



HOUSE OF LORDS COMMISSION

Decisions

Wednesday 22 January 2020

Attendance

- Lord Speaker (Chairman)
- Lord McFall of Alcluith (Deputy Chairman)
- Baroness Doocey
- Mathew Duncan (external member)
- Baroness Evans of Bowes Park
- Lord Judge
- Lord Laming
- Baroness McIntosh of Hudnall
- Baroness Smith of Basildon
- Lord Wakeham

Liz Hewitt (external member) participated by telephone. Apologies were received from Lord Newby. Ed Ollard, Clerk of the Parliaments, was in attendance.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

After discussion, the Commission agreed the record of discussion of the previous meeting of the House of Lords Commission on Wednesday 16 October 2019.

2. R&R Quarterly Report (July-September 2019)

Paper from Liz Peace, Chair of the shadow Sponsor Body and Sarah Johnson, CEO of the shadow Sponsor Body
C/19-20/1 HIGHLY RESTRICTED

The Commission discussed this with the update paper (C/19-20/2), below.

Ms Peace informed the Commission that the shadow Sponsor Board had agreed to write to the Lord Speaker as Chairman of the House of Lords Commission and Mr Speaker as chairman of the House of Commons Commission outlining the shadow Sponsor Board's intention to continue with their work until instructions are issued to the contrary. The Commission **endorsed** this approach and **expressed concern** about the uncertainty created by media briefings of this nature.

The Commission **agreed** to receive the Quarterly Reports as soon as they were available.

The Commission **took note**.

3. Update on the Restoration and Renewal Programme

Paper from Liz Peace, Chair of the shadow Sponsor Board and Sarah Johnson, CEO of the shadow Sponsor Body
C/19-20/2 HIGHLY RESTRICTED

The Commission **took note**.

4. Behaviour in Parliament

The Lord Speaker
Discussion

[More Information – Restricted Access]

The Commission **agreed** that the Clerk of the Parliaments should convey their support for examining the merits of third-party reporting to the Conduct Committee at their next meeting.

The Commission **requested** further details of the options for introducing a requirement for Members to comply with security rules and possible sanctions. They asked that the options be developed with the House of Commons authorities.

5. Oral Update – Strategic Estates and In-House Services

Liz Hewitt and Mathew Duncan, External members of the Commission, Baroness Doocey, Chairman of the Finance Committee and Lord McFall of Alcluith, Deputy Chairman of the Commission
Discussion

The Commission **took note**.

6. Appointment of the Audit Committee

Paper from Liz Hewitt, Chair of the Audit Committee
C/19-20/3 RESERVED & CONFIDENTIAL

The Commission **agreed** the reappointment of the Audit Committee for the parliamentary session 2019-20, with the membership and terms of reference as outlined in the paper.

7. Letter from Westminster City Council – planning application for the installation of the United Kingdom Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre in Victoria Tower Gardens

C/19-20/4 HIGHLY RESTRICTED

Baroness Smith of Basildon declared an interest as a trustee of the Holocaust Memorial Charitable Trust and excused herself for the discussion of this item.

Ed Ollard, Clerk of the Parliaments, updated the Commission and explained that Parliament had received a letter from Westminster City Council inquiry into the planned Holocaust memorial in Victoria Tower Gardens and that they had set a deadline of 10 February for responses. The Commission **agreed** that Mr Ollard should prepare a draft submission on the practical implications of such a development for the

House of Lords and that he should circulate the text for information at the earliest opportunity.

8. Update on the Administration

Paper from Ed Ollard, Clerk of the Parliaments
C/19-20/5 HIGHLY RESTRICTED

The Commission **took note**.

9. Any Other Business

Baroness Evans of Bowes Park asked for minutes of the previous meeting to be circulated within two weeks of meetings. The Commission agreed.

10. Next meeting

The Lord Speaker thanked Commission members and informed them that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday 12 February at 10.30am in his Room.

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