

## PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

### SUPPLEMENTARY LEGISLATIVE CONSENT MEMORANDUM - POLICE, CRIME, SENTENCING AND COURTS BILL (UK LEGISLATION)

#### Introduction

1. Under Rule 9B.3.5, the Parliamentary Bureau is required to refer any legislative consent memorandum (LCM) that has been lodged with the Parliament to the committee within whose remit the subject matter of the relevant provision falls.

#### Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill

2. The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill was introduced in the House of Commons on 9 March 2021.

3. This supplementary LCM was lodged by Keith Brown MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans, on 6 December 2021. It augments the original LCM lodged on 5 August 2021.

4. The Bill aims to increase trust, transparency and efficiency across the criminal justice system by bring together the Sentencing Bill, Serious Violence Bill and Police Powers and Protections Bill. It includes provision to:

- protect the police and other emergency workers and enhance the wellbeing of police officers and staff;
- protect the public by giving the police the tools needed to tackle crime and disorder, and by addressing the root causes of serious violent crime using multi-agency approaches to prevention;
- ensure that the most serious violent and sexual offenders spend time in prison that matches the severity of their crimes, protects victims and gives the public confidence;
- tackle repeat and prolific offenders through robust community sentences which punish and also address offenders' needs; and
- modernise the delivery of criminal justice by overhauling existing court processes to provide better services for all court users.

5. The LCM indicates that the Scottish Government intends to lodge a motion seeking the Scottish Parliament's consent to the UK Parliament legislating on devolved matters in relation to this Bill.

#### Designation of lead committee

6. The Bill is concerned with a range of criminal justice issues. As such, it falls within the responsibilities of the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans. The remit of the Criminal Justice Committee includes "*to consider and report on matters relating to criminal justice falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans*". The remit of the Criminal Justice Committee is therefore

engaged. Furthermore, the Criminal Justice Committee considered the original LCM on this Bill.

7. No other committee remit appears to be engaged.

8. The LCM will also be considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee in regard to provisions in the Bill conferring powers on the Scottish Ministers to make subordinate legislation.

### **Recommendation**

9. The Bureau is invited to agree to refer, under Rule 9B.3.5, the LCM on the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill to the Criminal Justice Committee to consider and report on it.

**Parliamentary Business Team**  
**7 December 2021**