



Formal Minutes of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs 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.

Attendance statistics for members of the Committee are available on the Committee's webpages.

Tuesday 14 November 2023

Members present¹

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair

Ian Byrne

Rosie Duffield

Barry Gardiner

Dr Neil Hudson

Mrs Sheryll Murray

Julian Sturdy

Derek Thomas

1. Declaration of interests

Sir Robert Goodwill amended his declaration of interests of 3 May 2022 (see Appendix).

2. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That members of the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee be invited to attend the meeting on 5 December 2023 relating to Urban green spaces, pursuant to Standing Order No 137A(1)(e) (Select committees: power to work with other committees).

Resolved, to hold a stakeholder engagement event in connection with its inquiry into Fairness in the Food Supply Chain.

Resolved, That the Committee visit London Zoo, in connection with its inquiries into Species Reintroduction, Urban green spaces and Education and careers in land-based sectors.

3. Food security

Draft Special Report (Food security: 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 from the Committee of Session 2022-2023 was appended to the Report.

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

¹ The list of members present at each meeting of the Committee indicates those committee members who were present for all or part of the meeting.

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

4. Evidence reported for publication

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

Avian influenza

Correspondence to Minister Spencer relating to free-range eggs and avian influenza, dated 30 October 2023.

Border control posts

Correspondence from the Minister for Biosecurity, Marine and Rural Affairs relating to EU border control posts for live animals, dated 27 October 2023.

Fairness in the food supply chain

[FSC0001] Huw Williams

[FSC0005] Veg Power

[FSC0006] Dr Sinead Furey

[FSC0008] The British Independent Fruit Growers' Association

[FSC0011] The University of Birmingham

[FSC0023] Co-operatives UK

[FSC0030] Dr Alexander Waller

[FSC0038] ASDA

[FSC0049] Dr Christian Reynolds

[FSC0050] MSD Animal Health

[FSC0051] Sainsbury's

[FSC0052] Professor Lisa Jack

[FSC0060] Real Meal Deal Campaign

Farming in Protected Landscape Programme

Correspondence from the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries relating to the Farming in Protected Landscape (FiPL) programme, dated 7 November 2023.

Fisheries

Correspondence from the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries relating to fisheries negotiations for 2024, dated 8 November 2023.

Livestock vaccines

Correspondence to the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries relating to sheep vaccine availability, dated 2 November 2023.

Soil health

[SHO109] Rural Payments Agency

Species reintroduction

Correspondence from the Wildlife and Countryside Link relating to the Government response to the Committee's report on Species reintroduction, dated 2 November 2023.

Water industry

Correspondence from David Black, Chief Executive of Ofwat, relating to Ofwat's report on Protecting customer interests on performance-related executive pay: 2022-23 assessment, dated 8 November 2023.

Work of the Department

Correspondence from the Canal and River Trust relating to the Work of the Department inquiry session on 24 October 2023, dated 9 November 2023.
Correspondence to the Secretary of State relating to the Work of the Department inquiry session on 24 October 2023, dated 10 November 2023.

5. Fairness in the food supply chain

Vicki Hird, Head of Sustainable Farming, Sustain; and Dr Carrie Bradshaw, Lecturer in Law, University of Leeds and member of the Global Food and Environment Institute, gave oral evidence.

Ms Sue Davies, Head of Consumer Rights and Food Policy, Which?; Professor Charlotte Hardman, Professor of Psychology of Eating Behaviour, University of Liverpool; and Dr Francesca Pontin, Research Data Scientist, Consumer Data Research Centre, University of Leeds, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 21 November at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 21 November 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Steven Bonnar
Ian Byrne
Barry Gardiner
Dr Neil Hudson
Mrs Sheryll Murray
Cat Smith
Julian Sturdy
Derek Thomas

1. 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:

Avian influenza

Correspondence from the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries regarding free-range egg marketing status and avian influenza, dated 16 November 2023

Pet welfare and abuse

[PWA0079] Heathrow Animal Reception Centre

UK trade policy: food and agriculture

[TFA0032] Dr Simone Angioloni

3. UK trade policy: food and agriculture

Robert Sheasby, Chief Executive, Agricultural Industries Confederation; Katie Doherty, CEO, International Meat Trade Association; Sean Ramsden, Director, Food and Drink Exporters Association, gave oral evidence.

Dr Phil Hadley, International Trade Development Director, Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB); Balwinder Dhoot, Director of Sustainability and Growth, Food and Drink Federation; Dr Ludivine Petetin, Reader in Law, Cardiff University, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 28 November at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 28 November 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair

Steven Bonnar

Ian Byrne

Dr Neil Hudson

Mrs Sheryll Murray

Cat Smith

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Soil health

Draft Report (Soil health), 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 245.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Education and careers in land-based sectors

- [ECL0001] Hartpury University and Hartpury College
- [ECL0002] Alastair Wanklyn
- [ECL0003] G's Group Holdings Ltd
- [ECL0004] Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board
- [ECL0005] Lantra
- [ECL0006] Royal Forestry Society
- [ECL0007] National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs
- [ECL0008] the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership
- [ECL0009] Dr Hannah Pitt
- [ECL0010] Cumbria Chamber of Commerce on behalf of Cumbria Local Skills Improvement Plan
- [ECL0011] Association of Labour Providers
- [ECL0012] the Field Studies Council
- [ECL0013] Melplash Agricultural Society – Discover Farming
- [ECL0014] the Association of Colleges
- [ECL0015] Simon Parker
- [ECL0016] Green Alliance
- [ECL0017] the Institute for Outdoor Learning
- [ECL0018] the Royal Horticultural Society
- [ECL0019] the Chartered Institute of Horticulture
- [ECL0020] the Royal Agricultural University
- [ECL0021] the Suffolk Agricultural Association
- [ECL0022] the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership
- [ECL0023] Landex – Land Based Colleges & Universities UK
- [ECL0024] the Environmental Horticulture Group
- [ECL0025] Roots to Fruit Midlands Ltd
- [ECL0026] the Horticultural Trades Association
- [ECL0027] the Chartered Institute of Horticulture

[ECL0028] the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services
[ECL0029] the Myerscough College & University Centre
[ECL0030] McDonald's UK
[ECL0031] NFU
[ECL0033] the Zoological Society of London
[ECL0034] the LEP Network
[ECL0037] the Institute for Agriculture and Horticulture
[ECL0038] the Forestry Skills Forum
[ECL0039] the Arboriculture, Forestry, Horticulture and Landscaping Trailblazer Management Group
[ECL0040] Professor Richard Napier
[ECL0041] Dr Catherine Douglas
[ECL0042] the Lancashire Skills and Employment Hub
[ECL0043] the Confederation of Forest Industries
[ECL0044] the Lincoln Institute for Agri-Food and Technology, University of Lincoln
[ECL0045] Reaseheath College
[ECL0046] the Landworkers' Alliance
[ECL0047] Social Farms & Gardens
[ECL0048] the British Association for Shooting and Conservation
[ECL0049] UCAS
[ECL0050] the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust

Pet welfare and abuse

[PWA0080] Dr Lawrence Newport

Work of the Department

[WOD0029] The Trails Trust
[WOD0034] Four Paws
[WOD0052] The Woodland Trust

Correspondence from Caroline Douglass, Executive Director of Flood and Coastal Risk Management at the Environment Agency, dated 21 November 2023.

4. Pet welfare and abuse

Rt Hon the Lord Benyon, Minister for Biosecurity, Marine and Rural Affairs, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; and Marc Casale, Deputy Director for Animal Welfare, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 5 December at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 5 December 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair

Ian Byrne

Dr Neil Hudson

Cat Smith

Derek Thomas

Clive Betts also attended under the provisions of paragraph (1)(e) of Standing Order No 137A (Select committees: power to work with other committees) (Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee's resolution of 14 November).

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from Thames Water and Ofwat.

Resolved, That members of the Business and Trade Committee and the Environmental Audit Committee be invited to attend the meeting on 12 December 2023 relating to Thames Water, pursuant to 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:

Education and careers in land-based sectors

[ECL0036] Amelia Smith

Fairness in the food supply chain

[FSC0061] Transform Trade

Livestock vaccines

Correspondence from the Chief Executive Officer of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate regarding sheep vaccines, dated 29 November 2023.

UK trade policy: food and agriculture

Correspondence from the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board regarding UK trade policy: food and agriculture, dated 27 November 2023.

3. Urban green spaces

Professor Prashant Kumar, University of Surrey; Mathew Frith, Director of Policy and Research, London Wildlife Trust; Dr Mark Gush, Head of Environmental Horticulture, Royal Horticultural Society, gave oral evidence.

Professor Catharine Ward Thompson, Professor of Landscape Architecture, University of Edinburgh; Graham Duxbury, Chief Executive, Groundwork; Dr Elaine Mulcahy, Director, UK Health Alliance on Climate Change, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 12 December at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 12 December 2023

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Steven Bonnar
Ian Byrne
Dr Neil Hudson
Mrs Sheryll Murray
Cat Smith

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Attendance statistics

The Committee considered this matter

3. XL bully ban

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Free range eggs and avian influenza

The Committee considered this matter

5. Evidence reported for publication

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

Marine mammals

Correspondence from Whale and Dolphin Conservation, Orca, and OceanCare regarding Protecting marine mammals in the UK and abroad, dated 1 December 2023.

Education and careers in land-based sectors

[ECL0051] City & Guilds

Fairness in the food supply chain

[FSC0007] Diana Smith

Fisheries

Correspondence from the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries regarding fisheries negotiations, dated 8 December 2023.

Live animal imports

Correspondence from Ornamental Aquatic Trade Association regarding the import of live animals, dated 5 December 2023.

Pet welfare and abuse

[PWA002] Bliss Cavalier Rescue

[PWA004] Bromsgrove District Council

[PWA0014] Richardson

Correspondence to Rt Hon Lord Benyon MP regarding the Government's ban on XL Bully dogs, dated 14 December 2023

Work of the Department

Correspondence from the Secretary of State in response to the Committee's letter of 10 November, dated 8 December 2023.

6. Thames Water finances

Alastair Cochran, Interim Chief Executive Officer; Cathryn Ross, Interim Chief Executive Officer; and Sir Adrian Montague, Chair, Thames Water, gave oral evidence.

David Black, Chief Executive; and Iain Coucher, Chair, Ofwat, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 9 January at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 9 January 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Steven Bonnar
Ian Bryne
Barry Gardiner
Dr Neil Hudson
Mrs Sheryll Murray
Cat Smith
Julian Sturdy
Derek Thomas

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Harper Adams University, Shropshire, in connection with its inquiry into Agricultural education.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Canada, in connection with its inquiry into UK trade policy: food and agriculture and that the Chair seek the approval of the Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the visit.

2. Evidence reported for publication

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

Food Standards Agency

Correspondence from Professor Susan Jebb, Chair of the Food Standards Agency on 3-NOP, dated 20 December 2023.

Fur trade

Correspondence from FOUR PAWS UK, Humane Society International/UK, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and RSPCA regarding Defra's call for evidence on the fur trade, dated 13 December 2023.

Urban green spaces

[UGS0002] Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
[UGS0003] Professor Dominique Moran, Dr Phil Jones and Dr Jacob Jordaan
[UGS0004] Mr Christopher Worman MBE
[UGS0005] Prof Nathalie Pettorelli
[UGS0006] Andrew K Palmer
[UGS0007] Ms Alison Fure
[UGS0008] Professor Nick Hewitt
[UGS0009] Open Spaces Society
[UGS0010] Professor Miles Richardson
[UGS0011] M Boyle

[UGS0012] Intelligent Health
[UGS0013] Fields in Trust
[UGS0014] Cambridge Sustainable Design Group
[UGS0015] The Ramblers
[UGS0016] Lantra
[UGS0017] The Friends of Finsbury Park
[UGS0018] Dr Moody
[UGS0019] Groundswell
[UGS0020] Frome Recreation and Open Ground Supporters (F.R.O.G.S.)
[UGS0021] The Land Trust
[UGS0022] UK Health Alliance on Climate Change
[UGS0023] Dr Janie Corley
[UGS0024] Prof. Ian Mell, Dr Jeremy Carter, Dr Rachel Lauwerijssen, and Dr Razieh Zandieh.
[UGS0025] Goldsmiths, University of London
[UGS0026] University of Leeds, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Make Space for Girls, Keep Britain Tidy
[UGS0027] Dr Tom Welsh
[UGS0028] Milton Keynes Park Trust
[UGS0029] City of Doncaster Council - Get Doncaster Moving
[UGS0030] CPRE London
[UGS0031] Dr Julian Dobson
[UGS0032] The National Allotment Society
[UGS0033] Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA)
[UGS0034] Midlands Parks Forum
[UGS0035] Make Space for Girls
[UGS0036] UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology
[UGS0037] Horticultural Trades Association
[UGS0038] Groundwork
[UGS0039] London Legacy Development Corporation
[UGS0040] The Landscape Institute
[UGS0041] The Gardens Trust
[UGS0042] Hyndburn Borough Council
[UGS0043] Westmorland and Furness Council
[UGS0044] Dr Jill Edmondson, Dr Karl Evans, Dr Holly Croft, Dr Stuart Campbell, and Prof. Jonathan Leake.
[UGS0045] The Parks Management Association
[UGS0046] National Lottery Heritage Fund
[UGS0047] Plantlife
[UGS0048] Imperial Policy Forum
[UGS0049] Claire Earl, Suzanne Grace, Roberts, Angela Wiltshire, Linda Meikle, and Susan Doxat
[UGS0050] Keep Britain Tidy
[UGS0051] Environmental Horticulture Group
[UGS0052] Historic England
[UGS0053] Leeds Ecosystem, Atmosphere & Forest centre, University of Leeds

[UGS0054] The Kennel Club
[UGS0055] Global Centre for Clean Air Research (GCARE), University of Surrey
[UGS0056] Wildlife and Countryside Link
[UGS0057] Royal Horticultural Society
[UGS0058] The Heritage Alliance
[UGS0060] West Midlands Combined Authority
[UGS0061] Professor Andrew Smith
[UGS0062] Professor Alister Scott, Matt Kirby, Dr Mike Jeffries, Dr Mark Goddard, Dr Ed Rollason, Dr Eleanor Starkey, and Dr Katherine Baldock
[UGS0063] Worshipful Company of Water Conservators
[UGS0064] Dr Ed Lord
[UGS0065] Wakefield Council (Urban Green and Blue Programme)
[UGS0066] Tranquil City Ltd
[UGS0067] Natural England
[UGS0068] Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Sheffield
[UGS0069] Ms Jenifer White MBE
[UGS0070] The Orchard Project
[UGS0071] Dr Alexandra Collins
[UGS0072] National Federation of Parks and Green Spaces
[UGS0073] London Wildlife Trust
[UGS0074] National Trust
[UGS0075] Trees for Cities & Treeconomics
[UGS0076] Nick Grayson
[UGS0077] London Councils
[UGS0079] National Academy for Social Prescribing
[UGS0080] City of London Corporation
[UGS0081] Peter Neal
[UGS0082] Parks for London
[UGS0083] Playing Out

Thames Water finances

Correspondence from the Chairman of Thames Water regarding the appointment of a new Chief Executive Officer, dated 14 December 2023.

Correspondence from Thames Water regarding the oral evidence session on 12 July, dated 1 August 2023.

Correspondence from GMB Union regarding Thames Water frontline redundancies, dated 18 December 2023.

UK-EU Parliamentary Partnership Assembly

Correspondence from Rt Hon Sir Oliver Heald KC MP, Co-Chair of the UKEU Parliamentary Partnership Assembly, regarding the 4th Plenary Session of the Assembly, dated 15 December 2023.

3. Fairness in the food supply chain

Ali Capper, Executive Chair, British Apples and Pears Ltd; Mrs Lizzie Wilson, Chief Executive, National Pig Association (NPA); Guy Singh-Watson, Founder, Riverford Organic Farmers; and Michael Oakes, Dairy Board Chair, National Farmers Union, gave oral evidence.

Sarah Woolley, General Secretary, Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union; David Camp, Chair, Association of Labour Providers; and Jacob Bolton, Research Officer, Focus on Labour Exploitation (FLEX), gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 16 January at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 16 January 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Ian Bryne
Rosie Duffield
Barry Gardiner
Dr Neil Hudson
Mrs Sheryll Murray
Cat Smith
Derek Thomas

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, that the Committee inquire into Flooding.

Resolved, that the Committee inquire into Vet shortages.

2. Evidence reported for publication

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

Sutton and East Surrey Water

Correspondence from Pennon Group regarding the acquisition of Sutton and East Surrey Water, dated 10 January 2024.

UK-Norway fisheries negotiations

Correspondence from the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries regarding UK-Norway bilateral fisheries negotiations for 2024, dated 9

January 2023.

3. Education and careers in land-based sectors

Stephen Jacob, Chief Executive, The Institute for Agriculture and Horticulture (TIAH); Dr David Llewellyn CBE, Chair, Lantra; Dr Hannah Pitt, Lecturer in Environmental Geography, Cardiff University, gave oral evidence.

Alex Payne, Chief Executive, Landex; Ros Burnley, Member, Forestry Skills Forum; Dr Navaratnam Partheeban OBE, Vet and Nuffield Scholar, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 23 January at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 23 January 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Ian Bryne
Rosie Duffield
Dr Neil Hudson
Mrs Sheryll Murray
Selaine Saxby
Cat Smith
Derek Thomas

1. Declaration of interests

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

2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Fairness in the food supply chain

[FSC0063] Focus on Labour Exploitation

Food waste

Correspondence with the Chair of the Administration Committee regarding food waste in the House of Commons, dated 15 & 17 January 2024.

Lough Neagh algae

Correspondence from Ian Paisley MP regarding Blue-Green Algae at Lough Neagh, dated 15 January 2024

Urban green spaces

[UGS0084] Woodland Trust

Official veterinarians

Correspondence from the Food Standards Agency regarding Official Veterinarians, dated 15 January 2024.

4. Fisheries negotiations

Rt Hon Mark Spencer MP, Minister of State for Food, Farming and Fisheries; Mike Dowell, Deputy Director for EU Fisheries Negotiations and Policy, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; and Colin Faulkner, Deputy Director for External Fisheries Negotiations, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 30 January at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 30 January 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Steven Bonnar
Ian Bryne
Rosie Duffield
Barry Gardiner
Dr Neil Hudson
Mrs Sheryl Murray
Selaine Saxby
Cat Smith

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Temporary Chair

Resolved, That Dr Neil Hudson take the Chair of the Committee for the subsequent meeting.

3. Pet welfare and abuse

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Import checks and biosecurity

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Spring barley seed supply

The Committee considered this matter.

6. XL bully ban

The Committee considered this matter.

7. Ofwat forward programme consultation

The Committee considered this matter.

8. Evidence reported for publication

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

Fairness in the food supply chain

[FSC0063] Focus on Labour Exploitation

Ofwat forward programme consultation

Correspondence from Ofwat regarding its consultation on its forward programme, dated 22 January 2024.

Spring barley

Correspondence to the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries regarding spring barley seed supply, dated 30 January 2024.

SPS import checks

Correspondence to the Secretary of State regarding SPS import checks, dated 30 January 2024.

XL bully ban

Correspondence from the Minister for Biosecurity, Animal Health and Welfare regarding the ban on XL bully dogs, dated 18 January 2024.

Correspondence to the Minister for Biosecurity, Animal Health and Welfare regarding the ban on XL bully dogs, dated 30 January 2024.

9. Urban green spaces

Mo Baines, Chief Executive, Association for Public Service Excellence; Liz Stuffins, Chair, Midlands Park Forum and Public Health Development Manager, Walsall Council; and Chris Avent, Green Estate Manager, Plymouth City Council, gave oral evidence.

Ellie Robinson, Head of Urban Green Space, National Trust; and Alan Law, Deputy Chief Executive, Natural England, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 6 February at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 6 February 2024

Members present

Steven Bonnar
Ian Byrne
Barry Gardiner
Dr Neil Hudson
Mrs Sheryll Murray
Selaine Saxby
Cat Smith
Julian Sturdy
Derek Thomas

Dr Neil Hudson took the Chair, in accordance with the Resolution of the Committee of 30 January 2024.

1. 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:

Animal welfare and abuse

[PWA0023] Little Tinkers Helpers
[PWA0062] Katharine Gray

CPTPP

Correspondence to the Minister for Trade Policy in response to his correspondence regarding CPTPP, dated 6 February 2024.

Lough Neagh algae

Correspondence to Ian Paisley MP in response to his correspondence regarding blue-green algae, dated 6 February 2024.

Thames Water

Correspondence from Ofwat regarding Thames Water, dated 2 February 2024.

3. UK trade policy: food and agriculture

Professor Christopher Dent, Professor of Economics and International Business, Edge Hill University; Shanker Singham, CEO, Competere, and Academic Fellow, Institute of Economic Affairs; Professor Fiona Smith, Professor of International Economic Law and Associate Director for Agrifood Supply Chains, University of Leeds, gave oral evidence.

Shubhi Mishra, Head of Food, Drink and Trade Promotion, UK India Business Council; Nick von Westenholz, Director of Trade and Business Strategy, NFU; Sarah Baker, Head of Economics, AHDB; Helen Dallimore, International Sales Manager, Coombe Castle, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 20 February at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 20 February 2024

The Chair, Steven Bonnar, Rosie Duffield, Barry Gardiner and Cat Smith visited London Zoo, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 14 November 2023.

Tuesday 20 February 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Ian Bryne
Rosie Duffield
Barry Gardiner
Dr Neil Hudson
Mrs Sheryll Murray
Cat Smith
Julian Sturdy

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Temporary Chair

3. Spring Barley

The Committee considered this matter.

4. XL bully ban

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Ofwat forward programme consultation

The Committee considered this matter.

6. Evidence reported for publication

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

Animal Sentience Committee

Correspondence from the Animal Sentience Committee regarding the Renters (Reform) Bill, dated 9 February.

Animal welfare and abuse

[PWA0023] Little Tinkers Helpers

[PWA0062] Katharine Gray

Education and careers in land-based sectors

[ECL0052] Andrew Humphries

Fisheries negotiations

Correspondence from the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries regarding fisheries negotiations, dated 7 February.

Food

Correspondence from Mars Food and Nutrition on the delivery of Better Food Today, A Better World Tomorrow, dated 5 February.

Post Implementation Reviews

Correspondence from the Permanent Secretary regarding Defra Post Implementation Reviews, dated 8 February.

Spring barley

Correspondence from the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries regarding Supply of Spring Barley Seed, dated 19 February

XL bully ban

Correspondence from the Minister for Biosecurity, Animal Health and Welfare regarding the XL Bully ban, dated 12 February.

7. Flooding

Julie Foley, Director, Environment Agency; Tracey Garrett, Chief Executive, National Flood Forum; Martin Lines, Chief Executive, Nature Friendly Farming Network; Cllr Emily O'Brien, Deputy Chair, People and Places Board, Local Government Association, gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 27 February at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 27 February 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Steven Bonnar
Ian Bryne
Dr Neil Hudson
Selaine Saxby
Cat Smith
Julian Sturdy

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. SPS import checks and biosecurity

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Animal Sentience Committee

Correspondence from the Animal Sentience Committee regarding the Animals (Low Welfare) Activities Abroad Act, dated 20 February 2024.

Animal testing

Correspondence from the Minister for Science, Research and Innovation regarding animal-testing policy announcements, dated 23 February 2024.

Flooding

[FLO0001] National Flood Forum

SPS import checks and biosecurity

Correspondence from the Minister for Biosecurity, Animal Health and Welfare responding to the Committee's letter on SPS import checks, dated 22 February.

4. UK trade policy: food and agriculture

Jack Simpson, Senior Trade Policy Advisor, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF); Orla Delargy, Head of Public Affairs, Sustain; Natasha Hurley, Director of Campaigns, Feedback; and Mark Williams, Chair, British Egg Industry Council gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 5 March at 2.00 p.m.

Monday 4 March – Tuesday 5 March

The Chair, Ian Byrne, Barry Gardiner, Dr Neil Hudson and Cat Smith visited Harper Adams University, Shropshire, in connection with the Committee's inquiry into Education and careers in land based sectors, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 9 January.

Tuesday 5 March 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Ian Byrne
Barry Gardiner
Dr Neil Hudson
Cat Smith

1. Future programme

Resolved, That the Committee make a joint bid with the Environmental Audit Committee and Science, Innovation and Technology Committee to the Liaison Committee for the debate in the Chamber on topic of environmental change and food security.

Ordered, That Ian Byrne have leave to visit Manchester in March to attend the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) Parks Seminar 2024 in a representative capacity in connection with the Committee's inquiry into Urban green spaces.

2. Defra and Ofwat Supplementary 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:

DEFRA and Ofwat Main Estimates 2022/23

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Main Estimate

Memorandum 2022/23

Water Services Regulation Authority (OFWAT) Main Estimate Memorandum 2023/24

Fairness in the food supply chain

[FSC0064] Food and Drink Federation

FSA Chair

Correspondence from the FSA regarding the end of Professor Susan Jebb's tenure as Chair, dated 28 February.

NFU President

Correspondence to Minette Batters regarding the end of her tenure as NFU President, dated 27 February.

Urban Green Spaces

[UGS0085] Fields in Trust

4. Education and careers in land based sectors

Ken Sloan, Vice Chancellor, Harper Adams University; Jeremy Gibbs, Founder, Forces Farming; Nina Prichard, Head of Sustainable and Ethical Sourcing, McDonald's; and Martin Emmett, Director, Tristram Plants gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 12 March at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 12 March 2024

Members present

Steven Bonnar
Ian Byrne
Rosie Duffield
Barry Gardiner
Selaine Saxby
Cat Smith

In the absence of the Chair, Dr Neil Hudson was called to the chair.

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That members of the Environmental Audit Committee be invited to attend the meeting on 26 March 2024 relating to the Work of the Department, pursuant to 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:

Animal Sentience Committee

Correspondence from the Animal Sentience Committee regarding its report on the Veterinary Medicines Regulations (2013) Revisions, dated 1 March 2024.

Education and Careers in Land-based sectors

[ECL0053] Meat Business Women
[ECL0054] Bankside Open Spaces Trust
[ECL0055] Pets at Home plc

Fairness in the food supply chain

[FSC0066] NFU

Fisheries

Correspondence from the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries regarding fisheries agreements and the Faroe Islands, dated 6 March 2024.

Food Standards Agency

Correspondence from the Food Standards Agency regarding the launch of its vegan food and allergens campaign, dated 5 March 2024.

Ofwat forward programme consultation

Correspondence from River Action regarding the Committee's response to Ofwat's Forward Programme 2024-25, dated 7 March 2024.

Vet shortages

[VSH0001] Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

[VSH0002] Chief Veterinary Officer, DEFRA

[VSH0003] Food Standards Agency

[VSH0004] Food Standards Scotland

Correspondence from the Chief Veterinary Officer regarding vet shortages, dated 4 March 2024.

UK Trade Policy: Food and Agriculture

[TFA0034] Chester Zoo

Urban Green Spaces

Correspondence to the Secretary of State regarding the Committee's Urban Green Spaces inquiry.

3. Vet shortages

Emily Miles, Chief Executive, Food Standards Agency; Dr Christine Middlemiss, Chief Veterinary Officer, Government Veterinary Services; Professor Stuart Reid, Principal, Royal Veterinary College, and Malcolm Morley, Senior Vice President, British Veterinary Association (BVA) gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 19 March at 2.00 p.m.

Thursday 14 March 2024

Ian Byrne visited Manchester to attend the Association for Public Service Excellence APSE Parks Seminar 2024, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 5 March.

Tuesday 19 March 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair

Ian Byrne

Rosie Duffield

Barry Gardiner
Dr Neil Hudson
Mrs Sheryll Murray
Cat Smith
Julian Sturdy
Derek Thomas

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Soil health

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

The Government's response to the First Report from the Committee of Session 2023-2024 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.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Animal Sentience Committee

Correspondence from the Animal Sentience Committee regarding assessment of changes to Bovine Identification, Registration, and Movement, dated 12 March 2024

Flooding

[FLD0002] Local Government Association

Correspondence from Sir John Armitt, Chair, National Infrastructure Commission (NIC), on the work of the NIC in relation to flooding, dated 14 March 2024

Vet shortages

[VSH0005] British Veterinary Association

UK trade policy: food and agriculture

[TFA0035] UK-India Business Council

4. Fairness in the food supply chain

Peter Dawson, Policy & Sustainability Director, Dairy UK; Rod Addy, Director General, Provision Trade Federation; and Robert Sheasby, Chief Executive, The Agricultural Industries Confederation gave oral evidence.

Bas Padberg, UK Managing Director, Arla Foods; Sarah Arrowsmith, Chief Executive of UK Grocery, Associated British Foods; Dominic Hawkins, UK Head of Supply Chain, Kraft Heinz; and Marc Woodward, UK and Ireland Head, Unilever gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 5 September at 1.45 p.m.

Tuesday 26 March 2024

The Chair, Steven Bonnar, Dr Neil Hudson and Mrs Sheryll Murray visited Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in connection with the Committee's biodiversity work, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 9 May 2023.

Tuesday 26 March 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Rosie Duffield
Barry Gardiner
Dr Neil Hudson
Mrs Sheryll Murray
Selaine Saxby
Cat Smith

Philip Dunne also attended under the provisions of paragraph (1)(e) of Standing Order No 137A (Select committees: power to work with other committees) (Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee's resolution of 12 March).

1. 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:

Education and careers in land based sectors

Correspondence to Ken Sloan, Vice Chancellor, Harper Adams University regarding Committee visit, dated 19 March 2024

Growth duty

Correspondence from Minister Hollinrake, Minister for Enterprise, Markets, and Small Business, Dept for Business & Trade, re the Department's Growth Duty work, dated 15 March 2024

TSE surveillance

Correspondence to Chair from Lord Douglas Miller, requesting views on the proposed removal of the requirement to submit an annual report to Parliament on TSEs surveillance, dated 21 March 2024

Vet shortages

Letter from FSA to the Chair regarding the Vet Shortages evidence session, dated 21 March

Whistleblowing

Letter from Mary Robinson MP to the Chair regarding Private Members Bill on whistleblowing, dated 21 March 2024

SPS checks and biosecurity

Correspondence from Dover District Council regarding checks and funding at Dover Border, dated 18 March 2024

Correspondence to the Secretary of State regarding SPS checks and import controls, dated 26 March 2024

3. Pet welfare and abuse

Draft Report (Pet welfare and abuse), 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 161.

4. Work of the Department

Rt Hon. Steve Barclay MP, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, and Tamara Finkelstein CB, Permanent Secretary, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 16 April at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 16 April 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Ian Byrne
Rosie Duffield
Barry Gardiner
Dr Neil Hudson
Mrs Sheryll Murray
Selaine Saxby
Cat Smith
Julian Sturdy
Derek Thomas

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, that the Committee inquire into Food labelling and packaging reform.

Resolved, that the Committee inquire into Vet shortages.

Resolved, that the Committee inquire into Ofwat's 2024 price review.

Resolved, that the Committee inquire into Bovine TB.

Resolved, that the Committee inquire into Environmental Land Management Scheme progress.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Groundworks' sites in London, in connection with its inquiry into Urban Green Spaces.

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Great Yorkshire Show in Harrogate, in connection with its inquiry into Fairness in the food supply chain.

Resolved, That members of the Business and Trade Committee be invited to attend the meeting on 23 December 2023 relating to the Committee's inquiry into UK trade policy: food and agriculture, pursuant to Standing Order No 137A(1)(e) (Select committees: power to work with other committees).

Resolved, That Selaine Saxby attend the meeting of the Environmental Audit Committee on 15 May 2024 relating to bathing waters, pursuant to the invitation from that Committee under Standing Order No 137A(1)(e) (Select committees: power to work with other committees).

2. Pollack compensation scheme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Border Target Operating Model

Correspondence from Lord Douglas-Miller regarding Introduction of Common User Charge at Border Control Posts, dated 3 April 2024

Correspondence from the Freight Liaison Group (FLG) regarding the Border Target Operating Model (BTOM), dated 3 April 2024

Education and careers in land based sectors

[ECL0056] Martin Emmett

Correspondence from Landex, regarding updates on its work with DfE and Higher Education partners, dated 11 April 2024

Food supply chain

Correspondence from the Federation of Wholesale Distributors inviting the Committee to visit a wholesale business, dated 9 April 2024

Thames Water

Correspondence from David Black, Chief Executive, Ofwat regarding Thames Water, dated 28 March 2024

Vet shortages

Correspondence from Professor Christine Middlemiss, UKCVO, regarding the vet shortages session, dated 4 April 2024

Water pollution

Correspondence from Alan Lovell, Chair, Environment Agency regarding Publication of 2023 Event Duration Monitor data, dated 27 March 2024

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 23 April at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 23 April 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair

Barry Gardiner

Dr Neil Hudson

Mrs Sheryll Murray

Selaine Saxby

Derek Thomas

Anthony Mangnall also attended under the provisions of paragraph (1)(e) of Standing Order No 137A (Select committees: power to work with other committees) (Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee's resolution of 16 April).

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Urban green spaces

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Border Target Operating Model

Correspondence from Lord Douglas-Miller, Minister for Biosecurity, Animal Health and Welfare, regarding the Border Target Operating Model, dated 16 April 2024

Education and Careers in Land Based Sectors

[ECL0057] Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Pet welfare and abuse

Correspondence from the Chief Executive of The Kennel Club, regarding the Committee's Pet welfare and abuse report, dated 16 April 2024

Soil health

Correspondence to the Secretary of State regarding the Government's response to the Soil Health Report, dated 17 April 2024

Urban green spaces

Correspondence from Rebecca Pow MP, Minister for Nature, regarding the Committee's letter on its Urban Green Spaces inquiry, dated 18 April 2024

4. UK trade policy: food and agriculture

Rt Hon Greg Hands MP, Minister for Trade Policy, Department for Business and Trade; Deborah Morrison, Deputy Director, Tariffs, Rules of Origin, International Food Security and Negotiations Strategy, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; and Rt Hon Sir Mark Spencer MP, Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 30 April at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 30 April 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Ian Byrne
Rosie Duffield
Barry Gardiner
Dr Neil Hudson
Mrs Sheryll Murray
Selaine Saxby
Cat Smith
Julian Sturdy
Derek Thomas

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That Dr Neil Hudson attend the meeting of the Public Accounts Committee on 3 June 2024 relating to the UK Border, 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:

Border Target Operating Model

Correspondence from Lord Douglas-Miller regarding the introduction of new import controls, dated 30 April 2024

Fairness in the Food Supply Chain

[FSC0067] Kraft Heinz

Pet welfare and abuse

Correspondence from Lord Benyon regarding corrections to the Pet welfare and abuse evidence session, dated 23 April 2024

Work of Defra

Correspondence to the Secretary of State regarding EFRA's Work of the Department session, dated 23 April 2024

3. Fairness in the food supply chain

Dom Morrey, Commercial Director for Fresh Food, Tesco; Kris Comerford, Chief Commercial Officer (Food), Asda; Charlotte Di Cello, Commercial Director, Waitrose; Richard Bourns, Chief Commercial Officer, Lidl GB; Rhian Bartlett, Chief Food Commercial Officer, Sainsbury's gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 14 May at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 7 May 2024

The following papers were reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 11 March 2020:

Vet shortages

Correspondence to the Secretary of State regarding vet shortages, dated 7 May 2024

Tuesday 14 May 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair
Barry Gardiner
Dr Neil Hudson
Selaine Saxby
Cat Smith

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That members of the Education Committee be invited to attend the meeting on 18 June 2024 relating Education and careers in land based sectors, pursuant to Standing Order No 137A(1)(e) (Select committees: power to work with other committees).

2. Flooding preparedness

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported for publication

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

Border Target Operating Model

Correspondence from Lord Douglas-Miller regarding the introduction of new import controls, dated 30 April 2024

Correspondence from Dover District Council Port Health Authority relating to the Border Target Operating Model, dated 9 May 2024

Fairness in the food supply chain

[FSC0068] Transform Trade

Correspondence from Richard Bourns, CCO of Lidl GB, relating to the Lidl Pork Standard, dated April 26, 2024

Correspondence from Arla Foods relating to Fairness in the food supplychain inquiry, dated 8 May 2024

Correspondence to Tesco relating to the Fairness in the food supply chain inquiry, dated 14 May 2024

Correspondence to Sainsbury's relating to the Fairness in the food supply chain inquiry, dated 14 May 2024

Correspondence to Waitrose relating to the Fairness in the food supply chain inquiry, dated 14 May 2024

Correspondence to Lidl relating to the Fairness in the food supply chain inquiry, dated 14 May 2024

Correspondence to Asda relating to the Fairness in the food supply chain inquiry, dated 14 May 2024

UK trade policy: food and agriculture

Correspondence to the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries relating to UK trade policy: food and agriculture, dated 9 May 2024.

Correspondence to the Minister for Trade Policy relating to UK trade policy: food and agriculture, dated 9 May 2024

Thames Water

Correspondence from the Chair of Thames Water relating to Thames Water employees, dated 9 May 2024

Bathing water

Correspondence from the Minister for Water and Rural Growth regarding Bathing Water Designations, dated 13 May 2023

Flooding

Correspondence to the Minister for Water and Rural Growth relating to the Committee's session on flooding preparedness, dated 14 May 2024

4. Border target operating model

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Thames Water finances

The Committee considered this matter.

Adjournment

Adjourned till Tuesday 21 May at 2.00 p.m.

Tuesday 21 May 2024

Members present

Sir Robert Goodwill, in the Chair

Rosie Duffield

Barry Gardiner

Dr Neil Hudson

Mrs Sheryll Murray

Selaine Saxby

Cat Smith

Julian Sturdy

Derek Thomas

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit Border Control Post in Ashford, Kent, in connection with its work on biosecurity at the UK border.

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from the South West Water and United Utilities on 5 June 2024.

Resolved, That members of the Business and Trade Committee and the Environmental Audit Committee be invited to attend the meeting on 5 June, pursuant to 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:

Pet welfare and abuse

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Climate, Environment and

Energy relating to the Committee's Pet Welfare and abuse inquiry, dated 23 April 2024

Soil health

Correspondence from the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries relating to the Committee's Soil Health report, dated 15 May 2024

Thames Water

Correspondence from the Chair of Thames Water relating to its board, dated 16 May 2024

UK trade policy: food and agriculture

Correspondence from the Minister for Trade Policy relating to the Committee's UK Trade Policy: Food and Agriculture inquiry, dated 15 May 2024

3. Fairness in the food supply chain

Rt Hon Sir Mark Spencer, Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries; Sarah Evered, Deputy Director, Innovation, Productivity and Science, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; and Alex Williams OBE, Deputy Director, Competition Policy gave oral evidence.

Adjournment

The Committee adjourned.

Wednesday 22 May 2024

The following papers were reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 11 March 2020:

Water pollution

Correspondence to the CEO of South West Water regarding Cryptosporidium contamination in Brixham, dated 22 May 2024

Correspondence to the CEO of United Utilities regarding the Windermere pollution incident, dated 22 May 2024

Friday 24 May 2024

The following papers were reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 11 March 2020:

Fairness in the food supply chain

Correspondence from Richard Bourns, CCO, Lidl GB, regarding Fairness in the food supply chain, dated 1 May 2024

Correspondence from G's Growers regarding the Fruit & Veg Aid Scheme, dated 16 May 2024

Pet welfare and abuse

Cats Protection [PWA0066]

UK trade policy: food and agriculture

Correspondence from the Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries regarding UK trade policy: food and agriculture, dated 23 May

Vet shortages

Correspondence from the Minister for Biosecurity, Animal Health and Welfare regarding Veterinary Workforce Shortages, dated 23 May 2024

Water pollution

Correspondence from the CEO of the Pennon Group regarding Cryptosporidium contamination in Brixham, dated 22 May 2024

Work of the Committee

Open letter from the Chair to a future EFRA Committee outlining its current areas of interest and open inquiries, dated 24 May

Work of the Department

Correspondence from the Secretary of State regarding the Committee's Work of the Department session, dated 22 May 2024

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

(i) Members of the Committee

Goodwill, Sir Robert (Scarborough and Whitby)

Register of Members' Financial Interests (as at 3 May 2022)

1. Employment and earnings

Payment of £225 expected from Ipsos MORI, 3 Thomas More Square, London E1W 1YW, for a survey completed on 14 December 2021. Hours: 1 hr. (Registered 14 December 2021)

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

Southwood Farm, Terrington, York, which is farmed "in hand": (i) and (ii).

Three industrial units at Southwood Farm, Terrington, York: (i) and (ii). Since January 2018, only two of these units are let. (Updated 06 January 2020)

Four houses in Teesside. Administered by R W Goodwill, Property Division: (i) and (ii).

Flat in London. Administered by R W Goodwill, Property Division: (i) and (ii). (Registered 10 April 2012)

7. (i) Shareholdings: over 15% of issued share capital

Mowthorpe (UK) Ltd; cemetery company

From 21 September 2020, 76 Warwick Way Ltd; a company which owns a property freehold. (Registered 23 September 2020)

8. Miscellaneous

Unremunerated managing director of Mowthorpe (UK) Ltd; see entry in Category 7 above. (Updated 13 May 2015)

Farmer; R W Goodwill, Southwood Farm, Terrington, York. I draw no money from the farm. (Updated 13 May 2015)

From 15 June 2021, a Trustee of the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust. This is an unpaid role. (Registered 17 June 2021)

On 14 November 2023, the Chair declared an additional interest as the unpaid Chair of the Conservatives Friends of the Countryside.

9. Family members employed and paid from parliamentary expenses

I employ my wife, Maureen Goodwill, as Parliamentary Assistant and Caseworker.

Other interests declared at first meeting

At his first meeting, Sir Robert Goodwill declared the following other interests:

- Membership of the NFU
- Membership of the CLA²

Steven Bonnar

Steven Bonnar Register of Members' Financial Interests (as at 14 November 2021)

1. Employment and earnings

Until 25 February 2020, member of North Lanarkshire Council, Civic Centre, Motherwell ML1 1AD. I received £17,000 a year, paid 4 weekly. Hours: 5-10 hrs every four weeks. (Registered 10 January 2020; updated 18 November 2021)

Ian Byrne

Register of Members' Financial Interests (as at 3 May 2022)

1. Employment and earnings:

Until further notice, member of Liverpool City Council, Venture Place, Sir Thomas St, L1 6BW. I receive allowances of £882.50 a month for an expected commitment of 40 hrs a month. Allowances donated to charity from January 2020. (Registered 10 January 2020).

8. Miscellaneous:

Member of the management committee, Kitty's Launderette: ecological and community launderette in Anfield. (Registered 10 January 2020).

Member of the management committee, Spirit of Shankly, which promotes the interests of football supporters. (Registered 10 January 2020).

27 June 2022: additional declaration

3. Gifts, benefits and hospitality from UK sources

Name of donor: Liverpool Football Club and Athletic Grounds Limited

Address of donor: Anfield Road, Liverpool, Merseyside L4 0TH

² See minutes of Tuesday 7 June meeting.

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Match ticket and hospitality, value £350
Date received: 22 May 2022
Date accepted: 22 May 2022
Donor status: company, registration 3442228
(Registered 17 June 2022)

Rosie Duffield

Register of Members' Financial Interests (as at 3 May 2022)

1. Employment and earnings:

Payments from YouGov, 50 Featherstone Street, London EC1Y 8RT, for surveys:
24 June 2021, received £110 for April 2021 survey. Hours: 30 mins. (Registered 30 June 2021)
27 July 2021, received £120 for June 2021 survey. Hours: 30 mins. (Registered 29 July 2021)

3. Gifts, benefits and hospitality from UK sources

Name of donor: R&A Championships Ltd
Address of donor: Beach House, Golf Place, St Andrews KY16 9JA
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Ticket with lunch to the Open Golf Championship, value £350
Date received: 18 July 2021
Date accepted: 18 July 2021
Donor status: company, registration SC247047
(Registered 22 July 2021)

Barry Gardiner

Register of Members' Financial Interests (as at 3 May 2022)

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

Name of donor: NASUWT the Teachers' Union
Address of donor: Hillscourt, Rose Hill, Rednal, Birmingham B45 8RS
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £10,000 to Stop Fire and Rehire Ltd
Date received: 21 July 2021
Date accepted: 25 July 2021
Donor status: trade union
(Registered 14 September 2021)
This is a late entry to which the rectification procedure was applied on 7 January 2022. Paragraph 15 of chapter 4 of the Guide to the Rules refers.

Name of donor: Unite

Address of donor: Unite House, 128 Theobalds Road, London WC1Z 8TN

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £20,000 to Stop Fire and Rehire Ltd

Date received: 28 July 2021

Date accepted: 4 August 2021

Donor status: trade union

(Registered 14 September 2021)

This is a late entry to which the rectification procedure was applied on 7 January 2022. Paragraph 15 of chapter 4 of the Guide to the Rules refers.

Name of donor: Communication Workers Union

Address of donor: 150 The Broadway, Wimbledon, London SW19 1RX

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £10,000 to Stop Fire and Rehire Ltd

Date received: 13 August 2021

Date accepted: 20 August 2021

Donor status: trade union

(Registered 14 September 2021)

Name of donor: Prison Officers Association

Address of donor: Cronin House, Church Street, London N9 9HW

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £3,000 to Stop Fire and Rehire Ltd

Date received: 9 September 2021

Date accepted: 9 September 2021

Donor status: trade union

(Registered 14 September 2021)

Name of donor: University College Union

Address of donor: Carlow Street, London NW1 7LH

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £5,000 to Stop Fire and Rehire Ltd

Date received: 23 September 2021

Date accepted: 23 September 2021

Donor status: trade union

(Registered 13 October 2021)

Name of donor: Community Union

Address of donor: 465C Caledonian Road, London N7 9GX

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £5,000 to Stop Fire and Rehire Ltd

Date received: 27 September 2021

Date accepted: 27 September 2021

Donor status: trade union
(Registered 13 October 2021)

Name of donor: Transport Salaried Staff Association
Address of donor: 2nd Floor Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4SQ
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,000 to Stop Fire and Rehire Ltd
Date received: 14 October 2021
Date accepted: 14 October 2021
Donor status: trade union
(Registered 28 October 2021)

Name of donor: National Education Union
Address of donor: Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BD
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £10,000 to Stop Fire and Rehire Ltd
Date received: 20 October 2021
Date accepted: 20 October 2021
Donor status: trade union
(Registered 28 October 2021)

Name of donor: GMB
Address of donor: Mary Turner House, 22 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2HD
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £5,000 to Stop Fire and Rehire Ltd
Date received: 5 November 2021
Date accepted: 8 November 2021
Donor status: trade union
(Registered 10 November 2021)

Name of donor: Democracy Forum
Address of donor: 34 South Molton Street, London W1K 5RG
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: the services of a Parliamentary Caseworker from 31 October 2021 to 4 February 2022, value £6,592
Date received: 31 October 2021 to 4 February 2022
Date accepted: 31 October 2021
Donor status: company, registration 07046518
(Registered 10 November 2021; updated 03 March 2022)

Name of donor: Democracy Forum
Address of donor: 34 South Molton Street, London W1K 5RG
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,000 to Stop Fire and Rehire Ltd

Date received: 5 March 2022
Date accepted: 5 March 2022
Donor status: company, registration 07046518
(Registered 16 March 2022)

Name of donor: Democracy Forum
Address of donor: 34 South Molton Street, London W1K 5RG
Amount of donation, or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,000 to Stop Fire and Rehire Ltd
Date received: 12 April 2022
Date accepted: 12 April 2022
Donor status: company, registration 07046518
(Registered 03 May 2022)

3. Gifts, benefits and hospitality from UK sources

Name of donor: Unite the Union
Address of donor: Unite House, 128 Theobalds Road, London WC1Z 8TN
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Associated with attending Labour Party Conference, accommodation provided for five days, value £1,490
Date received: 25-29 September 2021
Date accepted: 25 September 2021
Donor status: trade union
(Registered 14 October 2021)

Name of donor: International Conservation Caucus Foundation
Address of donor: 71-75 Shelton Street, Covent Garden, London WC2H 9JQ
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: In my capacity as Co-Chair of the All Party Group on International Conservation, travel and hospitality associated with attending Cop 26 for eight days, value £2,600
Date received: 5-12 November 2021
Date accepted: 5 November 2021
Donor status: other (registered charity)
(Registered 26 November 2021)

4. Visits outside the UK

Name of donor: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)
Address of donor: 71-75 Shelton Street, Covent Garden, London WC2H 9JQ
Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Flights, accommodation and Covid tests, total value £3,114.47
Destination of visit: Washington DC, USA
Dates of visit: 7-10 December 2021
Purpose of visit: Attending ICCF events in my capacity as Co-Chair of the All Party Group on International Conservation.

(Registered 20 December 2021)

Name of donor: International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)

Address of donor: 71-75 Shelton Street, Covent Garden, London WC2H 9JQ

Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Flight and accommodation, total value £2,127.60

Destination of visit: La Fortuna de San Carlos, Costa Rica

Dates of visit: 10-20 February 2022

Purpose of visit: Attending the ICCF Conference on policy coherence and political consistency on the environment in my capacity as Co-Chair of the All Party Group on International Conservation.

(Registered 08 March 2022)

8. Miscellaneous

From 7 January 2016, unremunerated Director of GLOBE International AISBL, an international non-profit network devoted to legislative leadership on sustainable development and climate change, of 235/2 Avenue des Volontaires, B-1150 Brussels. (Registered 03 February 2016)

From 4 February 2019, Trustee of Climate Parliament, which aims to educate and inform legislators about climate change and policy options for promoting renewable energy. This is an unpaid role. (Registered 28 February 2019)

From 6 July 2021, a Member and Director of Stop Fire and Rehire Ltd, a company limited by guarantee set up to manage financial support for my Private Members Bill campaign. The company is a not for profit company and the position is entirely unpaid. (Registered 10 September 2021) This is a late entry to which the rectification procedure was applied on 7 January 2022. Paragraph 15 of chapter 4 of the Guide to the Rules refers.

From 18 November 2021, a Member and Director of Together 2030, a company limited by guarantee. The company is a not for profit company and the position is entirely unpaid. (Registered 02 December 2021)

9. Family members employed and paid from parliamentary expenses

I employ my wife, Caroline Smith, as Constituency Office Manager and Senior Caseworker. (Updated 5 June 2015 and 30 June 2017)

16 May 2022: additional declarations

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

Name of donor: Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen

Address of donor: 77 St John Street, London EC1M 4NN

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

2030 Ltd

Date received: 27 April 2022

Date accepted: 27 April 2022

Donor status: trade union

(Registered 12 May 2022)

Name of donor: Democracy Forum

Address of donor: 34 South Molton Street, London W1K 5RG

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,000 to Together 2030 Ltd

Date received: 5 May 2022

Date accepted: 5 May 2022

Donor status: company, registration 07046518

(Registered 12 May 2022)

27 June 2022: additional declaration

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

Name of donor: Democracy Forum

Address of donor: 34 South Molton Street, London W1K 5RG

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: The services of a strategic campaign consultant between 5 May and 5 June 2022 for Stop Fire and Re-hire Ltd of which I am a director, value £2,000. (Costs met direct on 5 June 2022.)

Date received: 5 June 2022

Date accepted: 5 June 2022

Donor status: company, registration 07046518

(Registered 27 June 2022)

8 August 2022: additional declaration

Name of donor: Democracy Forum

Address of donor: 34 South Molton Street, London W1K 5RG

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: The services of a strategic campaign consultant between 5 July and 5 September 2022 for Stop Fire

and Re-hire Ltd of which I am a director, value £6,000

Date received: 5 July 2022

Date accepted: 5 July 2022

Donor status: company, registration 07046518

(Registered 13 July 2022)

5 September 2022: additional declaration

Name of donor: National Education Union
Address of donor: Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BD
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £3,000 to Together 2030 Ltd
Date received: 2 August 2022
Date accepted: 2 August 2022
Donor status: trade union
(Registered 15 August 2022)

Name of donor: Unite
Address of donor: Unite House, 128 Theobalds Road, London WC1Z 8TN
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £7,027 to Together 2030 Ltd
Date received: 5 August 2022
Date accepted: 5 August 2022
Donor status: trade union
(Registered 15 August 2022)

Dr Neil Hudson

Register of Members' Financial Interests (as at 3 May 2022)

8. Miscellaneous

From 1 January 2020, on unpaid sabbatical leave as a senior lecturer from the University of Edinburgh. (Registered 07 January 2020)

Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. (Registered 07 January 2020)

Member of the British Equine Veterinary Association. (Registered 07 January 2020)

From 27 April 2021, Member of the British Horseracing Authority Whip Review Steering Group (2021/22). This is an unpaid role. (Registered 27 April 2021)

Robbie Moore

Register of Members' Financial Interests (as at 12 July 2021)

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

Name of donor: IX Wireless Limited
Address of donor: 4 Lockside Office Park Lockside Road Riversway Preston PR2 2YS
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,500 for constituency campaigning activities
Date received: 5 July 2021

Date accepted: 30 July 2021

Donor status: company, registration 11008144

(Registered 02 August 2021)

7. (i) Shareholdings: over 15% of issued share capital

Brockthorpe Consultancy Ltd; consultants and rural surveyors. This is the umbrella company of Brockthorpe Consultancy RM. (Registered 09 January 2020)

8. Miscellaneous

Unpaid director of Brockthorpe Consultancy Ltd; consultants and rural surveyors. This is the umbrella company of Brockthorpe Consultancy RM. (Registered 09 January 2020)

8 August 2022: additional declaration

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

Name of donor: Businessfore

Address of donor: c/o Kerry London, Premier House, 52 London Road, Twickenham TW1 3RJ

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £5,000 to assist with constituency campaigning activities

Date received: 29 June 2022

Date accepted: 1 July 2022

Donor status: unincorporated association

(Registered 25 July 2022)

Mrs Sheryll Murray

Register of Members' Financial Interests (as at 3 May 2022)

4. Visits outside the UK

Name of donor: Honorary Consulate for the Republic of San Marino

Address of donor: Baird House, 15-17 St Cross St, London EC1N 8UW

Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Flights for me and accommodation, domestic travel and meals for me and a member of staff to the value of £3,110

Destination of visit: Italy and San Marino

Dates of visit: 8-15 October 2021

Purpose of visit: San Marino APPG visit to strengthen bilateral relations.

(Registered 26 October 2021)

Name of donor: (1) Lockheed Martin UK Ltd (2) CAE U.K. plc

Address of donor: (1) Cunard House, 15 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4LR (2) Innovation Drive, Burgess Hill RH15 9TW

Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): (1) domestic transport and meals for me and a member of staff to the value of £264 (2) domestic transport and meals for me and a member of staff to the value of £264
Destination of visit: Bosnia and Herzegovina
Dates of visit: 28 September - 1 October 2021
Purpose of visit: Parliamentary delegation with the All Party Parliamentary Group for the Armed Forces to meet current politicians from Bosnia and Herzegovina and to learn about the Bosnian War.
(Registered 28 October 2021)

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

Until 27 July 2021, a house in South East Cornwall. The property was owned by a trust of which I am a beneficiary: (i) and (ii). (Registered 06 January 2012; updated 28 July 2021)

9. Family members employed and paid from parliamentary expenses

I employ my partner, Mr Robert Davidson, as Office Manager.

5 September 2022: additional declaration

4. Visits outside the UK

Name of donor: (1) Lockheed Martin UK Ltd (2) CAE U.K. Plc
Address of donor: (1) Cunard House, 15 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4LR
(2) Innovation Drive, Burgess Hill RH15 9TW
Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): (1) Domestic transport and subsistence for me and a member of staff, estimated value £387 (2) Domestic transport and subsistence for me and a member of staff, estimated value £387
Destination of visit: Monte Cassino
Dates of visit: 25-28 July 2022
Purpose of visit: APPG Armed Forces study tour of military cemeteries and battlefields.
(Registered 23 August 2022)

Selaine Saxby

Register of Member's Financial Interests (as at 23 January 2024)

1. Employment and earnings

Until 4 May 2023, District Councillor for North Devon District Council, Brynsworthy Lane, Fremington EX31 3NS. (Registered 07 January 2020; updated 04 May 2023)

From 1 April 2022 until 25 May 2023 (final payment), I received £5,171.04 a year, paid monthly. Hours: 3-4 hrs a week. (Registered 29 April 2022; updated 09 May 2023) of donor: The Methodist Church

8. Miscellaneous

Chair of the Wood Panel Industry All Party Parliamentary Group.

Chair of the Community Energy All Party Parliamentary Group.

Unpaid Vice Chair of the Climate Change All Party Parliamentary Group.

Unpaid Co-Chair of the Cycling and Walking All Party Parliamentary Group.

Unpaid Vice Chair of the Tidy Britain All Party Parliamentary Group.

Cat Smith

Register of Member's Financial Interests (as at 20 June 2023)

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

Name of donor: The Methodist Church

Address of donor: 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Services of a voluntary intern for two and a half days a week in my parliamentary office. The intern will receive a bursary of £962.50 per month, total value £9,625

Date received: 27 September 2021 to 22 July 2022

Date accepted: 27 September 2021

Donor status: unincorporated association (Registered 27 September 2021)

Name of donor: The Methodist Church

Address of donor: 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Services of a voluntary intern for two and a half days a week in my parliamentary office. The intern will receive a bursary of £916 per month, total value £9,167

Date received: 26 September 2022 to 25 July 2023

Date accepted: 26 September 2022

Donor status: unincorporated association (Registered 07 October 2022)

Julian Sturdy

Register of Members' Financial Interests (as at 3 May 2022)

1. Employment and earnings

I am a partner in G E Sturdy and Son; a farming partnership. Address: Westgate Farm, North Deighton, Wetherby, LS22 4EN. I provide administrative support for

the partnership, as well as doing some buying and selling at certain times. Until further notice, I will receive £500 per month. Hours: no more than 4 hours a week. (Updated 9 December 2015)

9. Family members employed and paid from parliamentary expenses

I employ my wife, Victoria Sturdy, as part time Secretary. (Registered 04 June 2015)

Derek Thomas

Register of Members' Financial Interests (as at 3 May 2022)

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

Name of donor: The Methodist Church

Address of donor: 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: services of a voluntary intern for two days a week in my parliamentary office. The intern will receive a bursary per month as a member of the Methodist Church's ONE Intern Programme, amounting to £9,167 in total.

Date received: 21 September 2020 to 30 July 2021

Date accepted: 21 September 2020

Donor status: charity; other

(Registered 24 September 2020)

Name of donor: The Methodist Church

Address of donor: 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR

Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: Services of a voluntary intern for two and a half days a week in my parliamentary office. The intern will receive a bursary of £962.50 per month, total value £9,625

Date received: 27 September 2021 to 22 July 2022

Date accepted: 27 September 2021

Donor status: unincorporated association

(Registered 09 November 2021)

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

From 4 October 2017, house and adjacent retail outlet in West Cornwall, owned jointly with my wife who receives the rental income: (i) and, from 1 May 2021, (ii). (Registered 30 October 2017; updated 03 November 2021)

8. Miscellaneous

Sole Trader, Derek Thomas Building Services, not currently engaged in trading. (Registered 05 June 2015)

Since December 2015, an interest below registrable value in Mustard Seed Property Ltd, a community benefit society which provides housing in Cornwall for vulnerable people. (Registered 19 October 2016)

From 21 May 2019, Trustee and founding member of the Cornwall Sport Foundation. (Registered 03 November 2021)

(ii) Specialist Advisers

Alex Carson-Taylor

Specialist Adviser for the inquiries relating to trade and associated matters, declared the following interests:

Member of the Shropshire Committee, Country Land and Business Association
Chair of Shropshire Hill AONB Partnership

Emily Lydgate

Specialist Adviser for the inquiries relating to trade and associated matters, declared the following interests:

Co-own a small family farm, Lydgate Farms, in the state of Hawaii in the US. We do not export internationally (nor plan to).

I have advised on, and co-produced publications with, NGOs: Sustain and Pesticide Action Network and the Future British Standards Coalition.

Provided training to UK civil servants on trade matters, including courses delivered for Defra, FCDO, DIT, BEIS and the Welsh Government.