The Great Repeal Bill will let the government repeal those EU laws it wants to scrap or change. Joelle Grogan sets out the plan in the form of sticky notes.

This post represents the views of the author and not those of the Brexit blog, nor the LSE.

The ‘Great Repeal Bill’ White Paper outlines the Government’s plans for the reform* of UK law following Brexit.

*As EU law currently underpins many areas of law (for example, consumer and workers’ rights, as well as environmental law and external trade), these laws will need to be changed.

The Bill proposes to repeal only the European Communities Act 1972 which allows EU law to have effect in the UK.

To avoid gaps in the wide range of areas where EU law no longer applies, the ‘Great Repeal Bill’ will convert* all EU law into UK law.

*This means that EU regulations and directives which were part of the UK legal system prior to Brexit will be considered to be UK law instead. EU Court of Justice cases decided before Brexit day will be given the same authority as UK Supreme Court decisions.

The ‘Great Repeal Bill’ proposes to delegate (or give) power to Government Ministers to change any law which relates to the EU.

As this is a very significant amount of power to give Ministers, the Bill proposes that Ministers will suggest the level of Parliamentary scrutiny (or checks on the use of power by Parliament) that their change to the law should have.
MPs could also require that the change to the law is debated or voted upon in Parliament.

The Bill proposes a similar arrangement for the devolved legislatures: Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.