

Lord Ponsonby House of Lords London SW1A 0PW The Lord Murray of Blidworth Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Migration and Borders

2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF www.gov.uk/home-office

26 June 2023

Dear Lord Ponsonby

## ILLEGAL MIGRATION BILL: GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT FOR REPORT

I am writing to advise you of one final Government amendment I have tabled for Lords Report.

## Legal aid: Northern Ireland

The Bill makes provision for persons who receive a removal notice in England and Wales to have access to free legal advice. In Committee, you asked about the position in Scotland and Northern Ireland (Official Report, 12 June 2023, column 1715). Following discussions with Department of Justice, I have tabled an amendment to make equivalent provision for Northern Ireland. The Scottish Government has confirmed that legislative changes are not required to deliver the same result for Scotland.

I am copying this letter to Lord Coaker, Lord Paddick, Baroness Hamwee, Baroness Ludford, the Earl of Kinnoull, Lord Bach, Stephen Kinnock MP and Alison Thewliss MP. I am also placing a copy in the library of the House.

Yours sincerely,

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The Lord Murray of Blidworth
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
for Migration and Borders