



# Formal Minutes of the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee in Session 2022–23

The Formal Minutes of a select committee record its formal proceedings and decisions.

They include:

- the names of the members who attended (all or part of) each meeting of the Committee;
- declarations of members' interests;
- details of written and oral evidence reported to the House by the Committee;
- any other formal decisions taken by the committee (recorded as 'orders' or 'resolutions'), for example to begin an inquiry, to report evidence to the House, to make a visit or to appoint a specialist adviser; and
- visits made by the Committee.

When the Committee publishes a Report, the Formal Minutes relating to consideration of the draft Report are published with the Report itself, and are not included in this document. You can find these reports on the Committee's webpages.

For more information about Formal Minutes, see [Erskine May paragraph 38.26](#).

Transcripts of oral evidence taken in public by the Committee are available on the Committee's webpages.

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

## Monday 15 May 2023

### Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair  
Bob Blackman

Ian Byrne  
Mrs Natalie Elphicke  
Ben Everitt  
Kate Hollern  
Andrew Lewer  
Mary Robinson

## 1. Evidence reported for publication

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

### **Building Safety**

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 25 April 2023.

### **Financial reporting and audit in local authorities**

Patrick Kitterick [FRA026]

National Audit Office [FRA027]

### **Intergovernmental relations**

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 3 May 2023.

### **Reforms to national planning policy**

Stephen Hill [RNP019]

## 2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

## 3. Financial reporting and audit in local authorities

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Bob Blackman declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and employs councillors in his office.

Ben Everitt declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and employs councillors in his office, in addition to interests declared on his registered members interests.

Sir Tony Redmond, Author of the Redmond Review; Neil Harris, Director of Local Audit; and Sarah Rapson, Deputy CEO, Executive Director of Supervision, and future Chair of the Liaison Committee, Financial Reporting Council, gave oral evidence.

Ed Hammond, Interim Chief Executive, Centre for Governance and Scrutiny; Dr Henry Midgley, Assistant Professor in Accounting, Durham University; and Professor David Heald, Emeritus Professor, University of Glasgow, gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 22 May at 3.30pm.

# Monday 22 May 2023

## Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Ian Byrne

Mrs Natalie Elphicke

Ben Everitt

Kate Hollern

Andrew Lewer

Nadia Whittome

## 1. Evidence reported for publication

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

### **Internal drainage and local government finance**

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 16 May 2023.

### **Modular housing providers**

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 22 May 2023.

### **Parks and urban uplift**

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 15 May 2023.

### **Renters Reform Bill**

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 17 May 2023.

## 2. Reforms to national planning policy

The Committee considered this matter.

### 3. Funding for Levelling Up

Draft report (Funding for Levelling Up), 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 Sixth Report of the Committee, HC 744.

### Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 5 June at 3.30pm.

## Friday 26 May 2023

### 1. Evidence reported for publication

The following papers were reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 23 May 2022 (Order made under the provisions of SO No 137; see Votes and Proceedings [5 September 2022]):

**Renters Reform Bill**

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 25 May 2023.

# Monday 5 June 2023

## Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Ian Byrne

Kate Hollern

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

Nadia Whittome

Mohammad Yasin

## 1. Evidence reported for publication

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

### **Finances and sustainability of the social housing sector**

W Morris [FSS001]

CfHP University of York [FSS002]

Jigsaw Homes Group [FSS003]

London Tenants Federation [FSS004]

MSV Housing [FSS005]

Community Land Network [FSS006]

Inclusion Group [FSS007]

MORhomes [FSS008]

Housing Finance Corporation [FSS010]

Labour Campaign for Council Housing [FSS011]

Crisis [FSS012]

Shared Ownership Resources [FSS013]

Midland Heart [FSS014]  
Papworth Trust [FSS015]  
G15 [FSS016]  
Regulator of Social Housing [FSS017]  
London Councils [FSS018]  
Positive Money [FSS019]  
London and General [FSS020]  
Johnnie Johnson Housing [FSS021]  
Eastlight Community Homes [FSS022]  
Peabody [FSS023]  
St Arthur Homes [FSS024]  
Great Places Housing Group [FSS025]  
Northern Housing Consortium [FSS026]  
Greater Manchester Housing Providers [FSS027]  
GreenSquare Accord [FSS028]  
Thirteen Housing Group [FSS029]  
LGA [FSS030]  
PlaceShapers [FSS031]  
National Housing Federation [FSS032]  
ARCH & NFA [FSS033]  
Liverpool City Region Housing Associations [FSS034]  
Chartered Institute of Housing [FSS035]  
Guinness Partnership [FSS036]  
Your Housing Group [FSS037]

Highbury Group on Housing Delivery [FSS038]

Stonewater [FSS039]

Homes for the North [FSS040]

Sanctuary [FSS041]

Orbit Group [FSS043]

Places for People [FSS044]

UK Finance [FSS046]

Aster Group [FSS047]

Sovereign Housing Association [FSS048]

LB Enfield [FSS049]

Addleshaw Goddard [FSS050]

RentPlus-UK [FSS051]

HQN Ltd [FSS052]

British Property Federation [FSS053]

Lloyds Banking Group [FSS054]

Stockport Homes Group [FSS055]

Gillian Perceval [FSS056]

Savills [FSS057]

Big Society Capital [FSS058]

Southern Housing [FSS059]

Resonance [FSS060]

DLUHC [FSS062]

GMCA [FSS064]

Newcastle City Council [FSS065]



LB Redbridge [FSS066]

Kingston Upon Hull Council [FSS067]

Clarion [FSS068]

VIVID [FSS069]

Homes England [FSS070]

David Hall [FSS071]

Southwark Council [FSS072]

Karbon Homes [FSS073]

End Our Cladding Scandal [FSS074]

Government's response to long-term funding of adult social care report

Correspondence from the Minister of State, Department of Health and Social Care, dated 20 April 2023.

### **DLUHC Main Estimates Memorandum**

DLUHC Main Estimate 2021-2022 memorandum

### **Renters Reform Bill**

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 2 June 2023.

### **South Tees Development Corporation**

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 24 May 2023.

### **Unrest in Leicester**

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 26 May 2023.

### **Woking Borough Council**

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 25 May 2023.

## 2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

*Resolved*, That the Committee hold a one-off session into the Renters Reform Bill on 10 July.

## 3. Government response to the Committee's report on the long-term funding of adult social care

Draft Special Report (Government response to the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee's report on the Long-term funding of adult social care), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Second Report from the Committee of Session 2022-23 was appended to the Report.

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

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

## 4. Financial reporting and audit in local authorities

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Nadia Whittome declared an interest in that she is a board member of One Nottingham.

Mohammad Yasin declared interests in that he is a member of Bedford Town Deal Board and employs a councillor in his office.

Bob Blackman declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and employs councillors in his office.

Andrew Lewer declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and a member of the Northampton Forward Board.

Gareth Davies, Comptroller and Auditor General, National Audit Office; and Mike Newbury, Director, Code of Audit Practice, National Audit Office, gave oral evidence.

Conrad Hall, Chair, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy LASAAC Local Authority Code Board; Rob Whiteman, Chief Executive, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy; Iain Wright, Managing Director for Reputation and Influence, Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales; and Lynn Pamment, Chair, Financial Reporting Advisory Board, gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 12 June at 3.30pm.

## Monday 12 June 2023

### Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Ian Byrne

Kate Hollern

Mrs Natalie Elphicke

Mary Robinson

Mohammad Yasin

### 1. Evidence reported for publication

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

#### **Building Safety**

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 5 June 2023.

#### **Government responses to Committee reports**

Correspondence to the Minister of State, Department of Health and Social Care, dated 12 June 2023.

Correspondence to the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 12 June 2023.

### **Modern methods of construction**

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 8 June 2023.

### **Proposed alignment policy**

Correspondence to the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 12 June 2023.

### **Reforms to national planning policy**

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 6 June 2023.

### **Renters Reform Bill**

Correspondence from the British Property Federation, dated 1 June 2023.

## **2. Revised Draft Strategy and Policy Statement for the Electoral Commission**

The Committee considered this matter.

## **3. The finances and sustainability of the social housing sector**

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Bob Blackman declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and employs councillors in his office.

Mrs Natalie Elphicke declared an interest in that she is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

James Prestwich, Director of Policy and External Affairs, Chartered Institute of Housing; and Professor Tony Crook, Professor Emeritus of Town and Regional Planning, University of Sheffield, gave oral evidence.

Kate Henderson, Chief Executive, National Housing Federation; Fiona Fletcher-Smith, Chair of G15 and Group Chief Executive, L&Q; Paul Fiddaman, Group Chief Executive, Karbon Homes; and Kate Wareing, Soha Housing, gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 19 June at 3.30pm.

## Monday 19 June 2023

### Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Kate Hollern

Mrs Natalie Elphicke

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

Mohammad Yasin

### 1. Evidence reported for publication

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

#### **Industry training boards**

Correspondence from the Minister for Skills, Apprenticeships and Higher Education, Department for Education, dated 9 June 2023.

#### **Population and migration statistics**

Correspondence from the UK Statistics Authority, dated 14 June 2023.

#### **Reforms to national planning policy**

Turley [RNP020]

## **The finances and sustainability of the social housing sector**

Keswick Community Housing Trust [FSS075]

Mayor of London [FSS076]

### **Thurrock Council**

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 15 June 2023.

## 2. Revised Draft Strategy and Policy Statement for the Electoral Commission

The Committee considered this matter.

## 3. The finances and sustainability of the social housing sector

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Mohammad Yasin declared interests in that he is a member of Bedford Town Deal Board and employs a councillor in his office.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Bob Blackman declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and employs councillors in his office.

Mrs Natalie Elphicke declared an interest in that she is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Andrew Lewer declared an interest in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Piers Williamson, Chief Executive, The Housing Finance Corporation; John Marr, Senior Policy Adviser, UK Finance; and Jamie Kellett, Product Development Real Estate Private Markets, Abrdn, gave oral evidence.

Cllr Pippa Heylings, Deputy Chair, Local Government Association Environment, Economy, Housing and Transport Board; Kathryn Jones, Director for Housing and Communities, Dudley Council; Michael Scorer, Strategic Director, Housing and Modernisation, Southwark Council; Deborah Heenan, Chief Executive, Populo; and Conrad Hall, Corporate Director of Resources, Newham Council, gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 26 June at 3.30pm.

## Monday 26 June 2023

### Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Ian Byrne

Mrs Natalie Elphicke

Kate Hollern

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

Nadia Whittome

### 1. Evidence reported for publication

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

#### **Building Safety**

Correspondence to the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 26 June 2023.

#### **Construction product testing**

Correspondence from the Chair, Independent Review into the Construction Product Testing Regime, dated 16 June 2023.

#### **Committee's report on Exempt Accommodation**

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 20 June 2023.

### **Committee's report on Permitted Development Rights**

Correspondence to the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 26 June 2023.

### **Draft Strategy and Policy Statement for the Electoral Commission**

Correspondence to the Speaker's Committee on the Electoral Commission, dated 26 June 2023.

### **Financial reporting and audit in local authorities**

Dr Anthony Fraser [FRA028]

ICAS [FRA029]

### **Proposed alignment policy**

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 20 June 2023.

### **The finances and sustainability of the social housing sector**

Correspondence from Rentplus, dated 21 June 2023.

### **Voter ID**

Correspondence from the Electoral Commission, dated 22 June 2023.

## **2. Future Programme**

The Committee considered this matter.

## **3. Government response to the Committee's report on Exempt Accommodation**

The Committee considered this matter.



## 4. Financial reporting and audit in local authorities

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Nadia Whittome declared an interest in that she is a board member of One Nottingham.

Bob Blackman declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and employs councillors in his office.

Andrew Lewer declared an interest in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Alison Scott, Shared Director of Finance, Three Rivers District and Watford Borough Council; Michael Hudson, Executive Director of Finance and Resources, Cambridge City Council; and Gerald Almeroth, Executive Director of Finance and Resources, Westminster City Council, gave oral evidence.

Cllr Tudor Evans OBE, Plymouth City Council; Cllr Abi Brown, Stoke-on-Trent City Council; and Cllr Richard Wenham, Central Bedfordshire Council, gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 3 July at 3.30pm.

# Monday 3 July 2023

## Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Ian Byrne

Ben Everitt

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

Mohammad Yasin

## 1. Evidence reported for publication

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

### **Electoral Registration**

LGIU [ELR011]

### **Homes for Ukraine**

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Housing and Homelessness, dated 26 June 2023.

## 2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

*Ordered,* That Mr Clive Betts have leave to visit Bournemouth on 6 July 2023 to attend the Local Government Association Conference in a representative capacity.

## 3. Electoral Registration

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Mohammad Yasin declared interests in that he is a member of Bedford Town Deal Board and employs a councillor in his office.

Peter Stanyon, Chief Executive, Association of Electoral Administrators; Graham Farrant, Chief Executive and Returning Officer, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council; and Miranda Cannon, Returning Officer, Leicestershire City Council, gave oral evidence.

John Pullinger, Chair, Electoral Commission; Craig Westwood, Director of Communications, Policy and Research, Electoral Commission; and Ailsa Irvine, Director of Electoral Administration and Guidance, Electoral Commission, gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 10 July at 3.30pm.

## Monday 10 July 2023

### Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Ian Byrne

Mrs Natalie Elphicke

Ben Everitt

Kate Hollern

Andrew Lewer

### 1. Evidence reported for publication

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

#### **Independent Review of Construction Product Testing**

Correspondence to the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 10 July 2023.

#### **Investment zones in Scotland**

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 30 June 2023.

## **Reforming the Private Rented Sector**

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 5 July 2023.

## **Simplifying the funding landscape for local authorities**

Correspondence from the Minister for Levelling Up, dated 5 July 2023.

## 2. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

## 3. Reforms to national planning policy

Draft report (Reforms to national planning policy), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

The draft report was agreed to; the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published with the Seventh Report of the Committee, HC 1122.

## 4. Follow Up: Reforming the Private Rented Sector report and the Renters (Reform) Bill

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Bob Blackman declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association, employs a councillor in his office, and is a landlord in the Private Rented Sector.

Ben Everitt declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and employs a councillor in his office.

Andrew Lewer declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and is the Chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group into the Private Rented Sector, for which the National Residential Landlords Association provides the Secretariat.

Richard Blakeway, Housing Ombudsman, Housing Ombudsman Service; Ben Beadle, Chief Executive, National Residential Landlords Association; and Tarun Bhakta, Policy Manager, Shelter, gave oral evidence.

Rachel Maclean MP, Minister of State for Housing and Planning, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities; Guy Horsington, Deputy Director for Private Rented Sector, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities; and Stephanie Kvam, Deputy Director for Private Rented Sector Standards, Enforcement and Financial Protection, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 17 July at 3.30pm.

## Monday 17 July 2023

### Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair  
Bob Blackman  
Mrs Natalie Elphicke  
Kate Hollern  
Andrew Lewer  
Mary Robinson  
Nadia Whittome

### 1. Evidence reported for publication

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

#### **Council tax collection**

Correspondence from the Enforcement Conduct Board, dated 14 July 2023.

#### **Electoral Registration**

Correspondence to the Electoral Commission, dated 17 July 2023.

Correspondence to the Information Commissioner's Office, dated 17 July 2023.

### **Finances and sustainability of the social housing sector**

Professor Tony Crook [FSS 077]

### **Housing investment and the National Planning Policy Framework consultation**

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 17 July 2023.

### **Local government audit delays**

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 14 July 2023 (and accompanying statement)

### **Office for Local Government**

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 4 July 2023.

## **2. Future Programme**

*Resolved,* That the Committee inquire into Shared Ownership.

*Resolved,* That the Committee inquire into Fire Safety.

*Resolved,* That the Committee inquire into Disabled people in the housing sector.

*Resolved,* That the Committee inquire into the Office for Local Government.

## **3. Financial reporting and audit in local authorities**

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Nadia Whittome declared an interest in that she is a board member of One Nottingham.

Bob Blackman declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and employs councillors in his office.

Lee Rowley MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Siobhan Jones, Director of Local Government Policy, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 11 September at 3.30pm.

## Monday 28 July 2023

### 1. Evidence reported for publication

The following correspondence was reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 23 May 2022 (Order made under the provisions of SO No 137; see Votes and Proceedings [5 September 2022]):

#### **Consultation on reforms to Planning Act 2008 Development Consent System**

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 25 July 2023.

#### **Government response to LUHC Committee's reports**

Correspondence to the Chair, Liaison Committee, dated 28 July 2023.

#### **Private rented sector report and Renters (Reform) Bill**

Correspondence from the National Residential Landlords Association, dated 4 July 2023.

Correspondence to the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 28 July 2023.

Note from the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Students and the Renters Reform Bill, dated 5 May 2023.

# Monday 11 September 2023

## Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Bob Blackman

Ian Byrne

Mrs Natalie Elphicke

Ben Everitt

Kate Hollern

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

Nadia Whittome

Mohammad Yasin

## 1. Evidence reported for publication

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

### **Long-term funding of adult social care**

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Social Care, Department for Health and Social Care, dated 28 July 2023.

### **Finances and sustainability of the social housing sector**

Correspondence from Sage Homes, dated 24 July 2023.

Correspondence from the National Housing Federation, dated 10 August 2023.

South Yorkshire Housing Partnership [FSS 078]

### **Housing investment and the National Planning Policy Framework consultation**

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 1 September 2023.

### **Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman funding**



Correspondence to the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 11 September 2023

### **Permitted development rights**

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 2 August 2023

### **Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete**

Correspondence to the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 11 September 2023

### **Renters (Reform) Bill**

Correspondence from the Minister of State for Housing and Planning, dated 4 August 2023

Correspondence from Shelter, dated 18 July 2023.

### **Independent review of Construction Product Testing Regime**

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 21 July 2023.

## **2. Future Programme**

*Resolved,* That the Committee inquire into Financial Distress in Local Authorities.

*Ordered,* That Mr Clive Betts have leave to visit Birmingham on 12 September 2023 to attend the National Housing Summit in a representative capacity.

## **3. Finances and sustainability of the social housing sector**

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Nadia Whittome declared an interest in that she is a board member of One Nottingham.

Bob Blackman declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and employs councillors in his office.

Mrs Natalie Elphicke declared interests in that she is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and employs a councillor in her office.

Ben Everitt declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and employs a councillor in his office.

Steve Collins, Chief Executive, Rentplus; Neil Brown, CEO, Inclusion Group; Dave Meseck, CEO, DMG Eco; and Gemma Bourne, Managing Director, Head of Social and Affordable Housing, Big Society Capital, gave oral evidence.

Felix Ejgel, Senior Director, Sector Lead Sovereign & International Public Finance Ratings, S&P Global Ratings; and Simon Century, Managing Director for Housing, Legal and General, gave oral evidence.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Monday 18 September at 3.30pm.

## Monday 18 September 2023

### Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair

Ian Byrne

Mrs Natalie Elphicke

Ben Everitt

Kate Hollern

Andrew Lewer

Mary Robinson

Nadia Whittome

### 1. The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities' response times to the Committee's reports

Draft Special Report (The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities' response times to the Committee's reports), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

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

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

## 2. Government response to the Committee's report into Funding for Levelling Up

The Committee considered this matter.

## 3. Government response to the Committee's report into the Regulation of Social Housing

The Committee considered this matter.

## 4. Evidence reported for publication

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

### **Building safety remediation**

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 6 September 2023

### **Electoral Commission Cyber attack**

Correspondence from the Electoral Commission, dated 8 August 2023

### **Department's response times to Committee reports**

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 18 September 2023.

### **Electoral Registration**

Correspondence from the Electoral Commission, dated 12 September 2023

Correspondence from Information Commissioners Office, dated 8 September 2023

### **Government's response to the Committee's report on Funding for Levelling Up**

Correspondence to the Secretary of State, dated 18 September 2023

### **Local authorities in financial distress**

Correspondence to Local Government Information Unit, District Councils Network, County Councils Network, London Councils, Special Interest Group of Municipal Authorities, Local Government Association and the National Association of Local Councils, dated 18 September 2023.

### **Long-term funding of adult social care**

Correspondence to the Minister of State for Social Care, Department for Health and Social Care, dated 18 September 2023.

### **Non-party campaigner code of practice**

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, dated 13 September 2023

## **5. Appointment of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and Chair of the Commission for Local Administration in England**

The Chair declared an interest in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association.

Kate Hollern declared an interest in that she employs a councillor in her office.

Nadia Whittome declared an interest in that she is a board member of One Nottingham.

Ben Everitt declared interests in that he is a Vice President of the Local Government Association and employs a councillor in his office.

Amerdeep Somal, the Government's preferred candidate for the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and Chair of the Commission for Local Administration, gave oral evidence.

Draft Report (Appointment of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and Chair of the Commission for Local Administration in England), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to; the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published with the Eighth Report of the Committee, HC 1819.

## Adjournment

Adjourned till Wednesday 15 October at 3.30pm.

## Wednesday 27 September 2023

### 1. Evidence reported for publication

The following papers were reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 23 May 2022 (Order made under the provisions of SO No 137; see Votes and Proceedings [5 September 2022]):

#### **Appointment of the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and Chair of the Commission for Local Administration in England**

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 27 June 2023.

Correspondence from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety dated 30 August 2023.

Correspondence to the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety, dated 28 September 2023.

## Thursday 12 October 2023

### 1. Evidence reported for publication

The following papers were reported to the House for publication under the power given to the Chair by Resolution of the Committee of 23 May 2022 (Order made under the provisions of SO No 137; see Votes and Proceedings [5 September 2022]):

#### **Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete**

Correspondence from the Secretary of State, dated 29 September 2023.

## Sunday 15 October – Friday 20 October

The Chair, Ian Byrne, Kate Hollern, Mary Robinson and Mohammad Yasin visited Ottawa and Toronto, Canada, in connection with the Committee's inquiry into Electoral Registration, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 30 January.

## Friday 20 October

### Members present

Mr Clive Betts, in the chair  
Ian Byrne  
Kate Hollern  
Mary Robinson  
Mohammad Yasin

### 1. Reforming the Private Rented Sector

Draft Special Report (Reforming the Private Rented Sector: Government response to the Committee's Fifth Report of Session 2022-23), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

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

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

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