



Formal Minutes of the Justice 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.

Tuesday 10 May 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Rob Butler

Angela Crawley

Maria Eagle

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Estimates Memoranda

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Estimates Memoranda

Serious Fraud Office Supplementary Estimate 2021-22

UK Supreme Court Supplementary Estimate 2021-22

HM Procurator General and Treasury Solicitor Main Estimate 2022-23

Fraud and the Justice System

Correspondence with the Minister for Security and Borders, dated 28 April 2022

Magistrates' Courts sentencing powers

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, dated 29 April 2022

4. Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Rob Butler declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former non-executive director of HM Prisons and Probation Service, a former magistrate member of the Sentencing Council and a former member of the National Union of Journalists.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Dr Peter Coe, Lecturer in Law, University of Reading, Rupert Cowper-Coles, Partner, Reynolds Porter Chamberlain LLP, Catrin Evans QC, Barrister, Matrix Chambers, Justin Rushbrooke QC, Joint Head of Chambers, 5RB and Michelle Stanistreet, General Secretary, National Union of Journalists, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 17 May 2022 at 2.00 pm

Thursday 12 May 2022

Rob Butler, Laura Farris and Dr Kieran Mullan visited HMP High Down and HMP Downview in connection with the Committee's inquiries into Women in Prison and Imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) sentences, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 23 November 2021.

Tuesday 17 May 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Rob Butler

Paul Maynard

Dr Kieran Mullan

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Fraud and the Justice System

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Estimates Memoranda

Crown Prosecution Service Main Estimate 2022-23

Judicial Pension Scheme Main Estimate 2022-23

Ministry of Justice Main Estimate 2022-23

UK Supreme Court Main Estimate 2022-23

Fraud and the Justice System

Correspondence from the Minister for Security and Borders, dated 10 May 2022

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons recommendations

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 10 May 2022

Mental Health Act reform

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 10 May 2022

National Security Bill

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, dated 11 May 2022

Section 28 rollout

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 12 May 2022

4. The work of the Criminal Justice Inspectorates

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Rob Butler declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former non-executive director of HM Prisons and Probation Service and a former board member of the Youth Justice Board.

Andrew T. Cayley CMG QC, HM Chief Inspector of the Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate, Andy Cooke QPM DL, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary and HM Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue Services, Justin Russell, HM Chief Inspector of Probation and Charlie Taylor, HM Chief Inspector of Prisons, gave oral evidence.

The Chair's attention having been called to the fact that three Members were not present, he suspended the proceedings; and another Member having come into the room, and three Members being present, the proceedings were resumed.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 25 May 2022 at 1.00 pm.

Wednesday 25 May 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Rob Butler

Laura Farris

Dr Kieran Mullan

Karl Turner

1. Declaration of interests

Karl Turner MP declared his interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (see Appendix).

2. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit HMP Wandsworth and HMP Five Wells in connection with its inquiry into the role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system.

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Serious Fraud Office in connection with its inquiry into the work of the Serious Fraud Office.

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Grand Connaught Rooms Nightingale Court in connection with its inquiry into Court Capacity.

3. Draft Victims Bill

Resolved, that the Committee inquire into the Draft Victims Bill.

4. Evidence reported for publication

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

Acquisition of 7 Newgate Street

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, dated 24 May 2022

Bexleyheath Tribunals Centre

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, dated 11 May 2022

Income inequality

Correspondence from the Chair of the Bar Council, dated 24 May 2022

Modernising lasting powers of attorney

Correspondence from the Minister for Justice and Tackling Illegal Migration, dated 18 May 2022

Rainsbrook Secure Training Centre

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 23 May 2022

Residential women's centre

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 19 May 2022

Serious Fraud Office

Correspondence with the Attorney General, dated 23 May 2022

Victims Bill

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 24 May 2022

Women in Prison

KeyRing [WOP0078]

Youth justice system investment and performance

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 19 May 2022

5. Prisons update

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

Rob Butler declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former non-executive director of HM Prisons and Probation Service and a former board member of the Youth Justice Board.

Laura Farris declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising lawyer.

Victoria Atkins MP, Minister of State for Justice, Ministry of Justice, Phil Copple, Director General of Prisons, Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service and Claire Fielder, Director of Youth Justice and Offender Policy, Ministry of Justice, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 7 June 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 7 June 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Rob Butler

Angela Crawley

Maria Eagle

Laura Farris

Paul Maynard

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That members of the Women and Equalities Committee be invited to attend the meeting on 14 June 2022 relating to pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill, pursuant to Standing Order No 137A(1)(e) (Select committees: power to work with other committees).

2. The role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Covid-19 and the criminal law

Correspondence with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 25 May 2022

Imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) sentences

John Weightman [IPP0025]

Francesca Cooney [IPP0104]

Reforms to the Housing Possession Court Duty Scheme

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, dated 30 May 2022

Revised Attorney General Guidelines on Disclosure

Correspondence from the Attorney General, dated 24 May 2022

Pre-legislative scrutiny of a 'Bill of Rights'

Correspondence with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 27 May 2022

Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

Remedi Restorative Justice Services [VIC0001]

Pre-trial Therapy Guidance

Correspondence from the Director of Public Prosecutions, dated 25 May 2022

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 14 June 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 14 June 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Rob Butler

Angela Crawley

Maria Eagle

Paul Maynard

Dr Kieran Mullan

Karl Turner

Caroline Nokes also attended under the provisions of paragraph (1)(e) of Standing Order No 137A (Select committees: power to work with other committees) (Justice Committee's resolution of 7 June 2022).

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Open justice: court reporting in the digital age

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Consultation on proposed new immigration legal aid fees

Correspondence from the Minister for Justice and Tackling Illegal Migration, dated 13 June 2022

Covid-19 and the criminal law

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 9 June 2022

Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme Review

Correspondence from the Minister for Justice and Tackling Illegal Migration, dated 8 June 2022

Section 28 rollout and commencement of a new offence of non-fatal strangulation or suffocation

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 7 June 2022

Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

Latin American Women's Rights Service [VIC0002]

SEREDA Project, University of Birmingham [VIC0003]

Criminal Justice Joint Inspection [VIC0029]

4. Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

Rob Butler declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former non-executive director of HM Prisons and Probation Service and a former magistrate member of the Sentencing Council.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

Dame Vera Baird DBE QC, Victims' Commissioner for England and Wales, Nicole Jacobs, Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England and Wales, Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner for England and Claire Waxman, Victims' Commissioner for London, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 21 June 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 21 June 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Rob Butler

Angela Crawley

Maria Eagle

Paul Maynard

Dr Kieran Mullan

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Court and tribunal reforms

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 16 June 2022

Criminal justice system response to rape

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 15 June 2022

Pre-legislative scrutiny of a 'Bill of Rights'

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 21 June 2022

Prisons Strategy White Paper

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 13 June 2022

Prisons update

Correspondence with the Minister of State for Justice, dated 14 June 2022

Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

Transform Justice [VIC0004]

Hundredfamilies.org [VIC0005]

Baobab Women's Project [VIC0006]

Restorative Justice Council [VIC0007]

Solace Women's Aid [VIC0008]

Plan International UK [VIC0009]

Ben Lyon and Gabrielle Brown [VIC0010]

Our Streets Now [VIC0011]

PHSO [VIC0012]

Victims' Commissioner for England and Wales [VIC0013]

Centre for Public Data [VIC0014]

Professor Sin Yi Cheung [VIC0015]

Flavio Boscolo [VIC0016]

BAWSO [VIC0017]

Rights of Women [VIC0018]

NSPCC et al [VIC0019]
Refuge [VIC0020]
Professor Pamela Cox et al [VIC0021]
Survivors UK [VIC0022]
Prison Reform Trust [VIC0023]
Why Me? [VIC0024]
Detention Taskforce [VIC0025]
Victim Support [VIC0026]
Women's Aid [VIC0027]
Changing Lives [VIC0028]
Centre for Women's Justice [VIC0030]
Criminal Justice Alliance [VIC0033]
Local Government Association [VIC0034]
Galop [VIC0035]
Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly [VIC0036]
Suzy Lamplugh Trust [VIC0037]
End Violence Against Women Coalition [VIC0038]
Josh Hanson Trust [VIC0039]
The Drive Partnership [VIC0041]
Law Centres Network [VIC0042]
Dr Natalie Byrom [VIC0043]
Association of Police and Crime Commissioners [VIC0045]
The Bell Foundation [VIC0047]
Ian Smith [VIC0048]
The Rt Hon Lord Woolf [VIC0049]
Sarah Champion MP [VIC0051]
Sophie Linden, MOPAC [VIC0052]
Victims' Commissioner for London [VIC0053]
SafeLives [VIC0054]
Southall Black Sisters [VIC0055]

4. Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

Rob Butler declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former non-executive director of HM Prisons and Probation Service and a former magistrate member of the Sentencing Council.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Cllr Nesil Caliskan, Chair of the LGA's Safer and Stronger Communities Board and leader of Enfield Council, Sophie Linden, APCC Joint Lead for Victims and Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime in London and Mark Norris, Principal Policy Advisor on Resilience, Safety and Regulation, Local Government Association, gave oral evidence.

Alex Mayes, External Affairs Manager, Victim Support, Suzanne Jacob OBE, Chief Executive, Safe Lives, Tracy Blackwell, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Refuge, Dr Hannana Siddiqui, Head of Policy and Research, Southall Black Sisters, and Jayne Butler, Chief Executive Officer, Rape Crisis England and Wales, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 28 June 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 28 June 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Angela Crawley

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Laura Farris

Dr Kieran Mullan

Karl Turner

1. Declaration of interests

James Daly MP declared his interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (see Appendix).

2. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. The Bill of Rights

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Income disparities at the bar

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Evidence reported for publication

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

Bill of Rights

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 21 June 2022

Covid-19 and the criminal law

Correspondence with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 21 June 2022

Criminal Cases Review Commission

Correspondence with the Chair of the Law Commission, dated 21 June 2022

Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

Barnardo's [VIC0044]

Hundred Families [VIC0046]

Spotlight on Corruption [VIC0050]

6. Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Laura Farris declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising barrister.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

Mark Fenhalls QC, Chair, Bar Council, Jan Lamping, Chief Crown Prosecutor for Yorkshire and Humberside, Crown Prosecution Service, Tyrone Steele, Criminal Justice Lawyer, JUSTICE and Baljit Ubhey, Director of Strategy and Policy, Crown Prosecution Service, gave oral evidence.

Victoria Atkins MP, Minister of State for Justice, Tom Pursglove MP, Minister for Justice and Tackling Illegal Migration and Amy Randall, Director for Victims and Vulnerability Policy, Ministry of Justice, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 5 July 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Thursday 30 June 2022

The Chair, Maria Eagle, and Dr Kieran Mullan visited the Serious Fraud Office, in connection with the Committee's inquiry into the work of the Serious Fraud Office, in accordance with the Committee's decision of Tuesday 25 May 2022.

Tuesday 5 July 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Rob Butler

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Laura Farris

Paul Maynard

Dr Kieran Mullan

Karl Turner

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Court Capacity: Government Response

Draft Special Report (Court Capacity: Government Response to the Committee's Sixth Report of Session 2021-2022), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

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

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

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Draft Mental Health Bill

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 27 June 2022

Government electronic monitoring strategy

Correspondence from the Minister for Crime, Policing and Probation, dated 30 June 2022

Section 28 rollout

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 28 June 2022

Solicitors Regulation Authority

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 29 June 2022

Parole Board Rules

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 30 June 2022

Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

Mencap and the Challenging Behaviour Foundation [VIC0056]

Survivors Manchester [VIC0057]

Hourglass [VIC0058]

Stay Safe East [VIC0059]

SignHealth [VIC0060]

The role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system

Dr Max Lowenstein [REM0002]

Professor Anthea Hucklesby [REM0003]

Transform Justice [REM0005]

Professor Lorraine Gelsthorpe and Professor Nicola Padfield [REM0006]

The Howard League for Penal Reform [REM0008]

Birth Companions [REM0009]

Dr Tom Smith [REM0010]

Professor Mandeep K Dhani [REM0011]

Ministry of Justice [REM0012]

One Small Thing [REM0013]

Nacro [REM0014]

Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody [REM0016]

Anonymous [REM0017]

Women in Prison [REM0018]

JUSTICE [REM0019]

Criminal Justice Alliance [REM0020]

Prison Reform Trust [REM0021]

Rethink Mental Illness [REM0022]

4. The role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

Rob Butler declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former non-executive director of HM Prisons and Probation Service, a former magistrate member of the Sentencing Council and a former board member of the Youth Justice Board.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Laura Farris declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising barrister.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

Professor Anthea Hucklesby, Professor of Criminal Justice and Head of the School of Social Policy, University of Birmingham, Peter Dawson, Director, Prison Reform Trust, and Penelope Gibbs, Director, Transform Justice, gave oral evidence.

5. Bill of Rights Bill

Professor Mark Elliott, Professor of Public Law and Chair of the Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge, Professor Gavin Phillipson, Professor of Law, University of Bristol, Professor Guglielmo Verdirame QC, Barrister, Twenty Essex Chambers and Professor of International Law, King's College London, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 12 July 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Wednesday 6 July 2022

The Chair, Rob Butler, and Paul Maynard visited HMP Wandsworth, in connection with the Committee's inquiry into the role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system, in accordance with the Committee's decision of Tuesday 25 May 2022.

Tuesday 12 July 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Rob Butler

James Daly

Laura Farris

Paul Maynard

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Dublin in connection with its inquiry into the role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system.

2. Sentencing Council consultation: Perverting the course of justice and witness intimidation guidelines

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Ministry of Justice Main Estimate 2022-23

Correspondence with the Permanent Secretary, dated 12 July 2022

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 29 June 2022

Recruitment of the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 4 July 2022

Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

The Children's Society [VIC0031]

Rape Crisis England and Wales [VIC0061]

4. The role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

Rob Butler declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former non-executive director of HM Prisons and Probation Service and a former magistrate member of the Sentencing Council.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Laura Farris declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising barrister.

John Bache, Former Chair and Tom Franklin, Chief Executive, Magistrates Association, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 19 July 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Wednesday 13 July 2022

Maria Eagle visited the Grand Connaught Rooms Nightingale Court in connection with the Committee's inquiry into Court Capacity, in a representative capacity, in accordance with the Committee's decision of Tuesday 25 May 2022.

Tuesday 19 July 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Rob Butler

James Daly

Maria Eagle

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Sentencing Council consultation: Perverting the course of justice and witness intimidation guidelines

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the response to the Sentencing Council's consultation on perverting the course of justice and witness intimidation guidelines be sent and reported to the House for publication.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) sentences

Anonymous [IPP0003]

Anonymous [IPP0005]

Ann Horton [IPP0009]

Anonymous [IPP0011]

Anonymous [IPP0012]

Raymond Smith [IPP0015]

Anonymous [IPP0022]

Dr David Price [IPP0024]

Anonymous [IPP0027]

Anonymous [IPP0032]

Elizabeth [IPP0041]

Irish Community Care [IPP0052]

Anonymous [IPP0061]

Anonymous [IPP0069]
Anonymous [IPP0086]
Anonymous [IPP0087]
Anonymous [IPP0108]
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Anonymous [IPP0173]
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Anonymous [IPP0177]

Launch of a £3.2m grant for litigants in person

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice,
dated 13 July 2022

Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

JUSTICE [VIC0062]
Baljit Ubhey [VIC0063]
Ministry of Justice [VIC0064]

Publication of HM Inspectorate of Prisons annual report 2021-22

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 13 July 2022

Rollout of pre-recorded cross-examination for complainants of sexual and modern slavery offences

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 11 July 2022

Sentencing Council consultation: Perverting the course of justice and witness intimidation guidelines

Correspondence with the Sentencing Council, dated 19 July 2022

The role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system

Dr Rona Epstein [REM0004]

INQUEST [REM0007]

Fair Trials [REM0015]

Clinks [REM0024]

5. Women in Prison

Draft Report (Women in Prison), 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 265.

6. Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

The Committee considered this matter.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 6 September 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Thursday 21 July 2022

The following papers were reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 17 March 2020:

Independent review of the Serious Fraud Office's Handling of the Unaoil case

Correspondence from the Attorney General, dated 21 July 2022

Thursday 28 July 2022

The following papers were reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 17 March 2020 (Order made under the provisions of SO No 137; see Votes and Proceedings 5 September 2022):

Consultation on increasing the use of mediation in the civil justice system

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 25 July 2022

Domestic Abuse Act 2021

Correspondence from the Minister for Criminal Justice, dated 20 July 2022

Government response to the SLAPPs consultation

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 19 July 2022

Government response to the Prison Service Pay Review Body recommendations 2022–23

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 19 July 2022

Government response to the SSRB's annual report 2022–23

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 19 July 2022

Ministry of Justice Main Estimates 2022–23

Correspondence from the Permanent Secretary, dated 27 July 2022

Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 27 July 2022

Publication of regional reducing reoffending plans

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 27 July 2022

Tuesday 6 September 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Dr Kieran Mullan

Karl Turner

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

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

Appointment of the Victims' Commissioner for England and Wales

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 12 August 2022

HMPPS Structure Review and Director General Appointments

Correspondence from the Permanent Secretary, dated 31 August 2022

Imprisonment for public protection (IPP sentences)

Anonymous [IPP0006]

Anonymous [IPP0007]

Anonymous [IPP0008]

Anonymous [IPP0014]

Anonymous [IPP0016]

Anonymous [IPP0019]

David [IPP0023]

Anonymous [IPP0029]

Hilary Cotton [IPP0035]

Anonymous [IPP0039]

Anonymous [IPP0058]

Anonymous [IPP0065]
Anonymous [IPP0066]
Anonymous [IPP0070]
Anonymous [IPP0072]
Anonymous [IPP0073]
Emily Stringer [IPP0074]
Pippa Carruthers [IPP0102]
Anonymous [IPP0109]
Anonymous [IPP0116]
Andrew Sperling [IPP0124]
Ministry of Justice [IPP0178]
Ministry of Justice [IPP0179]

Open justice: court reporting in the digital age

Steven Gee QC [OPJ0047]

Prisons update

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 9 August 2022

Recruitment of the Chair of the Judicial Appointments Commission

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 1 August 2022

Rollout of section 28

Correspondence with the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, dated 26 July 2022

The Future of Legal Aid

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Justice and the Home Office, dated 15 August 2022

3. Covid-19 and the criminal law: Government Response

Draft Special Report (Covid-19 and the criminal law: Government Response to the Committee's Fourth Report of Session 2021–22), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Fourth Report from the Committee of Session 2021–22 was appended to the Report.

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

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

4. The Future of Legal Aid: Updated Government Response

Draft Special Report (The Future of Legal Aid: Updated Government Response to the Committee's Third Report of Session 2021–22), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Third Report from the Committee of Session 2021–22 was appended to the Report.

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

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

5. Criminal Bar Association strike action

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and a former member of the Criminal Bar Association.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor Higher Rights Advocate, and a partner in a firm of solicitors.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

Kirsty Brimelow QC, Chair, Criminal Bar Association, Barrister, Doughty Street Chambers, and Recorder, and Alejandra Llorente Tascon, Co-Chair, Criminal Bar Association Young Bar Sub-Committee, and Barrister, 5 King's Bench Walk, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 21 September 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Wednesday 21 September 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Maria Eagle

Dr Kieran Mullan

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

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

Amending the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (Exceptions) Order 1975

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 5 September 2022

Criminal Bar Association strike action

Correspondence with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 8 September 2022

Draft Mental Health Bill

Correspondence with the Joint Committee on the Draft Mental Health Bill, dated 21 September 2022

Fraud and the Justice System

CI John Shuttleworth [FRA0008]

Financial Conduct Authority [FRA0029]

Eurasian Natural Resources Corporation Limited [FRA0033]

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons' annual report 2021-22

Correspondence with the Minister of State for Justice, dated 9 September 2022

Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

Dr Max Lowenstein [OUS0001]

Sentencing Academy [OUS0002]

Independent Commission into the Experience of Victims and Long-Term Prisoners [OUS0003]
Parole Board for England and Wales [OUS0005]
Mr Simon Scott [OUS0006]
Centre for Justice Innovation [OUS0007]
Howard League for Penal Reform [OUS0008]
Scottish Sentencing Council [OUS0010]
Revolving Doors [OUS0011]
Prof M Y Feilzer [OUS0012]
Transform Justice [OUS0013]
Prison Reform Trust [OUS0014]
The Traveller Movement [OUS0015]
Criminal Justice Alliance [OUS0016]
Clinks [OUS0017]
Mr A Olatokun [OUS0018]
Centre for Public Data [OUS0019]
Sentencing Council [OUS0020]
Ministry of Justice [OUS0021]

Rollout of section 28 pre-recorded cross-examination

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 9 September 2022

Section 28 rollout in five more Crown Courts

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 9 September 2022

3. Members' attendance statistics

The Committee approved, for publication, its attendance statistics for the last session of Parliament and the current session as at 1 August 2022.

4. Sentencing Council consultation: Animal cruelty offences

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the response to the Sentencing Council's consultation on animal cruelty offences be sent and reported to the House for publication.

5. Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

Draft Report (Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill), 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 304.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Thursday 22 September 2022 at 10.30 am.

Thursday 22 September 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Laura Farris

Paul Maynard

Dr Kieran Mullan

1. IPP sentences

Draft Report (IPP sentences) 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 Third Report of the Committee, HC 266.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 11 October 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 11 October 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Maria Eagle

Paul Maynard

Dr Kieran Mullan

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

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

Approved Premises (Substance Testing) Act

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 3 October 2022

Justice Conference Announcements

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 4 October 2022

Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill

Correspondence from the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, dated 23 September 2022

Section 28

Correspondence with the Minister of State for Justice, dated 26 September 2022 and 5 October 2022

The Compulsory Electronic Monitoring Licence Condition (Amendment) Order 2022

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 5 October 2022

3. Fraud and the Justice System

Draft Report (Fraud and the Justice System), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read. The draft Report was agreed to; the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published with the Fourth Report of the Committee, HC 12.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 19 October 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Wednesday 12-Thursday 13 October 2022

The Chair, James Daly, Maria Eagle and Paul Maynard visited Dublin, in connection with the Committee's inquiry into the role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system, in accordance with the Committee's decision of Tuesday 12 July 2022.

Wednesday 19 October 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

James Daly

Laura Farris

Dr Kieran Mullan

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

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

Criminal Legal Aid and the Criminal Bar Association strike action

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 13 October 2022

HMCIP Annual Report 2021-22

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, dated 14 October 2022

IPP sentences

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 18 October 2022

3. Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Sentencing Council consultation: guidelines for the offence of sale of knives to persons under 18

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Women in prison: Government Response

Draft Special Report (Women in prison: Government Response to the Committee's First Report), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first time and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the First Report was appended to the Report.

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

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

5. The work of the Serious Fraud Office

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and a former colleague of Sir David Calvert-Smith KC and Brian Alman KC.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor Higher Rights Advocate, and a partner in a firm of solicitors.

Laura Farris declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising barrister.

Brian Altman KC, Sir David Calvert-Smith KC and Anthony Rodgers, Deputy Chief Inspector, HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate, gave oral evidence.

Lisa Osofsky, Director, and Michelle Crotty, Chief Capability Officer, Serious Fraud Office, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 25 October 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 25 October 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Laura Farris

Paul Maynard

Dr Kieran Mullan

Karl Turner

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

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

Prisons and Probation Ombudsman's Annual Report 2020-21

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 19 October 2022

Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill

Correspondence with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 19 October 2022

Section 28

Correspondence with the Minister of State for Justice, dated 19 October 2022

Sentencing Council consultation on guidelines for the offence of sale of knives to persons under 18

Correspondence with the Chair of the Sentencing Council, dated 25 October 2022

3. Open justice: court reporting in the digital age

Draft Report (Open justice: court reporting in the digital age), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read. The draft Report was agreed to; the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published with the Fifth Report of the Committee, HC 339.

4. Sentencing Council consultation: Guidelines for the offence of sale of knives to persons under 18

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the response to the Sentencing Council's consultation on the guidelines for the offence of sale of knives to persons under 18 be sent and reported to the House for publication.

5. Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

The Committee considered this matter.

6. The role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system

In the absence of the Chair, Maria Eagle was called to the chair.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she is a non-practising solicitor.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a non-practising barrister and his wife is a Tribunal Judge (fee paid) in the Immigration Tribunal.

Charlie Taylor, HM Chief Inspector, HM Inspectorate of Prisons, gave oral evidence.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Laura Farris declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising barrister.

Sir Robert Neill resumed the chair.

Rob Butler MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, Gareth Johnson MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, Claire Fielder, Director of

Youth Justice and Offender Policy, Ministry of Justice and Michelle Jarman-Howe, Chief Operating Officer Prisons, HM Prison and Probation Service, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 1 November 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 1 November 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Laura Farris

Paul Maynard

Dr Kieran Mullan

Karl Turner

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That Sir Robert Neill attend the meeting of the Committee of Public Accounts on 1 December 2022 relating to fraud, pursuant to the invitation from that Committee under Standing Order No 137A(1)(e) (Select committees: power to work with other committees).

2. Evidence reported for publication

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

Early Legal Advice Pilot update

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 27 October 2022

Private prosecutions: safeguards

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice,
dated 25 October 2022

3. Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

The Committee considered this matter.

4. The work of the Director of Public Prosecutions

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a non-practising barrister and a former colleague of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she is a non-practising solicitor.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a non-practising barrister and his wife is a Tribunal Judge (fee paid) in the Immigration Tribunal.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Laura Farris declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising barrister.

Max Hill KC, Director of Public Prosecutions, Crown Prosecution Service, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 8 November 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 8 November 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Maria Eagle

Dr Kieran Mullan

Karl Turner

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Future inquiries

The Committee considered this matter.

3. The work of the Lord Chief Justice

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she is a non-practising solicitor.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a non-practising barrister and his wife is a Tribunal Judge (fee paid) in the Immigration Tribunal.

The Rt Hon the Lord Burnett of Maldon, Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 15 November 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 15 November 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Paul Maynard

Dr Kieran Mullan

Karl Turner

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. The role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Future inquiries

The Committee considered this matter.

3. The Future of Legal Aid

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a non-practising solicitor and formerly worked as a criminal law solicitor, and that his wife is a former duty solicitor and currently a Tribunal Judge (fee paid) in the Immigration Tribunal.

Daniel Bonich, Chair, Criminal Law Solicitors Association and Managing Partner, Clarke Kiernan Solicitors LLP, Richard Miller, Head of Justice, Law Society, Kerry Morgan, Honorary Secretary, Criminal Law Solicitors Association and Director, Morgan Brown Solicitors, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 22 November 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 22 November 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

James Daly

Paul Maynard

Dr Kieran Mullan

Karl Turner

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Fraud and the Justice System

Correspondence from the Chairman of the Sentencing Council, dated 14 November 2022

Urgent Notification for HMP Exeter

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 18 November 2022

3. The prison operational workforce

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into The prison operational workforce.

4. Sentencing Council consultation: Motoring offences guidelines

The Committee considered this matter.

5. The work of the Lord Chancellor

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a non-practising barrister and formerly worked as a criminal law solicitor.

Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, Ministry of Justice, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 29 November 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 29 November 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Paul Maynard

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Consultation on amending tribunal fees to support the implementation of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 23 November 2022

Consultation on motoring offences guidelines

Correspondence with the Chairman of the Sentencing Council, dated 30 November 2022

HMCTS Estates Strategy

Correspondence from the Chief Executive of HMCTS, dated 23 November 2022

Intimate image abuse

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 24 November 2022

Offenders (Day of Release from Detention) Bill

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 28 November 2022

Recruitment of the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 28 November 2022

The role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system

Crown Prosecution Service [REM0025]

Ministry of Justice [REM0026]

Unwanted Prisoner Contact Service

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 28 November 2022

3. Sentencing Council consultation: Motoring offences guidelines

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the response to the Sentencing Council's consultation on motoring offences guidelines be sent and reported to the House for publication.

4. Sentencing Council consultation: Child cruelty offences guidelines

The Committee considered this matter.

5. The work of the Lord Chancellor

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Mark Day, Joint Secretary, and Bishop James Jones KBE, Chair, Independent Commission into the Experience of Victims and Long-Term Prisoners, Professor Mike Hough, Emeritus Professor, School of Law, Birkbeck, University of London, Professor Julian Roberts, Executive Director, Sentencing Academy, and Claire Waxman OBE, Victims' Commissioner for London, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 6 December 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 6 December 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Maria Eagle

Edward Timpson

Karl Turner

1. Declaration of interests

Edward Timpson declared his interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (see Appendix).

2. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Sentencing Council consultation: Guidelines for child cruelty offences

Correspondence with the Chairman of the Sentencing Council, dated 7 December 2022

Fraud and the Justice System

Correspondence with the Chairman of the Sentencing Council, dated 29 November 2022

Prison capacity

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 30 November 2022

The Future of Legal Aid

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, dated 30 November 2022

The work of the Lord Chancellor

Correspondence with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 29 November 2022

4. Protocol amending the additional Protocol on the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Appointment of the next Lord or Lady Justice of England and Wales

The Committee considered this matter.

6. Sentencing Council consultation: Guidelines for child cruelty offences

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the response to the Sentencing Council's consultation on child cruelty offences guidelines be sent and reported to the House for publication.

7. Appointment of the Chair of the Judicial Appointments Commission

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising barrister and a Council Member of JUSTICE, and his brother is the Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a non-practising barrister and his wife is a Tribunal Judge (fee paid) in the Immigration Tribunal.

Helen Pitcher OBE, gave oral evidence.

8. Appointment of the Chair of the Judicial Appointments Commission

Draft Report (Appointment of the Chair of the Judicial Appointments Commission), 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 925.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 13 December 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 13 December 2022

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Paul Maynard

Dr Kieran Mullan

Edward Timpson

1. Declaration of interests

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

2. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Crown Dependencies.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Appointment of the Chair of the Judicial Appointments Committee

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 12 December 2022

Bailiffs: Enforcement of debt report – enforcement agent fees

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 8 December 2022

Evaluation of section 28 pre-recorded cross-examination

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 6 December 2022

Housing Legal Aid

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 28 November 2022

Independent report on the operation of closed material procedure under the Justice and Security Act 2013

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 30 November 2022

Launch of the 24/7 Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Line

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 6 December 2022

Powers of Attorney Bill

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 8 December 2022

Retained EU Law (Reform and Revocation Bill)

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 9 December 2022

4. Government Response: Bailiffs: Enforcement of debt

Draft Special Report (Bailiffs: enforcement of debt: Government Response to the Committee's Seventeenth Report of Session 2017–19), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Seventeenth Report from the Committee of Session 2017–19 in the last Parliament was appended to the Report.

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

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

5. Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising barrister.

Steve Wade, Chief Executive, Office of the Sentencing Council for England and Wales and Lord Justice William Davis, Chairman, Sentencing Council for England and Wales, gave oral evidence.

Rt Hon Edward Argar MP, Minister of State for Justice and Claire Fielder, Director of Youth Justice and Offender Policy, Ministry of Justice, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 10 January 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 20 December 2022

The following papers were reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 17 March 2020:

Publication of the Rape Review progress report

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 14 December 2022

The UK's intention to become party to the Hague Convention of 2 July 2019

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, dated 15 December 2022

Urgent Notification at HMP Exeter

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 16 December 2022

Youth Custody update

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 16 December 2022

Tuesday 10 January 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Criminal Justice Joint Inspectorates Business Plan 2023/5 consultation

Correspondence with the Secretary to the Criminal Justice Chief Inspectors Group, dated 13 December 2022

Government response to the immigration and legal fees consultation

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 20 December 2022

HMCTS Estates Strategy

Correspondence with the Chief Executive of HMCTS, dated 13 December 2022

The prison operational workforce

Prison Governors Association [PRI0011]

Independent Monitoring Boards [PRI0012]

Revolving Doors [PRI0015]

HMPPS Branch of the PCS Union [PRI0020]

Dr Rod Earle [PRI0021]

Ministry of Justice [PRI0022]

Unlocked Graduates [PRI0023]

POA [PRI0025]

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists [PRI0027]

The role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system

The Centre for Public Data [REM0027]

Warrants to enable energy companies to install prepayment meters

Correspondence with the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 20 December 2022

3. Government Response: Fraud and the Justice System

Draft Special Report (Fraud and the Justice System: Government Response to the Committee's Fourth Report of Session 2022–23), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Fourth Report from the Committee was appended to the Report.

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

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

4. Government Response: Open Justice: Court reporting in the digital age

Draft Special Report (Open Justice: Court reporting in the digital age: Government Response to the Committee's Fifth Report of Session 2022–23), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Fifth Report from the Committee was appended to the Report.

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

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

5. Chair's Draft Report: The role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system

Draft Report (The role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system), 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 Seventh Report of the Committee, HC 264.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 17 January 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 17 January 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Recommissioning the Rape and Sexual Abuse Fund

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 16 January 2023

Publication of Youth Offender Institution separation data

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 16 January 2023

Use of warrants to install pre-payment meters

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 17 January 2023

Funding for the Crown Prosecution Service

Correspondence with the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, dated 17 January 2023

The prison operational workforce

The Howard League for Penal Reform [PRI0029]

Dr Nasrul Ismail [PRI0030]

Prisons and Custody team at Leeds Trinity University [PRI0031]

Women in Prison [PRI0032]

Spark Inside [PRI0034]

Catch22 [PRI0035]

3. Members' attendance statistics

The Committee approved, for publication, its attendance statistics for the current session as at 21 December 2022.

4. Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Sentencing guidelines: Miscellaneous amendments to sentencing guidelines

The Committee considered this matter.

6. Government Response: Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill

Draft Special Report (Pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Victims Bill: Government Response to the Committee's Second Report) proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Second Report was appended to the Report.

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

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

7. The future of legal aid

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate (though not currently undertaking court work).

Lubna Shuja, President, Law Society, gave oral evidence.

Mike Freer MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice, and Daniel Flury, Director of Access to Justice Policy, Ministry of Justice, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 24 January 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 24 January 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Dr Kieran Mullan

Edward Timpson

Karl Turner

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

HMCTS Estates Strategy

Correspondence from the Chief Executive, HM Courts & Tribunals Service, dated 17 January 2023

Call for evidence on Personal Injury Discount Rate

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 17 January 2023

Work of the Lord Chief Justice

Correspondence from the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, dated 16 January 2023

Legal Aid Means Test Instrument Change

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 18 January 2023

Criminal Legal Aid

Correspondence from the Chair of the Criminal Bar Association, dated 9 January 2023

Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

Professor Kathryn Hollingsworth [OUS0023]

The prison operational workforce

Prisons and Probation Ombudsman [PRI0038]

Prison Reform Trust [PRI0039]

Staffordshire University School of Justice, Security and Sustainability [PRI0040]

Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody [PRI0042]

Prisoner Learning Alliance [PRI0043]

Prisoners' Education Trust [PRI0044]

University and College Union [PRI0045]

3. Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

Resolved, That the Committee visit Finland and the Netherlands in spring 2023 in connection with its inquiries into Public opinion and understanding of sentencing and court reform, and that the Chair seek the approval of the Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the visit.

4. The Crown Dependencies

Resolved, That the Committee visit Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man in spring 2023 in connection with its inquiry into the Crown Dependencies, and that the Chair

seek the approval of the Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the visit.

5. Appointment of the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Dr Kieran Mullan declared a non-pecuniary interest in that a close family member was a senior police officer.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate (though not currently undertaking court work).

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

Adrian Usher, the Lord Chancellor's preferred candidate, gave oral evidence.

6. Chair's Draft Report: Appointment of the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman

Draft Report (Appointment of the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman), 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 Eighth Report of the Committee, HC 926.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 31 January 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 31 January 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Dr Kieran Mullan

Edward Timpson

Karl Turner

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Amendments to the Fee-Paid Judicial Pension Scheme

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 23 January 2023

Estimates Memoranda

Crown Prosecution Service Supplementary Estimate Memorandum 2022-23
UK Supreme Court Supplementary Estimate Memorandum 2022-23

Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 24 January 2023

Work of the Lord Chancellor

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 30 January 2023

3. Estimates memoranda

The Committee considered this matter.

4. The prison operational workforce

The Committee considered this matter.

5. The work of the Ministry of Justice

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate (though not currently undertaking court work), and a former Chair of CAFCASS.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a non-practising barrister.

Antonia Romeo, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice, Nick Goodwin, Chief Executive, HM Courts and Tribunals Service, James McEwen, Chief Operating Officer, Ministry of Justice and Amy Rees, Director General Chief Executive, HM Prisons and Probation Service, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 7 February 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 7 February 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Publication of the Female Offender Strategy Delivery Plan

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 31 January 2023

Publication of re-designed Criminal Justice System Delivery Data Dashboard

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts, Legal Services and International, dated 1 February 2023

Lay Observers' National Annual Report

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 1 February 2023

Section 28 Final Commencement Order

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 1 February 2023

Future of Legal Aid

Correspondence from the President of the Law Society, dated 30 January 2023

The Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill

Correspondence with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 7 February 2023

Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

Dr Rory Kelly [OUS0024]

3. Sentencing guidelines: Totality guidelines

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Government and Parole Board Responses: IPP sentences

Draft Special Report (IPP sentences: Government and Parole Board Responses to the Committee's Third Report) proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government and Parole Board's response to the Third Report was appended to the Report.

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

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

5. Whiplash Reform and the Official Injury Claim Service

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into Whiplash Reform and the Official Injury Claim service.

6. Prison operational workforce

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate (though not currently undertaking court work), and that his brother was the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.

Mark Fairhurst, National Chair, Prison Officers Association, gave oral evidence.

Carl Davies, National Officer, Prison Governors Association, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 21 February 2023 at 2.30 pm.

Tuesday 21 February 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Work of the asylum and immigration tribunals.

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Hatton Cross Tribunal Hearing Centre, London, in connection with its inquiry into Work of the immigration and asylum tribunals.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Changes to Home Detention Curfew

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 8 February 2023

Estimate memorandum

HM Procurator General and Treasury Solicitor Supplementary Estimate Memorandum 2022-23

Implementation of law reform proposals

Correspondence from the co-leader of the IALS Law Reform Project, dated 2 February 2023

Re-designed CJS Delivery Data Dashboard

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts, Legal Services and International, dated 10 February 2023

The Future of Legal Aid

Correspondence with the Minister for Courts, Legal Services and International dated 24 January and 9 February 2023

The work of the Ministry of Justice

Correspondence from the Permanent Secretary, dated 9 February 2023

3. Estimate memorandum

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Work of the Attorney General and the Solicitor General

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate (though not currently undertaking court work).

Rt Hon Victoria Prentis KC MP, Attorney General and Michael Tomlinson KC MP, Solicitor General, Attorney General's Office, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 28 February 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 28 February 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

James Daly

Dr Kieran Mullan

Edward Timpson

Karl Turner

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Allocation of transgender prisoners

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 24 February 2023

Changes to Home Detention Curfew

Correspondence with the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 7 March 2023

Estimates memoranda

Judicial Pension Scheme Supplementary Estimate Memorandum 2022-23

Ministry of Justice Supplementary Estimate Memorandum 2022-23

Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 27 February 2023

Naming of the new prison in Full Sutton

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 27 February 2023

Publication of the post implementation review of the Tenancy Mediation Pilot

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 24 February 2023

The prison operational workforce

Relative of a serving prisoner [PRI0001]

Alison Pocock [PRI0006]

Sean Parker [PRI0007]

Helen Chown [PRI0008]

Craig Robson [PRI0009]

Andrew Thomson [PRI0010]

Simeon Arguile [PRI0014]

Gary Smith [PRI0016]

Les Dennis [PRI0017]

John Mole [PRI0018]

Mr Gamble [PRI0019]

Ian Prescott [PRI0033]

A serving prisoner [PRI0046 to PRI0059]

Prison Governors Association [PRI0060]

Gartree Action [PRI0061]

Alesja Aleksandrova [PRI0062]

The work of the Ministry of Justice

Correspondence from the Permanent Secretary, dated 22 February 2023

3. IPP sentences

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Estimates memoranda

The Committee considered this matter.

5. The prison operational workforce; Work of HM Chief Inspector of Probation

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate (though not currently undertaking court work). He is also a former Chair of Cafcass and a former Chair of the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel. His brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a non-practising barrister.

Nina Champion, Director, Criminal Justice Alliance, Peter Dawson, Director, Prison Reform Trust and Natasha Porter OBE, CEO, Unlocked Graduates, gave oral evidence.

Justin Russell, HM Chief Inspector, HM Inspectorate of Probation and Simi O'Neill, Head of Probation Inspection Programme, HM Inspectorate of Probation, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 7 March 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 7 March 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Dr Kieran Mullan

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee agrees to meet concurrently with the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee for the purpose of examining Prepayment meters: warrants and forced installations.

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Hope Street Women's Residential Centre in Southampton in connection with its inquiry into Women in prison.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Consultation on small payments

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts and Legal Services, dated 28 February 2023

Establishment of an Independent Public Advocate

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 1 March 2023

Public consultation on the Singapore Convention on Mediation

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 1 March 2023

Redesigned Criminal Justice System Delivery Data Dashboard

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts and Legal Services, dated 2 March 2023

Residential Women's Centre Wales Planning Permission

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 2 March 2023

Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State, dated 3 March 2023

The prison operational workforce

Unilink Software Limited [PRI0041]

Community Trade Union [PRI0063]

The work of the Lord Chancellor

Correspondence with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 7 March 2023

The work of the Ministry of Justice

Correspondence with the Permanent Secretary, dated 2 March 2023

Youth Custody Update

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 28 February 2023

3. Proposed changes to the Totality sentencing guideline

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate (though not currently undertaking court work).

Professor Andrew Ashworth CBE KC (Hon), Emeritus Vinerian Professor of English Law, Faculty of Law, University of Oxford, Dr Rory Kelly, Lecturer in Criminal Evidence and Criminal Law, Faculty of Laws, UCL and Professor Mandeep Dhimi, Professor in Decision Psychology, Middlesex University London, gave oral evidence.

4. Sentencing Council consultation on proposed changes to the Totality sentencing guideline

The Committee considered this matter.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 14 March 2023 at 9.45 am.

Tuesday 14 March 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Karl Turner

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Consultation on the Help for Fees scheme

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts and Legal Services, dated 7 March 2023

G4S cases

Correspondence from the Director of the Serious Fraud Office, dated 10 March 2023

Sentencing Council consultation: Proposed changes to the Totality sentencing guidelines

Correspondence with the Chairman of the Sentencing Council, dated 14 March 2023

Supplementary Estimate Memorandum

Serious Fraud Office Supplementary Estimate Memorandum 2022–23

3. Sentencing Council consultation: Proposed changes to the Totality sentencing guideline

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the response to the Sentencing Council's consultation on proposed changes to the Totality sentencing guideline be sent and reported to the House for publication.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 14 March 2023 at 10.00 am.

Tuesday 14 March 2023

The Committee met concurrently with the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee.

Members present

Sir Robert Neill

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Karl Turner

Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee members present

The following members of the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee were also present (Standing Order No. 137A): Darren Jones, Bim Afolami, Alan Brown, Mark Jenkinson, Ian Lavery and Mark Pawsey.

1. Evidence reported for publication

Prepayment meters: Warrants and forced installations

Robin Cantrill-Fenwick [PPM0001]

Richburns [PPM0002]

Arvato [PPM0003]

2. Prepayment meters: Warrants and forced installations

Sir Robert Neill was called to the Chair (Standing Order No.137A (1)(d)).

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Karl Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

Robin Cantrill-Fenwick, former magistrate, gave oral evidence.

Les Johnston, CEO, Richburns and Debbie Nolan, Managing Director, Arvato Financial Solutions, gave oral evidence.

Darren Jones was called to the Chair (Standing Order No.137A (1)(d)).

Chris O'Shea, Chief Executive, Centrica plc and Bill Bullen, Founder and Chief Executive, Utilita, gave oral evidence.

Jonathan Brearley, Chief Executive, Ofgem, Neil Lawrence, Director of Retail, Ofgem and Cathryn Scott, Director of Enforcement and Emerging Issues, Ofgem, gave oral evidence.

Adjourned till Tuesday 21 March 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 21 March 2023

The Chair, James Daly and Edward Timpson visited Hatton Cross Tribunal Hearing Centre, in connection with the Committee's inquiry into Work of the immigration and asylum tribunals, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 21 February 2023.

Tuesday 21 March 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

James Daly

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Appointment of the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 15 March 2023

Changes to Home Detention Curfew

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 20 March 2023

NAO report, Common Platform and delivering the final phase of reform

Correspondence from the Chief Executive of HM Courts and Tribunals Service, dated 17 March 2023

Prison and Young Offender Institution (Adjudication) (Amendment) Rules 2023

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 14 March 2023

Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

Public polling commissioned by the Justice Committee [OUS0025]

Reducing the maximum sentence for an either way offence from 12 to 6 months

Correspondence with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 22 March 2023

Statutory Instrument to facilitate two coroner area mergers

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts and Legal Services, dated 13 March 2023

3. The prison operational workforce

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate (though not currently undertaking court work). He is also a former Chair of Cafcass. His brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.

Dame Anne Owers, National Chair, Independent Monitoring Boards and Charlie Taylor, HM Chief Inspector, HM Inspectorate of Prisons, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 29 March 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Wednesday 29 March 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Dr Kieran Mullan

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

IPP prisoners and moves to open conditions

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 28 March 2023

Magistrates' Court Sentencing Powers

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts and Legal Services, dated 29 March 2023

Consultation on supporting earlier resolution of private family law arrangements

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 23 March 2023

Criminal Legal Aid (Remuneration) (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations 2023

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts and Legal Services, dated 27 March 2023

Publication of the HMCTS Reform Evaluation Progress Report

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts and Legal Services, dated 23 March 2023

Prepayment meters: warrants and forced installations

Arvato Financial Solutions (supplementary) [PPM0004]

Richburns (supplementary) PPM0005

3. Government Response: Role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system

Draft Special Report (Role of adult custodial remand in the criminal justice system: Government Response to the Committee's Seventh Report) proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Seventh Report was appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report, be the Tenth Special Report of the Committee to the House. Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

4. The prison operational workforce

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate (though not currently undertaking court work). He is also a former Chair of Cafcass. His brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.

Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP, Minister of State, Ministry of Justice and Michelle Jarman-Howe, Chief Operating Officer Prisons, Ministry of Justice, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 18 April 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 18 April 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Tahir Ali

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Stuart C McDonald

Edward Timpson

1. Declarations of interests.

Tahir Ali and Stuart C McDonald declared their interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (see Appendix).

2. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Consultation on the Totality sentencing guideline

Correspondence from the Chairman of the Sentencing Council, dated 4 April 2023

Introduction of the Victims and Prisoners Bill

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 29 March 2023

Law Commission review of the law on financial remedies on divorce and dissolution

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 6 April 2023

Newly published studies regarding the Healthy Identity Intervention and Extremism Risk Guidance 22+

Correspondence from HM Prisons and Probation Service, dated 30 March 2023

Report on Weekends in Prison

Correspondence from HM Chief Inspector of Prisons, dated 5 April 2023

Statutory Instrument to amend the Parole Board Rules 2019

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 31 March 2023

United Nations Universal Periodic Review

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 6 April 2023

4. The prison operational workforce; Former Chair of the Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody: Chair's end of term report

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate (though not currently undertaking court work). He is also a former Chair of Cafcass. His brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.

Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP, Minister of State, Ministry of Justice and Michelle Jarman-Howe, Chief Operating Officer Prisons, Ministry of Justice, gave oral evidence.

Juliet Lyon CBE, former Chair, Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 25 April 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 25 April 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Tahir Ali

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Dr Kieran Mullan

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Additions to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (Exceptions) Order 1975

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 24 April 2023

Child Contact Centre Review

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 19 April 2023

Process Evaluation of Section 28 Report Publication

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Justice, dated 25 April 2023

The prison operational workforce

Unlocked Graduates [PRI0064]

Work of immigration and asylum tribunals

The Law Society of England and Wales [IAT0001]

3. Whiplash reform and the official injury claim service

The Committee considered this matter.

4. The prison operational workforce

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Chair's meeting with the Jewish Community Council of North London

The Committee considered this matter.

6. Work of the immigration and asylum tribunals

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate (though not currently undertaking court work). He is also a member of JUSTICE and his brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.

Zoe Bantleman, Legal Director, Immigration Law Practitioners' Association and Rowena Moffatt, Public Law Practitioner, Doughty Street Chambers, gave oral evidence.

Justice Ian Dove, Chamber President of the Upper Tribunal, Immigration and Asylum Chamber, The Rt Hon Sir Keith Lindblom, Senior President of Tribunals and Judge Melanie Plimmer, Chamber President of the First-tier Tribunal, Immigration and Asylum Chamber, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 9 May 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 26 April 2023

The following papers were reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 17 March 2020:

IPP Action Plan

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 26 April 2023

Tuesday 9 May 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Stuart C McDonald

Dr Kieran Mullan

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Isleworth Crown Court, London, in connection with its inquiry into Court Capacity and its work into Section 28.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Appointment of the new Lord Chancellor

Correspondence with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 3 May 2023

Former Chair of the Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody: Chair's end of term report

Juliet Lyon CBE [IAP0001]

HMCPSTI Inspection of SFO Case Progression

Correspondence from the Director of the Serious Fraud Office, dated 4 May 2023

Independent Review into police-led management of registered sex offenders

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 27 April 2023

May publication of Criminal Justice System delivery data dashboard

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts and Legal Services, dated 3 May 2023

Prepayment meters: warrants and forced installations

Centrica plc [PPM0006]

The prison operational workforce

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 4 May 2023

Progress made on HM Inspectorate of Prisons concerns

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 5 May 2023

Publication of the Government's Fraud Strategy

Correspondence from the Security Minister, dated 3 May 2023

The work of the Ministry of Justice

Correspondence from the Ministry of Justice, dated 3 May 2023

Urgent notification – HMYOI Cookham Wood

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 28 April

Victims and Prisoners Bill

London Victims' Commissioner [VPB0001]

3. Attendance Statistics

The Committee approved, for publication, its attendance statistics for the current session of Parliament as at 31 March 2023.

4. IPP Sentences

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Victims and Prisoners Bill

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm. The Chair also declared that he is a former colleague of Nicola Padfield and His Honour Peter Rook KC.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a practicing solicitor and a partner in a firm of solicitors.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate (though not currently undertaking court work). His brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust. He is also a former Chair of Cafcass and a former Chair of the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel.

Stuart C McDonald declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a former solicitor.

Simon Creighton, Solicitor, Bhatt Murphy Nicola Padfield KC (Hon), Emeritus Professor of Criminal and Penal Justice, Law Faculty, University of Cambridge, Andrew Sperling, Solicitor, SL5 Legal and Professor Stephen Shute, Professor of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice, School of Law, Politics and Sociology, University of Sussex, gave oral evidence.

Caroline Corby, Chair, Parole Board, Martin Jones, Chief Executive Officer, Parole Board, His Honour Peter Rook KC, Judicial Member and Vice Chair, Parole Board and Cassie Williams, Independent Member, Parole Board gave, oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 16 May 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 16 May 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Tahir Ali

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Dr Kieran Mullan

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Constitutional relationship with the Crown Dependencies

Government of Guernsey (RCD0001)

Government of Jersey (RCD0002)

Government of the Isle of Man (RCD0003)

Consultation on reform of the office of Senior President of Tribunals

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 11 May 2023

Estimate Memoranda

HM Procurator General and Treasury Solicitor Main Estimate Memorandum 2023-2024

Crown Prosecution Service Main Estimate Memorandum 2023-2024

HMPYOI Cookham Wood Urgent Notification

Correspondence with the Minister of State for Prisons and Probation, dated 16 May 2023

Judicial Pensions Regulations

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 15 May 2023

Publication of Open Justice Call for Evidence

Correspondence from the Minister of Courts and Legal Services, dated 11 May 2023

3. Estimates memoranda

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Finland and the Netherlands draft programme

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Victims and Prisoners Bill

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor and knew The Rt Rev James Jones as a constituent and through their mutual work relating to the Hillsborough disaster.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate as a barrister (though not currently undertaking court work). His brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust. He is also a former Chair of Cafcass and a former Chair of the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel.

Right Reverend James Jones KBE, Chair, Hillsborough Independent Panel (2009-12), gave oral evidence.

Paul Greaney KC, Barrister, New Park Court, Jenni Hicks, Hillsborough justice campaigner and The Rt Hon. The Lord Wills, Minister of State for Justice (2007-10), gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 23 May 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 23 May 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Dr Kieran Mullan

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Estimate Memoranda

UK Supreme Court Main Estimate Memorandum 2023-24

Ministry of Justice Main Estimate Memorandum 2023-24

Judicial Pension Scheme Main Estimate Memorandum 2023-24

Intensive Supervision Courts (ISC) Pilot

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 22 May 2023

Recruitment of HM Chief Inspector of Probation

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 18 May 2023

Response to the Justice Committee's letter regarding his priorities as Lord Chancellor

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 22 May 2023

UK signs the Singapore Convention on Mediation

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 17 May 2023

3. Future overseas visit

Resolved, That the Committee visit Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man in Autumn 2023 in connection with its inquiry into the Constitutional relationship with the

Crown Dependencies, and that the Chair seek the approval of the Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the visit.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Singapore in Autumn 2023 in connection with its planned inquiry into Civil Justice, and that the Chair seek the approval of the Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the visit.

4. Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Victims and Prisoners Bill

The Committee considered this matter.

6. Constitutional relationship with the Crown Dependencies

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister, a former consultant to a law firm and a member of the All-Party parliamentary group for both the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate as a barrister (though not currently undertaking court work). His brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust. He is also a former Chair of Cafcass and a former Chair of the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel.

Hon Alfred Cannan MHK, Chief Minister, Government of Isle of Man, Deputy Jonathan Le Tocq, Minister for External Relations, Government of Guernsey and Deputy Philip Ozouf, Minister for External Relations, Government of Jersey, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 6 June 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Friday 26 May 2023

The following papers were reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 17 March 2020 (Order made under the provisions of SO No 137; see Votes and Proceedings 5 June 2022):

Extending fixed recoverable costs in civil cases

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 24 May 2023

Government response to the Legal Aid Means Test Review

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 24 May 2023

Update on the recommendations made by the expert harm panel's final report

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 24 May 2023

Urgent notification at HMYOI Cookham Wood

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 25 May 2023

Tuesday 6 June 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Tahir Ali

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Opening of HMP Fosse Way

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 30 May 2023

Victims and Prisoners Bill

Correspondence with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 7 June 2023

3. Committee bids for Estimates Day debates

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Work of the Master of the Rolls

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and a former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate as a barrister (though not currently undertaking court work). His brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust. He is also a former Chair of Cafcass and a former Chair of the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel.

Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Vos, Master of the Rolls, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 19 June 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Sunday 11 June - Friday 16 June 2023

The Chair, Maria Eagle and Edward Timpson visited Helsinki and The Hague, in connection with the Committee's inquiry into Public opinion and understanding of sentencing, in accordance with the Committee's decision of Tuesday 24 January 2023.

Monday 19 June 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Tahir Ali

Janet Daby

Stuart C McDonald

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Core Uplift Grant Funding for Police and Crime Commissioners

Correspondence from the Minister for Victims and Sentencing, dated 8 June 2023

Estimates Memoranda

Serious Fraud Office Main Estimate Memorandum 2023-24

Fixed Recoverable Costs and Legal Aid Means Test Review consultation

Correspondence with the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice, dated 8 June 2023

Issues relating to Ministry of Justice's Estimate Main Estimate and memorandum

Correspondence with the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Justice, dated 19 June 2023

Judicial Appointments (Amendment) order 2023

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 8 June 2023

Pre-sentence Reports pilots and evaluation publication

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 15 June 2023

The Online Procedure Rule Committee

Correspondence from the Under-Secretary of State for Justice, dated 8 June 2023

The Prison Operational Workforce

Justice Committee Prison Operational Workforce Survey [PRI0066]

3. Prison Operational Workforce Survey

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Issues emerging from Ministry of Justice Main Estimates

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Government consultation on supporting earlier resolution of private family law arrangements

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and a former consultant to a law firm.

Stuart C Macdonald declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former solicitor

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate as a barrister (though not currently undertaking court work). His brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust. He is also a former Chair of Cafcass and a former Chair of the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel.

Jacky Titto, Chief Executive, CAFCASS, Nicole Jacobs, Domestic Abuse Commissioner, England and Wales, Caroline Bowden, Mediator, Family Mediation Council, Anna Vollans, Chair, Family Mediators Association, gave oral evidence.

Jo Edwards, Chair, Resolution Family Law Reform Group and Susan Grocott KC, Representative, Family Law Bar Association, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 26 June 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Monday 26 June 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Janet Daby

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Lord Chief Justice Appointment

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 15 June 2023

Publication of an indicative draft new Victims Code

Correspondence from the Minister for Victims and Sentencing, dated 19 June 2023

Victims and Prisoners Bill

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 22 June 2023

3. Evidence in sexual offence cases

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and a former consultant to a law firm. He also knew John Riley professionally from the Bar.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a practising solicitor and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate as a barrister (though not currently undertaking court work). His brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust. He is also a former Chair of Cafcass and a former Chair of the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel.

Professor Cheryl Thomas KC (Hon), Professor of Judicial Studies, University College London, Mary Prior KC, Chair, Criminal Bar Association's RASSO sub-committee, Barrister, 36 Group and John Riley, Vice Chair, Criminal Bar Association's RASSO sub-committee, Barrister, Essex Street, gave oral evidence.

Professor Penney Lewis, Commissioner for Criminal Law, Law Commission, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 3 July 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Monday 3 July 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Tahir Ali

Janet Daby

Maria Eagle

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Bill of Rights Bill

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 27 June 2023

Government consultation on fees in relation to the Illegal Migration Bill

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 26 June 2023

Intimate Image Abuse

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 26 June 2023

Youth Rehabilitation Order with intensive supervision and surveillance pilot

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 26 June 2023

3. The work of the Director of Public Prosecutions

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and a former consultant to a law firm. He also knows Max Hill KC as a friend and colleague of many years.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a former HM Solicitor General with a practising certificate as a barrister (though not currently undertaking court work) and former Chair of the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel. His brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.

Max Hill KC, Director of Public Prosecutions, Crown Prosecution Service, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 10 July 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Monday 3 July 2023

The following papers were reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 17 March 2020:

Ministry of Justice Main Estimate and Memorandum 2023-24

Correspondence from the Permanent Secretary, dated 3 July 2023

Monday 10 July 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Tahir Ali

Maria Eagle

Dr Kieran Mullan

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Evidence in sexual offence cases

John Riley [ESO0001]

Criminal Bar Association [ESO0002]

Extending fixed recoverable costs and legal aid means test review

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Justice, dated 4 July 2023

Government's consultation on supporting earlier resolution of private family law arrangements

Correspondence with the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Justice, dated 11 July 2023

HMI Prisons Annual Report 2022-23

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 5 July 2023

Improving the Criminal Justice System Response to Rape

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Home Secretary, dated 7 July 2023

Legal Aid Means Test Statutory Instrument Change: Phase 1 of the Legal Aid Means Test Review

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice, dated 5 July 2023

Public opinion and understanding of sentencing inquiry

Summary of the Committee's visit to Finland and the Netherlands [OUS0026]

Setting a new statutory Legacy Sum

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 6 July 2023

3. Evidence in sexual offence cases

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and a former consultant to a law firm.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Rt Hon Edward Argar MP, Minister of State, Ministry of Justice, Jerome Glass, Director General, Policy, Ministry of Justice and Amy Randall, Director, Victims, Vulnerabilities and Criminal Law, Ministry of Justice gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 18 July 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 18 July 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Tahir Ali

Janet Daby

James Daly

Maria Eagle

Dr Kieran Mullan

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Additional Consultation on the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme

Correspondence from the Minister for Victims and Sentencing, dated 17 July 2023

Extending Fixed Recoverable Costs in Civil Cases

Correspondence with the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice, dated 17 July 2023

External communication to promote the Employment Tribunal Refund Scheme

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts and Legal Services, dated 13 July 2023

Funds in court – Public Consultation to Update Secondary Legislation

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 17 July 2023

Government Response to the Prison Service Pay Board Review

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 13 July 2023

Government response to the SSRB's Annual Report 2023/2024

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 13 July 2023

Imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) Action Plan

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 14 July 2023

UK and Japan Memorandum of Cooperation

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 17 July 2023

Written Ministerial Statement on Review of Enforcement Agent Fees 2023

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, dated 14 July 2023

3. The work of the Lord Chancellor

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and a former consultant to a law firm.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a practicing barrister and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Maria Eagle declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a non-practising solicitor.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister, but with a practising certificate. He is a former HM Solicitor General. He is also a former Chair of Cafcass, former Chair of the National Child Safeguarding Practise Review Panel and his brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.

Rt Hon Alex Chalk KC MP, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 12 September 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Monday 4 September - Wednesday 6 September 2023

The Chair, James Daly, Maria Eagle and Edward Timpson visited Jersey and Guernsey, in connection with the Committee's inquiry into the Constitutional relationship with the Crown Dependencies, in accordance with the Committee's decision of Tuesday 23 May 2023.

Tuesday 12 September 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Tahir Ali

James Daly

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's Draft Report: Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

Announcement of the award of grant funding for rape and sexual abuse support services 2023-2025

Correspondence from the Minister for Victims and Sentencing, dated 1 August 2023

Consultation on youth remand funding arrangements

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 16 August 2023

Evidence in Sexual Offence Cases

Dr Samantha Fairclough [ESO0003]

Extending Fixed Recoverable Costs

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice, dated 24 August 2023

Improving outcomes through Legal Support Grant

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice, dated 4 August 2023

Inquiry into Andrew Malkinson case

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of state for Justice, dated 24 August 2023

Miscarriages of Justice Compensation Scheme

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 14 August 2023

Personal injury discount rate

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice, dated 11 September 2023

Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

Public Dialogue Report [OUS0027]

Statutory Instrument to facilitate a coroner area merger

Correspondence from the Ministry for Courts and Legal Services, dated 11 September 2023

Urgent notification HMP Bristol update

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 24 August 2023

Urgent Notification: HMP Woodhill

Correspondence from HM Chief Inspector of Prisons, dated 1 September 2023

Whiplash reform and Official Injury Claim service

MedCo Registration Solutions [WHI0003]

Claims Portal Limited [WHI0004]

Ascenti [WHI0005]

The Law Society of England and Wales [WHI0006]

DAC Beachcroft Claims Ltd [WHI0007]

Ministry of Justice [WHI0008]

Zurich Insurance Company [WHI0009]

Association of Personal Injury [WHI0010]

Association of Consumer Support Organisations [WHI0011]

Allianz [WHI0012]

Winn Solicitors Ltd [WHI0013]

Motor Insurers Bureau [WHI0014]

NFU Mutual Insurers Bureau [WHI0015]

Personal Injury Bar Association [WHI0016]

Association of His Majesty's District Judges [WHI0017]

UNISON [WHI0018]

Carpenters Group [WHI0019]

The Forum of Insurance Lawyers [WHI0021]

Motor Accident Solicitors [WHI0023]

Express solicitors [WHI0024]

CILEX [WHI0025]

Thompsons Solicitors [WHI0026]

Association of Medical Reporting Organisations [WHI0027]

Dr David Pearce [WHI0028]

Lyons Davidson [WHI0029]

Association of British Insurers [WHI0030]

DWF Law LLP [WHI0031]

Robert James Solicitors [WHI0032]

Keoghs LLP [WHI0033]

Infinity Law Limited [WHI0034]

Sabre Insurance Company Ltd [WHI0002]

Whole Life Order Announcement

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 25 August 2023

4. Future prison population and estate capacity

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Future prison population and estate capacity.

5. Future inquiry options and work programme

The Committee considered this matter.

6. Chair's Draft Report: Whiplash reform and the Official Injury Claim service.

Draft Report (Whiplash reform and the Official Injury Claim service), 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 Ninth Report of the Committee, HC 1140.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 17 October 2023 at 2.00 pm

Thursday 12 October 2023

The Chair, James Daly and Edward Timpson visited the Isle of Man, in connection with the Committee's inquiry into the Constitutional relationship with the Crown Dependencies, in accordance with the Committee's decision of Tuesday 23 May 2023.

Tuesday 17 October 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Tahir Ali

James Daly

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Constitutional Relationship with the Crown Dependencies

Ministry of Justice [RCD0004]

Department for Business and Trade [RCD0005]

Consultation on the taking control of goods regulations

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Undersecretary of State for Justice, dated 10 October 2023

Courts and Tribunals (Fee Remissions and Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2023

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts and Legal Services, dated 16 October 2023

Government response to consultation on legal aid fees in relation to the Illegal Migration Act.

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Justice, dated 28 September 2023

HMI Probation Annual Report

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 29 September 2023

HMIP Urgent Notification HMP Woodhill

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 5 October 2023

HMP Woodhill Urgent Notification Initial Action Plan

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 28 September 2023

Independent investigation into HMP Wandsworth Escape

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 15 September 2023

Lord Chancellor Oral Evidence session – 18 July 2023

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 11 October 2023

Publication of the consultation response on revising the help with fees scheme and consultation launch on reforming UK Supreme Court fees

Correspondence from the Minister for Courts and Legal Services, dated 16 October 2023

Publication of the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman Annual Report

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 14 September 2023

Reappointment of HM Chief Inspector of Prisons

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 22 September 2023

Recruitment of HM Chief Inspector of Probation

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 20 September 2023

Removal of Parental Responsibility for a person who is convicted of Murder/Voluntary Manslaughter of the other parent (Jade's Law)

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 2 October 2023

Statutory Instrument to create prison no-fly zones

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 16 October 2023

Victims Commissioner for England and Wales

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 16 October 2023

Whole Life Orders

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 9 October 2023

Letter to the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 12 September 2023

3. The work of the County Court

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the work of the County Court.

4. Use of pre-recorded cross-examination under Section 28 of the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999

Resolved, That the Committee inquiry into the use of pre-recorded cross-examination under Section 28 of the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999.

5. Oral evidence: The Chair of the Law Commission

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and a former consultant to a law firm.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a practicing barrister and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister, but with a practising certificate. He is a former HM Solicitor General. He is also a former Chair of Cafcass, former Chair of the National Child Safeguarding Practise Review Panel and his brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.

Sir Nicholas Green, Chair of the Law Commission gave evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 18 October 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Wednesday 18 October 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Dr Kieran Mullan

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's Draft Report: Public opinion and understanding of sentencing

The Committee considered this matter.

Draft Report (Public understanding and opinion of sentencing), 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 Tenth Report of the Committee, HC 305.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 24 October 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Tuesday 24 October 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Neill, in the Chair

Tahir Ali

James Daly

Edward Timpson

1. Chair's announcements and future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

Criminal Justice Act 2003 (Removal of Prisoners for Deportation Order 2023)

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 20 October 2023

Independent investigation into Medomsley detention centre

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 24 October 2023

Publication of research report on the use and operations of counter-terrorism polygraph examination

Correspondence from the Minister for Prisons and Probation, dated 24 October 2023

The Sentencing Act 2020 (Amendment of schedule 21 Regulations 2023)

Correspondence from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, dated 23 October 2023

3. Oral evidence: Recent urgent notifications on the prison estate

The Chair declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister and a former consultant to a law firm.

James Daly declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he is a practicing barrister and partner in a firm of solicitors.

Edward Timpson declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a non-practising barrister, but with a practising certificate. He is a former HM Solicitor General. He is also a former Chair of Cafcass, former Chair of the National Child Safeguarding Practise Review Panel and his brother is the current Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.

Damien Hinds, Minister for Prisons and Probation, Ministry of Justice and Michelle Jarman-Howe, Chief Operating Officer, HM Prison and Probation Service, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 7 November 2023 at 2.00 pm.

Appendix: Declaration of interest by members of the Committee

Tahir Ali

29 March 2023: Register of Members' Interest (as at 20 March 2023):

1. Employment and earnings

- Until 5 May 2022, Councillor, Birmingham City Council, Victoria Square, Birmingham B1 1BB. (Registered 15 April 2020; updated 08 June 2022)
- From 25 May 2021 until 5 May 2022, I received an annual allowance of £18,681 for my role as a Councillor. Hours: approx. 75 hrs per month. (Registered 10 June 2021; updated 08 June 2022)

4. Visits outside the UK

- Name of donor: Majlis Ash-Shura (Parliament)
Address of donor: AL-Yamamh Palace, Majlis Ash-Shura, 8006, Al-Hada, Unit: 3, Riyadh 12911 - 4021, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Flights, accommodation, internal travel and meals, value £11,750
Destination of visit: Mecca, Madinah and Riyadh Dates of visit: 11-20 February 2023
Purpose of visit: APPG for Hajj and Umrah visit to meet with the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah to discuss challenges specific to British Muslims, and the UK Mission in Riyadh, Ambassador and UK Consul General covering Mecca and Madinah. Plus meetings with the Deputy Minister for Madinah and holy sites stakeholders. (Registered 14 March 2023)

6. Land and property portfolio: (i) value over £100,000 and/or (ii) giving rental income of over £10,000 a year

- House in Birmingham: (i). (Registered 08 January 2020)

8. Miscellaneous

- Engineer, Royal Mail, St Stephens Street, Aston, Birmingham B6 4AA. On unpaid leave since 13 December 2019. (Registered 08 January 2020; updated 14 April 2020)

29 March 2023: Additional declarations:

- One of my close family members is a police officer.

Janet Daby

13 December 2022: Register of Members' Interest (as at 28 November 2022):

1. Employment and earnings

- 13 September 2022, payment of £225 from Ipsos MORI, 3 Thomas More Square, London E1W 1YW, for a survey. Hours: 1 hr. Fee paid direct to Lewisham East Labour Party. (Registered 15 September 2022)

2. (b) Any other support not included in Category 2(a)

- Name of donor: CARE (Christian Action Research and Education)
Address of donor: 53 Romney Street, London SW1P 3RF
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Services of an intern for four days a week 27 September 2021 to 29 July 2022, who was in receipt of a bursary of £550 per month until 28 January 2022 as a member of CARE's educational Leadership Programme, total value £1,650
Date received: 27 September 2021 to 28 January 2022
Date accepted: 27 September 2021
Donor status: other (charity) (Registered 08 December 2021; updated 07 March 2022)

James Daly

28 June 2022: Register of Members' Interest (as at 13 June 2022):

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

- Name of donor: IX Wireless Limited
Address of donor: Unit, 1 Lockside Office Park, Lockside Road, Preston PR2 2YS
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £1,000 for my campaign fund
Donor status: company, registration 11009144 (Registered 30 June 2021)
- Name of donor: IX Wireless Limited
Address of donor: Unit, 1 Lockside Office Park, Lockside Road, Preston PR2 2YS

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,500 for my campaign fund

Donor status: company, registration 11009144 (Registered 30 June 2021)

- Name of donor: The Carlton Club Political Committee
Address of donor: 69 St James's Street, London SW1A 1PJ
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £5,000
Donor status: unincorporated association (Registered 14 April 2022)
- Name of donor: Geoffrey Blanning
Address of donor: private
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,000
Donor status: individual (Registered 20 April 2022)

3. Gifts, benefits and hospitality from UK sources

- Name of donor: Tracingboard Ltd
Address of donor: C/O Langtons, 11th Floor, The Plaza, 100 Old Hall Street, Liverpool L3 9QJ
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Two tickets with hospitality to Cheltenham Races, value £660
Date received: 18 March 2022
Date accepted: 18 March 2022
Donor status: company, registration 12563343 (Registered 27 April 2022)
- Name of donor: Football League Ltd
Address of donor: EFL House, 10-12 West Cliff, Preston PR1 8HU
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Two tickets with hospitality for the Championship Play Off Final at Wembley, estimated total value £500
Date received: 28 May 2022
Date accepted: 28 May 2022
Donor status: company, registration 80612 (Registered 30 May 2022)

8. Miscellaneous

- I became a non-practising partner in Crompton Halliwell Solicitors on 13 December 2019, and started practising again (unpaid) from 10 December 2020. (Registered 8 January 2020; updated 05 January 2021)
- From 2 March 2020, Chair of Conservative Friends of Kashmir. (Registered 11 March 2020)

Stuart C McDonald

29 March 2023: Register of Members' Interest (as at 20 March 2023):

6. Land and property portfolio: (i) value over £100,000 and/or (ii) giving rental income of over £10,000 a year

- Flat in East Dunbartonshire: (i). (Registered 21 May 2015)

29 March 2023: Additional declarations:

- I am a former solicitor.

Chris Stephens

12 September 2023: Register of Members' Interest (as at 4 September 2023):

2. (b) Any other support not included in Category 2(a)

- Name of donor: Public and Commercial Services Union (PCS)
Address of donor: 160 Falcon Road, London SW11 2LN
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind:
Administration and coordination of the PCS Parliamentary Group, which I chair, by Solidarity Consulting Ltd, at a value of £31,770 from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 Date received: 1 January 2022 - 31 December 2022
Date accepted: 1 January 2022 Donor status: trade union (Registered 14 February 2022)
- Name of donor: Public and Commercial Services Union (PCS)
Address of donor: 160 Falcon Road, London SW11 2LN
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind:
Administration and coordination of the PCS Parliamentary Group, which I chair, by Solidarity Consulting Ltd, at a value of £32,723 from 1 January

2023 to 31 December 2023 Date received: 1 January 2023 - 31 December 2023

Date accepted: 1 January 2023 Donor status: trade union (Registered 20 January 2023)

Edward Timpson

6 December 2022: Register of Members' Interest (as at 28 November 2022):

8. Miscellaneous

- From 13 June 2020, a trustee of Uppingham School, a registered charity. This is an unpaid role. (Registered 15 June 2020)
- From 25 April 2022, a patron of the Difference Education Ltd, which aims to improve life outcomes for the most vulnerable children by raising the status and expertise of those who educate them. This is an unpaid role. (Registered 12 May 2022)

6 December 2022: Additional declarations:

- My brother is the Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.
- As of December 2022, I will be a Council Member of JUSTICE.
- I am a qualified barrister holding a practising certificate, having changed from non-practising status due to my appointment as HM Solicitor General, upon which I also took silk (3 August 2022).

Karl Turner

25 May 2022: Register of Members' Interest (as at 16 May 2022):

1. Employment and earnings

- 19 October 2021, payment of £275 from Ipsos MORI, 3 Thomas More Square, London E1W 1YW, for completing a survey. Hours: 1.5 hrs. Fee paid direct to charity. (Registered 12 November 2021)

25 May 2022: Additional declarations:

- Former solicitor/barrister, working primarily in the criminal law in areas funded by legal aid.
- My wife is a First Tier Tribunal Judge (fee paid), all jurisdictions.