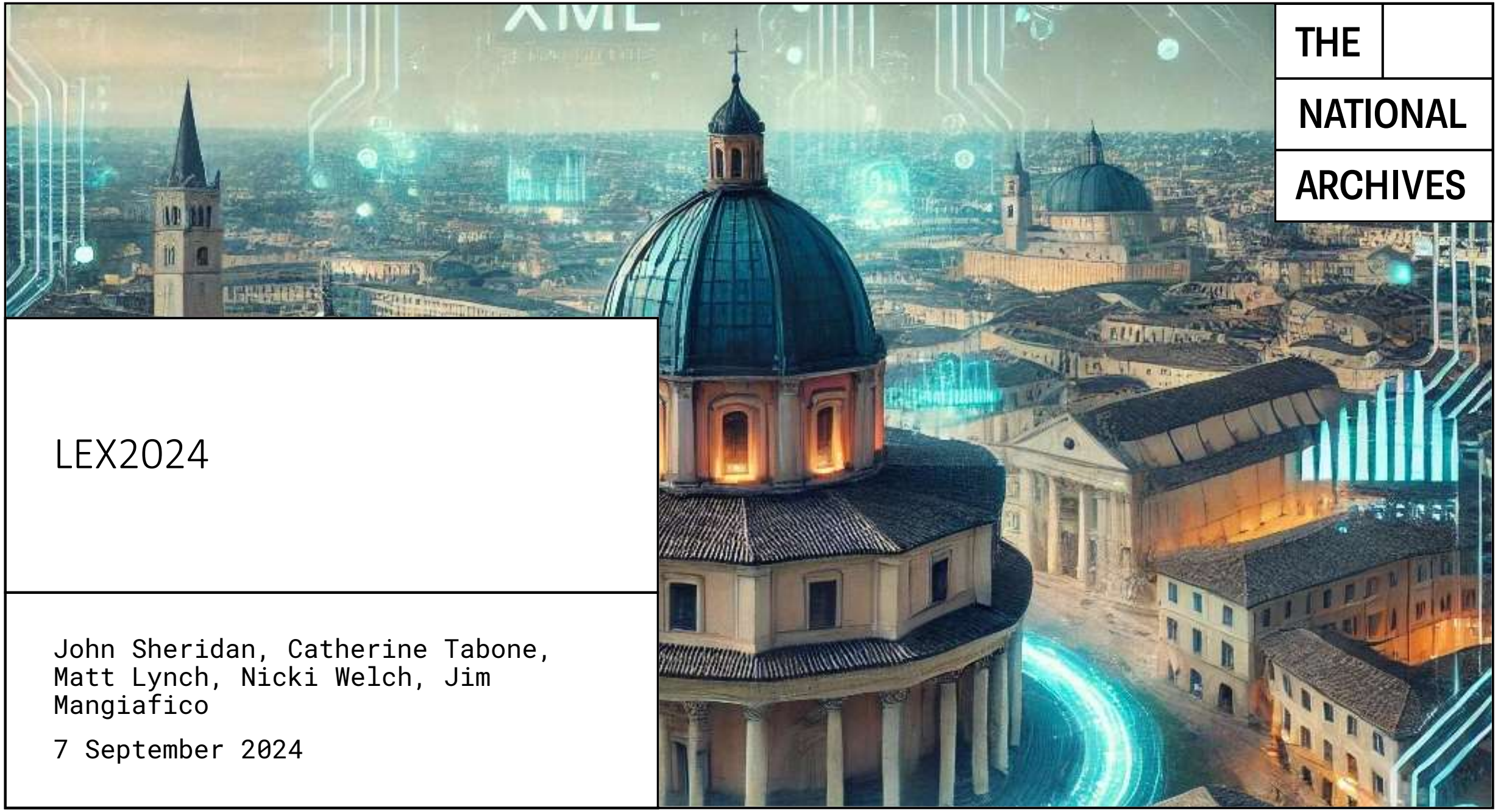


THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

LEX2024

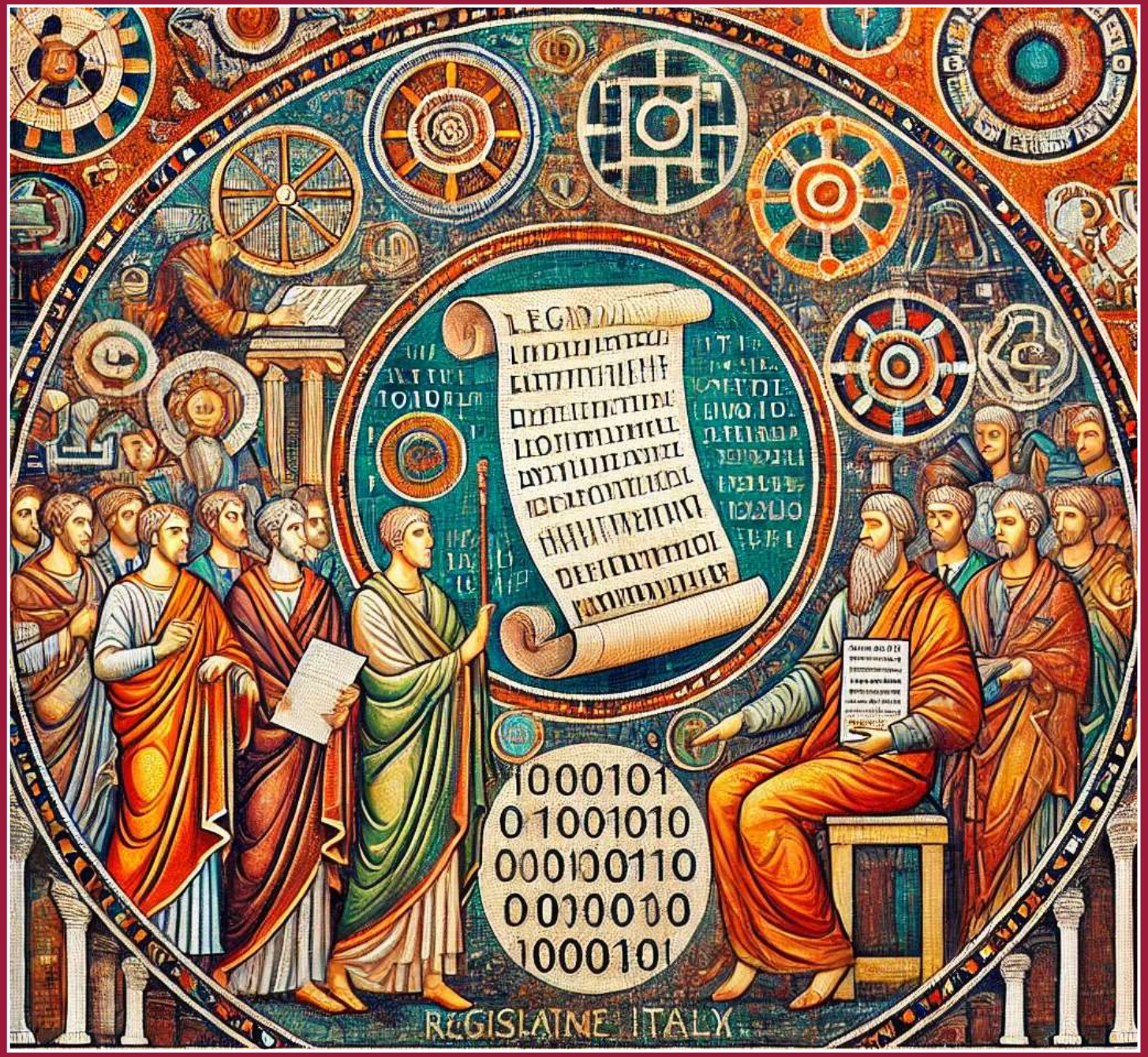
John Sheridan, Catherine Tabone, Matt Lynch, Nicki Welch, Jim Mangiafico

7 September 2024

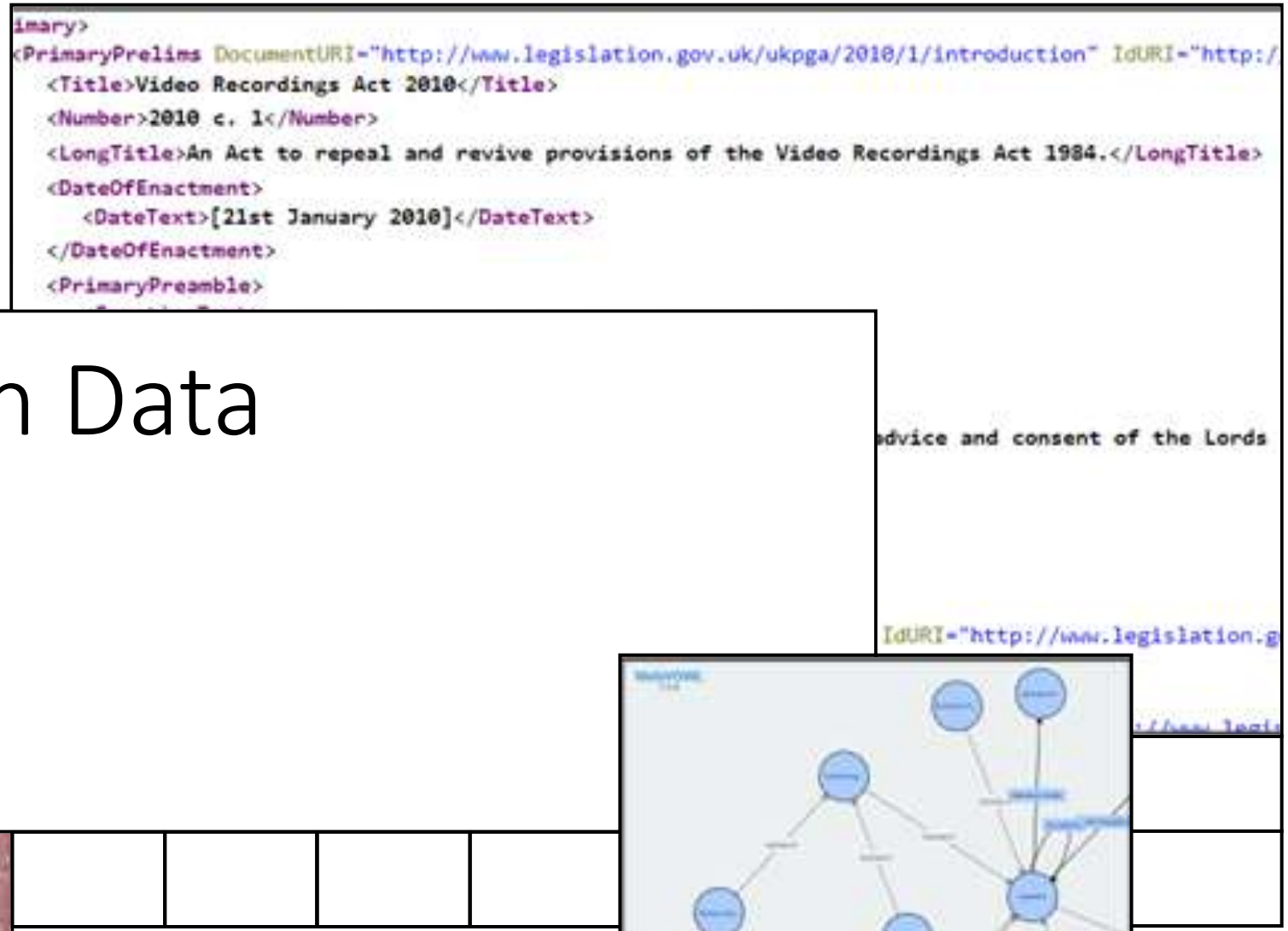
THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Introduction

John Sheridan



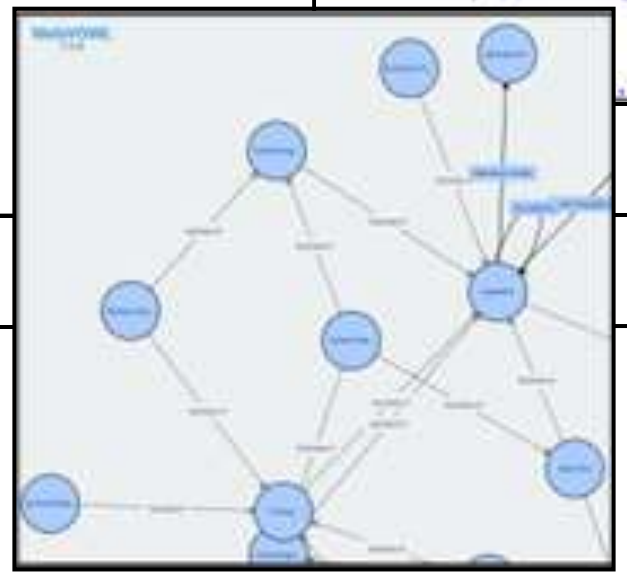
THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES



Legislation Data Projects

Catherine Tabone

7th September 2024



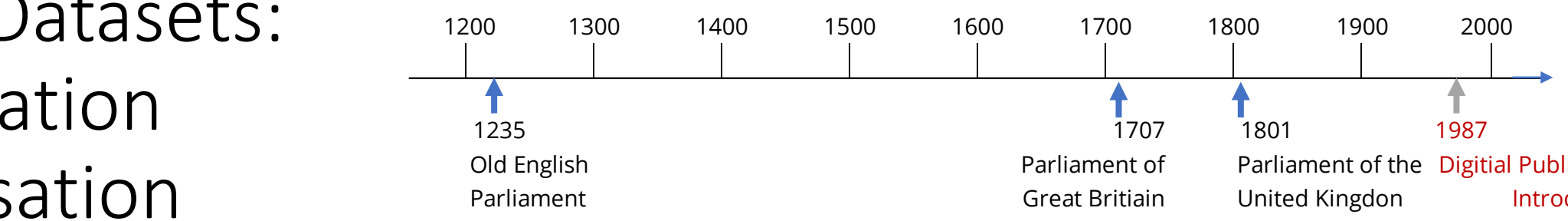
The Legislation Services Data Team are responsible for…

- Creating new legislation datasets
- Data quality and completeness
- Data Modelling - Schemas, ontologies and URI schemes
- Tools and APIs for data access and research
- Supporting and promoting data re-use
- Data analysis

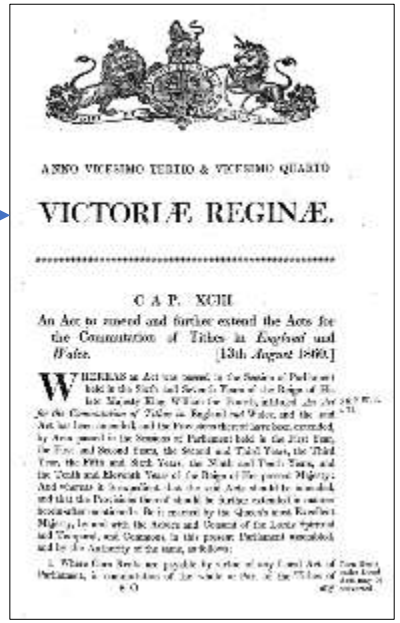
Data is everything!

New Legislation Datasets

New Datasets: Legislation Digitisation



Scanning & OCR



ANNO VICESIMO TERTIO & VICESIMO QUARTO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

CAP. XCII

An Act to amend and further extend the Acts for the Commutation of Tithes in *England* and *Wales*. [13th *August* 1860.]

Document Extraction & Metadata Creation

```
<ukm:PrimaryMetadata>
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      <ukm:DocumentMainType Value="UnitedKingdomPublicGeneralAct"/>
      <ukm:DocumentStatus Value="final"/>
   </ukm:DocumentClassification>
   <ukm:Year Value="1860"/>
   <ukm:Number Value="93"/>
   <ukm:EnactmentDate Date="1860-08-13"/>
</ukm:PrimaryMetadata>
```

New Datasets: Enabling Powers Dataset

Primary Legislation

Made by parliament

The Secretary of State may by regulations make …. [secondary legislation that can be made]

Secondary Legislation

Made by government departments

The Secretary of State makes these Regulations in exercise of the power conferred by …. [enabling primary legislation]

Example:

Power to make secondary legislation conferred: Section 170(6) of the Building Safety Act 2022 (c. 30) contains an enabling power.

Power in enabling act exercised: The Building Safety Act 2022 (Amendment Notices Transitional Provision) Regulations 2024 (UKSI 2024/850) was made under this power

(6) The Secretary of State may by regulations make transitional or saving provision in connection with the coming into force of any provision of this Act.

The Building Safety Act 2022 (Amendment Notices Transitional Provision) Regulations 2024

Made - - - - *5th August 2024*

Coming into force *6th August 2024*

The Secretary of State makes these Regulations in exercise of the power conferred by section 170(6) of the Building Safety Act 2022(**a**).

New Datasets: Enabling Powers Dataset

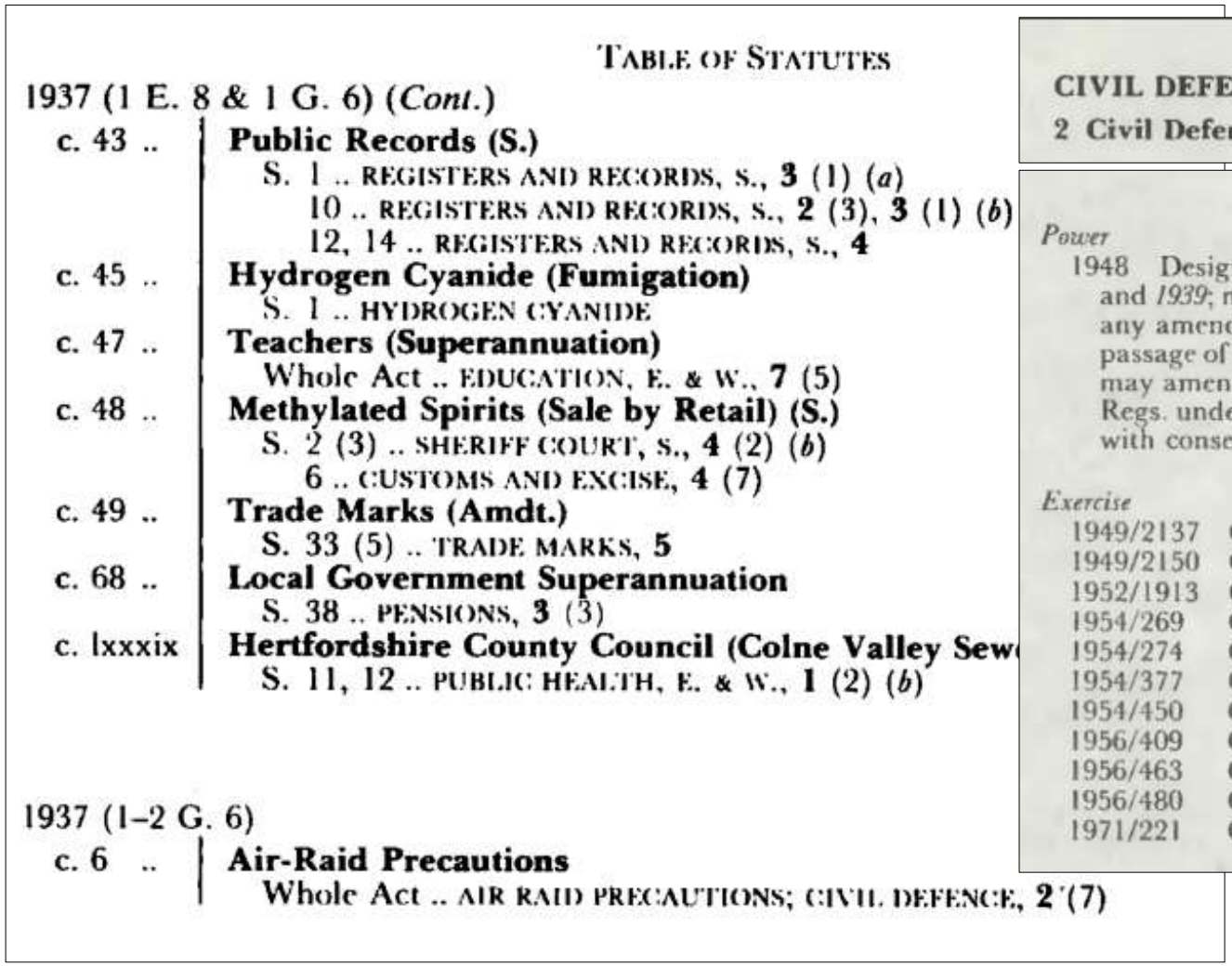


TABLE OF STATUTES

1937 (1 E. 8 & 1 G. 6) (*Cont.*)

c. 43 .. **Public Records (S.)**
S. 1 .. REGISTERS AND RECORDS, S., **3** (1) (*a*)
10 .. REGISTERS AND RECORDS, S., **2** (3), **3** (1) (*b*)
12, 14 .. REGISTERS AND RECORDS, S., **4**

c. 45 .. **Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation)**
S. 1 .. HYDROGEN CYANIDE

c. 47 .. **Teachers (Superannuation)**
Whole Act .. EDUCATION, E. & W., **7** (5)

c. 48 .. **Methylated Spirits (Sale by Retail) (S.)**
S. 2 (3) .. SHERIFF COURT, S., **4** (2) (*b*)
6 .. CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, **4** (7)

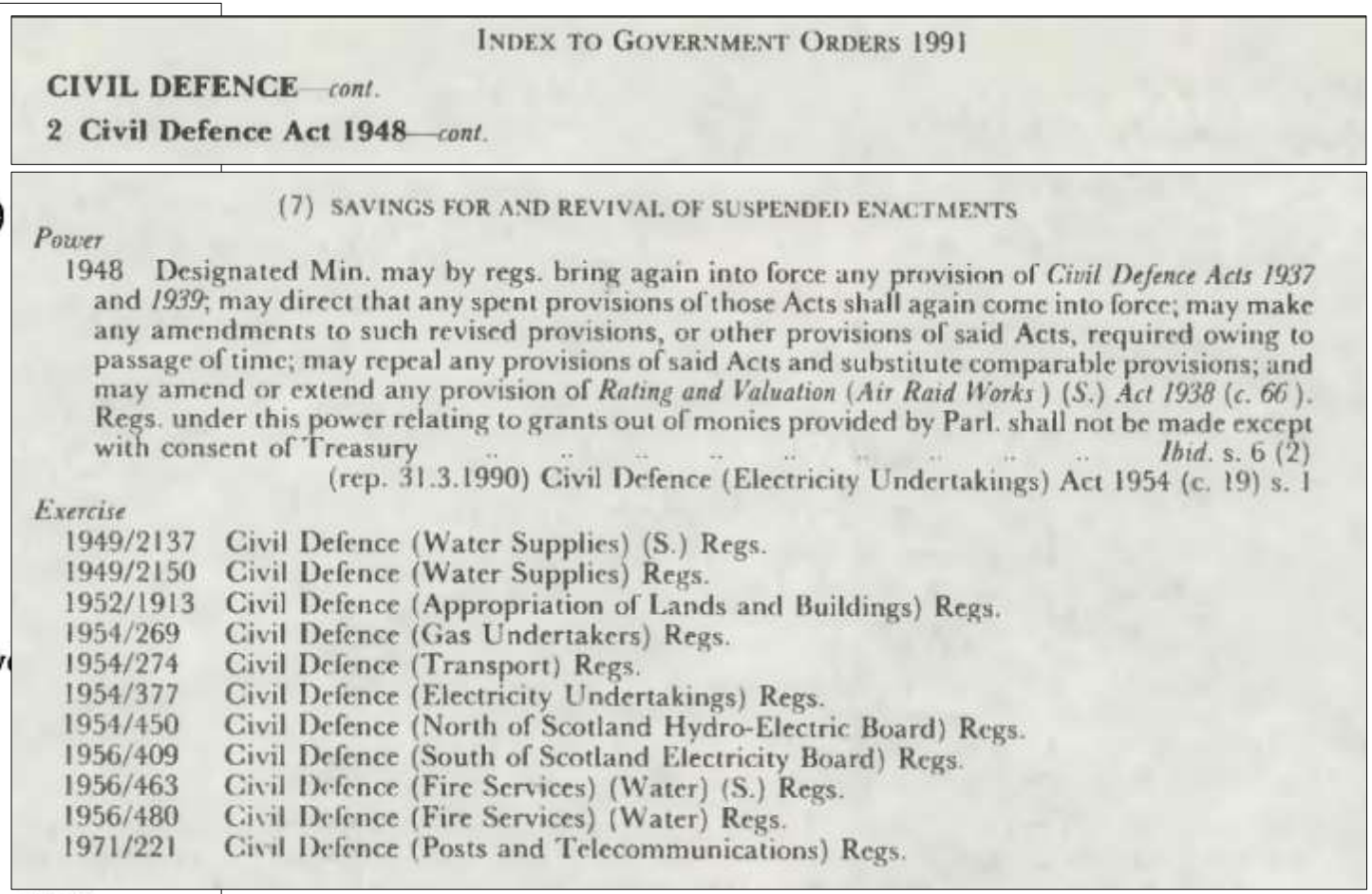
c. 49 .. **Trade Marks (Amdt.)**
S. 33 (5) .. TRADE MARKS, **5**

c. 68 .. **Local Government Superannuation**
S. 38 .. PENSIONS, **3** (3)

c. lxxxix **Hertfordshire County Council (Colne Valley Sew**
S. 11, 12 .. PUBLIC HEALTH, E. & W., **1** (2) (*b*)

1937 (1–2 G. 6)

c. 6 .. **Air-Raid Precautions**
Whole Act .. AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS; CIVIL DEFENCE, **2** (7)



INDEX TO GOVERNMENT ORDERS 1991

CIVIL DEFENCE—*cont.*

2 Civil Defence Act 1948—*cont.*

(7) SAVINGS FOR AND REVIVAL OF SUSPENDED ENACTMENTS

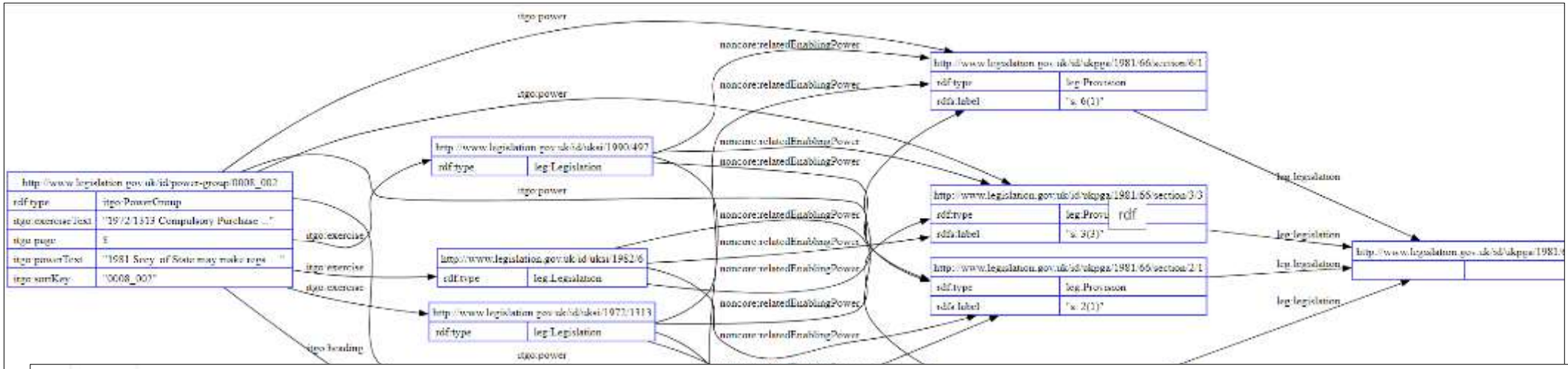
Power

1948 Designated Min. may by regs. bring again into force any provision of *Civil Defence Acts 1937* and *1939*; may direct that any spent provisions of those Acts shall again come into force; may make any amendments to such revised provisions, or other provisions of said Acts, required owing to passage of time; may repeal any provisions of said Acts and substitute comparable provisions; and may amend or extend any provision of *Rating and Valuation (Air Raid Works) (S.) Act 1938 (c. 66)*. Regs. under this power relating to grants out of monies provided by Parl. shall not be made except with consent of Treasury .. .. *Ibid.* s. 6 (2)
(rep. 31.3.1990) Civil Defence (Electricity Undertakings) Act 1954 (c. 19) s. 1

Exercise

1949/2137 Civil Defence (Water Supplies) (S.) Regs.
1949/2150 Civil Defence (Water Supplies) Regs.
1952/1913 Civil Defence (Appropriation of Lands and Buildings) Regs.
1954/269 Civil Defence (Gas Undertakers) Regs.
1954/274 Civil Defence (Transport) Regs.
1954/377 Civil Defence (Electricity Undertakings) Regs.
1954/450 Civil Defence (North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board) Regs.
1956/409 Civil Defence (South of Scotland Electricity Board) Regs.
1956/463 Civil Defence (Fire Services) (Water) (S.) Regs.
1956/480 Civil Defence (Fire Services) (Water) Regs.
1971/221 Civil Defence (Posts and Telecommunications) Regs.

New Datasets: Enabling Powers Dataset

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<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/itgo-heading/electricity/3/3>
        a               skos:Concept , itgo:Heading ;
        itgo:level      3 ;
        skos:broader    <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/itgo-heading/electricity/3> ;
        skos:note       "3" .

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/1990/40/section/32>
        a                   itgo:Power , leg:Provision ;
        rdfs:label          "s. 32" ;
        itgo:heading        <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/itgo-heading/representation_of_the_people/1/2> ,
        <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/itgo-heading/legal_services/2/4> ;
        leg:legislation     <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/1990/40> .
```

New Datasets: Citation Dataset

10 Committee on industry competence

(1) The regulator must exercise its powers under section 11A(3) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 to establish and maintain a committee concerned with the competence of persons in the built environment industry ("industry competence"), with the following functions (and any other function that the regulator considers appropriate).

CLML XML

```
<Citation URI="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/1974/37" Year="1974"
Number="37" Class="UnitedKingdomPublicGeneralAct">1974 c. 37 </Citation>
```

AKN XML

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<ref href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/ukpga/1974/37">1974 c. 37</ref>
```
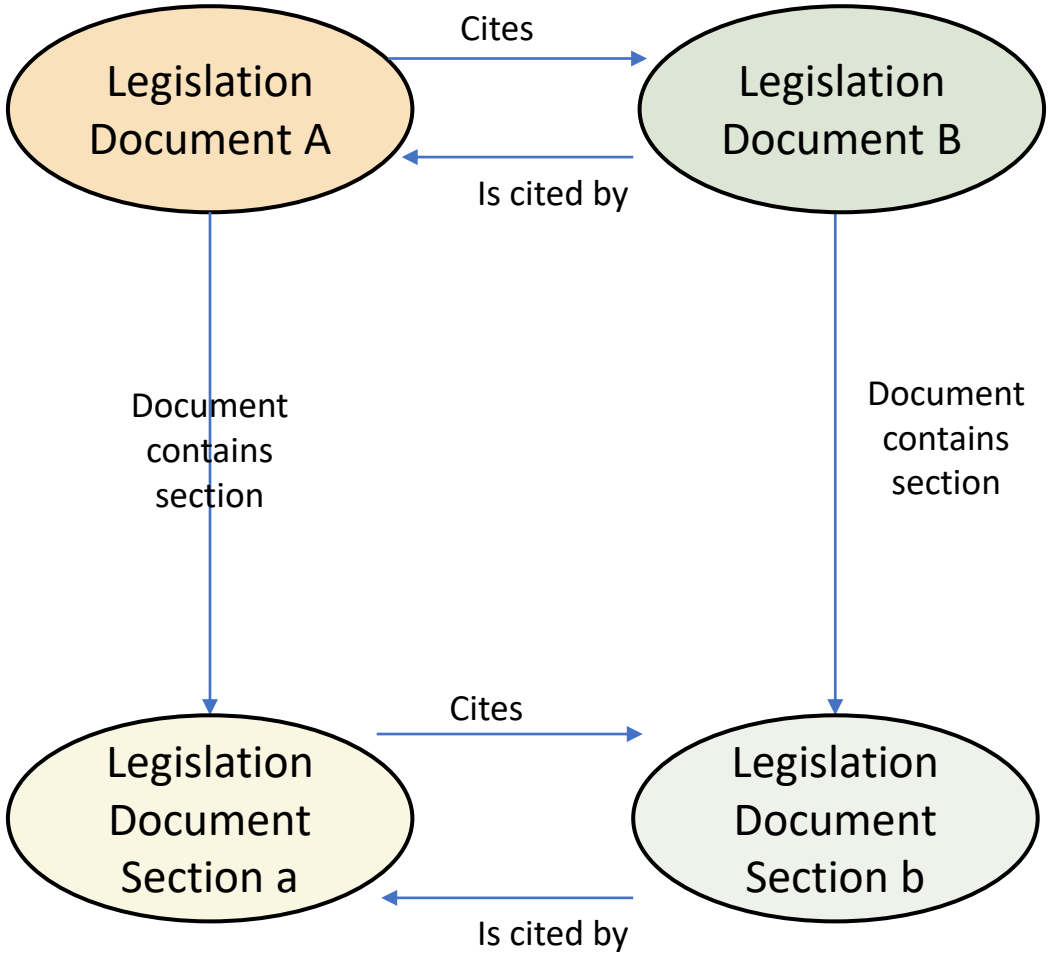

New Datasets: Citation Dataset



RDF

```
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        leg:contains
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1974/37/section/11A/3>.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2022/30/>
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        leg:cites
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1974/37>.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1974/37/section/11A/3>
        leg:isCitedBy
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2022/30/section/10>.
```

New Datasets: Definitions Dataset

In this Act—

"the CPTPP" means the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, signed at Santiago on 8 March 2018, including the UK Accession Protocol, as it has effect in the United Kingdom from time to time;

"the UK Accession Protocol" means the Protocol on the Accession of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership, signed at Auckland and Bandar Seri Begawan on 16 July 2023.

CLML XML

```
<Term id="term-the-cptpp">the CPTPP</Term>
```

AKN XML

```
<TLCTerm eId="term-the-cptpp" href="/ontology/term/uk.the-cptpp" showAs="the CPTPP"/>
```

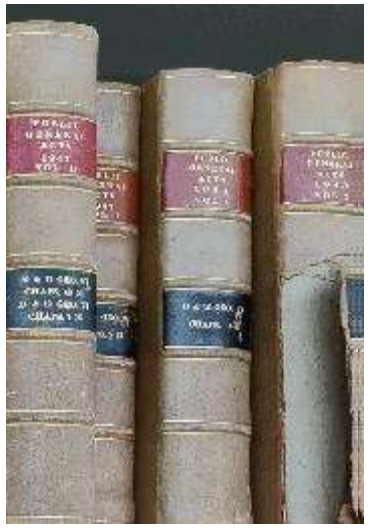
New Datasets: Definitions Dataset

RDF

```
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/definition/ukpga/2024/6/d001>
       rdf:type leg:Definition ;          #definition identifier
       leg:Term "the CPTPP" ;             # the term being defined
       leg:definitionText "the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership,
signed at Santiago on 8 March 2018, including the UK Accession Protocol, as it has effect in the United Kingdom from
time to time" ;          # the definition text
       leg:definitionLocation <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2024/6/section/1>;
              # the document section introducing the definition
       leg:defScope <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2024/6> ;
              # the (initial) scope of the definition
       leg:defUse <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2024/123/section/2/1> .
       leg:defUse <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2024/123/section/7/1> .
              # uses of the definition
```

New Data Formats

Expanding Data Formats

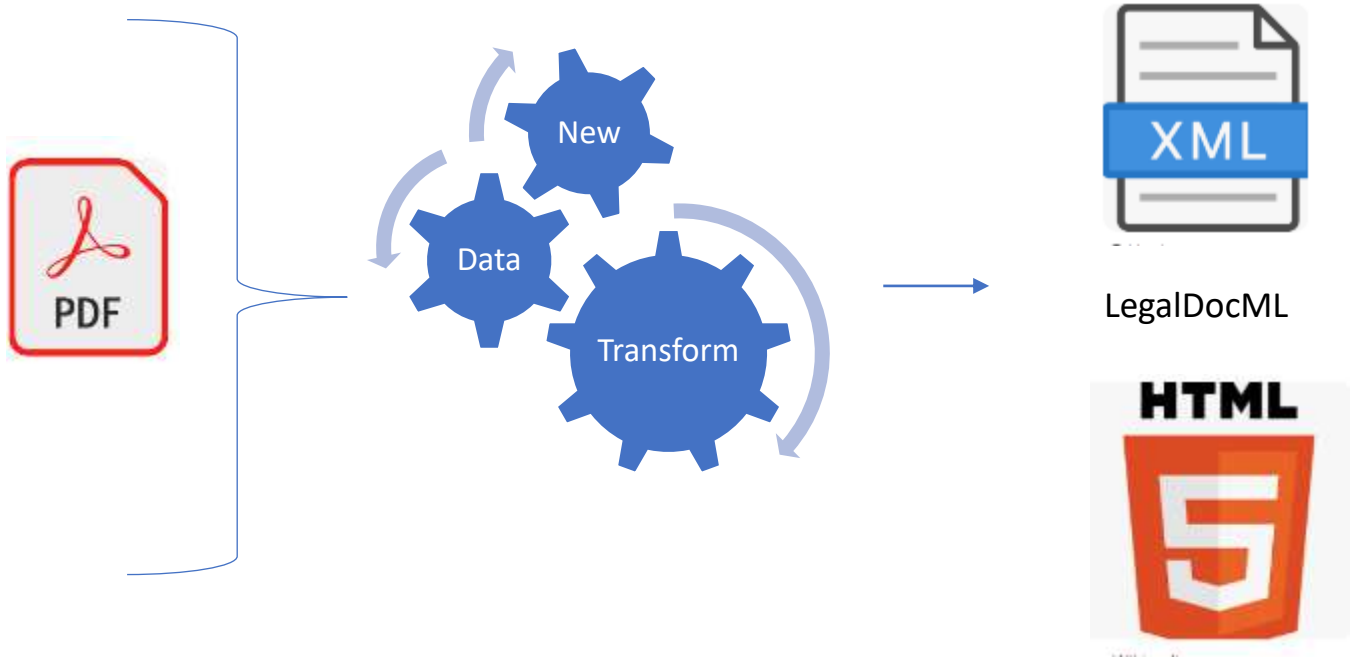


New Formats: Associated Documents as LegalDocML

Explanatory Notes

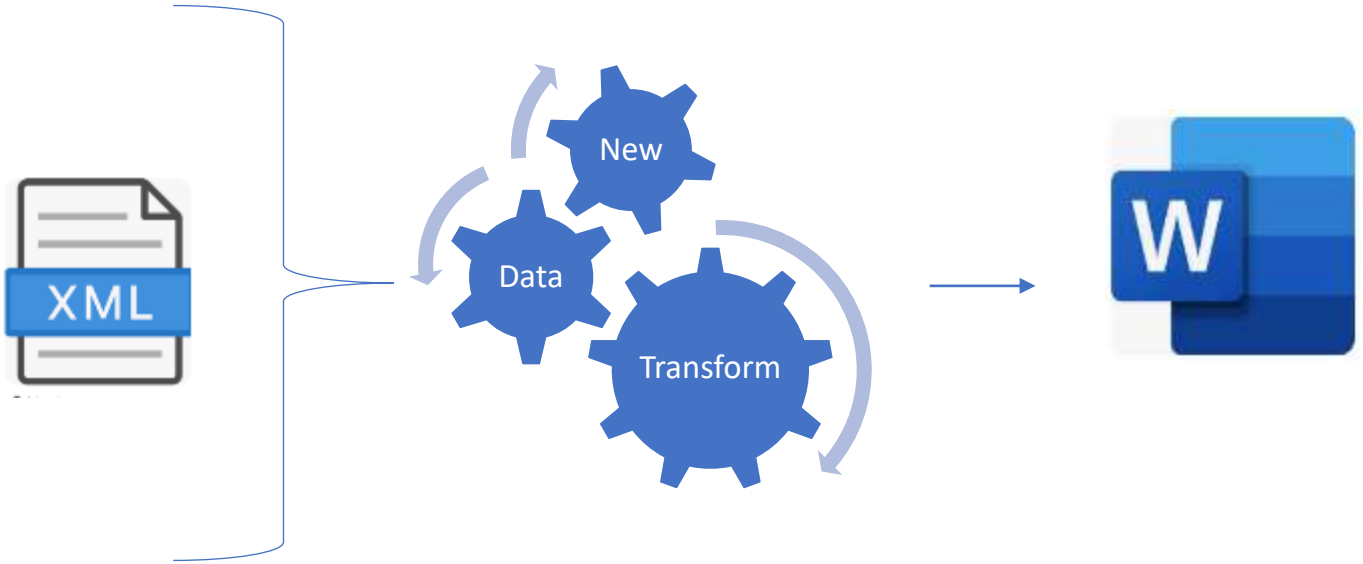
Explanatory Memoranda

Impact Assessments



New Formats: Legislation as Word (DOCX)

Legislation Documents



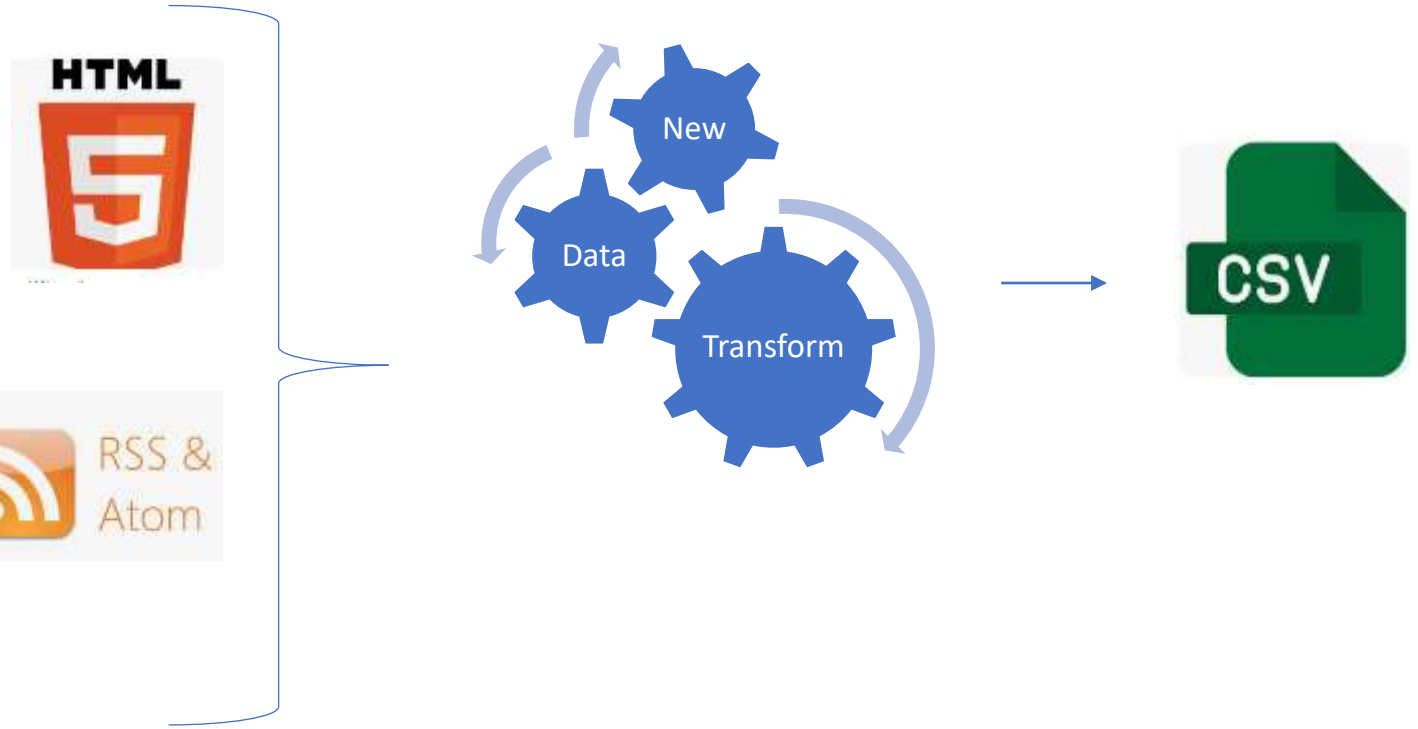
New Formats: Search Results as CSV

Search Results

Changes to Legislation (amendments)

Publication Log

Tables in Legislation

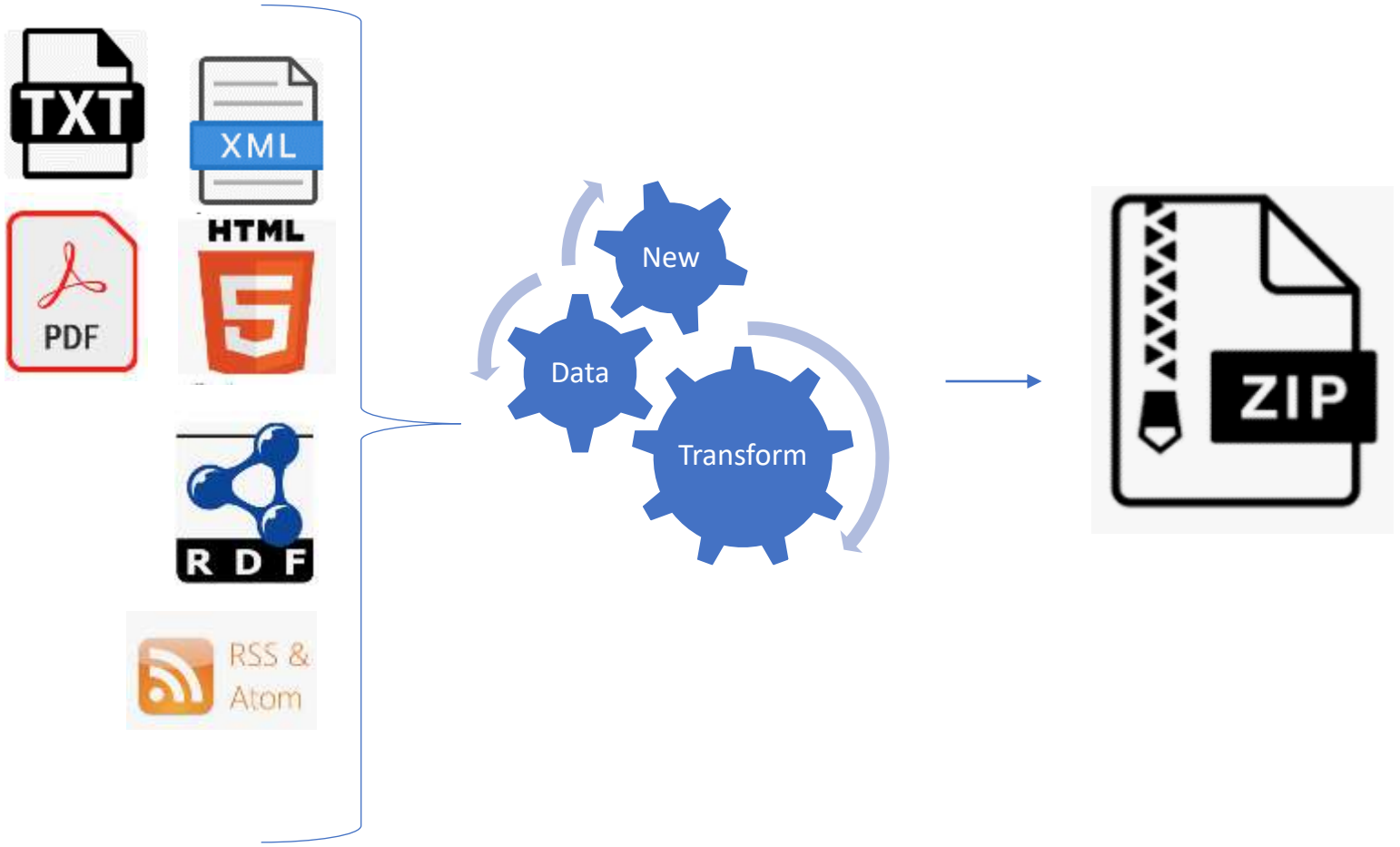


New Formats: Bulk Downloads

Legislation Documents

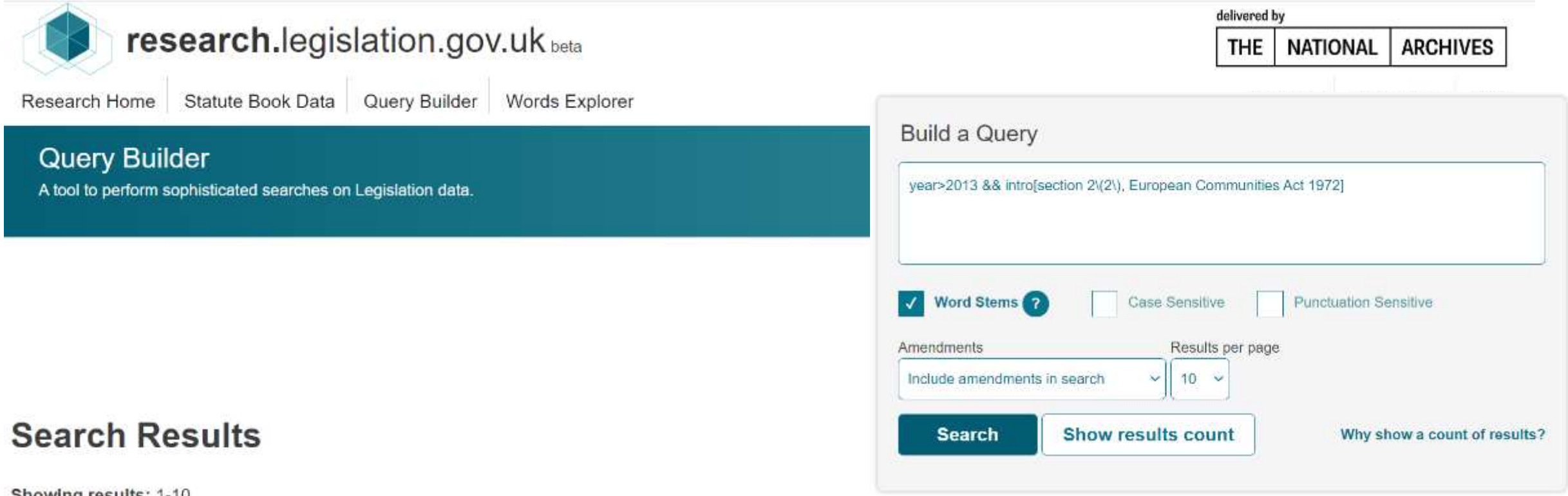
Changes to Legislation (amendments)

Core Reference Dataset (RDF)



New Tools

New Tools: Query Builder



New Tools: Words Explorer

research.legislation.gov.uk beta

Research Home | Statute Book Data | Query Builder | Words Explorer

Words Explorer

Count words in legislation

Find words in content | Count words in legislation

reasonable

Case Insensitive | Case sensitive | Word stems

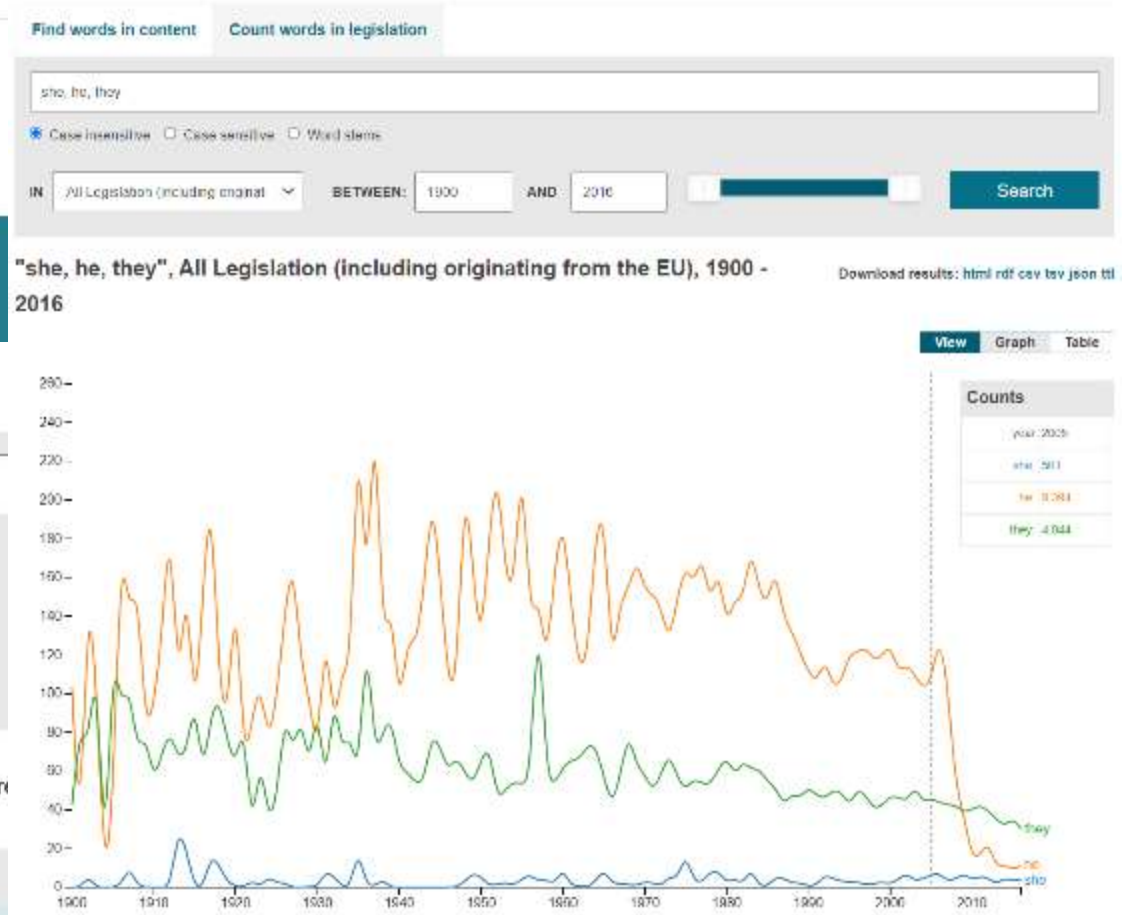
Show only those n-grams beginning with the search term, or with the first search term if more than one is provided

IN All Legislation (including originating from the EU) LIMIT: 50

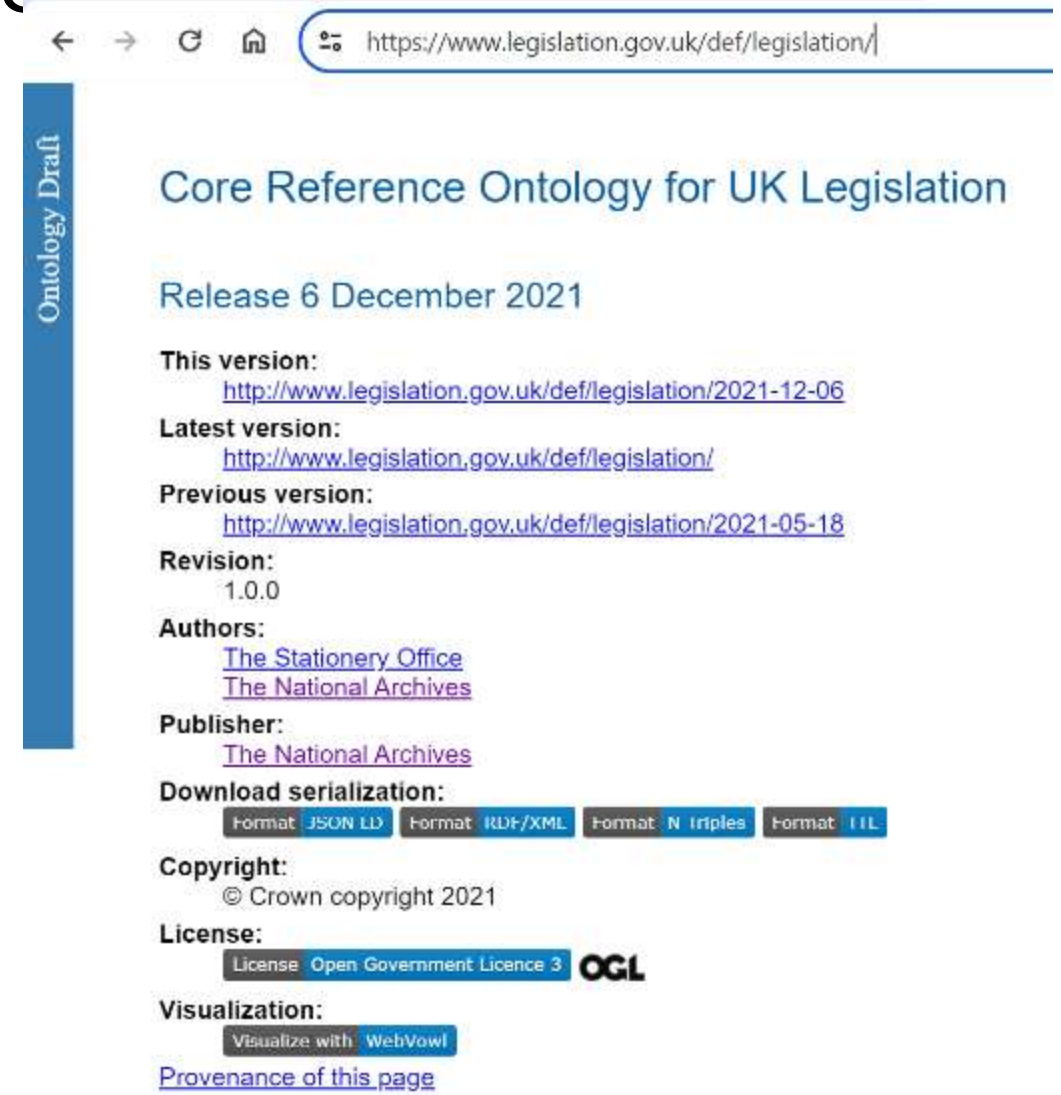
"reasonable", All Legislation (including originating from the EU)

Download r

2 Grams	3 Grams	4 Grams	5 Grams
a reasonable (1237)	a reasonable period (440)	without reasonable excuse, (246)	, without reasonable excuse, (219)
reasonable excuse (486)	within a reasonable (362)	, without reasonable excuse (238)	reasonable period should be allowed (159)
reasonable period (472)	without reasonable excuse (337)	within a reasonable time (168)	a reasonable period should be (159)
reasonable steps (387)	reasonable steps to (303)	reasonable period should be (159)	take all reasonable steps to (106)
all reasonable (368)	reasonable excuse, (256)	a reasonable period should (159)	there are reasonable grounds for (93)



New Tools: Linked Data API & SPARQL Endpoint



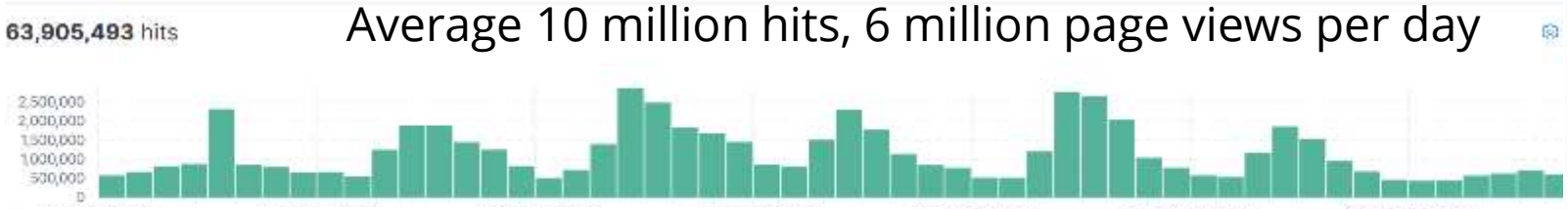
Supporting Legislation Data Re-use

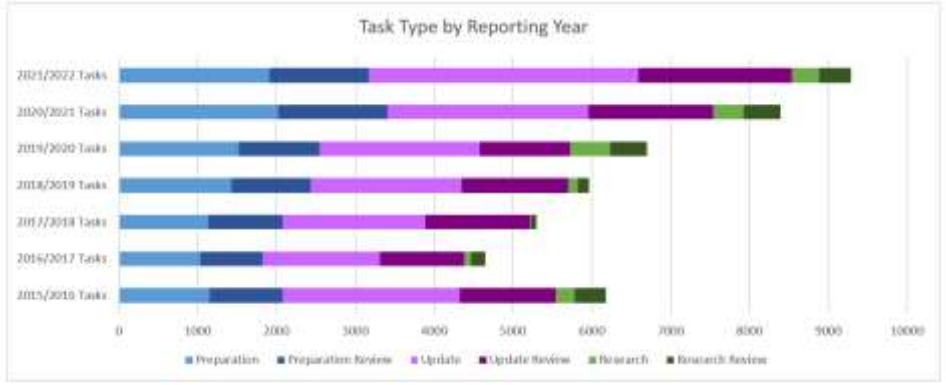
New Data Reuse: External Users

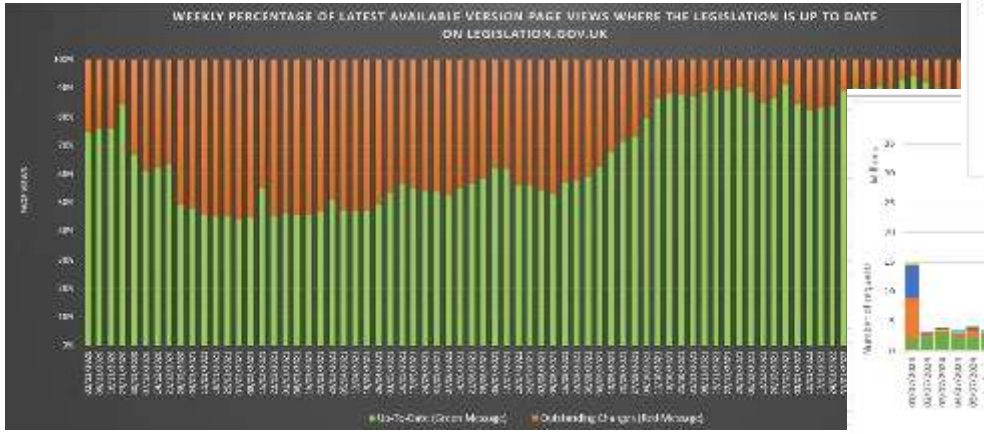
Who?	What?	Which data/tools?
Lawmaker Drafting Tool (The National Archives)	Citation checking in legislation drafting	SPARQL Endpoint & Core Reference dataset
Find case law Website (The National Archives)	Legislation citation checking and mark-up in UK judgments	SPARQL Endpoint & Core Reference dataset
Project Lex (Cabinet Office, Ministry of Justice)	Legislation search tools for government drafters	Query Builder & Legislation data
Project Odysseys (Swansea University, Keele University, Tabled, The National Archives)	Parsing legislation for law centre AI chatbot	Legislation data, definitions and citations
Open Regulation Platform (Department for Business & Trade)	Connecting legislation with guidance documents published by regulators	Legislation data

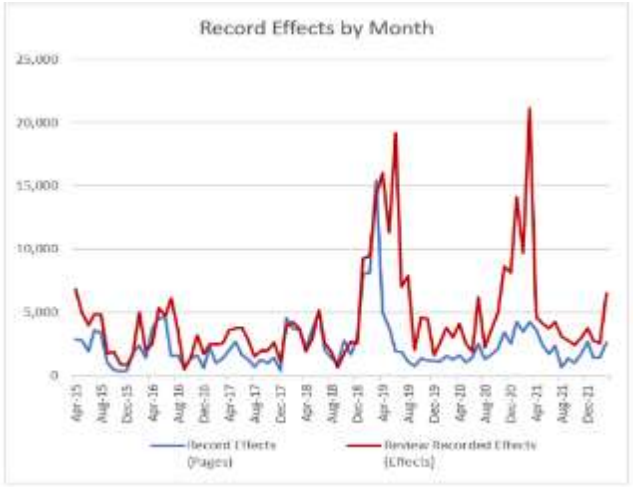
Data Reuse: Legislation Data Analytics

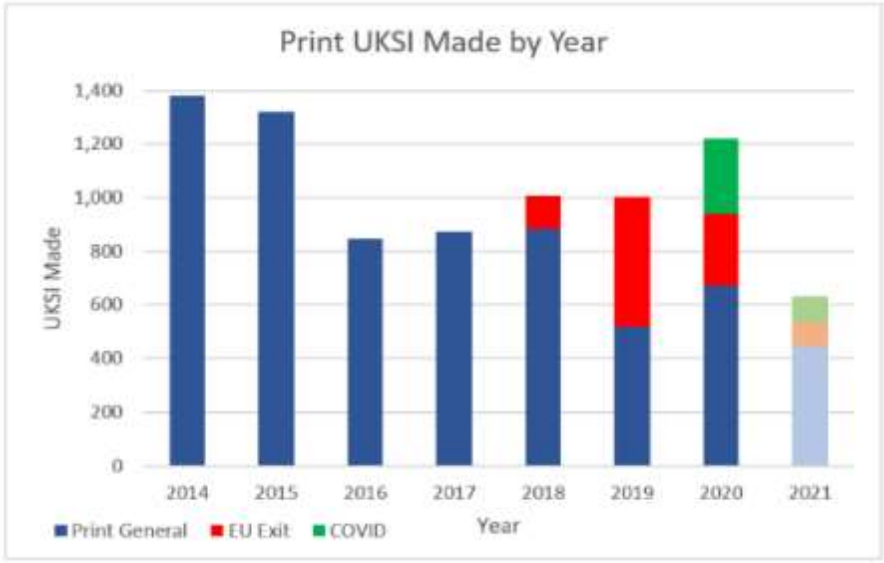
Average 10 million hits, 6 million page views per day

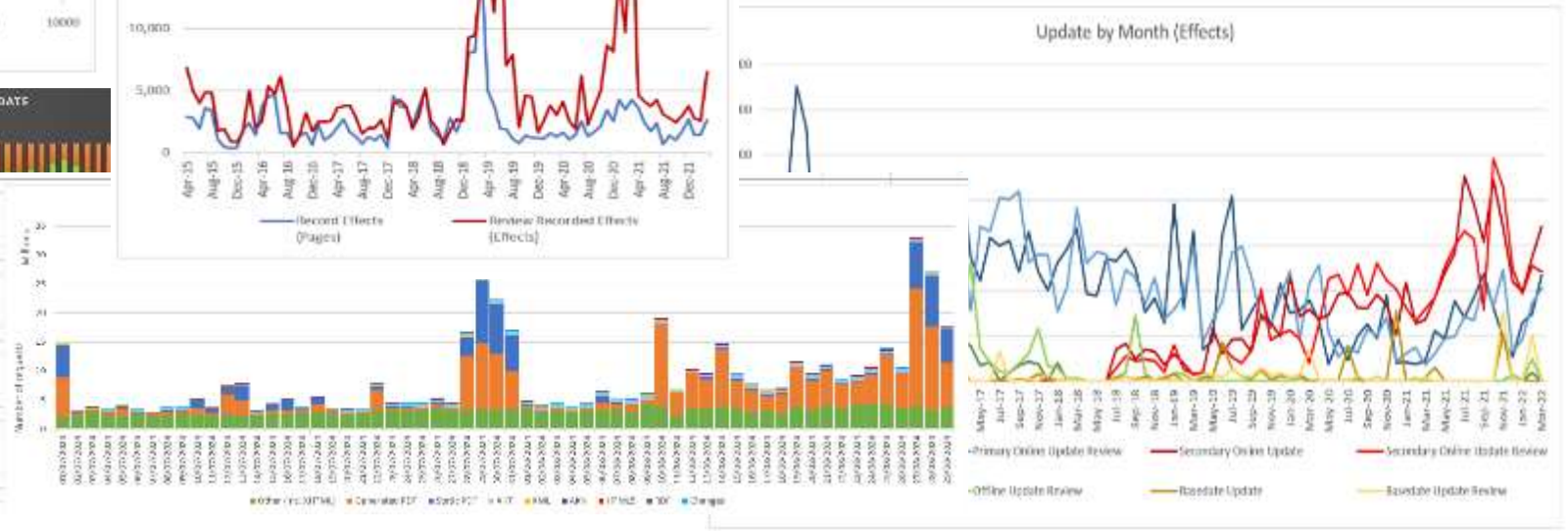












Questions?

Contact the Legislation Data Team

data.legislation@nationalarchives.gov.uk

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Lawmaker

LEX2024 - Lawmaker Update

Matt Lynch
Lawmaker Service Owner

House of Commons | HOUSE OF LORDS | The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba | PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL OFFICE | THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Lawmaker

Intro and recap

Lawmaker

Guiding principles

A system that users access via a web browser

A system based on XML and open standards

A system that is intuitive and easy to use

A single, shared system for all users

A system that is hosted in the cloud

Technologies

Akoma Ntoso / LegalDocML

Oxygen Web Author

Wiris MathType

TeraText database and DMS

RenderX PDF generator

AWS cloud hosting

React

Lawmaker

The service

Lawmaker

Key Features

- Browser based authoring and editing
- Multi-user editing and realtime validation
- Production of print-ready PDF on demand
- Provides tools for handling parliamentary amendments in their “traditional” form and as “inline” amendments created like track changes.
- Provides tools for automatically applying parliamentary amendments to create as amended prints.
- API to enable other systems to integrate with it

Lawmaker

Joining it all up #1

Legislative history footnotes

What is a legislative history footnote?

Lawmaker

The Secretary of State(**a**), considering that the condition in section 45(2) of the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018(**b**) is met, makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 1, 5, 15(2), 17, 21(1) and 45 of, and paragraphs 11(a), 13, 14(a), (e), (f), (g) and (k) and 20 of Schedule 1 to, that Act.

Citation, commencement and extent

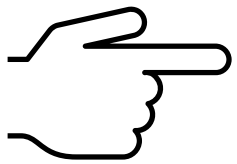
1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 2024.

(2) They come into force on 6th September 2024.

(3) They extend to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Amendments to the Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019

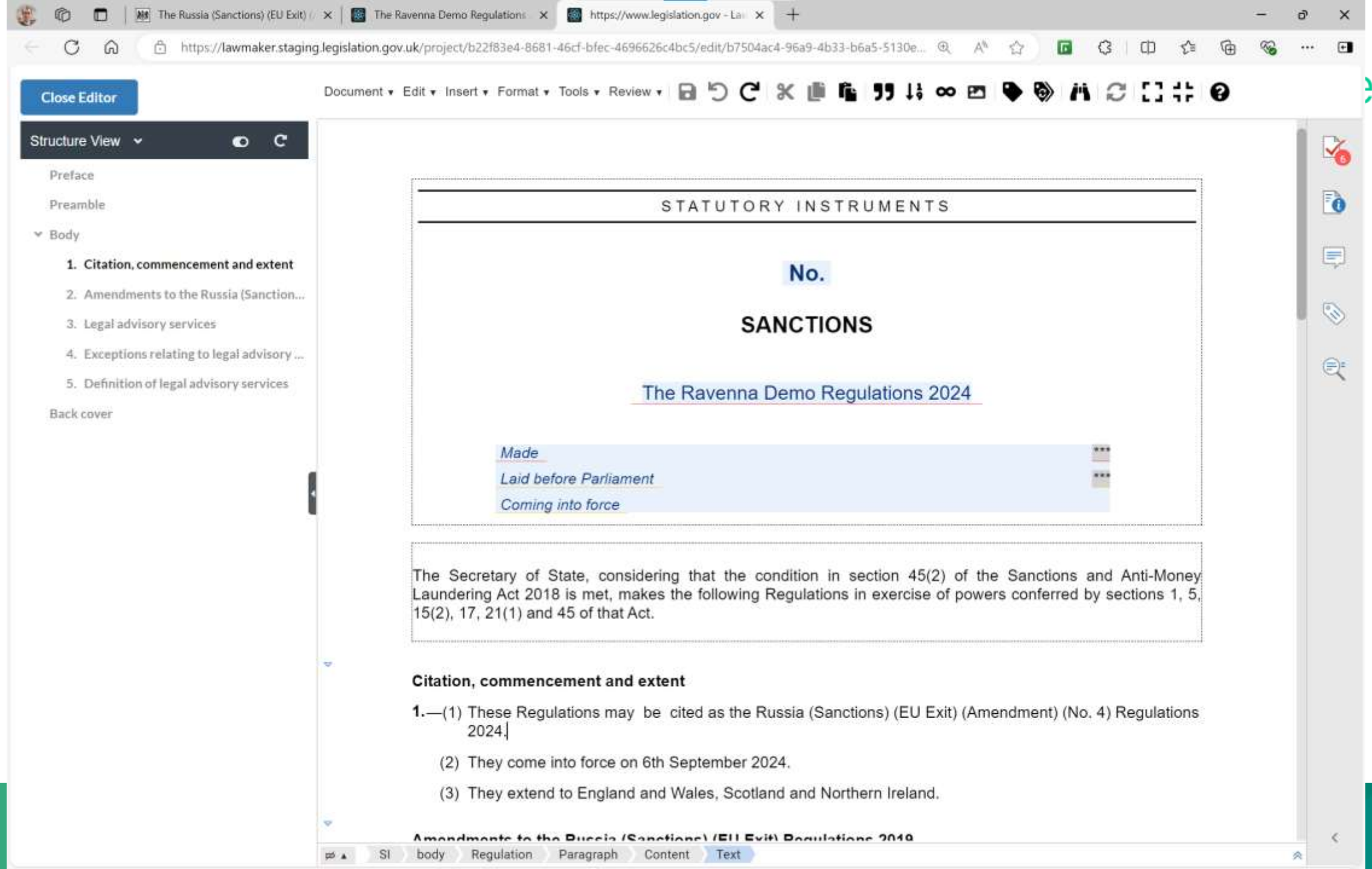
2. The Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019(**c**) are amended in accordance with these Regulations.



(**a**) The power to make regulations under Part 1 of the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018 (c. 13) is conferred on an appropriate Minister. Section 1(9)(a) of the Act defines an "appropriate Minister" as including the Secretary of State.

(**b**) 2018 c. 13. Section 17(5)(b)(i) (enforcement) is amended by the Sentencing Act 2020 (c. 17), Schedule 24, paragraph 443(1). Sections 1 and 45 are amended by the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022 (c. 10), sections 57 and 62. See section 62(1) for the meaning of "prescribed".

(**c**) S.I. 2019/855 as amended by S.I. 2020/590, 951; S.I. 2022/123, 194, 195, 203, 205, 241, 395, 452, 477, 500, 792, 801, 814, 818, 850, 1110, 1122 and 1331; and S.I. 2023/149, 440, 665, 713, 1364, 1367, 2024/218.


The Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit)
The Ravenna Demo Regulations
https://www.legislation.gov - La
https://lawmaker.staging.legislation.gov.uk/project/b22f83e4-8681-46cf-bfec-4696626c4bc5/edit/b7504ac4-96a9-4b33-b6a5-5130e...
Close Editor
Document
Edit
Insert
Format
Tools
Review
Structure View
Preface
Preamble
Body
1. Citation, commencement and extent
2. Amendments to the Russia (Sanction...
3. Legal advisory services
4. Exceptions relating to legal advisory ...
5. Definition of legal advisory services
Back cover
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS
No.
SANCTIONS
The Ravenna Demo Regulations 2024
Made
Laid before Parliament
Coming into force
The Secretary of State, considering that the condition in section 45(2) of the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018 is met, makes the following Regulations in exercise of powers conferred by sections 1, 5, 15(2), 17, 21(1) and 45 of that Act.
Citation, commencement and extent
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(2) They come into force on 6th September 2024.
(3) They extend to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
SI
body
Regulation
Paragraph
Content
Text

legislation.gov.uk

Back to full view

Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018

Previous: Provision | Next: Provision

45 Revocation and amendment of regulations under section 1

(1) Section 1 includes a power, by further regulations under that section ("new regulations")—

(a) to revoke any regulations under that section, or

(b) to amend any regulations under that section where the condition in subsection (2) below is met.

(2) The condition referred to in subsection (1)(b) is that the appropriate Minister making the new regulations—

(a) considers that the regulations being amended will, as amended, be sanctions regulations within the meaning given by section 1(5) that are appropriate for the purpose stated in them under section 1(3). F1...

F2(b) . . . . . .

F3(3) . . . . . .

F3(4) . . . . . .

F3(5) . . . . . .

(6) The requirements of section 1(1) and (3) F4... F5... do not apply in relation to regulations made by virtue of this section.

(7) In relation to section 1, this section has effect in place of section 14 of the Interpretation Act 1978 (implied power to revoke and amend).

Textual Amendments

F1 Word in s. 45(2)(a) omitted (15.3.2022) by virtue of Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022 (c. 10), **ss. 57(4)(a)(i)**, 69(3)

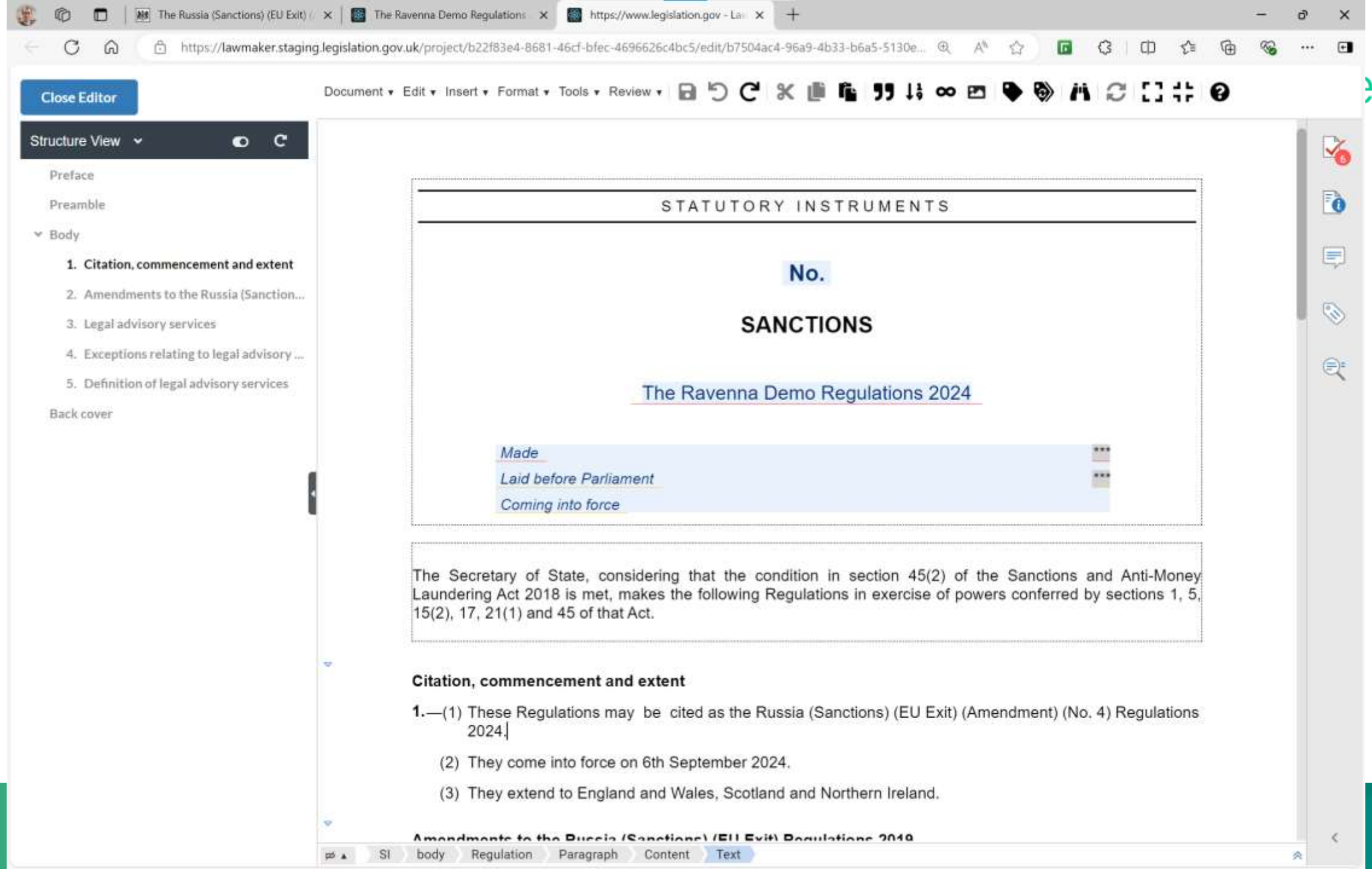
F2 S. 45(2)(b) omitted (15.3.2022) by virtue of Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022 (c. 10), **ss. 57(4)(a)(ii)**, 69(3)

F3 S. 45(3)-(5) omitted (15.3.2022) by virtue of Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022 (c. 10), **ss. 57(4)(b)**, 69(3)

F4 Words in s. 45(6) omitted (15.3.2022) by virtue of Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022 (c. 10), **ss. 57(4)(c)**, 69(3)

F5 Words in s. 45(6) omitted (15.3.2022) by virtue of Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022 (c. 10), **ss. 62(3)**, 69(3)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)


The Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit)
The Ravenna Demo Regulations
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Close Editor
Document
Edit
Insert
Format
Tools
Review
Structure View
Preface
Preamble
Body
1. Citation, commencement and extent
2. Amendments to the Russia (Sanction...
3. Legal advisory services
4. Exceptions relating to legal advisory ...
5. Definition of legal advisory services
Back cover
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS
No.
SANCTIONS
The Ravenna Demo Regulations 2024
Made
Laid before Parliament
Coming into force
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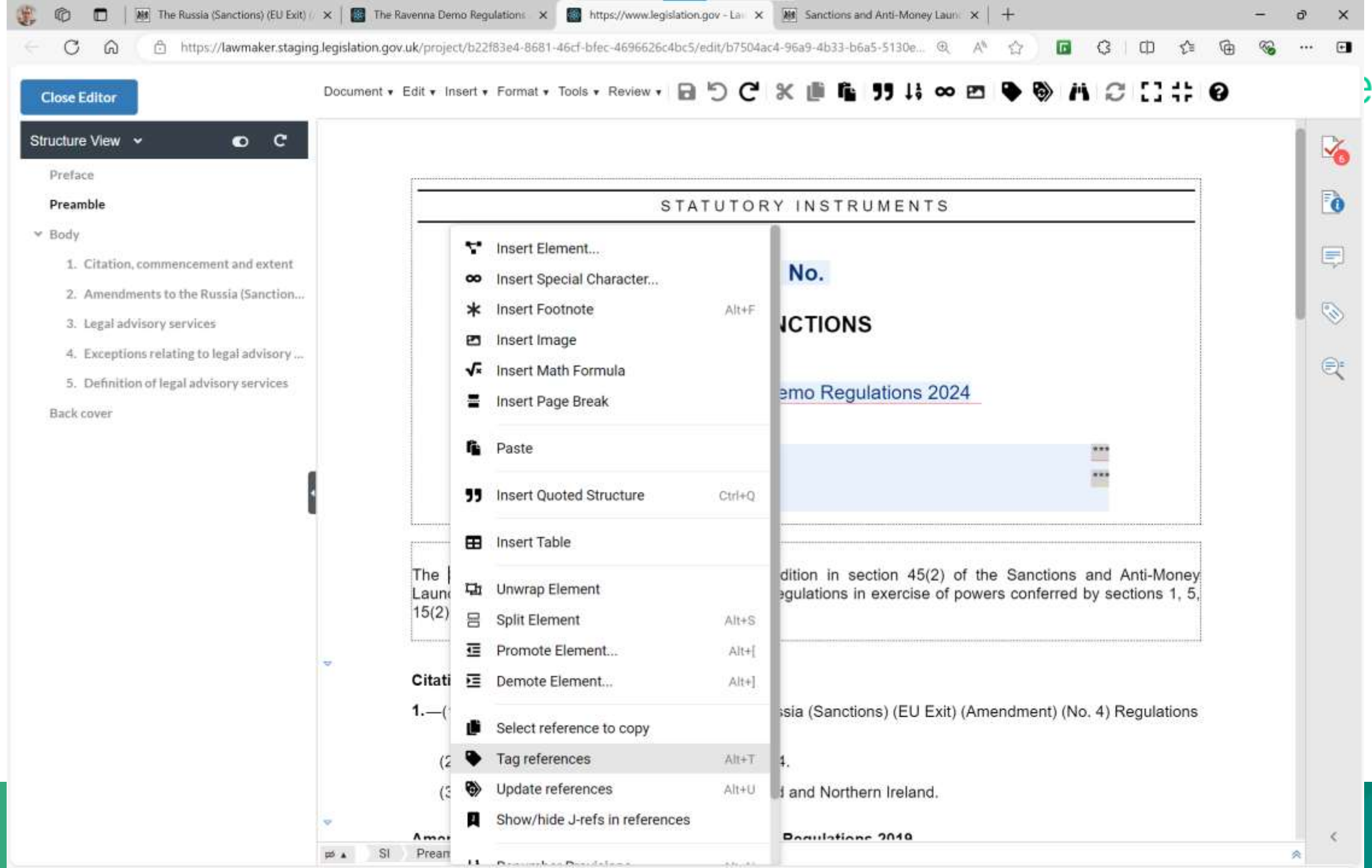
(3) They extend to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
SI
body
Regulation
Paragraph
Content
Text


The Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit)
The Ravenna Demo Regulations
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Close Editor
Document
Edit
Insert
Format
Tools
Review
Structure View
Preface
Preamble
Body
1. Citation, commencement and extent
2. Amendments to the Russia (Sanction...
3. Legal advisory services
4. Exceptions relating to legal advisory ...
5. Definition of legal advisory services
Back cover
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS
No.
NCTIONS
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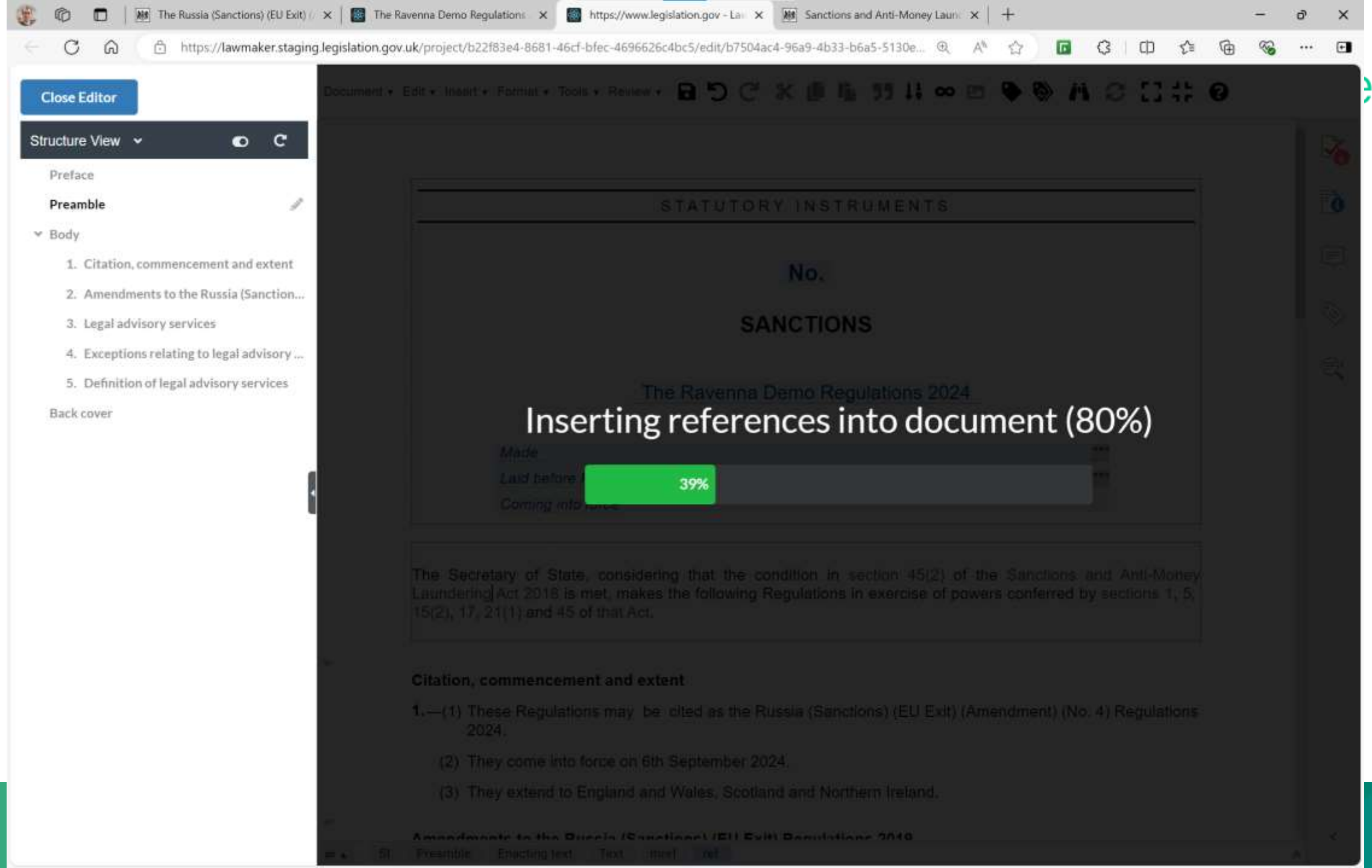
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The Ravenna Demo Regulations
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Close Editor
Structure View
Preface
Preamble
Body
1. Citation, commencement and extent
2. Amendments to the Russia (Sanction...
3. Legal advisory services
4. Exceptions relating to legal advisory ...
5. Definition of legal advisory services
Back cover
Document
Edit
Insert
Format
Tools
Review
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS
No.
SANCTIONS
The Ravenna Demo Regulations 2024
Inserting references into document (80%)
Made
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Coming into force
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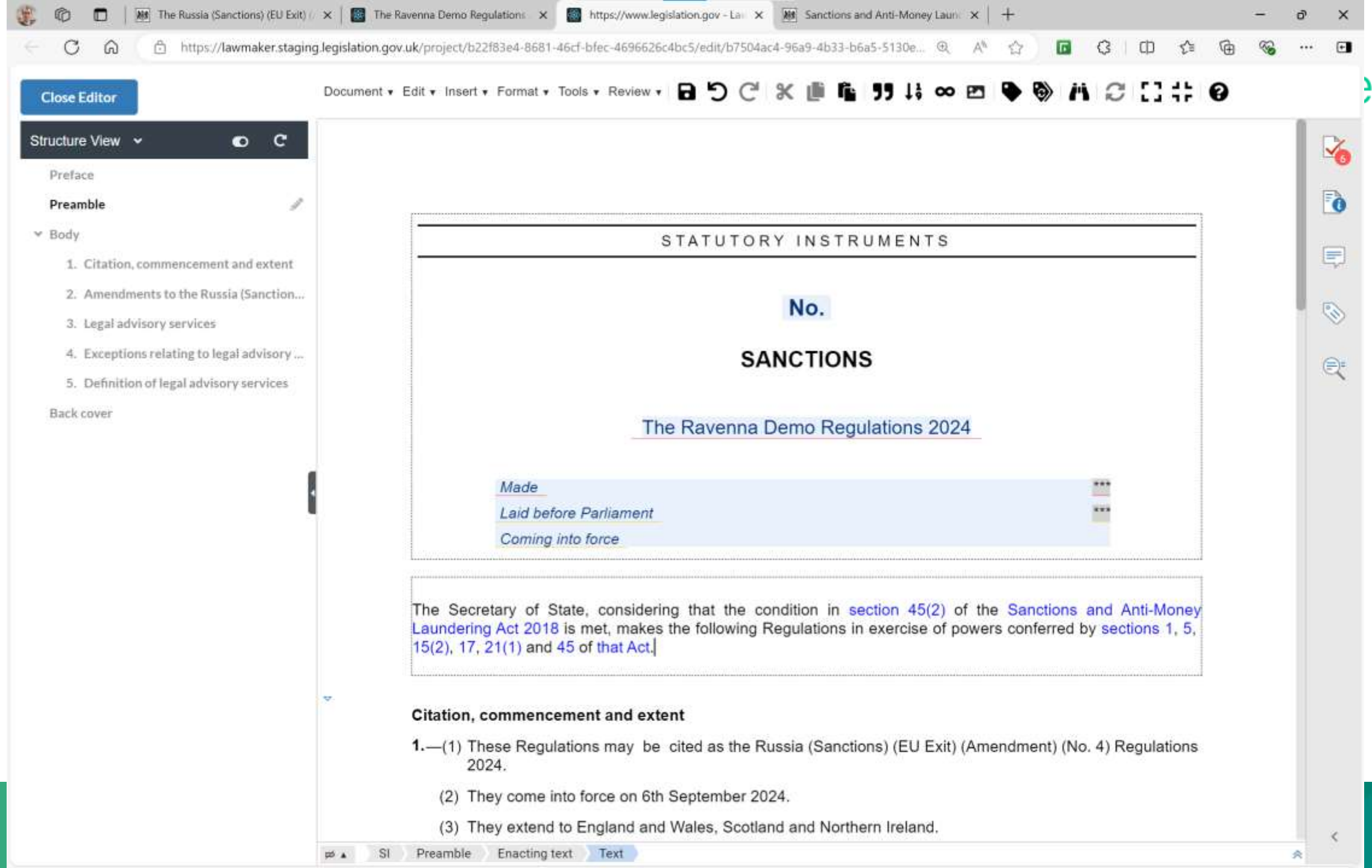
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The Ravenna Demo Regulations
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Sanctions and Anti-Money Laun
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Close Editor
Document
Edit
Insert
Format
Tools
Review
Structure View
Preface
Preamble
Body
1. Citation, commencement and extent
2. Amendments to the Russia (Sanction...
3. Legal advisory services
4. Exceptions relating to legal advisory ...
5. Definition of legal advisory services
Back cover
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS
No.
SANCTIONS
The Ravenna Demo Regulations 2024
Made
Laid before Parliament
Coming into force
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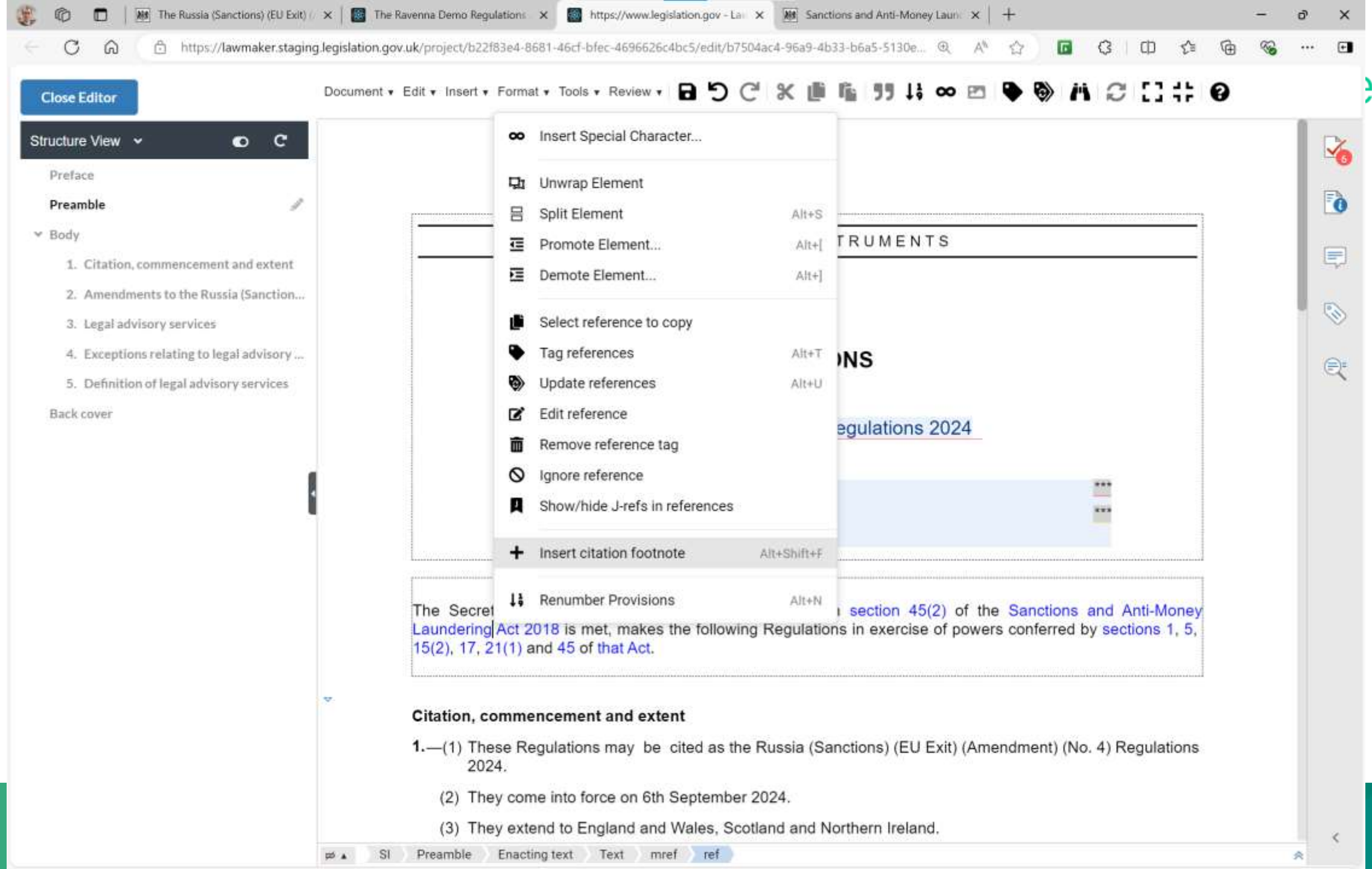
(3) They extend to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
SI
Preamble
Enacting text
Text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The Ravenna Demo Regulations
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Close Editor
Document
Edit
Insert
Format
Tools
Review
Structure View
Preface
Preamble
Body
1. Citation, commencement and extent
2. Amendments to the Russia (Sanction...
3. Legal advisory services
4. Exceptions relating to legal advisory ...
5. Definition of legal advisory services
Back cover
Insert Special Character...
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(3) They extend to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
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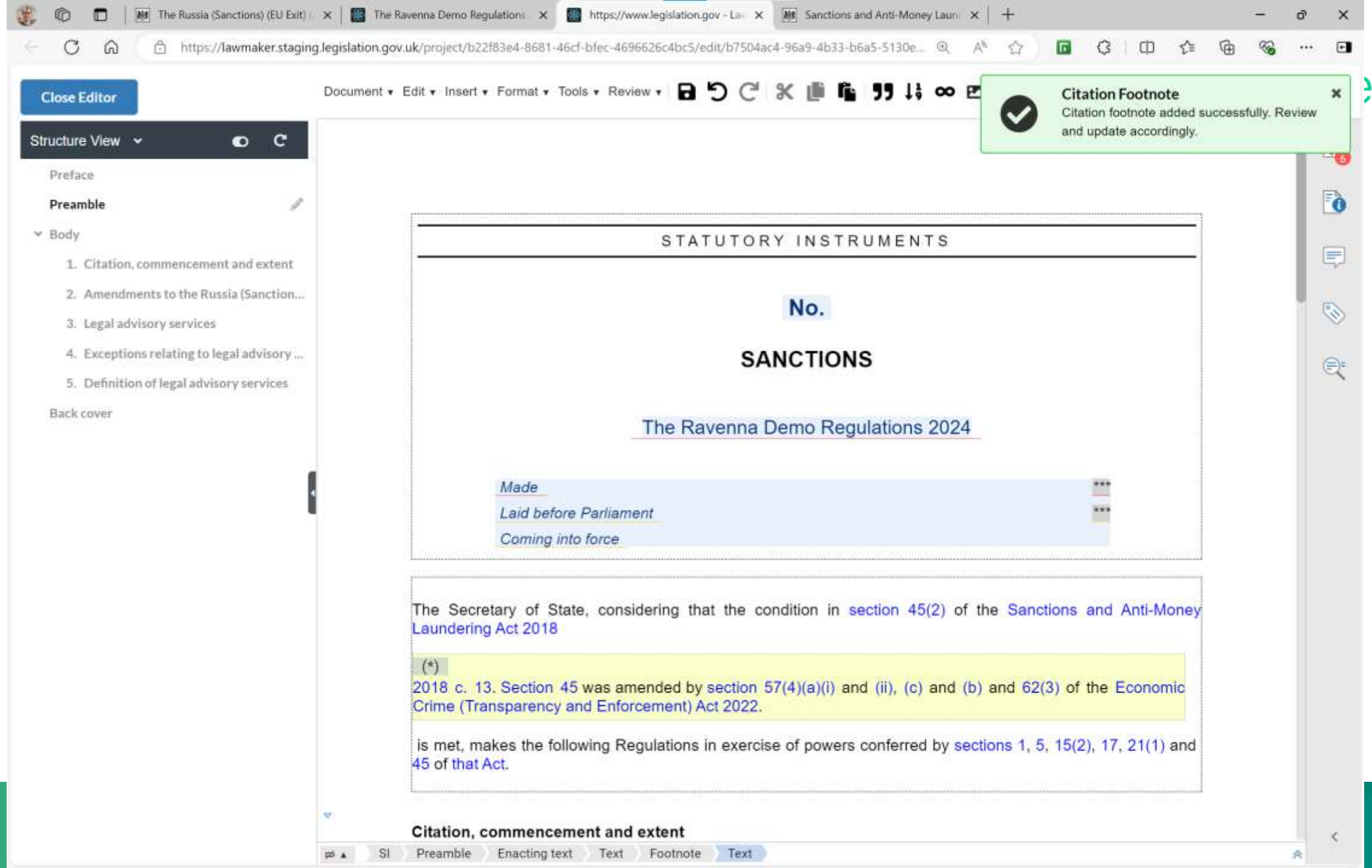
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Document ▾ Edit ▾ Insert ▾ Format ▾ Tools ▾ Review ▾
Citation Footnote
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Structure View
Preface
Preamble
Body
1. Citation, commencement and extent
2. Amendments to the Russia (Sanction...
3. Legal advisory services
4. Exceptions relating to legal advisory ...
5. Definition of legal advisory services
Back cover
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS
No.
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The Ravenna Demo Regulations 2024
Made
Laid before Parliament
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2018 c. 13. Section 45 was amended by section 57(4)(a)(i) and (ii), (c) and (b) and 62(3) of the Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2022.
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Citation, commencement and extent
SI
Preamble
Enacting text
Text
Footnote
Text

Lawmaker

Joining it all up #2

Keeling schedules

Lawmaker

Why is TNA interested in the Keeling Schedule problem?

- As provider of Lawmaker, the service for drafting legislation in the UK, we want to be adding tools and features that deliver productivity enhancements to our users.
- As the UK's official publisher of revised legislation, we're interested in how AI might help us with the complex and resource-intensive job of keeping legislation up-to-date.
- Proposed solution: build a tool that can take an Act from www.legislation.gov.uk, a Bill from Lawmaker and, using a Large Language Model, produce a revised version of the Act in Lawmaker.

Example

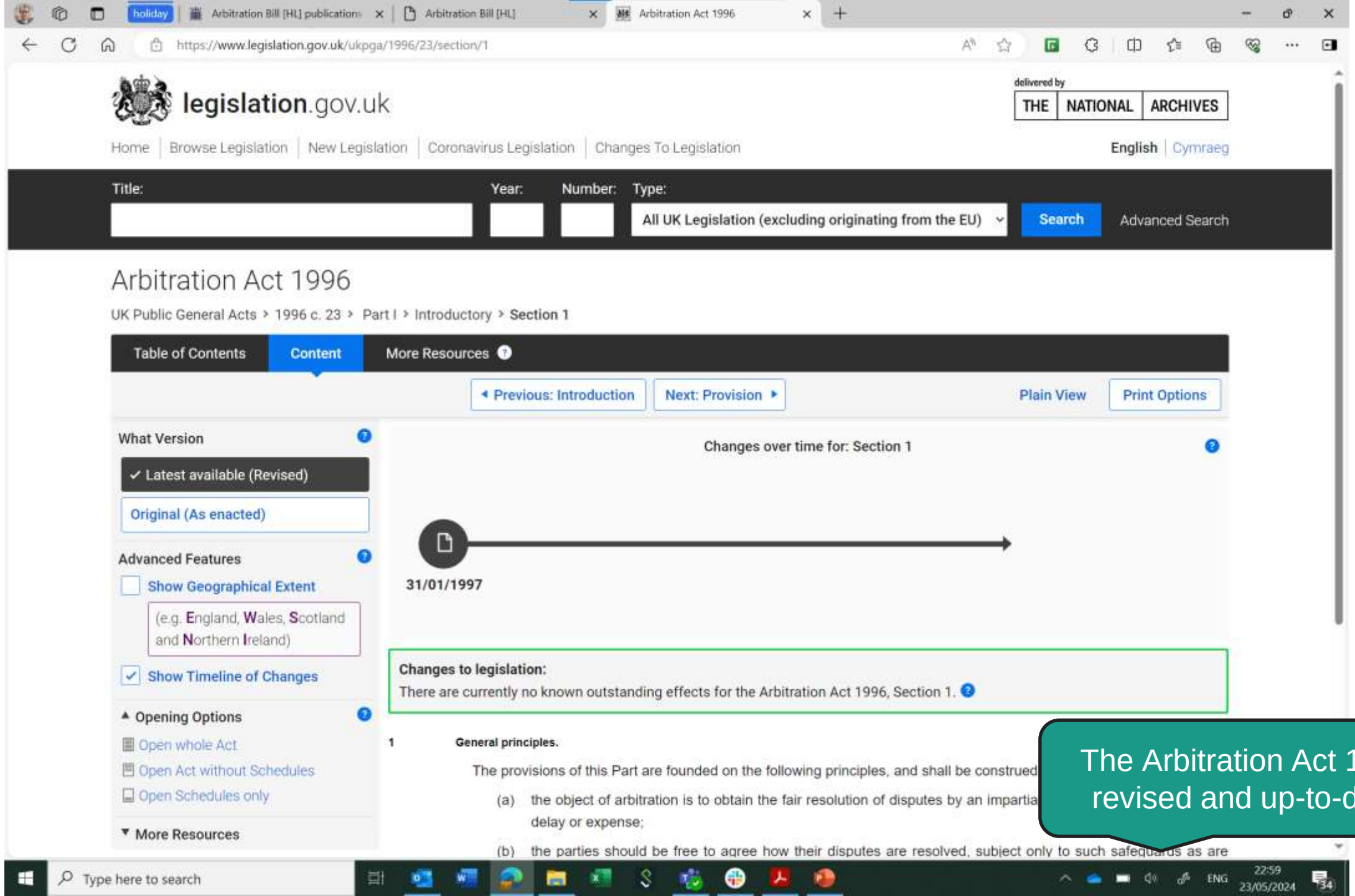
1. The Arbitration Act 1996

   Arbitration Act 1996 (legislation.gov.uk)

2. The Arbitration Bill

   Arbitration Bill [HL] (parliament.uk)

3. The 1996 Act, prospectively amended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THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
Home
Browse Legislation
New Legislation
Coronavirus Legislation
Changes To Legislation
English
Cymraeg
Title:
Year:
Number:
Type:
All UK Legislation (excluding originating from the EU)
Search
Advanced Search
Arbitration Act 1996
UK Public General Acts › 1996 c. 23 › Part I › Introductory › Section 1
Table of Contents
Content
More Resources
Previous: Introduction
Next: Provision
Plain View
Print Options
What Version
Latest available (Revised)
Original (As enacted)
Advanced Features
Show Geographical Extent
(e.g. England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland)
Show Timeline of Changes
Opening Options
Open whole Act
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More Resources
Changes over time for: Section 1
31/01/1997
Changes to legislation:
There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Arbitration Act 1996, Section 1.
1 General principles.
The provisions of this Part are founded on the following principles, and shall be construed
(a) the object of arbitration is to obtain the fair resolution of disputes by an impartia
delay or expense;
(b) the parties should be free to agree how their disputes are resolved, subject only to such safeguards as are
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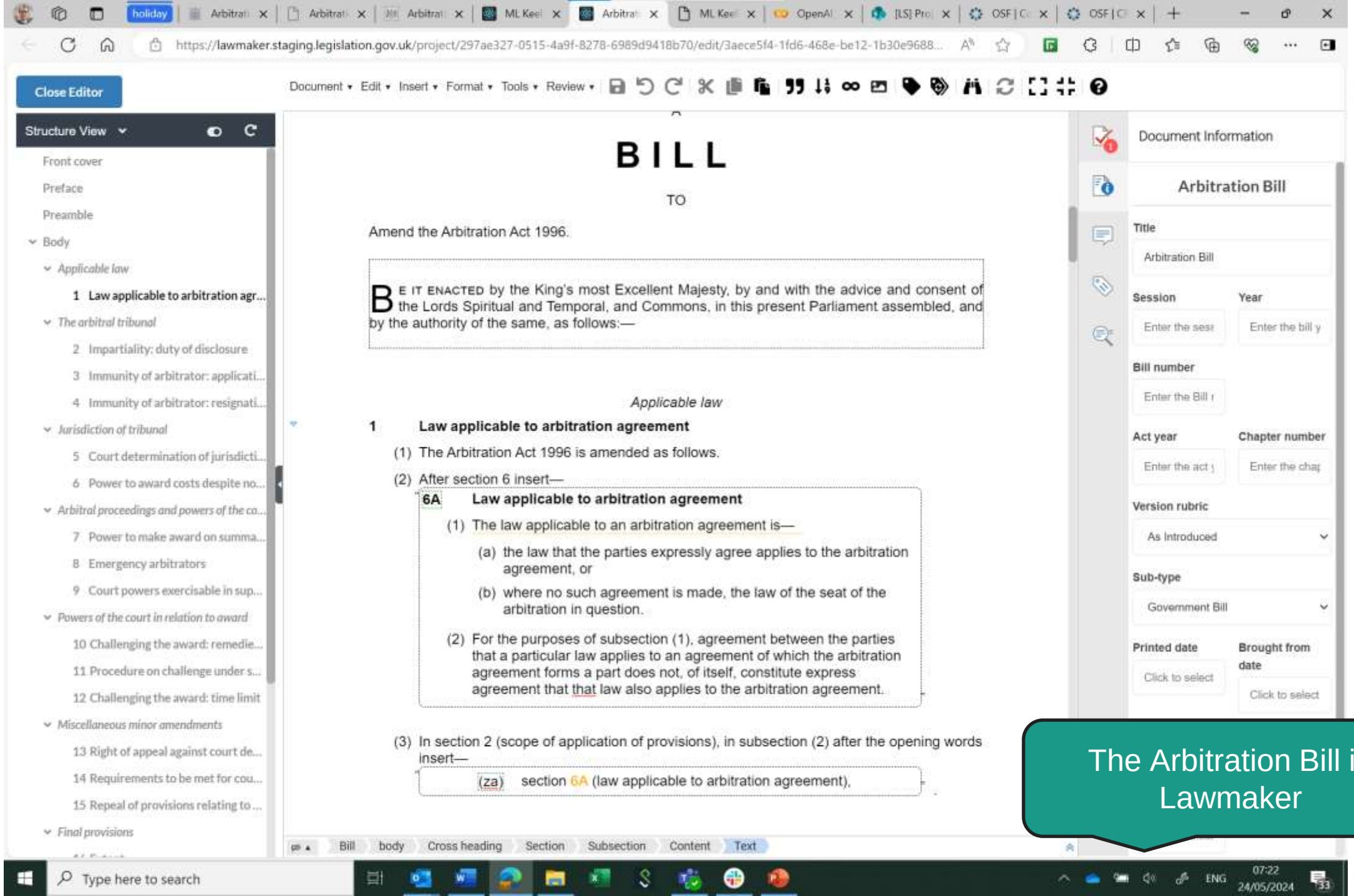
Close Editor
Document Edit Insert Format Tools Review
Structure View
Front cover
Preface
Preamble
Body
Applicable law
1 Law applicable to arbitration agr...
The arbitral tribunal
2 Impartiality: duty of disclosure
3 Immunity of arbitrator: applicati...
4 Immunity of arbitrator: resignati...
Jurisdiction of tribunal
5 Court determination of jurisdicti...
6 Power to award costs despite no...
Arbitral proceedings and powers of the co...
7 Power to make award on summa...
8 Emergency arbitrators
9 Court powers exercisable in sup...
Powers of the court in relation to award
10 Challenging the award: remedie...
11 Procedure on challenge under s...
12 Challenging the award: time limit
Miscellaneous minor amendments
13 Right of appeal against court de...
14 Requirements to be met for cou...
15 Repeal of provisions relating to ...
Final provisions
BILL
TO
Amend the Arbitration Act 1996.
BE IT ENACTED by the King'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:—
Applicable law
1 Law applicable to arbitration agreement
(1) The Arbitration Act 1996 is amended as follows.
(2) After section 6 insert—
6A Law applicable to arbitration agreement
(1) The law applicable to an arbitration agreement is—
(a) the law that the parties expressly agree applies to the arbitration agreement, or
(b) where no such agreement is made, the law of the seat of the arbitration in question.
(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), agreement between the parties that a particular law applies to an agreement of which the arbitration agreement forms a part does not, of itself, constitute express agreement that that law also applies to the arbitration agreement.
(3) In section 2 (scope of application of provisions), in subsection (2) after the opening words insert—
(za) section 6A (law applicable to arbitration agreement),
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Arbitration Bill
Title
Arbitration Bill
Session
Year
Bill number
Act year
Chapter number
Version rubric
As Introduced
Sub-type
Government Bill
Printed date
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The Arbitration Bill in Lawmaker

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1 of 73

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BILL

TO

Make provision

BE IT ENACTED by the King'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:—

PART 1

ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO AN ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

Introductory

1 General principles.

The provisions of this Part are founded on the following principles, and shall be construed accordingly—

(a) the object of arbitration is to obtain the fair resolution of disputes by an impartial tribunal without unnecessary delay or expense;

(b) the parties should be free to agree how their disputes are resolved, subject only to such safeguards as are necessary in the public interest;

(c) in matters governed by this Part the court should not intervene except as provided by this Part.

2 Scope of application of provisions.

(1) The provisions of this Part apply where the seat of the arbitration is in England and Wales or Northern Ireland.

(2) The following sections apply even if the seat of the arbitration is outside England and Wales or Northern Ireland or no seat has been designated or determined—

(za) section 6A (law applicable to arbitration agreement),(a)

(a) sections 9 to 11 (stay of legal proceedings, &c.), and

(b) section 66 (enforcement of arbitral awards).

(a) insertion by s. 1(3)

The Arbitration Act 1996 amended by Arbitration Bill

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(3) If the case is one of urgency, the court may, on the application of a party or proposed party to the arbitral proceedings, make such orders as it thinks necessary for the purpose of preserving evidence or assets.

(4) If the case is not one of urgency, the court may act only on the application of a party to the arbitral proceedings made with—

(a) the permission of the tribunal or (as the case may be) the emergency arbitrator, or

(b) the agreement in writing of the other parties.

(4A) An application under subsection (4) may be made only upon notice to the other parties and to the tribunal or the emergency arbitrator.(a)

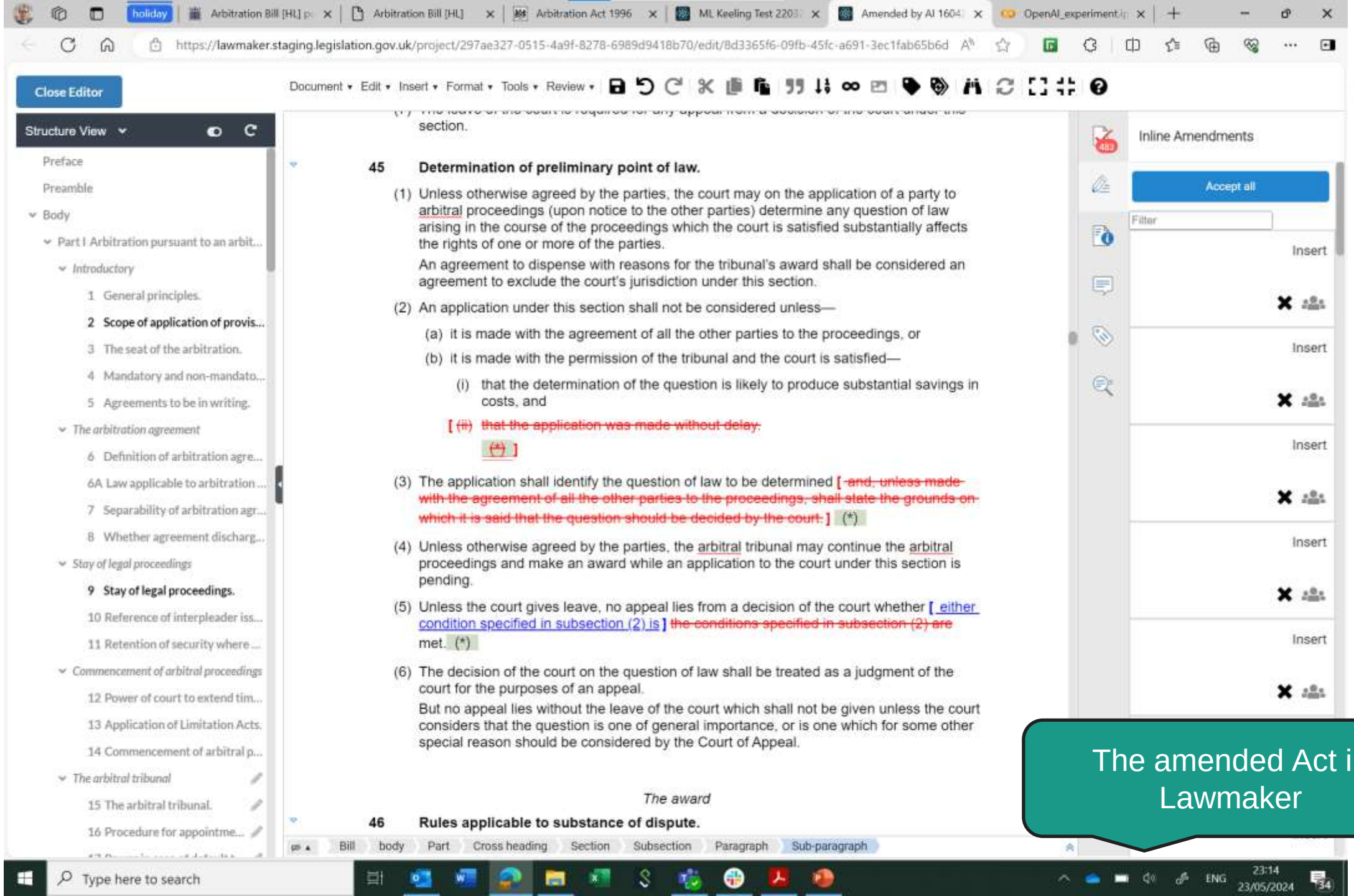
(5) In any case the court shall act only if or to the extent that the arbitral tribunal, and any arbitral or other institution or person vested by the parties with power in that regard, has no power or is unable for the time being to act effectively. or the emergency arbitrator(b)

(6) If the court so orders, an order made by it under this section shall cease to have effect in whole or in part on the order of the tribunal, the emergency arbitrator(c) or of any such arbitral or other institution or person having power to act in relation to the subject-matter of the order.

(7) The leave of the court is required for any appeal from a decision of the court under this section.

(a) substitution by s. 8(5)(a)
(b) insertion by s. 8(5)(b)
(c) insertion by s. 8(5)(c)

The Arbitration Act 1996 amended by Arbitration Bill – s.45


Close Editor
Document Edit Insert Format Tools Review
Structure View
Preface
Preamble
Body
Part I Arbitration pursuant to an arbit...
Introductory
1 General principles.
2 Scope of application of provis...
3 The seat of the arbitration.
4 Mandatory and non-mandato...
5 Agreements to be in writing.
The arbitration agreement
6 Definition of arbitration agre...
6A Law applicable to arbitration ...
7 Separability of arbitration agr...
8 Whether agreement discharg...
Stay of legal proceedings
9 Stay of legal proceedings.
10 Reference of interpleader iss...
11 Retention of security where ...
Commencement of arbitral proceedings
12 Power of court to extend tim...
13 Application of Limitation Acts.
14 Commencement of arbitral p...
The arbitral tribunal
15 The arbitral tribunal.
16 Procedure for appointme...
section.
45 Determination of preliminary point of law.
(1) Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the court may on the application of a party to arbitral proceedings (upon notice to the other parties) determine any question of law arising in the course of the proceedings which the court is satisfied substantially affects the rights of one or more of the parties.
An agreement to dispense with reasons for the tribunal's award shall be considered an agreement to exclude the court's jurisdiction under this section.
(2) An application under this section shall not be considered unless—
(a) it is made with the agreement of all the other parties to the proceedings, or
(b) it is made with the permission of the tribunal and the court is satisfied—
(i) that the determination of the question is likely to produce substantial savings in costs, and
[(ii) that the application was made without delay.
(*)]
(3) The application shall identify the question of law to be determined [and, unless made with the agreement of all the other parties to the proceedings, shall state the grounds on which it is said that the question should be decided by the court.] (*)
(4) Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the arbitral tribunal may continue the arbitral proceedings and make an award while an application to the court under this section is pending.
(5) Unless the court gives leave, no appeal lies from a decision of the court whether [either condition specified in subsection (2) is] the conditions specified in subsection (2) are met. (*)
(6) The decision of the court on the question of law shall be treated as a judgment of the court for the purposes of an appeal.
But no appeal lies without the leave of the court which shall not be given unless the court considers that the question is one of general importance, or is one which for some other special reason should be considered by the Court of Appeal.
The award
46 Rules applicable to substance of dispute.
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Lawmaker

Thank you!

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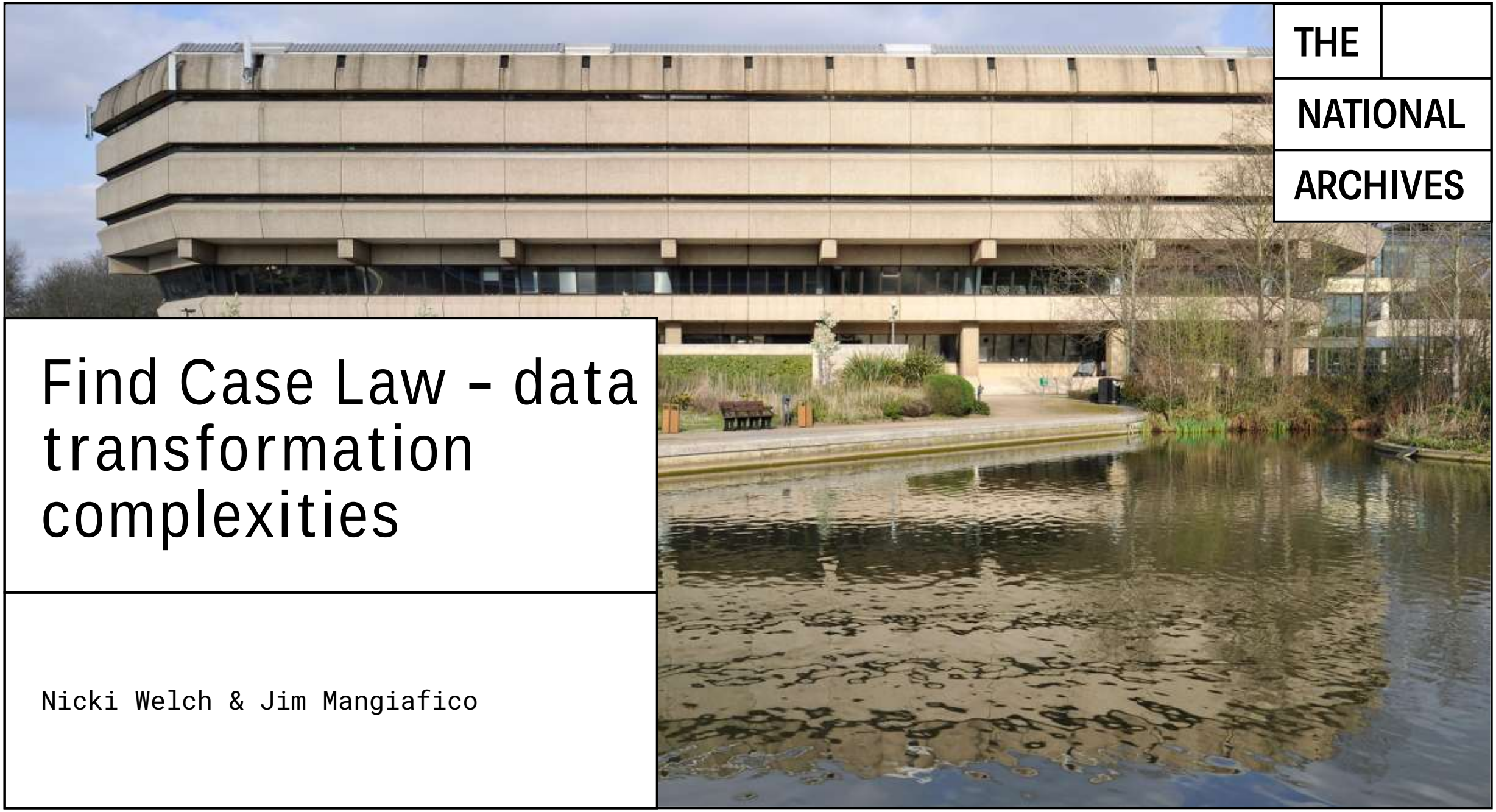

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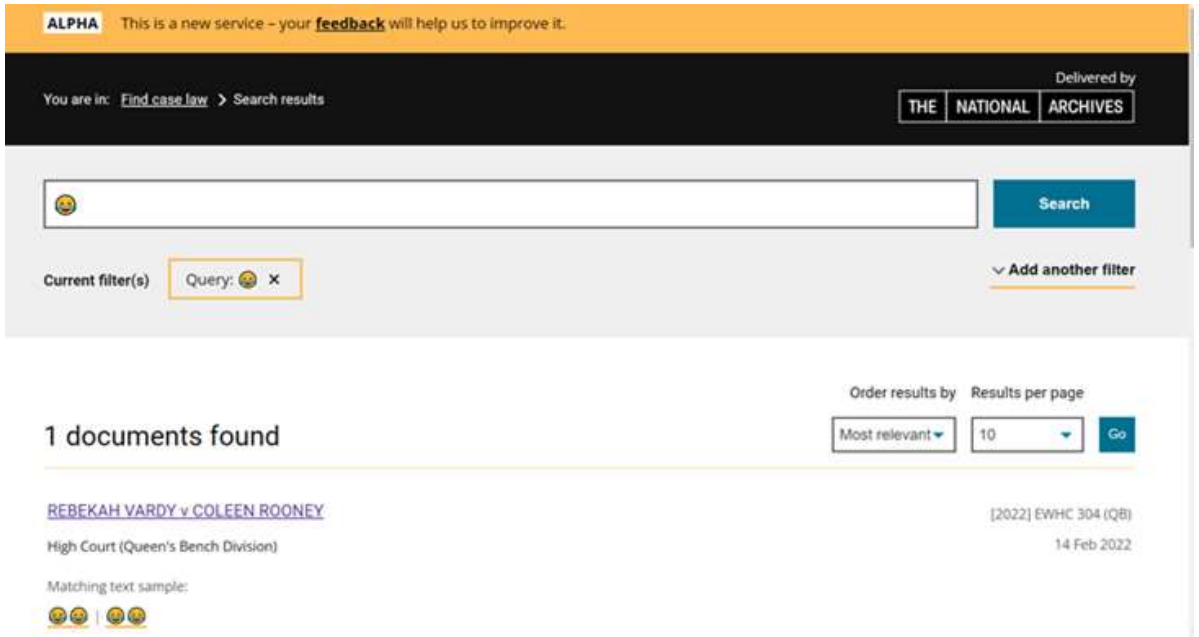
Find Case Law – data transformation complexities

Nicki Welch & Jim Mangiafico

How to make things really easy for for judges (and not get any credit)



135. The more important consideration is that which I have referred to in paragraph 133 above. The first set of redactions has been made to WhatsApp messages between the claimant and the respondent on 23 January 2019, the day after the defendant had published a post on Instagram of a damaged car with the message "RIP half a Honda…". The WhatsApp messages on 23 January 2019 which were (properly) disclosed are in these terms:

"[20:32:55] Caroline: Am I imagining this or did you say yesterday that Coleen had crashed her Honda? x

[20:33:11] Bex ❤️: She defo has x

[20:33:15] Bex ❤️: Go in the Instagram x

[20:33:59] Caroline: She must have taken whatever it is down as it's not there now x

[REDACTIONS]

[20:36:36] Caroline: I would have tried to have done a story on Coleen but the evidence has been deleted x

[20:38:14] Bex ❤️: Wonder why she deleted it! X

[20:39:27] Caroline: Insurance?

[20:39:37] Caroline: What was it?

Generating XML from Microsoft Word

1. Unlike Legislation, court judgments aren’t drafted in XML.
2. So we had to develop custom software to convert Microsoft Word documents to XML.
3. It’s open source: https://github.com/nationalarchives/tna-judgments-parser
4. Also, we use Akoma Ntoso from the start!

Metadata and inline sematic markup

Our publication process does not permit us to capture any metadata.

So all of our “metadata” is textual data first.

We mark the relevant information in the text using Akoma Ntoso’s inline semantic elements.

Then we copy a normalized form to the metadata section.

Metadata examples

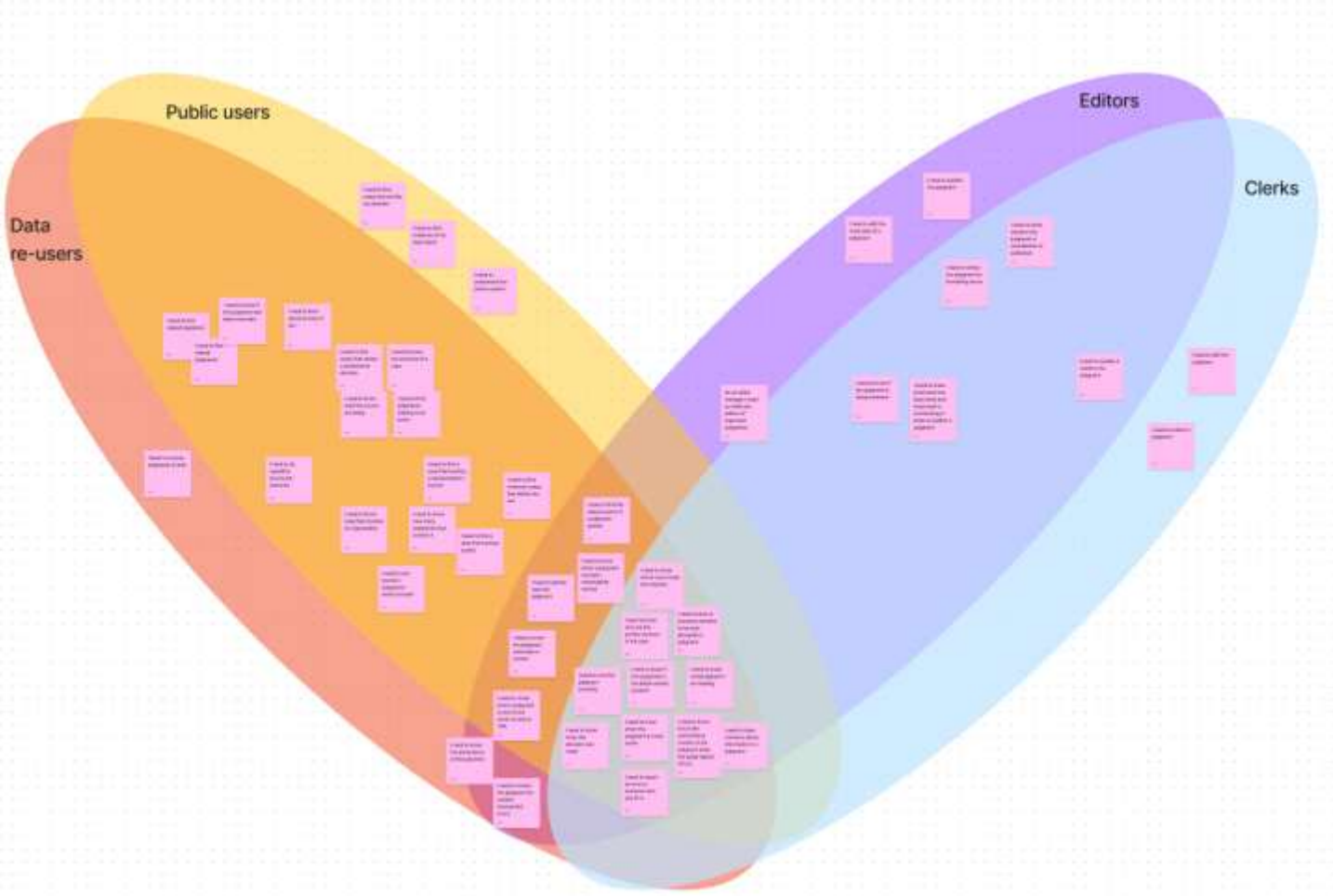
```
<meta>
<FRBRthis value="…/ukftt/grc/2023/691" />
<uk:cite>[2023] UKFTT 691 (GRC)</uk:cite>
</meta>
…
<header>
<neutralCitation>[2023] UKFTT 00691 (GRC)</neutralCitation>
</header>
```

```
<meta>
<uk:court>UKFTT-GRC</uk:court>
</meta>
…
<header>
<courtType>First-tier Tribunal</courtType>
<courtType>General Regulatory Chamber</courtType>
</header>
```

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The Find Case Law service is for anyone who is interested in court judgments and tribunal decisions for any reason.

From expert legal users & academics / researchers of all disciplines; through to non legal-professional users who need to know the law in their area of work; or members of the public who have a passing interest in a case or those who become briefly entangled in the justice system for whatever reason.



Who is the service for?

Accessibility and Readability

Accessibility

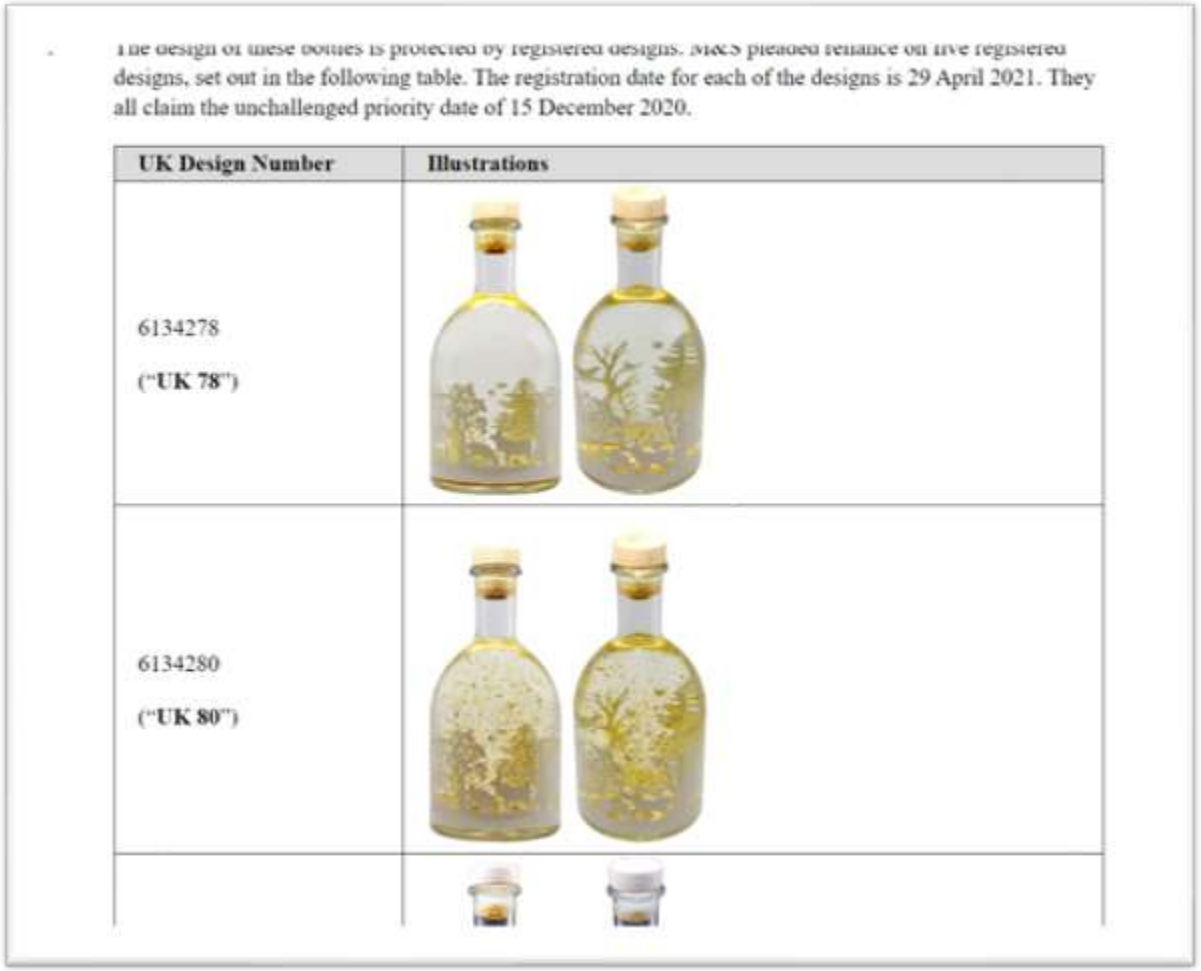
The website and the text of the judgments and decisions should be accessible to as many people as possible with the caveat that these are complex highly stylised legal documents.

We work to continuously improve the accessibility of the website and the judgment text.

Readability

We work to continuously improve our enrichment of the judgment text to aid users to navigate the judgment text and related resources more easily.

*** We also want the service and the judgments to look good***



The design of these bottles is protected by registered designs. M&S pleaded reliance on five registered designs, set out in the following table. The registration date for each of the designs is 29 April 2021. They all claim the unchallenged priority date of 15 December 2020.

UK Design Number	Illustrations
6134278 ("UK 78")	
6134280 ("UK 80")	

Variations in Presentation

The formatting varies considerably from one court judgment to another.

We preserve as much as possible of the author’s styling in the XML.

This allows us to reproduce a document that looks very much like the original, if we wanted.

We do this using Akoma Ntoso's class and style attributes.

Presentation markup

```
<presentation>
   <style xmlns="..."> .TaxHeading1 { text-transform: uppercase } </style>
</presentation>
...
<level>
   <heading class="TaxHeading1" style="font-weight:bold">Background</heading>
   <paragraph />
</level>
```

Consistency of presentation on website

We want judgments to look alike on the website, so we use only *some* of the author's formatting.

- We preserve bold, italics, underlining.
- We standardize the indentation.
- We respect centre/right alignment only in the header.
- We standardize table borders.
- We ignore font variations, except Symbol and Wingdings.

HTML markup and accessibility

```
<akomaNtoso>
<level>
<heading class="..." style="...">
Background
</heading>
</level>
</akomaNtoso>
```

```
<html>
<section>
<h2>
<b>BACKGROUND</b>
</h2>
</section>
</html>
```

Parsing challenges

One of the biggest difficulties has been accurately recognizing the larger structural divisions of these documents.

There is considerable variation in numbering schemes and indentation patterns.

Particularly challenging are larger grouping divisions that are indented more than the subdivisions they group.

The flexibility of Akoma Ntoso can accommodate some ambiguity in the structure.

Our role as a publisher

Despite its imperfections, this approach has allowed us to publish accessible documents quickly and with little editing.

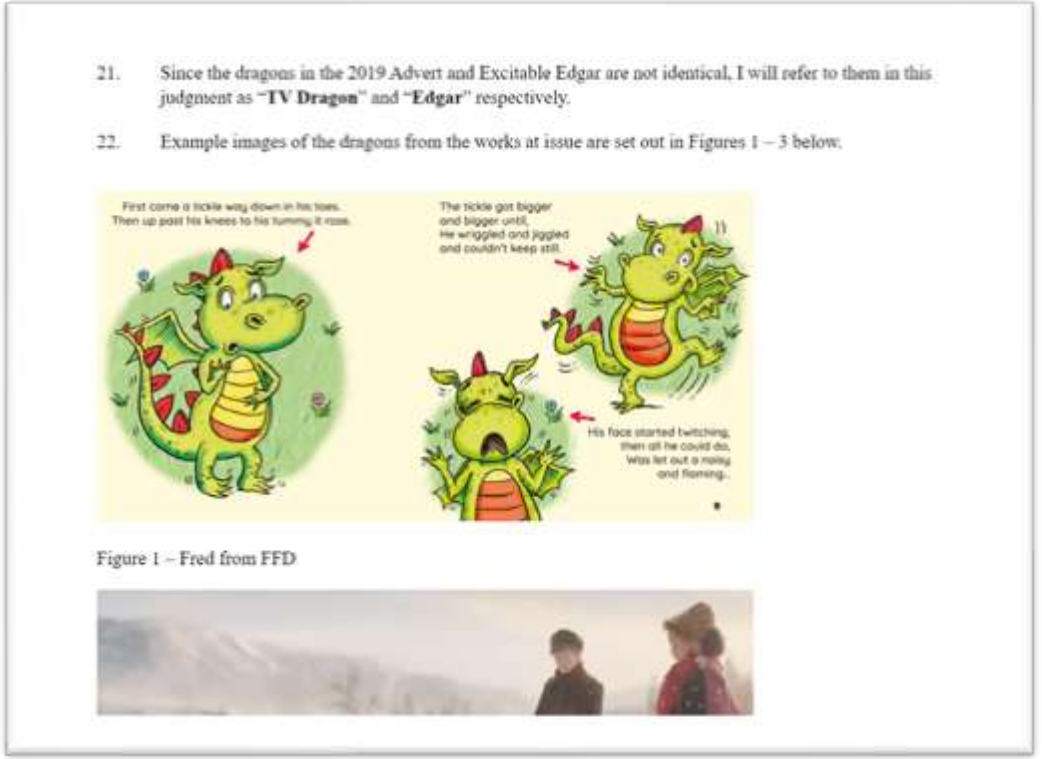
FCL aspires to operate an efficient, robust & safe publication process for the courts and tribunals.

We care about our editors, and their counterparts in the courts, clerks, district judges, first tier tribunal staff.

We take seriously our role in providing onward re-use to legal publishers, we don’t want to break the legal information eco-system, we want to enhance it.

Find Case Law and Open Justice – Why we are a data driven service

- One of the USPs of Find Case Law is making case law available as data, that's why we have the data transformation process we have even though it is hard and time consuming
- We want to encourage data re-use, and enable analysis, innovation and insight from the collection.
- There is value in the aggregate – this is one of the advantages of digital collections over analogue.
- We care about the quality of our data, our data model, we like standards and best practice.
- Open Justice Licence framework



21. Since the dragons in the 2019 Advert and Excitable Edgar are not identical, I will refer to them in this judgment as "**TV Dragon**" and "**Edgar**" respectively.

22. Example images of the dragons from the works at issue are set out in Figures 1 – 3 below.

Figure 1 – Fred from FFD

Next steps

We’re expanding to new categories of documents, available only as PDF.

Akoma Ntoso documents containing metadata only?

Any Questions?

Have a look for yourself: https://caselaw.nationalarchives.gov.uk/