

Armed Forces Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

*Tabled up to and including
23 July 2026*

The amendments are listed in accordance with the following Instruction –

Clauses 1 to 3	Clauses 32 to 36
Schedule 1	Schedule 5
Clauses 4 and 5	Clauses 37 and 38
Schedule 2	Schedule 6
Clauses 6 and 7	Clauses 39 to 46
Schedule 3	Schedule 7
Clauses 8 to 31	Clauses 47 to 56
Schedule 4	Title

[Amendments marked ★ are new or have been altered]

Clause 2

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

- ★ Clause 2, page 2, line 25, leave out “national authority” and insert “public authority”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the others to Clause 2 in the name of Baroness Goldie, would expand the application of the armed forces covenant to include all public bodies and authorities, particularly NDPBs and publicly owned companies.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

- ★ Clause 2, page 3, line 23, leave out ““national authority”” and insert ““public authority””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the others to Clause 2 in the name of Baroness Goldie, would expand the application of the armed forces covenant to include all public bodies and authorities, particularly NDPBs and publicly owned companies.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

- ★ Clause 2, page 3, line 25, leave out ““National authority”” and insert ““Public authority””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the others to Clause 2 in the name of Baroness Goldie, would expand the application of the armed forces covenant to include all public bodies and authorities, particularly NDPBs and publicly owned companies.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

- ★ Clause 2, page 3, line 32, at end insert —

- “(e) a publicly owned company;
- (f) a non-departmental public body;
- (g) any other person certain of whose functions are functions of a public nature.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the others to Clause 2 in the name of Baroness Goldie, would expand the application of the armed forces covenant to include all public bodies and authorities, particularly NDPBs and publicly owned companies.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

- ★ Clause 2, page 5, line 41, at end insert —

- ““non-departmental public body” means a body corporate that is not regarded as a servant or agent of the Crown but which carries out functions of a public nature;
- “publicly owned company” means a company that is —
 - (a) wholly owned by the Crown,
 - (b) wholly owned by the wider public sector, or
 - (c) wholly owned by the Crown and the wider public sector.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the others to Clause 2 in the name of Baroness Goldie, would expand the application of the armed forces covenant to include all public bodies and authorities, particularly NDPBs and publicly owned companies.

BARONESS FRASER OF CRAIGMADDIE

Clause 2, page 6, line 40, after “16A)” insert –

“(a) in subsection (1), after paragraph (c) insert –

“(ca) members and former members of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary who have undertaken military operational service;”;

(b) after subsection (1) insert –

“(1A) For the purposes of subsection (1), “military operational service” means that a person has undertaken service on operations, or on other operational deployments, in direct support of His Majesty's armed forces.”;

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to include Royal Fleet Auxiliary personnel who have undertaken military operational service within the statutory provisions of the Armed Forces Covenant.

Clause 3

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

★ *The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 3 stand part of the Bill*

Member's explanatory statement

This is intended to probe why the Government wishes to create the Defence Housing Service as a non-departmental public body.

Schedule 1

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

★ Schedule 1, page 75, line 7, at end insert –

“Oversight board

9A (1) The Defence Housing Service is to have an oversight board.

(2) The oversight board must consist of –

- (a) the Chief Executive,
- (b) the Chair, and
- (c) 12 members of His Majesty's Forces.

(3) The members of His Majesty's Forces who are to be members of the oversight board must –

- (a) currently live, or have recently lived, in service family accommodation, and
 - (b) be selected in such a manner as specified in regulations made by the Defence Council.
- (4) The manner of selection that is prescribed in regulations under sub-paragraph (3)(b) must ensure that—
 - (a) four members are currently serving in the army,
 - (b) four members are currently serving in the Royal Navy, and
 - (c) four members are currently serving in the Royal Air Force.
- (5) The function of the oversight board is to ensure that the views of service personnel living in service family accommodation are represented to the Defence Housing Service.
- (6) In this paragraph “service family accommodation” means accommodation primarily for use by members of His Majesty’s Forces and their families.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to create an oversight board for the Defence Housing Service to ensure that the views of those who live in service family accommodation are taken into consideration.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

★

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Schedule 1 be the First Schedule to the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This is intended to probe why the Government wishes to create the Defence Housing Service as a non-departmental public body.

Schedule 3

BARONESS BRINTON

Schedule 3, page 98, line 40, at end insert—

“PART 1A

SERVICE STALKING PROTECTION NOTICES

- 1A In Part 3 of AFA 2006 (power of arrest, search and entry), after Chapter 1A (inserted by paragraph 1) insert—

“CHAPTER 1B

SERVICE STALKING PROTECTION NOTICES

74E Power to give a service stalking protection notice

- (1) An authorised service police officer may give a service stalking protection notice to a person falling within subsection (2) (“P”) if the officer has reasonable grounds for believing that—
 - (a) P has carried out acts associated with stalking against another person, and
 - (b) it is necessary to give the notice to protect that other person from stalking, or the risk of stalking, carried out by P.
- (2) A person is within this subsection if the person is aged 18 or over and is—
 - (a) subject to service law, or
 - (b) a civilian subject to service discipline.
- (3) A “service stalking protection notice” is a notice prohibiting P from carrying out acts associated with stalking against the person for whose protection the notice is given.
- (4) A service stalking protection notice may provide that P—
 - (a) may not contact the person for whose protection the notice is given;
 - (b) may not come within a distance specified in the notice of any premises in which that person lives or any other specified premises.
- (5) If P lives in premises in which the person for whose protection the notice is given also lives, the notice may also contain provision—
 - (a) prohibiting P from evicting or excluding that person from the premises;
 - (b) prohibiting P from entering the premises;
 - (c) requiring P to leave the premises.

- (6) It does not matter where the acts associated with stalking referred to in subsection (1)(a) took place.
- (7) In this Chapter –
 - “acts” includes omissions;
 - “authorised”, in relation to a service police officer, means of or above the rank of naval lieutenant, military or marine captain or flight lieutenant;
 - “service police officer” means a member of a service police force.

74F Matters to be considered before giving a notice

- (1) Before giving a service stalking protection notice to a person (“P”), an authorised service police officer must, among other things, consider the following –
 - (a) the welfare of any person under the age of 18 whose interests the officer considers relevant to the giving of the notice;
 - (b) the opinion of the person for whose protection the notice would be given as to the giving of the notice;
 - (c) any representations made by P about the giving of the notice;
 - (d) in a case where the notice includes provision relating to premises lived in by the person for whose protection the notice would be given, the opinion of any relevant occupant as to the giving of the notice.
- (2) In subsection (1)(d) “relevant occupant” means a person other than P or the person for whose protection the notice would be given –
 - (a) who lives in the premises, and
 - (b) who is personally connected to the person for whose protection the notice would be given or, if P also lives in the premises, P.
- (3) The authorised service police officer must take reasonable steps to discover the opinions mentioned in subsection (1)(b) and (d).
- (4) It is not necessary for the person for whose protection a service stalking protection notice is given to consent to the giving of the notice.

74G Further requirements in relation to notices

- (1) A service stalking protection notice must be in writing.
- (2) A service stalking protection notice given to a person must state –
 - (a) the grounds on which it has been given,
 - (b) that if the person is reasonably suspected of being in breach of the notice, they may be arrested in accordance with section 67(2), (3), (4) or (5) by a person subject to service law,
 - (c) that an application for a service stalking protection order under section 236M will be heard within 48 hours of the time of giving

- the notice and that a notice of the hearing will be given to the person,
 - (d) that the notice continues in effect until that application has been determined or withdrawn, and
 - (e) the provision that may be included in a service stalking protection order.
- (3) The notice must be served on the person personally by a service police officer.
 - (4) On serving the notice on the person, the service police officer must ask the person for an address at which the person may be given the notice of the hearing of the application for the service stalking protection order.
 - (5) After serving the notice on the person, the service police officer must make reasonable efforts to inform the person's commanding officer of the giving of the notice.

74H Breach of notice

- (1) A person who is reasonably suspected of being in breach of a service stalking protection notice may be arrested in accordance with section 67(2), (3), (4) or (5) by a person subject to service law.
- (2) Section 67(6) applies in relation to the power of arrest conferred by subsection (1) as it applies in relation to the power of arrest conferred by section 67.
- (3) A person arrested by virtue of subsection (1) must be kept in service custody and brought before the Court Martial or the Service Civilian Court –
 - (a) before the end of the period of 24 hours beginning with the time of the arrest, or
 - (b) if earlier, at the hearing of the application for a service stalking protection order against the person.
- (4) In calculating when the period of 24 hours mentioned in subsection (3)(a) ends, the following days are to be disregarded –
 - (a) any Sunday,
 - (b) Christmas Day,
 - (c) Good Friday, and
 - (d) any day which is a bank holiday in England and Wales under the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971.
- (5) If the person is brought before the court as mentioned in subsection (3)(a), the court may –
 - (a) give orders for the further detention of the person in service custody, or
 - (b) direct that the person is released from service custody.

- (6) The court may, when directing a person's release from service custody under subsection (5)(b), require the person to comply, before release or later, with any requirements that appear to the court to be necessary to secure that the person does not interfere with witnesses or otherwise obstruct the course of justice.
- (7) Where a person is given a service stalking protection notice under section 74E, a Provost Marshal must apply for a service stalking protection order in respect of the person.
- (8) The application must be heard by the court not later than 48 hours after the notice was given to the person, and subsections (3) to (7) of section 236D apply to the application as they apply to an application for a service domestic abuse protection order.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment creates a Service Stalking Protection Notice (SSPN) by mirroring the existing framework for Service Domestic Abuse Protection Notices, giving service police an equivalent power to provide immediate protection pending the determination or withdrawal of an application for a Service Stalking Protection Order.

BARONESS BRINTON

Schedule 3, page 113, line 12, at end insert –

“236TA Provision for specialist stalking training

- (1) The Secretary of State must ensure that specialist stalking training is provided to service police, and other personnel exercising functions under this Chapter.
- (2) The training must include provision on –
 - (a) identifying stalking,
 - (b) patterns of escalation and stalking-related risk, and
 - (c) the application for, implementation and enforcement of service stalking protection orders.
- (3) The training must be developed and delivered in collaboration with independent organisations with specialist expertise in stalking.
- (4) The Secretary of State must ensure that such training is in place before this Chapter comes into force and is subject to regular review.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires specialist stalking training to be in place before the service stalking protection order regime comes into force to support the effective implementation of the new measures.

BARONESS BRINTON

Schedule 3, page 113, line 12, at end insert –

“236TA Continuity of protection

- (1) The Secretary of State must make provision to ensure the continuity of protection afforded by a service stalking protection order where a person becomes, or ceases to be, subject to service law.
- (2) Provision made under subsection (1) must include –
 - (a) cooperation between service police, civilian police and relevant safeguarding authorities;
 - (b) the sharing of relevant information necessary for the effective operation and enforcement of service stalking protection orders;
 - (c) continuity of protection where responsibility for the enforcement of a service stalking protection order passes between service police and civilian police, including where individuals move between military and civilian jurisdictions;
 - (d) recognition of civilian stalking protection orders within military safeguarding and risk management processes.
- (3) The Secretary of State must publish and keep under review provisions made under this section.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the Secretary of State to ensure continuity of protection where responsibility for a stalking case passes between military and civilian jurisdictions, reducing the risk of gaps in protection when individuals move between service and civilian systems.

Clause 16

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO



The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 16 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This is intended to probe the changes being made to pre-charge custody.

After Clause 27

LORD THOMAS OF GRESFORD

After Clause 27, insert the following new Clause —

“Sentencing

In section 160 of Armed Forces Act 2006 (decisions of Court Martial: finding and sentence), for subsections (1) and (4) substitute —

- “(1) Any sentence passed by the Court Martial must be determined by the judge advocate alone, following consultation with the lay members.
- (2) The lay members are not entitled to vote on the sentence.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment provides for sentencing, subject to consultation with the lay members, by the judge advocate alone.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

★

After Clause 27, insert the following new Clause —

“Removal of presumption of suspended sentence orders

- (1) The Armed Forces Act 2006 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 200 (suspended sentence orders), omit subsections (1)(aa) and (1)(ba).
- (3) Omit section 200ZB.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment removes the presumption of a suspended sentence order from the service justice system.

Clause 38

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

★

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 38 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This notice to oppose clause 38 and the notice to oppose Schedule 6 in the name of Baroness Goldie would remove the provisions which reorganise the Reserve and Cadet Associations into a new non-departmental public body.

Schedule 6

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

- ★ *The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Schedule 6 be the Sixth Schedule to the Bill.*

Member's explanatory statement

This notice to oppose to Schedule 6 and the notice to oppose clause 38 in the name of Baroness Goldie would remove the provisions which reorganise the Reserve and Cadet Associations into a new non-departmental public body.

After Clause 42

LORD THOMAS OF GRESFORD

After Clause 42, insert the following new Clause —

“Visiting forces agreements

The Secretary of State must publish in unredacted form any part of a treaty, memorandum of understanding or agreement between the United Kingdom and any sending country relating to visiting forces containing a decision about a jurisdictional question, including in relation to the Visiting Forces Act 1952.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment probes the nature of any agreements reached between the UK and a sending country in relation to jurisdiction over visiting forces.

Clause 48

LORD DANNATT

- ★ *Lord Dannatt gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 48 stand part of the Bill.*

Member's explanatory statement

This opposition to Clause 48 seeks to make the case that there should be wider consultation with the diving community before legislation is introduced.

After Clause 50

LORD CRAIG OF RADLEY

After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause —

“Waived fees for indefinite leave to remain for spouses or children of serving or discharged members of the armed forces

- (1) The Immigration and Nationality (Fees) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/330) are amended as follows.
- (2) In paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 (applications for leave to remain in the United Kingdom), in 9.18 of table 9 (fees for applications for limited leave to remain in the United Kingdom and connected applications) —
 - (a) after (b), insert —
 - “(c) in a case where the application is made by a person who is a spouse or child of a member or previously serving member of the armed forces who has served for four or more years”
 - (b) in the closing words, leave out “and (b)” and insert “, (b), and (c)”.

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause would amend the Immigration and Nationality (Fees) Regulations 2018 to waive the fee for indefinite leave to remain applications for the spouses or children of any current or previously serving members of the armed forces who have served for four or more years.

BARONESS PENN
BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM

After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause —

“Occupational paternity leave and pay

Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must amend the Armed Forces Occupational Paternity Leave Scheme to —

- (a) extend the paternity leave entitlement of service personnel to six weeks, and
- (b) specify that the six weeks of paternity leave is fully paid.”

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

★

After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause —

“Overseas operations and the European Convention on Human Rights

- (1) The Human Rights Act 1998 is amended as follows.

- (2) For section 7A (limitation: overseas forces proceedings) substitute –

“7A No proceedings for overseas operations

- (1) No proceedings may be brought under section 7(1)(a) in respect of any overseas operations by His Majesty’s forces.
- (2) “Overseas operations” means any operations outside the British Islands, including peacekeeping operations and operations for dealing with terrorism, civil unrest or serious public disorder, in the course of which members of His Majesty's forces come under attack or face the threat of attack or violent resistance.
- (3) “His Majesty’s forces” has the same meaning as in the Armed Forces Act 2006 (see section 374 of that Act).
- (4) A member of the regular or reserve forces who has been deployed on an overseas operation under this Act may not be subject to the provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights for the duration of that deployment.”

- (3) After section 14 (derogations), insert –

“14A Overseas operations and the European Convention on Human Rights

- (1) Where the Secretary of State considers that any overseas operation is, or is likely to be, significant, the Secretary of State must authorise for the United Kingdom to make a derogation under Article 15(1) of the Convention.
- (2) In this section “overseas operations” has the same meaning as in section 7A.””

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause seeks to make provision for the members of the regular or reserve forces who have been deployed under this Act to be exempt from the European Convention on Human Rights for that period of deployment.

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