

## **PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU**

### **LEGISLATIVE CONSENT MEMORANDUM - ADVANCED RESEARCH AND INVENTION AGENCY BILL (UK LEGISLATION)**

#### **Introduction**

1. Under Rule 9B.3.5, the Parliamentary Bureau is required to refer any legislative consent memorandum (LCM) that has been lodged with the Parliament to the committee within whose remit the subject matter of the relevant provision falls.

#### **Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill**

2. The Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill was introduced in the House of Commons on 2 March 2021.

3. An LCM was lodged by Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills on 2 September 2021.

4. The Bill makes provision to create a new body, the Advanced Research and Invention Agency (ARIA), with an aim of supporting “ambitious scientific research with a tolerance to failure”.

5. The LCM indicates that the Scottish Government does not intend to lodge a motion seeking the Scottish Parliament’s consent to the UK Parliament legislating on devolved matters in this Bill. The LCM states that this is due to concerns about ARIA being controlled solely by UK Ministers.

#### **Designation of lead committee**

6. The LCM falls within the remit of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills. The remit of the Education, Children and Young People Committee includes “*to consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills*”. The remit of the Education, Children and Young People Committee is therefore engaged.

7. No other committee remit appears to be engaged.

8. The LCM will also be considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee in regard to provisions in the Bill conferring powers on the Scottish Ministers to make subordinate legislation.

#### **Recommendation**

9. The Bureau is invited to agree to refer, under Rule 9B.3.5, the LCM on the Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill to the Education, Children and Young People Committee to consider and report on it.

**Parliamentary Business Team  
September 2021**