



HOUSE OF LORDS COMMISSION

Decisions

Thursday 7 May 2020

Attendance

- Lord Speaker (Chairman)
- Lord McFall of Alcluith (Deputy Chairman)
- Baroness Doocey
- Liz Hewitt (external member)
- Lord Judge
- Lord Laming
- Baroness McIntosh of Hudnall
- Lord Newby
- Baroness Smith of Basildon
- Lord Wakeham

Apologies were received from Baroness Evans of Bowes Park, the Leader of the House, and Mathew Duncan. Earl Howe, Deputy Leader of the House, attended in the place of Baroness Evans of Bowes Park. The meeting was held via Microsoft Teams. Ed Ollard, Clerk of the Parliaments, was in attendance.

1. **Matters Arising**

2. **A New Communications and Engagement Strategy**

Michael Winders, Director of Communications

C/19-21/23 HIGHLY RESTRICTED

The Commission **endorsed** the strategy and agreed to help promote and embed the strategy among Members of the House.

3. **Steering Group for Change: First Report**

Baroness Donaghy, Chair, Steering Group for Change and Pippa Patterson, Steering Group for Change Lead

C/19-21/24 HIGHLY RESTRICTED

The Lord Speaker congratulated Baroness Donaghy for the work of the Steering Group and thanked her for the update. The Commission **noted** the report from the Steering Group for Change.

4. **Any Other Business**

Lord Newby asked the Commission to consider a request to move towards a hybrid House – a model where proceedings are conducted with some Members in the chamber and others participating remotely.

The Commission **agreed** to move forward, in principle, to a hybrid House model and asked for further proposals to be developed. The Commission **agreed** that Lord McFall of Alcluith should communicate this decision to the Procedure Committee.

5. Next meeting

The Lord Speaker informed Commission members that the next meeting would take place on Friday 22 May 2020 via Microsoft Teams and that the time of the meeting would be confirmed by correspondence.

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