

SPEAKER'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WORKS OF ART**Note of the meeting held on Wednesday 18 October 2023 at 4.30pm in
Committee Room 8 [INF 13]**

Members present: Dean Russell (Chair)
Simon Baynes
Sarah Champion
Patrick Grady
Sally-Ann Hart

Apologies: Caroline Nokes

In attendance: Stacey Clapperton, Curator
Lord Faulkner of Worcester, Chair of the Lord Speaker's Panel on
Works of Art
Lorcan O'Donoghue
Emma Gormley, Curator
Sean Harris, Committee Secretariat
Edward Potton, Secretary
Dr Cicely Robinson, Deputy Chief Curator
Grace Saull, Engagement Manager, Heritage Collections
Charles White, Media Officer
Dr Saskia Warren, Research Fellow

1) Informal Note

The Committee **agreed** the informal note of the meeting on 13 September 2023.

Matters arisingCollections Advisory Group

The Chair informed Members about a vacancy that had arisen on the Collections Advisory Group as Gagan Mohindra was standing down from the Committee. The Committee team would seek expressions of interest after the meeting.

2) Financial statement

Melissa Hamnett, Director of Heritage Collections and Chief Curator, briefed the Committee.

Decision

The Committee **noted** the financial statement.

3) Audiences and Interpretation

Melissa Hamnett, Director of Heritage Collections and Chief Curator, introduced Dr Saskia Warren, POST Research Fellow, Heritage Collections, who gave a presentation on her fellowship research *Our Parliamentary Art Collection: Audiences and Interpretation*.

Dr Warren spoke about her research interests and her work, which focused on engagement and audience development with the Heritage Collections and was supported by stakeholder research.

The following points were raised by Members:

- Whether there were plans to offer virtual reality immersive tours of the Palace of Westminster. It was noted that a 360-degree tour of the Palace was already available online and that an updated virtual tour offer would be launched the following month.
- Whether Dr Warren's recommendations had been developed in consultation with a diverse range of stakeholders. Dr Warren said that she had engaged with a range of stakeholder groups to attract a range of voices and perspectives. She added that she was committed to working with underrepresented groups.

Decision

The Committee **noted** the recommendations and wished Dr Warren every success with future research.

4) Verbal updates

a. Autumn collection moves

Dr Cicely Robinson, Deputy Chief Curator, briefed the Committee provided an update on Autumn collection moves.

Decision

The Committee **noted** the update.

5) Any other business

Costume in Parliament

The Chair suggested a display or exhibition focusing on costume and dress in Parliament through history.

6) Date and time of the next meeting

The Committee will next meet on Wednesday 6 December at 4.30pm.