; to be printed [No. 1135-ii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

2 Health, — Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Public Expenditure 2004]; to be printed [No. 1114-i] [Mr David Hinchliffe].

3 Northern Ireland Affairs, — (1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 25th October ['Hate Crime' in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [Nos. 539-vii and -viii] [Mr Michael Mates]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Committee on 26th October [Waste Management Strategy in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [Nos. 637-vi and -vii] [Mr Tony Clarke].
Monday 1st November 2004.

The House met at half-past Two o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Derek Conway reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Fishing Boats (Satellite-Tracking Devices) (England) Scheme Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2467).

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Gambling Bill,—The Order of the day being read, for the Second Reading of the Gambling Bill;

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read a second time;

An Amendment was proposed to the Question, to leave out from the word ‘That’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘this House declines to give a Second Reading to the Gambling Bill since it fails to take account of the recommendations of the Joint Committee on the Draft Bill with regard to regional casinos; consequently fails to impose adequate controls on the number and location of such casinos and on the number and type of gambling machines contained; does not give local authorities sufficient powers to reject specific casino applications; opens the door to an influx of overseas owned super casinos in our towns and cities, close to where people live; and is likely to promote gambling and lead to further diversion of funds from the National Lottery, severe disadvantage to the existing UK gaming industry and a significant increase in problem gambling’, instead thereof.—(Mr John Whittingdale.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Crispin Blunt: 183.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Paul Clark: 293.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 62 (Amendment on second or third reading);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Paul Clark: 286.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Crispin Blunt: 212.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time.

3 Gambling Bill (Programme),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Gambling Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Standing Committee.

Proceedings in Standing Committee

2. Proceedings in the Standing Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 11th January 2005.

3. The Standing 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 a conclusion at the moment of interruption on the day on which proceedings on consideration are commenced.

6. Sessional Order B (programming committees) made by the House on 28th June 2001 shall not apply to proceedings on consideration and Third Reading.
Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed—(Mr John Heppell);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Paul Clark: 309.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Mr Crispin Blunt: 172.

So the Question was agreed to.

4 Gambling Bill (Carry-over).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Order [29th October 2002 (Carry-over of Bills)], That if, at the conclusion of this Session of Parliament, proceedings on the Gambling Bill have not been completed, they shall be resumed in the next Session—(Mr John Heppell);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Paul Clark: 295.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr Peter Atkinson: 172.

So the Question was agreed to.

5 Gambling Bill [Money].—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Gambling Bill [Money]:

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Gambling Bill, it is expedient to authorise the payment out of money provided by Parliament of—

(1) expenditure of a Minister of the Crown in connection with the Act, and

(2) any increase attributable to the Act in sums payable out of money provided by Parliament under another enactment—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

6 Gambling Bill [Ways and Means].—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills), That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Gambling Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the imposition of a levy to be paid by holders of operating licences and to be expended on social projects connected with gambling,

(2) the imposition of a penalty on holders of operating licences who fail to ensure compliance with licence conditions, and

(3) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

7 General Arrangements for Excise.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 8241/04, Commission Report and draft Council Directive relating to Directive 92/12/EEC on the general arrangements for products subject to excise duty and on the holding, movement and monitoring of such products; and welcomes the principle of reducing administrative burdens for businesses but supports the United Kingdom Government’s position that the ‘distance-purchasing’ elements of the current proposal are unacceptable, as they weaken the United Kingdom’s law enforcement and revenue-raising ability—(Mr John Heppell):—It was agreed to.

8 Immigration.—Ordered, That the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 (Specification of Particularly Serious Crimes) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1910), dated 22nd July 2004, be referred to a Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—(Mr John Heppell.)

9 Defence.—Ordered, That Mr Crispin Blunt be discharged from the Defence Committee and Richard Ottaway be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr John Heppell.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till sixteen minutes past Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.16 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 29th October 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Judicial Appointments.—Report by the Lord Chancellor on Judicial Appointments for 2003–04 [Cm. 6341] [Mr David Lammy].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 29th October 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Environmental Protection.—Landfill Allowances Scheme (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004 (S.R. (N.I.), 2004, No. 416), dated 29th September 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Murphy].

3 Medicines.—(1) Medicines (Vaccination Against Foot-and-Mouth Disease) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2779), dated 25th October 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Secretary Margaret Beckett]; and
   (2) Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use) Amendment (No. 3) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2693), dated 18th October 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 1st November 2004:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

5 Education.—Education (Student Loans) (Repayment) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2752), dated 25th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

Other Papers:

6 Local Government Finance.—Account of the Pooling of Non-Domestic Rates and Redistribution to Local Authorities for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1217] [Clerk of the House].

7 Museums and Galleries.—Account of the National Museum of Science and Industry for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1216] [Clerk of the House].

8 National Health Service Reform and Healthcare Professions.—Account of the Commission for Patient and Public Involvement in Health for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1214] [Clerk of the House].

9 National Lottery.—Account of Arts Council England Lottery Distribution for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1213] [Clerk of the House].

10 Police.—Account of the National Criminal Intelligence Service for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1072] [Clerk of the House].

11 Public Petitions.—Observations by the Secretary of State for Health on the Petition [9th September] from the Endometriosis SHE Trust (UK) for a review of the Government’s policy on the care and treatment of endometriosis [by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

12 School Standards and Framework.—Account of Coventry Education Action Zone for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1215] [Clerk of the House].

13 Statutory Instruments (Notification).—Communication declaring that the undermentioned Statutory Instrument had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament, and explaining why such copies had not been so laid before the Instruments came into operation:
   [by Standing Order] [The Speaker].
APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Fishing Boats (Satellite-Tracking Devices) (England) Scheme Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2467),—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Graham Allen, Mr Tony Clarke and Dr Nick Palmer from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Wayne David, Mr Jon Owen Jones and Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West).

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Education outside the Classroom]; to be printed [No. 1170-ii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Urban Affairs Sub-Committee of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Role and Effectiveness of the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment]; to be printed [No. 1117-i] [Mr Clive Betts].

3 Science and Technology,—(1) Fourteenth Report from the Science and Technology Committee [Responses to the Committee’s Tenth Report, Session 2003–04, Scientific Publications: Free for All?]; to be printed [No. 1200]; and

(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Ten-Year Investment Framework for Science and Innovation]; to be printed [No. 315-v]

[Dr Ian Gibson].

[No. 147.]

Tuesday 2nd November 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 European Standing Committee A,—David Taylor reported from European Standing Committee A the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 12343/04, draft Council Decision concerning the placing on the market, in accordance with Directive 2001/18/EC, of an oilseed rape product (Brassica napus L., GT73 line) genetically modified for glyphosate tolerance; and supports the Government’s view that, although expert advice indicates that there probably are no safety concerns, it can adopt a position on authorisation under Directive 2001/18/EC only on receipt of satisfactory data from a further rat feeding study using 15% oilseed rape meal.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

2 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords do not insist on one of their Amendments to the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill to which this House has disagreed; they do not insist on their other Amendment to which this House has disagreed but propose an Amendment in lieu thereof.

3 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill,—Lords Amendment in lieu of Lords Amendment to which the Commons have disagreed to be considered to-morrow and to be printed [Bill 171].

4 Post Offices (Pensions and Benefits),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the procedures for collecting pensions and benefits from Post Offices: And that Sir Robert Smith, Mr Roger Berry, Malcolm Bruce, Richard Burden, Mr Edward Davey, Mr Nigel Evans, Kate Hoey, Mr Lindsay Hoyle, Mr John Randall, Mr Alan Reid, Mr Andrew Robathan and Mr Peter Viggers do prepare and bring it in.

5 Post Offices (Pensions and Benefits) Bill,—Sir Robert Smith accordingly presented a Bill to amend the procedures for collecting pensions and benefits from Post Offices: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 19th November and to be printed [Bill 170].
6 Children Bill [Lords] (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the programme order of 13th September 2004 in relation to the Children Bill [Lords] be amended as follows—

1. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the order shall be omitted.

2. The proceedings shown in the first column of the following table shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the time specified in the second column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proceedings</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proceedings on new Clauses standing in the name of a Minister of the Crown and proceedings on new Clauses relating to Part 1</td>
<td>2.30 p.m. on the day on which proceedings on consideration are begun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceedings on remaining new Clauses, other than new Clauses relating to the reasonable punishment of children New Clauses relating to the reasonable punishment of children and remaining proceedings on consideration</td>
<td>4.15 p.m. on that day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at 7 p.m. on the day on which proceedings on Consideration are begun—(Margaret Hodge);</td>
<td>6.00 p.m. on that day.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Joan Ryan: 258.
Tellers for the Noes, Andrew Selous, Mr Peter Atkinson: 148.

So the Question was agreed to.

7 Children Bill [Lords].—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Children Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC11) (Sharing of information)—(Mr Don Touhig)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC17) (Payments to foster parents)—(Margaret Hodge)—brought up, read the first and second time, and added to the Bill.

Another Clause (NC1) (Children’s Commissioner: functions)—(Annette Brooke)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

And it being half-past Two o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Roger Williams: 166.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Jim Fitzpatrick: 286.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on a new Clause selected for separate Division.

Another Clause (NC2) (Powers of consideration and representation by Children’s Commissioner for Wales)—(Mr Roger Williams)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be added to the Bill.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Stunell, Mr Roger Williams: 175.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Nick Ainger, Jim Fitzpatrick: 283.

Another Clause (NC4) (Appeals about information held on databases)—(Tim Loughton)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Andrew Selous, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 174.
Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Nick Ainger: 293.

Another Clause (NC5) (Presumption of equal parenting)—(Mr Dominic Grieve)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time.

And it being a quarter past Four o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question.
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Andrew Selous, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 176.
Tellers for the Noes, Gillian Merron, Mr Nick Ainger: 304.

Another Clause (NC12) (Reasonable punishment)—(Mr David Hinchliffe)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Win Griffiths, Mr Hilton Dawson: 75.
Tellers for the Noes, Joan Ryan, Paul Clark: 424.

It being after Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question on an Amendment selected for separate Division.

Amendment (No. 23) proposed to the Bill, in page 37, line 18, to leave out Clause No. 56.—(Mr Andrew Turner.)

Question put, That the Amendment be made.

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Andrew Robathan, Mr Gary Streeter: 208.
Tellers for the Noes, Joan Ryan, Paul Clark: 284.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on the Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown.

Amendments (Nos. 28, 40, 21, 22, 29, 41 to 43 and 30) made to the Bill.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the Bill be now read the third time;

And it being Seven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day]—It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time and passed, with Amendments.

8 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Wednesday 3rd November—

(1) the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motions relating to Members’ Allowances, Parliamentary Pensions (Contributions Rate) and Parliamentary Pensions (Survivor Benefits and Early Retirement) not later than three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the first Motion, and such Questions shall include the Questions on any Amendments selected by the Speaker which may then be moved; and

(2) the Speaker shall put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion in the name of Mr Peter Hain relating to Sessional Orders and Resolutions not later than Seven o’clock, or three hours after their commencement, whichever is the later; such Questions shall include the Questions on any Amendments selected by the Speaker which may then be moved; proceedings may continue after the moment of interruption; and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to Deferred Divisions shall not apply.—(Margaret Moran.)

9 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till twenty-five minutes past Seven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.25 p.m.]
APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

1. Culture, Media and Sport.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [BBC Charter Renewal]; to be printed [No. 598-1] [Sir Gerald Kaufman].

2. Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Iraq]; to be printed [No. 721-ii] [Bruce George].

3. Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee on the Government’s Rural Delivery Strategy of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The Government’s Rural Delivery Strategy]; to be printed [No. 1225-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

4. Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Cyprus]; to be printed [No. 1172-ii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

5. Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [The Work of the Home Office]; to be printed [No. 1222-i] [Mr John Denham].

6. Public Accounts.—(1) Fiftieth Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Northern Ireland: the management of industrial sickness absence]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 561];

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The Use of Operating Theatres in the Northern Ireland Health and Personal Social Services]; to be printed [No. 1227-i]; and

   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Navan Centre]; to be printed [No. 1228-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

7. Regulatory Reform.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Regulatory Reform Committee [Proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Registration of Births and Deaths) (England and Wales) Order 2004]; to be printed [No. 1201-ii] [Mr Peter Pike].

8. Statutory Instruments.—Thirty-second Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xxxii] [Mr David Tredinnick].

9. Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [UK Employment Regulation; Midlands Car Industry]; to be printed [Nos. 1223-i and 1224-i] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

[No. 147; WH, No. 95]

Tuesday 2nd November 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.43 p.m.]
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Jonathan Sayeed reported from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

2 Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Joe Benton reported from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Schedule 5) Order 2004, the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Functions Exercisable in or as Regards Scotland) Order 2004 and the draft Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords agree without Amendment to the Amendments made by this House to the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Bill [Lords].

4 Sex Equality (Duties of Public Authorities).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision in relation to public authorities for the further prevention of sex discrimination and for the promotion of equality of opportunity for men and women—(Angela Eagle);

And the Motion being opposed, after a brief explanatory statement from the Member who made the Motion and from a Member who opposed it, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Standing Order No. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement of public business);—It was agreed to.

Ordered, That Angela Eagle, Vera Baird, Mr Roger Berry, Mr John Grogan, Helen Jackson, Ann McKechin, Mrs Barbara Roche, Joan Ruddock, Mr Shaun Woodward and Mr Parmjit Dhanda do prepare and bring in the Bill.

5 Sex Equality (Duties of Public Authorities) Bill,—Angela Eagle accordingly presented a Bill to make provision in relation to public authorities for the further prevention of sex discrimination and for the promotion of equality of opportunity for men and women: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 19th November and to be printed [Bill 172].

6 Members’ Allowances,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That—

(1) This House notes the recommendations made in Chapter 4 of the report of the Review Body on Senior Salaries on parliamentary pay and allowances (Cm. 6354–1) a copy of which was laid before this House on 21st October; and is of the opinion that the provisions set out in paragraphs (2) to (5) below should be implemented, subject to any decisions of the Members Estimate Committee with regard to their application.

Staffing Allowance

(2) With effect from 1st April 2005, the Staffing Allowance should be increased to a base level of £72,000, rising to a maximum of £80,460, according to the number of full-time equivalent employees funded from the Staffing Allowance and based in London; and these sums should be adjusted on 1st April each year (beginning on 1st April 2005) in line with the Average Earnings Index for public and private sectors combined.

IT Provision

(3) With effect from the beginning of the next Parliament, the level of provision of IT equipment and support should be increased in line with recommendations 11 and 12 of the Review Body’s report (Cm. 6354–1).

London Supplement

(4) With effect from 1st April 2005, the London Supplement should be increased to £2,500, and this sum should be adjusted on 1st April each year (beginning on 1st April 2005) in line with the Average Earnings Index for public and private sectors combined; and it should not be payable to any Member who receives the Additional Costs Allowance.
Car Mileage Allowance and Parking

(5) With effect from 1st April 2005, the Car Mileage Allowance should be payable at the same rate as the car mileage rates approved by the Inland Revenue, with the higher rate payable up to a total of 10,000 miles and the lower rate thereafter or as determined in future by the Inland Revenue; and the cost of parking a car, motorcycle or bicycle, if wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of parliamentary duties, should be reimbursed.

Incidental Expenses Provision

(6) That recommendation 8 of the Review Body’s report (Cm. 6354–1) be referred to the House of Commons Members Estimate Committee for further consideration—(Mr Peter Hain);

And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [yesterday], proceeded to put the Questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the Motion and on the Motions relating to Parliamentary Pensions (Contribution Rate) and Parliamentary Pensions (Survivor Benefits and Early Retirement).

An Amendment (gg) was proposed to the Question, in line 8, to leave out from the word ‘to’ to the word ‘and’ in line 11 and insert the words ‘£80,460 for all Members with up to 10 per cent. of the Staffing Allowance being available to fund a Member’s office in his or her constituency’, instead thereof.—(Mr Richard Page.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Miss Ann Widdecombe, Mr Richard Page: 239.

Tellers for the Noes, Joan Ryan, Mr Tom Watson: 109.

So the Question was agreed to.

Another Amendment (cc) was proposed to the Question, in line 24, to leave out from the word ‘With’ to the word ‘and’ in line 27 and insert the words ‘immediate effect, the annual uprating of the higher and lower car mileage rates shall cease; with effect from the date on which the Inland Revenue higher car mileage rate first exceeds the higher car mileage rate payable to Members, the higher rate car mileage allowance payable up to a total of 20,000 miles to Members should be payable at the same rate as the higher car mileage rate approved by the Inland Revenue, and with effect from the date on which the Inland Revenue lower car mileage rate first exceeds the lower car mileage rate payable to Members, the lower car mileage allowance payable to Members should be payable at the same rate as the lower car mileage rate approved by the Inland Revenue’, instead thereof.—(Sir Nicholas Winterton.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Sir Nicholas Winterton, Mr Ken Purchase: 118.

Tellers for the Noes, Joan Ryan, Mr Tom Watson: 193.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Main Question, as amended, being put;

Resolved, That—

(1) This House notes the recommendations made in Chapter 4 of the report of the Review Body on Senior Salaries on parliamentary pay and allowances (Cm. 6354–1) a copy of which was laid before this House on 21st October; and is of the opinion that the provisions set out in paragraphs (2) to (5) below should be implemented, subject to any decisions of the Members Estimate Committee with regard to their application.

Staffing Allowance

(2) With effect from 1st April 2005, the Staffing Allowance should be increased to £80,460 for all Members with up to 10 per cent. of the Staffing Allowance being available to fund a Member’s office in his or her constituency; and these sums should be adjusted on 1st April each year (beginning on 1st April 2005) in line with the Average Earnings Index for public and private sectors combined.

IT Provision

(3) With effect from the beginning of the next Parliament, the level of provision of IT equipment and support should be increased in line with recommendations 11 and 12 of the Review Body’s report (Cm. 6354–1).
London Supplement

(4) With effect from 1st April 2005, the London Supplement should be increased to £2,500, and this sum should be adjusted on 1st April each year (beginning on 1st April 2005) in line with the Average Earnings Index for public and private sectors combined, and it should not be payable to any Member who receives the Additional Costs Allowance.

Car Mileage Allowance and Parking

(5) With effect from 1st April 2005, the Car Mileage Allowance should be payable at the same rate as the car mileage rates approved by the Inland Revenue, with the higher rate payable up to a total of 10,000 miles and the lower rate thereafter or as determined in future by the Inland Revenue; and the cost of parking a car, motorcycle or bicycle, if wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of parliamentary duties, should be reimbursed.

Incidental Expenses Provision

(6) That recommendation 8 of the Review Body’s report (Cm. 6354–1) be referred to the House of Commons Members Estimate Committee for further consideration.

7 Parliamentary Pensions (Contribution Rate).—Resolved, That this House notes recommendation 4 contained in the report of the Review Body on Senior Salaries on parliamentary pay and allowances (Cm. 6354–1), a copy of which was laid before this House on 21st October, that the contribution rate to the parliamentary pension scheme for those scheme members who have opted for the 1/40th accrual rate should be increased by 1 per cent. to 10 per cent. with effect from 1st April 2004, and is of the opinion that it should be implemented.—(Mr Phil Woolas.)

8 Parliamentary Pensions (Survivor Benefits and Early Retirement).—Resolved, That this House notes recommendation 3 contained in the report of the Review Body on Senior Salaries on parliamentary pay and allowances (Cm. 6354–1), a copy of which was laid before this House on 21st October, and is of the opinion that, subject to consultation with the Trustees of the PCPF and the Government Actuary as to the detailed implementation, the proposals set out in paragraphs (1) to (3) below should be adopted as a package which is, overall, at least cost neutral to the Exchequer:

(1) Pensions calculated on the same basis as pensions for widows and widowers should be introduced for surviving unmarried partners of members in service on or after 3rd November 2004.

(2) Pensions for the widows, widowers and unmarried partners of members in service on or after 3rd November 2004 should be payable for life.

(3) The early retirement provisions which permit a member who has accrued at least 15 years service to retire before the age of 65 on favourable terms should be removed for those who become members of the scheme after 3rd November 2004 and phased out for existing members from 1st April 2009, or the day after the general election after next, whichever is the later.—(Mr Phil Woolas.)

9 Sessional Orders and Resolutions. —A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House takes note of the Third Report of the Procedure Committee, Session 2002–03, on Sessional Orders and Resolutions, House of Commons Paper No. 855, and the Government’s Response thereto (published as the Committee’s Third Special Report of the current Session, House of Commons Paper No. 613); approves the proposals set out in paragraphs 9, 10 and 25 of the Report for changes in the practice of the House at the beginning of each Session; and, as recommended in paragraph 9(b), makes the following provision:

That all Members of this House who are returned for two or more places in any part of the United Kingdom should choose for which of the places they will serve, within one week after it appears that there is no question about their election for that place—(Mr Peter Hain);

And it being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Motion, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [yesterday].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Mr Vernon Coaker: 130.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Lembit Öpik: 75.

So the Question was agreed to.

10 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Phil Woolas.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till four minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.56 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Legal Services,—Draft Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].

Other Papers:

2 Chiropractors,—Financial Statements of the General Chiropractic Council for the year ended 31st July 2004 [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

3 Crime and Disorder,—Review of the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

4 Criminal Justice,—Report and Accounts of the Parole Board for England and Wales for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1100] [Clerk of the House].

5 Development of Tourism,—Report of VisitBritain for 2003–04 [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

6 General Medical Council,—Accounts of the General Medical Council for 2003 [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

7 Osteopaths,—Report and Accounts of the General Osteopathic Council for 2003–04 [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

8 Public Petitions,—Observations by—

   (1) the Secretary of State for Defence on the Petition [14th September] from constituents of Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale and of Roxburgh and Berwickshire and others against disbandment or amalgamation of the King’s Own Scottish Borderers or other Scottish regiments; and

   (2) the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Petition [16th September] from the Parish Council of Little Missenden, Buckinghamshire, the citizens of the village of Holmer Green and others against the proposed closure of Turners Place Post Office, Holmer Green

by Standing Order [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 School Transport Bill:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee A; and

   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Charlotte Atkins, Mr Peter Atkinson, Roger Casale, Mr Christopher Chope, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mrs Janet Dean, Mr David Drew, Mr Huw Edwards, Mr Michael Foster (Worcester), Mr Mark Hoban, Mr David Kidney, Jim Knight, Dr John Pugh, John Thurso, Derek Twigg and Sir George Young.

2 Gambling Bill:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Bill to Standing Committee B; and

   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated twenty-three Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Tony Banks, Mr Liam Byrne, Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Ben Chapman, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Jon Cruddas, Clive Efford, Mr Don Foster, Mr Nick Hawkins, Phil Hope, Mrs Joan Humble, Mr Eric Illesley, Mr Kevan Jones, Miss Julie Kirkbride, Ann McKechin, Mr Malcolm Moss, Mr Richard Page, Mr Alan Reid, Bob Russell, Mr Tom Watson, Mr John Whittingdale, Mr Shaun Woodward and Iain Wright.

3 Draft Companies Act 1985 (International Accounting Standards and Other Accounting Amendments) Regulations 2004:

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and

   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Richard Bacon, Gregory Barker, Mr Henry Bellingham, Malcolm Bruce, Mr David Chaytor, Mr Tony Clarke, Brian Cotter, Mr Stephen Dorrell, Mr John Grogan, Patrick Hall, Mr Piara S. Khabra, Mr Andrew Love, Mr Gwyn Prosser, Mr Martin Salter, Jacqui Smith and Mr Tom Watson.
4 Draft National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Nick Ainger, Mrs Helen Clark, Mr Jon Owen Jones and Geraldine Smith from the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Order) and nominated in substitution Mr Graham Allen, Kevin Brennan, Mr Vernon Coaker and Mr Wayne David.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the Order to the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Hugh Bayley, Mr Desmond Browne, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Brian H. Donohoe, Jim Dowd, Mrs Lorna Fitzsimons, Mr Nick Gibb, Mr John Gummer, Mr John Heppell, Mr David Heyes, Mr Calum MacDonald, Mr Humfrey Malins, Kali Mountford, Mr Mark Oaten and Mr Kerry Pollard.

   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Order to the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Crispin Blunt, Virginia Bottomley, Mr Simon Burns, Mrs Patsy Calton, Harry Cohen, Mr Michael Connarty, Mr Hilton Dawson, Mrs Louise Ellman, Mr Derek Foster, Sandra Gidley, Mr John Horam, Dr Stephen Ladyman, Ann McKechn, Chris Mole, Joan Ryan and Claire Ward.

7 Draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Schedule 5) Order 2004, the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Functions Exercisable in or as Regards Scotland) Order 2004 and the draft Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr John Lyons from the Third Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Orders) and nominated in substitution Mr David Marshall.

8 Draft Criminal Defence Service (Choice in Very High Cost Cases) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Mr Peter Atkinson, Peter Bottomley, Mr Alistair Carmichael, Mrs Helen Clark, Geraint Davies, Mr Jonathan Djanogly, Angela Eagle, Mr David Heath, Helen Jackson, Mr David Lammy, Mr Terry Lewis, Chris McCafferty, Bridget Prentice, Mrs Gillian Shephard, Jim Sheridan and Mr Paul Truswell.

9 Draft Landfill Allowances and Trading Scheme (England) Regulations 2004 and the draft Landfill (Maximum Landfill Amount) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004:
   (1) The Speaker has allocated the draft Regulations to the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation; and
   (2) the Committee of Selection has nominated sixteen Members to serve on the Committee: Dr Peter Atkinson, Tony Cunningham, Sue Doughty, Jeff Ennis, Lady Hermon, Glenda Jackson, Miss Anne McIntosh, Julie Morgan, Mr Elliot Morley, Mr Denis Murphy, Joan Ruddock, Mr Marsha Singh, Mr John Smith, Sir Peter Tapsell, Sir Teddy Taylor and Mr David Wilshire.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Future Capabilities]; to be printed [No. 1031-iii] [Bruce George].

2 Draft Mental Health Bill.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Mental Health Bill; to be printed [No. 1127-vi]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 1127-vii] [Mr George Howarth].

3 Education and Skills.—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [The Work of Ofsted]; to be printed [No. 1221-i];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Education Outside the Classroom]; to be printed [No. 1170-iii]; and
(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Prison Education]; to be printed [No. 825-v]
[Mr Barry Sheerman].

4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—(1) Eighteenth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Dismantling of Defunct Ships], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 834]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Water Pricing Sub-Committee of the Committee [Water Pricing]; to be printed [No. 1186-iii]
[Mr Michael Jack].

5 Environmental Audit,—(1) Sixth Special Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Government Responses to the Sixth and Ninth Reports from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on Environmental Crime and the Courts and on Fly-tipping, Fly-posting, Litter, Graffiti and Noise]; to be printed [No. 1232]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Sustainable Housing]; to be printed [No. 709-vii]
[Mr Peter Ainsworth].

6 European Scrutiny,—(1) Thirty-fifth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxxv]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [European Agency for Safety and Health at Work]; to be printed [No. 1231-i]
[Jimmy Hood].

7 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [Public Expenditure 2004]; to be printed [No. 1114-ii] [Mr David Hinchcliffe].

8 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Department of Health: Improving Emergency Care in England]; to be printed [No. 1233-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

9 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee [Rural Rail]; to be printed [No. 1229-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

10 Treasury,—Ninth Report from the Treasury Committee [The Merger of HM Customs and Excise and the Inland Revenue], together with the Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee: to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings relating to the Report [No. 556] [Mr John McFall].

11 Welsh Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Welsh Affairs Committee [Police Service, Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour in Wales]; to be printed [Nos. 1182-iii and -iv] [Mr Martyn Jones].

12 Work and Pensions.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Pension Credit]; to be printed [No. 1219-i] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 148; WH, No. 96]

Wednesday 3rd November 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That the sitting be now adjourned—(Mr Tom Watson);
And the sitting having continued for two and a half hours after Two o’clock, it was adjourned without Question put, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 5 p.m.]
Thursday 4th November 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Mental Capacity Bill.—Mr James Cran reported from Standing Committee A. That it had gone through the Mental Capacity Bill, and made Amendments thereunto.

   Bill, as amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 175].

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 1241].

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation.—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the Companies (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2621) and the Limited Liability Partnerships (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2620).

   Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

   The Lords have agreed to the Housing Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

   The Lords have agreed to the Human Tissue Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

4 Housing Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Housing Bill to be considered on Monday 8th November; and printed pursuant to Standing Orders Nos. 57A (Bills brought from the Lords) and 78 (Lords amendments) on 3rd November [Bill 173].

5 Human Tissue Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Human Tissue Bill to be considered on Monday 8th November; and to be printed [Bill 174].

6 Adjournment (Defence procurement).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr Tom Watson);

   The Motion was, with leave of the House, withdrawn.

7 Business of the House.—Ordered, That, at the sitting on Thursday 11th November, paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on Amendments) shall apply to the Motion in the name of Mr Michael Howard as if the day were an Opposition Day; proceedings on the Motion may continue, though opposed, for three hours and shall then lapse if not previously disposed of; and the Orders of the House of 28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 relating to deferred Divisions shall not apply.—(Jim Fitzpatrick.)

8 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Margaret Moran);

   And the Motion having been made after Six o’clock, and Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twenty-seven minutes to Seven o’clock, till Monday 8th November.

[Adjourned at 6.33 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Freedom of Information.—(1) Draft Freedom of Information (Removal and Relaxation of Statutory Prohibitions on Disclosure of Information) Order 2004; and

   (2) draft Freedom of Information (Time for Compliance with Request) Regulations 2004

   [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command][Mr Christopher Leslie].
Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


3 Social Security,—Social Security (Housing Costs Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2825), dated 28th October 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Johnson].

Other Papers:

4 Education and Skills,—Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Education and Skills Committee, Session 2003–04, on Secondary Education: School Admissions [by Command] [Cm. 6349] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

5 Government Resources and Accounts,—(1) Report and Accounts of the British Forces Post Office for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1174] [Mr Secretary Hoon]; and

(2) Resource Accounts of the Office of HM Chief Inspector of Schools in England, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1202] [Mr Stephen Timms].

6 National Lottery,—Accounts of the Scottish Arts Council National Lottery Distribution Fund for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1176] [Mr Secretary Darling].

7 Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions,—Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions (Pay and Allowances) Order [by Act] [Mr Christopher Leslie].

8 Northern Ireland (Monitoring Commission etc.),—Third Report of the Independent Monitoring Commission [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 1218] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

9 Public Petitions,—Observations by the Deputy Prime Minister on the Petition [19th October] from Mr and Mrs Archer and others for the decision on the planning application to build flats opposite Castleview School in Canvey Island, Essex, to be taken by the Planning Committee of Castle Point Borough Council, rather than under delegated powers, and for the Committee to reject the application [by Standing Order] [Clerk of the House].

10 Regulatory Impact Assessments,—List of Regulatory Impact Assessments for 1st January to 30th June 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6329] [Ruth Kelly].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

1 School Transport Bill (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Peter Atkinson, Mr Vernon Coaker, Mr Michael Foster, Mr Mark Hoban, Mr David Kidney, Dr John Pugh and Mr Stephen Twigg members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill.

2 School Transport Bill:

(1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Bill O’Brien and Derek Conway Chairmen of Standing Committee A in respect of the Bill; and

(2) The Committee of Selection has discharged Derek Twigg from Standing Committee A (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Mr Stephen Twigg.

3 Gambling Bill (Programming Sub-Committee),—The Speaker has appointed Mr Richard Caborn, Mr Ben Chapman, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Mr Don Foster, Mr Kevan Jones, Mr Malcolm Moss and Mr Tom Watson members of the Programming Sub-Committee of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill.

4 Gambling Bill:

(1) The Speaker has appointed Mr Roger Gale and Mr Peter Pike Chairmen of Standing Committee B in respect of the Bill; and
The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Alan Reid from Standing Committee B (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Dr John Pugh.

Draft Companies Act 1985 (International Accounting Standards and Other Accounting Amendments) Regulations 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Kevin Hughes Chairman of the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002 (Specification of Particularly Serious Crimes) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 1910).—The Speaker has appointed Mr Nigel Beard Chairman of the Second Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the Order.


Companies (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2621) and the Limited Liability Partnerships (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2620).—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Andrew Love and Mark Tami from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the Regulations) and nominated in substitution Ms Oona King and Mr Stephen Pound.

Draft Criminal Defence Service (Choice in Very High Cost Cases) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Eric Illsley Chairman of the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

Draft Landfill Allowances and Trading Scheme (England) Regulations 2004 and Draft Landfill (Maximum Landfill Amount (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004.—The Speaker has appointed Mr Mike Hancock Chairman of the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in respect of the draft Regulations.

European Standing Committees

The Speaker has appointed Miss Anne Begg Chairman of European Standing Committee B in respect of European Union Document No. 11545/04 on Credit Institutions and Investment Firms.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

Northern Ireland.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee on 3rd November [‘Hate Crime’ in Northern Ireland]: to be printed [No. 539-ix] [Mr Michael Mates].

[No. 149; WH, No. 97]

Thursday 4th November 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (Foreign policy aspects of the war against terrorism—Seventh Report from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, and the Government’s response thereto).—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Gillian Merron.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 9th November.

[Adjourned at 5.28 p.m.]
PRAYERS.

1 First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Kevin Hughes reported from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Companies Act 1985 (International Accounting Standards and Other Accounting Amendments) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.


Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.


Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

4 European Standing Committee B,—Miss Anne Begg reported from European Standing Committee B the following Resolution:

That the Committee takes note of European Union Document No. 11545/04 and Addenda 1–3, draft Directive re-casting Directive 2000/12/EC relating to the taking up and pursuit of the business of credit institutions and Council Directive 93/6/EEC on the capital adequacy of investment firms and credit institutions; and notes that the Government, whilst supportive of the aims of the proposals, is seeking to amend them to ensure they fit with the realities of the EU market and, in particular, the circumstances of smaller banks, building societies and investment firms.

Report, together with Resolution, to lie upon the Table.

5 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Bill, without Amendment.

6 Housing Bill (Programme) (No. 3),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], that the following provisions shall apply to the Housing Bill for the purpose of supplementing the Order of 12th January 2004:

Consideration of Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments shall be completed at this day's sitting.

2. Those proceedings shall be taken in the order shown in the first column of the following Table, and each part of those proceedings shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the time shown in the second column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lords Amendments</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amendments Nos. 191 and 128</td>
<td>Two hours after the commencement of proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment No. 140</td>
<td>Two hours and 45 minutes after the commencement of those proceedings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment No. 190</td>
<td>Three hours and 45 minutes after the commencement of those proceedings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments Nos. 1 to 127, 129 to 139, 141 to 189 and 192 to 284</td>
<td>Four hours after the commencement of those proceedings or 10 p.m. (whichever is the later).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subsequent stages

3. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any Question being put.
4. The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Mr Nick Ainger: 291.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr David Ruffley: 165.

So the Question was agreed to.

7 Housing Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Housing Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 191.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Mr Nick Ainger: 259.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr David Ruffley: 186.

So the Question was agreed to.

Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 128.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Vernon Coaker, Gillian Merron: 292.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr David Ruffley: 148.

So the Question was agreed to.

Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 140 was disagreed to.

Amendments ((a), (b), (c) and (d)) were made to the Bill, in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 140 disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 190.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Keith Hill);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Vernon Coaker: 265.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Wilshire, Mr Crispin Blunt: 156.

So the Question was agreed to.

Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 54 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 35, 36, 51 and 52.

Lords Amendment No. 55.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, as amended, was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 56 to 100 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 88.

Lords Amendment No. 101.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, as amended, was agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 102.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, as amended, was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 103 and 104 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 103.

Lords Amendment No. 105.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Lords Amendment.
The Lords Amendment, as amended, was agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

Lords Amendments Nos. 106 to 127 and 129 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 107.

Lords Amendment No. 130 was disagreed to.

It being Ten o’clock, the Speaker, pursuant to Order [this day], put the Questions to be disposed of at that hour.

Lords Amendment No. 259.

Amendments ((a) to (g)) were made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, as amended, was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 135, 137, 143 and 144 were disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 131 to 134, 136, 138 and 141 and 142, 145 to 189, 192 to 258 and 260 to 284 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 185, 192 and 202.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 128, 130, 135, 137, 143, 144, 190 and 191;

That Paul Clark, Matthew Green, Mr John Hayes, Keith Hill and Mr Terry Rooney be members of the Committee;

That Keith Hill be the Chairman of the Committee;

That three be the Quorum of the Committee;

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Paul Clark)—It was agreed to.

8 Sea Fisheries,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Fishing Boats (Satellite-Tracking Devices) (England) Scheme 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2467), dated 14th September 2004, a copy of which was laid before this House on 21st September, be approved—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.

9 Constitutional Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Functions Exercisable in or as Regards Scotland) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 9th September, be approved—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.

10 Constitutional Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Scotland Act 1998 (Modifications of Schedule 5) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 12th October, be approved—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.

11 Constitutional Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 12th October, be approved—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.

12 Constitutional Law,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 11th October, be approved—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.

13 Sittings of the House,— Ordered, That—

(1) at the sittings on Monday 15th, Tuesday 16th, Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th November, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until any Message from the Lords has been received and any Committee to draw up Reasons which has been appointed at that sitting has reported; and

(2) at the sitting on Thursday 18th November, the Speaker shall not adjourn the House until a Message has been received from the Lords Commissioners.—(Margaret Moran.)

14 International Development,—Ordered, That Mr Andrew Robathan be discharged from the International Development Committee and Mr John Bercow be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)

15 Procedure,—Ordered, That Mr Peter Atkinson be discharged from the Procedure Committee and Mr John Bercow be added.—(Mr John McWilliam, on behalf of the Committee of Selection.)
16 Housing Bill.—Keith Hill reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of their Amendments to the Housing Bill. That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 128, 130, 135, 137, 143 and 144 for the following Reason:

Because a voluntary scheme for home information packs will be ineffective.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 190 for the following Reason:

Because it involves a charge on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 191 for the following Reason:

Because it involves a charge on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.

The Reasons were agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons, with the Bill and Amendments.

17 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till twenty-four minutes to Eleven o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.36 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 5th November 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Animals.—Animals and Animal Products (Import and Export) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2886), dated 3rd November 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

2 Education.—New Relationship with Schools (Governors’ Annual Report) (No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2810), dated 28th October 2004, with an Explanatory Memorandum [Mr Secretary Clarke].

3 Food.—Food Labelling (Amendment) (England) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2824), dated 20th October 2004 [Mr Secretary Reid].

4 Merchant Shipping.—(1) Merchant Shipping (Passenger Ships on Domestic Voyages) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2883); and

(2) Merchant Shipping (Ro-Ro Passenger Ships) (Stability) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2884),

dated 1st November 2004, with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [Mr Secretary Darling].

Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 8th November 2004:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

5 Road Traffic.—Draft Motor Vehicles (Wearing of Seat Belts) (Amendment) Regulations 2005 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

6 Chelsea Hospital.—Account of the Royal Hospital Chelsea for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1244] [Clerk of the House].

7 Government Resources and Accounts,—Resource Accounts of the Department for Constitutional Affairs for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1220] [Mr Stephen Timms].

8 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—

(1) Ministry of Defence: Major Projects Report 2004 with Project Summary Sheets; and

(2) VisitBritain: Bringing visitors to Britain

[by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1159-I and -II, and 1160] [Clerk of the House].
School Standards and Framework.—Accounts of—

(1) Derby North East Education Action Zone;
(2) Hackney Education Action Zone; and
(3) Wythenshawe Education Action Zone

for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act];
to be printed [Nos. 1175, 1242 and 1243] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Draft Companies Act 1985 (International Accounting Standards and Other Accounting Amendments) Regulations 2004.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Mr Andrew Love from the First Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation (nominated in respect of the draft Regulations) and nominated in substitution Ian Stewart.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [UK eUniversity]; to be printed [No. 755-iii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Public Accounts.—(1) Fifty-first Report from the Committee of Public Accounts [Success in the regions]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 592];

(2) Fifty-second Report from the Committee [Health and Safety Executive: Improving health and safety in the construction industry]; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 627]; and

(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Managing risks to improve public services]; to be printed [No. 1245-i]

[Mr Edward Leigh].

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Regulatory Reform,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolution:

That the draft Regulatory Reform (Unsolicited Goods and Services Act 1971) (Directory Entries and Demands for Payment) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 25th October, should be approved.

The Committee came to this Resolution without a Division.

2 Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Eric Illsley reported from the Fourth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Criminal Defence Service (Choice in Very High Cost Cases) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Corporate Nuisance Telephone Calls,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to create an offence in respect of corporate nuisance telephone calls: And that Kevin Brennan, Jim Knight, Mrs Anne Campbell, Mr Tom Harris, Mr Martin Salter, Mr Khalid Mahmood, John Robertson, Mr John Bercow, Ann Clwyd, Mr Peter Kilfoyle, Lady Hermon and Sir Sydney Chapman do prepare and bring it in.

4 Corporate Nuisance Telephone Calls Bill,—Kevin Brennan accordingly presented a Bill to create an offence in respect of corporate nuisance telephone calls: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 19th November and to be printed [Bill 176].

5 Civil Partnership Bill [Lords],—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Civil Partnership Bill [Lords], as amended in the Standing Committee.

A Clause (NC1) (Categories of civil partners other than same sex couples)—(Mr Edward Leigh)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question put, That the Clause be read a second time.
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Gerald Howarth, Miss Ann Widdecombe: 74.
Tellers for the Noes, Joan Ryan, Mr Jim Murphy: 381.

Another Clause (NC4) (Appeal against refusal of registration authority to find lawful impediment)—(Mr Christopher Chope)—brought up, and read the first time.

Question proposed, That the Clause be read a second time:—Clause, by leave, withdrawn.

Amendment (No. 21) made to the Bill.

Another Amendment (No. 11) proposed to the Bill, in page 24, line 22, at the end, to insert the words ‘, or

(d) the necessary declaration under section 8 includes a false statement relating to the qualifying condition under Schedule 23.’—(Mr Christopher Chope.)

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

And it being Six o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [12th October]:—It was negatived.

The Deputy Speaker then put the Question on the remaining Amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown.

Other Amendments (Nos. 22 to 28 and 34) made to the Bill.

A Motion being made, that the Bill be now read the third time;

Jacqui Smith, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives her Consent, as far as Her Majesty’s prerogative and interest are concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

And the Question being proposed;

And it being Seven o’clock, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [12th October].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr Jim Murphy: 389.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Eric Forth, Mr Christopher Chope: 47.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read the third time, and passed, with Amendments.

6 Companies,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Companies Act 1985 (International Accounting Standards and Other Accounting Amendments) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 11th October, be approved—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.

7 Companies,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Companies (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2621), dated 6th October 2004, a copy of which was laid before this House on 11th October, be approved—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.

8 Partnership,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the Limited Liability Partnerships (Fees) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2620), dated 6th October 2004, a copy of which was laid before this House on 11th October, be approved—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.

9 Children and Young Persons,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003 (Commission for Healthcare Audit and Inspection and Commission for Social Care Inspection) (Consequential Provisions) Order 2004, which was laid before this House on 28th October, be approved—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.

10 Marketing of Oilseed Rape Genetically Modified for Glyphosate Tolerance,—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 12343/04, draft Council Decision concerning the placing on the market, in accordance with Directive 2001/18/EC, of an oilseed rape product (Brassica napus L., GT73 line) genetically modified for glyphosate tolerance; and supports the Government’s view that, although expert advice indicates that there probably are no safety concerns, it can adopt a position on authorisation under Directive 2001/18/EC only on receipt of satisfactory data from a further rat feeding study using 15 per cent. oilseed rape meal—(Margaret Moran):—It was agreed to.
Credit Institutions and Investment Firms.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Standing Committees), That this House takes note of European Union Document No. 11545/04, and Addenda 1–3, draft Directive re-casting Directive 2000/12/EC relating to the taking up and pursuit of the business of credit institutions and Council Directive 93/6/EEC on the capital adequacy of investment firms and credit institutions; and notes that the Government, whilst supportive of the aims of the proposals, is seeking to amend them to ensure they fit with realities of the EU market and, in particular, the circumstances of smaller banks, building societies and investment firms—(Margaret Moran).—It was agreed to.

Notices of Questions.—Ordered, That, in respect of Questions to the Advocate General and the Secretary of State for Scotland for oral answer on Tuesday 30th November in the next Session of Parliament, paragraph (5)(a) of Standing Order No. 22 (Notices of Questions, Motions and Amendments) shall apply with the substitution of ‘three days’ for ‘four days’.—(Margaret Moran.)

Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from residents of Epping Forest District and others for reconsideration of research underlying plans to build new houses in the Green Belt in the District was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till eighteen minutes to Eight o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 7.42 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Education.—Education (School Performance Targets) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2858), dated 1st November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Clarke].

2 Environmental Protection.—Air Quality Limit Values (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2888), dated 4th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

3 Immigration.—Immigration (Assisting Unlawful Immigration) (Section 25 List of Schengen Acquis States) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2877), dated 1st November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Insurance.—Employers’ Liability (Compulsory Insurance) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2882), dated 1st November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Johnson].

5 Legal Services Commission.—(1) Community Legal Service (Financial) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2899); and

(2) Community Legal Service (Funding) (Amendment No. 2) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2900),

dated 9th November 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].

6 Road Traffic.—Motor Cars (Driving Instruction) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2871), dated 1st November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:

7 Foreign and Commonwealth Office.—Report on Human Rights for 2004 [by Command] [Cm. 6364] [Mr Secretary Straw].

8 Home Office.—Paper, entitled Building Communities, Beating Crime: A better police service for the 21st century [by Command] [Cm. 6360] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

9 Special Procedure Orders.—Report by the Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords and the Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons, under section 3 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945, that no Petition has been presented against the Yorkshire Water Services Limited (Langthwaite Water Treatment Works First Time Filtration Scheme) Compulsory Purchase Order 2004 [by Act] [Chairman of Ways and Means].
10 Treaty Series (No. 41, 2004).—Agreement, done at Corfu on 24th June 1994, on Partnership and Cooperation Establishing a Partnership between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Russian Federation of the other [by Command] [Cm. 6365] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

Gambling Bill.—The Committee of Selection has discharged Phil Hope from Standing Committee B (nominated in respect of the Bill); and nominated in substitution Estelle Morris.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Family Justice: the operation of the family courts]; to be printed [No. 1247-i] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee on the Government’s Rural Delivery Strategy of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The Government’s Rural Delivery Strategy]; to be printed [No. 1225-ii] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Terrorism and Community Relations]; to be printed [No. 1250-ii] [Mr John Denham].

4 International Development.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the International Development Committee and Appendices [The Autumn Meetings of the IMF and the World Bank]; to be printed [No. 1251-i] [Tony Worthington].

5 Regulatory Reform.—Thirteenth Report from the Regulatory Reform Committee [Draft Regulatory Reform (Unsolicited Goods and Services Act 1971) (Directory Entries and Demands for Payment) Order 2004]; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1246] [Mr Peter Pike].

6 Statutory Instruments.—Thirty-third Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xxxiii] [Mr Brian White].

7 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Regional Productivity]; to be printed [No. 308-v] [Mr John McFall].

[No. 151; WH, No. 98]
Tuesday 9th November 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment.—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr John Hutton.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourmed at 4.30 p.m.

[No. 152.]

Wednesday 10th November 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Alcohol-Related Anti-Social Behaviour and Domestic Violence.—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to Anti-Social Behaviour Orders to extend their application to cases of domestic violence and alcohol-related disorder: And that Mr Andrew Turner, Frank Cook, Jane Griffiths, Mr David Wilshire, Mr David Drew, Mr Robert Key, Mr Robert Walter, Mr Paul Burstow, Sir Sydney Chapman, Mr Andrew Robathan, Jim Knight and Angela Watkinson do prepare and bring it in.

2 Alcohol-Related Anti-Social Behaviour and Domestic Violence Bill.—Mr Andrew Turner accordingly presented a Bill to amend the law relating to Anti-Social Behaviour Orders to extend their application to cases of domestic violence and alcohol-related disorder: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 19th November and to be printed [Bill 177].
3 Human Tissue Bill (Programme) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the Programme Order of 15th January 2004 be supplemented as follows—

Consideration of Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at 7 p.m. at this day’s sitting.

Subsequent stages

2. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any further Question being put.

3. The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Joan Ryan);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr John Heppell, Margaret Moran: 304.

Tellers for the Noes, Andrew Selous, Mr Crispin Blunt: 110.

So the Question was agreed to.

4 Human Tissue Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Human Tissue Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 71 were agreed to.

5 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till twenty-eight minutes to Five o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.32 p.m.]

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Electricity,—Draft Electricity and Gas (Energy Efficiency Obligations) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Criminal Law,—Fixed Penalty Offences Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2922), dated 9th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

3 Covent Garden Market,—Report and Accounts of the Covent Garden Market Authority for 2003–04 [by Act] [Secretary Margaret Beckett].

4 Defence,—Ministry of Defence Minute, dated 10th November 2004, concerning the gifting of military equipment to the Iraqi Interim Government [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hoon].

5 Government Resources and Accounts,—Resource Accounts of UK Trade & Investment for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]: to be printed [No. 1206] [Mr Stephen Timms].

6 National Lottery,—Report and Accounts of Scottish Screen for 2003–04 [by Act]: to be printed [No. 1179] [Mr Secretary Darling].

7 Public Accounts,—Treasury Minutes on the Thirty-seventh to Thirty-ninth Reports from the Committee of Public Accounts 2003–04 [by Command][Cm. 6355][Mr Stephen Timms].

8 Treaty Series (No. 42, 2004).—Agreement, done at Dublin on 25th November 2003, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing the Independent Monitoring Commission [by Command] [Cm. 6366] [Mr Secretary Straw].
APPENDIX II
Standing Committees
European Standing Committees

European Union Document No. 12200/04, relating to humane trapping standards, has been referred to European Standing Committee A.

APPENDIX III
Reports from Select Committees

1 Defence,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Duty of Care]; to be printed [No. 620-vii] [Bruce George].

2 Draft Mental Health Bill,—(1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Mental Health Bill; to be printed [No. 1127-viii]; and
(2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 1127-ix] [Mr George Howarth].

3 Education and Skills,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Prison Education]; to be printed [No. 825-vi] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

4 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—(1) Eighteenth Special Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Government’s Reply to the Fourteenth Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on Sites of Special Scientific Interest: Conserving the Jewels of England’s Natural Heritage]; to be printed [No. 1255]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Waste Policy and the Landfill Directive]; to be printed [No. 1256-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

5 European Scrutiny,—Thirty-sixth Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxxvi] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

6 Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons [Sitting Hours]; to be printed [No. 892-iv] [Sir Nicholas Winterton].

7 Northern Ireland,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Air Transport Services in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 1254-i] [Mr Tony Clarke].

8 Procedure,—Fifth Report from the Procedure Committee [Public Petitions], together with Appendices; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1248] [Sir Nicholas Winterton].

9 Science and Technology,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Science and Technology Committee [Human reproductive technologies and the law]; to be printed [No. 599-ix] [Dr Desmond Turner].

10 Transport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Transport Committee [Rural Rail]; to be printed [No. 1229-ii] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

11 Welsh Affairs,—Fifth Special Report from the Welsh Affairs Committee [The Draft Transport (Wales) Bill: The Government Response to the Fourth Report of the Welsh Affairs Committee (Session 2003–04)]; to be printed [No. 1252] [Martyn Jones].

12 Work and Pensions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Pension Credit]; to be printed [No. 1219-ii] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 152; WH, No. 99]

Wednesday 10th November 2004.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Margaret Moran.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.29 p.m.]
PRAYERS.

1 School Transport Bill,—Derek Conway reported from Standing Committee A, That it had gone through the School Transport Bill, and directed him to report the same, without Amendment.

Bill, not amended in the Standing Committee, to be considered on Monday 15th November.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to be printed [No. 1264].

2 Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation,—Mr Mike Hancock reported from the Fifth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation the draft Landfill Allowances and Trading Scheme (England) Regulations 2004 and the draft Landfill (Maximum Landfill Amount) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

3 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed, without Amendment, to the Amendments made by this House to the Children Bill [Lords].

4 Family Doctor Services,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House places the highest importance on the role of general medical practitioners, working with allied healthcare professionals, constituting a family doctor service; regards this service as the linch-pin of NHS primary care services and central to public health promotion; appreciates that general practitioners are best placed to provide care for patients, to facilitate their access to NHS services and to manage care of those suffering from chronic diseases and co-morbidities; is concerned by the continuing level of general practitioner vacancies and workload pressures; regrets the Government’s devaluation of the family doctor’s role in favour of diverse means of access to the NHS; deplores the failure to maintain the out-of-hours service as a general practitioner-led service and the loss of Saturday morning surgeries; calls on the Government to ensure that the NHS Programme for information technology delivers the choice of suppliers and functionality which general practitioners need; further regards the Government’s abandonment of general practitioner fundholding and commissioning as a severe misjudgement and urges the reintroduction of the benefits of fundholding through the adoption of practice-led commissioning; and believes that the development of family doctor-led commissioning, alongside increasing patient choice, offers the best means of delivering an effective NHS which is responsive to patients’ needs and wishes—(Mr Andrew Lansley); An Amendment was proposed to the Question, in line 2, to leave out from the word ‘House’ to the end of the Question and add the words ‘welcomes the increase in general practitioner numbers; supports the expansion of primary care provision through walk-in centres and NHS Direct to meet the needs of patients; welcomes the new arrangements for the National Health Service out-of-hours services that provide an opportunity to integrate primary, secondary and social care, whilst guaranteeing high quality urgent care across the country including Saturday mornings and improving the quality of life for general practitioners; acknowledges the progress made on the NHS Programme for information technology; supports the introduction of practice-based commissioning which fosters clinical engagement whilst mitigating the worst excesses of general practitioner fundholding; and believes that the general development of practice-based commissioning will deliver improved patient care’, instead thereof.—(Mr John Hutton.)

And the Question being put, That the original words stand part of the Question, pursuant to Order [4th November] and Standing Order No. 31 (Questions on amendments);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Hugo Swire, Andrew Selous: 118.

Tellers for the Noes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Gillian Merron: 286.

So the Question was negatived.

And the Question being put forthwith, That the proposed words be there added; The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Jim Fitzpatrick: 257.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr John Randall, Mr Hugo Swire: 149.

So the Question was agreed to.
The Deputy Speaker forthwith declared the Main Question, as amended, to be agreed to.

Resolved, That this House welcomes the increase in general practitioner numbers; supports the expansion of primary care provision through walk-in centres and NHS Direct to meet the needs of patients; welcomes the new arrangements for the National Health Service out-of-hours services that provide an opportunity to integrate primary, secondary and social care, whilst guaranteeing high quality urgent care across the country including Saturday mornings and improving the quality of life for general practitioners; acknowledges the progress made on the NHS Programme for information technology; supports the introduction of practice-based commissioning which fosters clinical engagement whilst mitigating the worst excesses of general practitioner fundholding; and believes that the general development of practice-based commissioning will deliver improved patient care.

5 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—

(1) the Oldchurch Residents’ Action Group for a review of proposals to build a Mental Health Unit and residential development on the Oldchurch Hospital Site, Romford; and

(2) the friends of Andrei Bazanov for a review of the decision to deport him were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

6 Adjournment,—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Nick Ainger.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till twenty-nine minutes to Six o’clock, adjourned till Monday 15th November.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Social Security,—Draft Social Security, Child Support and Tax Credits (Decisions and Appeals) Amendment Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Johnson].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

2 Consumer Protection,—Controls on Certain Azo Dyes and ‘Blue Colourant’ (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2913), dated 8th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Hewitt].

3 Landlord and Tenant,—Service Charges (Consultation Requirements) (Amendment) (No. 2) (England) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2939), dated 11th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Prescott].

Other Papers:

4 Government Resources and Accounts,—Report and Accounts of the Highways Agency for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1230] [Mr Secretary Darling].

5 Northern Ireland,—(1) Report of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission for 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy]; and

(2) Resource Accounts of the—

(i) Assembly Ombudsman for Northern Ireland and Northern Ireland Commissioner for Complaints;
(ii) Department for Employment and Learning;
(iii) Department for Regional Development;
(iv) Department for Social Development;
(v) Department of Agriculture and Rural Development;
(vi) Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure;
(vii) Department of Education;
(viii) Department of Education—Teachers’ Superannuation Scheme;
(ix) Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment;
(x) Department of Finance and Personnel;
(xi) Department of Finance and Personnel—Superannuation and other Allowances;
(xii) Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety;
(xiii) Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety—Health and Personal Social Services Superannuation Scheme;
(xiv) Department of the Environment;
(xv) Northern Ireland Assembly;
(xvi) Northern Ireland Authority for Energy Regulation;
(xvii) Northern Ireland Audit Office; and
(xviii) the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister for 2003–04, with the Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [Nos. 1140, 1145, 1152, 1153, 1141, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1146, 1148, 1149, 1150, 1151, 1147, 1154, 1155, 1156, and 1157] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

6 Provisional Orders (Scotland),—Report by the Secretary of State for Scotland, the Lord Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords and the Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936, That they have taken into consideration the representations which have been made to the Secretary of State for Scotland by HBOS plc that they desire to obtain the Parliamentary powers specified in the Schedule therein, to be operative in Scotland and elsewhere, and that it is expedient that such powers should be conferred by one enactment because it is necessary to provide for the uniform regulation in Scotland and elsewhere of the affairs of HBOS plc and are of the opinion that the said powers would be more properly obtained by the promotion of a Private Bill than by the promotion of a Private Bill and of a draft Provisional Order under the Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act 1936 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Darling].

7 Treaty Series (No. 43, 2004),—Agreement, done at Dar es Saalam on 18th August 2004, between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United Republic of Tanzania concerning Air Services [by Command] [Cm. 6368] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II
Reports from Select Committees

1 Environmental Audit,—(1) Seventh Special Report from the Environmental Audit Committee [Government Response to the Eighth Report from the Committee, Session 2003–04, on Greening Government 2004]; to be printed [No. 1259];
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 10th November [Housing: Building a Sustainable Future?]; to be printed [No. 709-viii]; and
(3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee of the Committee [Environmental Crime: Corporate Crime]; to be printed [No. 1135-iii] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

2 Health,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Health Committee [The Influence of the Pharmaceutical Industry]; to be printed [No. 1030-iii] [Mr David Hinchcliffe].

3 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts on 10th November [Improving public transport in England through light rail]; to be printed [No. 1258-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

4 Public Administration,—(1) First Special Report from the Select Committee on Public Administration [Government Response to the Third Report of the Committee on Ministerial Accountability and Parliamentary Questions]; to be printed [No. 1262]; and
(2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Government by Inquiry]; to be printed [No. 606-vii] [Tony Wright].

No. 153; WH, No. 100
Thursday 11th November 2004.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall
The sitting commenced at half-past Two o’clock.

Adjournment (The Western Balkans: the challenges of post conflict development).—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Gillian Merron.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till Tuesday 16th November.

[Adjourned at 4.24 p.m.]
PRAYERS.

1 Royal Assent.—The Speaker notified the House, in accordance with the Royal Assent Act 1967, That Her Majesty had signified her Royal Assent to the following Acts, agreed upon by both Houses:
   Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004
   Highways (Obstruction by Body Corporate) Act 2004
   Human Tissue Act 2004

2 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords have agreed to the Pensions Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.
   The Lords have agreed to the Hunting Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

3 Pensions Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Pensions Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 178].

4 Hunting Bill.—Lords Amendments to the Hunting Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 179].

5 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider a Lords Amendment in lieu of an Amendment to which the Commons have disagreed.
   Lords Amendment No. 2C.
   A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr Ivor Caplin);
   The House divided.
   Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr John Heppell: 260.
   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Crispin Blunt, Mr John Randall: 160.
   So the Question was agreed to.
   The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.
   A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 2C;
   That Mrs Liz Blackman, Mr Colin Breed, Mr Ivor Caplin, Mr Vernon Coaker and Mr Gerald Howarth be members of the Committee;
   That Mr Ivor Caplin be the Chairman of the Committee;
   That three be the Quorum of the Committee;
   That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Mr Vernon Coaker)—It was agreed to.

6 Pensions Bill [Ways and Means] (No. 2).—Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Pensions Bill, it is expedient to authorise the levying of charges by virtue of the Act for the purpose of meeting expenditure of the Secretary of State to or in respect of the Ombudsman for the Board of the Pension Protection Fund.—(Malcolm Wicks.)

7 Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill.—Mr Ivor Caplin reported from the Committee appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 2C to the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House:
   The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 2C for the following Reason:—
   Because it involves a charge on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.
   The Reason was agreed to.
   Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendments.
8 Legal Services Commission.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Criminal Defence Service (Choice in Very High Cost Cases) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 21st October, be approved—(Joan Ryan);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Nick Ainger, Mr John Heppell: 300.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Crispin Blunt: 128.

So the Question was agreed to.

9 Environmental Protection.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Landfill Allowances and Trading Scheme (England) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 13th October, be approved—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.

10 Environmental Protection (Northern Ireland).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 118 (Standing Committees on Delegated Legislation), That the draft Landfill (Maximum Landfill Amount) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2004, which were laid before this House on 13th October, be approved—(Joan Ryan):—It was agreed to.

11 Adjournment (Thames Gateway).—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Joan Ryan);

And it being Ten o’clock, the Motion for the adjournment of the House lapsed, without Question put.

12 Public Petitions.—A Public Petition from Mr Chris Keen and others for the withdrawal of British military support for military action by the United States of America in Iraq’s cities was presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

13 Adjournment.—Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(Mr Tom Watson.)

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till half-past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 12th November 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 158 (Presentation of command papers):

1 Constitutional Affairs.—Government Response to the Fourth Report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee, Session 2003–04, on Civil Legal Aid: adequacy of provision [Cm. 6367] [Mr David Lammy].

Papers delivered to the Votes and Proceedings Office on Friday 12th November 2004 pursuant to Standing Order No. 159 (Presentation of statutory instruments):

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:


Papers presented or laid upon the Table on Monday 15th November 2004:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

5 Criminal Law.—Draft Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Categories of Offences) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

6 Cabinet Office,—Paper, entitled A Draft Civil Service Bill: A Consultation Document [by Command] [Cm. 6373] [Ruth Kelly].

7 Government Resources and Accounts,—Treasury Minute, dated 15th November 2004, directing the application of certain amounts as appropriations in aid of the estimates for the year ending 31st March 2005 [by Act] [Mr Paul Boateng].

8 Miscellaneous (No. 14, 2004).—Protocol No. 14, done at Strasbourg on 13th May 2004, to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, amending the Control System of the Convention, with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Cm. 6370] [Mr Secretary Straw].

9 National Audit,—Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General on—
   (1) Facing Justice: Tackling defendants’ non-attendance at court; and
   (2) Ministry of Defence: The Rapid Procurement of Capability to Support Operations [by Act]; to be printed [Nos. 1162 and 1161] [Clerk of the House].

10 Northern Ireland,—Report and Accounts of the Special EU Programmes Body for Northern Ireland for 2003, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland thereon [by Statutory Instrument]; to be printed [No. 1101] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

11 Pastoral Measure,—Report of the Churches Conservation Trust for 2003–04 [by Measure] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

12 Public Petitions,—Observations by—
   (1) the Secretary of State for Education and Skills on the Petition [14th October] from parents and pupils of Crowlands Junior School in Romford, Essex, for greater choice in secondary education in the London Road area of Romford; and
   (2) the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on the Petition [28th October] from residents of the Parliamentary Constituency of Leigh, Lancashire, against the closure of local post offices [by Standing Order]; to be printed [Clerk of the House].

13 Supply Estimates, 2004–05.—Winter Supplementary Estimates for Supply for 2004–05 for Central Government [by Command]; to be printed [No. 1234] [Mr Paul Boateng].

   (1) Central Government [by Command]; to be printed [No. 1235] [Mr Paul Boateng];
   (2) the Electoral Commission [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1238] [The Speaker];
   (3) the House of Commons [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1236] [The Speaker]; and
   (4) the National Audit Office [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1237] [Mr Alan Williams].

Papers withdrawn:


APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Teaching Children to Read]; to be printed [No. 1269-i] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

2 Public Accounts.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Welfare to Work: Tackling the Barriers to the Employment of Older People]; to be printed [No. 1249-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].
Tuesday 16th November 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Report of inquiry into disturbance and fire at Yarl’s Wood.—Resolved, That an Humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, That she will be graciously pleased to give directions that there be laid before this House a Return of the Report of the inquiry into the disturbance and fire at Yarl’s Wood Removal Centre.—(Mr Desmond Browne.)

2 Report of investigation into disturbance at Harmondsworth Immigration Removal Centre.—Resolved, That an Humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, That she will be graciously pleased to give directions that there be laid before this House a Return of the investigation into the disturbance at Harmondsworth Immigration Removal Centre on 19th and 20th July 2004.—(Mr Desmond Browne.)

3 Regulatory Reform,—Mr Peter Pike reported from the Regulatory Reform Committee the following Resolution:

That a draft Order in the same terms as the proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Execution of Deeds and Documents) Order 2004, which was laid before the House on 21st July, should be laid before the House.

4 Gambling Bill.—Mr Peter Pike, pursuant to Order [1st November], reported from Standing Committee B. That it had gone through the Gambling Bill, in respect of Clauses Nos. 1 to 32 and Schedules Nos. 1 to 5, and had directed him to report the Bill, as so far amended, to the House.

Bill, as so far amended in the Standing Committee, to lie upon the Table.

Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee to lie upon the Table.

5 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords have agreed to the Civil Contingencies Bill, with Amendments; to which the Lords desire the concurrence of this House.

The Lords have agreed, without Amendment, to the Amendments proposed by this House to certain Lords Amendments to the Housing Bill; they do not insist on certain of their Amendments to which this House has disagreed but propose Amendments in lieu thereof; they agree, with an Amendment, to Amendments proposed by this House in lieu of a Lords Amendment to which this House has disagreed, to which Amendment they desire the agreement of this House; and they do not insist on their remaining Amendments to which this House has disagreed.

6 Civil Contingencies Bill,—Lords Amendments to the Civil Contingencies Bill to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 181].

7 Housing Bill,—Lords Amendments in lieu of Amendments to the Housing Bill disagreed to by the Commons and Lords Amendment to a Commons Amendment in lieu of a Lords Amendment to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 182].

8 Braille Identity Cards,—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to require all public authorities and certain regulated companies and organisations providing written means of identification to persons seeking to enter private residences to include braille information about those persons on the written means of identification; and for connected purposes; And that Jon Trickett, Mr Bill O’Brien, Colin Burgon, Mr Martin O’Neill, Mr Tom Clarke, Mr David Lepper, Peter Bottomley, Mr Phil Willis, Mrs Iris Robinson, Mr Andrew Hunter, Mr Fabian Hamilton and Rob Marris do prepare and bring it in.

9 Braille Identity Cards Bill,—Jon Trickett accordingly presented a Bill to require all public authorities and certain regulated companies and organisations providing written means of identification to persons seeking to enter private residences to include braille information about those persons on the written means of identification; and for connected purposes; And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 19th November and to be printed [Bill 180].

10 Pensions Bill (Programme) (No. 4),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Pensions Bill for the purpose of supplementing the Orders of 2nd March 2004, 19th April 2004 and 18th May 2004:
Consideration of Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion four hours after their commencement at this day’s sitting.

2. Those proceedings shall be taken in the order shown in the first column of the following Table, and each part of those proceedings shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the time shown in the second column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lords Amendments</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amendments to Part 1 (other than Amendments to Schedules Nos. 1 to 4).</td>
<td>Thirty minutes after the commencement of proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments to Clause No. 168; remaining Amendments to Part 2 (other than Amendments to Schedules Nos. 5 to 9); Amendments to Parts 3 and 4 (other than Amendments to Schedule No. 10).</td>
<td>Two hours after the commencement of those proceedings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments to Part 5.</td>
<td>Three hours after the commencement of those proceedings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments to Parts 6 to 9 (other than Amendments to Schedules Nos. 11 to 13); Amendments to Schedules Nos. 1 to 13.</td>
<td>Four hours after the commencement of those proceedings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subsequent stages

3. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any Question being put.

4. The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Mr John Heppell);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Derek Twigg, Paul Clark: 267.

Tellers for the Noes, Andrew Selous, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 170.

So the Question was agreed to.

11 Pensions Bill.—The Order of the day being read, for consideration of the Lords Amendments to the Pensions Bill;

Jane Kennedy, by Her Majesty’s Command, acquainted the House, That Her Majesty, having been informed of the purport of the Bill, gives Her Consent, as far as Her Majesty’s interest is concerned, That the House may do therein as it shall think fit.

The House proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 94 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their Privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 17 to 19, 47, 48, 60 and 68.

Lords Amendment No. 298.

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 13, to leave out the first word ‘The’ and insert the words ‘Subject to subsection (4A), the’, instead thereof.—(Steve Webb.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Alan Reid, Richard Younger-Ross: 196.

Tellers for the Noes, Paul Clark, Mr Vernon Coaker: 293.

So the Question was negatived.

The Lords Amendment was disagreed to.

Amendments ((a) to (k)) were made to the Bill, in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 298 disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 95.

A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Malcolm Wicks);

And it being two hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords Amendments, the Deputy Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day]:—It was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker then put the remaining Questions to be decided at that hour.
Lords Amendment No. 283.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Lords Amendment.

The Lords Amendment, as amended, was agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges.

Lords Amendments Nos. 96 to 282, 284 to 297 and 299 to 358 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 104, 115, 116, 119, 120, 162, 164, 213, 233, 235, 242, 250, 252 to 254, 258 to 260, 265, 279 to 281, 284 to 292, 294 to 297, 299 to 301, 306, 315, 316, 337 and 339.

Lords Amendment No. 359.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Malcolm Wicks);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Margaret Moran, Joan Ryan: 292.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Ruffley, Andrew Selous: 203.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

It being more than three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords Amendments, the Deputy Speaker put the remaining Question to be decided at that hour.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House agrees with the Lords in their Amendments Nos. 360 to 415—(Malcolm Wicks);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Joan Ryan, Margaret Moran: 348.

Tellers for the Noes, Andrew Selous, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 148.

So the Question was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 360 to 415 were accordingly agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 400 and 401.

Lords Amendment No. 416 was disagreed to.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Bill, in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 416 disagreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 417 was disagreed to.

An Amendment ((a)) was made to the Bill, in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 417 disagreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 418 to 672 were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendments Nos. 420, 421, 428, 431, 489, 516, 517, 522, 523, 525 to 532, 537 to 542, 547, 548, 550, 551, 582 to 584 and 603.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 359;

That David Cairns, Margaret Moran, Mr Nigel Waterson, Steve Webb and Malcolm Wicks be members of the Committee;

That Malcolm Wicks be the Chairman of the Committee;

That three be the Quorum of the Committee;

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Margaret Moran);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Joan Ryan: 354.

Tellers for the Noes, Andrew Selous, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 148.

So the Question was agreed to.

12 Hunting Bill (Procedure) (No. 2).—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Order [15th September], That the Order of 15th September shall be supplemented as follows—

1. At this day’s sitting proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments shall be brought to a conclusion (unless already concluded) three hours after commencement of proceedings on the Motion relating to Hunting Bill [Money].

2. For the purpose of bringing proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1 the Speaker shall put the following Questions forthwith (and no others)—

(1) any Question which has been proposed from the Chair and has not yet been decided,
(2) the Question on any Motion moved by a Minister of the Crown to disagree with Lords Amendments (which may, in particular, be a Motion relating to a specified group of Amendments),
(3) the Question on any Motion moved by a Minister of the Crown for an Amendment in lieu, and
(4) the Question on any other Motion moved by a Minister of the Crown.

3. Sessional Orders F(7) and H (Programming of Bills: ancillary questions and Reasons Committee) of 28th June 2001 shall apply to proceedings in relation to the Hunting Bill.

4. Paragraph 6(1) to (7) of the Order of 15th September shall apply to proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments.

5. No notice shall be required of a further Motion to supplement the Order of 15th September—(Jim Fitzpatrick);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Bridget Prentice, Mr John Heppell: 310.

Tellers for the Noes, Andrew Selous, Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown: 179.

So the Question was agreed to.

13 Pensions Bill,—Malcolm Wicks reported from the Committee appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 359 to the Pensions Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 359 for the following Reason:

Because it would alter the area of taxation, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.

The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendments.

14 Hunting Bill [Money],—Her Majesty’s Recommendation having been signified to the proposed Motion relating to Hunting Bill [Money];

Resolved, That, for the purposes of any Act resulting from the Hunting Bill, it is expedient to authorise—

(1) the payment out of money provided by Parliament of expenditure of a Minister of the Crown in connection with the Act, and

(2) the payment of sums into the Consolidated Fund.—(Alun Michael.)

15 Hunting Bill,—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Hunting Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 1.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Huw Irranca-Davies);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Michael Foster, Mr Ian Cawsey: 343.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Mark Francois: 175.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

It being more than three hours after the commencement on proceedings on the Motion relating to Hunting Bill [Money], the Speaker, pursuant to Order [this day], put the remaining Questions to be decided at that hour.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendments Nos. 2 to 43, 45, 46 and 52 to 54—(Alun Michael);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Ian Cawsey, Mr Michael Foster: 344.

Tellers for the Noes, Andrew Rosindell, Lembit Öpik: 173.

So the Question was agreed to.

Lords Amendments Nos. 2 to 43, 45, 46 and 52 to 54 were accordingly disagreed to.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That Amendments (a) and (b) be made to the Bill in lieu of the Lords Amendments disagreed to—(Alun Michael);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Fraser Kemp, Mr Tom Watson: 204.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Michael Foster, Mr Ian Cawsey: 321.
So the Question was negatived.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That the House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendments Nos. 44 and 47 to 51—(Alun Michael);
The House divided.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Michael Foster, Mr Ian Cawsey: 334.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Dominic Grieve, Mr Mark Francois: 170.
So the Question was agreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 44 and 47 to 51 were accordingly disagreed to.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills) and this day], That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 1 to 54;
That Mr Nick Ainger, Peter Bradley, Andrew George, Mr James Gray and Alun Michael be members of the Committee;
That Alun Michael be the Chairman of the Committee;
That three be the Quorum of the Committee;
That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Mr Nick Ainger):—It was agreed to.

16 Public Petitions,—Public Petitions from—
(1) Mr Michael MacEwen and others for proper maintenance of the Bridleway Bridge No. 9 south of Chieveley, Berkshire; and
(2) residents of Gloucester for the retention of the ‘Back Badge’ of the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment
were presented and read; and ordered to lie upon the Table and to be printed.

17 Hunting Bill,—Alun Michael reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments to the Hunting Bill. That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed him to report to the House:
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 9 for the following Reason:
Because it is undesirable to permit registered hunting.
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 10 for the following Reason:
Because it involves a charge on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 11 for the following Reason:
Because it is consequential on Amendments Nos. 1 to 10 to which the Commons have disagreed.
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 12 for the following Reason:
Because it involves a charge on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 13 to 44 for the following Reason:
Because they are consequential on Amendments Nos. 1 to 10 to which the Commons have disagreed.
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 45 for the following Reason:
Because it involves a charge on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 46 for the following Reason:
Because it is consequential on Amendments Nos. 1 to 10 to which the Commons have disagreed.
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 47 to 51 for the following Reason:
Because it is undesirable to expand the exemptions from the prohibition on hunting.
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 52 for the following Reason:
Because it involves a charge on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 53 and 54 for the following Reason:

Because they are consequential on Amendments Nos. 1 to 10 to which the Commons have disagreed.

The Reasons were agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons, with the Bill and Amendments.

18 Adjournment.—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Mr John Heppell);

And the Motion having been made after Seven o’clock, and Debate having continued for half an hour, the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order, it being then twelve minutes past Eleven o’clock, till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 11.12 p.m.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:


2 Social Security.—Draft Child Benefit and Guardian’s Allowance (Decisions and Appeals) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Dawn Primarolo].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Consumer Protection.—Cosmetic Products (Safety) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2988), dated 15th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].


5 Food.—Food Safety Act 1990 (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2990), dated 16th November 2004 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Reid].

6 Income Tax.—Individual Savings Account (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2996), dated 16th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Stephen Timms].


8 Supreme Court of England and Wales.—Non-Contentious Probate (Amendment) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2985), dated 12th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr David Lammy].

9 Terms and Conditions of Employment.—Employment Rights (Increase of Limits) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2989), dated 10th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Ms Secretary Hewitt].

Other Papers:

10 Government Resources and Accounts.—Resource Accounts of the Food Standards Agency, Westminster, for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1253] [Mr Stephen Timms].

11 Health.—Paper, entitled Choosing Health: Making healthy choices easier [by Command] [Cm. 6374] [Mr Secretary Reid].

12 Immigration.—Paper, entitled Control of Immigration: Statistics United Kingdom 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6363] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

13 Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths (Northern Ireland).—Report of the Registrar General Northern Ireland for 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].
14 Report of inquiry into disturbance and fire at Yarl’s Wood Removal Centre.—Return to an Address to Her Majesty for a Return of the Report of the inquiry into disturbance and fire at Yarl’s Wood Removal Centre [pursuant to Resolution this day]; to be printed [No. 1257] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

15 Report of investigation into disturbance at Harmondsworth Immigration Removal Centre.—Return to an Address to Her Majesty for a Return of the Report of the investigation into the disturbance at Harmondsworth Immigration Removal Centre on 19th and 20th July 2004 [pursuant to Resolution this day]; to be printed [No. 1265] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

1 Constitutional Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Constitutional Affairs Committee [Constitutional Reform Bill: the Government’s Proposals]; to be printed [No. 628-iv] [Mr A. J. Beith].

2 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee on The Future for UK Fishing of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [The Future for UK Fishing]; to be printed [No. 1278-i] [Mr Michael Jack].

3 Foreign Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Cyprus]; to be printed [No. 1172-iii] [Mr Donald Anderson].

4 Home Affairs.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Home Affairs Committee [Terrorism and Community Relations]; to be printed [No. 1250-ii] [Mr John Denham].

5 International Development.—(1) Eighth Report from the International Development Committee [Department for International Development: Departmental Report 2004], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 749];

   (2) Fifth Special Report from the Committee [Government Response to the Seventh Report from the Committee, on DFID’s Agriculture Policy]; to be printed [No. 1273];

   (3) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee, together with Appendices [Development Assistance in Iraq]; to be printed [No. 1274-i]; and

   (4) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Department for International Development: Departmental Report 2004]

   [Tony Baldry].

6 Regulatory Reform.—(1) Fourteenth Report from the Regulatory Reform Committee [Proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Execution of Deeds and Documents) Order 2004], together with Appendices: to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1271]; and

   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Proposal for the Regulatory Reform (Execution of Deeds and Documents) Order 2004]; to be printed [No. 1272-i]

   [Mr Peter Pike].

7 Statutory Instruments.—(1) Thirty-fourth Report from the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 82-xxxiv]:

   (2) First Special Report from the Committee, together with Appendices; to be printed [No. 1279]; and

   (3) Third Report from the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments, together with Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 949-iii]

   [Mr David Tredinnick].

8 Trade and Industry.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [ECGD support for the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan Pipeline project; Future investment in the Electricity Distribution Networks; Crown Post Offices]; to be printed [Nos. 1275-i, 1276-i and 1277-i] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

9 Treasury.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Treasury Committee [Regional Productivity]; to be printed [No. 308-vi] [Mr John McFall].
Tuesday 16th November 2004.

The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Vernon Coaker.)

And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.27 p.m.]

[No. 156.]

Wednesday 17th November 2004.

The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Vehicle Servicing Industry (Regulation),—Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make provision about the regulation of the vehicle servicing industry: And that Chris Ruane, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Mr Roy Beggs, Mark Tami, Linda Perham, Mrs Betty Williams, Mr Martyn Jones, Albert Owen, Ian Lucas, Gareth Thomas (Clwyd West) and Mr Gordon Prentice do prepare and bring it in.

2 Vehicle Servicing Industry (Regulation) Bill,—Chris Ruane accordingly presented a Bill to make provision about the regulation of the vehicle servicing industry: And the same was read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time on Friday 19th November and to be printed [Bill 183].

3 Civil Contingencies Bill (Programme) (No. 2),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Civil Contingencies Bill for the purpose of supplementing the Order of 19th January 2004:

Consideration of Lords Amendments

1. Proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion three hours after their commencement at this day’s sitting.

2. Those proceedings shall be taken in the order shown in the first column of the following table, and each part of those proceedings shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the time shown in the second column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lords Amendments</th>
<th>Time for conclusion of proceedings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amendments Nos. 49 to 51</td>
<td>One hour after the commencement of proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments Nos. 41, 42 and 46</td>
<td>One hour and 45 minutes after the commencement of those proceedings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments Nos. 7 and 56</td>
<td>Two and a half hours after the commencement of those proceedings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining Amendments</td>
<td>Three hours after the commencement of those proceedings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subsequent stages

3. Any further Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any further Question being put.

4. The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Paul Clark);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Joan Ryan, Jim Fitzpatrick: 277.

Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Hugo Swire: 174.

So the Question was agreed to.
Civil Contingencies Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Amendments to the Civil Contingencies Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 49.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Ruth Kelly);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Joan Ryan, Mr John Heppell: 293.
Tellers for the Noes, Mr Hugo Swire, Mr Peter Atkinson: 171.
So the Question was agreed to.
The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

It being one hour after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords Amendments, the Deputy Speaker, pursuant to Order [this day], put the remaining Questions to be decided at that hour.

Lords Amendments Nos. 50 and 51 were disagreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 41 and 42 were agreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 46.

An Amendment ((a)) was proposed to the Lords Amendment, in line 4, at the end, to add the words:
(c) the Habeas Corpus Act 1816 (c. 100),
(d) section 7 of the Parliament Act 1911 (c. 13) (duration of Parliament),
(e) the Bill of Rights 1689 (1 Will & Mar. Sess. 2, c. 2),
(f) the Act of Settlement 1700 (c. 2),
(g) the House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975 (c. 25),
(h) the Life Peerages Act 1958 (c. 21), or
(i) the House of Lords Act 1999 (c. 34).—(Mr William Cash.)

And the Question being put, That the Amendment be made to the Lords Amendment;
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Andrew Selous, Mr Peter Atkinson: 135.
Tellers for the Noes, Joan Ryan, Mr John Heppell: 349.
So the Question was negatived.
The Lords Amendment was agreed to.

Lords Amendment No. 7.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Mr David Jamieson);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Joan Ryan, Mr John Heppell: 304.
Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 189.
So the Question was agreed to.
The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

It being two and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords Amendments, the Deputy Speaker put the remaining Question to be decided at that hour.

Lords Amendment No. 56 was agreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 6 and 8 to 10 were agreed to.

It being three hours after the commencement of proceedings on the Lords Amendments, the Deputy Speaker put the remaining Questions to be decided at that hour.

Lords Amendment No. 37.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Ruth Kelly);
The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Gillian Merron, Mr Nick Ainger: 318.
Tellers for the Noes, Gregory Barker, Mr Peter Atkinson: 135.
So the Question was agreed to.
The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.
Lords Amendment Nos. 38 and 43 to 45 were disagreed to.
Amendments ((a) to (e)) were made to the Bill, in lieu of Lords Amendments Nos. 37, 38 and 43 to 45 disagreed to.
Lords Amendment No. 47 was disagreed to.
Amendments (a) and (b)) were made to the Bill, in lieu of Lords Amendment No. 47 disagreed to.
Lords Amendments Nos. 11 to 36, 39, 40, 48 and 52 to 55 were agreed to.
A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 7 and 49 to 51;
That Mr Richard Allan, Mr Oliver Heald, Ruth Kelly, Bridget Prentice and James Purnell be members of the Committee;
That Ruth Kelly be the Chairman of the Committee;
That three be the Quorum of the Committee;
That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

5 Housing Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider a Lords Amendment to a Commons Amendment and Lords Amendments in lieu of Lords Amendments to the Housing Bill to which the Commons have disagreed.
Lords Amendment No. 128C, Lords Amendment No. 140E to Commons Amendment No. 140D and Lords Amendments Nos. 191B and 191C were agreed to, the Commons being willing to waive their privileges in respect of Lords Amendment No. 191B.

6 Civil Contingencies Bill.—Ruth Kelly reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of their Amendments to the Civil Contingencies Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reasons, which it had directed her to report to the House:
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 7 for the following Reason:
Because it involves a charge on public funds, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 49 and 50 for the following Reason:
Because it is not desirable to limit the duration of Part 2.
The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 51 for the following Reason:
Because it is consequential on Amendments Nos. 49 and 50 to which the Commons have disagreed.
The Reasons were agreed to.
Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reasons, with the Bill and Amendments.

7 Civil Partnnership Bill [Lords](Programme)(No.3),—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That the following provisions shall apply to the Civil Partnership Bill [Lords] for the purpose of supplementing the Order of 12th October 2004 (Civil Partnership Bill [Lords] (Programme)):

Consideration of Lords Message
1. Any Message from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any Question put and proceedings on that Message shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement.

Subsequent stages
2. Any further Messages from the Lords may be considered forthwith without any Question put.
3. The proceedings on any further Message from the Lords shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour after their commencement—(Mr Vernon Coaker):—It was agreed to.
The Deputy Speaker suspended the sitting, pursuant to Order [8th November].

8 Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, proceedings on the Housing Bill and any Lords Messages and Amendments that may be received may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.
The Deputy Speaker suspended the sitting, pursuant to Order [8th November].

9 Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
The Lords do not insist on their remaining Amendment to the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Bill to which this House has disagreed.
The Lords have agreed, without Amendment, to the Amendments made by this House to the Civil Partnership Bill [Lords].

The Lords have agreed without Amendment to the Amendment proposed by this House to a Lords Amendment to the Pensions Bill; they do not insist on certain of their Amendments to which this House has disagreed and agree without Amendment to the Amendments proposed by this House in lieu thereof; and they do not insist on their remaining Amendment to which this House has disagreed, but do propose an Amendment in lieu thereof, to which they desire the agreement of this House.

10 Pensions Bill,—Lords Amendment in lieu of a Lords Amendment to the Pensions Bill to which this House has disagreed to be printed [Bill 184].

11 Pensions Bill,—The House, pursuant to Order [16th November], proceeded forthwith to consider the Lords Message relating to the Pensions Bill.

Lords Amendment No. 359B.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House disagrees with the Lords in their Amendment—(Malcolm Wicks);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mr Vernon Coaker: 265.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Peter Atkinson, Gregory Barker: 155.

So the Question was agreed to.

The Lords Amendment was accordingly disagreed to.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 359B;

That David Cairns, Margaret Moran, Mr Nigel Waterson, Steve Webb and Malcolm Wicks be members of the Committee;

That Malcolm Wicks be the Chairman of the Committee;

That three be the Quorum of the Committee;

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Margaret Moran)—It was agreed to.

12 Adjournment,—A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House do now adjourn—(Gillian Merron);

The Deputy Speaker suspended the sitting, pursuant to Order [8th November].

13 Pensions Bill,—Malcolm Wicks reported from the Committee appointed to draw up a Reason to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendment No. 359B to the Pensions Bill, That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed him to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment No. 359B for the following Reason:

Because it would alter the area of taxation, and the Commons do not offer any further Reason, trusting that this Reason may be deemed sufficient.

The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendments.

14 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords insist on certain of their Amendments to the Hunting Bill to which this House has disagreed, for which insistence they assign their Reasons; they do not insist on certain of their other Amendments to which this House has disagreed but propose Amendments in lieu thereof, to which they desire the agreement of this House; they do not insist on their remaining Amendment to which this House has disagreed; and they have considered and disagreed to the Amendment which this House suggested pursuant to section 2(4) of the Parliament Act 1911.

15 Hunting Bill,—Lords Reasons for insisting on certain Lords Amendments and Lords Amendments in lieu of other Lords Amendments to the Hunting Bill to which this House has disagreed to be considered to-morrow; and to be printed [Bill 185].

16 Adjournment,—The Question being again proposed, That this House do now adjourn;

And the Question being put;

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn;

And accordingly, the House, having continued to sit till twenty minutes past Ten o’clock, adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 10.20 p.m.]
APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution:

1 Income Tax,—Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Georgia) Order 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Dawn Primarolo].

2 Prisons,—Northern Ireland (Sentences) Act 1998 (Specified Organisations) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 3009) dated 14th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

3 Constitutional Law,—Scotland Act 1998 (Modification of Functions) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2980), dated 10th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].


5 Road Traffic,—Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 3028), dated 17th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Darling].

Other Papers:


   (1) Foreign and Commonwealth Office, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1261] [Mr Stephen Timms];

   (2) House of Commons: Administration, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1240] [The Speaker];

   (3) House of Commons: Members, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No 1239] [Clerk of the House]; and

   (4) Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration and Health Service Commissioner, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No 1268] [Clerk of the House].

7 National Loans,—Accounts relating to issues from the National Loans Fund for 2001–02, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1270] [Clerk of the House].

8 Northern Ireland,—First Report of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland under section 11(1) of the Northern Ireland (Monitoring Commission etc.) Act 2003 [by Act] [Mr Secretary Murphy].

9 Public Libraries and Museums,—Report on Public Library Matters [by Act] [Secretary Tessa Jowell].

10 School Standards and Framework,—Account of the Stoke Education Action Zone for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1077] [Clerk of the House].

APPENDIX II

Standing Committees

European Standing Committees

1 European Union Document Nos. 9941/04, 11834/04 and 13300/04 and unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum dated 26th May 2004, submitted by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, relating to the global satellite navigation system, have been referred to European Standing Committee A.

2 European Union Document No. 13177/04, relating to the European defence equipment market, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

3 European Union Document No. 14497/04, relating to the procedure for the adoption of measures relating to visas, asylum and immigration, has been referred to European Standing Committee B.

APPENDIX III

Reports from Select Committees

1 Culture, Media and Sport,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Culture, Media and Sport Committee [Public Libraries]; to be printed [No. 1088-i] [Sir Gerald Kaufman].
2 Defence.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Defence Committee [Future Capabilities]; to be printed [No. 1031-iv] [Bruce George].

3 Draft Mental Health Bill,— (1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Joint Committee on the Draft Mental Health Bill; to be printed [No. 1127-x]; and
   (2) Memoranda laid before the Committee; to be printed [No. 1127-xi] [Mr George Howarth].

4 Education and Skills.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Education and Skills Committee [Prison Education]; to be printed [No. 825-vii] [Mr Barry Sheerman].

5 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,— (1) Nineteenth Report from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee [Water Pricing: follow-up], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1186];
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [Waste Policy and the Landfill Directive]; to be printed [No. 1256-ii]; and
   (3) Memoranda laid before the Committee [Water Pricing: follow-up] [Mr Michael Jack].

6 Environmental Audit.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Environmental Audit Committee [The International Challenge of Climate Change: UK leadership in the G8 and EU]; to be printed [No. 1260-i] [Mr Peter Ainsworth].

7 European Scrutiny,— (1) Thirty-seventh Report from the European Scrutiny Committee; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 42-xxxvii]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee [The EU’s constitutional treaty]; to be printed [No. 1064-ii] [Mr Jimmy Hood].

8 Foreign Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Foreign Affairs Committee [Cyprus]; to be printed [No. 1172-iv] [Mr Donald Anderson].

9 Human Rights,—Twenty-third Report from the Joint Committee on Human Rights [Scrutiny of Bills: Final Progress Report], together with Appendices; to be printed, with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1282] [Jean Corston].

10 Northern Ireland Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [Waste Management Strategy in Northern Ireland]; to be printed [No. 637-viii] [Mr Tony Clarke].

11 Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions,—Memoranda submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister: Housing, Planning, Local Government and the Regions Committee [The Role and Effectiveness of the Standards Board for England]; to be printed [No. 1118-II] [Andrew Bennett].

12 Public Accounts,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee of Public Accounts [Improving IT procurement: The impact of the Office of Government Commerce’s initiatives on departments and suppliers in the delivery of major IT-enabled projects]; to be printed [No. 1283-i] [Mr Edward Leigh].

13 Scottish Affairs,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Scottish Affairs Committee [Implications for Grangemouth of BP’s plans for its petrochemicals business]; to be printed [No. 905-ii] [Mrs Irene Adams].

14 Trade and Industry,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Trade and Industry Committee [Midlands Car Industry]; to be printed [No. 1224-ii] [Mr Martin O’Neill].

15 Transport,— (1) Eighteenth Report from the Transport Committee [Galileo], together with Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee; to be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee relating to the Report [No. 1210]; and
   (2) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee, together with Appendices [Department of Transport Annual Report 2004]; to be printed [No. 1260-i] [Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody].

16 Treasury,— (1) Minutes of Evidence taken before the Sub-Committee of the Treasury Committee [Excise Duty Fraud]; to be printed [No. 1281-i]; and
(2) Appendices to the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee on 16th September and 12th October [EU Single Market in Financial Services]; to be printed [No. 1068-iii]
[Mr John McFall].

17 Work and Pensions,—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Work and Pensions Committee [Child Support Agency]; to be printed [No. 928-iii] [Sir Archy Kirkwood].

[No. 156; WH, No. 102]

Wednesday 17th November 2004.
The House sitting in Westminster Hall

The sitting commenced at half-past Nine o’clock.

Adjournment,—Resolved, That the sitting be now adjourned.—(Mr Tom Watson.)
And accordingly the sitting was adjourned till to-morrow.

[Adjourned at 4.54 p.m.

[No. 157.]

Thursday 18th November 2004.
The House met at half-past Eleven o’clock.

PRAYERS.

1 Message from the Lords,—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:
   The Lords agree, without Amendment, to the Amendments proposed by this House in lieu of certain Lords Amendments to the Civil Contingencies Bill to which this House has disagreed; they do not insist on certain of their Amendments to which this House has disagreed but propose Amendments in lieu thereof, to which Amendments they desire the agreement of this House; and they do not insist on their remaining Amendments to which this House has disagreed.

   The Lords do not insist on their remaining Amendment to the Pensions Bill to which this House has disagreed.

2 Civil Contingencies Bill,—Lords Amendments in lieu of Lords Amendments to the Civil Contingencies Bill to be printed [Bill 186].

3 Welsh Grand Committee,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Welsh Grand Committee be printed [No. 1284].

4 Northern Ireland Grand Committee,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Northern Ireland Grand Committee be printed [No. 1285].

5 Standing Committee on Regional Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs be printed [No. 1286].

6 European Standing Committee A,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of European Standing Committee A be printed [No. 1287].

7 European Standing Committee B,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of European Standing Committee B be printed [No. 1288].

8 European Standing Committee C,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of European Standing Committee C be printed [No. 1289].

9 Standing Committee on the Inter-Governmental Conference,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Standing Committee on the Inter-Governmental Conference be printed [No. 1290].

10 Accommodation and Works,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Accommodation and Works Committee be printed [No. 1291].

11 Administration,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Administration Committee be printed [No. 1292].

12 Broadcasting,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Broadcasting Committee be printed [No. 1293].

13 Catering,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Catering Committee be printed [No. 1294].
Constitutional Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Constitutional Affairs Committee be printed [No. 1295].

Culture, Media and Sport,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Culture, Media and Sport Committee be printed [No. 1296].

Defence,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Defence Committee be printed [No. 1297].

Education and Skills,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Education and Skills Committee be printed [No. 1298].

Environmental Audit,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Environmental Audit Committee be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Environmental Crime Sub-Committee [No. 1299].

Environment, Food and Rural Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Cetacean By-catch Sub-Committee, the Environmental Directives Sub-Committee, the Food Information Sub-Committee, the GM Planting Regime Sub-Committee, the Milk Pricing Sub-Committee, the Reform of the Sugar Regime Sub-Committee, the Sites of Special Scientific Interest Sub-Committee, the Toxins in Shellfish Sub-Committee, the Government’s Rural Delivery Strategy Sub-Committee, the Future for UK Fishing Sub-Committee, the Draft Animal Welfare Bill Sub-Committee and the Water Pricing Sub-Committee [No. 1300].

European Scrutiny,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the European Scrutiny Committee be printed [No. 1301].

Finance and Services,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Finance and Services Committee be printed [No. 1302].

Foreign Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Foreign Affairs Committee be printed [No. 1303].

Health,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Health Committee be printed [No. 1304].

Home Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Home Affairs Committee be printed [No. 1305].

Human Rights,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the House of Lords on Human Rights be printed [No. 1306].

Information,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Information Committee be printed [No. 1307].

International Development,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the International Development Committee be printed [No. 1308].

Liaison,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Liaison Committee be printed [No. 1309].

Modernisation of the House of Commons,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee on Modernisation of the House of Commons be printed [No. 1310].

Northern Ireland Affairs,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Sub-Committee of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee [No. 1311].


Procedure,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Procedure Committee be printed [No. 1313].

Public Accounts,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee of Public Accounts be printed [No. 1314].

Public Administration,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee on Public Administration be printed [No. 1315].

Regulatory Reform,—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Regulatory Reform Committee be printed [No. 1316].
36 Science and Technology.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Science and Technology Committee be printed [No. 1317].

37 Scottish Affairs.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Scottish Affairs Committee be printed [No. 1318].

38 Standards and Privileges.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Committee on Standards and Privileges be printed [No. 1319].

39 Statutory Instruments.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee on Statutory Instruments be printed [No. 1320].

40 Statutory Instruments.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Select Committee appointed to join with a Committee of the House of Lords on Statutory Instruments be printed [No. 1321].

41 Trade and Industry.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Trade and Industry Committee be printed [No. 1322].

42 Transport.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Transport Committee be printed [No. 1323].

43 Treasury.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Treasury Committee be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the Treasury Sub-Committee [No. 1324].

44 Welsh Affairs.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Welsh Affairs Committee be printed [No. 1325].

45 Work and Pensions.—Ordered, That the Minutes of Proceedings of the Work and Pensions Committee be printed, together with the Minutes of Proceedings of the IT Sub-Committee [No. 1326].

46 Hunting Bill (Procedure) (No. 3).—A Motion was made, pursuant to Order [16th November], and the Question being put forthwith pursuant to Order [15th September], That the Orders of 15th September and 16th November shall be supplemented as follows—

1. At this day’s sitting proceedings on consideration of any Lords message relating to the Hunting Bill shall be brought to a conclusion (unless already concluded) one hour after commencement.

2. For the purpose of bringing proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph 1 the Speaker shall put the following Questions forthwith (and no others)—

   (1) any Question which has been proposed from the Chair and has not yet been decided, and

   (2) the Question on any Motion moved by a Minister of the Crown.

3. Paragraphs 3 to 5 of the Order of 16th November shall apply—(Alan Michael); The House divided.

   Tellers for the Ayes, Joan Ryan, Mr Tom Watson: 271.

   Tellers for the Noes, Mr Geo Vrey Clifton-Brown, Mr David Wilshire: 136.

So the Question was agreed to.

47 Hunting Bill.—The House, according to Order, proceeded to consider the Lords Reasons for insisting on certain of their Amendments to the Hunting Bill and Lords Amendments in lieu of other Lords Amendments to which the Commons have disagreed.

   A Motion was made, and the Question being proposed, That this House insists on its disagreement to Lords Amendments Nos. 10C, 12C, 46C and 52C, but proposes Amendment (a) in lieu, to leave out Clause No. 15 and insert the following new Clause—

   ‘Commencement

   (1) The following provisions of this Act shall come into force on 31st July 2007—

      (a) sections 1 to 4,

      (b) Part 2 in so far as it relates to sections 1 to 4,

      (c) sections 11 to 14 in so far as they relate to sections 1 to 4,

      (d) Schedule 1, and

      (e) Schedules 2 and 3, except in so far as they change the law in relation to an activity to which section 5 applies.

   (2) The following provisions of this Act shall come into force at the end of the period of three months beginning with the date on which it is passed—

      (a) section 5,

      (b) Part 2 in so far as it relates to section 5,
(c) sections 11 to 13 in so far as they relate to section 5, and
(d) Schedules 2 and 3 in so far as they change the law in relation to an activity to which section 5 applies’—(Alun Michael);

An Amendment (No. 1) was proposed to the Question, in line 3, to leave out from ‘52C’ to the end of the Question.—(Mr James Gray.)

And the Question being proposed, That the Amendment be made;

And it being one hour after the commencement of proceedings, the Speaker put the Question, pursuant to Order [this day].

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Richard Ottaway: 146.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr Jim Murphy, Paul Clark: 286.

So the Question was negatived.

The Speaker then put the remaining Questions to be decided at that hour.

The Main Question being put;

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Murphy, Paul Clark: 46.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory, Richard Ottaway: 345.

So the Question was negatived.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put, That this House insists on its disagreement to Lords Amendments Nos. 1 to 44 and 46 to 54, disagrees with the Lords in their Amendments Nos. 10C, 12C, 46C and 52C, but proposes Amendment (b) in lieu, to leave out Clause No. 15 and insert the following new Clause:

‘Commencement
(1) The following provisions of this Act shall come into force on 31st July 2006—
(a) sections 1 to 4,
(b) Part 2 in so far as it relates to sections 1 to 4,
(c) sections 11 to 14 in so far as they relate to sections 1 to 4,
(d) Schedule 1, and
(e) Schedules 2 and 3, except in so far as they change the law in relation to an activity to which section 5 applies.

(2) The following provisions of this Act shall come into force at the end of the period of three months beginning with the date on which it is passed—
(a) section 5,
(b) Part 2 in so far as it relates to section 5,
(c) sections 11 to 13 in so far as they relate to section 5, and
(d) Schedules 2 and 3 in so far as they change the law in relation to an activity to which section 5 applies’—(Alun Michael);

The House divided.

Tellers for the Ayes, Mr Jim Murphy, Paul Clark: 283.

Tellers for the Noes, Mr David Heathcoat-Amory: 132.

So the Question was agreed to.

48 Civil Contingencies Bill.—The House, according to Order [yesterday], proceeded forthwith to consider the Lords Amendments in lieu of Lords Amendments to the Civil Contingencies Bill.

Lords Amendments Nos. 49B and 50B were disagreed to.

A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Orders [28th June 2001 and 6th November 2003 (Programming of Bills)], That a Committee be appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to their Amendments Nos. 49B and 50B;

That Mr Richard Allan, Mr Oliver Heald, Ruth Kelly, Bridget Prentice and James Purnell be members of the Committee;

That Ruth Kelly be the Chairman of the Committee;

That three be the Quorum of the Committee;

That the Committee do withdraw immediately—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker suspended the sitting, pursuant to Order [8th November].
Civil Contingencies Bill.—Ruth Kelly reported from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to certain of their Amendments to the Civil Contingencies Bill. That it had drawn up the following Reason, which it had directed her to report to the House:

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendments Nos. 49B and 50B for the following Reason:

Because it is not desirable to limit the duration of Part 2.

The Reason was agreed to.

Message to the Lords to communicate the said Reason, with the Bill and Amendments.

Business of the House.—A Motion was made, and the Question being put forthwith, pursuant to Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), That, at this day’s sitting, the consideration of any Lords Amendments and Messages that may be received may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour—(Bridget Prentice):—It was agreed to.

The Deputy Speaker suspended the sitting, pursuant to Order [8th November].

Message from the Lords.—A Message was brought from the Lords, as follows:

The Lords insist on their Amendments to the Hunting Bill, to which this House has insisted on its disagreement, for which insistence they assign their Reasons; they insist on their Amendments to which this House has disagreed, for which insistence they assign their Reasons; and they disagree to the Amendment proposed by this House in lieu of the Lords Amendments, for which disagreement they assign their Reason.

The Lords do not insist on their Amendments to the Civil Contingencies Bill, to which this House has disagreed.

The Speaker suspended the sitting, pursuant to Order [8th November].

Message to attend the Lords Commissioners.—A Message from the Lords Commissioners was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod.

Mr Speaker,

The Lords, authorised by virtue of Her Majesty’s Commission, for declaring Her Royal Assent to several Acts agreed upon by both Houses, and under the Parliament Acts 1911 and 1949 and for proroguing the present Parliament, desire the immediate attendance of this Honourable House in the House of Peers, to hear the Commission read.

Accordingly the Speaker, with the House, went up to the House of Peers, where a Commission was read, giving, declaring and notifying the Royal Assent to several Acts, and for proroguing this present Parliament.

The Royal Assent was given to the following Acts agreed upon by both Houses:

- Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Act 2004
- Civil Partnership Act 2004
- Housing Act 2004
- Pensions Act 2004

The Royal Assent was given to the following Act, passed under the provisions of the Parliament Acts 1911 and 1949:


(The said Bill having been endorsed by the Speaker with the following Certificate:

I certify, in reference to this Bill, that the provisions of section two of the Parliament Act 1911, as amended by section one of the Parliament Act 1949, have been duly complied with.

Michael J. Martin
Speaker.)

And afterwards Her Majesty’s Most Gracious Speech was delivered to both Houses of Parliament by the Lord High Chancellor (in pursuance of Her Majesty’s Command), as follows:

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons

My Government has taken action in support of economic stability and growth, and to deliver reform of the public services, increasing opportunity and social justice.

My Government is committed to delivering a world class education system to allow individuals to achieve their full potential. An Act has been passed to enable higher education institutions to secure the additional necessary funding and ensure fair access for all. My Government has brought forward a Bill to enable some local authorities to pilot new arrangements for school transport to extend provisions to cover more pupils.
An Act has been passed to provide all children born from September 2002 with a Child Trust Fund, encouraging parents and children to save and ensuring that all children have a financial asset at eighteen.

Legislation has also been passed to protect pension scheme members if companies become insolvent, to encourage employers to provide good quality pensions and individuals to save effectively for retirement.

My Government has published a draft Bill to ensure comprehensive civil rights for disabled people.

In addition, legislation has been passed putting in place a range of measures to streamline the asylum and immigration system and tackle abuse.

My Government continues to make the reduction of crime and the fear of crime a priority, and to enhance security and protection.

An Act has been passed modernising the laws on domestic violence and establishing a Commissioner to support the interests of victims and witnesses.

A Children’s Commissioner for England has also been established as part of legislation improving services to protect children.

Draft legislation has also been published on establishing a national identity card scheme.

Legislation has been passed creating a long-term foundation for civil contingency planning in the UK, improving the basis for preparations at a local level and modernising the emergency powers framework.

An Act has been passed to ensure the fire and rescue services can respond effectively to the changing demands they face.

Members of the House of Commons
I thank you for the provision you have made for the work and dignity of the Crown and for the public service.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons
My Government remains committed to working closely with the political parties and the Irish Government to see an end to all forms of paramilitary activity and to restore as soon as possible a stable and inclusive partnership government in Northern Ireland. An Act has been passed establishing a Northern Ireland Judicial Appointments Commission.

My Government continues to work closely with the devolved administrations in Scotland and Wales. Acts have been passed to retain the current number of members in the Scottish Parliament and to establish a single public audit body for Wales. A Bill to provide the National Assembly for Wales with a range of transport-related powers has been published in draft.

My Government continues to take forward a programme of constitutional reform.

Legislation has been passed to improve traffic flow and manage road works more effectively.

An Act has been passed to establish a Nuclear Decommissioning Authority and to promote secure and sustainable energy supplies.

Legislation has been passed to help create a fairer housing market and protect the most vulnerable, and to make the planning system fairer and faster with greater community participation.

In addition, legislation has been passed implementing the Government’s review of the Employment Relations Act 1999, and to improve company law by strengthening accounting, audit and inspection arrangements removing barriers to recruiting directors and creating Community Interest Companies to enable social enterprises to meet the needs of their communities in new and innovative ways.

My Government has brought forward draft legislation on a number of other matters including animal welfare, charities and mental health.

Other important measures have been enacted.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons

The Duke of Edinburgh and I were pleased to pay a state visit to Nigeria in December and attend the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting. We were pleased to receive the state visit of His Excellency the President of Poland in May, and to pay a state visit to Germany earlier this month. We were also pleased to mark the centenary of the Entente Cordiale with a state visit to France in April and will receive His Excellency the President of France this week.
My Government played an active role in preparing the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation for further enlargement in March and the European Union for the accession of ten new member states in May. They worked with other member states to conclude negotiations on a new constitutional treaty for the European Union and to strengthen peace and prosperity in Europe.

My Government has worked for a strong partnership between Europe and the United States of America, and for effective action against the threat from global terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. My Government was active in securing the first ever generic United Nations Security Council Resolution on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The resolution imposes obligations on all states to criminalise the possession, manufacture or trafficking of such weapons, in particular for terrorist purposes. My Government was active, with the Government of the United States, in working with the Libyan Government towards their renunciation of weapons of mass destruction.


In partnership with France, Germany and other partners, my Government has worked to persuade Iran to address international concerns regarding its nuclear programme. My Government supported international negotiations with North Korea, and has continued to work towards peace in the Middle East.

My Government was active in securing a United Nations Security Council Resolution imposing obligations on the Government of Sudan to take action to end the terrible suffering in the Darfur region. My Government is the second largest bilateral donor working to improve the humanitarian situation in Darfur.

My Government published White Papers providing a statement of Defence Policy, and an assessment of capabilities the Armed Forces will require to meet the new strategic environment. Legislation has been passed giving enabling powers to bring in new pension and compensation arrangements for the Armed Forces.

My Government has worked to reduce poverty and for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It established the Commission for Africa to focus on development and progress in Africa. In addition my Government launched an HIV and AIDS strategy for the developing world which announces the UK’s commitment to spend at least £1.5 billion over the next three years.

My Lords and Members of the House of Commons
I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may attend you.

After which the Lord Chancellor said:
My Lords and Members of the House of Commons,

By virtue of Her Majesty’s Commission which has now been read we do, in Her Majesty’s name, and in obedience to Her Majesty’s Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Tuesday the twenty-third day of this instant November, to be then here holden, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday the twenty-third day of November.

APPENDIX I

Papers presented or laid upon the Table:

Papers subject to Negative Resolution:

1 Magistrates’ Courts,—Magistrates’ Courts (Amendment) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2993), dated 15th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

2 Social Security,—Housing Benefit (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2984), dated 14th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Johnson].

3 Supreme Court of England and Wales,—(1) Criminal Appeal (Amendment No. 2) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2992); and
   (2) Crown Court (Amendment No. 3) Rules 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 2991), dated 15th November 2004 [by Act], with Explanatory Memoranda thereon [by Command] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].

Other Papers:

4 Criminal Statistics,—Criminal Statistics for England and Wales for 2003 [by Command] [Cm. 6361] [Mr Secretary Blunkett].
5 National Lottery.—Report of the sportscotland Lottery Fund for 2003–04 [by Act]; to be printed [No. 1226] [Mr Secretary Darling].

6 Overseas Territories.—International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (Restrictive Measures) (Overseas Territories) Order 2004 (S.I., 2004, No. 3039), dated 17th November 2004 [by Act], with an Explanatory Memorandum [by Command] [Mr Secretary Straw].

7 Parliamentary Papers.—Alphabetical index to the Bills, House of Commons Papers and Command Papers in the House of Commons set of parliamentary papers with notes on the volume arrangement and summary of legislation, Session 2003–04, Fifty-third Parliament, Third Session, 52nd and 53rd Elizabeth II, 26th November 2003 to 18th November 2004; to be printed [No. 1327] [The Speaker].

8 Political Parties, Elections and Referendums.—Report and Accounts of the Electoral Commission for 2003–04, with the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [by Act]; to be printed [No. 796] [Clerk of the House].

9 Statutory Instrument (Notification).—Communication declaring that the undermentioned Statutory Instrument had come into operation before copies were laid before Parliament, and explaining why such copies had not been so laid before the Instrument came into operation:


[by Standing Order] [The Speaker].

10 Treaty Series (No. 44, 2004).—Convention, done at Montreal on 28th May 1999, for the Unification of Certain Rules for International Carriage by Air [by Command] [Cm. 6369] [Mr Secretary Straw].

APPENDIX II

Reports from Select Committees

Public Administration.—Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Public Administration [Choice and Voice in Public Services]; to be printed [No. 1263-i] [Tony Wright].
PART II

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Report of inquiry into disturbance and fire at Yarl’s Wood Removal Centre, 614. Return presented, 620.

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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, CRIME AND VICTIMS BILL: Ordered, presented and read the first time, 432.

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<td>Vote on Account 2004–05: Department of Trade and Industry</td>
<td>36†</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>£2,101,186,000 (r) £3,749,956,000 (c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Supplementary Estimates 2003–04: Department for Transport</td>
<td>194*</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>£1,377,992,000 (r) £41,854,000 (c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Supplementary Estimates 2003–04: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</td>
<td>194†</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>£1,251,750,000 (r) £613,478,000 (c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Estimates 2004–05: Department for Transport</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>£5,665,964,000 (r) £5,144,950,000 (c)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

* Debate concluded; † Proceedings interrupted.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day not later than</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Question put and agreed to at 6 o’clock</th>
<th>Sum granted (r) = resources (c) = cash</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th February</td>
<td>Supplementary Estimates 2003–04</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>£6,616,861,000 (r) £7,324,511,000 (c)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Vote on Account 2004–05</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>£122,627,365,000 (r) £117,444,070,000 (c)</td>
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<td>18th March</td>
<td>Estimates, 2004–05: Navy Vote A</td>
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<td>Estimates, 2004–05: Army Vote A</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>—</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Estimates, 2004–05: Air Vote A</td>
<td>194‡</td>
<td>—</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Estimates, Excesses, 2002–03</td>
<td>194†</td>
<td>—</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Supplementary Estimates 2003–04</td>
<td>195‡</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th August</td>
<td>Estimates, 2004–05</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>£195,591,528,000 (r) £177,378,551,000 (c)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES: Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria) Order 2003 and the draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an Association between the European Communities and their Member States and the Republic of Lebanon) Order 2003, allocated to the Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, 54. Reported, 555. Amended, 556. Lords agree to Commons Amendment to Lords Amendment, and do not insist on their remaining disagreement to the Lords Amendment, and make an Amendment in lieu thereof, 200. Lords agree to Commons Amendment to Lords Amendment, with an Amendment, and do not insist on their remaining Lords Amendment, 211. Lords Amendment to

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<td>Question amended and agreed to, 377. Amendment negatived; Main Question agreed to, 546.</td>
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<th>Referred (date if in previous Session)</th>
<th>Document and Resolution reported</th>
<th>Resolution in House (Question put forthwith)</th>
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<td>Common Agricultural Policy: reform of the tobacco, olive oil, cotton and sugar sectors (12965/03)</td>
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<td>Common Agricultural Policy: reform of the sugar sector (11491/04)</td>
<td>A, 544</td>
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<td>Defence equipment market (13177/04)</td>
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<td>365</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global satellite navigation system (9941/04, 11834/04, 13300/04)</td>
<td>A, 625</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Heavy metals and hydrocarbons (11645/03)</td>
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<td>Humane trapping standards (12200/04)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industrial policy for an enlarged Europe (8875/04)</td>
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<td>553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integration of financial markets (4156/04)</td>
<td>B, 456</td>
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<td>566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice and Home Affairs work programme (10249/04)</td>
<td>B, 456</td>
<td></td>
<td>[see previous table]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
II. Subject and Number (or Dept. and date of Explanatory Memorandum) | Referred (date if in previous Session) | Document and Resolution reported | Resolution in House (Question put forthwith)
---|---|---|---
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