The Rt Hon. the Lord McNally
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I am writing about the Offender Rehabilitation Bill [HL], which the Constitution Committee considered at its meeting last week.

The committee noted that in your speech moving the second reading of the bill you outlined the wider “Transforming Rehabilitation” reforms that the Government plan—including creating a new, public sector National Probation Service and opening up the provision of rehabilitation services to non-public sector providers (HL Deb, 20 May 2013, cols 634–35). The committee has an ongoing interest in monitoring effective parliamentary scrutiny of Government proposals and in guarding against Parliament being pre-empted by the Government implementing proposals in a bill which has yet to receive Royal Assent (see Constitution Committee, 13th report (2012–13): The pre-emption of Parliament (HL Paper 165)). Accordingly, I would be grateful if you could inform us of the legislative or other legal basis for implementing those proposals you referred to in your second reading speech which do not form part of the bill.

The Rt Hon. the Baroness Jay of Paddington
Chairman, Constitution Committee