



HOUSE OF LORDS COMMISSION

Minutes

15 March 2023, 10:00-11:30am

Attendance

- Lord Speaker (Chair)
- Lord Gardiner of Kimble (Deputy Chair)
- Mathew Duncan (external member)
- Lord German
- Lord Hill of Oareford
- Baroness McIntosh of Hudnall (*virtually*)
- Lord Newby
- Nora Senior (external member)
- Baroness Smith of Basildon
- Lord True
- Lord Vaux of Harrowden

Other members present

- Lord Laming (attending under standing order 64) (*virtually*)

Simon Burton, Clerk of the Parliaments, Andy Helliwell, Chief Operating Officer, John Angeli, Director of Parliamentary Audio/Video, Che Diamond, Assistant Counsel to Chairman of Committees, and Melissa Hamnett, Director of Heritage Collections, were also in attendance. The meeting was held in the Lord Speaker's Office. The Commission agreed that Lord Laming would attend the meeting in place of Lord Judge, Convenor of the Crossbench Peers.

Since the Commission's previous meeting on 8 February 2023, on 9 March the Commission had by correspondence agreed to the re-appointment of Mike Brown as the Chair of the R&R Delivery Authority.

For Decision

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Commission agreed the record of discussions of the meetings of the House of Lords Commission on 18 January and 8 February, with amendments.

2. Broadcasting Licence

John Angeli, Director of Parliamentary Audio/Video; and Che Diamond, Assistant Counsel to the Chairman of Committees

C/22-23/22; RESTRICTED

John Angeli introduced the paper and Che Diamond, explained the background to this paper being brought to the Commission.

In discussion the following points were raised or noted:

- It was suggested that guidance should be produced for broadcasting staff, to support and underpin the process of managing video footage requests.
- It was noted that it was important to ensure that the implications of the new licence be communicated to Members of the House of Lords.
- In response the importance of the points raised was acknowledged, and an undertaking was given to take those actions forward.

The Commission agreed the Broadcasting Licence be updated as proposed, and that the decision should be communicated to Members.

3. House of Lords Corporate Business Plan 2023-24

Andy Helliwell, Chief Operating Officer
Tash Large, Governance Support Officer
C/22-23/23; HIGHLY RESTRICTED

The Chief Operating Officer introduced the paper and the Corporate Business Plan as drafted, which the Commission was invited to agree.

In discussion the following points were raised or noted:

- The importance of measuring the successes since the previous Business Plan 2022-23.
- The benefits and importance of the Health & Wellbeing Service, and the services that are available to Members.

The Commission agreed the Corporate Business Plan, with minor amendments.

For Endorsement

4. Principles for Parliament's Collections including Sensitive Objects

Melissa Hamnett, Director of Heritage Collections,
C/22-23/24; HIGHLY RESTRICTED

The Director of Heritage Collections introduced the paper.

In discussion the following points were raised or noted:

- The importance of ensuring that works of art were available to the public to view either in person or online.
- It was acknowledged that it was important to have a consistent and unified approach across both Houses.

The Commission endorsed the Shared Principles.

Oral Updates

5. Update from the Clerk of the Parliaments

Clerk of the Parliaments' update paper [RESTRICTED]

The Clerk of the Parliaments updated the Commission.

In discussion the following points were raised or noted:

- The Clerk of the Parliaments highlighted the importance of Cyber Security and suggested that the Commission returned to this topic at a future meeting.

6. Any Other Business and Next Meeting

The Commission recorded their thanks to Carl Woodall, Director of Facilities, due to retire at the end of March 2023.

The Chief Operating Officer updated the Commission on the Holocaust Memorial Bill. This Bill would make provision for expenditure by the Secretary of State and remove restrictions in respect of certain land for or in connection with the construction of a Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre. It was noted that any works in Victoria Tower Gardens would possibly cause significant impact on existing facilities and project works in the area. The COO undertook to keep the Commission updated at future meetings.

[Baroness Smith of Basildon, a Trustee of the Holocaust Memorial Charitable Trust, excused herself before this item was taken.]

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 26 April, at 10:00am.

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