

Acts of Parliament

Green and White Papers

WHITE PAPERS are issued by the Government as statements of policy, and often set out proposals for legislative changes, which may be debated before a Bill is introduced. Some White Papers may invite comments.

GREEN PAPERS set out for discussion, proposals which are still at a formative stage.

Green Papers

Shaping the Future of Care Together sets out a vision for a new care and support system. The Green Paper highlights the challenges faced by the current system and the need for radical reform, to develop a National Care Service that is fair, simple and affordable for everyone.

The consultation will run from 14 July 2009 to 13 November 2009.

White Papers

No current White Bill being considered

The Stages That A Bill Go Through

Bill Is Drafted

The Bill may start in the House of Commons or the House of Lords, except finance Bills which have to start in the House of Commons.

First Reading In House Of Commons

In this reading the name and the aims of the Bill are read out. There is no discussion but a vote is cast to decide whether the Bill should go further.

Second Reading In House Of Commons

This is the main debate on the whole Bill. MP's debate the main principles. Another vote is taken at the end to decide whether the Bill is to go any further.

Committee Stage

At this stage a detailed examination of each clause of the Bill is undertaken by a committee of between 16 and 50 MP's. This committee is chosen specifically for that Bill. For finance Bills the whole House will sit in the committee.

Report Stage

Were amendments which were voted in the committee stage are passed on to the House. The amendments will be debated in the House and will be rejected or

Third Reading In House Of Commons

This is the final vote on the Bill

Same Procedure In House Lords

If the Bill started in the House of Commons it is now passed into the House of Lords where it goes through the same five stages above and amendments are made to the Bill. The changes are then considered by the House of Commons. If it started in the House of Lords it is now passed into the House of Commons.

Royal Assent

The final stage is where the monarch gives approval to the Bill and it then becomes an Act of Parliament

Policing and Crime Bill 2008-09

- This type of Bill is a Government Bill and was introduced by Jacqui Smith of the Home Office.
- Changes;
 - Improves police accountability and effectiveness
 - Creates a new offence of paying for sex with someone who is controlled for gain and introduces new powers to close brothels
 - Modifies the law on soliciting

- Tightens up the regulation of lap-dancing clubs by reclassifying them as 'sex establishments' rather than 'entertainment' venues
 - Amends police powers to deal with young people drinking in public
 - Introduces a new mandatory code of practice for alcohol sales
 - Amends the criminal asset recovery scheme established under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002
 - Changes the arrangements for airport security and policing.
- The date the Bill received its first reading is 18/12/2008
- The date the Bill received its second reading 19/01/2009
- The Bill was in the Committee Stage from 27/01/2009 until 26/02/2009
- The Bill received its third reading in the House of Commons on the 19/05/2009 and was passed.
- The Bill is currently at its third reading in the House of Lords.

A Bill That Came Into Act of Parliament in 2008-09

Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009

- This type of Bill is a Government Bill and was introduced by Lord West of Spithead, Home Office and Jacqui Smith, Home
- Changes;
 - Allows for certain functions to be transferred from HM Revenue & Customs to officials of the recently created UK Border Agency. The customs role of the UK Border Agency will focus on border-related matters, while HM Revenue & Customs will retain responsibility for revenue and customs functions inland
 - Implements the Government's proposals for a new 'path to citizenship' by amending provisions of the British Nationality Act 1981 relating to naturalisation as a British citizen. Other amendments relate to the children of foreign and Commonwealth members of the armed forces and to the

registration as British citizens of children born abroad to British mothers before 7 February 1961

- Introduces powers to control all those arriving in the UK from another part of the Common Travel Area. Other changes relate to restrictions on studying in the UK, powers to take fingerprints, and detention at ports in Scotland
 - Allows judicial review applications in immigration and nationality cases to be heard by the new Upper Tribunal instead of the High Court
 - Introduces a new duty on the UK Border Agency to safeguard the welfare of children.
- It from 14.01.09 to 20.07.09 to become an Act of Parliament
 - The Act of Parliament came into force on the 21st July 2009