

HOUSE OF COMMONS COMMISSION / MEC

**Monday 12 May 2025 at 10.00 am
Meeting in the Speaker's Study**

Present:

The Speaker, in the Chair
Steve Barclay
Marie Goldman
Jesse Norman
Lucy Powell
Nick Smith
Shrinivas Honap (External member)
Catherine Ward (External member)
Marianne Cwynarski (Director General (Operations))
Tom Goldsmith (Clerk of the House)

Apologies: Rachel Blake

DECISIONS

COMMISSION/MEC

1. Reports and updates
 - a. TUS update
 - b. Update from the Administration, Finance and Audit Committees
 - c. House Administration update

The Commission took note of the updates.

COMMISSION

2. Proposal for savings and improvement programme

The Commission agreed initial proposals from CEB for a savings and improvement programme. It should include a target of at least 10% cumulative savings and efficiencies by 2028/29. Of this, 5% to be reinvested within the Administration's budget and at least 5% to reduce the budget in real terms.

3. Catering review implementation update

The Commission agreed the initial package in full of recommended short-term actions proposed in response to the catering review which would deliver a saving of £1.2–£1.7million a year.

4. Establishing the parliamentary commercial directorate as a joint department

The Commission took note of the draft governance and performance framework and approved the transfer of the staff and functions of the Parliamentary Commercial Directorate to a new joint department under the Parliament (Joint Departments) Act 2007.

The Commission considered that a new and dedicated approach for joint Member oversight was needed and agreed to write to the House of Lords Commission on this matter.

5. Independent Complaints and Grievance Scheme (ICGS) update

The Commission considered proposals relating to the ICGS Policy Framework and Assurance Board and noted that in the absence of consensus the Government planned to put those proposals to the House.

Jesse Norman requested that it be placed on the record that he and the Conservative Party did not support the proposals without a requirement that all ICGS procedural changes first be subject to a motion of the whole House.

6. Annual report of the Commission in 2024–25

The Commission agreed its Annual Report for 2024–25 to be included as part of the Administration’s Annual Report and Accounts.

COMMISSION/MEC

7. Papers to note:

The Commission took note of the following papers:

- R&R Main Estimate 2025/26 follow-up: note from the R&R Delivery Authority
- Commission forward plan and actions, May 2025
- Minutes of the Commission meeting held on 17 March 2025

8. Any other business

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Commission/MEC will take place on Monday 9 June 2025 at 10.00 am in the Speaker’s Study.