



Formal Minutes of the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee in Session 2022–23

The Formal Minutes of a select committee record its formal proceedings and decisions.

They include:

- the names of the members who attended (all or part of) each meeting of the Committee;
- declarations of members' interests;
- details of written and oral evidence reported to the House by the Committee;
- any other formal decisions taken by the committee (recorded as 'orders' or 'resolutions'), for example to begin an inquiry, to report evidence to the House, to make a visit or to appoint a specialist adviser; and
- visits made by the Committee.

When the Committee publishes a Report, the Formal Minutes relating to consideration of the draft Report are published with the Report itself, and are not included in this document. You can find these reports on the Committee's webpages.

For more information about Formal Minutes, see [Erskine May paragraph 38.26](#).

Transcripts of oral evidence taken in public by the Committee are available on the Committee's webpages.

Attendance statistics for members of the Committee are available on the Committee's webpages.

At present, these are draft formal minutes that may be subject to change.

Wednesday 11 May 2022

The Chair, Bob Blackman, Florence Eshalomi, Ben Everitt, Darren Henry, Kate Hollern, and Mohammad Yasin visited South London in connection with the Committee's inquiry into the Regulation of Social Housing, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 19 April.

Monday 16 May 2022

Members present¹

Clive Betts, in the Chair ²

Ian Byrne

Ben Everitt

Darren Henry

Kate Hollern

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Building Safety: Remediation and Funding

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 9 May 2022.

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Main Estimate 2022-23

DLUHC Main Estimate 2022-23: Estimates Memorandum

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Supplementary Estimate 2021-22

Correspondence from the Permanent Secretary, DLUHC, dated 3 May 2022.

¹ The list of members present at each meeting of the Committee indicates those committee members who were present for all or part of the meeting.

² Elected by the House (Standing Order No. 122B); see Votes and Proceedings [27 January 2020].

Government's response to Committee's report on 'Supporting our high streets after Covid-19'

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Levelling Up, the Union and Constitution, dated 12 May 2022.

Funds for Levelling Up

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 17 May 2022.

Long-term Funding of Adult Social Care

Pixel Financial Management Ltd [ASC 077]

Renters' Reform Bill

Correspondence from the Minister for Rough Sleeping and Housing, dated 10 May 2022.

Support for Ukrainian refugees

Correspondence with the Minister for Refugees, dated 27 April 2022 and Chair's response 4 May 2022.

Correspondence from the Local Government Association, dated 4 May 2022.

The Regulation of Social Housing

Karen Edwards [RSH 114]

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Levelling Up, the Union and Constitution, dated 12 May 2022.

2. Documents to note

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, that the Committee visit Birmingham, in connection with its inquiry into exempt accommodation.

Resolved, that the Committee will take evidence from the Secretary of State on the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill.

Resolved, that the Committee will conduct a series of sub-inquiries into Levelling Up.

4. The Regulation of Social Housing

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Ian Byrne declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Ben Everitt declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Mary Robinson declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Darren Henry declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Eddie Hughes MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, DLUHC; and Nick Burkitt, Head of Affordable Housing Regulation and Investment, DLUHC, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 23 May 2022 at 3.30pm.

Monday 23 May 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Bob Blackman

Ian Byrne

Florence Eshalomi

Ben Everitt

Darren Henry

Kate Hollern

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

Mohammad Yasin

1. Delegation of power to the Chair to report written evidence for publication

Resolved, That, where the Committee has evidence, including sent or received correspondence, which, in the Chair's judgement, merits publication by the Committee before it will meet again, the Chair shall have discretion to report it to the House for publication, provided that:

- (i) the evidence or correspondence concerned shall have been circulated to the Committee; and
- (ii) all members shall have been given the opportunity to object to such publication before it takes place.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

DLUHC Annual Report and Accounts 2020-21: Follow Up

Correspondence from the Permanent Secretary, DLUHC, dated 13 May 2022

Exempt Accommodation

Chartered Institute of Housing [EXA 122]

Chartered Institute of Housing [EXA 123]

Fire Safety Guidance

Correspondence from the British Standards Institute, dated 13 May 2022

Homes for Ukraine Scheme

Correspondence to the Minister for Refugees, dated 24 May 2022

Long-term Funding of Adult Social Care

Correspondence from Care England, dated 20 May 2022

The Regulation of Social Housing

Krystelle Grimmond [RSH 114]

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Correspondence to the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Levelling Up, the Union and Constitution, dated 24 May 2022.

3. Documents to note

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, that the Committee will take evidence from the Minister for Refugees on the Homes for Ukraine scheme.

5. Long-term funding of adult social care

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Ian Byrne declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Florence Eshalomi declared an interest in that she is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Ben Everitt declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Mary Robinson declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Andrew Lewer declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Darren Henry declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office and has family members in residential care.

Kemi Badenoch MP, Minister for State, DLUHC; Alex Skinner, Director of Local Government Finance, DLUHC; Gillian Keegan MP, Minister of State for Care, DHSC; and Michelle Dyson, Director General for Adult Social Care, DHSC, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 6 June 2022 at 3.30pm.

Monday 6 June 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Ben Everitt

Darren Henry

Kate Hollern

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

Mohammad Yasin

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Building Insurance Premiums

Correspondence from the Association of British Insurers, dated 24 May 2022

Exempt Accommodation

Women's Aid [EXA 124]

Local authority and parish council commercial links with Russia and Belarus

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 25 May 2022

Renters' Reform Bill

Correspondence from the National Residential Landlords Association, dated 13 May 2022

2. Documents to note

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Future Programme

Resolved, that the Committee undertake a one-off session following up 'The Future of Public Parks' inquiry in the 2016-17 session.

4. Council Tax Collection

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Ben Everitt declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Cllr Stephanie Cryan, Cabinet Member for Finance, Democracy and Digital, London Borough of Southwark; Kevin Stewart, Business Unit Leader Revenues and Benefits, Mid Sussex District Council; Russell Hamblin-Boone, CEO, Civil Enforcement Association; and Paul Whyte, Managing Partner, Whyte and Co Ltd, gave oral evidence.

Rachel Beddow, Principal Policy Manager, Citizens Advice; Catherine Brown, Chair, Enforcement Conduct Board; and Alistair Townsend, National President, Institute of Revenues, Rating and Valuation, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 13 June 2022 at 3.30pm.

Monday 13 June 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Bob Blackman

Ian Byrne

Florence Eshalomi

Ben Everitt

Darren Henry
Kate Hollern
Andrew Lewer
Mary Robinson
Mohammad Yasin

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Adult Social Care Funding: Follow Up

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Care and Mental Health, dated 7 June 2022.

Buildings Insurance Premiums

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 13 June 2022.

Fire Safety Regulations and Guidance

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Building Safety and Fire, dated 1 June 2022.

Parks and Green Spaces

Correspondence to the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, DLUHC, dated 13 June 2022.

2. Documents to note

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Mohammad Yasin declared an interest in that he is a member of the Bedford Town Deal Board.

Florence Eshalomi declared an interest in that she is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Ian Byrne declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Bob Blackman declared interests in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association and employs three councillors in his office.

Mary Robinson declared interests in that she is a member of her Town Deal Board and employs a councillor in her office.

Ben Everitt declared interests in that he chairs the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Housing Market and Housing Delivery and employs a councillor in his office.

Andrew Lewer declared interests in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association and chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for SME House Builders, the All-Party Parliamentary Group for the Private Rented Sector, and the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Devolution.

Darren Henry declared interests in that he is a member of his Town Deal Board and employs a councillor in his office.

Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State, DLUHC; Stuart Andrew MP, Minister of State for Housing, DLUHC; and Simon Gallagher, Director of Planning, DLUHC, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 20 June 2022 at 3.30pm.

Monday 20 June 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Bob Blackman

Ian Byrne

Florence Eshalomi

Darren Henry

Andrew Lewer
Mary Robinson

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

DLHUC 'A Fairer Private Rented Sector'

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Rough Sleeping and Housing, dated 16 June 2022.

Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 20 June 2022.

Regulation of Social Housing

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Rough Sleeping and Housing, dated 13 June 2022.

Roundtable transcript from engagement event into The Regulation of Social Housing, dated 11 May 2022.

Ukraine Refugee Schemes

Correspondence to the Minister for Refugees, dated 16 June 2022.

2. Documents to note

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Ian Byrne declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Mary Robinson declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Victoria Hills, Chief Executive, Royal Town Planning Institute; Dr Hugh Ellis, Policy Director, Town and Country Planning Association; and Christopher Young QC, No5 Barristers Chambers gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 27 June 2022 at 3.30pm.

Monday 27 June 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Bob Blackman

Sara Britcliffe

Ian Byrne

Florence Eshalomi

Ben Everitt

Darren Henry

Kate Hollern

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

Mohammad Yasin

1. Declaration of Interests

Sara Britcliffe declared her interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (see Appendix).

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Long-term funding for adult social care

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Equalities, Local Government, Faith and Communities, dated 17 June 2022.

Levelling-up funding programmes

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Levelling Up, the Union and Constitution, dated 22 June 2022.

3. Documents to note

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee undertake an inquiry into The Electoral Commission: Strategy and Policy Statement.

Resolved, That the Committee write to the affiliated bodies of the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities informing them of its plans to scrutinise them.

Resolved, That the Committee invite the Planning Inspectorate to give oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 29 June 2022 at 9.30am.

Wednesday 29 June 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Bob Blackman

Sara Britcliffe

Ian Byrne

Ben Everitt

Darren Henry

Kate Hollern

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

Mohammad Yasin

1. Ukraine refugee schemes

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Ian Byrne declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Ben Everitt declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Mary Robinson declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Darren Henry declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Sara Britcliffe declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Andrew Lewer declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Lord Harrington, Minister for Refugees, DLUHC; Paul Morrison, Humanitarian Taskforce, DLUHC; and George Shirley, Director and Head of Work, Study, Family and Ukraine Services, UK Visas and Immigration, Home Office, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 4 July 2022 at 3.30pm.

Monday 4 July 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Bob Blackman

Sara Britcliffe

Ian Byrne

Ben Everitt

Darren Henry

Kate Hollern

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Exempt accommodation data

Correspondence from the Minister for Welfare Delivery, dated 30 June 2022.

Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill

Correspondence from the Royal Town Planning Institute, dated 20 June 2022.

Public Parks: Follow Up

Mr Christopher Worman MBE [PFU 001]

Walsall Arboretum User Group [PFU 002]

Professor Simon Willcock & Ms Rachel Dolan [PFU 003]

Core Cities Parks and Green Space Group [PFU 004]

Hal Moggridge [PFU 005]

Friends of Willenhall Memorial Park [PFU 006]

National Lottery Heritage Fund [PFU 007]

Midlands Parks Forum [PFU 008]

Town and Country Planning Association [PFU 009]

Dr Nicola Dempsey, Dr Julian Dobson & Professor Will Eadson [PFU 010]

Groundwork UK [PFU 011]

Parks Management Association [PFU 012]

Arboricultural Association [PFU 013]

Association for Public Service Excellence [PFU 014]

LGA [PFU 015]

Parks for London [PFU 017]

Scope [PFU 018]

The Land Trust [PFU 019]

Fields in Trust [PFU 020]

Wildlife and Countryside Link [PFU 021]

The Landscape Institute [PFU 022]

National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces [PFU 023]

Keep Britain Tidy [PFU 024]

Short-term letting in England

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Sport, Tourism, Heritage and Civil Society, dated 29 June 2022.

Supported Housing Improvement Programme Bidding Prospectus

Correspondence from the Minister for Rough Sleeping and Housing, dated 1 July 2022.

2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Exempt Accommodation

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Ian Byrne declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Ben Everitt declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Mary Robinson declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Darren Henry declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Sara Britcliffe declared an interest in that she is treasurer of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Temporary Accommodation.

Eddie Hughes MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State & Minister for Rough Sleeping and Housing, DLUHC; David Rutley MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State & Minister for Welfare Delivery, Department for Work and Pensions; Cathy Page, Deputy Director, DLUHC; and James Wolfe, Director, Disability and Housing Support, Department for Work and Pensions, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 11 July 2022 at 3.30pm.

Monday 11 July 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Ian Byrne

Mary Robinson

Mohammad Yasin

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Accessibility of Levelling Up policy funding stream data

Correspondence from the Director General for Regulation, Office for Statistics Regulation, dated 24 June 2022.

Council Tax Collection

Correspondence from the Chief Executive of the Civil Enforcement Association, dated 30 June 2022.

Legal advice provided by Rights: Community: Action

Correspondence from the then Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, dated 4 July 2022.

Local government and net zero

Correspondence from the Minister for Rough Sleeping and Housing, dated 1 July 2022.

Long-term funding of adult social care

Correspondence from the then Minister for Housing, dated 5 July 2022.

The Regulation of Social Housing

Central Hill Estate Residents Association [RSH 116]

2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 13 July 2022 at 9.30am.

Wednesday 13 July 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Ian Byrne

Ben Everitt

Darren Henry

Kate Hollern

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Exempt accommodation

Correspondence to the Comptroller and Auditor General, National Audit office, dated 13 July 2022.

Correspondence to the Minister for Welfare Delivery, dated 13 July 2022.

Office for Local Government

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 13 July 2022.

2. The Regulation of Social Housing

Draft report (The Regulation of Social Housing), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

The draft report was agreed to; the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published with the First Report of the Committee, HC 18.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 18 July 2022 at 3.30pm.

Monday 18 July 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Bob Blackman

Sara Britcliffe

Ian Byrne

Florence Eshalomi

Ben Everitt

Darren Henry

Kate Hollern

Mohammad Yasin

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Support for Ukrainian Refugees

Correspondence to the Minister for Refugees, dated 18 July 2022.

2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee launch an inquiry into Reforming the Private Rented Sector.

3. Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Mohammad Yasin declared an interest in that he is a member of the Bedford Town Deal Board.

Bob Blackman declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association and employs councillors in his office.

Mary Robinson declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Sara Britcliffe declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office and has family members who are councillors.

Andrew Wood, Spatial Planning Lead, Council for the Protection of Rural England; Kate Henderson, Chief Executive, National Housing Federation; and Ian Fletcher, Director of Policy, British Property Federation, gave oral evidence.

Alan Law, Deputy Chief Executive, Natural England; Edward Hobson, Director of Place, Design Council; and Jonathan Werran, Chief Executive, Localis, gave oral evidence.

4. Long-term Funding of Adult Social Care

Draft report (Long-term Funding of Adult Social Care), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

The draft report was agreed to; the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published with the Second Report of the Committee, HC 19.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 20 July 2022 at 9.30am.

Wednesday 20 July 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Bob Blackman

Sara Britcliffe

Darren Henry

Kate Hollern

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill

Correspondence from Paul Brown QC and Alex Shattock, Landmark Chambers, dated 4 July 2022.

Correspondence to the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, DLUHC, dated 20 July 2022.

Transparency of Data

Correspondence to the Office of Statistics Regulation, dated 20 July 2022.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, DLUHC, dated 19 July 2022.

2. Documents to note

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Public Parks: Follow Up

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Sara Britcliffe declared an interest in that she has family members who are councillors.

Darren Henry declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Cllr Gerald Vernon-Jackson, Chair of the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board, Local Government Association; Drew Bennellick, Head of Land and Nature Policy UK, National Lottery Heritage Fund; Ellie Robinson, Head of Urban Green Space, National Trust; and Peter Neal, independent landscape consultant and planning expert, gave oral evidence.

Alan Law, Deputy Chief Executive, Natural England; Dave Morris, Chair, National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces; and Helen Griffiths, Chief Executive, Fields in Trust, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 5 September 2022 at 3.30pm.

Wednesday 24 August 2022

The following correspondence was reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of [23 May 2022] (Order made under the provisions of SO No 137; see Votes and Proceedings [5 September 2022]):

Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill

Correspondence to the Secretary of State dated 24 August 2022

Monday 5 September 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Bob Blackman

Sara Britcliffe

Ian Byrne
Ben Everitt
Darren Henry
Kate Hollern
Andrew Lewer
Mary Robinson
Mohammad Yasin

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Building Safety

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 21 July 2022.

Correspondence from the Association of British Insurers, dated 15 August 2022. Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 8 September 2022. **Council**

Tax Rebate Data

Correspondence from the Minister of State for London, Local Government and Communities, dated 29 July 2022.

Correspondence from the Minister of State for London, Local Government and Communities, dated 1 September 2022.

Devolution Deals

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 1 August 2022. Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 30 August 2022.

Draft Strategy and Policy Statement for the Electoral Commission

Correspondence from the Minister of State for London, Local Government and Communities, dated 22 August 2022.

Exempt Accommodation Correspondence from the Birmingham EA Forum, dated 16 June 2022.

Correspondence from the National Audit Office, dated 27 July 2022.

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Rough Sleeping and Housing, dated 3 August 2022. Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council [EXA125]

Freeports programme in Wales

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 1 September 2022.

Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 30 August 2022.

Liverpool City Council Commission second report and response

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 19 August 2022. **Office for Local Government**

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 2 August 2022.

Public Parks: Follow Up

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 1 August 2022.

Correspondence from Natural England, dated 17 August 2022.

Reappointment of the Housing Ombudsman

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Rough Sleeping and Housing, dated 11 August 2022.

Reforming the Private Rented Sector

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Rough Sleeping and Housing, dated 4 August 2022.

British Property Federation [RRS044]

Westminster City Council [RRS063]

Bristol City Council [RRS094]

Local Government Association [RRS150]

National Residential Landlords Association [RRS207]

Generation Rent [RRS230]

Shelter [RRS261]

London Councils [RRS287]

Slough Borough Council Commission report and response

Correspondence from the Minister of State for London, Local Government and Communities, dated 28 July 2022.

Correspondence from the Minister of State for London, Local Government and Communities, dated 1 September 2022.

Social Housing Rent policy

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 31 August 2022.

Ukraine Refugee Schemes

Anonymous [SUR002]

Correspondence from the Legal and General Group, dated 20 July 2022.

Correspondence from the Minister for Refugees, dated 9 August 2022.

2. Future Programme

Resolved, That the Committee invite the Secretary of State to give oral evidence on the Work of the Department.

Resolved, That the Committee invite members of the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee to guest at meetings relating to the Draft Strategy and Policy Statement for the Electoral Commission .

Resolved, That the Committee write to the Secretary of State, Department for Work and Pensions, relating to Government support for cost of living.

Resolved, That Bob Blackman receive an advance draft of the Exempt Accommodation report to inform the drafting of his Private Members Bill, Supported Housing (Regulatory Oversight) Bill.

3. Reforming the Private Rented Sector

The Committee considered this matter.

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Bob Blackman declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association, employs three councillors in his office and owns by-to-let properties jointly with his wife.

Ben Everitt declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in her office.

Mary Robinson declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Sara Britcliffe declared an interest in that she employs a councillor, has family members who are councillors and is the treasurer of the all-party parliamentary group on temporary accommodation.

Darren Henry declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Andrew Lewer declared an interest in that he is the chairman of the all-party parliamentary group for the private rented sector and the National Landlords Resident Association provide the secretariat for that group.

Ben Beadle, Chief Executive, National Residential Landlords Association; Theo Plowman, Assistant Director of Housing Policy, British Property Federation; Nikita Quarshie, Policy Officer, Shelter; and Alicia Kennedy, Baroness Kennedy of Cradley, Director, Generation Rent, gave oral evidence.

Cllr Darren Rodwell, Vice-Chair, Environment, Economy, Housing and Transport Board, Local Government Association; Eloise Shepherd, Strategic Lead, Housing and Planning, London Councils; Cllr Matt Noble, Cabinet Member for Climate Action Regeneration and Renters, Westminster City Council; and Cllr Tom Renhard, Cabinet Member for Housing Delivery and Homes, Bristol City Council, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 12 October 2022 at 9.30am.

Wednesday 12 October 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the Chair

Bob Blackman
Ian Byrne
Florence Eshalomi
Ben Everitt
Kate Hollern
Andrew Lewer
Mary Robinson

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Building Safety

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 29 September 2022.

Cost of Living

Correspondence from the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, dated 29 September 2022.

Council Tax Rebate

Correspondence to the Minister for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 12 October 2022.

Decent Homes Standard Consultation

Correspondence from the Minister for Rough Sleeping and Housing, dated 2 September 2022.

Draft Strategy and Policy Statement for the Electoral Commission

Correspondence from the Electoral Commission, dated 20 September 2022.

Correspondence from the Minister for Parliamentary Business, Scottish Government, dated 2 September 2022.

Correspondence from Unlock Democracy, dated 26 August 2022.

Exempt Accommodation Data

Correspondence from the Minister for Welfare Delivery, Department for Work and Pensions, dated 5 September 2022.

Funding for Levelling Up

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 23 September 2022.

Correspondence to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, dated 12 October 2022.

Correspondence to the National Audit Office, dated 12 October 2022.

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 12 October 2022.

Correspondence to the Minister for Levelling Up, dated 12 October 2022.

Planning guidance on fracking update

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 12 October 2022.

Rough Sleeping Strategy

Correspondence from the Secretary of State and Minister for Rough Sleeping and Housing, dated 5 September 2022.

Social Housing Rent Policy

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 12 October 2022.

Thurrock and Nottingham City Councils

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 2 September 2022.

Ukraine Refugee Schemes

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 12 October 2022.

Reforming the Private Rented Sector

Correspondence from the National Residential Landlords Association, dated 20 September 2022.

Hazel Speed [RRS001]

Linen Post Properties [RRS002]

Miller [RRS003]

Julia Urquhart [RRS004]

Miss Kathy Miller [RRS005]

Ian Lee [RRS007]
Jonathan Ashworth [RRS008]
Anonymous [RRS010]
WSE Property Services [RRS011]
Michael Perry [RRS012]
Mrs Mary Luff [RRS013]
Mr Chris Lucy [RRS014]
Belvoir Christchurch [RRS015]
Anonymous [RRS016]
James Fraser [RRS018]
Michael Zell-Davis [RRS019]
Eleanor Cresner [RRS020]
David Croissant [RRS021]
Jo Westlake [RRS022]
Andrew Wernick [RRS023]
Total Letting Service [RRS024]
Matthew Patrick [RRS025]
Anonymous [RRS026]
Robert Birchmore [RRS027]
Dr David Price [RRS028]
Blue Fish Properties [RRS029]
Anonymous [RRS030]
David Tyler [RRS031]
Anonymous [RRS032]
Boydens Ltd [RRS033]
James William Foster [RRS034]
Barry Fitzpatrick [RRS035]
Bryce Somerville [RRS036]
Jason Pink [RRS037]
Brenda Mellors [RRS038]
Mr Stone [RRS039]
Dr Catherine Dawson [RRS040]
Peter Jackson [RRS041]
Jane Grierson [RRS042]
Alan Moss [RRS045]
Cornwall Residential Landlords Association [RRS046]
East Midlands Property Owners [RRS047]
Edwin Morris [RRS048]
Champion Property Management [RRS049]
Andrew Webster [RRS050]
Antonio Taylor [RRS051]
Holtge [RRS052]
Edward French [RRS053]
Thornsett Properties Ltd [RRS055]
HQN Ltd [RRS056]
Paul Essex [RRS058]
Denise Howard [RRS059]
James and Nichola Whitaker [RRS060]

Jane Johnson [RRS061]
Ms Kinder [RRS062]
Mr Fraser [RRS064]
Maureen Ballingall [RRS065]
NAPIT [RRS066]
Advice for Renters [RRS067]
RB Kingston [RRS068]
Mrs Christine Potter [RRS069]
Anonymous [RRS070]
Mark Tomlinson [RRS071]
Catherine Pitcher [RRS072]
Leonie Cooke [RRS073]
Nicholas Howard [RRS074]
Ann Bruce [RRS075]
Jennifer May [RRS076]
Susan Noone [RRS077]
Michael Crofts [RRS078]
Mr Stones [RRS079]
Mrs Smith [RRS080]
Central Properties [RRS081]
Gerard Hallom [RRS082]
Best Net Lets [RRS083]
Swots Student Accommodation [RRS084]
Anonymous [RRS085]
LetCheck Inventories [RRS086]
The Property Ombudsman [RRS087]
Roman City [RRS088]
Anonymous [RRS089]
Deborah Thorpe [RRS090]
Brett and Gary Vallier [RRS091]
Dr Marttand Patel [RRS092]
Rickman Properties [RRS093]
Barry Cleaver [RRS095]
Anonymous [RRS096]
Hammersmith and Fulham Council [RRS099]
Choices Group [RRS100]
Nevill Estate Company [RRS102]
Grainger Plc [RRS103]
Boardwalk Homes [RRS104]
PC Properties [RRS105]
Mr John Bishop [RRS106]
Stephen Headley [RRS107]
Intergenerational Foundation [RRS108]
Mr S Hards [RRS109]
Teignbridge District Council [RRS110]

Martin O'Hearne [RRS111]
UniHomes [RRS112]
Barber Consulting Ltd [RRS113]
Dorian Hardacre [RRS114]
Nancy Davey [RRS115]
AdvoCATSeastmids [RRS117]
Anonymous [RRS118]
Ipswich Borough Council [RRS119]
Tony Seccombe [RRS120]
Terry Samuel [RRS121]
Penelope Parker [RRS122]
FCR Ludlam Ltd and others [RRS123]
Leeds Property Association and York Residential Landlords Association [RRS124]
Social Market Foundation [RRS125]
Maxine Fothergill [RRS126]
Coventry Citizens Advice [RRS127]
Ian Furby [RRS129]
Glass Door [RRS130]
Nationwide Foundation [RRS131]
2G Enterprises Ltd and others [RRS132]
Hill [RRS133]
Mr David Elliott [RRS134]
ATRO [RRS135]
Anonymous [RRS136]
Mrs Sophie Lang [RRS138]
Charles and Julia Brewer [RRS139]
Robert Arnold [RRS140]
Votta Sales and Lettings [RRS141]
Dexters London Ltd [RRS142]
Impact on Urban Health [RRS143]
Anonymous [RRS144]
LB Camden [RRS145]
Clementine Traynard [RRS146]
Manchester City Council [RRS147]
Cliff Dargonne [RRS148]
National Trading Standards Estate and Letting Agency Team [RRS149]
Country Land and Business Association [RRS152]
LB Newham [RRS153]
Battersea Dogs and Cats Home [RRS154]
Liverpool Guild of Students [RRS155]

Anonymous [RRS156]
David Habib [RRS157]
Capital Letters [RRS158]
Abel [RRS159]
StepChange Debt Charity [RRS160]
Mrs Howard [RRS161]
safeagent [RRS162]
Goodlord [RRS163]
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health [RRS164]
Chartered Institute of Housing [RRS165]
Students Union UCL [RRS166]
Kineara CIC [RRS167]
Coventry Frontline Network [RRS168]
Northern Housing Consortium [RRS169]
Mrs Alexandra Wright [RRS170]
Mrs Cathering Wright [RRS171]
Acorn the Union [RRS172]
North Somerset Council [RRS173]
National Housing Federation [RRS174]
Building Research Establishment [RRS175]
Exchange Residential [RRS176]
Debra Williams [RRS179]
Mac Macdonald [RRS180]
Andrew Milner [RRS181]
Grandstake [RRS182]
Flats in Southsea Ltd [RRS183]
Anonymous [RRS185]
Anonymous [RRS186]
Mr Julian White [RRS187]
Simon Slade [RRS188]
Sarah Ellenbogen [RRS189]
Anthony Richard [RRS190]
David Faulkner [RRS191]
Martin Thomas [RRS192]
Charles Williams [RRS193]
Amit Parmar [RRS194]
James Thoburn [RRS195]
Dunk [RRS196]
Nick and Sally Carthew [RRS197]
Anonymous [RRS198]

Stephen Lees [RRS199]
Jones [RRS200]
Mr Davis [RRS201]
UK Association of Letting Agents [RRS202]
Holman, Scanlon, Whitehead, Crook and Kemp [RRS203]
Vivien Stern [RRS204]
Anonymous [RRS205]
Property Redress Scheme [RRS206]
Large Agents Representation Group [RRS208]
Platinum Property Partners [RRS209]
Frontline Network [RRS210]
Lesley Dent [RRS212]
Cherwell District Council [RRS213]
Yoodle [RRS215]
PayProp [RRS216]
Reading and Portsmouth Students Unions [RRS217]
Nottingham Trent Students Union [RRS218]
Anonymous [RRS219]
Anthony Hayward [RRS220]
Peter Charon [RRS221]
Renters Reform Coalition [RRS222]
Nick Wood [RRS223]
London Renters Union [RRS224]
Jane Robinson [RRS225]
Simon Bowie-Britton [RRS226]
Mr Vash Ratnasingham [RRS227]
CUBO [RRS228]
Frank Wright [RRS229]
Homes For You [RRS231]
Nottingham City Council [RRS232]
Cambridge Students Union [RRS233]
Unipol Student Homes [RRS234]
Topproperty Lettings [RRS235]
Property Link Estates Ltd [RRS236]
Z2K [RRS237]
We Are Kin [RRS238]
Paragon Banking Group [RRS239]
Law Centres Network [RRS240]
UK Finance [RRS241]
Lauren Greenwood [RRS242]

David Alcock [RRS243]
University of Nottingham Students Union [RRS244]
Mackenzie [RRS246]
Hugo Summerson [RRS247]
Lisa Mauger [RRS248]
Sylvana Young [RRS249]
Neil Young [RRS250]
Age UK [RRS252]
Anonymous [RRS253]
Richard Crawshay Jones [RRS254]
Disability Rights UK [RRS255]
Sheffield Students Union [RRS256]
Mrs Newall [RRS257]
Peter Webb [RRS258]
University of Birmingham Guild of Students [RRS259]
Southwark Council [RRS260]
University of Manchester Students Union [RRS262]
Joseph Rowntree Foundation [RRS263]
Ombudsman Association [RRS265]
Durham University Students Union [RRS266]
Twenty11 [RRS267]
Anonymous [RRS269]
JUSTICE [RRS270]
Anonymous [RRS271]
Anonymous [RRS273]
Propertymark [RRS274]
Safer Renting [RRS275]
Mr White [RRS276]
Society for Companion Animal Studies [RRS278]
Mrs Claire Hooton [RRS279]
John Richards [RRS280]
Renters Rights London [RRS281]
Ian Anderson [RRS282]
Anonymous [RRS284]
Trussell Trust [RRS285]
Tom Halford [RRS286]

3. Future Programme

Ordered, That Mr Clive Betts have leave to visit Birmingham in September to attend the Housebuilder Planning Conference in a representative capacity.

Ordered, That the Committee hold an inquiry into Funding for Levelling Up.

4. Draft Strategy and Policy Statement for the Electoral Commission

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Ian Byrne declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Ben Everitt declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office and is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Andrew Lewer declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association.

Dr Sam Power, Lecturer in Corruption Analysis, School of Law, Politics and Sociology, University of Sussex; Peter Stanyon, Chief Executive, Association of Electoral Administrators; and Professor Justin Fisher, Professor of Political Science and Director of Brunel Public Policy, Brunel University London, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 17 October 2022 at 3.30pm.

Monday 17 October 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Ben Everitt

Kate Hollern

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

2021-22 Annual Review of Adult Social Care Complaints

Correspondence from the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman for England, dated 11 October 2022.

Council Tax Collection

Correspondence from the Enforcement Conduct Board, dated 10 October 2022.

Draft Strategy and Policy Statement for Electoral Commission

Correspondence from the Electoral Commission, dated 20 September 2022.

Correspondence from Professor Toby James, University of East Anglia, dated September 2022.

Help to Heat Schemes

Correspondence from Minister for Business, Energy and Corporate Responsibility, BEIS, dated 29 September 2022.

Public Parks: Follow Up

Correspondence to Newcastle City Council, dated 17 October 2022.

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 17 October 2022.

2. Draft Special Report for responses to the Regulation of Social Housing report

The Committee considered this matter.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 19 October at 9.30 am.

Wednesday 19 October 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Ian Byrne
Kate Hollern
Andrew Lewer
Mary Robinson
Mohammad Yasin

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Responses to the Regulation of Social Housing report

Correspondence from Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, dated 6 October 2022.

Correspondence to Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, dated 19 October 2022.

Draft Strategy and Policy Statement for the Electoral Commission

Correspondence from Professor Alistair Clark, Newcastle University, dated 14 October 2022.

2. Consideration of Exempt Accommodation Report

Draft Report (Exempt Accommodation), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

Ordered, That the draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 109 read and agreed to.

Annex and Summary agreed to.

Resolved, That the Report be the Third Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available (Standing Order No. 134).

3. Consideration of Draft Special Report

Draft Special Report (Response to Committee's report on the Regulation of Social Housing), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Regulator of Social Housing and Housing Ombudsman's response to the First Report from the Committee was appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the First Special Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

4. Draft Strategy and Policy Statement for the Electoral Commission

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a vice-president of the Local Government Association and a member of the Speaker's Committee on the Electoral Commission.

Ian Byrne declared an interest in that he employs a councillor in his office.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in his office.

Mohammad Yasin declared an interest in that he is a member of the Bedford Town Deal Board.

John Pullinger CB, Chair, Electoral Commission; Shaun McNally, Chief Executive, Electoral Commission; and Craig Westwood, Director of Communications, Policy and Research, Electoral Commission, gave oral evidence.

Rt Hon Andrew Stephenson MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State (Minister for Housing and Communities), Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, and Becca Crosier, Deputy Director, Elections, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 31 October at 3.30 pm.

Monday 31 October 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Ian Byrne

Natalie Elphicke

Florence Eshalomi

Ben Everitt

Paul Holmes

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

Mohammad Yasin

1. Declarations of Interest

Natalie Elphicke and Paul Holmes declared their interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (see Appendix).

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Cancellation of session with Secretary of State

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 21 October 2022.

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 24 October 2022.

Draft Strategy and Policy Statement for the Electoral Commission

Correspondence from Ofwat

Correspondence from Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, dated 25 October 2022.

Funding for Levelling Up

Correspondence from the National Audit Office, dated 26 October 2022.

Investment zones

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 20 October 2022.

Reforming the Private Rented Sector

Generation Rent [RRS 289]

3. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Reappointment of Specialist Advisers

Ordered, That Kelvin MacDonald be re-appointed a Specialist Adviser to assist the Committee in matters relating to planning (for details of declarations of interest, see Appendix).

Ordered, That Aileen Murphie be re-appointed a Specialist Adviser to assist the Committee in matters relating to local government finance and public services value for money (for details of declarations of interest, see Appendix).

Ordered, That Tony Travers be re-appointed a Specialist Adviser to assist the Committee in matters relating to local government finance (for details of declarations of interest, see Appendix).

Ordered, That Christine Whitehead be re-appointed a Specialist Adviser to assist the Committee in matters relating to housing (for details of declarations of interest, see Appendix).

5. Briefing from Local Government Association

James Jamieson, Chair, Local Government Association, and Sarah Pickup, Deputy Chief Executive, Local Government Association, gave the Committee a private briefing.

6. Briefing from National Housing Federation

Rhys Moore, Executive Director of Public Impact, National Housing Federation, gave the Committee a private briefing.

7. Briefing from Committee's specialist advisers

The specialist advisers gave the Committee a private briefing.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 7 November at 3.30 pm.

Monday 7 November 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Natalie Elphicke

Kate Hollern

Paul Holmes

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Draft Strategy and Policy Statement for the Electoral Commission

Cherwell District Council [RRS 213]

Report on noise nuisance guidance

Correspondence from the Housing Ombudsman, dated 28 October 2022.

2. Reforming the Private Rented Sector

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Bob Blackman declared an interest in that he is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association, employs councillors in his office and owns by-to-let properties in the private rented sector.

Natalie Elphicke declared an interest in that she is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association.

Mary Robinson declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Councillor Ian Corkin, Deputy Leader, Cherwell District Council; and Councillor Ben Fitter-Harding, Leader, Canterbury City Council, gave oral evidence.

Felicity Buchan MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, DLUHC; and Charlotte Spencer, Director, Private Rented Sector and Leasehold, DLUHC, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 9 November at 9.30 am.

Wednesday 9 November 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Natalie Elphicke

Florence Eshalomi

Kate Hollern

Mohammad Yasin

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Data on asylum seekers

Correspondence to the Secretary of State and Home Secretary, dated 9 November 2022.

2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee invite members of the Scottish Affairs Committee and Welsh Affairs Committee to guest at the session on Funding for Levelling Up on Monday 28 November.

3. Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the Supported Housing (Regulatory Oversight) Bill

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association.

Mohammad Yasin declared an interest in that he is a member of the Bedford Town Deal Board.

Florence Eshalomi declared an interest in that she is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Natalie Elphicke declared an interest in that she is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association.

Bob Blackman declared an interest in that he is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association, employs councillors in his office and owns by-to-let properties in the private rented sector.

Justin Bates, Barrister, Landmark Chambers, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 14 November at 3.30 pm.

Monday 14 November 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Natalie Elphicke

Ben Everitt
Florence Eshalomi
Kate Hollern

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Consultation on rents in social housing

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 10 November 2022.

Funding for Levelling Up

Correspondence from the Minister for Levelling Up, dated 9 November 2022.

2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Funding for Levelling Up

The Committee received a private briefing from Helen Hodgson, Director of Value for Money Audit, National Audit Office, and Joanna Lewis, Audit Manager, National Audit Office.

4. Funding for Levelling Up

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association.

Florence Eshalomi declared an interest in that she is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Bob Blackman declared an interest in that he is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association and employs councillors in his office.

Natalie Elphicke declared an interest in that she is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association, and her constituency council has bidden for funding from the Levelling Up Fund.

Ben Everitt declared an interest in that he is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association, employs councillors in his office and his constituency council has bidden for funding from the Levelling Up Fund.

Paul Swinney, Director of Policy and Research, Centre for Cities; Adam Hawksbee, Deputy Director and Head of Levelling Up, Onward; Professor Steve Fothergill, Centre for Regional Economic Growth, Sheffield Hallam University; and James Morrison, Reader in Journalism, Robert Gordon University, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 16 November at 9.30 am.

Wednesday 16 November 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Natalie Elphicke

Ben Everitt

Mary Robinson

Mohammad Yasin

1. Declaration of Interests

Kelvin MacDonald, Specialist Adviser, declared the following interest: That he is the Chair of BHT Sussex Housing Association (see Appendix).

2. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Funding for Levelling Up

Correspondence from the Minister for the Economy, Welsh Government, dated 14 November 2022.

3. Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the Supported Housing (Regulatory Oversight) Bill

The Committee considered this matter.

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association.

Mohammad Yasin declared an interest in that he is a member of the Bedford Town Deal Board.

Natalie Elphicke declared an interest in that she is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association.

Mary Robinson declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Ben Everitt declared an interest in that he is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association and employs a councillor in his office.

Sue Ramsden, Policy Leader, National Housing Federation; Nic Harne, Assistant Director, Neighbourhoods and Housing, Hull City Council; and Lucy Hadley, Head of Policy, Women's Aid Federation of England, gave oral evidence.

Jasmine Basran, Head of Policy and Campaigns, Crisis UK; and Sam Lister, Policy and Professional Practice Officer, Chartered Institute of Housing, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 21 November at 3.45pm.

Monday 21 November 2022

Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Natalie Elphicke

Florence Eshalomi

Ben Everitt

Kate Hollern

Paul Holmes

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson
Mohammad Yasin

1. Evidence reported for publication

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication:

Building Safety and Remediation

Correspondence from The Property Institute, dated 16 November 2022.

Investment zones

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 17 November 2022.

Planning guidance on fracking report

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 18 November 2022.

Public Parks

Correspondence from Newcastle City Council, dated 15 November 2022.

Supported Housing Improvement Programme

Correspondence from the Minister for Housing and Homelessness, dated 16 November 2022.

2. The Work of the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association.

Mohammad Yasin declared an interest in that he is a member of the Bedford Town Deal Board.

Florence Eshalomi declared an interest in that she is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Natalie Elphicke declared an interest in that she is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association.

Ben Everitt declared an interest in that he is a Vice-President of the Local Government Association, employs a councillor in his office and is Chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on housing market and housing delivery.

Paul Holmes declared an interest in that he is a Commissioner for the Keyworker Homes Fund for Skyroom London Ltd.

Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 28 November at 3.30pm.

Appendix: Declarations of interest by members of the Committee and specialist advisers

(i) Members of the Committee

Britcliffe, Sara MP (Hyndburn)

21 June 2022

Entry in the Register of Members' Interests:

1. Employment and earnings

Until 26 March 2021, member of Hyndburn Borough Council, Scaitcliffe House, Ormerod St, Accrington BB5 0PF.

I received allowances of £5,399.04 a year, paid monthly.

Hours: estimated at between 4-8 hrs a week.

(Registered 09 January 2020; updated 15 September 2021)

2. (a) Support linked to an MP but received by a local party organisation or indirectly via a central party organisation

Name of donor: Lawrence Tomlinson

Address of donor: private

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £5,000

Donor status: individual

(Registered 13 September 2021)

Elphicke, Natalie MP (Dover)

25 October 2022

1. Employment and earnings

From 26 May 2020 until 22 April 2022, Chair of the New Homes Quality Board, c/o 3

Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8YZ, an independent, not-for-profit body bringing in new building standards and a New Homes Ombudsman. I remained a director (unpaid) until 4 May 2022.

(Registered 22 June 2020; updated 29 December 2020, 08 December 2021 and 28 April 2022)

From 18 January 2021 until 22 April 2022, I received £3,000 a month. Hours: approx. 8hrs a week.

(Registered 08 February 2021; updated 28 April 2022)

3. Gifts, benefits and hospitality from UK sources

Name of donor: One Family Global

Address of donor: Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Plexal Innovation Centre, 14 East Bay Lane, London E15 2GW

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Guest of the donor at an Iftar dinner at the Dorchester Hotel, London, value £500

Date received: 22 April 2022

Date accepted: 22 April 2022

Donor status: other (charity, registration 1119989)

(Registered 12 May 2022)

4. Visits outside the UK

Name of donor: (1) PGZ Naval Shipyard (2) Voivode of the Pomeranian Voivodeship

Address of donor: (1) Inżyniera Jana Śmidowicza 48, 81-001 Gdynia, Poland (2) Pomeranian Voivodeship Office in Gdansk, Okopowa 21/27, 80-810 Gdansk

Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): (1) Dinner for two people, value £120 (2) Dinner for two people, value £80

Destination of visit: Poland

Dates of visit: 7-11 April 2022

Purpose of visit: Social Action Project Maja delegation to Poland to support Ukrainian refugees.

(Registered 06 May 2022)

7. (i) Shareholdings: over 15% of issued share capital

MHML Solutions Ltd; consultancy.

(Registered 10 January 2020)

8. Miscellaneous

From 1 January 2020, an unpaid director of the Housing and Finance Institute.

(Registered 10 January 2020)

31 October 2022 (first meeting of the Committee): Additional Declarations:

A Vice President of the Local Government Association.

From 26 May 2020 until 22 April 2022, I served as Chair of the New Homes Quality Board (c/o 3 Bunhill Row, London, EC1Y 8YZ) an independent, not-for-profit body building standards and a New Homes Ombudsman. I remained a director (unpaid) until 4 May 2022. From 18 January 2021 until 22 April 2022, I received £3,000 month. Hours: approx. 8 hrs a week.

Holmes, Paul MP (Eastleigh)

25 October 2022

Entry in the Register for Members' Interests:

1. Employment and earnings

From 1 July 2021 until further notice, Commissioner of the Key Worker Homes Fund for Skyroom London Ltd, 25 Moorgate, London EC2R 6AY.

Remunerated through share options: on 1 July 2021 I received the option of buying 2,000 shares with a discount of £5 applied to each share. Hours: 15 hrs per month.

(Registered 26 July 2021)

3. Gifts, benefits and hospitality from UK sources

Name of donor: Channel 4

Address of donor: 124 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2TX

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: A ticket to the BAFTA TV Awards, value £772

Date received: 8 May 2022

Date accepted: 8 May 2022

Donor status: company, registration 01533774

(Registered 17 May 2022)

4. Visits outside the UK

Name of donor: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Qatar

Address of donor: Qatar Embassy, 1 South Audley Street, London W1K 1NB

Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Flights, accommodation, internal travel and meals with a value of £7,677.67

Destination of visit: Qatar

Dates of visit: 12-17 October 2021

Purpose of visit: British-Qatari APPG visit to meet ministers and officials to discuss Qatar's humanitarian and political response to the Afghanistan crisis, preparations for the World Cup, workers' rights reform and bilateral relations.

(Registered 25 October 2021)

Name of donor: Conservative Friends of Israel Ltd (CFI Ltd)

Address of donor: PO Box 72288, London SW1P 9LB

Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Air travel, accommodation and hospitality, value £3,100

Destination of visit: Israel and the West Bank

Dates of visit: 24-29 July 2022

Purpose of visit: Fact finding political delegation.

(Registered 08 August 2022)

(ii) Specialist Advisers

MacDonald, Kelvin

23 October 2022

Senior Departmental Fellow: Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge

Senior Teaching Associate: University of Cambridge

Principal Lecturer (part-time): University of Brighton

Chair of the Board: BHT Sussex (Housing Association)

Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences

Fellow of the Royal Town Planning Institute

Member of the Chartered Institute of Housing

Member of the Labour Party (I take no part in any of its activities and hold no position within it nationally or locally).

Murphie, Aileen

6 October 2022

Honorary Professor, Department of Accounting, University of Durham

Policy & Practitioner Associate, International Centre of Public Accountability, University of Durham

Chair, Practice Oversight Panel, Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

Member, Adult Social Care Network, Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

Fellow, Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

Fellow, Academy of Social Sciences

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Whitehead, Christine

2 November 2022

Deputy Director LSE London - working with range of organisations including Innovate UK, London Rebuilding Society, GLA, Domestic Abuse Commissioners Office, London boroughs and similar organisations.

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