HOUSE OF LORDS

Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee

43rd Report of Session 2022–23

Drawn to the special attention of the House:

Sentencing Act 2020 (Special Procedures for Community and Suspended Sentence Orders) Regulations 2023

Includes information paragraphs on:

Draft Electricity and Gas (Energy Company Obligation) Order 2023

Draft Environmental Protection (Plastic Plates etc. and Polystyrene Containers etc.) (England) Regulations 2023

National Health Service (Primary Dental Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2023

Higher Education (Registration Fees) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2023

Civil Procedure (Amendment No. 2) Rules 2023

National Health Service Pension Scheme (Member Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations 2023

Aviation Safety (Amendment) Regulations 2023

Universal Credit (Childcare) (Amendment) Regulations 2023

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Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee

The Committee's terms of reference, as agreed on 12 May 2022, are set out on the website but are, in summary:

To report on draft instruments published under paragraph 14 of Schedule 8 to the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018; to report on draft instruments and memoranda laid before Parliament under sections 8 and 23(1) of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 and section 31 of the European Union (Future Relationship) Act 2020.

And, to scrutinise –

(a) every instrument (whether or not a statutory instrument), or draft of an instrument, which is laid before each House of Parliament and upon which proceedings may be, or might have been, taken in either House of Parliament under an Act of Parliament;

(b) every proposal which is in the form of a draft of such an instrument and is laid before each House of Parliament under an Act of Parliament,

with a view to determining whether or not the special attention of the House should be drawn to it on any of the grounds specified in the terms of reference.

The Committee may also consider such other general matters relating to the effective scrutiny of secondary legislation as the Committee considers appropriate, except matters within the orders of reference of the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments.

Members

Lord De Mauley
Baroness Harris of Richmond
Lord Hunt of Wirral (Chair)
Lord Hutton of Furness
Baroness Lea of Lymm
Lord Powell of Bayswater
Baroness Randerson
Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick
Lord Rowlands
Lord Russell of Liverpool
Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd

Registered interests

Information about interests of Committee Members can be found in the last Appendix to this report.

Publications

The Committee's Reports are published on the internet at https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/255/secondary-legislation-scrutiny-committee/publications/

Committee Staff

The staff of the Committee are Christine Salmon Percival (Clerk), Philipp Mende (Adviser), Chris Smith (Adviser), Jane White (Adviser) and Riona Millar (Committee Operations Officer).

Further Information

Further information about the Committee is available at https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/255/secondary-legislation-scrutiny-committee/

The progress of statutory instruments can be followed at https://statutoryinstruments.parliament.uk/

The National Archives publish statutory instruments with a plain English explanatory memorandum on the internet at http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi

Contacts

Any query about the Committee or its work, or opinions on any new item of secondary legislation, should be directed to the Clerk to the Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee, Legislation Office, House of Lords, London SW1A 0PW. The telephone number is 020 7219 8821 and the email address is hlseclegscrutiny@parliament.uk.

Forty Third Report

DRAWN TO THE SPECIAL ATTENTION OF THE HOUSE

Sentencing Act 2020 (Special Procedures for Community and Suspended Sentence Orders) Regulations 2023 (SI 2023/559)

Date laid: 22 May 2023

Parliamentary procedure: negative

These Regulations introduce pilots of 'Intensive Supervision Courts', which will provide certain less serious offenders with an intensive oversight system aimed at addressing their individual needs. The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) believes the approach has the potential to deliver benefits both for the individuals participating and for society; for example, by reducing reoffending and the number of custodial sentences, thus alleviating the pressure on prison capacity. However, there will be fewer pilots than the maximum envisaged in the White Paper that proposed the approach, MoJ has said that it will not provide any additional resource dedicated to the programme and the pilots will not be fully evaluated until 2027. ***We are concerned that this method of implementation may not yield the maximum possible benefits and information from the pilots.***

The Regulations are also an example of a wider issue we have recently highlighted, whereby we have had to ask basic questions about the rationale of a policy or its intended effects and report the answers in our weekly reports, when such information should have been in the Explanatory Memorandum accompanying the instrument. ***We expect all departments to apply more thorough standards of analysis and explanation.***

These Regulations are drawn to the special attention of the House on the grounds that they are politically or legally important or give rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the House.

Background

1. These Regulations introduce operational procedures for pilots of 'Intensive Supervision Courts' (ISCs) in England and Wales. The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) describes ISCs as a "problem-solving approach" to offender management, in which those receiving some community and suspended sentences have regular contact with a "multi-disciplinary team", including the judiciary, health professionals, police and probation officers, and specialist support in relation to housing, education and skills. MoJ told us that local authorities would be a "key part of the team" in ISCs.

2. ISCs seek to address an offender's individual needs, such as substance misuse, housing and education, with ultimate aims including reducing reoffending and the use of custody. Judges and magistrates will oversee the process and can incentivise good progress (for example, by relaxing conditions) while sanctioning behaviour not meeting agreed standards (by increased drug testing, court reviews and spells in jail).

3. ISCs were proposed in the 2020 White Paper, 'A Smarter Approach to Sentencing'[1] (although then described as 'problem-solving courts'—the change of name is not explained). The White Paper cited successful local problem-solving approaches as precedents, such as an initiative targeted at women in Greater Manchester that, the paper said, reduced the average reoffending rate compared to similar urban areas. ISCs were legislated for in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022.

4. Although not cited in the White Paper, problem-solving courts and ISCs bear some similarities to the North Liverpool Community Justice Centre (known as a 'Community Court') that operated between 2005 and 2013.[2]

Resourcing

5. The Explanatory Memorandum (EM) contained no information on how the pilots would be resourced. In response to our question, MoJ said that "anticipated ISC caseloads will be met within current judicial capacity, and we will keep this under review as the pilot continues". It is not clear how other departments and bodies will be resourcing their contributions to ISCs.

6. The "intensive supervision" approach has the potential to make significant demands on those involved**. With no additional MoJ resources, there is a risk that cases will not receive the full attention required to maximise the potential of the pilots, and/or other cases not in the pilot will suffer.**

The pilot approach

7. In the 2020 White Paper, MoJ said that the new approach would be piloted in "up to five courts".[3] The paper said that piloting would enable the Government to be confident about the "impact and longer-term sustainability" of the system.

8. The Regulations, in fact, propose just three pilot areas: Liverpool and Teesside, both concentrating on substance misuse; and Birmingham, on female offenders. When we asked why only three sites had been identified, MoJ told us it was "focussing on the successful design, delivery and implementation of the three pilot sites […] before we consider expanding into new regions".

9. While we understand the need to ensure that the pilots are well-run, a larger number could yield both more benefits at an earlier stage and a greater volume of data to analyse when reviewing the programme**. Taken together with the absence of additional resources described above, we are concerned that the pilots may not yield the maximum possible benefits and information.**

10. There was little information in the EM about why the chosen regions were selected for the pilot and, within each area, which cases would enter the pilot. In response to our questions, MoJ said that sites were invited to submit expressions of interest and were then chosen based on a combination

1 Ministry of Justice, 'A Smarter Approach to Sentencing' (16 September 2020): https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-smarter-approach-to-sentencing [accessed 2 June 2023].
2 Centre for Justice Innovation, 'Problem-solving courts: an evidence review' (September 2016): https://justiceinnovation.org/publications/problem-solving-courts-evidence-review [accessed 6 June 2023].
3 Ministry of Justice, 'A Smarter Approach to Sentencing' (16 September 2020), p 12: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-smarter-approach-to-sentencing [accessed 2 June 2023].

of factors described as “court recovery, service provision, local judicial support, volumes and cohort need”. Regarding cases, MoJ said that “all offenders who meet the initial eligibility criteria in the pilot areas will be considered for inclusion in the pilot”, but that the final decision would be “a sentencing decision exercised by judicial office holders that will be informed by the professional judgement of probation practitioners and a multi-agency pre-sentence report”. MoJ estimated that “approximately 400” offenders will be given ISC sentences during the 18-month pilot across the three courts.

11. **MoJ were able to supply answers to our questions on the design and implementation of the pilot, but this information should have been in the EM to aid scrutiny of the instrument.**

Review of the pilots

12. New cases will enter the pilots for an 18-month period from the coming-into-force date, ending in December 2024. Any case accepted onto the pilot during this period will continue to be fully managed through the ISC until the end of the sentence, including beyond the end of the 18-month period.

13. The EM did not contain any information about how MoJ would review the pilots. In response to our questions, MoJ said that it “anticipated” an impact evaluation would be completed by 2027. This would allow both for ISC sentences to complete and for the impact on subsequent reoffending to be assessed. MoJ also told us that there will be an independent “process evaluation”, with a published interim report by spring 2024 and a final report by summer 2025. MoJ also stated that there would be internally conducted “impact and economic evaluations” once the pilot has finished.

14. The EM was entirely lacking details on when reviews would be conducted, by whom and whether the results will be published. MoJ’s responses to our questions provided some information but leave us uncertain about exactly which aspects of the pilots will be reviewed at which stages and what will be published as a result. **When conducting pilots, departments should have, and be able to communicate, a clear picture of how and when they will be reviewed.** We encourage MoJ to publish as much of its review material as possible and at as early a stage as possible.

15. In particular, it is not clear from MoJ’s statements when ISCs will be introduced more widely, if the pilots are considered a success. MoJ told us only that any wider introduction “will require further decisions to be taken by Ministers”. While we welcome policymaking based on analysis of the evidence, the full evaluation of the pilots is only scheduled to be completed in 2027. **We encourage MoJ to consider ways to make any benefits available more widely and sooner.**

16. A number of evaluation criteria for the scheme were set out the in 2020 White Paper. These included: the offender’s drug usage; other health and wellbeing indicators; the use of prison; compliance of offenders; judicial confidence; and reoffending measures.[4] **Again, such information should have been included in the EM.**

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4 Ministry of Justice, ‘A Smarter Approach to Sentencing’ (16 September 2020), p 56: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/a-smarter-approach-to-sentencing [accessed 2 June 2023].

17. MoJ told us that the analysis of reoffending following the pilots "will be dependent on sample size". The level of reoffending is a critical factor in assessing the success of the pilots. **MoJ's plan should ensure there are sufficient cases to analyse this fully**. We note again the lower number of pilots than the maximum envisaged in the White Paper, with implications for the quantity of data available.

18. The EM also did not explain how ISCs would differ from the Liverpool Community Court. In response to our questions, MoJ said that while there had been no full evaluation of the Liverpool example, MoJ "can and have learned from these previous problem-solving courts". MoJ said that a key difference is that ISCs are "backed by legislative provisions and a detailed delivery model", which provides, for example, the judicial powers to expand drug testing and order short custodial sanctions for breaches of an ISC order. **It is regrettable that there was no evaluation of the Liverpool example, which could impact the lessons to be learned. This emphasises the importance of the planned evaluations of ISCs.**

Conclusion

19. These Regulations introduce pilots of an intensive oversight system for certain less serious offenders. MoJ believes the approach has the potential to deliver benefits both for the individuals participating and for society; for example, by reducing reoffending and the number of custodial sentences, thus alleviating the pressure on prison capacity (which MoJ has recently described to us as "acute"[5]). However, there will be fewer pilots than the maximum envisaged in the White Paper; MoJ has said that it will not provide any additional resource dedicated to the programme; and the pilots will not be fully evaluated until 2027. **We are concerned that this approach may not yield the maximum possible benefits and information from the pilots.**

20. Our recent Interim Report[6] highlighted an excessive number of recent instruments where we have had to ask basic questions about the rationale of a policy or its intended effects and report the answers in our weekly reports, when such information should have been included in the EM. **This is a case in point: the EM omitted key information about the design, implementation and review of the pilots and the Committee will be writing to the Department to ask why the EM contained so little practical detail. As the Interim Report said, we expect all departments to apply more thorough standards of analysis and explanation.**

5 SLSC, *35th Report* (Session 2022–23, HL Paper 177), p 6.
6 SLSC, *Interim Report on the Work of the Committee in Session 2022–23* (42nd Report, Session 2022–23, HL Paper 205).

INSTRUMENTS OF INTEREST

Draft Electricity and Gas (Energy Company Obligation) Order 2023

21. This draft Order proposes the Great British Insulation Scheme ("the Scheme") which would require licensed gas and electricity suppliers to promote the installation of energy efficiency measures, such as loft or cavity wall insulation, across Great Britain. The Scheme is to run until the end of March 2026 at a value of £1 billion. The objectives are to deliver energy efficiency measures to a wider group of households than other schemes; to help alleviate fuel poverty and accelerate progress to meet fuel poverty targets; to contribute to domestic carbon reduction targets; and to reduce the costs of meeting the UK's net zero target through promoting more efficient energy use. Under the Scheme, which will be industry-led, suppliers pass on the installation costs to their customers.

22. The Scheme seeks to expand on the Energy Company Obligation 4 (ECO4) which was launched in 2022[7] and which will also run until 31 March 2026. The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) explains that while ECO4 aims to deliver whole house retrofits for low-income and vulnerable households, the new Scheme seeks to encourage rapid installation of the most cost-effective mainly single insulation measures and to extend support to a much wider group of households in the least efficient, lower Council tax band homes. The Order includes provision to prevent an insulation measure from receiving support under both ECO4 and the new Scheme and also to enable heating measures under ECO4 to be installed in a wider range of circumstances.

23. DESNZ estimates that the capped maximum average cost of the new Scheme on a household bill will be around £5 per year during year 1 of the Scheme and around £17 per year during years 2 and 3 of the Scheme for a typical dual fuel customer.[8] For households benefitting from a Scheme installation, the average gross saving on their annual dual fuel bill will be between £300 and £400. DESNZ expects the Scheme to fund the installation of around 376,000 insulation measures in 315,000 homes by the end of March 2026. The Department says that Ofgem, as the Administer of the new Scheme, will be required to submit monthly progress reports to the Secretary of State on suppliers' performance against the overall target. This data will be published, apart from any commercially sensitive data that is linked to individual suppliers.

Draft Environmental Protection (Plastic Plates etc. and Polystyrene Containers etc.) (England) Regulations 2023

24. These draft Regulations propose to ban the supply of single-use plastic plates, bowls, trays, cutlery, and balloon sticks as well as of expanded and foamed extruded polystyrene (EPS/XPS) food and drink containers in England, as part of the Government's commitment to eliminate all avoidable plastic waste. Single-use plastic bowls which have been pre-filled with food before sale or bowls filled with food at the counter of a takeaway are to

7 Draft Electricity and Gas (Energy Company Obligation) Order 2022 and *7th Report* (Session 2021–22, HL Paper 34).

8 Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, *Impact Assessment* (17 May 2023), paras 26 and 27: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1157227/gb-insulation-scheme-final-stage-ia.pdf.

be exempt from the ban; they will instead be covered by the proposals for extended producer responsibility for packaging, which will give producers responsibility for the costs of their packaging throughout its lifecycle.

25. According to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), similar bans on these items, apart from single use plastic bowls and trays, are already in force in Scotland and will come into force in Wales in Autumn 2023. In Northern Ireland, the EU Single Use Plastics Directive, which also does not cover single use plastic bowls and trays, applies but has not yet been transposed in relation to these items due to the absence of a Northern Ireland Executive. Defra says that the market access principles under the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020 ensure that single use plastic bowls and trays which have been legally produced or imported into Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland can still be sold in England.

National Health Service (Primary Dental Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (SI 2023/554)

26. These amending Regulations give discretion to NHS England to rewrite contracts for dental services unilaterally if the contractor has delivered less than 96% of contracted activity for three consecutive financial years. In these circumstances the value of the contract will be amended to the highest number of Units of Dental Activity (UDAs) delivered by the contractor over the three preceding non-COVID years.[9]

27. The Department for Health and Social Care states that most dentists deliver within this 4% tolerance; however, around 13% of dentists persistently fail to do so and until now there was no mechanism to allow commissioners to rebase contracts for those practices that have repeatedly failed to deliver their agreed UDAs. This change will allow commissioners to allocate the unused UDAs to other practices that can deliver more NHS work and is part of a wider set of reforms agreed with the British Dental Association.

Higher Education (Registration Fees) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (SI 2023/558)

28. These Regulations increase the registration fees that Higher Education providers (HEPs) pay to the Office for Students (OfS) by either 18.5% or 19.5% for 2023–24, significantly in excess of inflation. The Department for Education (DfE) notes that a substantial part of the rise reflects the transfer of quality assessments, and associated costs, from the Quality Assurance Agency to the OfS. Adjusting for this, fees will increase by between 0% and 12%, depending on student numbers at the HEP. In addition, the rises follow two years of real-terms reductions. DfE has also kept the 2023–24 increases lower than they would otherwise have been by providing an additional grant of £1.5 million (compared with total fee increases of £5 million), although it has not committed to paying this in subsequent years.

29. Apart from taking on the functions of the Quality Assurance Agency, DfE says that the OfS requires increased income to fund "significant and important work" in 2023–24, including "implementing the Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Act 2023, monitoring providers' compliance with their registration conditions, distributing grant funding, and preparing for the implementation of the Lifelong Learning Entitlement". DfE told us that

9 The financial years ending on 31 March 2021 and 31 March 2022 are excluded as the 'COVID years'.

implementing the 2023 Act would absorb "a considerable proportion" of the increases.

Civil Procedure (Amendment No. 2) Rules 2023 (SI 2023/572)

30. These Rules extend the scope of Fixed Recoverable Costs (FRC) in civil cases in the Court of Appeal, the High Court and the County Court to a wider range of cases, including creating a new 'intermediate track' for less complex claims between £25,000 and £100,000. The aims are to reduce costs and make them both more proportionate to the claim and more predictable. The Ministry of Justice says this will encourage earlier settlement.

31. The general principle in civil litigation in England and Wales is that the losing party pays the successful party's actual legal costs. FRC, in contrast, specifies the level of payments that can be recovered at different stages of litigation. It already exists for most personal injury claims in the 'fast track' (for damages between £10,000 and £25,000) but not in most other instances. Amongst other changes, these Rules:

- extend FRC to all civil claims in the fast track, although with a two-year delay for housing claims;
- create the new intermediate track and corresponding FRC;
- set out the schedules of fixed costs applicable in the fast and intermediate tracks;
- specify certain types of cases, such as clinical negligence and child abuse or neglect, that, regardless of damages, are not suitable for the fast or intermediate tracks; and
- set out the circumstances in which courts can award higher costs than FRC would imply.

National Health Service Pension Scheme (Member Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations 2023(SI 2023/576)

32. This instrument amends the National Health Service Pension Scheme Regulations 2015 to update the pensionable earnings bands in the member contribution structure in line with the Agenda for Change pay award for England. The Explanatory Memorandum (EM) provided gives very little context beyond saying that the negotiations concluded on 2 May 2023, and **we have asked for it to be improved.**

33. Instead of allowing the normal 21 days for parliamentary scrutiny, the instrument was brought into effect after seven days on the grounds that without the legislation the current pensionable earnings bands would apply and, as they are lower, might result in some members paying a higher contribution rate. This is not persuasive: the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) will in any case need to make payroll adjustments to backdate the changes from 1 April 2023 to ensure that each person receives the appropriate payments and deductions. We have asked DHSC to coordinate its process better in future. **Our recent Interim Report drew attention to departments curtailing scrutiny without adequate justification and this is another example.**[10]

10 SLSC, *Interim Report on the Work of the Committee in Session 2022–23*, (42nd Report, Session 2022–23, HL Paper 205), paras 18–20.

Aviation Safety (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (SI 2023/588)

34. The instrument amends four retained EU Regulations. Two are amended to implement revised International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) standards by applying Safety Management Systems to airworthiness assessment to both the design and production of aircraft and their long-term maintenance. Two are amended to delay the changes in balloon and glider licensing until 31 December 2025. The Explanatory Memorandum (EM) provided simply says what the Regulations do without providing any context or background to the policy choices made. The Department for Transport was able to respond to our questions fully, and we have asked them to revise the information in the EM to explain why they consider there is no safety risk from the delays incurred, and to provide sufficient context so that any reader can understand the policy choices made. We **will also be writing to the Department to ask why an EM with so little policy explanation was authorised for laying.**

Universal Credit (Childcare) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (SI 2023/593)

35. The amount that a claimant for Universal Credit can receive to pay for childcare costs has not been increased since 2006. As announced in the Budget, this instrument implements a 47% increase to the childcare cost caps, to a maximum of £950.92 for one child and £1,630.15 for two or more children, per assessment period.

36. Another amendment allows Universal Credit claimants who are taking up paid work or increasing their working hours to claim back up to 85% of an upfront payment to a childcare provider. This is to remove a known barrier for claimants and to smooth their transition into work. Regrettably the effect of the legislation was incorrectly described in the Explanatory Memorandum originally laid with the instrument, which said this provision applied when a claimant "significantly" increased their hours. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has apologised saying that this was unintentional, and the provision could apply to any increase in working hours. This example further illustrates our concerns about inaccuracies in departments' explanatory material which could mislead Parliament and a potential claimant.[11] We stress the need for DWP to check its statements more carefully.

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11 *Interim Report on the Work of the Committee in Session 2022–23*, para 32.

INSTRUMENTS NOT DRAWN TO THE SPECIAL ATTENTION OF THE HOUSE

Instruments subject to affirmative approval

Draft	Armed Forces Act 2006 (Continuation) Order 2023
Draft	Electricity and Gas (Energy Company Obligation) Order 2023
Draft	Environmental Protection (Plastic Plates etc. and Polystyrene Containers etc.) (England) Regulations 2023
Draft	Judicial Pensions (Remediable Service etc.) Regulations 2023

Draft instruments subject to annulment

Draft	Castle Point (Electoral Changes) Order 2023
Draft	Fareham (Electoral Changes) Order 2023
Draft	Harlow (Electoral Changes) Order 2023

Instruments subject to annulment

SI 2023/540	Railways and Other Guided Transport Systems (Safety) (Amendment) Regulations 2023
SI 2023/542	Criminal Legal Aid (Remuneration) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2023
SI 2023/543	Social Security Universal Credit (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2023
SI 2023/545	Social Fund Maternity and Funeral Expenses (General) and Social Security (Claims and Payments) (Amendment) Regulations 2023)
SI 2023/547	Social Security (Disability Additional Payment Day) Regulations 2023
SI 2023/549	Social Fund Winter Fuel Payment (Temporary Increase) Regulations 2023
SI 2023/554	National Health Service (Primary Dental Services) (Amendment) Regulations 2023
SI 2023/558	Higher Education (Registration Fees) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2023
SI 2023/565	Exotic Equine Disease (Compensation) (England) (No 2) Order 2023
SI 2023/571	School Discipline (Pupil Exclusions and Reviews) (England) (Amendment and Transitional Provision) Regulations 2023
SI 2023/572	Civil Procedure (Amendment No. 2) Rules 2023
SI 2023/576	National Health Service Pension Scheme (Member Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations 2023
SI 2023/577	Carbon Accounting (Determination of Excess UK Assigned Amount Units) Regulations 2023

SI 2023/586	Competition Act 1998 (Motor Vehicle Agreements Block Exemption) (No. 2) Order 2023
SI 2023/588	Aviation Safety (Amendment) Regulations 2023
SI 2023/593	Universal Credit (Childcare) (Amendment) Regulations 2023

APPENDIX 1: INTERESTS AND ATTENDANCE

Committee Members' registered interests may be examined in the online Register of Lords' Interests at http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/standards-and-interests/register-of-lords-interests. The Register may also be inspected in the Parliamentary Archives.

For the business taken at the meeting on 6 June 2023 and included in this report, Members declared the following interests:

Civil Procedure (Amendment No. 2) Rules 2023 (SI 2023/572)

Lord Hunt of Wirral

Practising Solicitor and Partner, DAC Beachcroft LLP (international commercial law firm)

Attendance:

The meeting was attended by Lord De Mauley, Baroness Harris of Richmond, Lord Hunt of Wirral, Baroness Lea of Lymm, Lord Powell of Bayswater, Baroness Randerson, Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick, Lord Rowlands, Lord Russell of Liverpool, and Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd.