

# Parliamentary Bureau – Legislative Consent Memorandum

## Victims and Prisoners 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.

### Victims and Prisoners Bill

2. This Bill was introduced in the House of Commons on 29 March 2023. An LCM was lodged by Neil Gray MSP, Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care on 25 April 2024.
3. The Bill makes provision about victims of criminal conduct; the appointment and functions of advocates for victims of major incidents; an Infected Blood Compensation Scheme; and matters relating to prisoners, including the release of prisoners. The majority of the Bill's provisions do not extend to Scotland or, if they do, relate to reserved matters. However, amendments were tabled by the UK Government on 17 April 2024 which extend provisions in the Bill relating to compensation for victims of the infected blood scandal to Scotland. These amendments establish an Infected Blood Compensation Authority (IBCA) to deliver the compensation scheme, which will be funded by the UK Government.
4. The LCM indicates that the Scottish Government intends to lodge a motion seeking the Scottish Parliament's consent to the relevant provision in this Bill.

### Designation of lead committee

5. The relevant provision in the Bill falls within the remit of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee. The Committee's remit is to consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care. The LCM relates to health matters and has been lodged by the Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care. The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee's remit is therefore engaged.
6. The LCM will also be considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee in relation to any provisions in the Bill conferring powers on the Scottish Ministers to make subordinate legislation.

### Recommendation

7. The Bureau is invited to refer, under Rule 9B.3.5, the LCM to the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee.

Parliamentary Business Team  
April 2024