



HOUSE OF LORDS COMMISSION

DECISIONS

Wednesday 6 September, 09:20–10:50 am *in the Lord Speaker's Room*

Attendance

- Lord Speaker (Chair)
- Lord Gardiner of Kimble (Deputy Chair)
- Lord German
- Lord Hill of Oareford – *virtually*
- Earl of Kinnoull
- Baroness McIntosh of Hudnall – *virtually*
- Lord Newby
- Nora Senior (external member)
- Lord True
- Lord Vaux of Harrowden

Apologies were received from Baroness Smith of Basildon.

Simon Burton, Clerk of the Parliaments; Andy Helliwell, Chief Operating Officer; Chloe Mawson, Clerk Assistant; Lucinda Maer, Cultural Transformation Director, House of Commons; Thea Walton, Independent Complaints and Grievance Scheme Director; Stephen Perkins, Head of Catering and Retail Services and James Whittle, Chief of Staff, were also in attendance.

The Commission thanked Karen Sumner, former Executive Officer to the Commission, for her work during the previous year.

For Decision

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Commission agreed the record of the discussion of the meeting of the House of Lords Commission on 12 July 2023, with one redaction.

2. Review of the Independent Complaints and Grievance Scheme (ICGS): Reviewer Selection

C/22-23/38; [HIGHLY RESTRICTED]

The Commission:

- Agreed to the appointment of a candidate for the next Independent Reviewer of the Independent Complaints and Grievance Scheme, while noting that the House of Commons Commission would consider the appointment at its

meeting on 11 September and that the two Commissions would need to come to the same decision.

Independent Complaints and Grievance Scheme Annual Report
C/22-23/39; [RESTRICTED]

The Commission:

- Noted the paper, which reported on the activities of the ICGS between July 2022 and June 2023.

3. Catering Pricing Strategy
C/22-23/40; [RESTRICTED]

The Commission:

- Endorsed the recommendation of the Services Committee that the Catering and Retail pricing strategy be updated to allow for six-monthly tariff reviews, instead of every 12 months, with the option to review more regularly if required.

In advance of his retirement the Commission thanked Stephen Perkins, Head of Catering and Retail Services, for his service to the House.

4. External Management Review (EMR) Implementation

C/22-23/41; [RESTRICTED]

The Commission:

- Noted the delivery of the large majority of the EMR's recommendations;
- Agreed that the rotation rule would continue to apply to the Commission;
- Agreed that the Clerk of the Parliaments and Chief Operating Officer would not be appointed to the Commission;
- Agreed that the Administration's organisational Values and Behaviours would not apply to Members, given Members' existing obligations to abide by the Behaviour Code and Code of Conduct, which effectively reflect the substance of the Administration's Values and Behaviours;
- Agreed to the closure of the formal EMR implementation programme;
- Noted the ongoing work to pursue certain EMR recommendations and continuous improvement under 'business as usual'.

5. Precautionary Exclusion Post-Criminal Charge

C/22-23/42; [RESTRICTED]

The Commission:

- Noted the paper, which contained an overview of the activities that would be available to excluded Members under the proposals for precautionary exclusion.

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