

Economy, Tourism and Energy Committee
Tuesday 27 October 2026
8th Meeting, 2026 (Session 7)

Supplementary legislative consent memorandum (sLCM) on the Sporting Events Bill (UK Parliament legislation)

Note by the Clerk

1. Legislative consent memorandum [LCM-S7-1](#) was lodged on 05 June 2026 by Stephen Flynn MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Tourism and Transport ('the Cabinet Secretary') and was referred to the Economy, Tourism and Energy Committee for scrutiny.
2. Following amendments to the Bill as it progressed through the UK Parliament, the Cabinet Secretary lodged two further supplementary legislative consent memorandums (sLCM).
3. The first of these, [sLCM-S7-1a](#), was lodged on 22 July 2026 and a second supplementary legislative consent memorandum, [sLCM-S7-1b](#), was lodged on 02 September 2026. The Economy, Tourism and Energy Committee took evidence on the original LCM and the two supplementary LCMs from the Cabinet Secretary at its meeting on [29 September 2026](#). The Committee agreed to recommend to the Parliament that it agree to the Scottish Government's motion giving consent.
4. A third supplementary LCM, [sLCM-S7-1c](#), was subsequently lodged on 20 October 2026.
5. Further detail on the purpose of the UK Bill and the content of the LCMs is set out below.

Background

6. The UK [Sporting Events Bill](#) was introduced in the House of Lords on 14 May 2026 by the UK Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. Its purpose is to enable a common set of legislative provisions to be applied to major sporting events held in the UK.
7. Instead of requiring event-specific primary legislation to be enacted, the UK Bill would establish a legislative framework across the UK, through which event-specific protections could be implemented by subordinate legislation.
8. The Bill confers powers on both UK Ministers and the Scottish Ministers to make regulations applying protections for certain commercial requirements in relation to ticket touting and ambush marketing for major sporting events hosted in the UK. Therefore, should the UK Bill be passed, any future scrutiny by the Scottish Parliament would be of subordinate rather than primary legislation.

The Scottish Government's LCM and supplementary LCMs

9. In the original [LCM-S7-1](#) and the first supplementary [sLCM-S7-1a](#), the Scottish Government stopped short of recommending consent to the relevant provisions of the Bill. In the second supplementary [sLCM-S7-1b](#), the Scottish Government did recommend consent, on the basis that the Bill has the potential to provide a more consistent and efficient legislative framework to put in place commercial protections for supporting the hosting of major sporting events in Scotland, while retaining appropriate flexibility to tailor for individual events.
10. The Scottish Government lodged a third supplementary [sLCM-S7-1c](#) following amendments to the Bill tabled by the UK Government. The Scottish and UK Governments agree that the amendments to clauses 2, 3, 4, 11, 12, 18, 24, 26, 27 and 30, to insert a new clause after clause 21, and to Schedules 1, 2 and 3 require the consent of the Scottish Parliament.
11. Further detail on the amendments is set out in [sLCM-S7-1c](#). In particular, the amendments to clauses 2 and 3 change the circumstances in which the Scottish Ministers may apply the Bill's provisions to a sporting event by:
 - defining "domestic sporting event" as an event that is regularly held wholly or partly in the UK,
 - creating a new condition which must be met in the case of domestic sporting events, namely that the event organiser must have applied to the appropriate national authority asking for one or more parts of the framework to be applied to the event,
 - restricting the application of the Bill to events of "significant international interest", rather than "significant national interest" ("significant international interest" had been the original test in the Bill as introduced but had then been amended).
12. **The Scottish Government is recommending consent to all of the relevant provisions of the UK Bill, as amended.**
13. The Scottish Government considers that the amendments tabled by the UK Government strike a pragmatic balance between the ask of some event organisers who had argued for the inclusion of recurring events and the needs of small businesses that may be impacted repeatedly.
14. More detail on the amended provisions requiring consent and the Scottish Government's reasons for recommending consent is set out in [sLCM-S7-1c](#). A draft motion seeking legislative consent is also included at the end of [sLCM-S7-1c](#).

Legislative consent procedure

15. Under the Sewel Convention, the UK Parliament does not normally legislate on devolved matters, or to alter the legislative competence of the Parliament or the executive competence of the Scottish Government, without the consent of the Scottish Parliament. Consent is given by means of a resolution of the Parliament.

16. Under Chapter 9B of the Standing Orders, the Scottish Government must lodge a legislative consent memorandum (LCM) in relation to each UK Parliament Bill that contains provision (“relevant provision”) that would require the Parliament’s consent under the Convention. Sometimes the Scottish Government may be required to lodge one or more supplementary LCMs during the passage of a Bill. It is also possible for an LCM to be lodged by an individual MSP.
17. Every LCM lodged is referred to a lead committee for scrutiny and may also be referred to other committees. If the Bill confers power on the Scottish Ministers to make subordinate legislation, the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (DPLRC) must also consider the LCM and may report on it to the lead committee.
18. Once the lead committee has reported, the Scottish Government normally lodges a motion on legislative consent for consideration in the Chamber. Such a motion may give consent to relevant provision in the Bill, refuse consent to such provision, or a mixture of the two. A draft of the motion is normally included in the LCM.

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee scrutiny

19. The Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee (DPLRC) considered the LCM and two supplementary LCMs and published [its report](#) on the LCMs on 18 September 2026.
20. Given the tight timescales for scrutiny of this third supplementary LCM, the DPLRC Committee will not be able to consider it before the Economy, Tourism and Energy Committee.

Economy, Tourism and Energy Committee scrutiny

21. The Committee took evidence on the original LCM and the first two supplementary LCMs [on 29 September 2026](#) from the Cabinet Secretary and his officials. The Committee agreed to recommend to the Parliament that it agree to the Scottish Government’s motion giving consent.
22. The [Committee’s report on LCM-S7-1, sLCM-S7-1a and sLCM-S7-1b](#) was published on 02 October 2026.
23. At its meeting on 27 October 2026, the Committee will consider the third supplementary LCM, [sLCM-S7-1c](#).
24. As is noted in that supplementary LCM, the UK Government intends to fulfil its hosting obligations for UEFA EURO 2028 using provisions in this Bill. To meet the timeframe for doing this, **the UK Government is seeking a decision from the Scottish Parliament on legislative consent ahead of the House of Commons Report Stage, which is likely to take place in early November.**
25. **As such, there is limited time available for the Committee to take evidence on the third supplementary LCM.**
26. If the Committee wishes to seek further information, it is suggested that it could write to the Cabinet Secretary, asking for a response ahead of the legislative consent motion being taken in the Chamber.

Decision

27. **The Committee will be invited to decide whether to recommend to the Parliament that it agrees the Scottish Government's draft legislative consent motion.**

Report

28. **The Committee is required to report to the Parliament on the third supplementary LCM.**
29. **The Committee is asked to delegate responsibility to the Convener to approve a short factual report to the Parliament on the third supplementary LCM, including the outcome of the Committee's decision whether or not to recommend approval of the Scottish Government's draft legislative consent motion.**

**Clerks to the Committee
October 2026**