

LIAISON COMMITTEE
MEETING ON 28 FEBRUARY 2022 at 1PM
DECISIONS DOCUMENT

Present:

Bradley, L.
Collins of Highbury, L.
Coussins, B.
Davies of Oldham, L.
Gardiner of Kimble, L. (Chair)
Howe, E.
Judge, L.
Scott of Needham Market, B.
Taylor of Holbeach, L.

1. COMMITTEE OFFICE EXTERNAL STAFFING REVIEW

The Committee *considered* the Committee Office external staffing review and the paper by the Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees.

In discussion, all Members supported the recommendation for additional staff and *agreed* with the decision to base the additional media and communication post within the Committee Office to help support communications work throughout inquiries.

2. SPECIAL INQUIRY FOLLOW-UP

The Committee noted a follow-up letter on Food, Poverty, Health and the Environment Special Inquiry Committee will be prepared for agreement via correspondence in March.

The Committee considered the letter from Ofsted with regard to the Citizenship and Civic Engagement follow-up inquiry. The Committee also noted that the draft report for the Citizenship and Civic Engagement report would be received on 9 March, and comments requested by 14 March.

3. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee *noted* the Guide for Chairs and Members of Select Committees. The Committee *agreed* with the suggestion of a shorter guide for Members. The Committee discussed the suggestion of an induction process for Committee members. The Chair explained the Chairs' Forum provided an opportunity to discuss the role of Chairs and Members of Committees, and reiterated that Chairs play a key role in managing Members' expectations of staff output.

The Committee *considered* the note on committee media coverage in 2021. The Chair reiterated the importance of media and communications and highlighted the positive coverage received, but agreed with Members that more needs to be done to create coverage across inquiries rather than solely at report stage.

The Committee *noted* the joint letter from the Leader of the House of Commons and the Leader of the House of Lords regarding Environmental law statements.

4. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee would meet next at 1pm on Thursday 10 March 2022.

Lord Gardiner of Kimble
28 February 2022