

Written Statement to the National Assembly for Wales – 6 July 2016

The Queen's speech took place on 18 May 2016, setting out the UK Government's legislative programme for the year ahead. The legislation we will bring forward will deliver security for working people; increase life chances for the most disadvantaged; and strengthen our national security.

The legislative programme contains 22 Bills and the Policing and Crime Bill, Investigatory Powers Bill, and the Finance Bill will also complete their parliamentary passage this session having been carried over from the first session. This is a legislative programme built around three key aims.

Firstly, we are bringing forward legislation that will deliver security for working people:

- The **Better Markets Bill** will open up markets, boost competition, give consumers more power and choice, and make economic regulators work better;
- The **Digital Economy Bill** will modernise our climate for enterprise, making sure Britain remains at the forefront of the global 21st century economy;
- Our **Modern Transport Bill** will put Britain at the forefront of modern transport technologies as well;
- The **Neighbourhood Planning and Infrastructure Bill** will ensure that Britain has the infrastructure businesses need to grow;
- The **NHS (Overseas Visitors Charging) Bill** will ensure that overseas visitors pay for the health treatment they receive at public expense; and
- The **Pensions Bill** will further reform Britain's private pensions system.

Secondly, this is a legislative programme that will increase life chances for the most disadvantaged:

- The **Children and Social Work Bill** will tackle state failure and transform the outcomes of children in care;
- The **Education for All Bill** will deliver the next phase of the Government's transformation of education;

- The **Higher Education and Research Bill** will deliver the biggest supply-side reforms to the higher education sector for a quarter of a century;
- The **Prison and Courts Reform Bill** will bring about the biggest reform of our prisons since Victorian times, ensuring they are not just a place of punishment but also rehabilitation;
- The **Lifetime Savings Bill** will help people save and make plans for the future; and
- The **Small Charitable Donations Bill** will reform the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme to ensure it supports the maximum number of charities and donations as possible.

Thirdly, we are bringing forward legislation that strengthens our national security:

- The **Counter Extremism and Safeguarding Bill** will give law enforcement agencies new powers to protect vulnerable people from extremism;
- The **Criminal Finances Bill** will cement the UK's leading role in the fight against international corruption;
- The **Bill of Rights** will support and reinforce Britain's long standing commitment to human rights and restore common sense to the way that human rights law is applied; and
- The **Cultural Property (Armed Conflicts) Bill** will enable the UK to accede to the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its two protocols.

Finally, we have introduced the **Wales Bill** to deliver a more stable devolution settlement for Wales with clarity and accountability at its heart. The Bill will deliver a new reserved powers model alongside important new powers over energy, transport and elections.

All of these Bills will bring direct benefits to Wales. This is the next step in our long term economic plan that is delivering jobs and growth across Wales and the United Kingdom. It includes bold reforms to tackle some of the deepest problems in our country, it will remove barriers to opportunity, and it recognises the duty of government to keep our country safe.