



Formal Minutes of the Holocaust Memorial Bill Select Committee in Session 2023–24

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.

Tuesday 12 December 2023

Members present

John Stevenson, in the Chair
Keir Mather
Angela Richardson
Karl Turner

1. Declaration of interests

Members declared their interests, in accordance with the resolution of the House of 13 July 1992. (see Appendix).

2. Election of a Chair

John Stevenson was called to the Chair.

3. Role and remit of the Committee, and working practices

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Appointment of a programme manager

The Committee considered this matter.

Francis Ellis, Government Affairs and Legislation Clerk, Pinsent Masons, was appointed as programme manager.

6. Committee visits

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, that the Committee undertake a visit to Victoria Tower Gardens.

7. Remote hearings and 'exceptional circumstances'

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That decisions on remote hearings and exceptional circumstances be delegated to the Chair.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 9 January 2024 at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 9 January 2024

The Chair, Keir Mather, Angela Richardson and Karl Turner visited Victoria Tower Gardens in accordance with the Committee's decision of 12 December 2023.

Tuesday 9 January 2024

Members present

John Stevenson, in the Chair
Keir Mather
Angela Richardson
Karl Turner

1. Committee forward programme

The Committee discussed this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

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

Correspondence from Richard Buxton relating to forthcoming select committee hearings, dated 21 November 2023 and 8 January 2024.

Correspondence from the Promoter relating to their approach to Petitioners, scope of the Committee and number of hearings, dated 14 December 2023.

Correspondence from The Rt Hon. the Lord Blencathra PC relating to scope, dated 16 December 2023.

3. Adjournment

Adjourned till tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

Wednesday 10 January 2024

Members present

John Stevenson, in the Chair
Keir Mather
Angela Richardson
Karl Turner

1. Committee forward programme

The Committee discussed this matter.

2. Evidence reported for publication

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

Promoter's exhibits for their opening statement.

3. Promoter's opening statement

Christopher Katkowski KC, Lead Counsel, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, delivered the promoter's opening statement.

Richard Turney, Counsel, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, also appeared.

4. Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 16 January at 2.30 p.m.

Tuesday 16 January 2024

Members present

John Stevenson, in the Chair
Keir Mather
Lia Nici
Angela Richardson
Karl Turner

1. Declaration of interests

New member Lia Nici declared her interests, in accordance with the resolution of the House of 13 July 1992. (see Appendix).

2. Committee forward programme

The Committee discussed this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Petitioner exhibits for Nicholas Brown.

Correspondence to Richard Buxton relating to forthcoming select committee hearings, dated 16 January 2024.

Correspondence from the Promoter relating to the approach taken by the Bill and Witnesses for the Promoter, dated 15 January 2024.

4. Petitioner hearings

The Committee considered the following petition:

Nicholas Brown (HMB-004)

Nicholas Brown appeared for the Petitioner.

Christopher Katkowski KC, Lead Counsel, Richard Turney, Counsel, and Paul Downie, Witness, appeared for the Promoter.

5. Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 16 January at 9.30 a.m.

Wednesday 17 January 2024, AM

Members present

John Stevenson, in the Chair
Keir Mather
Lia Nici
Angela Richardson
Karl Turner

1. Evidence reported for publication

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

Petitioner exhibits for Sir Peter Bottomley MP.

2. Petitioner hearings

The Committee considered the following petition:

Sir Peter Bottomley MP (HMB-004)

Sir Peter Bottomley MP, Petitioner, Nickie Aiken MP, Witness, Philip Smith, Witness, Professor Emerita Christine Stevenson, Witness, Cllr Louise Hyams, Witness, and Dorian Gerhold, Witness, appeared for the Petitioner.

Christopher Katkowski KC, Lead Counsel, and Richard Turney, Counsel, appeared for the Promoter.

3. Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 23 January at 2.00 p.m.

Wednesday 17 January 2024, PM

Members present

John Stevenson, in the Chair
Keir Mather
Lia Nici

Angela Richardson
Karl Turner

1. Evidence reported for publication

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

Petitioner exhibits for The Rt Hon the Lord Blencathra PC.

2. Petitioner hearings

The Committee considered the following petitions:

The Rt Hon the Lord Blencathra PC (HMB-005).

Lord Carlile of Berriew CBE KC (HMB-003).

Richard Turney, Counsel, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities appeared for the Promoter.

3. Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 23 January at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 23 January 2024

Members present

John Stevenson, in the Chair
Keir Mather
Lia Nici
Angela Richardson
Karl Turner

1. Evidence reported for publication

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

Petitioner exhibits for Buxton Family and Thomas Fowell Buxton Society.

Correspondence from Richard Buxton relating to Environment Act 2021.

Correspondence from the Promoter relating to expenditure.

Note on behalf of the Promoter on the Inspector's conclusions relating to key planning issues.

2. Petitioner hearings

The Committee considered the following petitions:

Buxton Family and Thomas Fowell Buxton Society (HMB-008).

Richard Buxton, Petitioner, Mr Brian Doctor, Counsel, and Dr John Fannon, Witness, appeared for the Petitioner.

Christopher Katkowski KC, Lead Counsel, and Richard Turney, Counsel, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities appeared for the Promoter.

3. Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 24 January at 9.30 a.m.

Wednesday 24 January 2024, AM

Members present

John Stevenson, in the Chair
Keir Mather
Lia Nici
Angela Richardson
Karl Turner

1. Evidence reported for publication

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

Petitioner exhibits for London Historic Parks and Gardens Trust.

2. Petitioner hearings

The Committee considered the following petitions:

London Historic Parks and Gardens Trust (HMB-009).

Brian Doctor KC, Counsel, Sally Prothero, Witness, Hal Moggridge, Witness, and David Lambert, Witness, appeared for the Petitioner.

Christopher Katkowski KC, Lead Counsel, and Richard Turney, Counsel, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities appeared for the Promoter.

3. Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 24 January at 2.00 p.m.

Wednesday 24 January 2024, PM

Members present

John Stevenson, in the Chair
Keir Mather
Lia Nici
Angela Richardson
Karl Turner

1. Evidence reported for publication

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

Petitioner exhibits for Baroness Deech et al.

2. Petitioner hearings

The Committee considered the following petitions:

Baroness Deech et al. (HMB-006).

Baroness Deech, Petitioner, Brian Doctor KC, Counsel, Joanna Millan BEM JP, Witness, Anita Lasker-Wallfisch, Witness, Dr Martin Stern MBE, Witness, Dr Lydia Tischler, Witness, Sir Richard Evans FRSL FBA, Witness, and Trudy Gold, Witness, appeared for the Petitioner.

Christopher Katkowski KC, Lead Counsel, and Richard Turney, Counsel, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities appeared for the Promoter.

3. Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 6 February at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 6 February 2024

Members present

John Stevenson, in the Chair
Keir Mather
Lia Nici
Angela Richardson
Karl Turner

1. Evidence reported for publication

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

Petitioner exhibits for The Thorney Island Society and Residents of Westminster.

Correspondence to the Promoter relating to questions from the Committee, dated 26 January 2024.

Correspondence from the Promoter relating to questions from the Committee, dated 5 February 2024.

Correspondence from the Promoter relating to consultation and engagement on planning matters, and meetings with petitioners, dated 29 January 2024.

Correspondence from the Promoter relating to statements about the designer of the proposed Holocaust Memorial Bill, dated 30 January 2024.

Note from Mr Doctor KC, relating to Petitioners' interpretation of scope of the Select Committee, dated 1 February 2024.

Correspondence from Richard Buxton relating to a site selection consultation, dated 6 February 2024.

2. Petitioner hearings

The Committee considered the following petitions:

The Thorney Island Society and Residents of Westminster (HMB-007).

Brian Doctor KC, Counsel, Dr Donald Peck, Petitioner, and Clare Annamalai, Petitioner, appeared for the Petitioner.

Christopher Katkowski KC, Lead Counsel, and Richard Turney, Counsel, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities appeared for the Promoter.

3. Adjournment

Adjourned till 21 February at 2.00 p.m.

Wednesday 21 February 2024

Members present

John Stevenson, in the Chair
Keir Mather
Lia Nici
Angela Richardson
Karl Turner

1. Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Adjournment

Adjourned till Day 17 April at time 2.00 p.m.

Wednesday 17 April 2024

Members present

John Stevenson, in the Chair
Keir Mather
Lia Nici
Angela Richardson
Karl Turner

1. Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre

Draft Special Report (*Holocaust Memorial 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 First Special Report of the Committee, HC 121.

4. Adjournment

Committee adjourned.

Appendix: Declarations of interest by members of the Committee and specialist advisers

(i) Members of the Committee

Mather, Keir (Selby and Ainsty)

Declarations of interest (as at 30 October 2023)

1. Employment and earnings

Payments from the Confederation of British Industry, 78 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6HN, for my role as Senior Public Affairs Adviser which ended on 21 July 2023.

28 July 2023, received £2,433.44 as my final monthly wage payment. Hours: none since my election.
(Registered 11 August 2023)

25 August 2023, received £1,811.76 as payment in lieu of notice. Hours: none since my election.
(Registered 30 August 2023)

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

Name of donor: Unison

Address of donor: Quayside House, Canal Wharf, Holbeck, Leeds LS11 5PS

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £7,000

Donor status: trade union

(Registered 11 August 2023)

Name of donor: USDAW

Address of donor: Temple Point, Business Park, Unit 2 Bullerthorpe Ln, Colton, Leeds LS15 9JL

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £5,000

Donor status: trade union

(Registered 11 August 2023)

Name of donor: Owen Trotter

Address of donor: private

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £3,000

Donor status: individual

(Registered 11 August 2023)

Name of donor: GMB Union

Address of donor: Grove Hall, 60 College Grove Road, Wakefield WF1 3RN

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,000

Donor status: trade union

(Registered 11 August 2023)

Name of donor: Jason Stockwood

Address of donor: private

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £3,000

Donor status: individual
(Registered 11 August 2023)

Nici, Lia (Selby and Ainsty)

Declarations of interest (as at 16 January 2024)

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

Name of donor: Wynne Griffiths

Address of donor: private

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £5,000

Date received: 23 March 2023

Date accepted: 31 March 2023

Donor status: individual

(Registered 18 April 2023)

Name of donor: Stephanie Lake

Address of donor: private

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £3,000

Date received: 27 March 2023

Date accepted: 31 March 2023

Donor status: individual

(Registered 18 April 2023)

Name of donor: Ian McVeigh

Address of donor: private

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £10,000

Date received: 20 February 2023

Date accepted: 20 February 2023

Donor status: individual

(Registered 21 April 2023)

Name of donor: Gill Ross

Address of donor: private

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,500

Date received: 10 July 2023

Date accepted: 15 July 2023

Donor status: individual

(Registered 19 July 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 Grimsby, owned jointly with my husband: (i). (Registered 8 January 2020)

Richardson, Angela (Guildford)

Declarations of interest (as at 30 October 2023)

3. Gifts, benefits and hospitality from UK sources

Name of donor: Barratt Developments PLC

Address of donor: Barratt House, Cartwright Way, Forest Business Park, Bardon Hill, Coalville LE67 1UF

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Ticket with hospitality for England v New Zealand at Twickenham, value £500

Date received: 19 November 2022

Date accepted: 19 November 2022

Donor status: company, registration 00604574
(Registered 21 November 2022)

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

A house in Hastings District, New Zealand: (i) and (ii). (Registered 09 January 2020)

Stevenson, John (Carlisle)

Declarations of interest (as at 30 October 2023)

1. Employment and earnings

Solicitor, partner in Bendles, of 22 Portland Square, Carlisle CA1 1PE. From 1 July 2021 until further notice, I receive £2,800 a month for work of between 10 and 45 hours. (Updated 09 December 2015, 27 December 2017, 02 April 2019, 02 March 2021 and 01 July 2021)

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

Name of donor: Centre Parcs Ltd

Address of donor: One Edison Rise, New Ollerton, Newark NG22 9DP

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,000 towards the costs of my Skills Fair

Date received: 24 October 2022

Date accepted: 24 October 2022

Donor status: company, registration 01908230
(Registered 31 October 2022)

Name of donor: Kingmoor Park Properties Ltd

Address of donor: The Marketing Suite, Baron Way, Kingmoor Business Park, Carlisle CA6 4ST

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £7,500 as sponsorship for a nuclear conference

Date received: 1 November 2022

Date accepted: 1 November 2022

Donor status: company, registration 03692079
(Registered 14 November 2022)

Name of donor: Persimmon Homes Limited

Address of donor: Persimmon House, Fulford, York YO19 4FE

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,000 towards the costs of my Skills Fair

Date received: 9 January 2023

Date accepted: 9 January 2023

Donor status: company, registration 04108747
(Registered 11 January 2023)

Name of donor: Tetra Tech Limited

Address of donor: 3 Sovereign Square, Sovereign Street, Leeds LS1 4ER

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £7,500 towards the costs of my Skills Fair

Date received: 11 January 2023

Date accepted: 11 January 2023

Donor status: company, registration 01959704
(Registered 17 January 2023)

Name of donor: Morgan Sindall Construction and Infrastructure Limited

Address of donor: Kent House 14-17 Market Place London W1W 1AJ

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £7,500 towards my Nuclear Conference

Date received: 21 April 2023

Date accepted: 21 April 2023

Donor status: company, registration 04273754
(Registered 02 May 2023)

Name of donor: EDF Energy Limited

Address of donor: 90 Whitfield Street London W1T 4EZ

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £7,000 towards my Nuclear Conference in June 2023

Date received: 8 June 2023

Date accepted: 8 June 2023

Donor status: company, registration 02366852
(Registered 12 June 2023)

Name of donor: Persimmon Homes Limited

Address of donor: Persimmon House, Fulford, York YO19 4FE

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,000 towards the costs of my Skills Fair 2024

Date received: 24 August 2023

Date accepted: 25 August 2023

Donor status: company, registration 04108747
(Registered 04 September 2023)

8. Miscellaneous

From 27 January 2020, member of the Carlisle Towns Fund Board. This is an unpaid role. (Registered 28 January 2020)

From 22 June 2021, unpaid director of the Northern Research Group Limited, a shared services company for northern MPs. (Registered 30 June 2021)

9. Family members employed and paid from parliamentary expenses

I employ my partner, Tracy Nixon, as part-time Senior Secretary.

Turner, Karl (Kingston upon Hull East)

Declarations of interest (as at 30 October 2023)

8. Miscellaneous

From 30 November 2022, Trustee of Pelican Park Community Trust. This is an unpaid role.
(Registered 02 December 2022)