

Conduct Committee

Minutes of the meeting on Friday 27 November at 10am via MS Teams

Present:

B. Anelay of St Johns	Vanessa Davies
L. Brown of Eaton-under-Heywood	Baroness Donaghy
Cindy Butts	B. Hussein-Ece
Mark Castle	L. Mance (Chair)
Andrea Coomber	

With the Clerk of the Parliaments.

DELIBERATION IN PRIVATE

1. Minutes from 20 November meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 20 November were agreed.

2. Deliberation in private

The Committee deliberated in private to prepare for the oral hearing.

3. Oral appeal from Lord Maginnis of Drumglass against the findings and recommended sanction of the Commissioner for Standards

The Committee heard an oral appeal from Lord Maginnis. The Committee asked some follow-up questions related to issues raised in Lord Maginnis's oral appeal. A transcript was taken.

4. Deliberation in private

The Clerk to the Committee invited Lord Maginnis to return to the meeting and informed him that the Committee had some further questions.

5. Further questions from the Committee to Lord Maginnis of Drumglass

The Committee asked Lord Maginnis further questions related to the sanction recommended by the Commissioner. A transcript was taken.

6. Deliberation in private

The Committee agreed to increase Lord Maginnis's minimum suspension to 18 months. It was noted that the Committee would be responsible for lifting the suspension after 18 months or after the completion of behaviour training (if this took longer than 18 months).

It was agreed that the report would be published on 3 December. Lord Maginnis and the complainants would receive embargoed copies of the report on 2 December.

The Committee agreed to publish all appeal documents—including the transcript from the oral appeal—and all annexes in the report.

The Committee agreed to give the Commissioner an opportunity to comment on Lord Maginnis’s claims that she should have declared her association with “Out4Marriage”. Footnotes could then be added to the transcript of the oral appeal in the report.

7. Any Other Business

The Committee discussed future priorities. It was agreed that social media provisions should be considered at the meeting on 17 December and that consideration of sanctions guidance would be pushed back to the meeting in January.

Chloe Mawson
Clerk to the Conduct Committee
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