Legislative Consent Memorandum

Northern Ireland Troubles Bill

Background

- 1. This memorandum has been lodged by Angela Constance MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs, in accordance with Rule 9B.3.1(a) of the Parliament's Standing Orders.
- 2. The Northern Ireland Troubles Bill was introduced in the House of Commons on 14 October 2025. The Bill is available on the UK Parliament website via this link: https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/4022.

Content of the Bill

- 3. **The Northern Ireland Troubles Bill** repeals and replaces parts of the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act 2023 ("the Legacy Act" or "the 2023 Act"). It:
 - Repeals and replaces part 2 and certain aspects of part 3 of the Legacy Act, reforming and renaming the Independent Commission for Reconciliation and Information Recovery (ICRIR) as the Legacy Commission (LC) and reforming its powers to conduct investigations and inquisitorial proceedings. The LC operates UK-wide, including in Scotland on matters within devolved competence.
 - Sets out the LC's structure, membership, principal functions, and oversight arrangements. Core functions include:
 - Investigating conduct causing death or serious harm which formed part of the Troubles.
 - Conducting inquisitorial proceedings into the circumstances of certain deaths caused by conduct forming part of the Troubles.
 - Establishes procedures for investigations by LC investigating officers and inquisitorial proceedings, presided over by a judicial panel member of the LC.
 - Makes provision for the Independent Commission on Information Retrieval, as agreed under the Stormont House Agreement between the UK and Irish governments.
 - Amends arrangements for inquests in Northern Ireland into Troublesrelated deaths.
 - Requires the LC to produce a historical record of deaths linked to Troublesrelated conduct that were not otherwise investigated.

4. For the purposes of the Bill, the "Troubles" are events and conduct related to the constitutional status of Northern Ireland or to political or sectarian hostility between people in Northern Ireland, and are defined in the Bill as events which took place between 1 January 1966 until 10 April 1998.

Provisions which require the consent of the Scottish Parliament

- 5. The Bill extends to Scotland with the exception of clauses 71, 84, 89 and 90. It is considered that it contains provisions which apply to Scotland and are for purposes which do not relate to reserved matters and are within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament.
- 6. The Scottish Government is of the view that the following clauses require the legislative consent of the Scottish Parliament, for the reasons discussed below. The Scottish Government understands, from engagement so far, that the UK Government is in agreement with the requirement for consent for these clauses.

Part 1

- 7. The provisions in Part 1 are largely introductory and interpretative in nature.
- 8. Clause 1 introduces the Bill and describes its effects in general. Clause 1(2) re-names the ICRIR established by the 2023 Act; clause 1(3) repeals Part 2 of the 2023 Act which conferred functions on the ICRIR. That body (which continues in existence but is renamed the Legacy Commission) operates on a UK-wide basis and exercises functions in/as regards Scotland, including with respect to matters within devolved competence. Provision to establish the ICRIR was subject to legislative consent in relation to the Bill that became the 2023 Act. Provision which modifies the operation, status, etc. of the ICRIR will similarly require legislative consent.
- 9. Clause 2 provides definitions which apply throughout the rest of the Bill, including definitions which relate to provision made in the Bill on matters falling within devolved competence, or provisions which modify the functions of the Scottish Ministers. A Legislative Consent Memorandum (LCM) is required in relation to the definitions insofar as they apply for those purposes.

Part 2

- 10. Part 2 makes further provision about the LC, including its functions and personnel. The provisions of the 2023 Act originally establishing the ICRIR, and setting out its functions, largely fell within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, as noted above. Provisions in this Bill with the same effect will likewise require an LCM and are discussed in the following paragraphs.
- 11. Clause 3, with Part 1 of Schedule 1, sets out the members comprising the LC, its principal functions, and oversight mechanisms. The principal functions listed in

- 3(2) include investigations of conduct causing death or harm, and investigation (via inquisitorial proceedings) of the circumstances of a death. Further provision as regards these functions is provided in Part 3 and Part 4 of the Bill. Matters relating to the investigation of deaths in or as regards Scotland fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament. To the extent that Clause 3 provides that these functions are conferred on the LC and makes provision for how they are to be exercised, it requires legislative consent.
- 12. Clauses 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 make provision about the appointment of personnel to comprise the LC and to exercise its functions. To the extent that these roles will involve the exercise of functions within the competence of the Scottish Parliament, these provisions require legislative consent.
- 13. Clause 8 makes provision for the establishment of a Victims and Survivors Advocacy Group, to advise the LC. Matters relating to victims within the criminal justice system are generally within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament. Further, this group is to advise on the functions of the LC, including those which are within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament. Clause 8 therefore requires legislative consent.
- 14. Clauses 10 and 11 make provision about safeguards and principles applying to the exercise of functions by the LC. As noted above, certain functions of the LC relate to matters within devolved competence. To the extent that these clauses relate to such functions, they also require legislative consent.
- 15. Clause 12 makes provision for Directors of Investigations, who are officers of the LC, to be designated as having the powers and privileges of a constable. Schedule 2 then makes further provision about this, including provision that in relation to Scotland, this includes the powers and privileges of a Scottish Constable. Schedule 2 further provides that such powers and privileges as a Scottish Constable are to be exercised only if an agreement relating to this is in place between the LC Directors of Investigations, and the Scottish Ministers. This confers a function on the Scottish Ministers of entering into such an agreement and accordingly alters the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers. This alteration requires legislative consent.
- 16. Clause 15 makes provision about the admissibility of material in criminal proceedings, including criminal proceedings taking place in Scotland. This provision relates to the law of criminal evidence, which is a matter within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament; accordingly, legislative consent is required.
- 17. Clauses 16, 17 and 18 and Schedules 4 and 5 make provision about disclosure of information, including exceptions from the general power of disclosure by the LC, for certain types of information. This includes information in respect of which disclosure is prohibited under Part 5 of the Investigatory Powers Act 2016 (police equipment interference warrant for the purpose of detecting and preventing serious crime). The prevention and detection of crime is a matter within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament and the application of the

prohibition on disclosure in Part 5 of the 2016 Act also means that this provision requires legislative consent as those provisions also relate to matters which fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament.

- 18. Clauses 16 and 17 also include provision about the disclosure of sensitive information and protected international information. The purpose of these provisions is the protection of, respectively, national security and international relations, which are reserved matters. To the extent that these provisions do not relate to mattes within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, legislative consent is not required.
- 19. Clause 18 creates a new offence of disclosing information which is covered by a prohibition set out in the Bill. This offence is committed by disclosure of information in contravention of the prohibitions in clauses 16 and 17, which relate to national security or international relations only. This provision, and the new offence, therefore, appears to relate to reserved matters and therefore does not require legislative consent.
- 20. Clause 19 relates to the LC's use of information obtained by it, in connection with its functions. This provision, to the extent it governs the use of information in connection with functions within devolved competence, will also require legislative consent.
- 21. Clauses 23 and 24 relate, respectively, to work plans for and independent reports on, the functions of the LC. As with other provisions about the LC's functions, to the extent that the provision relates to such functions which are within the devolved competence of the Scottish Parliament, these provisions will require legislative consent.
- 22. Clause 25 provides a power, by regulations made by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (SSNI), for the LC's work to be wound up and the provisions of the Bill and the 2023 Act to be amended or repealed accordingly. This power could be used to adjust, transfer, or remove the functions of the LC, including those functions as they relate to matters within the competence of the Scottish Parliament. This provision therefore requires legislative consent.
- 23. Schedule 1 makes further provision about the LC, specifically about its powers, functions and personnel. As with other provisions relating to the establishment and operation of the LC, insofar as this provision relates to the LC's functions which are within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, schedule 1 requires legislative consent.

Part 3

24. Part 3 of the Bill makes provision about the LC's function of carrying out investigations of conduct causing death and other harm. As noted above, the function of investigation of deaths and investigation of criminal conduct are matters

within the competence of the Scottish Parliament. To the extent that Part 3 makes provision about these matters, legislative consent will be required.

- 25. Clause 26 sets out general duties applying to the exercise of functions under this Part and requires the LC to put in place published documentation relating to the exercise of its functions. This provision will apply to those of the LC's functions which relate to matters within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, so legislative consent is required.
- 26. Clauses 27–31 relate to how a request may be made to the LC for an investigation into conduct, forming part of the Troubles, causing death or serious harm. The review of deaths, and the review/investigation of harmful conduct, are matters which can fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament.
- 27. Clause 32 confers a power on the LC Directors of Investigation to initiate investigations in certain circumstances. These clauses relate to the devolved matter of the investigation of deaths and the investigation of criminal conduct. The Lord Advocate may request an investigation under clause 28(10), where the conduct has been referred to the Lord Advocate under clause 61(4) of the Bill that is, by a judicial panel member of the LC following inquisitorial proceedings. Clause 28(11) also provides that a sheriff or procurator fiscal may request an investigation in the case where the death was the subject of either a Fatal Accident Inquiry or an investigation under the Inquiries into Fatal Accidents and Sudden Deaths etc. (Scotland) Act 2016, but where the inquiry or investigation was discontinued by virtue of the provisions of the 2023 Act.
- 28. Clauses 33-37 make further detailed provision about the LC's conduct of an investigation. Clauses 38 and 40-42 make provision for the report to be prepared and published following an investigation. Clauses 44-47 make provision about how the LC is to identify and manage any conflicts of interest arising in respect of its investigation functions. To the extent that these provisions relate to investigative functions of the LC which are within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, these provisions require legislative consent.
- 29. Clause 43 makes provision, following an investigation by the LC, for a referral of conduct to a prosecutor. In particular, in relation to Scotland, 43(4) makes provision that, if there is evidence that relevant conduct constitutes an offence under the law of Scotland, the conduct may be referred to the Lord Advocate (and if so referred, the relevant LC Director of Investigations must notify the Lord Advocate of the offence concerned). Clause 43(5) then allows the Lord Advocate to direct that such a referral of conduct to the Lord Advocate be made. These provisions relate to Scots criminal law and criminal proceedings as they apply to conduct potentially constituting an offence under Scots law, as such legislative consent is required in respect of clause 43.

Part 4 – Inquisitorial proceedings

- 30. Part 4 of the Bill makes provision about the LC's function of carrying out inquisitorial proceedings, which are presided over by a judicial panel member of the LC in order to examine all the circumstances of a person's death. As noted above, and as with Part 3 of the Bill, the function of investigation of deaths is a matter within the competence of the Scottish Parliament. To the extent that Part 4 makes provision about these matters, legislative consent will be required.
- 31. Clause 48 defines inquisitorial proceedings. Clause 49 provides that these proceedings do not lead to a determination of civil or criminal liability. Clause 50 makes provision requiring certain deaths to be allocated to inquisitorial proceedings. Clauses 51-59 make provision for the conduct of inquisitorial proceedings. To the extent that these provisions relate to the investigation of deaths in or in relation to Scotland, or under Scots law, being a matter within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, legislative consent is required.
- 32. Clause 60 provides an enabling power for the SSNI to, by regulations, make further provisions about procedure and evidence in relation to inquisitorial proceedings of the LC. Again, such proceedings relate to the investigation of deaths, which is a matter within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament. As this power enables further regulation of the procedure for investigation of deaths, this provision requires legislative consent.
- 33. Clause 61 makes provision, where inquisitorial proceedings are being or have been carried out, for a referral of conduct to a prosecutor. In particular, in relation to Scotland, 61(4) makes provision that, if there is evidence that relevant conduct constitutes an offence under the law of Scotland, the conduct may be referred to the Lord Advocate (and if so referred, the judicial panel member must notify the Lord Advocate of the offence concerned). 61(5) allows the Lord Advocate to direct that such a referral be made. The Lord Advocate will not be able to investigate conduct within the LC's jurisdiction unless a referral is made. This provides a mechanism, regardless of the route by which the Lord Advocate is aware of the conduct, for such an investigation to take place. These provisions relate to Scots criminal law and criminal proceedings as they apply to conduct potentially constituting an offence under Scots law, and as such legislative consent is required in respect of clause 61.
- 34. Clauses 62 and 64-66 make provision about the preparation and publication of reports following inquisitorial proceedings. To the extent that these provisions relate to the investigation of deaths, a matter within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, legislative consent is required. Clause 66 includes a provision that, where conduct has been referred to a prosecutor under clause 61 (which may include a referral to the Lord Advocate), a final report is not to be published until either a decision is made not to prosecute based on that referral, or, if a prosecution does occur, it is no longer continuing.

Part 5

- 35. Part 5 of the Bill makes further general provision applying to the investigation and inquisitorial proceedings of the LC, discussed above. The provisions in this part of the Bill, insofar as relating to the investigation of deaths or the investigation of criminal conduct, will require legislative consent as those matters are within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament.
- 36. Clauses 67-69 set out additional duties which apply when the LC is exercising its functions of investigations or inquisitorial proceedings. Clause 70 makes provision for referrals to the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland as a result of such investigations or inquisitorial proceedings. In particular, this requires that the LC must, if it considers there is evidence of a Troubles-related offence (other than an offence causing death or serious harm) being committed by a member of the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), refer that matter to the Ombudsman. This includes an offence under the law of Scotland. Clause 70 makes provision about the investigation by the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland following a referral as discussed above. This includes conduct which is identified as potentially amounting to an offence under Scots law. As these provisions relate to the investigation of criminal conduct under Scots law, which is a matter within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, these clauses require legislative consent.

Part 6

- 37. Part 6 of the Bill makes provision about the Independent Commission on Information Retrieval (ICIR), which was established under a 2015 agreement (the Stormont House Agreement) between the UK Government and the Government of Ireland.
- 38. The principal functions of this body are to receive, seek and retain information about deaths caused directly by conduct forming part of the Troubles, and provide reports to families on request. Information provided to the ICIR does not result in immunity from prosecution, however the information (and any evidence obtained as a result of the information provided to the ICIR) is not admissible in legal proceedings and is not available for the purpose of LC investigations or inquisitorial proceedings. The ICIR itself also has immunity from legal proceedings (clause 81). The ICIR's remit includes deaths caused directly by conduct forming part of the Troubles. Such deaths could also fall within the jurisdiction of investigations and legal proceedings within the Scottish legal system (including Fatal Accident Inquiries). Information gathering in relation to such deaths is not a reserved matter. Accordingly, the ICIRs functions relate to matters within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament. As such, legislative consent is required for the provisions of Part 6 insofar as relating to these matters.
- 39. Clauses 79-80 create a new criminal offence committed by conduct which leads to a contravention of the disclosure restrictions on ICIR family reports. This is a modification of Scots criminal law and is not in relation to a reserved matter. Legislative consent is therefore required for these provisions.

- 40. Regulations may be made under clause 83 to wind up the ICIR (as well as to extend the operational period applying to the ICIR, to allow it to operate on a pilot basis initially).
- 41. Clause 75 places limits on the functions of the ICIR where investigations by other bodies are considered to be necessary for ECHR purposes or where a criminal investigation by the LC is underway.

Part 7

42. Part 7 of the Bill makes provision, amending or adjusting that made by the 2023 Act, relating to the conduct of inquests in relation to Troubles-related deaths. Clause 84 relates to inquests in Northern Ireland under Northern Irish law only and does not extend to Scotland.

Part 8

- 43. Part 8 includes provision, in clauses 86–88, for the production of a historical record by the LC. This record is to include information on the circumstances in which deaths, identified as caused by conduct forming part of the Troubles, but not otherwise investigated by the LC (including being subject to inquisitorial proceedings), took place. These provisions replicate the effect of the provision in sections 28-29 of the 2023 Act, which are repealed by the Bill. While the preparation of the historical record does not constitute investigation of the relevant deaths, provisions with the purpose of creating such a historical record of Troubles-related deaths are not a reserved matter with regard to deaths occurring in or as regards Scotland. Accordingly, these provisions fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, and legislative consent is required.
- 44. Clause 88 amends the 2023 Act to adjust the restrictions on criminal investigation by police forces or other persons in relation to Troubles-related offences. In particular, the restriction on such investigations in section 38 of that Act is adjusted to apply only to serious offences, or offences connected to serious Troubles-related offences. Other such offences, even if connected to the Troubles, will therefore once again be able to be investigated by the police. As this provision relates to the investigation of criminal offences and modifies Scottish criminal procedure, it is within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, and legislative consent is required.

Part 9

45. Part 9 of the Bill makes general provisions related to, or for the purposes of the substantive provisions in Parts 1-8. To the extent that the provisions relate to or operate for the purpose of clauses which are within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament, they will likewise be within that competence. To that extent, therefore, Part 9 requires legislative consent.

- 46. In particular, clause 91 confers a power on the Scottish Ministers to make provision by regulations that is consequential on the provisions of the Bill, including to amend or repeal primary legislation. Clause 92(7) further provides that this power may only be exercised to make provision that is within devolved competence (i.e. the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament). This power is equivalent to that conferred by section 58 of the 2023 Act in relation to provision consequential on the provisions of that Act. Clause 97 also confers a power on the Scottish Ministers to make, by regulations, transitory, transitional or saving provision in connection with the commencement of any provision of the Act. Each of these clauses modify the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers and thus require legislative consent.
- 47. Clause 91 also introduces schedule 6, which amends the 2023 Act. These amendments are consequential upon the substantive provision made by the earlier Parts of the Bill, for example, to adjust references to the renamed Legacy Commission. To the extent that the amendments related to provisions of that Act which required legislative consent, clause 91 also requires legislative consent.
- 48. Clauses 93 and 94 make provision defining the meaning of words and expressions used in the Bill. Clause 95 provides that the Bill once enacted binds the Crown. Clause 96 sets out the extent of the provisions of the Bill. Clause 97 makes provision about commencement, and clause 98 is the short title of the Bill. As above, insofar as these provisions apply for the purpose of provisions of the Bill requiring legislative consent, these clauses also require legislative consent. As clause 97 also confers a power on the Scottish Ministers to make transitory, transitional or saving provision in connection with the coming into force of any provision of the Bill, it modifies executive competence so further requires legislative consent for that reason.

Schedules

- 49. Schedule 1 provides further detailed provision regarding the powers and functions of the LC. As these provisions are in connection with and supportive of the functions of the LC, they also fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament and accordingly require legislative consent.
- 50. Schedule 2 relates to the operational power of the LC (including provision about powers and privileges of a constable). As these provisions are in connection with the functions of the LC's officers, they also fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament and accordingly require legislative consent. Further, paragraph 3 confers a function on the Scottish Ministers, so legislative consent is also required for this alteration of executive competence.
- 51. Schedule 3 sets out enforcement mechanisms for the LC in respect of its functions. This is equivalent to Schedule 4 (introduced by section 14) of the 2023 Act. As these provisions are in connection with and supportive of the functions of the LC, they also fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament and accordingly require legislative consent.

- 52. Schedule 5 relates to the prohibition of disclosures relating to sensitive information. Paragraphs 4, 5, 6 and 7 relate to the disclosure of sensitive information or protected international information. These provisions are for the reserved purpose of national security and international relations. Legislative consent is therefore not required for these paragraphs. Otherwise, Schedule 5 requires consent, to the extent that it applies in respect of the LC's functions which are within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament.
- 53. Schedule 6 makes minor and consequential amendments to the 2023 Act as discussed above.

Provisions where the requirement for legislative consent remains under consideration

- 54. In addition to the provisions discussed above, the position on the need for legislative consent remain under discussion between the Scottish Government and UK Government in respect of the following provisions:
 - Clause 13, which allows the Legacy Commission to obtain information from a list of public authorities, including the Security Service, the Secret Intelligence Service, and GCHQ. Clauses 13 and 14 impose duties on other public authorities, in particular those operating in or in relation to Scotland, including a duty on the Scottish Ministers to provide information to the Legacy Commission.
 - Clause 20 relates to guidance and protocols to be given to the LC relating to information. Clause 20(3) provides for the agreement of information protocols between the LC and relevant authorities, including the Scottish Ministers.
 - Clause 21 makes provision for the making of regulations by the SSNI about the LC's holding and handling of information, including about the secure holding, handling, destruction or transfer of that information.
 - Clause 22 makes provision for the making of regulations by the SSNI governing the treatment of biometric material (DNA profile and fingerprint records) in connection with the LC's functions.
 - Clause 28 generally relates to the matter of investigation of deaths. Clause 28(10) allows the Lord Advocate to request an LC investigation, where the Lord Advocate has been notified (as a result of LC inquisitorial proceedings) of evidence of conduct potentially amounting to an offence under the law of Scotland.
 - Clauses in Part 6 in relation to the ICIR (the new international body being set up under an agreement with the Irish Government) remain under discussion, in particular as regards the extent to which they relate to the reserved matter of international relations. In particular, this includes clauses 72, 77, 81 and 83.
 - Clause 85 of the Bill makes provision for regulations to be made by the SSNI, to amend or repeal enactments in order to return Troubles-related deaths to

- the jurisdiction of coronial inquests and, in Scotland, Fatal Accident Inquiries (FAI), following the winding up of the LC. Such regulations must also require that the Lord Advocate directs a FAI to be held, in such a case.
- Schedule 4 relates to sensitive information. However, it also places functions on "relevant authorities", which includes the Scottish Ministers.
- 55. As noted above, further engagement on these provisions is underway between the Scottish and UK governments. Should it be identified that any of these provisions do require the legislative consent of the Scottish Parliament, they will be included in a supplementary LCM.

Reasons for seeking or not seeking legislative consent

- 56. Section 28(8) of the Scotland Act 1998 recognises that the UK Government will not normally legislate with regard to devolved matters without the consent of the Scottish Parliament. Devolution Guidance Note 10 states that Bills require the consent of the Scottish Parliament if they contain provisions applying to Scotland and which are for devolved purposes, or if they alter the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament or the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers.
- 57. As described above, the Scottish Government is presently of the view that a number of the Bill's provisions either relate to devolved matters or potentially alter the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers. There has so far been limited time for engagement with the UK Government and relevant justice partners in Scotland on the detail of these matters prior to and since the Bill's introduction, and as a consequence the Scottish Government is not presently in a position to make any recommendation to the Scottish Parliament as to consent. The Scottish Government plans to lodge a supplementary LCM, following further discussions with the UK Government, outlining the Scottish Government's recommendations on consent.

Consultation

58. The UK Government has not consulted prior to the introduction of the Bill to the UK Parliament. The Veterans Commissioners for Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales have expressed concerns that the Bill will create a disparity between how veterans and other parties are treated, and they and opposition parties in Westminster have expressed concerns that the UK Government's published list of protections for veterans remains unclear, that it has not confirmed which of these protections will also apply to former paramilitaries, and that the Bill does not prevent former paramilitaries holding key roles associated with the Legacy Commission. The latest joint statement from the Veterans Commissioners welcomes an indication from UK Government Ministers that further planned engagements with Ministers and senior officials should result in changes to the legislation that they anticipate will provide enhanced protections for the veterans' community.

Financial implications

- 59. There will be no new expenditure by the Scottish Government associated with this Bill. The UK Government previously indicated that, during the five-year period of operation of the LC (currently ICRIR), the SSNI will spend (on average) £35-50 million per year in providing resources to the LC and to the designated persons carrying out memorialisation activities. The LC is wholly funded by the Secretary of State using that power. After the period of operation of the LC, the Secretary of State is expected to incur some continuing costs in providing resources to the designated persons, but those costs are not expected to be substantial.
- 60. Any financial implications or additional costs will be highlighted in the supplementary LCM once further analysis of the Bill has been concluded.

Post EU scrutiny

61. The Scottish Government's position on EU alignment will be considered as part of further analysis.

Conclusion

- 62. While the Scottish Government is broadly supportive of the Bill, it is the view of the Scottish Government that it is preferable that, to the extent that the relevant provisions make provision for a devolved purpose, or alter the Scottish Ministers' executive competence, an LCM is lodged without any recommendation on consent at this stage.
- 63. A supplementary LCM will be lodged as soon as possible following the completion of further policy work and engagement with UK Government on the Bill.

Scottish Government December 2025

This Legislative Consent Memorandum relates to the Northern Ireland Troubles Bill (UK Parliament legislation) and was lodged with the Scottish Parliament on 11 December 2025

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LCM-S6-68 Session 6 (2025)