



Department for
Business & Trade

Nusrat Ghani MP
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Our ref: MCB2023/05888

By email: iain.stewart.mp@parliament.uk

5 October 2023

Dear Iain,

Thank you for your email of 22 August on behalf of your constituent, regarding the Retained EU Law Bill.

The Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill has received Royal Assent and is now law. The Government introduced the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023 to ensure that, by the end of this year, we end the special status of retained EU law on our statute book and that unnecessary and burdensome EU laws are removed.

It is no longer the case that 4,000 laws will be revoked because on 10 May the Government tabled amendments to the then REUL Bill to replace the original sunset with a list of the retained EU laws to be revoked at the end of 2023. This was in response to a vast amount of feedback from businesses and other organisations during the Bill's passage about revoking all retained EU law within scope of the Bill unless specifically preserved. These changes have meant that we are now working on a programme of reform to make regulations best suited to the UK rather than a programme of preservation. It provides certainty for business by making it clear which regulations will disappear, instead of highlighting only the REUL that would be saved.

I am pleased to inform you that the Government has already reformed or revoked over 1000 pieces of REUL. In addition to the list of around 600 in the Act, the Financial Services and Markets Bill and the Procurement Bill will repeal around 500 pieces of REUL. This means more than 2,000 revocations and reforms are already completed or under way.

However, this is far from the limit of our ambition. Departments will continue to review the REUL not already revoked or reformed or planned for revocation this year to identify further opportunities for reform and this process will be subject to Parliamentary scrutiny in the usual way.

We have also updated the retained EU law dashboard on gov.uk to provide clarity and reassurance to businesses and the public about which pieces of REUL have been identified. This will continue to be updated as this work progresses.

Alongside this, the Government has embarked on a wider programme of regulatory reform. In early May, we published '[Smarter Regulation to Grow the Economy](#)', committing to an ongoing series of regulatory reform announcements, with the aim of reducing burdens on businesses and encouraging growth and innovation. More information on the Government's plan for regulatory reform can be found the [smarter regulation](#) page on gov.uk.

Thank you for taking the time to write, I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "N Ghani". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Nusrat Ghani MP

Minister of State for Industry and Economic Security at the Department for Business and Trade and Minister of State for the Investment Security Unit at the Cabinet Office