



House of Commons

Work and Pensions Committee

Formal Minutes of the Committee

Session 2019

Formal Minutes of the Work and Pensions Committee

Session 2019

Wednesday 16 October 2019

Members present:

Rt Hon Frank Field, in the Chair

Heidi Allen	Steve McCabe
Neil Coyle	Nigel Mills
Rosie Duffield	Chris Stephens
Ruth George	Derek Thomas

1. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Evidence reported to the House for publication on 9 September 2019 (Order of the Committee, 9 January 2019)

Correspondence from Marc Francis, Director, Policy and Campaigns, Z2K, dated 6 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Minister for Employment, dated 9 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Chair to Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work, dated 9 September 2019.

Correspondence from Director General, Work and Health Services to Jobcentres, dated 19 August 2019.

Correspondence from the Chair to Minister for Welfare Delivery and Minister for the School System, Department for Education, dated 9 September 2019.

Written submission from the Department for Work and Pensions relating to the Spending review inquiry.

Correspondence from the Chair to the Chief Executive, The Pensions Regulator, dated 6 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Minister for Pensions and Financial Inclusion, dated 9 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Chair to the Joint Administrator of WDFC UK Limited, dated 9 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Joint Administrator, WDFC UK Limited to the Chair, dated 9 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Minister of Employment, dated 5 September 2019.

3. Evidence reported to the House for publication on 25 September 2019 (Order of the Committee, 9 January 2019)

Correspondence from Chair to Chair of Trustees, Thomas Cook Pension Scheme, dated 23 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Chair to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, dated 13 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Minister for Pensions and Financial Inclusion, dated 17 September 2019.

6. Support for the bereaved

Draft Report (*Bereavement Support Payment*), 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 in the First Report of the Committee, HC 85.

7. Universal Credit and “survival sex”

Draft Report (*Universal Credit and “survival sex”*), 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 in the Second Report of the Work and Pensions Committee, HC 83.

8. Overpayments of Carer’s Allowance

Draft Special Report (*Overpayments of Carer’s Allowance: Government response to the Committee’s Thirtieth Report of Session 2017-19*), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government response to the Thirtieth Report from the Committee of Session 2017-19, in the last Parliament, was appended to the Report.

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

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

9. Carillion

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to Carillion be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Chief Executive Officer, Financial Reporting Council to Chair and Chair, Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee, dated 23 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Official Receiver, the Insolvency Service, dated 30 September 2019.

10. Correspondence

Ordered, That the following correspondence be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Minister for Work and Pensions (Lords), dated 17 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Chief Executive, Financial Conduct Authority, dated 16 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Chair to the Minister for Pensions and Financial Inclusion, dated 14 October 2019.

11. Defined benefit pension schemes

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to defined benefit pension schemes be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Chief Executive, The Pensions Regulator, dated 3 October 2019.

Correspondence from the Chief Executive, The Pensions Regulator, dated 11 September 2019.

12. Executive pensions

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to executive pensions be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence with enclosures from General Secretary, Affinity, dated 1 October 2019.

13. Pension costs and transparency

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to pension costs and transparency be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Chief Executive, Financial Conduct Authority, dated 13 August 2019.

14. School holiday poverty

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to school holiday poverty be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Mayor's Fund for London (SHP0013).

15. Spending review

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to the spending review be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Chair to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, dated 17 September 2019.

16. Support for the bereaved

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to support for the bereaved be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Chair to Comptroller and Audit General, National Audit Office, dated 10 September 2019.

17. Universal Credit

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to Universal Credit be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Brexit, Southwark Council, dated 18 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Chair to the Minister for Welfare Delivery, dated 10 September 2019.

Correspondence from the Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work, dated 8 October 2019.

Correspondence from the Minister for Employment, dated 10 October 2019.

18. Universal Credit: Youth Obligation

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to Universal Credit: Youth Obligation be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Minister for Employment, Department for Work and Pensions, dated 3 October 2019.

19. The work of the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to the work of the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, dated 10 October 2019.

Rt Hon Dr Thérèse Coffey MP, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, Peter Schofield, Permanent Secretary, and John-Paul Marks, Director General, Work and Health Services, Department for Work and Pensions, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 23 October 2019 at 9.45am]

Wednesday 23 October 2019

Members present:

Nigel Mills, in the Chair

Heidi Allen

Chris Stephens

Rosie Duffield

1. Absence of the Chair

In the absence of the Chair, Nigel Mills was called to the chair.

2. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Evidence reported to the House for publication on 17 October 2019 (Order of the Committee, 9 January 2019)

Correspondence from the Chair to the Chief Executive, The Pensions Regulator, dated 16 October 2019.

4. Correspondence

Ordered, That the following correspondence be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work, dated 16 October 2019.

5. School holiday poverty

Ordered, That the note of the informal meeting on School holiday poverty taken by the Committee on 4 September be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to school holiday poverty be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Minister for Welfare Delivery and the Minister for the School System, dated 9 October 2019.

6. Support for the bereaved

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to support for the bereaved be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Comptroller and Auditor General, National Audit Office dated 21 October 2019.

7. Two-child limit

Harun Khan, Secretary General, Muslim Council of Britain, Tom Sefton, Economics and Social Policy Adviser, Church of England, and Chaya Spitz, Chief Executive, Interlink Foundation, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 30 October 2019 at 9.30am]

Wednesday 30 October 2019

Members present:

Rt Hon Frank Field, in the Chair

Ruth George
Nigel Mills

Chris Stephens

1. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Written evidence

Ordered, That, subject to the discretion of the Chair, written evidence received before the Dissolution of Parliament shall be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

3. Two-child limit

Draft Report (*Two-child limit*) 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 in the Third Report of the Work and Pensions Committee, HC 51.

4. Pension costs and transparency

Draft Special Report (*Pension costs and transparency: Government and Financial Conduct Authority Responses to the Committee's Twenty-Ninth Report of Session 2017-19*), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government response to the Twenty-Ninth Report from the Committee of Session 2017-19, in the last Parliament, 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.

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to pension costs and transparency be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Minister for Pensions and Financial Inclusion and the Economic Secretary to the Treasury, dated 24 October 2019.

5. Pension Schemes Bill

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to the Pension Schemes Bill be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Chief Executive, Clara Pensions, dated 24 October 2019.

6. Universal Credit

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to Universal Credit be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from Minister for Welfare Delivery, dated 24 October 2019.

7. The work of the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

Ordered, That the following correspondence relating to the work of the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Chair to Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, dated 29 October 2019.

8. Welfare Policy in Northern Ireland

Ordered, That the following correspondence be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Correspondence from the Permanent Secretary, Department for Communities Northern Ireland, with enclosures, dated 17 October 2019

9. School holiday poverty

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to school holiday poverty be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

North East Child Poverty Commission (SHP0014)

[The Committee adjourned.]

ANNEX

Monday 4 November 2019

The following papers were reported to the House for publication (Order of the Committee, 30 October 2019):

Government Response to the Committee's Welfare Safety Net inquiry.

Correspondence from the Chair to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, dated 30 October 2019.

Correspondence from the Chair to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, dated October 2019.

Carillion: Mowlem Actuarial Certificate s179 valuation, dated December 2016.

Carillion: Carillion Staff Actuarial Certificate s179 valuation, dated December 2016.

Carillion: Bower Scheme Actuarial Valuation, dated 31 December 2015.

Carillion: Single Trustee Actuarial Valuation, dated 31 December 2015.

Carillion: Single Trustee, quarterly funding updates, dated 30 September 2017.

Carillion: Alfred McAlpine Pension Plan Certificate s179 valuation, dated March 2017.

Letter from Carillion to the Chair regarding pensions, dated 9 February 2018.

Letter from Carillion to The Pensions Regulator regarding pensions, dated 25 March 2010.

Letter from Carillion to The Pensions Regulator regarding pensions, dated 9 April 2013.

Letter from The Pensions Regulator to the Chair regarding Carillion, dated 12 February 2018.

Letter from Blackrock to the Chairs regarding Carillion, dated 8 February 2018.

Tuesday 5 November 2019

The following papers were reported to the House for publication (Order of the Committee, 30 October 2019):

Memorandum to the Work and Pensions Committee and Northern Ireland Affairs Committee: Department of Work and Pensions' Response to the Committees' inquiry into Welfare policy in Northern Ireland.

Correspondence from the Chair to the Arcadia Group Pensions Manager, dated 14 October 2019.

Correspondence from the Chief Executive Officer, Clara Pensions, dated 31 October 2019.

Correspondence from Nigel Mills MP to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, dated 4 November 2019.

Correspondence from the Chair to the Minister for Disabled People, dated October 2019.

Correspondence from Chair to the Director, Benefit Advice Centre, dated October 2019.

Benefit Advice Centre Self Help Guide – Landing Page.

Benefit Advice Centre Attendance Allowance Self Help Guide: stroke.

Bristol Live UC cold weather payments, dated 8 October 2019.

Correspondence from the Minister for Work and Pensions (Lords), dated 29 October 2019.

Correspondence from the Chief Executive, The Pensions Regulator, dated 5 November 2019.

Correspondence from the Chair to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, dated 30 October 2019.

Correspondence from the Minister for Pensions, dated 4 November 2019.

Correspondence from the Chief Executive Officer, Clara Pensions, dated 31 October 2019.

Correspondence from the Chair to the Chief Executive, Citizens Advice and the Chief Executive, Citizens Advice Scotland, dated October 2019.

Correspondence from the Chair to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, dated October 2019.

Written evidence from Muslim Council of Britain (TCL0003)

Written evidence from General Secretary, University and College Union (UCU) (TPR0001)