

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH AND ASSOCIATED BACKGROUND BRIEFING, ON THE  
OCCASION OF THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT ON MONDAY 14 OCTOBER  
2019.

## **THE QUEEN'S SPEECH 2019**

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## AN INTRODUCTION BY THE PRIME MINISTER

This Queen's Speech delivers on my promise as Prime Minister to get this amazing country of ours moving again. People are tired of stasis, gridlock and waiting for change. They don't want to wait for improvements in their hospitals. They don't want to wait for their streets to be made safer. They don't want to wait for their schools to have the funding they need to give their children the superb education they deserve.

And they don't want to wait any longer to get Brexit done and to answer that clarion call of 17.4 million people in the greatest exercise of democracy in our national history.

So we are going to get the gears on our national gearbox working again. Leaving the EU is a defining opportunity for us to set a new course and a new direction for our country – to do the things we have not been allowed to for decades, to tear away that bureaucratic red tape, to set our own rules, and to release the talent, creativity, innovation and chutzpah that exists in every corner of our United Kingdom.

Through this Queen's Speech we will seize the opportunities that Brexit will bring to take back control of our borders, our money and our laws. Once again we will be in charge of our own trading policy and our fishing waters, and we will pave the way for a new points based immigration system.

And as we get Brexit done, so we will re-energise and unite our country. If there is one great British institution that has the emotional force to bring our country together, it is our NHS. It is sacred in our nation precisely because at its heart is the simple beauty of the principle that whoever you are, no matter where you come from, if you fall sick the whole country gathers figuratively at your bedside.

I have seen the wonder of our NHS in action at hospitals across the country since I became Prime Minister – and I have been proud to be the midwife to the biggest hospital building programme in a generation, alongside the 20 urgent hospital upgrades I announced on my first day in the job.

To complement this investment, we will help implement the long-term plan for the NHS in England, establish the world's first independent body to investigate serious healthcare incidents and ensure NHS patients can have faster access to innovative medicines.

But we must also ensure we make our neighbourhoods safer. People are rightly horrified by the spate of violent crime plaguing our streets, including the sickening rise in knife-related homicides. One of the very first steps I took as Prime Minister

was to announce the recruiting of 20,000 new police officers. In this Queen's Speech we will give the police the protections they need as they go about their jobs, and we will ensure tough sentences for the most serious offenders so that the punishment fits the crime. And we will also do more to redress the balance in the criminal justice system so that we do everything we can to support and protect the rights of victims of crime.

And as we invest in the NHS, and come down hard on crime, we are going to level up and unify the country through better infrastructure, better education and technology. We are investing £14 billion more in our schools, and we are going to turbo-charge our country with one of the greatest eras of infrastructure investment in everything from rail to roads to gigabit broadband. We will enshrine our plans in a new National Infrastructure Strategy, modernise our airspace through legislation, and boost our space programme with a UK Space Strategy.

So we will move forwards, towards a future in which our children, and their children, can grow up to live longer, happier, healthier and wealthier lives. But they must do so in a world in which the natural world is protected. The huge star of our legislative programme is a momentous new Environment Bill – a lodestar by which we will guide our country towards a cleaner, and greener future.

This legislation takes forward the work of my predecessor, and will set a framework of legally-binding targets to reduce plastics, restore biodiversity and clean up our water and air. And demonstrating that the British really are a nation of animal lovers we will take steps to strengthen animal welfare.

As we leave the European Union, we will continue to play a leading role in global affairs, promoting our values and defending our interests. In doing so, we will honour our enduring NATO commitment to spend 2 per cent of GDP on defence and, through our new Office for Veterans Affairs, unify the efforts of every part of Her Majesty's Government to deliver life-long support to those who have sacrificed so much in the service of our country.

This is a programme that will set our country on a new, upwards trajectory. At its heart is a new vision for Britain. A vision of a country happy and confident about its future. A vision of the country that we love.

The mission of this government is nothing less than making our country the greatest place on earth. The greatest place to live, to work and to do business. And this Queen's Speech will set us firmly on that course.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson MP

**HER MAJESTY'S MOST GRACIOUS SPEECH TO BOTH HOUSES OF  
PARLIAMENT**

**MONDAY 14 OCTOBER 2019**

MY LORDS AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

My Government's priority has always been to secure the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union on 31 October. My Government intends to work towards a new partnership with the European Union, based on free trade and friendly cooperation [**European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill**].

My Ministers will work to implement new regimes for fisheries, agriculture and trade, seizing the opportunities that arise from leaving the European Union [**Fisheries Bill, Agriculture Bill and Trade Bill**]. An immigration bill, ending free movement, will lay the foundation for a fair, modern and global immigration system. My Government remains committed to ensuring that resident European citizens, who have built their lives in, and contributed so much to, the United Kingdom, have the right to remain. The bill will include measures that reinforce this commitment [**Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill**]. Steps will be taken to provide certainty, stability and new opportunities for the financial services and legal sectors [**Financial Services Bill and Private International Law (Implementation of Agreements) Bill**].

My Government's new economic plan will be underpinned by a responsible fiscal strategy, investing in economic growth while maintaining the sustainability of the public finances.

Measures will be brought forward to support and strengthen the National Health Service, its workforce and resources, enabling it to deliver the highest quality care. New laws will be taken forward to help implement the National Health Service's Long Term Plan in England, and to establish an independent body to investigate serious healthcare incidents [**Health Service Safety Investigations Bill**].

My Government will bring forward proposals to reform adult social care in England to ensure dignity in old age. My Ministers will continue work to reform the Mental Health Act to improve respect for, and care of, those receiving treatment.

My Government is committed to addressing violent crime, and to strengthening public confidence in the criminal justice system. New sentencing laws will see that the most serious offenders spend longer in custody to reflect better the severity of their crimes [**Sentencing Bill**]. Measures will be introduced to improve the justice



system's response to foreign national offenders [**Foreign National Offenders Bill**]. My Government will work to improve safety and security in prisons and to strengthen the rehabilitation of offenders. Proposals will be brought forward to ensure that victims receive the support they need and the justice they deserve. Laws will be introduced to ensure that the parole system recognises the pain to victims and their families caused by offenders refusing to disclose information relating to their crimes [**Prisoners (Disclosure of Information About Victims) Bill**].

A new duty will be placed on public sector bodies, ensuring they work together to address serious violence [**Serious Violence Bill**]. Police officers will be provided with the protections they need to keep the population safe [**Police Protections Bill**]. They will also be awarded the power to arrest individuals who are wanted by trusted international partners [**Extradition (Provisional Arrest) Bill**].

My Government will bring forward measures to protect individuals, families and their homes. Legislation will transform the approach of the justice system and other agencies to victims of domestic abuse [**Domestic Abuse Bill**], and minimise the impact of divorce, particularly on children [**Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill**]. My Ministers will continue to develop proposals to improve internet safety, and will bring forward laws to implement new building safety standards.

My Ministers will ensure that all young people have access to an excellent education, unlocking their full potential and preparing them for the world of work. My Government will take steps to make work fairer, introducing measures that will support those working hard [**Employment (Allocation of Tips) Bill**]. To help people plan for the future, measures will be brought forward to provide simpler oversight of pensions savings. To protect people's savings for later life, new laws will provide greater powers to tackle irresponsible management of private pension schemes [**Pension Schemes Bill**].

To ensure that the benefits of a prospering economy reach every corner of the United Kingdom, my Ministers will bring forward a National Infrastructure Strategy. This will set out a long-term vision to improve the nation's digital, transport and energy infrastructure. New legislation will help accelerate the delivery of fast, reliable and secure broadband networks to millions of homes [**Telecommunications Infrastructure (Leasehold Property) Bill**]. An aviation bill will provide for the effective and efficient management of the United Kingdom's airspace **Air Traffic Management and Unmanned Aircraft Bill**. Proposals on railway reform will be brought forward.

A white paper will be published to set out my Government's ambitions for unleashing regional potential in England, and to enable decisions that affect local people to be made at a local level.

My Government is committed to establishing the United Kingdom as a world-leader in scientific capability and space technology. Increased investment in science will be complemented by the development of a new funding agency, a more open visa system, and an ambitious national space strategy.

My Ministers remain committed to protecting and improving the environment for future generations. For the first time, environmental principles will be enshrined in law. Measures will be introduced to improve air and water quality, tackle plastic pollution and restore habitats so plants and wildlife can thrive. Legislation will also create new legally-binding environmental improvement targets. A new, world-leading independent regulator will be established in statute to scrutinise environmental policy and law, investigate complaints and take enforcement action **[Environment Bill]**.

Proposals will also be brought forward to promote and protect the welfare of animals **[Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Bill]**, including banning imports from trophy hunting.

The integrity and prosperity of the union that binds the four nations of the United Kingdom is of the utmost importance to my Government. My Ministers will bring forward measures to support citizens across all the nations of the United Kingdom.

My Government remains committed to working with all parties in Northern Ireland to support the return of devolved government and to address the legacy of the past.

My Government will take steps to protect the integrity of democracy and the electoral system in the United Kingdom.

My Government will continue to invest in our gallant Armed Forces. My Ministers will honour the Armed Forces Covenant and the NATO commitment to spend at least two per cent of national income on defence.

As the United Kingdom leaves the European Union, my Government will ensure that it continues to play a leading role in global affairs, defending its interests and promoting its values.

My Government will be at the forefront of efforts to solve the most complex international security issues. It will champion global free trade and work alongside international partners to solve the most pressing global challenges. It will prioritise

tackling climate change and ensuring that all girls have access to twelve years of quality education.

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

Other measures will be laid before you.

I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may rest upon your counsels.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Queen's Speech will deliver Brexit alongside an ambitious programme of domestic reform that delivers real change to the lives of individuals and benefits to wider society. This programme will focus on:

- supporting the NHS to deliver world-class healthcare;
- tackling violent crime and strengthening the criminal justice system to keep the population safe and support victims;
- ensuring fairness and protection for individuals and families;
- "levelling up" opportunity across the United Kingdom, through better infrastructure, education and science; and
- protecting the environment and promoting animal welfare.

It has always been the Government's priority to secure the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union on 31 October. This Queen's Speech sets out how we will seize the opportunities created by Brexit:

- We remain committed to securing a deal with the EU and negotiating an ambitious future relationship, based on free trade and friendly cooperation. The European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill will ratify that deal once secured.
- We will reform UK agriculture policy through an Agriculture Bill, introducing schemes to pay for public goods like environmental protection and strengthening transparency and fairness in the supply chain.
- The Fisheries Bill will enable us to reclaim control over who can fish in our waters, and under what terms, ensuring the sustainability of our marine life and environment.
- Legislation will be taken forward to capitalise on the opportunities that will come from our newly independent trade policy and deliver for UK businesses and customers.
- The Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination Bill will end free movement, deliver a new fair, modern and global immigration system, and reaffirm our commitment to the right to remain for resident European citizens who have built their lives here in the UK and contributed so much.
- The Financial Services Bill will provide certainty and stability for this critical sector, maintaining the UK's world-leading regulatory standards and keeping the UK open to international markets after Brexit.
- The Private International Law (Implementation of Agreements) Bill will make sure that individuals, families and businesses in the UK who become involved in international legal disputes have a clear framework for cross-border resolutions.

The Speech sets out a number of key measures to **support the NHS** and our healthcare system:

- We will work to implement the NHS Long Term Plan in England, building on the NHS's own recommendations to ensure a health service fit for the future.
- Legislation will be taken forward to establish the Health Service Safety Investigations Body. This will be the world's first such body, charged with independence and powers to investigate incidents that occur during the provision of NHS services that have, or may have, implications for the safety of patients.
- A Medicines and Medical Devices Bill will capitalise on opportunities to ensure that our NHS and patients can have faster access to innovative medicines, while supporting the growth of our domestic sector.
- We will bring forward substantive proposals to fix the crisis in adult social care, giving people the dignity and security they deserve.
- We will continue to work to modernise and reform the Mental Health Act to ensure that people get the support they need, with a much greater say in their care.

The Speech reaffirms our commitment to **tackling violent crime, strengthening the criminal justice system and ensuring victims receive the support** they need and the justice they deserve:

- A Sentencing Bill will change the automatic release point from halfway to two-thirds for adult offenders serving sentences of four years or more for serious violence or sexual offences.
- We will legislate to deal more effectively with foreign national offenders, increasing the maximum penalty for those who return to the UK in breach of a deportation order.
- Accelerating our plans to enshrine in law the support victims are entitled to; we will consult on a new Victims' Law and publish a revised Victims' Code early in 2020.
- New legislation will require the Parole Board to take into account an offender's failure to disclose certain information about their crime - a version of Helen's Law.
- A Serious Violence Bill will place a duty on public bodies across different sectors to work together and share data and information to identify and tackle early factors that can lead to crime, and put in place plans to prevent and reduce serious violence.

- A Police Protections Bill will support the police, establishing a Police Covenant that recognises their bravery, commitment and sacrifice.
- We will also legislate to empower police officers to immediately arrest someone they know is wanted for a serious crime committed in a trusted country, without having to apply to a court for a warrant first.

This Queen's Speech outlines a number of key measures we will progress to **ensure fairness and protection for individuals and families**:

- The Domestic Abuse Bill, which will transform the response, across sectors and agencies, to victims of this crime, will continue to be progressed through Parliament (it was carried over from the previous session).
- We will re-introduce the Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill, removing unnecessary conflict during the divorce process, which so often leaves children caught in the middle, while ensuring the decision to divorce remains a carefully considered decision.
- We are committed to making the UK the safest place to be online and will continue to develop proposals to achieve this end, including the introduction of new regulations for internet companies which ensure protections for web users.
- The Employment (Allocation of Tips) Bill will make sure that tips are kept in full by, or distributed fairly and transparently to, those who work hard to earn them.
- We will continue to deliver on the commitments set out in the Good Work Plan, ensuring that our employment practices keep pace with modern ways of working and productivity is enhanced.
- A Pension Schemes Bill will enable people to plan their saving for later life by giving them access to information on their pensions' savings in one place online, for the first time. It will also improve the protection of people's pensions, strengthening the powers of the regulator to tackle irresponsible management of pension schemes.
- To make sure residents are safe in their homes, we will take forward legislative measures that put in place new and modernised regulatory regimes for building safety and construction products. We will also ensure that residents have a stronger voice in the system.

The Speech sets out how we will **level up every corner of the United Kingdom through better education, infrastructure and science**, renewing the ties that bind us together:

- We are giving schools a multi-billion pound boost, meaning that every school has more money for every child. We will also move towards delivering this funding directly to schools, through a single national formula.

- We will take bold steps to accelerate delivery of fast, reliable and secure broadband networks to millions of homes. This will include the introduction of the Telecommunications Infrastructure (Leasehold Property) Bill to make it easier for telecoms companies to install digital infrastructure when landlords ignore repeated requests for access. We will also bring forward measures to ensure that all new homes are built with reliable and fast internet speeds.
- We will maintain our position as a world-leader in aviation, modernising our airspace to make journeys quicker, quieter and cleaner, whilst also tackling the unlawful use of unmanned aircraft (drones).
- We will bring forward legislation to make sure that people can get home quickly when an airline goes bust.
- Later this autumn, we will publish a white paper on the recommendations of the Williams Review; the first comprehensive review of railway in a generation. We will focus on reforms that put passengers at the heart of the railway, provide value for taxpayers and deliver economic, social and environmental benefits across Britain.
- We will publish a white paper that will reiterate our commitment to levelling up opportunities and investment in the regions across England.
- We want to establish the UK as a global science superpower, building on our existing world-excellence. We will boost public R&D funding, launch a comprehensive UK Space Strategy, introduce a fast-track immigration scheme for top scientists and researchers and develop proposals for a new funding agency.

This Queen's Speech deepens our commitment to the **natural environment and animal welfare**:

- We will introduce a landmark Environment Bill to ensure that we protect and preserve this planet for generations to come. It will include measures to establish a new Office for Environmental Protection, increase local powers to tackle air pollution and introduce charges for specified single use plastic items.
- We will take forward several measures to promote and protect animal welfare, including re-introducing the Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Bill to increase maximum sentences for animal cruelty. We will seek to improve the welfare of animals transported for slaughter, and ban the import and export of trophies from endangered animals.

In addition to all the measures above, the Government will continue to drive forward work to deliver for every corner of the UK:

- We will maintain a **strong fiscal discipline** to ensure the sustainability of the public finances, allowing us to invest in growing our economy
- We will continue to uphold the constitutional integrity of the UK, working constructively with the devolved administrations and their legislatures to **ensure our Union continues to flourish**. And we will continue to work tirelessly to restore the devolved power-sharing government at Stormont to ensure the people of Northern Ireland have the political leadership of their elected local representatives.
- We will continue to invest in our courageous **Armed Forces**, spending at least two per cent of our GDP on Defence every year of this Parliament, and ensuring that, as a country, we support both those who serve and have served to keep us safe.
- We will protect the integrity of our **democracy and elections**, tackling electoral fraud through the introduction of voter ID and banning postal vote harvesting.
- Finally, as we leave the EU we will maintain our place as **leaders on the international stage**, championing our interests and values. We will continue to work alongside our international partners to tackle the most pressing global challenges, including climate change, and we will secure ambitious new trade deals with all our partners across the world.



## 1. DELIVERING BREXIT

### European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill

*“My Government’s priority has always been to secure the United Kingdom’s departure from the European Union on 31 October. My Government intends to work towards a new partnership with the European Union, based on free trade and friendly cooperation.”*

#### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Implement any Withdrawal Agreement which may be agreed between the UK and the EU in domestic law.

#### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Ensuring that the UK leaves the EU with a deal on the 31 October.
- Implementing a transition period to give businesses time to prepare, during which the Government will negotiate a future relationship with the EU based on a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement.
- Protecting the rights of EU, EEA and Swiss citizens in UK law so they can continue to live, work and study in the UK.
- Implementing a new Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland following the removal of the backstop.

#### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Implementing the Withdrawal Agreement, Swiss Citizens’ Rights Agreement and EEA EFTA Separation Agreement in UK law.
- Implementing a new Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland, which does not include the backstop arrangements.
- Protecting the rights of EU, EEA and Swiss citizens in UK law.
- Securing a transition period to give businesses time to prepare.

#### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's substantive provisions would extend and apply to the whole of the UK.

### **Key facts**

- 17.4 million people voted to leave the EU in the 2016 referendum.
- Since the Prime Minister took office in July 2019, his focus has been on reaching an agreement that is acceptable to both sides so we can leave the EU on October 31 with a deal, move on and build a new partnership between the UK and the EU.
- This has included putting forward a new Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland to replace the backstop, which was rejected by Parliament three times. This new Protocol is a special arrangement for Northern Ireland that protects the Good Friday (Belfast) Agreement, supports the Northern Ireland economy and ensures that the UK leaves the EU whole and entire.
- This Bill is the legal mechanism by which the UK can leave the EU with a deal on 31 October 2019.

## **Agriculture Bill**

*“My Ministers will work to implement new regimes for fisheries, agriculture and trade, seizing the opportunities that arise from leaving the European Union.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Reform UK agriculture policy, putting the interests of farmers and land managers, the environment and taxpayers at its core.
- Replace the current subsidy system, which simply pays farmers based on the total amount of land farmed, and instead reward them for the work they do to enhance the environment and produce high quality food in a more sustainable way.
- Support farmers and land managers to ensure a smooth and gradual transition away from the bureaucratic Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) to a system where farming efficiently and improving the environment go hand and hand.
- Set out the framework for a new Environmental Land Management scheme, underpinned by the payment of public money for public goods.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Rewarding farmers and land managers for delivering public goods including improved water quality, increased biodiversity and better public access to our countryside.
- Championing British food with a transparent and fair supply chain from farm to fork.
- Rewarding farmers who protect our environment. This will significantly contribute to the goals of our 25 year Environment Plan and to reaching net zero carbon emissions.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- A seven-year agricultural transition period to gradually reduce Direct Payments. Transitional schemes will enable investment in new equipment, technology and infrastructure to support change during this period.

- Introducing schemes paying for public goods including environmental protection, access to the countryside, and work to reduce flooding.
- Powers to strengthen transparency and fairness in the supply chain, to set common marketing standards, recognise Producer Organisations and to ensure compliance with the UK's international obligations at the WTO.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would apply to England, with some provisions extending and applying across the UK. The Bill's provisions will also apply to Wales and Northern Ireland at the request of Welsh Government Ministers and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.

### **Key facts**

- 72 per cent of the total land area in the UK is actively farmed.
- Agriculture contributes around £8.6 billion to the UK economy and employs 1.5 per cent of the workforce.
- The Bill will free the UK from the restrictions of the EU CAP after almost 50 years.
- CAP has impeded productivity and stifled innovation in the farming sector, and failed to protect the environment. For example, agriculture currently contributes more than 88 per cent of UK ammonia emissions and farmland bird numbers have declined by 54 per cent since 1970.
- Although agri-environment schemes have demonstrated good value for money (delivering £4 for every £1 spent), only a small proportion of overall funding from the CAP is currently spent on environmental outcomes.
- We have received over 100 tests and trials proposals for the first phase of the trials of the new Environmental Land Management scheme, and over 200 for the second phase. We are taking 44 forward in the first phase – these will help us to test critical elements of the new scheme.

## **Fisheries Bill**

*“My Ministers will work to implement new regimes for fisheries, agriculture and trade, seizing the opportunities that arise from leaving the European Union.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Deliver more sustainable fisheries for future generations building on the 25 Year Environment Plan and the Fisheries White Paper.
- Enshrine in primary legislation the powers to control access to our waters and more effectively manage our fisheries in the longer term.
- Provide powers for the Devolved Administrations to manage their fisheries in the way that works for them and their industries.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Providing the legal framework for the UK to operate as an independent coastal state after Brexit, no longer bound by the Common Fisheries Policy.
- Enabling a better deal for our fishers and the marine environment through a new sustainable fisheries policy after Brexit.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Ensuring equal access for English, Welsh, Scottish, and Northern Irish boats across UK waters.
- Providing powers to licence foreign vessels in UK waters, although they will have no automatic right to access.
- Creating powers to determine fishing opportunities (quota or days at sea) for the UK, so that we can move away from the unfair Common Fisheries Policy. These powers will enable us to preserve and seek to increase fish stocks.
- Powers to provide grants to fishermen to conserve, enhance and restore the marine and aquatic environment, and to regulate fishing in order to protect the marine environment.
- A set of objectives to ensure that we continue to champion sustainable fishing with a view to further improving the health of our stocks.

- Powers to amend primary legislation (including retained EU law) to allow the UK to respond to scientific advice (for example, on fish stock levels); to maintain high standards of fish health, protecting our aquaculture industry and export markets; and to meet our international commitments relating to fisheries.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and largely apply to the whole of the UK.

### **Key facts**

- The UK's seafood sector, including catching and processing employs around 33,000 people (including around 12,000 fishers) and contributes £1.5 billion to the UK economy. It is a key industry in some coastal communities.
- The UK has been at the forefront of pushing for more sustainable fishing with more stocks than ever before set at sustainable fishing levels in 2018, in part by advocating for reforms to CFP regulations. Leaving the CFP will give the UK more flexibility to make further improvements.
- On average annually between 2012 and 2016, other EU Member States' vessels landed in the region of 749,000 tonnes of fish (£575 million revenue) caught in UK waters. In 2016, UK vessels landed approximately 96,000 tonnes (£96 million revenue) caught in other Member States' waters per year in the same period.
- Worldwide, the UK exports around £1.9 billion worth of fish, and imports around £3.2 billion.
- We export around £600 million worth of fish to non-EU countries and import over £2.1 billion from them.

## Trade Bill

*“My Ministers will work to implement new regimes for fisheries, agriculture and trade, seizing the opportunities that arise from leaving the European Union.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Make the most of new opportunities that come from having an independent trade policy after Brexit, delivering for UK businesses and consumers by:
  - Rolling over trade agreements with third parties,
  - Ensuring access to procurement opportunities under the Government Procurement Agreement, and
  - Protecting them from unfair trade practices or unforeseen surges in imports.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Delivering the best international trading framework for the UK after Brexit, by establishing in UK law the fundamental tools needed to do this.
- Ensuring that our trade policy reflects the needs and potential of the whole of the UK and helps to create a country that is more united and more outward-looking than ever before.
- Enhancing the UK’s central role in driving positive global change through trade.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Creating powers so the UK can transition trade agreements we are party to through our membership of the EU, ensuring continuity for businesses.
- Establishing a new independent UK body, to protect UK firms against unfair trade practices.
- Giving UK businesses continued access to £1.3 trillion per year of procurement opportunities in 47 countries, by creating the powers for the UK to implement the Agreement on Government Procurement.

- Ensuring the UK Government has legal powers to gather and share trade information as evidence to support UK firms against surges in imports and unfair practices.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply to the whole of the UK.

### **Key facts**

- The EU estimates that 90 per cent of future global economic growth is expected to be generated outside Europe - a third of it in China alone. The Trade Bill will ensure we are ready to take advantage of trade opportunities with these significant markets after we have left the EU, benefitting UK businesses and consumers.



## **Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill**

*“An immigration bill, ending free movement, will lay the foundation for a fair, modern and global immigration system. My Government remains committed to ensuring that resident European citizens, who have built their lives in, and contributed so much to, the United Kingdom, have the right to remain. The bill will include measures that reinforce this commitment.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Bring an end to free movement in UK law, to ensure that the Government can deliver a new points-based immigration system from 2021.
- Make EU citizens arriving after January 2021 subject to the same UK immigration controls as non-EU citizens, to enable the Government to deliver a single global immigration system based on people’s skills.
- Clarify the immigration status of Irish citizens once the free movement migration framework is repealed. This means Irish citizens will generally not require leave to enter or remain in the UK.
- Enable the Government to deliver future changes to social security co-ordination policy.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Paving the way for a new points-based immigration system, which will be based on people’s skills and contributions to the UK, so that we attract the brightest and best people from the whole world following the UK’s departure from the EU.
- Confirming our commitment to the EU Settlement Scheme and giving EU citizens and their family members who apply a right of appeal against decisions under the Scheme.
- Ensuring that we can set new rules on access to benefits and social security co-ordination that are in the national interest.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Ending the free movement of EU citizens under UK law.

- The power to align the treatment of EU citizens arriving after January 2021 with non-EU citizens, and to maintain the treatment of EU citizens resident in the UK before exit day.
- Clarifying the immigration status of Irish citizens in the UK once the free movement rules are removed from UK law.
- Confirming the deadline for applications to be made under the EU Settlement Scheme.
- Giving EU citizens and their family members who apply a right of appeal against EU Settlement Scheme decisions.
- The power to make changes to the current rules for access to benefits and social security coordination for EU nationals.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply to the whole of the UK. Immigration is a reserved matter.

### **Key facts**

- The Home Secretary has commissioned the Migration Advisory Committee to consider a new points-based immigration system that is built around the skills and talent people have, not where they are from.
- There are an estimated 3.4 million EU, EEA and Swiss citizens, and their family members, living in the UK.
- The Government is already delivering certainty to these individuals through the EU Settlement Scheme which has been established in Immigration Rules made under the Immigration Act 1971.
- The EU Settlement Scheme is working well: Home Office figures show that by the end of September, more than 1.7 million people had applied and almost 1.5 million people had been granted status under UK law.
- The UK immigration status granted under the Scheme guarantees that EU citizens and their family members can carry on with their lives here broadly as before.

- On 4 September, the Government set out its policy on post-exit immigration arrangements in a no deal scenario. Free movement as it currently stands will end on 31 October.
- Should the UK leave the EU without a deal then EU citizens moving to the UK after Brexit will be able to apply for a temporary immigration status, called European Temporary Leave to Remain, which will carry them into the new skills based immigration system from 2021.

## **Financial Services Bill**

*“Steps will be taken to provide certainty, stability and new opportunities for the financial services and legal sectors.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Ensure that the UK maintains its world-leading regulatory standards and remains open to international markets after we leave the EU.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Supporting the UK’s position as an international financial services centre.
- Enhancing the competitiveness of the UK’s financial services sector, while maintaining high standards to protect UK consumers so that they can use financial services’ products with confidence.
- The Government will set out further measures to ensure the UK maintains its world-leading regulatory standards and remains open to international markets after we leave the EU in due course.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Simplifying the process which allows overseas investment funds to be sold in the UK. This will maintain our position as a centre of asset management and provide more choice to UK consumers, in line with commitments made during our preparations for leaving the EU.
- Implementing the Basel standards to strengthen the regulation of global banks, in line with previous G20 commitments.
- Delivering our commitment for long-term market access to the UK for financial services firms in Gibraltar as part of the UK family.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill’s provisions would extend and apply to the whole of the UK. Financial services are generally a reserved matter.

### **Key facts**

- The financial services sector is critical to the UK economy:
  - It employs more than 1 million people across regional hubs in all four of our nations.
  - It contributes more than £127 billion to our national economy per year.
  - Our financial services trade surplus is over £61 billion.
- This Bill will build on the extensive secondary legislation that the Government brought forward under the EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018 to ensure the effective operation of retained EU law, and thereby support the financial services sector.
- Key recent steps taken by the Government to support financial services sector include:
  - Reforming the previous financial services regulatory architecture which failed during the 2008 financial crisis through the creation of a new 'twin peaks' system.
  - Promoting competition by making it easier to switch banks and encouraging new banks to enter the market.
  - Ensuring the UK is a world leader in FinTech through the Sector Strategy.
  - Ensuring the financial services sector is supported to help meet the Government's commitments on climate change.

## **Private International Law (Implementation of Agreements) Bill**

*“Steps will be taken to provide certainty, stability and new opportunities for the financial services and legal sectors.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Maintain and strengthen the UK’s role as a world leader in delivering justice across borders on civil and family justice issues.
- Make it easier for UK individuals and families who become involved in international legal disputes to access justice.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Implementing key international agreements to ensure that after Brexit we continue to have clear and effective legal rules agreed between different countries.
- Helping families and businesses find efficient, predictable solutions to legal disputes that occur when businesses trade abroad or family relationships breakdown and parents move abroad.
- Giving the Government the power to implement other international agreements on Private International Law, establishing rules and procedures for the fast and fair resolution of cross-border disputes for UK individuals, families and businesses.
- Giving UK citizens greater confidence to live, work and trade internationally, further enhancing the UK’s status as a favoured place to resolve international civil, commercial and family disputes.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Clarifying in legislation the domestic implementation of three vital treaties in Private International Law. These are:
  - The 1996 Hague Convention which: enables cross-border cooperation on legal cases regarding parental responsibility and the protection of children.

- The 2005 Hague Convention which: ensures respect for clauses in commercial contracts under which the contracting parties agree which countries' courts will hear disputes. This gives businesses confidence about which court will hear their dispute, how it will be resolved and that their contracts will be enforced.
- The 2007 Hague Convention which: enables cross-border recognition and enforcement of family maintenance decisions, making it more difficult for parents legally obliged to pay maintenance to evade payment.
- Providing the power for the Government to implement international agreements on Private International Law. This will allow the UK to maintain its status as a world leader in facilitating international co-operation on civil justice issues.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill is intended to extend UK-wide, subject to engagement with the devolved administrations, where appropriate.

### **Key facts**

- Legal services contribute around £25 billion per annum to the UK economy.
- The UK accounts for around 6.5 per cent of global legal services fee revenue.
- 52 states participate in the 1996 Hague Convention including all EU member states, Australia, Switzerland and Norway.
- 31 states participate in the 2005 Hague Convention including all EU member states, Singapore and Mexico.
- 29 states participate in the 2007 Hague Convention including all EU member states (bar Denmark), the United States of America, Norway and Brazil.

## 2. SUPPORTING THE NHS

### NHS Long Term Plan

*“New laws will be taken forward to help implement the National Health Service’s Long Term Plan in England”*

- The Government has committed to a NHS multi-year funding settlement that will see a £33.9 billion per annum increase in the NHS budget by 2023-24.
- In September 2019 the NHS published a set of recommendations for legislation changes that would enable our NHS to go faster and further in realising the ambitions set out in the 10-year NHS Long Term Plan to improve integration, reduce bureaucracy and promote collaboration.
- We welcome the NHS’s leadership of this work, and all the input from people across the health and care system.
- This Government is committed to supporting the NHS Long Term Plan. We are considering the NHS’s recommendations thoroughly and will bring forward detailed proposals shortly.
- In due course, we will publish draft legislation that will accelerate the Long Term Plan for the NHS, transforming patient care and future-proofing our NHS.

#### Key facts

- In September the Government announced the Health Infrastructure Plan: the biggest, boldest hospital building programme in a generation. The Prime Minister set out his plan that “in the next ten years we will build 40 new hospitals in the biggest investment in hospital infrastructure for a generation.” Six new hospital schemes will start immediately, another 21 schemes have been given the green light to develop their plans.
- Government asked the NHS for input on what legislative change could help speed up the implementation of the Long Term Plan. On 26 September 2019, the NHS put forward its recommendations, which were endorsed by key leaders in the health and care system, including UNISON, the Local Government Association and the Royal College of Nursing.



- The Long Term Plan sets out how Government will improve the prevention, detection, treatment and recovery from major diseases, including cancer, heart attacks and strokes. In 10 years, 55,000 more people each year will survive cancer for at least five years and up to 150,000 heart attacks, strokes and dementia cases will have been prevented.

## **Health Service Safety Investigations Bill**

*“Legislation will be taken forward to ... establish an independent body to investigate serious healthcare incidents.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Establish the world’s first independent body to investigate patient safety concerns and share recommendations to prevent incidents occurring.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Transforming the way patient safety incidents in the NHS are investigated. Drawing on the approaches used in other safety-critical sectors, investigations by this new body would be independent and professionally led. Investigations would be for the purpose of learning and not attribute blame or find fault. This should prevent similar events happening again and improve safety in the NHS.
- Ensuring that enough medical examiners are appointed in England to carry out their functions identifying and deterring poor practice; and to monitor their performance.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Establishing the Health Service Safety Investigations Body as a new Executive Non-Departmental Public Body, with powers to conduct investigations into incidents that occur during the provision of NHS services and have, or may have, implications for the safety of patients.
- Prohibiting the disclosure of information held by the investigations body, except in limited circumstances. This will allow participants to be candid in the information they provide and ensure thorough investigations.
- Improving the quality and effectiveness of local investigations by developing standards and providing advice, guidance and training to organisations.
- Amending the Coroners and Justice Act 2009, giving English NHS bodies the power to appoint medical examiners and placing a duty on the Secretary of State to ensure that enough medical examiners are appointed in England.

## **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply in the main to England and Wales, with exception to one clause on data protection which also extends and applies to the whole of the UK.

## **Key facts**

- Patient harm is estimated to be among the top 10 leading causes of the global disease burden. The UK Government is leading a global effort to improve the safety of healthcare worldwide, securing commitment to global action on patient safety by all countries and the World Health Organisation.
- In July 2017, in a comparison of the top 11 healthcare systems worldwide, the Commonwealth Fund named the NHS as the safest healthcare system in the world.
- Around 20,000 serious NHS incidents are reported in England each year. Reporting of incidents is an essential part of the NHS's ability to learn and protect the safety of patients in the future.
- Large scale public inquiries cost the NHS millions and divert valuable NHS resources from frontline services. For example, the cost of the Francis inquiry, which examined the causes of the failings in care in Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust between 2005 and 2009, was £19.7 million.
- The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman has reported that in their assessment of the quality of NHS investigations, 40 per cent were not adequate at finding out what had happened.

## **Medicines and Medical Devices Bill**

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Ensure that the UK remains at the forefront of the global life sciences industry after Brexit, giving patients faster access to innovative medicines and supporting the growth of our domestic sector.
- Allow the UK to take a lead role in global research to find cures for rare diseases and improve treatments for patients around the world.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Making it simpler for NHS hospitals to manufacture and trial the most innovative medicines and diagnostic devices.
- Enabling the UK to be a world leader in the licensing and regulation of innovative medicines and devices, ensuring patients have access to the best possible treatments and supporting our domestic life sciences industry.
- Ensuring that we can update legislation relating to medical devices, medicines, veterinary medicines, new innovative practices and clinical trials both in response to patient safety concerns and as we agree the future global relationship of the UK in these areas.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Powers to remove unnecessary bureaucracy for the lowest risk clinical trials, encouraging the rapid introduction of new medicines.
- Ensuring patient safety by implementing a scheme to combat counterfeit medicines entering supply chains and a registration scheme for online sellers.
- Enabling Government to increase the range of professions able to prescribe low-risk medicines to make the most effective use of the NHS workforce, as well as developing more innovative ways of dispensing medicines, where recommended by scientific experts.
- Extending our global lead in personalised medicine and Artificial Intelligence in health. Our regulators, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency and the Veterinary Medicines Directorate, will be able to develop

innovative regulation to enable early access to cutting edge technologies and break new ground in complex clinical trials.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply to the whole of the UK. Human and veterinary medicines are reserved in the case of Scotland and Wales, but are devolved to Northern Ireland.

### **Key facts**

- The Life Sciences sector, encompassing pharmaceuticals, medical devices and medical technology, is worth over £74 billion per annum. The sector also employs close to 250,000 people.
- In 2018, there were more than 950 UK clinical trials of investigational medicinal products.
- We have created the Accelerated Access Collaborative to increase the use of 12 proven technologies and treatments within the NHS, which have the potential to benefit up to 500,000 patients and save the NHS up to £30 million.
- And we have launched not one, but two Life Science Sector Deals, which include over £500 million of Government funding and over £2 billion of industry investment leveraged through new partnerships and strategic commitments to secure the future of the UK's life sciences sector.
- In September the Prime Minister announced a £200 million investment programme to support the very best and most innovative life sciences companies. This is expected to leverage a further £400 million in private sector investment and will help ensure the UK life sciences sector remains dynamic and robust.

## Adult social care

*“My Government will bring forward proposals to reform adult social care in England to ensure dignity in old age.”*

- Putting social care on a sustainable footing is one of the biggest long-term challenges facing society.
- Government has given local authorities access to up to £3.9 billion more dedicated funding for adult social care this year, with a further £410 million made available for adults and children’s services.
- In the recent spending round, Government announced that councils will be provided with access to an additional £1 billion for adult and children’s social care next year.
- The Government will consult on a 2 per cent precept that will enable councils to access a further £500 million for adult social care. This funding will support local authorities to meet rising demand and will continue to stabilise the social care system.
- We will bring forward substantive proposals to fix the crisis in social care to give everyone the dignity and security they deserve. This will include setting out legislative requirements.

### Key facts

- Care costs are unpredictable and can be very high, which can make it difficult for people to prepare.
- A person aged 65 can expect to have care costs of around £40,000 on average over later life.
- Around one in ten people will have care costs of more than £100,000 before accommodation costs, while around one in four will have no costs at all.
- There is normally no way to predict whether that will be you and, unlike with the NHS, risk is not shared across society.
- This means many people risk spending the majority of the wealth for which they have worked hard to save. If they need care they will only get financial help with their costs when they have spent all but £23,350 of their life savings.

Most people are unprepared for this, because the reality of care costs is not widely understood.

- The number of people aged below 65 who have care needs is also growing. In 2017-18 over half of the public spending on adult social care was on those who are under 65, including people with learning and/or physical disabilities and mental ill health.
- The Better Care Fund is joining up the NHS and social care at a local level, with more money than ever – almost £6.5 billion in 2019-20, as well as £2 billion being pooled voluntarily last year– to make sure services are more joined up for patients.
- On 12 February, the Government launched a new national adult social care recruitment campaign ‘Every Day is Different’. This campaign aimed to raise the image and profile of the sector and encourage people with the right values to apply for current vacancies.
- The campaign has been successful in raising awareness of and interest in working in the sector, generating over 20,000 (14 per cent) more clicks on the ‘Apply’ button for relevant jobs on DWP Find a Job.
- The Government has announced £98 million of investment through the Healthy Ageing Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund to stimulate well-designed innovations that support people to enjoy active and independent lives for longer.

## **Mental health reform**

*“My Ministers will continue work to reform the Mental Health Act to improve respect for, and care of, those receiving treatment.”*

- In 2017, we commissioned the independent review of the Mental Health Act to look at: rising rates of detention; the disproportionate number of people from black and minority ethnic groups detained under the Act; and processes that are out of step with a modern mental health care system.
- The findings made clear that we need to modernise the Mental Health Act to ensure that patients’ views are respected, and that patients are not detained any more than is absolutely necessary.
- We will publish a White Paper by the end of this year, setting out our response. This will pave the way for reform to the Mental Health Act, and tackle issues addressed by the review.
- We will ensure that people subject to the Act receive better care and have a much greater say in that care.
- Patient choice and autonomy will be improved, for example by enabling patients to set out their preferences around care and treatment in advance.
- The process of detention, care and treatment while detained will be reformed, including by providing patients with the ability to challenge detention.

### **Key facts**

- Where the Mental Health Act is not working for people, we have already taken action. For example, we amended the Act in 2017 to move away from the use of police cells as places of safety – reducing their use by over 95 per cent since 2012.
- In 2017-18, there were 49,511 new detentions under the Mental Health Act.
- In 2018-19, the Government increased spending on mental health to a record £12.5 billion.



### **3. TACKLING VIOLENT CRIME AND STRENGTHENING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM**

#### **Sentencing Bill**

*“My Government is committed to addressing violent crime, and to strengthening public confidence in the criminal justice system. New sentencing laws will see that the most serious offenders spend longer in custody to reflect better the severity of their crimes.”*

#### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Ensure that the most serious violent and sexual offenders spend more time in prison to match the severity of their crimes.
- Tackle repeat and prolific offenders through robust community orders.

#### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Protecting the public and giving greater confidence to victims by ensuring that serious violent and sexual offenders who receive custodial sentences will spend more of their sentence in prison and are properly rehabilitated.
- Giving the public greater confidence that community sentences will be robust and flexible enough to punish offenders appropriately, while addressing offender needs where required.

#### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Changing the automatic release point from halfway to the two-thirds point for adult offenders serving sentences of four years or more for serious violent or sexual offences, bringing this in line with the earliest release point for those considered to be dangerous.
- Aligning how life tariffs are calculated with the extended release points for serious sexual and violent offenders.
- Extending the range of reasons where the starting point for the sentence in cases of murder is a whole life order.
- Making clear that judges must explain in their sentencing remarks what the sentence means for an offender’s release arrangements.

- Strengthening community orders, so they deliver an appropriate level of punishment, but also address offenders' behaviour, answer their mental health and alcohol or drug misuse needs, or provide reparation for the benefit of the wider community.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- Subject to the final provisions included, we would expect the Bill to extend and apply to England and Wales only, as sentencing is devolved to Scotland and Northern Ireland.

### **Key facts**

- In 2012 the Government introduced the Extended Determinate Sentence as a robust new sentence for serious sexual and violent offenders assessed by the court to be dangerous. These offenders become eligible to be considered for release by the Parole Board from the two-thirds point but can serve the full term in prison if not assessed to be safe to release earlier. The custodial term is followed by an extended period on licence for on-going public protection (of up to eight years for sex offenders and five years for violent offenders).
- Offenders sentenced to standard determinate sentences must be automatically released at the halfway point of the sentence, as introduced under section 244 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003, and serve the remainder of the sentence on licence in the community (unless recalled for breaching their conditions).
- The vast majority of offenders who are sentenced for serious sexual and violent offences which carry a maximum life sentence receive a Standard Determinate Sentence.
- In 2018, there were over 3,000 Standard Determinate Sentences imposed for sexual violent offences which carry a maximum penalty of life. There were around 250 Extended Determinate Sentences and 400 life sentences for such offences.
- In 2018, 77 per cent of adult offenders sentenced for rape and 70 per cent of adults sentenced for wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm received a standard determinate sentence.

## **Foreign National Offenders Bill**

*“Measures will be introduced to improve the justice system’s response to foreign national offenders.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Enhance our ability to deal effectively with foreign national offenders (FNOs).

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Disrupting the activities of increasingly mobile and sophisticated organised criminal networks which facilitate the illegal return of foreign national offenders.
- Deterring foreign criminals from returning to the UK.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Increasing the maximum penalty for foreign national offenders who return to the UK in breach of a deportation order.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill’s provisions would extend and apply across the UK. Immigration is a reserved matter.

### **Key facts**

- Foreign nationals who abuse our hospitality by committing crimes in the UK should be in no doubt of our determination to deport them.
- The Government has removed almost 50,000 foreign national offenders since the start of the financial year 2010-11.
- We removed 5,322 foreign national offenders in the last financial year (2018-19), of whom 3,633 were EEA foreign national offenders. This includes over 2,000 FNOs removed directly from prison under the Early Removal Scheme.
- In 2017-18 the Government removed 5,977 foreign national offenders.

## Victims

*“Proposals will be brought forward to ensure that victims receive the support they need and the justice they deserve.”*

- How victims of crime are subsequently treated within the justice system can make a huge difference in helping them to recover.
- The Government is accelerating plans to enshrine in legislation the support victims are entitled to – with a new Victims’ Law to be consulted on early in 2020.
- A revised Victims’ Code which will clearly set out the minimum level of service victims can expect from criminal justice agencies – will also be published in early 2020.
- This follows commitments made in the first-ever cross-Government Victims’ Strategy to improve the support on offer at every stage of the criminal justice system.
- These changes will ensure that victims of crime receive the very best support, as well as the information they need, at every stage of the criminal justice system.
- The main elements of the measures to be taken forward are to:
  - Strengthen the Victims’ Code so that it keeps pace with the changing nature of victims’ needs and addresses the complexity and accessibility of the criminal justice system.
  - Explore increasing the powers of the Victims’ Commissioner so that they can better hold Government to account.
- In addition to these measures, we are enhancing protections for victims of domestic abuse and where offenders cause additional distress to victims by not disclosing certain details about their offences, we will ensure that this is considered by the Parole Board as part of their assessment as to whether that offender should be released.

## Key facts

- The latest Crime Survey of England and Wales suggests 1 in 5 adults experienced crime in the year ending March 2018.
- Only 18 per cent of victims were aware of the Victims' Code in the year ending March 2017. We are working to address the lack of awareness of their rights among victims.
- Only 15 per cent of victims recalled being given the opportunity by the police to make a Victim Personal Statement in the year ending March 2017.

## **Prisoners (Disclosure of Information About Victims) Bill**

*“Laws will be introduced to ensure that the parole system recognises the pain to victims and their families caused by offenders refusing to disclose information relating to their crimes.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Ensure that where an offender, who has been convicted of murder, manslaughter or taking indecent photographs of children does not disclose certain details about their offences, causing additional distress to victims and their families, this is considered by the Parole Board.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Putting in statute the Parole Board’s established practice of considering a failure by an offender to disclose specific information when deciding on parole. This would be for those convicted of murder, manslaughter, or taking, or making, indecent photographs of children.
- Making this established practice a legal obligation so families and victims will know that such issues must be taken into account as part of the Parole Board release process.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Amending the life sentence and the extended determinate sentence release test to direct the Parole Board to take into account circumstances where an offender, who has been convicted of murder or manslaughter, has not disclosed the location of a victim’s remains.
- Amending the extended determinate sentence release test to direct the Parole Board to take into account circumstances where an offender, who has been convicted of taking or making indecent photographs of children, has not disclosed the identities of the child or children in the image.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply in the main to England and Wales only.

- Prisons and sentencing (including release provisions) are devolved to Scotland and Northern Ireland.

### **Key facts**

- The first measure of this Bill is a version of 'Helen's Law', which has been the subject of a campaign by Marie McCourt. Her daughter, Helen, was murdered by Ian Simms in 1988 and her body has never been found.
- The Parole Board already has internal guidance which advises panel members to consider any failure or refusal by an offender to disclose the whereabouts of a victim's remains information when assessing release. The Bill makes this a statutory requirement.

## **Serious Violence Bill**

*“A new duty will be placed on public sector bodies, ensuring they work together to address serious violence.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Create a new duty on a range of specified agencies across different sectors, such as local government, education, social services, youth offending, and health and probation, to work collaboratively, share data and information, and put in place plans to prevent serious violence.
- Amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships, which include local police, fire and probation services, as well as local authorities and wider public services.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Identifying solutions to tackle the root causes of violent crime through a multi-agency approach by placing an emphasis on intervention with young people and acknowledging that law enforcement alone cannot tackle violence.
- Complementing the Government’s investment in Violence Reduction Units in the areas most affected by serious violence by ensuring that agencies work effectively together.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Placing a duty on relevant public agencies and bodies to prevent and reduce serious violence.
- Providing sufficient flexibility so that the relevant organisations will engage and work together in the most effective local partnership for any given area, whether that be a Community Safety Partnership or other multi-agency partnership such as local safeguarding arrangements. The legislation will enable statutory guidance that will set out the likely implications on a sector-by-sector basis.
- Amending section 6(1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which sets out the strategies Community Safety Partnerships must formulate and implement, to explicitly include serious violence.



## **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply to England and Wales.

## **Key facts**

- In 2018 the Government published the Serious Violence Strategy to address serious violence and in particular the recent increases in knife crime, gun crime and homicide. The Serious Violence Strategy made 61 commitments which we have made progress in delivering.
- On 26 July, the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary announced plans to recruit an additional 20,000 police officers over the next three years – the biggest police recruitment drive in decades. The Government announced funding to support the recruitment of the first wave of up to 6,000 additional officers by the end of financial year 2020-21.
- There were 701 homicides in the 12 months ending March 2019, a 4 per cent fall (from 728) compared with the previous year. This is the first fall in the number of homicides since 2014. The rate of homicide remains very low, at 12 homicides per 1 million people. However, excluding terrorist attacks in London and Manchester, the number of homicides has increased by 1 per cent (a volume rise of 8 homicides).
- The measures will complement the Government's wider response to serious violence, including the investment of £35 million of the Serious Violence Fund in Violence Reduction Units. These Units will operate in the areas most affected by serious violence to tackle the root causes of serious violence by ensuring that local agencies work effectively together.

## **Police Protections Bill**

*“Police officers will be provided with the protections they need to keep the population safe.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Recognise the bravery, commitment and sacrifices of police officers and ensure they are able to fully conduct their duties by providing them with additional support and protection.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Establishing a Police Covenant on a statutory footing, protecting police officers and ensuring that Parliament has the opportunity to scrutinise progress made against the Covenant.
- Allowing special constables access to the representation and support afforded to Police Federation members, for example when a special constable faces disciplinary proceedings.
- Providing assurance to highly trained police officers that their enhanced driving skills will be taken into account should there be any investigations into the way they responded to emergencies or pursued offenders in the course of their duties, and thereby to ensure they have the confidence to catch offenders using vehicles and to protect the public.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- A statutory requirement for the Home Office to report annually on progress made against the Police Covenant.
- Measures to allow special constables (fully warranted volunteer police officers) to join the Police Federation so that they can benefit from the additional protection and support afforded to members.
- A new test to assess a police officer’s standard of driving, so this can be taken into account in any investigations into their actions.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill’s provisions would extend and apply to England and Wales.

- Only provisions related to introducing a new driving standards test for police officers are relevant to Scotland (as road safety framework legislation is reserved and extends across Great Britain).

### **Key facts**

- The Government is committed to recruiting an additional 20,000 police officers over the next three years, with £750 million being provided in 2020-21 to make this happen.
- There are currently 10,640 special constables in England and Wales (excluding the British Transport Police). Special constables are fully warranted volunteer police officers and are becoming involved in an increasing range of specialist roles within policing.
- A 2017 survey of special constables (led by the National Police Chiefs' Council) indicated that nearly 9 out of 10 special constables feel that regular paid officers are currently better supported if an issue arises.
- The number of police pursuits authorised during 2016-17 was approximately 10,000, with around 500,000 police response drives. 97 independent investigations into road traffic incidents were completed between 1 April 2012 and 30 September 2017. As a result of these investigations, two officers were prosecuted for pursuit related incidents and five were prosecuted following investigations into emergency response driving.

## **Extradition (Provisional Arrest) Bill**

*“Police officers ... will also be awarded the power to arrest individuals who are wanted by trusted international partners.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Give police officers the powers they need to tackle transnational crime and pursue international criminals, making sure they cannot evade justice or harm the public.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Helping the police as they work to keep the public safe.
- Enabling a police officer to arrest someone they know is wanted for a serious crime that took place in a trusted country outside the UK, without having to apply to a court for a warrant first.
- Putting a person wanted for a serious crime committed in a trusted country on the same footing as someone who committed an offence in the UK.
- Preserving the role of the courts in extradition proceedings, which will be unaffected by this Bill. A wanted person will still be brought before the court within 24 hours of their arrest. But the current risk of absconding during the period between being encountered by the police and applying to the court for a warrant will be eliminated.
- In the event that the UK no longer had access to the European Arrest Warrant after leaving the EU, the Bill would replicate the immediate power of arrest currently available in respect of persons wanted by EU Member States when a European Arrest Warrant has been issued.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- A new power to enable the immediate arrest of a fugitive wanted by trusted partners whose Red Notices and criminal justice systems we know we can trust.
- The power will only apply where a serious offence has been committed and the suspected person would pose a risk to the public if at large in the UK. It will also only be available where an international arrest alert (such as an

Interpol Red Notice) has been certified, which means the National Crime Agency have confirmed that it has been issued in relation to a serious offence and is from a 'trusted' country.

- The power to add countries to the list of trusted countries at any point, subject to parliamentary approval, if it is considered that there is a good reason to do so.
- In the event that the UK is unable to use the European Arrest Warrant, this Bill could be used to designate EU countries, to mitigating the loss of the immediate power of arrest currently provided by the European Arrest Warrant.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply across the UK. Extradition policy is a reserved matter.

### **Key facts**

- The legislation will contain safeguards to ensure that the power is only used in relation to wanted notices issued by trusted countries and for serious offences. Those countries that will be designated as trusted must have robust criminal justice systems. Parliament will have the opportunity to scrutinise the criteria that would allow a country to be designated as trusted, as well as approve the list of such countries.
- Many like-minded countries already provide the ability for the police to arrest on the basis of an Interpol alerts (i.e. "Red Notices" and "wanted diffusions").

## **Sentencing (Pre-consolidation Amendments) Bill**

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Make technical changes to the law, paving the way for the Law Commission's Sentencing Code which will consolidate the law on sentencing procedure in England and Wales. This will assist judges and legal professionals in identifying and applying the law and help the public to better understand the sentencing process.

### **The main benefit of the Bill would be:**

- Increasing trust, transparency and efficiency across the criminal justice system, by bringing greater clarity to sentencing law, reducing errors and delays.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Introducing a technical device called the 'clean sweep' which will allow judges to apply the new Sentencing Code to all sentencing decisions, even when the offending took place in the past. Courts currently have to establish which provisions apply for each particular offender, depending when the offence was committed. This is a complex exercise which can lead to error and unlawful sentences being passed.
- Amending existing legislation that will be consolidated by the Sentencing Code, via "pre-consolidation amendments". These pre-consolidation amendments to the law are generally limited to correcting minor errors and streamlining sentencing procedural law, so that it can be consolidated in the Sentencing Code.
- Neither this Bill nor the Sentencing Code introduce any new sentencing law, or alter the maximum penalties available for an offence. The substantive reforms which will form the Sentencing Bill are distinct from the important task of making sure that sentencing procedural law is clear and accessible to those that need to use it.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply in the main to England and Wales, with schedule 2 in part applying to Scotland and Northern Ireland (but

where a provision in the Bill amends an existing legislative provision, it has the same extent within the UK as the provision it amends).

## Key facts

- A 2012 analysis of 262 randomly selected cases in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) found that 95 (38 per cent) of those cases involved unlawful sentences i.e. the type of sentence imposed was simply wrong in law.
- A study by the Criminal Appeal Office of 52 cases listed in the week commencing 24 June 2019 found that 14 (27 per cent) of the sentences contained some unlawful element.
- In 2014, the coalition government agreed that the Law Commission should undertake a project designed to consolidate the law relating to sentencing procedure. The Law Commission published its final report on the Sentencing Code project alongside a draft Sentencing Code Bill and an earlier draft of the Sentencing (Pre-consolidation Amendments) Bill in November 2018.
- The Bill was introduced in, and carried over from, the first session as a Law Commission Bill, which is a Bill which purely gives effect to Law Commission recommendations and is subject to a special parliamentary procedure.
- The Sentencing Code is a consolidation of legislation governing sentencing procedure in England and Wales. It aims to ensure that the law relating to sentencing procedure is readily comprehensible and operates within a clear framework as efficiently as possible. It will provide the courts with a point of reference which can be amended and adapted to changing needs.
- Pre-consolidation amendments are a standard feature of Bills that enable consolidation to take place. They are limited to those which facilitate the consolidation or are otherwise desirable, in that they clarify and/or streamline provisions in connection with the consolidation in the Sentencing Code.

## **4. ENSURING FAIRNESS AND PROTECTION FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES**

### **Domestic Abuse Bill**

*“Legislation will transform the approach of the justice system and other agencies to victims of domestic abuse”*

#### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Transform the response to domestic abuse to better protect victims and their children, ensuring they have the support they need and that offenders are brought to justice.

#### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Changing the justice system so it better serves victims of domestic abuse.
- Reducing offending and re-offending.
- Strengthening the support for victims and their children provided by local authorities and other statutory agencies.

#### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Creating a statutory definition of domestic abuse, emphasising that domestic abuse is not just physical violence, but can also be emotional, coercive or controlling, and economic abuse.
- Establishing in law the Domestic Abuse Commissioner to stand up for victims and survivors, raise public awareness, monitor the response of local authorities, the justice system and other statutory agencies and hold them to account in tackling domestic abuse.
- Providing for a new Domestic Abuse Protection Notice and Domestic Abuse Protection Order.
- Creating a new domestic abuse offence in Northern Ireland to criminalise controlling or coercive behaviour.



- Creating a statutory presumption that victims of domestic abuse are eligible for special measures in the criminal courts (for example, to enable them to give evidence via a video link).
- Placing the guidance supporting the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (“Clare’s Law”) on a statutory footing.
- Prohibiting perpetrators of abuse from cross-examining their victims in person in the family courts.
- Extending the extra-territorial jurisdiction of the UK courts so that, where appropriate, UK nationals and residents who commit certain violent and sexual offences outside the UK may be brought to trial in the UK.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply in the main to England and Wales, with a single provision applying to England only.
- Some provisions will extend and apply to Scotland or Northern Ireland.

### **Key facts**

- The offence of controlling or coercive behaviour in an intimate or family relationship was introduced in 2015. In 2018-19, 1,177 such offences were charged and reached a first hearing; an increase from 960 in 2017-18.
- In the year ending March 2018, an estimated 2 million adults aged 16 to 59 experienced domestic abuse (1.3 million women and 695,000 men).
- In the year ending March 2019, there was an increase in the total number of domestic abuse-related offences recorded by the police (up 22 per cent to 732,444). This rising trend is thought to reflect factors related to reporting and recording and does not provide a reliable indication of current trends.
- For the year ending March 2017, the cost of domestic abuse for victims was estimated to be approximately £66 billion in England and Wales (this includes physical and emotional harms, lost output, health services and police costs).
- On 18 September 2019, Nicole Jacobs (former CEO of Standing Together Against Domestic Violence) was appointed as Designate Domestic Abuse Commissioner.



## **Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill**

*“Legislation will ... minimise the impact of divorce, particularly on children.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Remove issues that create conflict within the divorce process and introduce a minimum timeframe before the court makes a conditional divorce order so that couples are encouraged to be as constructive as possible.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Ensuring that the decision to divorce is a considered one, and reducing family conflict where reconciliation is not possible and divorce is inevitable.
- Bringing long-overdue reform that will directly benefit families by supporting the parties to focus on the future rather than raking over allegations about the past.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Retaining the sole ground of irretrievable breakdown, but replacing the requirement to make an allegation about the other spouse’s conduct or demonstrate a period of separation with the requirement to state to the court that the marriage has irretrievably broken down.
- Removing the possibility of contesting the decision to divorce.
- Introducing a new minimum period of 20 weeks between the start of proceedings and applying for the conditional order (the six-week period between conditional and final order – currently called decree nisi and decree absolute – will remain).
- Introducing a new option for a joint application in cases where the decision to divorce is a mutual one.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply to England and Wales, with some consequential effects on Scotland and Northern Ireland.

- Civil law is reserved in the case of Wales, but devolved to Scotland and Northern Ireland.

### **Key facts**

- People applying for a divorce must currently have been separated for at least two years or otherwise make allegations about their spouse's conduct. Around three out of five divorce applications are based on allegations about the respondent's behaviour or adultery.
- Only around 2 per cent of respondents contest the divorce application. Of these 2 per cent of respondents, only a handful go on to contest ("defend") the divorce at a court hearing.
- Between 2011 and 2018, around two thirds of cases reached conditional decree within our proposed minimum of 20 weeks. This includes approximately one in ten cases within 8 weeks, and four in ten cases between 9 and 16 weeks.
- In 2018, the court received 118,141 petitions for divorce.
- The Government is committed to reducing the levels of harmful conflict between parents – whether the parents are together or have separated – through the £39 million Reducing Parental Conflict programme.

## Online harms

*“My Ministers will continue to develop proposals to improve internet safety”*

- Britain is leading the world in developing a comprehensive regulatory regime to keep people safe online, protect children and other vulnerable users and ensure that there are no safe spaces for terrorists online.
- The April 2019 Online Harms White Paper set out the Government’s plan for world-leading legislation to make the UK the safest place in the world to be online.
- The proposals, as set out in the White Paper were:
  - A new duty of care on companies towards their users, with an independent regulator to oversee this framework.
  - We want to keep people safe online, but we want to do this in a proportionate way, ensuring that freedom of expression is upheld and promoted online, and businesses do not face undue burdens.
  - We are seeking to do this by ensuring that companies have the right processes and systems in place to fulfil their obligations, rather than penalising them for individual instances of unacceptable content.
  - Our public consultation on this has closed and we are analysing the responses and considering the issues raised. We are working closely with a variety of stakeholders, including technology companies and civil society groups, to understand their views.
- We are seeking to do this by ensuring that companies have the right processes and systems in place to fulfil their obligations, rather than penalising them for individual instances of unacceptable content.
- Our public consultation on this has closed and we are analysing the responses and considering the issues raised. We are working closely with a variety of stakeholders, including technology companies and civil society groups, to understand their views.
- Next steps:
  - We will publish draft legislation for pre-legislative scrutiny.

- Ahead of this legislation, the Government will publish work on tackling the use of the internet by terrorists and those engaged in child sexual abuse and exploitation, to ensure companies take action now to tackle content that threatens our national security and the physical safety of children.
- We are also taking forward additional measures, including a media literacy strategy, to empower users to stay safe online. A Safety by Design framework will help start-ups and small businesses to embed safety during the development or update of their products and services.

## **Key facts**

- There is a growing threat presented from online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. In 2018, there were over 18.4 million referrals of child sexual abuse material by US tech companies to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Of those, there were 113,948 UK related referrals, up from 82,109 in 2017.
- Terrorists also continue to use online services to spread their vile propaganda and mobilise support. All five terrorist attacks in the UK during 2017 had an online element.
- There is majority support among adult internet users for increased regulation of social media (70 per cent), video sharing (64 per cent) and Instant Messaging services (61 per cent).
- When asked, 83 per cent of adults expressed concern about harms to children on the internet. Of greatest concern was bullying, abusive behaviour or threats (55 per cent) and children's exposure to inappropriate content, including pornography, (49 per cent).
- What we have done so far:
  - The joint DCMS-Home Office Online Harms White Paper was published in April 2019. We also published the Social Media Code of Practice setting out actions social media platforms should take to prevent bullying, insulting, intimidating and humiliating behaviours on their sites.

- In November 2018 the Government established a new UK Council for Internet Safety. This expanded the scope of the UK Council for Child Internet Safety, and was guided by the Government's Internet Safety Strategy.
- The UK has been championing international action on online safety.. The Prime Minister used his speech at the United Nations General Assembly to champion the UK's work on online safety.

## **Employment (Allocation of Tips) Bill**

*“My Government will take steps to make work fairer, introducing measures that will support those working hard.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Promote fairness for workers by creating legal obligations on employers to pass on all tips to workers in full and, where they distribute tips amongst workers, to do so on a fair and transparent basis.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Supporting workers that supplement their wages with tips, contributing to the Government’s overarching objective that every worker is rewarded fairly for their work.
- Increasing transparency in the rules for workers and employers relating to the distribution of tips.
- Creating consistency for businesses who already distribute and pass on tips to workers in a fair and transparent way.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- A legal obligation on employers to pass on all tips, gratuities and service charges to workers without any deductions.
- A legal obligation on employers to distribute tips in a fair and transparent manner, where employers have control or significant influence over the distribution of tips.
- The requirement for an employer to follow a statutory Code of Practice when distributing tips. The Code will set out the principles of fair and transparent distribution of tips.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill would extend and apply to England, Wales and Scotland.
- Employment law is a reserved matter for Scotland and Wales, but is devolved to Northern Ireland.



## Key facts

- In some sectors, tips, gratuities and service charges can be a significant part of staff income.
- Most employers already pass on tips to the staff who earn them. However, a minority of employers exploit their staff by retaining the tips they earn.
- The Government found strong evidence of unfair tipping practices through the 2015 Call for Evidence and 2016 consultation on tips, gratuities, cover and service charges. At this time (2016), evidence found that around two-thirds of employers in hospitality were making deductions from staff tips, in some cases of around 10 per cent.
- Through the Consultation on Tips, Gratuities, Cover and Service Charges, over two-thirds of respondents advocated that tips belong to staff and employers should not be involved.
- Unfair tipping practices could become more entrenched as consumers increasingly pay tips on card via employers, rather than in cash directly to the workers. Our estimates suggest that nearly 80 per cent of tips are now made on card.
- The Bill would benefit over a million workers, many of whom earn the National Minimum Wage or National Living Wage.

## Employment reform

*“My Government will take steps to make work fairer, introducing measures that will support those working hard.”*

- We will continue to deliver on the commitments set out in the Good Work Plan.
- This will ensure our employment practices keep pace with modern ways of working and productivity is enhanced. Workers will have access to the rights and protections they deserve.
- Our reforms will create consistency for all UK businesses by protecting the majority who strive to do the right thing from being undercut by a small minority who seek to circumvent the law.
- We will increase fairness and flexibility in the labour market by stopping employers and workers experiencing significantly different outcomes from flexible forms of working.
- We will strengthen workers’ ability to get redress for poor treatment, including by improving the enforcement system, and increase transparency and clarity for workers and employers, taking account of modern working relationships.
- We remain committed to giving better support to working families and taking further steps to promote workplace participation for all.
- The Chancellor has announced the intention to increase the National Living Wage to two-thirds of median hourly earnings and to lower the age threshold for those who qualify from 25 to 21 within the next 5 years, benefitting 4 million people. The Government will set out further details at the next Budget.

### Key facts

- Employment rates in the UK are at a record high and unemployment is at its lowest level since 1974. Economic participation is also at a record high, demonstrating that our flexible labour market is working.
- This Government is committed to going even further. The Taylor Review, led by Matthew Taylor, was an independent review of modern working practices in the UK, and was published in July 2017 following a commission from the Government.

- In 2018 we published the Good Work Plan, which set out how we would implement the vast majority of Matthew Taylor's recommendations and a vision for the future of the UK labour market.

## **Pension Schemes Bill**

*“To help people plan for the future, measures will be brought forward to provide simpler oversight of pensions savings. To protect people’s savings for later life, new laws will provide greater powers to tackle irresponsible management of private pension schemes.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Support pension saving in the 21st century, putting protection of people’s pension at its heart.
- Create a legislative framework for the introduction of pensions dashboards to allow people to access their information from most pensions schemes in one place online for the first time.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Providing more options for employers to support their employees, including saving collectively and sharing investment and mortality risk.
- Enhancing the Pensions Regulator’s powers so they can respond earlier when employers do not take their pension responsibilities seriously, including taking tougher action against those who recklessly risk peoples’ pension benefits, building greater trust for saving in pensions.
- Improving advice for savers so they can prepare for retirement with confidence.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Providing a framework for the establishment, operation and regulation of collective money purchase schemes (commonly known as Collective Defined Contribution pensions).
- Strengthening the Pensions Regulator’s powers and the existing sanctions regime. This will include introducing new criminal offences, with the most serious carrying a maximum sentence of seven years’ imprisonment and a civil penalty of up to £1 million.

- Giving the Regulator powers to obtain the right information about a scheme and its sponsoring employer in a timely manner, ensuring that it is able to gain redress for pension schemes and members when things go wrong.
- Providing a framework to support pensions dashboards, including new powers to compel pension schemes to provide accurate information to consumers. This will include provisions for the Regulators to ensure relevant schemes comply.
- Creating regulations to set out circumstances under which a pension scheme member will have the right to transfer their pension savings to another scheme.
- Improving the defined benefit scheme funding system by requiring a statement from trustees on their funding strategy.
- Amending the legislation for the Pension Protection Fund compensation regime to enable the Fund to continue to apply the compensation regime as intended and amend the definition of administration charges.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply to the whole of the UK.
- Pensions policy is reserved in Scotland and Wales, but devolved to Northern Ireland.

### **Key facts**

- Automatic enrolment was introduced in October 2012 and has boosted the pension prospects of 10 million people in just 6 years.
- The Pensions Regulator and Scheme Funding measures are designed to protect millions of members of private sector defined benefit schemes, as well as approximately £1.5 trillion held in them. To put this in context, £1.5 trillion is equal to roughly three quarters of the UK's annual GDP.
- As individuals move through the labour market, they build up multiple private pension pots depending on how many jobs they have over their lifetime. The Department for Work and Pensions have estimated the average person could have 11 jobs over a lifetime.

- The Pensions Regulator estimated there were 100,000 transfers out of defined contribution schemes in 2017-18. This indicates the volumes of transfers that could potentially be at risk of being scammed, and why the transfer measure in the Bill is so important.

## **National security and investment legislation**

### **The purpose of the legislation is to:**

- Strengthen the Government's existing powers to scrutinise and intervene in business transactions (takeovers and mergers) to protect national security.
- Provide businesses and investors with the certainty and transparency they need to do business in the UK.

### **The main benefits of the legislation would be:**

- Protecting our national security while ensuring the UK remains a global champion of free trade and investment.
- Upgrading Government's existing powers to scrutinise investments and consider the risks that can arise from hostile parties acquiring ownership of, or control over, businesses or other entities and assets that have national security implications.
- Introducing measures to ensure that hostile parties or groups cannot circumvent our rules on a technicality by acquiring an asset rather than acquiring the business itself.
- Enhancing transparency for business, which is good for growth, ensuring that the UK remains one of the most open countries in the world for innovative and dynamic investment.

### **The main elements of the legislation are:**

- A notification system, allowing businesses to flag transactions with potential security concerns to Government for quick, efficient screening.
- Powers to mitigate risks to national security – by adding conditions to a transaction or blocking as a last resort plus sanctions for non-compliance with the regime.
- A safeguarding mechanism for parties to appeal where necessary.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The legislation's provisions would extend and apply across the UK. National security and the defence of the realm is a reserved matter.

### **Key facts**

- The UK has a proud and hard-won reputation as one of the most open economies in the world. We remain the top destination in Europe and third in the world for foreign direct investment.
- A large part of our economic success stems from our belief in open international trade and our support for foreign direct investment. 58,000 new jobs were created in the UK through inward investment in 2018-19.
- The Bill will upgrade the Government's powers to assess transactions that may give rise to national security risks. The new power would be economy-wide ie all sectors and apply to businesses of any size, reflecting the need for flexibility to address national security risks wherever they arise.
- Updating our powers is consistent with many of our major partners and allies around the world, including countries such as Australia, Japan, Germany, and the United States of America.
- The vast majority of transactions raise no national security concerns and the Government expects to quickly rule out national security risks in most cases, allowing parties to proceed with certainty.
- There have been 10 public interest interventions on national security grounds since 2002.



## **Windrush Compensation Scheme (Expenditure) Bill**

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Ensure the Windrush Compensation Scheme is underpinned by the necessary parliamentary authority.

### **The main benefit of the Bill would be:**

- To right the wrongs suffered by the Windrush generation.

### **The main element of the Bill is:**

- Providing authority for the Windrush Compensation Scheme which was launched by the Home Office on 3 April 2019. The Scheme provides compensation for the Windrush generation in recognition of difficulties arising out of an inability to demonstrate lawful immigration status.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply across the UK. Immigration is a reserved matter.

### **Key facts**

- The Home Office launched the Windrush Compensation Scheme on 3 April 2019.
- On 4 July 2019, the former Home Secretary issued a Ministerial Direction to allow payments to be made as an interim solution in the meantime ahead of bringing forward primary legislation.
- In designing the scheme we have given due regard to ensuring it is fair and that members of the Windrush generation are properly compensated.
- The baseline estimate from the Home Office is that the cost will be approximately £200 million.
- The Home Office's planning assumptions are based on there being 15,000 eligible claimants.

## **Building safety standards legislation**

*“My Ministers will ... bring forward laws to implement new building safety standards.”*

### **The purpose of the legislation is to:**

- Put in place new and modernised regulatory regimes for building safety and construction products, ensuring residents have a stronger voice in the system.

### **The main benefits of the legislation would be:**

- Learning the lessons from the Grenfell Tower fire and bringing about a fundamental change in the regulatory framework for high rise residential buildings, and the industry culture to ensure accountability and responsibility.
- Making sure that residents are safe in their homes.

### **The main elements of the legislation are:**

- A new safety framework for high-rise residential buildings, taking forward the recommendations from Dame Judith Hackitt’s independent review of building safety, and in some areas going further by:
  - Providing clearer accountability for, and stronger duties on, those responsible for the safety of high-rise buildings throughout the building’s design, construction and occupation, with clear competence requirements to ensure high standards are upheld.
  - Giving residents a stronger voice in the system, ensuring their concerns are never ignored and they fully understand how they can contribute to maintaining safety in their buildings.
  - Strengthening enforcement and sanctions to deter non-compliance with the new regime in order to hold the right people to account when mistakes are made and ensure they are not repeated.
  - Developing a new stronger and clearer framework to provide national oversight of construction products, to ensure all products meet high performance standards.

- Developing a new system to oversee the whole built environment, with local enforcement agencies and national regulators working together to ensure that the safety of all buildings is improved.
- We are also legislating to require that developers of new build homes must belong to a New Homes Ombudsman.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The legislation's provisions would in the main apply to England only, however the Bill will have UK wide scope as oversight of construction products is reserved.

### **Key facts**

- Dame Judith Hackitt's independent review found that that the current regulatory system is not fit for purpose in relation to high-rise and complex buildings. We are taking forward all 53 of Dame Judith's recommendations and in some areas going further.
- In the recent Government consultation, we estimated that this new regime will apply to over 11,000 high rise buildings, rising to almost 15,000 buildings within 10 years. This estimate will be refined as the detail of the measures is finalised and a full impact assessment is completed.
- Since the fire at Grenfell, we have taken forward a wide range of improvements that have not required legislation, including:
  - Identifying over 400 high rise buildings with unsafe Aluminium Composite Material cladding, like the type used on Grenfell Tower, and working with local authorities and fire and rescue authorities to ensure that appropriate interim safety measures are in place.
  - Making £600 million funding available for the replacement of unsafe ACM cladding on high-rise residential homes in the social and private sectors. The private sector remediation fund was launched on 12 September 2019.
  - Providing further funding for tailored building checks and inspections on all high-risk residential buildings in England by 2021, backed by £10 million per year of new funding.

- Laying regulations and guidance to ban the use of combustible materials during building work on the external walls of new buildings over 18 metres containing flats, as well as new hospitals, residential care premises, dormitories in boarding schools and student accommodation over 18 metres.
- Making expert advice available to building owners on a range of other safety risks, and issuing amended guidance to restrict the use of assessments in lieu of tests (also known as desktop studies).
- Consulting on a clarified version of the Building Regulations' fire safety guidance (Approved Document B) and issuing a call for evidence as the first step in a full technical review of the guidance.
- Consulting on changes to the Building Regulations guidance on fire safety, primarily lowering the height threshold for sprinklers.
- Inviting views on how residents are supported to meet their safety responsibilities, and launching the Social Sector (Building Safety) Engagement Best Practice Group, to develop better ways to engage residents in keeping their buildings safe.
- Commissioning research to support further understanding of the fire performance of non-ACM external wall systems.

## 5. 'LEVELLING UP' OPPORTUNITY THROUGH BETTER INFRASTRUCTURE, EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

### Education funding

*“My Ministers will ensure that all young people have access to an excellent education, unlocking their full potential and preparing them for the world of work.”*

- A great education is fundamental to the success of children, their families and our communities, as well as the success of our country. Talent is evenly distributed, and we must also ensure that every child has equal opportunities through improved education.
- That is why we are giving schools a multi-billion pound boost, investing a total of £14 billion more over three years, so the core schools budget will be £7.1 billion higher in 2022-23 compared to this year.
- This will mean that every school has more money for every child and we will level up minimum per-pupil funding for primary schools to £4,000 and secondary schools to £5,000, while making sure per-pupil funding for all schools can rise at least with inflation.
- We will move towards delivering this funding directly to schools, through a single national formula, so that it is fair and equitable for every school in the country.
- We will also continue to expand the successful free schools programme, promoting choice, innovation and higher standards to kick-start wider improvement.
- We want to bring renewed focus to further and technical education, and will ensure our post-16 education system is well funded and organised in a way that enables young people and adults to gain the skills required for success and to help the economy.
- This means an extra £400 million for 16-19 year-old education next year, an increase of 7 per cent overall in 16-19 year-old funding and the biggest injection of new money in a single year since 2010.
- This will enable further education colleges and school sixth forms to strengthen their provision. It will also include additional investment in T

Levels, supporting continued preparation for these courses and the initial delivery from September 2020.

- This means that funding is increasing even faster for 16-19 year-old education than for 5-16 year-old education.
- We are committed to making sure that higher education funding reflects a sustainable model that supports high quality provision, maintaining our world-leading reputation for higher education and delivering value for money for both students and the taxpayer.
- We want to ensure we deliver better value for students in post-18 education, have more options that offer the right education for each individual, and provide the best access for disadvantaged young people.

### **Key facts**

- In 2020-21 school funding will increase by 5 per cent overall compared to in 2019-20 – with the lowest-funded schools seeing higher gains.
- As part of this investment, we are providing £780 million of additional funding for complex special educational needs specifically next year a 12 per cent increase.
- Secondary free schools are amongst some of the highest performing state-funded schools in the country. In 2018, four of the top 10 Progress 8 scores for state-funded schools in England were achieved by free schools.
- There are over 3 million learners in Further Education, with around 1.75 million learning in Further Education Colleges, Sixth Form Colleges or Special Colleges.
- A record proportion of 16 and 17 year olds are participating in education or apprenticeships.
- We are undertaking a review of post-18 education to ensure we have a joined-up education system that is accessible to all and encourages the development of the skills we need as a country.
- In 2018, the proportion of English 18 year olds entering higher education increased to a record entry rate of 33.7 per cent, and 18-year olds from

disadvantaged backgrounds were proportionally 52 per cent more likely to enter university in 2018 than in 2009 (full time undergraduate study).

## National infrastructure strategy

*“To ensure that the benefits of a prospering economy reach every corner of the United Kingdom, my Ministers will bring forward a National Infrastructure Strategy. This will set out a long-term vision to improve the nation’s digital, transport and energy infrastructure.”*

- The National Infrastructure Strategy, due to be published later in the autumn, will set out plans to deliver a step change in infrastructure investment across the whole of the UK.
- The Strategy will set out the Government’s long-term ambitions across all areas of economic infrastructure including transport, local growth, decarbonisation, digital infrastructure, infrastructure finance and delivery.
- The Strategy will have two key aims:
  - To help close the productivity gap between London and other parts of the country – so all places are able to benefit from vital infrastructure and better living standards helping people get better access to opportunities and jobs.
  - To address the critical challenges posed by climate change and build on the UK’s world-leading commitment to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.
- The Strategy will also provide the Government’s formal response to the National Infrastructure Commission’s 2018 National Infrastructure Assessment, which made a series of independent recommendations to government across all sectors of economic infrastructure (transport, energy, digital, waste, water and flood management).

### Key facts

- The National Infrastructure Commission (the Commission) was set up in 2015 to provide the government with impartial, expert advice on the UK’s long-term infrastructure priorities. It was formally established as an Executive Agency of HM Treasury in 2017.
- The Commission’s first National Infrastructure Assessment was published in July 2018, and made a series of recommendations to Government across all sectors of economic infrastructure. The Government has committed to



responding to these recommendations through the publication of a National Infrastructure Strategy, which will set out plans to close the productivity gap between London and other parts of the UK and address the critical challenges posed by climate change.

- The Government will look to introduce any legislation required to deliver plans set out in the infrastructure strategy in due course.
- Much infrastructure policy is devolved. Any changes to reserved policy areas will apply across the whole of the UK, and the Devolved Administrations will benefit from Barnett allocations relating to any increase in spending.

## **Broadband**

*“New legislation will help accelerate the delivery of fast, reliable and secure broadband networks to millions of homes.”*

### **LEGISLATION**

#### **The purpose of the legislation is to:**

- Roll out gigabit capable broadband across the UK to achieve nationwide coverage as soon as possible so people can reap the huge benefits of the fastest, most secure and most resilient internet connections, regardless of where they live.
- Make it easier for telecoms companies to install broadband infrastructure in blocks of flats.
- Ensure that all new homes are built with reliable and fast internet speeds.

#### **The main benefits of the legislation would be:**

- Faster speeds (one gigabit, i.e. 1,000 megabits per second) boosting productivity, driving innovation in our public services and giving people the fast connectivity they need to access equal opportunities and reap the benefits of the digital revolution.
- Increasing download speeds with a gigabit-capable network, which are more than 30 times the speed of superfast broadband and will allow you to download a HD film in fewer than 45 seconds.
- Faster and more reliable internet connections for people living in flats. New measures will also ensure that all new homes are built with the fastest connectivity available, increasing certainty for businesses investing in gigabit speed networks and making it easier for people to switch to better broadband deals.

#### **The main elements of the legislation are:**

- Creating a cheaper and faster light-touch tribunal process for telecoms companies to obtain interim code rights (or access rights) for a period of up to 18 months. This will mean that they can install broadband connections where the landlord has failed to respond to repeated requests for access.

- Amending the Building Act 1984 so that Building Regulations require all new build developments to have the infrastructure to support gigabit-capable connections.
- Requiring for developers to work with broadband companies to install gigabit-capable connections in virtually all new build developments, up to a cost cap.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions extend and apply to the whole of the UK. Telecommunications is a reserved matter.

### **OTHER MEASURES**

- To ensure that no part of the country is left without next-generation broadband, the Government has recently pledged £5 billion to support the rollout of gigabit-capable broadband in the hardest to reach 20 per cent of the country.
- In the two years to 2021 we are already investing £650 million to stimulate the market to deploy gigabit capable connections in urban and rural areas through:
  - The £400 million Digital Infrastructure Investment Fund.
  - The £200 million Local Full Fibre Networks Programme which funds locally-led full fibre projects.
  - The £200 million Rural Gigabit Connectivity Programme which will deploy gigabit capable broadband to local hubs in rural areas, starting with primary schools.
  - The £67 million Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme.
- To further support the commercial environment for investment, the Government laid its Statement of Strategic Priorities for Ofcom in Parliament, formally confirming the regulation needed to maximise the deployment of gigabit broadband.

- The Government has spent £1.8 billion bringing superfast broadband to over 96 per cent of the country, with thousands of homes and businesses connected each week.
- Not all areas of the country have decent broadband. To tackle this the Government has introduced the Universal Service Obligation of 10 megabits per second. This is due to come into force in March next year and will give every home and business the legal right to request a decent connection up to a Reasonable Cost Threshold of £3,400 per premise.

### **Key facts**

- One in seven people in the UK live in flats or apartments and it is estimated there are 450,000 blocks of flats in the UK.
- 40 per cent of operators' requests seeking access from a landlord receive no response.
- It is estimated that operators will connect an extra 3,000 properties a year as a result of the Leasehold Property Bill.
- 22 per cent of new build developments in 2019 have been built without a gigabit-capable connection.
- 40,000 new homes are built a year without full fibre.
- A gigabit-capable network connection is one that is capable of achieving 1,000 megabits per second, i.e. 1 gigabits per second, download speeds.

## **Air Traffic Management and Unmanned Aircraft Bill**

*“An aviation bill will provide for the effective and efficient management of the United Kingdom’s airspace.”*

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Maintain the UK’s position as a world-leader in aviation, ensuring that regulations keep pace with new technology to support sustainable growth in a sector which directly provides over 230,000 jobs and contributes at least £22 billion to the UK economy every year.
- Ensure that the police are able to tackle effectively the unlawful use of unmanned aircraft, including drones and model aircraft.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Making journeys quicker, quieter and cleaner through the modernisation of our airspace.
- Improving public safety through greater police enforcement powers, deterring unlawful use of unmanned aircraft and ensuring that offenders are quickly dealt with in the appropriate manner.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- New Government powers to direct an airport or other relevant body to prepare and submit a proposal to the Civil Aviation Authority to change the design of airspace.
- Modernising the licensing framework for air traffic control.
- New police powers to tackle the unlawful use of unmanned aircraft. These include the ability to require a person to land an unmanned aircraft and enhanced stop and search powers where particular unmanned aircraft related offences have taken place.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply to the whole of the UK.

- Civil aviation (including airspace) is a reserved matter, however, since the Bill would provide police in Scotland with additional powers, legislative consent will likely be required.

### **Key facts**

- The Department for Transport's Strategic Case for Airspace Modernisation, published in February 2017, set out that if nothing is done by 2030, 1 in 3 flights could be delayed for 30 minutes on average, which would be 72 times higher than in 2015. This would cost the UK around £250 million per year. Modernisation can also deliver major noise and carbon reduction benefits.
- For a change in the design of UK airspace to take place, proposals must be submitted by a sponsor, usually an airport or a provider of air navigation services, and follow the Civil Aviation Authority's airspace change process.
- The number of incidents of manned aircraft encountering an unmanned aircraft increased from 6 incidents in 2014 to 125 in 2018.

## **Airline insolvency legislation**

### **The purpose of the legislation would be to:**

- Protect passengers in the event of an airline going bust by reforming the insolvency process.

### **The main benefits of the legislation would be:**

- Making sure the industry can get passengers home quickly and effectively if and when an airline goes bust. This will balance strong consumer protection with the interests of the taxpayer.

### **The main elements of the legislation are:**

- Enhancing the Civil Aviation Authority's regulatory powers to improve oversight of airlines in distress and mitigate the impacts of a future failure.
- Reforms to airline insolvency, so as to strike a better balance between strong consumer protection and the interests of taxpayers.
- Extending the Civil Aviation Authority's existing remit to apply to the repatriation of both ATOL and non-ATOL protected passengers.
- Establishing and enhancing a repatriation 'toolkit' of mechanisms for companies and passengers, including:
  - The Civil Aviation Authority's ability to grant a Temporary Airline Operating Licence for an airline to continue repatriating passengers following insolvency.
  - The introduction of a special administration regime for airlines and tour companies to support the needs of passengers post-insolvency and to keep aircraft flying long enough for passengers to be repatriated.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The legislation's provisions would apply to the whole of the UK. Civil aviation and insolvency are reserved matters.

### **Key facts**

- The aviation sector directly contributes at least £22 billion to the UK economy each year, supporting around half a million jobs right across the country.
- ATOL was set up in 1973 to protect UK consumers when they purchase a holiday including a flight. It ensures they will receive a refund or be brought home if the company they purchase from goes out of business. It protects over 20 million holidaymakers each year.
- The Review was published in May 2019 and was consulted on until June 2019. The Review is clear there is no 'silver bullet solution and that implementation could consider a transition period to allow industry to adapt to changes.



## Railway reform

*“Proposals on railway reform will be brought forward.”*

- The Government will publish a White Paper on the Williams Review recommendations later this autumn.
- Following the publication of the White Paper, the Government will start implementing reforms from 2020, prioritising improvements for passengers.
- In September, the Prime Minister announced plans to give Northern leaders more of a say on how the railway is run across the region. This proposal was based on the initial conclusions of the Williams review set out in July.
- The Williams Review is the first comprehensive review of the railway in a generation, with a clear commitment from the Government to bring in root and branch change. The Review was tasked with making ambitious proposals to reform the rail industry and franchising model.
- The Review is focused on reforms that will put passengers at the heart of the railway, provide value for taxpayers and deliver economic, social and environmental benefits across Britain. It will focus on five key areas:
  - Trains running on time. A clear focus on customer service excellence, driven by performance measures to bring about genuine behavioural and cultural change.
  - Simplified fares and ticketing to create a modern railway to promote innovation and customer-focussed improvements across the network, including the further roll out of pay-as-you-go.
  - A new industry structure, reducing fragmentation, better aligning track and train, creating clear accountability and a greater distance between Government and running the day to day railway.
  - A new commercial model that lets train operators get on with running services in the interest of passengers and allows greater flexibility and long-term incentives for creativity and innovation.
  - Proposals on leadership, skills, diversity and increased engagement, to better involve the rail workforce in the development of the sector in the long term, and to ensure the sector reflects modern working practices.

## Key facts

- In the last 25 years, demand for rail travel has grown faster in the UK than other major rail networks in Europe. The industry has achieved enormous success over the past decades, doubling passenger numbers and running more trains than any time in the railway's history.
- However, the UK's railway is one of the most congested in Europe, and is twice as heavily used as the networks in France and Germany. Only the very dense networks in the Netherlands and Switzerland are more heavily used.
- The Government has responded by investing even more in our railways –£47.9 billion will be spent by Network Rail on the railway between 2019 and 2024 in England and Wales. We currently invest more than any other EU country in our rail network, with flagship schemes such as Thameslink, Crossrail and HS2.
- Passenger satisfaction has significantly improved since 1999, but in 2018 was at its lowest in 10 years. However, the UK's satisfaction rates remain amongst the highest of the larger European nations. In 2018, the EU's Eurobarometer on Europeans' satisfaction with passenger rail services placed the UK in the top quartile along with Austria, Ireland, Luxembourg, Portugal and Slovakia.
- In 2018, performance (measured by the Public Performance Measure) also hit a 10-year low. In the first quarter of 2019-20, 87 per cent of trains were punctual, being less than 5 or 10 minutes late. In the same period, only 64.7 per cent of trains arrived less than one minute late, using the new On Time punctuality measure. However, performance challenges are not unique to the UK: train performance for long-distance passenger services in the UK is similar to levels seen in other rail networks in Europe, but UK regional and local services perform less well in comparison to other European countries.

## English devolution

*“A white paper will be published to set out my Government’s ambitions for unleashing regional potential in England, and to enable decisions that affect local people to be made at a local level.”*

- We are committed to making further progress in boosting investment and growth across England to level up opportunities in every region. That is why we will be publishing a White Paper setting out our strategy for continued local economic growth and increased productivity across the country, including plans for institutions, spending priorities, local economic plans and local growth funding.
- The White Paper will provide further information on our offer for enhanced devolution across England, levelling up the powers between Mayoral Combined Authorities and increasing the number of mayors and doing more devolution deals.
- With more powers and funds must come more local democratic responsibility and accountability. We will provide detail in the White Paper on structural and institutional reform in England to support devolution and growth, in step with further funding.
- Our White Paper will also set out the levelling up agenda that the Prime Minister started in Manchester on 27 July and expanded on for the North in Rotherham at the Northern Powerhouse Summit on 13 September – covering mayors, towns, and our commitment to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.
- We remain committed to revitalised Northern Powerhouse and Midlands Engine strategies.

### Key facts

- All of the largest non-capital cities in the UK, with the exception of Bristol, are less productive than would be expected for their size and huge potential. They are also less productive compared to almost all similarly-sized European cities.
- Evidence suggests areas with more integrated leadership, across a functional economic area, support higher rates of economic growth and higher rates of productivity when compared with areas with more fragmented governance.

- 37 per cent of residents in England, 50 per cent in the North, are now served by city region mayors with powers and money to prioritise local issues, drive significant infrastructure projects and act as a local champion for the area. We want to expand the benefits of devolution across England and put more trust in local people to choose what is best for their communities.
- We have introduced a £3.6 billion Towns Fund for towns across England that haven't benefited from economic growth in the same way as more prosperous areas. Communities, businesses and local leaders will work with Government to transform their town's economic growth prospects with a focus on improved transport, broadband connectivity, social and cultural infrastructure.
- We have established City Region Mayors across England and devolved key powers over transport, planning and skills. We want to do more devolution deals, level up powers and invest further in infrastructure.
- By its completion in March 2021 the Local Growth Fund will have invested £12 billion in projects to boost jobs and growth across England. EU structural funds stop in December 2020, but this will give us an opportunity to spend the same tax money more effectively, and in a more devolved way. We want to ensure investment is specifically targeted where it is most needed and will have the biggest impact.
- Growth Deals will be delivered with the Devolved Administrations.
- The UK Shared Prosperity Fund will operate across the UK.
- Some of the city and growth corridor policies will cross borders between England and Wales, and impact in Scotland.

## Science, space and infrastructure

*“My Government is committed to establishing the United Kingdom as a world-leader in scientific capability and space technology. Increased investment in science will be complemented by the development of a new funding agency, a more open visa system, and an ambitious national space strategy.”*

- We are committed to making the UK a global science superpower and a magnet for brilliant people and businesses from across the world.
- To build on our world-leading excellence in science and deliver solutions to some of the world’s grand challenges we are:
  - Setting out plans in the autumn to significantly boost public R&D funding, providing a framework that gives long-term certainty to the scientific community.
  - Establishing a new National Space Council and launching a comprehensive UK Space Strategy.
  - Introducing a more accessible visa system to attract global scientific and research talent.
  - Backing a new approach to funding emerging fields of research and technology, broadly modelled on the US Advanced Research Projects Agency. We will work with industry and academics to finalise this proposal.
  - Reducing bureaucracy in research funding to ensure our brilliant scientists are able to spend as much time as possible creating new ideas, not filling in unnecessary forms.
- Our world-leading excellence in science is the foundation on which we can build the UK’s future prosperity and productivity, and tackle some of the greatest challenges facing society – such as ending the UK’s contribution to climate change, managing the adoption and use of Artificial Intelligence, transforming our transport systems, and embracing the changes associated with an ageing population.
- Space capabilities are increasingly central to our day-to-day life – underpinning a range of technologies from smartphones to navigation systems. A new National Space Council and UK Space Strategy will help us

lead the way in this fast-growing, high-technology sector, creating thousands of jobs across the country and generating opportunities to strengthen the UK's global influence while keeping people safe.

- Our new fast-track immigration scheme for top scientists and researchers will help significantly enhance the intellectual and knowledge base of the UK.
- A new approach to funding emerging fields of research and technology will provide long term funding to support visionary scientific, engineering, and technology missions, and will complement the UK's existing world class research system.
- The R&D funding plans we will unveil in autumn 2019 will help accelerate our ambition to reach 2.4 per cent of GDP spent on R&D by 2027. This boost in funding will allow us to invest strategically in cutting-edge science, while encouraging the world's most innovative businesses to invest in the UK.
- The Cabinet-level National Space Council will put space at the heart of Government policy and help us deliver a UK Space Strategy.
- The Space Strategy will boost future funding and lead to a dedicated innovation programme to support future space exploration through cutting-edge British innovation in Artificial Intelligence, robotics and satellites.
- The Government has also announced that the UK will accelerate efforts to realise fusion energy through investment in a new UK fusion reactor design programme, known as STEP, which aims to deliver the world's first commercially viable fusion power plant by 2040.

### **Key facts**

- The Government is already increasing public spending on R&D by £7 billion over 5 years – the biggest increase in public funding of R&D on record.
- Every £1 of public expenditure on R&D leverages around £1.40 of additional private investment. Increasing public expenditure will generate even greater returns for the UK.
- R&D is vital to a productive economy – firms that invest in R&D have around 13 per cent higher productivity than those firms that do not invest.

- The Government will introduce a new fast-track immigration scheme for the brightest and best scientists and researchers, who will significantly enhance the intellectual and knowledge base of the UK.
- The changes to the immigration system will:
  - Abolish the cap on numbers under the Tier 1 Exceptional Talent Visas.
  - Expand the pool of UK research institutes and universities able to endorse candidates.
  - Create criteria that confer automatic endorsement, subject to immigration checks.
  - Ensure dependents have full access to the labour market.
  - Remove the need to hold an offer of employment before arriving.
  - Provide an accelerated path to settlement.

## **High Speed Rail 2 (West Midlands - Crewe) Bill**

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Provide the powers to build and operate the next stage of the High Speed Two (HS2) network (Phase 2a).

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Bringing the improved connectivity of HS2 to more cities in the north, sooner.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Powers to compulsorily acquire the land needed for the railway, construct the railway, and operate it.
- Deemed planning permission to deliver the scheme. The details of planning will be developed on a site-by-site basis in coordination with the local planning authority.
- Setting out the way railway regulation will apply to HS2.
- Modification, or disapplication, of existing legislation that would apply to construction of the scheme, reflecting the fact that the scheme will have been approved by Parliament.

### **Territorial extent and application:**

- The Bill's provisions would apply in the main to England, with clauses 34-39 and schedule 28-29 applying and extending to England, Wales and Scotland.

### **Key facts**

- The Phase 2a route is 36 miles long, running from a spur from the Phase One route, at Fradley, near Lichfield. It connects to the West Coast Main Line south of Crewe.
- A review led by Doug Oakervee is considering HS2's benefits and impacts; affordability and efficiency; deliverability; and scope and phasing, including its relationship with Northern Powerhouse Rail.



- HS2 journeys north of Birmingham will be up to 13 minutes faster than they will be following the construction of Phase One of HS2.
- The journey time between Crewe and London will be cut from 90 minutes today, to 55 minutes.
- Trains will stop at Crewe, allowing passengers on trains to and from Crewe to connect with HS2 services.
- The Bill was introduced in the House of Commons in July 2017.

## 6. PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND IMPROVING ANIMAL WELFARE

### Environment Bill

*“My Ministers remain committed to protecting and improving the environment for future generations. For the first time, environmental principles will be enshrined in law. Measures will be introduced to improve air and water quality, tackle plastic pollution and restore habitats so plants and wildlife can thrive. Legislation will also create new legally-binding environmental improvement targets. A new, world-leading independent regulator will be established in statute to scrutinise environmental policy and law, investigate complaints and take enforcement action.”*

#### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Transform our domestic environmental governance based on environmental principles; codify a comprehensive framework for legally binding targets; and the establishment of a new Office for Environmental Protection.
- Increase local powers to tackle sources of air pollution.
- Improve biodiversity by working with developers.
- Extend producer responsibility, ensure a consistent approach to recycling and introduce deposit return schemes.
- Introduce charges for specified single use plastic items.
- Secure long-term, resilient water and wastewater services, including through powers to direct water companies to work together to meet current and future demand.

#### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Improving and protecting the environment with new domestic governance, including a world-leading environmental watchdog.
- Improving air quality by fighting air pollution so that we have cleaner air to breathe.
- Ensuring we can manage our precious water resources in a changing climate.

## **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Establishing new long term domestic environmental governance based on: environmental principles; a comprehensive framework for legally-binding targets, a long term plan to deliver environmental improvements; and, a new Office for Environmental Protection.
- Improving air quality by increasing local powers to address sources of air pollution, enabling local authorities to tackle emissions from burning coal and wood, and bringing forward powers for Government to mandate recalls of vehicles when they do not meet relevant legal emission standards.
- Restoring and enhancing nature by implementing mandatory biodiversity protections into the planning system, ensuring new houses aren't built at the expense of nature. We will improve protection for our natural habitats through Local Nature Recovery Strategies and give communities a greater say in the protection of local trees.
- Preserving our stock of material resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy. These measures include extended producer responsibility, a consistent approach to recycling, tackling waste crime, introducing deposit return schemes and more effective litter enforcement.
- Introducing charges for specified single use plastic items. This will build on the success of the carrier bag charge and incentivise consumers to choose other, more sustainable ways of taking shopping home.
- Managing water sustainably through more effective legislation to secure long-term, resilient water and wastewater services. This will include powers to direct water companies to work together to meet current and future demand for water, making planning more robust, and ensuring we are better able to maintain water supplies.

## **Territorial extent and application**

- Most of the Bill would extend and apply to England, with a small number of provisions extending to Northern Ireland only. Around half of the Bill's provisions extend and apply to Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

- Environmental policy is a largely devolved matter (subject to a small number of areas that are reserved).

## **Key facts**

- On June 5 2019 YouGov poll the British public placed climate change among the most important three issues facing the country (Brexit first, Healthcare second).
- The Government is already taking strong action to be the first generation to leave the environment in a better state than we found it, as set out in our 25 year Environment Plan. We are the first major economy to legislate to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, and will be hosting the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP26) in 2020.
- In 2015 the Government introduced a 5p charge on single use carrier bags (reducing sales of single use bags in the big supermarkets by 90 per cent);
- In 2019 we introduced a ban on microbeads in cosmetic and personal care products; plastic straws, drink stirrers, and plastic stemmed cotton buds in England (coming into force April 2020), following overwhelming public support.
- Emissions of nitrogen oxides have fallen by over a quarter since 2010.
- Published in January, our Clean Air Strategy has been praised by the World Health Organisation as “an example for the rest of the world to follow” and aims to halve the harm to human health from air pollution in the UK by 2030.
- We have pledged to plant 11 million new trees and one million urban trees.
- We have strengthened protections for ancient woodlands, veteran trees and other irreplaceable habitats in the revised national planning policy framework and provided almost £6 million to the new Northern Forest.

## **Animal welfare**

*“Proposals will also be brought forward to promote and protect the welfare of animals, including banning imports from trophy hunting.”*

### **LEGISLATION**

#### **The purpose of the legislation is to:**

- Increase protections for animals and further improve the welfare of animals in our homes, in agriculture and in the wild
- Increase maximum sentences for animal cruelty from six months to five years.
- Ensure that animals are recognised in domestic law as sentient beings, and that the welfare of sentient animals is taken into consideration in relevant Government policy-making.

#### **The main benefits of the legislation would be:**

- Enhancing our reputation as a world leader on animal welfare and protection.
- Increasing the sentences for those who perpetrate cruelty on animals and ensuring they are subjected to the full force of the law.
- Recognising explicitly in domestic law that animals are sentient beings.

#### **The main elements to be taken forward are:**

- Extending the current maximum penalty for animal cruelty offences, specified under the Animal Welfare Act 2006, from six months imprisonment to five years imprisonment.
- A clear statement in domestic law that animals are sentient beings, and a duty on Government to have all due regard to the welfare of sentient animals in policy formulation and implementation.

#### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply to England and Wales only.

- Whilst animal welfare and sentencing is devolved to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, the Welsh Government has agreed for the Bill's provisions to apply to Wales.

## **OTHER MEASURES**

- We will issue a consultation on improving the welfare of live animals that are being transported for slaughter.
- We will issue a call for evidence on primates as pets, recognising that they are wild animals with highly complex needs.
- We will launch a consultation on banning the import and export of trophies from the hunting of endangered animals.

## **Key facts**

- The Government has a strong record on animal welfare and protection of animals, including:
  - Introducing mandatory CCTV in slaughterhouses, so consumers know high welfare standards are being upheld.
  - Banning the use of wild animals in travelling circuses.
  - Introducing the world's toughest bans on ivory sales to help stop the poaching of elephants.
  - Banning commercial third party sales of puppies and kittens, to end the terrible welfare conditions found in puppy farming.
- Our measures on sentencing will cover heinous offences such as causing unnecessary suffering, poisoning or mutilating an animal, and dog fighting.
- Although 80 per cent of the 1,000 people prosecuted for animal cruelty each year are convicted, and 10 per cent of those are given custodial sentence, the average sentence for animal cruelty is only about 3.5 months' imprisonment.
- Placing a clear duty on Ministers of the Crown to consider the welfare of sentient animals goes beyond EU law.

- Last year, the Government issued a call for evidence in relation to future welfare in transport standards, followed by commissioning external research and inviting the Farm Animal Welfare Committee to conduct a review and make recommendations. This has formed the basis of the consultation that will be launched.
- There are clear ethical concerns around the practice of trophy hunting of endangered species. However, some conservationists believe that trophy hunting can be an effective conservation tool, supporting local livelihoods and attracting revenues for other conservation activities..Other organisations such as Born Free and the Campaign for the Ban of Trophy Hunting call for 'compassionate solutions to conservation challenges'. In May 2019, Ministers held a roundtable with all sides of this debate and the views expressed, these have informed the proposed consultation on further restrictions to the import and export of hunting trophies into and from the UK.
- About 65 per cent of cats are already microchipped.
- In 2013, the coalition government introduced compulsory chipping for dogs. At this time around 58 per cent of dogs were chipped, now around 90 per cent of dogs are microchipped (8 million dogs).

## 7. OTHER LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

### Electoral integrity

*“My Government will take steps to protect the integrity of democracy and the electoral system in the United Kingdom.”*

#### LEGISLATION

##### **The purpose of the legislation is to:**

- Tackle electoral fraud and protect our democracy, whether people are casting their votes at the polling station or elsewhere.
- Make it easier for disabled voters to vote at polling stations.

##### **The main benefits of the legislation would be:**

- Strengthening confidence in our democracy by addressing the potential for electoral fraud in our current system, where the only test in a polling station is for a voter to state their name and address.
- Providing greater security for those who vote remotely by post or proxy and creating a deterrent for those who might seek to interfere in the democratic process.
- Removing potential barriers faced by disabled voters.

##### **The main elements of the legislation are:**

- Requiring voters to show an approved form of photographic ID in order to vote at a polling station in a UK parliamentary election in Great Britain and local election in England. Any voter who does not have an approved form of ID will be able to apply, free of charge, for a local electoral identity document.
- Banning campaigners from handling postal votes, introducing a power to limit the number of postal votes a person may hand-in, and establishing a requirement on those registered for a postal vote to re-apply every three years (currently registration can last indefinitely).



- Limiting the number of people a voter may act for as a proxy to up to two electors, regardless of their relationship.
- Allowing a wider range of people (for example, carers who would not be entitled to vote in the election) to be able to assist disabled voters in a 'companion' role.
- Requiring returning officers to provide equipment to support voters with sight loss and other disabilities who find it difficult to vote.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The legislation's provisions would extend and apply to the whole of the UK for UK parliamentary elections, which is a reserved matter, though the requirement to show ID to vote in Northern Ireland has existed since 1985. Some provisions also apply to certain other non-devolved elections in the UK, including Assembly and local government elections in Northern Ireland, and local elections in England.

### **OTHER MEASURES**

- The Government has committed to implementing an imprints regime for digital election material. This will ensure greater transparency and make it clearer to the electorate who has produced and promoted online political materials. The Government will bring forward proposals for the technical implementation in the coming months.
- The Government will launch a consultation to consider measures to strengthen the provisions that protect our democracy from foreign interference. This is part of our work to continue to safeguard our democracy, strengthen our resilience and ensure that the regulatory framework is as watertight as possible. We will shortly be holding discussions with interested groups as well as exploring the potential for cross-party agreement.

### **Key facts**

- The election court judgement in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets case (2015) illustrated that more needs to be done to protect the integrity of our democracy.
- In 2016 Sir (now Lord) Eric Pickles published his review of electoral fraud '*Securing the ballot*'. The report included a number of recommendations to

address electoral fraud, including that the Government should consider the options for electors to have to produce personal identification before voting at polling stations.

- In its response to Lord Pickles' review 'A democracy that works for everyone: a clear and secure democracy' the Government emphasised that electoral fraud is unacceptable on any level. The Government committed then to:
  - Prevent the intimidation and undue influence of voters.
  - End the dubious practice of postal vote harvesting.
  - Pilot the use of identification in polling stations.
- Voter ID was piloted at local elections in England in 2018 and 2019 and its impact was evaluated by the independent Electoral Commission. Their evaluation of the 2019 pilots found that public confidence in the electoral system was higher in the voter ID pilot areas.
- In the areas piloting voter ID, the Electoral Commission found a notable increase in the number of people who regarded electoral fraud not to be a problem (30 per cent to 39 per cent). This change was not seen in areas not piloting voter ID.
- In Woking, which piloted photographic ID in both 2018 and 2019, 99.9% of people who attended a polling station in 2019 were able to show the right photographic ID and were issued with a ballot paper.
- Paper ID has been required to vote in Northern Ireland since 1985 and photo ID since 2003. The pilots and experience in Northern Ireland demonstrate that the requirement to show ID does not negatively impact turnout or participation.

## **Birmingham Commonwealth Games Bill**

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Provide a small number of temporary measures essential to the successful operation of the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Managing public investment in the Games and offsetting the costs to the taxpayer by providing protections for commercial rights.
- Ensuring that during the Games, transport works efficiently for people living, working and visiting Birmingham and the West Midlands.
- Ensuring that Games tickets are accessible and affordable by prohibiting the unauthorised resale of tickets.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Ensuring that financial assistance given to the Birmingham 2022 Organising Committee continues to comply with spending rules set out by the Treasury.
- Creating a criminal offence for the unauthorised sale of Games tickets.
- Restricting unauthorised advertising and trading around Games locations.
- Creating a civil offence for unauthorised association with the Games.
- Setting a statutory basis for the Games Transport Plan, creating bespoke traffic regulatory powers for Games purposes and providing a safeguard power for the Secretary of State.
- Ensuring that the Organising Committee provides regular updates on its progress towards delivery of the Games.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions on transport, advertising and trading would apply to England only. The provisions on Organising Committee financial assistance and reporting, unauthorised association and ticketing would extend and apply

to the whole of the UK, and for ticketing, also to activity overseas by UK nationals or those usually resident in the UK.

## **Key facts**

- The Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games will be the biggest sporting event ever held in the city, featuring thousands of world-class athletes and over a million spectators. With an estimated TV audience of 1.5 billion, the Games will showcase Birmingham, the West Midlands and the entire country to the rest of the world as a place to live, work, study and do business.
- The Government and local partners are investing £778 million into the city and region to stage the Games. In addition, the Perry Barr Commonwealth Games Village development will be supported by a further £165 million of Government funding.
- Birmingham 2022 is set to have the largest ever female and para-sport programme in history, building on the inspiring successes of Glasgow 2014 and Gold Coast 2018 and leaving a lasting legacy for Birmingham and the West Midlands.
- The Government and the Prime Minister, then Mayor of London, played instrumental roles in delivering a fantastic Olympics and Paralympics in London in 2012, showing the UK at its very best. This showed the world how the UK can brilliantly stage the biggest events in world sport and the 2022 Commonwealth Games will further cement our reputation for this.
- The London 2012 Games brought significant economic benefits, inspired young people to participate in sport and developed the Olympic Park as a thriving new district of London with thousands of new homes and tens of thousands of jobs created.

## **Historical Institutional Abuse (Northern Ireland) Bill**

*“My Government remains committed to working with all parties in Northern Ireland to support the return of devolved Government and to address the legacy of the past.”*

- The Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry was an inquiry that was specific to Northern Ireland, it was subject to a public consultation in Northern Ireland and the decisions around its adoption and implementation through legislation were taken by Northern Ireland parties.
- Although this remains a devolved matter and the Government’s priority is to get Stormont back up and running, the UK Government is acting on the request of Head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service and the Northern Ireland Parties to enact legislation which takes account of the Northern Ireland Inquiry recommendations, incorporates additional recommendations made by the Northern Ireland Parties, and is in line with the decisions taken locally in Northern Ireland.
- The Bill is being introduced by the Government in Westminster because victims have waited almost three years since the inquiry made its recommendations.

### **The purpose of the Bill is to:**

- Provide the legal framework for delivering two recommendations contained in the Report on Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry:
  - Establishing a Historical Institutional Abuse Redress Board to administer a publicly funded compensation scheme in Northern Ireland.
  - Creating a statutory Commissioner for Survivors of Institutional Childhood Abuse for Northern Ireland.

### **The main benefits of the Bill would be:**

- Finally providing victims and survivors of historical institutional abuse in Northern Ireland access to a form of redress as recommended by Sir Anthony Hart’s report.
- Establishing a statutory position of a Commissioner for Survivors of Institutional Abuse who will act as an advocate for those who were subject to

abuse, ensuring the co-ordination and availability of services to victims and survivors.

### **The main elements of the Bill are:**

- Establishing a Redress Board comprised of judicial and lay members, which will determine applications for compensation made by victims and survivors of historical institutional abuse.
- Establishing the office of Commissioner for Survivors of Institutional Childhood Abuse.
- Provisions relating to entitlement to claim compensation, how an application for compensation is to be assessed and the amounts of compensation that can be awarded.

### **Territorial extent and application**

- The Bill's provisions would extend and apply to Northern Ireland only.

### **Key facts**

- The Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry (HIAI), was headed by Sir Anthony Hart.
- The inquiry looked into the abuse of children under 18 who lived in institutions in NI between 1922 and 1995.
- The inquiry investigated 22 institutions, as well as the circumstances surrounding the sending of child migrants from Northern Ireland to Australia; and the activities of the late Father Brendan Smyth.
- The investigations were divided into 15 separate modules with 223 days of hearings.
- The Hart report was published in January 2017 and recommended a Commissioner for Victims of Abuse and a redress scheme for victims. In its report, the inquiry recommended:
  - an apology;
  - a memorial;
  - additional service provision/specialist care and help for victims;

- a statutory commissioner for survivors of institutional childhood abuse;
- financial compensation to be administered by a redress board; and
- annual grant funding for the Child Migrants Trust.

## 8. OTHER NON-LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

### Public finances

*“My Government’s new economic plan will be underpinned by a responsible fiscal strategy, investing in economic growth while maintaining the sustainability of the public finances.”*

- The Government has made significant progress since 2010 in restoring the public finances to health.
- With a strong fiscal position, day-to-day spending under control, and a record low cost of borrowing, we can afford to invest more in growing our economy.
- The Government will review the fiscal framework ahead of the Budget later this year to ensure that it meets the economic priorities of today and delivers a decade of renewal.
- The Government will develop and maintain a clear set of rules to anchor our fiscal policy and keep control of our national debt.

### Key facts

- The deficit has reduced by four-fifths from a post-war peak of 10.2 per cent of GDP (2009-10) to 1.9 per cent of GDP (2018-19).
- The deficit is now at its lowest level (as a share of GDP) since 2001-02.
- The fundamentals of the British economy are strong: we have seen the economy grow every year since 2010, and the equivalent of over 1,000 extra people a day in work since then.
- Wages are growing at their fastest rate in over a decade – putting more money in people’s pockets. Employment is at a joint record high, and the unemployment rate is at its lowest in over 40 years.
- The Chancellor has announced the intention to increase the National Living Wage to two-thirds of median hourly earnings and to lower the age threshold for those who qualify from 25 to 21 within the next 5 years, benefitting 4 million people. The Government will set out further details at the next Budget.



- Structural factors – such as demographic change – have kept interest rates low, not just in the UK but across the developed world, increasing our confidence that we will continue to see low rates for a number of years. Alongside a strong fiscal position, that means we can afford to invest more in growing our economy.

## The Union

*“The integrity and prosperity of the union that binds the four nations of the United Kingdom is of the utmost importance to my Government. My Ministers will bring forward measures to support citizens across all the nations of the United Kingdom.”*

- The UK Government believes strongly in upholding the constitutional integrity of the United Kingdom - our Union is at its strongest when all four nations work together. We are committed to devolution and to working constructively with the Devolved Administrations and legislatures.
- The Government expects that the return of powers from the EU will lead to a significant increase in the decision-making powers for the Devolved Administrations. It will mean that decisions and powers sit in the right place and closer to people than ever before.

## Scotland

The UK Government continues to deliver for people in Scotland:

- We are investing in Scotland’s economy, delivering jobs, opportunities and sustainable growth. That includes investing £1.4 billion in city and growth deals across Scotland.
- The ‘Union dividend’ is worth nearly £2,000 a year for every person in Scotland.
- We recently announced Babcock was the preferred bidder for a £1.25 billion contract to build the five new Type 31 frigates for the Royal Navy, securing hundreds of jobs in Fife.
- We are providing £1.2 billion cash bonus for Scotland as a result of the latest spending round.
- The Prime Minister delivered on his promise to provide £160 million to resolve the historic EU funding gap for Scottish farmers. In line with the Bew Review recommendations, Scottish farmers will also receive a further £51.4 million. In all, the Prime Minister has announced a £211 million boost for Scottish farmers.
- The UK Government is bringing world leaders to Glasgow for the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP26) climate conference. It will bring

world leaders to Scotland and generate millions of pounds for the local economy.

- The UK Government is absolutely committed to upholding the result of Scotland's once-in-a-generation independence referendum. The people of Scotland voted decisively to remain part of the United Kingdom and we will respect this.
- With the Scotland Act 2016 we devolved a raft of powers to the Scottish Parliament, including over income tax and welfare, making Holyrood one of the most powerful devolved parliaments in the world. There is a good balance of powers between the Westminster and Scottish Parliaments and devolution is working well.
- We have been clear that we expect that the return of powers from the EU to lead to a significant increase in the decision making powers of the Scottish Parliament.

## **Wales**

- The UK Government is supporting a strong Wales, within a strong United Kingdom, across a wide range of areas. This includes providing significant investment in city and growth deals across the whole of Wales that will deliver real long-term growth to their respective regions.
- We are providing £790 million investment into city and growth deals covering the whole of Wales which includes:
  - £500 million to the Cardiff Capital Region deal, which will provide an investment fund for the region and support electrification of the Valleys Lines railways;
  - £115 million to the Swansea Bay City Region deal, and we have committed £120 million and £55 million respectively to allow a North Wales Growth Deal and Mid Wales Growth Deal to be agreed.
- The Government is also providing a £100 million pound boost to the Welsh economy from abolishing the Severn tolls.
- We are providing a £600 million boost to the Welsh Government's budget as a result of the latest spending round.

- We have devolved significant new powers to the National Assembly for Wales through two landmark Wales Acts including in areas such as transport, the environment and elections
- We agreed a Fiscal Framework for Wales which is delivering fair funding for Wales for the long term
- The Government is focused on ensuring Wales' interests are fully represented as we leave the European Union, strengthening the links between the economies of Wales and other nations in the UK and continuing to deliver a strong and sustainable devolution settlement.

## **Northern Ireland**

- The UK Government's priority in Northern Ireland is getting Stormont back up and running and restoring the Executive. In the continued absence of an Executive, the UK Government has intervened on critical issues to ensure the continued delivery of public services in Northern Ireland. This includes essential budget legislation and legislation on decision making in Northern Ireland.
- The UK Government has been delivering for the people of Northern Ireland and the 2019-20 budget is supported by UK Government flexibilities, including £140 million of new funding and £130 million in flexibility to enable existing capital funding to be used to address public services pressures.
- Northern Ireland has also benefited from the release of funding from the Confidence and Supply agreement, with £763 million allocated so far, including £333 million for the current financial year. Northern Ireland can also access an additional £125 million from the Stormont House and Fresh Start agreements.
- With the recent announcement of £163 million Growth Deal funding to Northern Ireland, the UK Government is delivering on its commitment to an ambitious set of city and growth deals across Northern Ireland. This brings the UK Government's investment in Northern Ireland through City and Growth Deals to over £600 million which helps ensure people in every corner of the United Kingdom can realise their potential.
- As we prepare to leave Europe, the UK Government is committed to long standing areas of UK/Ireland collaboration including those provided for in the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement and to furthering Northern Ireland's security

and prosperity, recognising the unique challenges that the outcome of the referendum poses for Ireland.

- The UK Government is committed to supporting the all-island economy by avoiding checks and infrastructure at the border between Northern Ireland and Ireland, keeping Northern Ireland in the same customs territory as Great Britain, and ensuring unfettered access for Northern Irish farmers and businesses to the UK market.

## Northern Ireland governance

*“My Government remains committed to working with all parties in Northern Ireland to support the return of devolved Government and to address the legacy of the past.”*

- The Government’s overriding priority is to restore the devolved power-sharing government in Northern Ireland.
- Northern Ireland needs a restored Executive and Assembly and the political leadership of its elected local representatives.
- Since May, the five main Northern Ireland political parties have engaged in a series of cross-party talks, focused on key issues central to restoring power-sharing. While the parties remain engaged, a renewed determination to find agreement will be needed if the process is to conclude in the coming weeks.
- In the absence of an Executive, we have made a commitment to the people of Northern Ireland that we will ensure good governance and the continued delivery of vital public services.
- Over the last two years, the UK Government has fulfilled this commitment by legislating on a variety of issues including vital budget legislation to facilitate the continued delivery of public services and setting regional rates.
- We have also legislated to enable the Northern Ireland Civil Service to continue to take decisions in the public interest to keep vital services going in Northern Ireland.
- We will continue to legislate where needed to ensure good governance and have made a specific commitment to introduce legislation on Historical Institutional Abuse in Northern Ireland before the end of the year.
- We remain fully committed to finding a solution for dealing with the legacy of the Troubles which works for everyone. Following our consultation on the Stormont House institutions, the Government is engaging with the main parties in Northern Ireland, MPs in Westminster and wider society across Northern Ireland on the issues raised in the consultation to enable us to reach a broad consensus. We will then set out detailed, balanced and fair proposals on the best way forward, including legislation as needed.

## Key facts

- The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and his predecessor have progressed talks towards restoring the devolved institutions, which are still ongoing.
- In the meantime, the executive formation legislation we have passed gives certainty to the Northern Ireland Civil Service and ensures good governance and the delivery of public services continues. This includes setting the budget at Westminster.
- The Prime Minister's first announcement was a £300 million pot for growth deals to unleash the productive power of every part of the UK. In Northern Ireland this will include growth deals for Mid and South West Ulster and Causeway Coast & Glens.
- £350 million of UK Government funding will go towards a city deal for Belfast.
- £50 million has also been allocated to a city deal for the region of Derry and Strabane, on top of the £55 million Inclusive Future Fund, which will create jobs and growth in an area in need of investment.
- The Spending Round included over £400 million of spending in Northern Ireland, more per capita than any other nation of the UK.

## **The Armed Forces**

*“My Government will continue to invest in our gallant Armed Forces. My Ministers will honour the Armed Forces Covenant and the NATO commitment to spend at least two per cent of national income on defence.”*

### **NATO 2 per cent Commitment**

- The first duty of any Government is the safety and security of the British people at home and abroad. That is why we have committed to spending at least 2 per cent of our GDP on Defence every year of this parliament. Our defence spending commitment will ensure the UK Armed Forces can help keep Britain safe.

### **Armed Forces Covenant**

- We enshrined the Armed Forces Covenant in law in 2011.
- The Covenant commits the nation to support those who serve or have served as well as their families. We aim to ensure that Armed Forces personnel are treated fairly and not disadvantaged in their day-to-day lives as a result of their military service. For those whose dedication and courage has resulted in injury and bereavement, a deeper and special consideration is appropriate. It is a priority of this Government to do more for those who gave so much.
- The Government, local authorities, the wider public sector, charities, commercial organisations and civil society all have a role in supporting the Armed Forces community. While this includes support to veterans in the areas of employment, healthcare, housing, education, and financial advice, it is also about recognising how Government can make a positive difference for those in the front line of our nation’s defence.

### **Office of Veterans’ Affairs**

- The Government’s latest demonstration of its commitment to the Covenant has been the creation of The Office for Veterans’ Affairs. This builds on the foundations set by the Strategy for our Veterans.
- It is the first time that veterans’ affairs will be overseen by a dedicated Ministerial team in the Cabinet Office, enabling better co-ordination of the full machinery of government and other partners to deliver joined-up support for



veterans. This will provide a comprehensive approach to maximising the potential of our veterans while also supporting those who need it.

- The remit of the Office for Veterans' Affairs will not extend to historical allegations, which are the responsibility of the MoD for overseas operations and the Northern Ireland Office for Northern Ireland Troubles-related cases.

### **Historical allegations**

- The Government is strongly opposed to our Service personnel and veterans being subject to the threat of repeated investigations and potential prosecution in connection with historical operations many years after the events in question, where no new evidence is available.
- Our first step to address these concerns was the launch of a public consultation in July on proposed legal protections for Armed Forces personnel and veterans who have served in operations outside the UK.
- This consultation closed yesterday and we will now consider the responses received to develop concrete recommendations.
- This is a delicate and sensitive matter and we do not want to proceed with undue haste but the Government is clear that this is an issue which must be addressed as soon as is practically possible.
- Veterans can rightly expect the Government to pay the fullest and closest attention to introducing comprehensive legislation. Inevitably, this takes time and we are focussed on getting it right in order to bring this vexatious issue to a conclusion.

### **Key facts**

- The UK is the biggest Defence spender in Europe and the second biggest in NATO.
- The UK is one very few Allies to meet both NATO spending guidelines; spending 2.13 per cent of GDP on Defence (2019-20) and spending 20 per cent of annual defence expenditure on major equipment and associated research and development.
- As the NATO Secretary General said, "the UK leads by example in NATO on defence spending, operations and capabilities."

- We are leading in the development of new defence capabilities, spending our money on defending against new threats in contemporary conflict situations as well as maintaining traditional capabilities.
- The Covenant was enshrined in law in the Armed Forces Act 2011 and has over 4000 signatories, including businesses, charities, and all 407 local authorities in mainland Great Britain and four Northern Ireland councils.
- Through the Covenant we have:
  - Allocated £2 million to seed-fund the 24/7 Veterans' Gateway to provide a single point of contact for veterans seeking support and advice, with over 30,000 people have contacted since April 2017.
  - Provided more than £470 million from LIBOR bank fines to support Armed Forces charities and other related good causes.
  - Paid out £280 million to around 18,600 Service People as of the end of June 2019 through the Forces Help to Buy Scheme, an average of approximately £15,000 per claim.
  - Allocated £68.3 million in 2017-18 to upgrading Service Family Accommodation.

## Foreign affairs

*“As the United Kingdom leaves the European Union, my Government will ensure that it continues to play a leading role in global affairs, defending its interests and promoting its values.*

*My Government will be at the forefront of efforts to solve the most complex international security issues. It will champion global free trade and work alongside international partners to solve the most pressing global challenges. It will prioritise tackling climate change and ensuring that all girls have access to twelve years of quality education.”*

### Global Britain

- As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, NATO, the G7, the G20 and the Commonwealth, we will continue to play a leading role globally.
- We are the only major country which is simultaneously meeting the NATO target of spending 2 per cent of our GDP on defence, and the UN target of spending 0.7 per cent of our GNI on international development.
- When we leave the EU, there will be enormous opportunities across the world. We want to be good European neighbours and global free traders. But Global Britain is about more than Brexit, or even free trade, important though they are.
- We will lead on climate change. We will be a champion of the basic freedoms enshrined in the UN Charter, and a staunch defender of the rules-based international system – the world’s best bet when it comes to tackling the challenges we all share.
- In December we will host the NATO Leaders’ Meeting, marking 70 years of the world’s most successful military alliance, and which will bring together all the leaders of NATO Allies to discuss how to keep our people safe in the future.

### Climate change

- The UK is leading the world in tackling climate change, from being the first major economy to legislate for net zero to recently doubling our investment to helping developing countries turn the tide against climate change.

- Hosting the global climate change summit, the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow, is a huge vote of confidence in the action we have already taken – passing laws to end the UK’s contribution to global warming, cutting emissions, and backing greener transport and technology.
- We will set out our priorities for the Glasgow Summit closer to the time, but it will be a huge opportunity to make further progress. Over 30,000 delegates from around the world, including climate experts, business leaders and citizens will come together in Glasgow, boosting business and driving investment in the region. Together we will commit to ambitious action to make sure we leave our precious environment in a better state for future generations.

### **Girl’s education**

- The UK is leading global action to help provide 12 years of quality education for all girls by 2030.
- Between 2015 and 2019 the UK supported 5.8 million girls to gain a decent education.
- At the United Nations General Assembly in 2019, the Prime Minister announced £515 million to help get over 12 million children into school, this will boost economic growth and improve women’s rights in some of the poorest countries in the world.

### **Champion for global free trade**

- The UK is among the most vocal advocates for free trade and the rules-based global trading system.
- When we leave the EU we will take back control of our trade policy for the first time in 46 years.
- Our ambition is to cover 80 per cent of total UK external trade with free trade agreements by 2022, ensuring that UK exporters can access new and expanding markets for goods and services around the world.
- We have already announced that we will be negotiating Free Trade Agreements with major economies and free market democracies, including the United States of America, New Zealand, Australia and Japan as well as

exploring the option of possibly joining the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership.

- Our consultation on these new Free Trade Agreements is one of the largest consultations ever carried out by Government with more than 600,000 responses.
- We continue to make the case for a rules-based international trading system and ambitious World Trade Organisation reform.
- We are holding discussions with 21 countries through our Joint Economic Trade Committees and working groups to strengthen trade links and lower international trade barriers.
- We have launched a market access tool to allow British business to report trade barriers, which will help to open up new markets.
- We are ready to take our independent seat at the World Trade Organisation after we leave the EU using our independent voice to help create trading rules for the 21st century.
- We will launch up to 10 new free ports to promote free enterprise.
- We have been clear that any future deal with the US must work for UK consumers, farmers and companies. Without exception, imports will meet our stringent food safety standards. After Brexit, the UK will decide how we set and maintain our own standards and regulations.
- The NHS is not, and never will be, for sale to the private sector, whether overseas or domestic. The Government is committed to the guiding principles of the NHS – that it is universal and free at the point of need.

### **Key facts**

- The UK is the world's fifth biggest economy, fifth largest exporter and second largest exporter of services.
- 12 per cent of the world's international students attend UK universities and 4 of top 10 global universities are located in the UK.
- Britain is the first major economy in the world to legislate to end our contribution to global warming.

- The UK has already helped 47 million people to cope with the effects of climate change, supported 17 million people to access clean energy and reduced or avoided 10.4 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.
- The UK will up its International Climate Finance support to at least £11.6 billion over the next five years, between 2021-22 and 2025-26.
- This represents a doubling of the UK's commitment to spend at least £5.8 billion on tackling climate change to 2021, announced ahead of the landmark Paris climate change meeting, 21st Conference of the Parties, in 2015.
- Between 2015 and 2019 the UK supported 5.8 million girls to gain a decent education. Our Girls' Education Challenge is the world's largest fund dedicated to girls' education. It is now supporting up to 1.5 million marginalised girls in 17 countries around the world.
- At the G7 in August the Prime Minister announced that 600,000 children in the world's most dangerous countries would be given the chance to go to school for the first time thanks to £90 million of UK aid funding.
- Girls' education is a key driver determining a country's economic success. A child whose mother can read is 50 per cent more likely to live past the age of five and twice as likely to attend school themselves and one additional school year can increase a woman's earnings by 20 per cent.
- At the G7 Leaders' Summit in Biarritz in 2019, the Prime Minister announced £90 million of new funding to provide education for children caught up in crises and conflict. Girls, who are more than twice as likely to be out of school in conflict areas, stand to benefit the most from this support.

## CONTACT DETAILS

Bill	Lead Department(s)	Press Office contact
<b>Legislation</b>		
Agriculture Bill	Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs	020 8225 7317
Airline insolvency	Department for Transport	020 7944 3021
Animal welfare	Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs	020 8225 7317
Air Traffic Management and Unmanned Aircraft Bill	Department for Transport	020 7944 3021
Birmingham Commonwealth Games Bill	Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport	020 7211 2210
Broadband	Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport	020 7211 2210
Building safety standards legislation	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	0303 444 1201
Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill	Ministry of Justice	020 3334 3536
Domestic Abuse Bill	Home Office	020 7035 3535
Electoral integrity	Cabinet Office	020 7276 7545
Employment (Allocation of Tips) Bill	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	020 7215 1000
Environment Bill	Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs	020 8225 7317

European Union (Withdrawal Agreement Bill)	Department for Exiting the European Union	020 7276 0432
Extradition (Provisional Arrest) Bill	Home Office	020 7035 3535
Financial Services Bill	Her Majesty's Treasury	020 7270 5238
Fisheries Bill	Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs	020 8225 7317
Foreign National Offenders Bill	Home Office	020 7035 3535
Health Service Safety Investigations Bill	Department of Health and Social Care	020 7210 5477
High Speed Rail 2 (West Midlands - Crewe) Bill	Department for Transport	020 7944 3021
Historical Institutional Abuse (Northern Ireland) Bill	Northern Ireland Office	02890 527 856
Immigration and Social Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Bill	Home Office	020 7035 3535
Medicines and Medical Devices Bill	Department of Health and Social Care	020 7210 5477
National security and investment legislation	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	020 7215 1000
NHS long term plan	Department of Health and Social Care	020 7210 5477
Pension Schemes Bill	Department for Work and Pensions	020 3267 5144
Police Protections Bill	Home Office	020 7035 3535



Prisoners (Disclosure of Information About Victims) Bill	Ministry of Justice	020 3334 3536
Private International Law (Implementation of Agreements) Bill	Ministry of Justice	020 3334 3536
Sentencing (Pre-Consolidation Amendments) Bill	Ministry of Justice	020 3334 3536
Sentencing Bill	Ministry of Justice	020 3334 3536
Serious Violence Bill	Home Office	020 7035 3535
Trade Bill	Department for International Trade	020 7008 3333
Windrush Compensation Scheme (Expenditure) Bill	Home Office	020 7035 3535
<b>Non-legislative measures</b>		
Adult social care	Department of Health and Social Care	020 7210 5477
The Armed Forces	Ministry of Defence	020 7218 7907
Education funding	Department for Education	020 7783 8300
Employment reform	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	020 7215 1000
English devolution	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government	0303 444 1201
Foreign affairs	Foreign Office	020 7215 1000
Mental health reform	Department of Health and Social Care	020 7210 5477

National Infrastructure Strategy	Her Majesty's Treasury	020 7270 5238
Northern Ireland governance	Northern Ireland Office	02890 527 856
Online harms	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	020 7215 1000
Public finances	Her Majesty's Treasury	020 7270 5238
Railway reform	Department for Transport	020 7944 3021
Science, space and infrastructure	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	020 7215 1000
The Union	Cabinet Office	020 7276 7545
Victims	Ministry of Justice	020 3334 3536