## Law maker

## Modernising legislative drafting and amending

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Topics 1. Background 2. What is Lawmaker 3. Where are we now 4. What have we learned



## Background



#### Background

In the UK today:

- When people access enacted legislation, they do so online.
- When people access draft legislation and related documents during its parliamentary process, they do so online.
- Within parliaments, members are increasingly using tablets and other devices to engage in parliamentary process.
- Governments and parliaments are committed to a "digital first" strategy for services. But...
  - The tools and processes we use to make legislation are mostly aimed at the printed page
  - The exception in the UK is www.legislation.gov.uk



### What is Lawmaker?



#### What is Lawmaker and LDAPP

Lawmaker is a product of the Legislative drafting, amending and publishing programme (LDAPP).

**LDAPP** was set up as a partnership to deliver new tools covering the full legislative lifecycle from drafting through the parliamentary process to handing over the enacted version for publication.

From the outset the programme had some key goals:

Treat legislation as data	Adopt open standards
Deliver a shared service	Build browser-based tools





#### Who is delivering Lawmaker

The **Legislative drafting, amending and publishing programme** (LDAPP) is a partnership of:

- The House of Commons and the House of Lords (UK Parliament)
- Office of the Parliamentary Counsel (UK)
- Scottish Government Parliamentary Counsel Office
- The Scottish Parliament
- The National Archives

The programme is delivered by a project team drawn from the partner organisations.



### Where are we now?



#### Where are we now?

Lawmaker has been available as a "public beta" since July 2019. We started with Scottish users but as of Jan 2021 rolled out to all core user groups. Now used to draft and manage:

- Scottish Parliament Bills
- Scottish Parliament amendments
- UK Parliament Bills
- UK Parliament amendments
- Statutory instruments (secondary legislation)

Aiming to be out of beta by the end of the year.



## Demo



# What have we learned?



#### What have we learned?

It is important to have a vision of the change you want to make.

It is really hard! Some key issues:

- Expertise is scarce
- Difficult to deliver value quickly
- Moving to a data paradigm is a huge shift for users
- Needs of different user groups must be carefully balanced

It will be worth it in the end.



## Thank you!

Email: matthew.lynch@gov.scot Twitter: @metju\_betju Screencasts: <u>bit.ly/ldappdemos</u>





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Prisons (Substance Testing) Bill 1	
[PRE-INTRODUCTION]	
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то	
Make provision about substance testing in prisons and similar institutions.	
$\mathbf{B}$ E IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:-	
1 Testing prisoners for psychoactive substances and other substances	
<ol> <li>Section 16A of the Prison Act 1952 (testing prisoners for drugs) is amended in accordance with this section.</li> </ol>	
(2) In the title, after "drugs" insert ", psychoactive substances and other substances".	
<ul> <li>(3) In subsection (1), for "he has any drug in his body" substitute "the prisoner has in their body any –</li> <li>(a) controlled drug,</li> </ul>	



	Number/DNum	Location	Proposer	Last updated 🔺	Comment	Status	Q
	1 / D000001	Section 5	Annabelle Ewing	17 November 2020, 00:15:39 - matthew.lynch.sp	Q	Tabled	
	1A / D000002	Amendment 1	Christine Grahame	23 December 2020, 07:26:13 - matthew.lynch.sp	Q	Tabled	
П П	/ D000003		Christine Grahame	23 December 2020, 07:26:14 - matthew.lynch.sp	Q	Draft	