

UK laws are made in Parliament.

They start out as a bill and every bill starts in either the House of Lords or the House of Commons.

Most bills are introduced by the government but others are introduced by individual MPs or Lords.

The first reading is when the bill is announced.

At the second reading the bill is explained and members of the House debate and vote on it.

If a majority votes in favour of the bill, it moves to the committee stage, where a committee examines its content and hears from experts, organisations and members of the public.

The committee can suggest changes to the bill, which is then returned to the House for the report stage.

Members discuss any amendments before the bill's third reading, where there is a final debate and vote.

If the majority vote in favour of the bill, it goes over to the other House for consideration.

Any new amendments are sent back to the other House to discuss.

This can happen several times before the bill is agreed upon.

If the bill is passed, it is sent for Royal Assent and becomes law and an Act of Parliament.