



WRDA Stormont and Westminster Update – December 2021

Summary

This summary reflects Bills within both the Stormont Executive and Westminster Government and relevant questions tabled to Stormont Ministers during Departmental Question Times; alongside, consultation responses from both WRDA and the Women's Policy Group (WPG). This month there has been a number of political developments surrounding the thematic issues highlighted within the [Women's Policy Group \(WPG\) Covid-19 Feminist Recovery Plan](#).

The issue of **violence against women and girls** featured prominently in legislation in both Stormont and Westminster. Naomi Long's Protection from Stalking Bill Sexual Offences and Trafficking Victims Bill remain at Committee stage, it is important that these Bill complete their legislative journey prior to new elections as it would be a shame if the Bills did not complete their legislative journeys. Westminster introduced a Private Member's Bill related to recognising misogyny as a hate crime. The journey of this Bill will be one to watch as the WPG and FRP both raise concerns with ensuring that misogyny and gender motivated hate crimes are recognised as hate crimes here in Northern Ireland.

The issue of **reproductive health** and **access to abortion** featured prominently this month in Stormont and within the local streets of Northern Ireland. The Private Member's Amendment Abortion Bill related to severe fetal impairments was narrowly defeated at consideration stage this month. This is the first time that Stormont has voted in favour of the right to choose, albeit narrowly. The win must be recognised as the work of both the women's movement and pro-choice activists who put pressure on local parties to vote against this Bill.

The issue of **women's economic justice** remained prominent at Stormont and Westminster with legislation in relation to childcare, maternity protections, and increasing rights of parents to take absence in tragic circumstances such as miscarriages and bereavement; and during Question Time as the increasing cost of living and the importance of anti-poverty measures taken by the Stormont Executive were debated and discussed.

Last month we highlighted the importance of **climate change** and a gendered approach to tackling climate change as women are disproportionately affected globally. We are pleased that the WPG & WRDA suggested amendment to the Climate Change Bill (read the full response [here](#)) has been accepted by the Committee of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (read pg70 of the report [here](#)). This means that Northern Ireland is the first country in the world to include gender proofing within climate change legislation – which is fantastic.

This update has been put together by Courtney Girvin (WRDA volunteer) and proofread by Orla Brady.

Stormont

Executive Bills

Issue	Proposed by	Stage	Comments	Links to the Feminist Recovery Plan (FRP)
Protection from Stalking Bill	Naomi Long, Minister for Justice	Committee Stage – no movement since 08/02/21	<p>A Bill to provide protection from threatening or abusive behaviours, and from stalking behaviours. This new legislation will have greater penalties and protections from stalking behaviour compared to current legislation.</p> <p>The introduction of stalking protection orders (SPOs) will enable the police to intervene prior to any conviction to address stalking behaviours before they become entrenched or escalate in severity, and therefore, protecting victims when there is an immediate risk of harm. The Bill is divided into three parts. Part 1 creates the specific offence of stalking and creates the offence of threatening and abusive behaviour, which can be triggered by a single incident. Part 2 provides for the introduction of SPOs. Part 3 deals with the interpretation, commencement, and short title of the Bill.</p> <p>With Assembly elections approaching it is vital that this Bill completes its legislative journey, and the issue of stalking and gendered violence is not neglected.</p>	<p>Stalking is an inherently gendered crime, with women representing a disproportionate number of victims.</p> <p>Domestic homicide is linked to high-risk indicators such as coercive and controlling behaviour, stalking and domestic violence</p> <p>The FRP also notes NI specific considerations such as the link between paramilitarism and stalking behaviours.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p>
Justice (Sexual Offences and Trafficking Victims) Bill	Naomi Long, Minister for Justice	Committee Stage – no movement since 13/09/21	A Bill to make provision about and in connection with sexual offences; regulate particular matters relating to cases of trafficking or exploitation; and amend rules applying with respect to certain sexual or violent offences prevention orders.	The FRP is pleased to see the implementation of the Gillen Review recommendations and believes they have the potential to transform the

			<p>The Bill is divided into four parts. Part 1 legislates for the sexual offences covered within this Bill and the right to anonymity and privacy for both victims and perpetrators. Part 2 details trafficking and slavery offences separately. Part 3 detail what offences qualify for sexual offences prevention orders. The final part deals with the interpretation, commencement, and short title of the Bill.</p> <p>At its core this Bill has two key aims. Firstly, to enhance public safety by implementing elements of the Gillen review of serious sexual offence cases and from a review of the law on child sexual exploitation and sexual offences against children. Secondly, to improve services for victims of trafficking and exploitation.</p> <p>The Bill also creates new sexual offences and penalties such as behaviours of upskirting and downblousing.</p> <p>With Assembly elections approaching it is vital that this Bill completes its legislative journey and gendered violence is not neglected.</p>	<p>experience of those reporting their experience of rape and other sexual offences.</p> <p>This is vital given that recent research found that 97% of women have been sexually harassed and 96% chose not to report as they believed it would not do anything.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p>
Parental Bereavement (Leave and Pay) Bill	Diane Dodds (previous), Minister for Economy – continued by Gordon Lions (current)	Further Consideration Stage	<p>A Bill to make provision about leave and pay for employees who have lost their children.</p> <p>The Bill is divided into two main sections. Firstly, parental bereavement leave which will curate the right of parents who have lost their child to be absent from work, regardless of how long they have worked for their employer. Secondly, parental bereavement pay in which</p>	The FRP highlights the importance of employment protections for mothers and fathers who will undoubtedly be affected by the Parental Bereavement Bill.

			<p>those eligible will receive a fixed or earnings-related weekly rate of pay.</p> <p>Consideration stage debate highlighted three divergences of opinion among members. Firstly, when the Bill was first introduced there was no inclusion of bereavement pay and leave in the case of miscarriage. Second, how soon to implement this legislation, and finally how much the implementation of this Bill will cost – with the figure of £100 million being estimated.</p>	<p>Parental leave is recommended as a day one employment right within the FRP.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p> <p>Link to the consideration stage debate here</p>
Climate Change (No.2) Bill	Edwin Poots, Minister for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs	Committee Stage – no movement since 27/09/21	<p>A Bill to set targets for the years 2050, 2040 and 2030 for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; to provide for a system of carbon budgeting; to provide for reporting and statements against those targets and budgets; to confer power to impose climate change reporting duties on public bodies; to provide for reports and advice from the Committee on Climate Change; and for connected purposes.</p> <p>The speaker noted the Private Member’s Bill introduced by Clare Bailey and how “this is the first time that a Bill with provisions that are mutually inconsistent with an existing Bill (with the same topic) has been introduced to the Assembly.”</p> <p>The Minister asserted that he will not agree to a net zero target and that achieving net zero emissions by 2050 is not possible and therefore the goal of this Bill is to reduce it by at least 82%. Whereas Bailey’s Private Member’s Bill aims for a net zero carbon target by 2045. The GPNI leader has</p>	<p>The move to a “Green Economy” & an environmentally sustainable job market is reflected in the FRP. Gender equality must be at the heart of plans to tackle the climate crisis which will require a transformation of civil society and the economy.</p> <p>A new Energy Strategy will set ambitious targets and actions for a fair and just transition to a zero-carbon society.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p>

			<p>offered to compromise and incorporate elements of both Bills together, but this is unlikely given the Minister's stance that the proposed targets within the Private Member's Bill would decimate tens of thousands of jobs in the agri-food sector.</p>	
Private Tenancies Bill	Deirdre Hargey, Minister of Communities	Committee Stage – no movement since the 13/09/21	<p>A Bill to amend the law relating to private tenancies. The private rented sector accounts for 17% of all housing stock in Northern Ireland and is now larger social housing sector. 48% of people living in private renting housing receive state financial support to help with housing costs. As this sector has grown it is important to ensure it is appropriately regulated.</p> <p>Contents of the Bill includes notice given to tenants in relation to current and past matters; tenants to be provided with receipts for cash payments; limits placed on deposit amounts; restrictions on rent increases; and increased health and safety clauses related to fire, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and electrical safety standards.</p>	<p>The FRP asserts that private renting is one of the most accessible for young people, those with precarious working arrangements, and those escaping domestic abuse – yet it is the most expensive form of housing.</p> <p>The average weekly cost of private renting is £97 per week; this is not fit for purpose for many young women working in underpaid and undervalued occupations such as retail and the care sector.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p>
Welfare Supplementary Payments (Amendment) Bill	Deirdre Hargey, Minister of Communities	First Reading completed 14/12/21	<p>A Bill to change the end date for qualifying for payments under Article 137A of the Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015; and provide for monitoring of and reporting on arrangements for payments having effect by virtue of Article 137 and Article 137A of that Order.</p>	<p>The FRP has an entire section dedicated to the importance of mitigation caused by welfare reform and austerity measures, as this agenda</p>

			<p>The Bill contains four clauses. Clause 1 substitutes a new end date of 31st March 2025 for qualifying for mitigation payments in respect of the Social Sector Size Criteria. Clause 2 provides that payments cannot be made under Article 137A for any period between 31st March 2020 and the date on which the Act comes into operation. Clause 3 provides for the Department for Communities to report on the operation of payments made under both mitigation schemes under Articles 137 and 137A. Clause 4 deals with commencement of and the short title for the Bill.</p>	<p>compounded by COVID-19 has created a crisis situation where women need more support financially.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p>
--	--	--	--	---

Non-Executive Bills

Issue	Proposed by	Stage	Comments	Link to Feminist Recovery Plan (FRP)
Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill	Initially introduced by Paul Givan (First Minister – Lagan Valley) but sponsorship has been transferred to Christopher Stalford (DUP – South Belfast)	<p>Narrowly defeated at Consideration Stage (14/12/21)</p> <p>Further Consideration Stage to be scheduled</p>	<p>A Bill attempting to restrict access to abortion by amending the Abortion (Northern Ireland) (No. 2) Regulations 2020 to remove the ground for abortion in cases of severe non-fatal fetal disability. There has been no public consultation for this Bill, and it should be noted that the Northern Ireland Office conducted a public consultation when developing abortion law reform which resulted in the current 2020 legislation.</p> <p>FM stated he will challenge the Secretary of State Brandon Lewis in the courts over his direction that Stormont must commission full abortion services by next March.</p>	<p>This would infringe upon the bodily autonomy of women and others, and violates the reproductive justice principle of the right to not have a child.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p> <p>Link to FM Paul Givan’s position on the issue here</p>

			<p>A second legal challenge has been issued by anti-abortion campaigners against the government for issuing the direction on Stormont to impose a deadline to establish services.</p> <p>In October both Sinn Fein and the SDLP abstained on this Bill at Committee level enabling it to move to consideration stage. This Bill fails to comply with human right standards and would force those who receive certain foetal diagnoses to travel for abortion healthcare or continue with their pregnancy – removing their right to choose.</p> <p>This month, the Bill was narrowly defeated at Consideration Stage by 45 votes to 43 votes. It will now be referred back to the speaker, Alex Maskey, and it is understood the DUP is seeking legal advice.</p>	<p>Link to Northern Ireland Abortion timeline here</p> <p>Link to information about the defeat at Consideration Stage here</p>
Climate Change Bill	Clare Bailey (Green Party NI – South Belfast)	Committee Stage – completed 08/12/21	<p>A Bill attempting to mitigate the effects of climate change in Northern Ireland. The Bill seeks to establish a legally binding net-zero carbon target for NI, establish an NI Climate Commissioner and resultant Climate Office, achieve a climate sustainable economy by 2045, and guarantee existing climate and environmental protections.</p> <p>This Bill would declare a climate emergency until the threshold of the global temperature as defined by the Paris Agreement has been met. These goals are much more ambitious than the Executive Bill proposed by Edwin Poots.</p> <p>The Committee Stage report found that there is a strong difference in opinion in relation to the net zero target by 2045, and concern about the local agri-food sector. The</p>	<p>The move to a “Green Economy” and a more environmentally sustainable job market is reflected in the FRP.</p> <p>The effects of climate change are disproportionately gendered globally.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill to here</p>

			Committee feels it is an important Bill and recommend its progression, but they did not come to an agreement in relation to the 2045 target, believing it should be debated by the entire Assembly.	Link to Committee Stage report here
Safe Access Zones Bill (Public Health and Well Being Bill)	Pat Catney (SDLP – Lagan Valley)	Second Reading	<p>A Bill to secure the provision throughout Northern Ireland of free period products; and for connected purposes.</p> <p>England, Scotland, and Wales each have varying schemes in place to provide sanitary products free of charge in schools and some other public buildings. Northern Ireland has been the only place in the United Kingdom where such products are not provided free of charge in schools.</p> <p>This Bill strives to place a duty on the Department of Health to ensure that period products are available free of charge on a universal basis in appropriate locations; and to create regulations which specify which public service bodies have said duty to ensure access to free period products.</p>	<p>The FRP has highlighted the importance of good, gendered governance elsewhere globally – highlighting policies related to free period products as an example of this.</p> <p>Furthermore, WRDA and the Women’s Policy Group have been vocal in their support of movement towards free period products in past consultations.</p> <p>Link to information on the Bill here</p>
Domestic Abuse (Safe Leave) Bill	Rachel Woods (Green Party NI – North Down)		<p>A Bill to make provision for an entitlement to 10 days paid safe leave in each year for victims of domestic abuse; and for connected purposes. The Bill makes this a day one right to be guaranteed to all employees.</p> <p>Safe Leave can help mitigate some of the barriers that victims/survivors face when attempting to seek help and</p>	The FRP has highlighted the good practice of similar policies elsewhere globally such as in New Zealand.

			support. It can also help address some of the costs of domestic abuse for employers.	<p>The FRP supports this legislation but would like to see up to 20 days paid safe leave as a day one right which should be available to take either as a block or more flexibly.</p> <p>Link to more information on the Bill here</p>
--	--	--	--	--

Questions tabled in the month of December

Issue	Date	Asked by:	Notes	Link to Feminist Recovery Plan (FRP)
RSE (relationships and sex education)	06/12/21	Mr Blair (Alliance – South Antrim) To Michelle McIlveen, Minister of Education	<p>“An update on the Minister’s engagement with the Minister of Justice on the recommendation of the Gillen Review to review the RSE minimum content order.”</p> <p>The Minister asserted that the Gillen report did not recommend a review of the minimum content of RSE, but that it encouraged schools to include issues around serious sexual offences. The Department is working to enhance support, training, and resources for schools, with violence against women and girls was prioritised as requiring additional guidance and resources.</p>	<p>RSE has been identified as a key factor in addressing violence against women and other issues of gender inequality. As a mechanism to enhance long-term change on these issues RSE must be standardized and in line with CEDAW recommendations.</p> <p>Link to full answer here</p>
Rising Living Costs	07/12/21	Mr Gildernew (Sinn Féin – Fermanagh	“What opportunities are there in the upcoming Budget to give families a break and mitigate the rising living costs – impacted	Economic justice is a key pillar in the FRP. The FRP asserts that the decision to

		and South Tyrone) To Conor Murphy, Minister of Finance	by spikes in energy costs, the Tory decision to scrap the £20 uplift and Brexit related costs” The Department is trying to take the initiative as the cost of energy has risen so quickly and substantially. The Minister has put forth a proposition to the Executive in collaboration with the Minister for Communities. The Minister hopes the Executive will continue to focus on anti-poverty work.	scrap the £20 uplift should be overturned and recommends any underspend should be ring fenced for anti-poverty work. Link to full answer here
Housing: 100,000 Homes	13/12/21	Mr Kelly (Sinn Fein – North Belfast) To Michelle O’Neill, Deputy First Minister	“Does the DFM agree the housing programme recently announced by the Minister for Communities, in which 100,000 homes will be built in the next 15 years, is ambitious, tangible and deliverable?” In the midst of a global pandemic, it is so important that we start to look for recovery. Housing is central as everyone has the right to live in a good quality house.	Echoing the above the FRP has an incredibly comprehensive economic pillar with a section related to feminist and human-rights based housing which recommends a 50/50 social/private quote for any new housing proposals to ensure the creation of more social housing Link to full answer here
Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill	13/12/21	Ms Bailey (Green Party NI – South Belfast) To Robin Swann, Minister for Health	“If the Bill, which constitutes a violence against women and is not human rights compliant, passes how will this impact the Minister’s Department?” The Abortion Services Directions 2021, which came into force on 23 July, will require the Department to have commissioned abortion services in place by 31 March 2022 in line with the 2020 regulations. The Minister asserted that with regard to the outworking of the private Member’s Bill before he can bring	Access to abortion, bodily autonomy, and the right to decide are key ethos of the health pillar of the FRP. As mentioned above this Bill would violate those principles. Link to full answer here

			any further papers to them, he needs to see the outworking's of that legislation and how it may impact on any commissioning of services.	
--	--	--	--	--

Consultations

Issue	Women's Policy Group response (WPG)	Link to Feminist Recovery plan
WPG Response to Department of Justice Response to Hate Crime Review	<p>This is a response to the Department of Justice's July 2021 response to Judge Marrinan's Hate Crime Review in December 2020.</p> <p>The WPG response highlights the importance of including gender and misogyny as motivators for hate crimes and incorporating an intersectional approach to hate crime legislation. The WPG is concerned over the hesitancy of both Judge Marrinan and the Department of Justice to specifically recognise gender-based hate crimes as a crime that disproportionately effects women and is motivated by misogyny. The WPG cautions against a gender-neutral approach and recommends that hate crime legislation specifically recognises women and girls as protected characteristics. There is no substantial evidence to support the claim that men experience gender-based hate crime. This is not to say men do not experience hate crime, but that their gender is not the motivating factor – it could be race, religion, sexuality etc.</p>	<p>The FRP recommends that future Hate Crime Legislation Reviews in Northern Ireland includes gender-based violence, threats and abuse as protected characteristics.</p> <p>Link to the WPG's response to Judge Marrinan's Hate Crime Review here</p> <p>Link to full response here</p>
WPG NI Response to Domestic Abuse (Safe Leave) Bill Survey	<p>Many members of the WPG have been campaigning for paid leave for domestic abuse for years and there are many gaps in the protections afforded to victims of domestic abuse in Northern Ireland compared to other parts of the UK.</p> <p>The WPG recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 days domestic violence leave must be afforded as a day one right and should be afforded to all classifications of workers and employees. 	<p>The FRP cites New Zealand's initiative of domestic paid leave as an international case study of the importance of a gendered approach to governance.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave should be able to be taken either as a block or flexibly depending upon the victim's needs, and they should not have to prove their eligibility. • Be available to survivors of historic abuse who may need to take time off for criminal proceedings which takes place quite some time after the abuse. • A specific Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy and an Independent Domestic Abuse Commissioner. • Further legislation to explicitly recognise domestic abuse as a workplace issue. 	<p>The FRP also recommends an independent Domestic Abuse Commissioner – as such a post already exists in England and Wales.</p> <p>Link to full response here</p>
WPG NI Response to Period Products (Free Provision) Bill Consultation	<p>The WPG wishes to emphasise that while period poverty is a gendered issue that predominately impacts cis women and girls, it is important to note not all women and girls menstruate, and that trans men and non-binary people can be impacted by period poverty. The WPG recommends the Assembly take a co-design approach and work with the women's sector and the LGBTQ+ sector to ensure proposals effectively meet the needs of those impacted by this issue.</p> <p>The WPG notes the importance of stigma which surrounds the issue of periods which will be a barrier that prevents necessary conversations in relation to access to period products. Furthermore, healthcare issues such as endometriosis is impacted by this stigma as an average diagnosis takes 7.5 years. Therefore, there is an important awareness raising piece of work needed to tackle the stigma of periods on this island.</p>	<p>Similar to paid domestic abuse leave, the FRP highlights the importance of access to free period products as an example of gendered governance; again, citing New Zealand as an example.</p> <p>Link to full response here</p>

[Westminster](#)

All Bills – Governmental and Private Members

Issue	Date	Sponsored by	Stage	Notes	Links to Feminist Recovery Plan (FRP)
Police, Crime and Sentencing Bill	06/01/22	Robert Buckley, Ministry for	House of Commons passage completed;	A Bill to make provision about the police and other emergency workers; to make provision about collaboration between authorities to prevent and reduce serious violence; to make provision about	This is a very broad Bill covering a range of topics including gender and sexual based

		Justice (House of Commons) Baroness Williams of House Trafford, Conservative Life Peer (House of Lords)	moved to Report Stage (House of Lords)	<p>the powers of the police and other authorities for the purposes of preventing, detecting, investigating or prosecuting crime or investigating other matters; to make provision about the maintenance of public order; to make provision about sentencing, detention, release, management and rehabilitation of offenders; etc.</p> <p>This has been controversial as it is viewed as an attack on the right to protest.</p> <p>Debates have highlighted that the impact of violence against women, particularly domestic violence, sexual violence, controlling and coercive behaviour by men and their impact on the community is included in that strategy to reduce violence against women and girls.</p>	<p>violence. However, the right to protest has also been essential in furthering women's legislation.</p> <p>Read full details of the Bill here.</p> <p>Summary of new clauses added to the Bill here</p>
Northern Ireland (Ministers, Elections and Petitions of Concern) Bill	15/12/21	Brandon Lewis, Ministry for Northern Ireland Office (House of Commons) Lord Caine, Conservative Life Peer (House of Lords)	House of Commons passage completed; moved to Report Stage (House of Lords)	<p>A Bill to make provision about Ministerial appointments, extraordinary Assembly elections, the Ministerial Code of Conduct and petitions of concern in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>This Bill will deliver aspects of the New Decade, New Approach Agreement which was agreed by the five main NI political parties in January 2020. The Bill is concerned with the sustainability and transparency of the Northern Ireland institutions.</p> <p>Some key changes include requiring petitioners to come from more than one Northern Irish political</p>	<p>These new provisions reform the Petition of Concern mechanism in order to reduce misuse</p> <p>Previously the Petition of Concern has been abused and used to block socially progressive legislation such as equal marriage. Such reforms go some ways in ensuring one</p>

				party and updating the code of conduct for Northern Ireland Ministers.	party cannot override the democratic process. Read full details of the Bill here .
Bereavement Leave and Pay (Stillborn and Miscarried Babies) Bill	20/10/21	Sarah Owen (Labour)	Second Reading (House of Commons)	<p>A Bill to extend entitlement to parental bereavement leave and pay to parents of babies miscarried or stillborn during early pregnancy; and for connected purposes.</p> <p>The Miscarriage Association reports that about a quarter of a million people each year in the UK miscarry and happens to 1 in 4 pregnancies. Many are forced to take sick pay or sick leave. Ms Owen stated that “we are not sick we are grieving.”</p>	<p>The FRP highlights the importance of employment protections for mothers and fathers.</p> <p>Parental leave is recommended as a day one employment right within the FRP.</p> <p>Read full details of the Bill here.</p>
Conversion Therapy (Prohibition) Bill	22/06/21	Wera Hobhouse (Liberal Democrat)	Second Reading (House of Commons)	<p>A Bill to prohibit sexual orientation and gender identity conversion therapy.</p> <p>There is little detail about this Bill currently given its early stages, however, it will be interesting to keep an eye on it given similar legislation is in conversation in the Northern Ireland Executive.</p>	<p>This is a gendered offence, in which people were targeted as a result of their sexual orientation and gender identity. It is important to support victims/survivors, and future generations deserve to be free from the repetition of similar gendered violence.</p>

					Read full details of the Bill here .
Miscarriage Leave Bill	06/12/21	Angela Crawley (SNP)	Second Reading (House of Commons)	<p>A Bill to make provision for paid leave for people who have experienced a miscarriage.</p> <p>There is little detail on the Bill in its current stages; however given the introductions of a Parental Bereavement Bill within Stormont this will be worth keeping an eye on especially as one of the WPG recommendations is that paid leave entitlement should be included in the Parental Bereavement Bill for those who have suffered a miscarriage.</p>	<p>The FRP highlights the importance of employment protections for mothers and fathers who will undoubtedly be affected by this Bill.</p> <p>Read full details of the Bill here.</p>
Pregnancy and Maternity (Redundancy Protection) Bill	17/11/21	Maria Miller (Conservative)	Second Reading (House of Commons)	A Bill to prohibit redundancy during pregnancy and maternity leave, including up to six months after the end of pregnancy or leave; except in specified circumstances.	<p>The FRP highlights the importance of employment protections for mothers and fathers who will undoubtedly be affected by the Bill.</p> <p>Read full details of the Bill here.</p>
Hate Crime (Misogyny) Bill	26/11/21	Wera Hobhouse (Liberal Democrat)	Second Reading (House of Commons)	A Bill to make motivation by misogyny an aggravating factor in criminal sentencing; to require police forces to record hate crimes motivated by misogyny; and for connected purposes.	The FRP recommends that future Hate Crime Legislation Review in Northern Ireland includes gender-based violence, threats and

				Many in the WPG have campaigned for misogyny to be recognised as a motivation for hate crime – therefore the progression of this Bill will be one to watch.	abuse included as protected characteristics. Read full details of the Bill here .
--	--	--	--	---	--