HOUSE OF LORDS

C/26–27
3rd Meeting
PUBLIC

HOUSE OF LORDS COMMISSION

DECISIONS

Wednesday 22 July 2026 10:00am–12:30pm
in Committee Room 1

Attendance

- Lord Speaker (Chair)
- Lord Ponsonby of Shulbrede (Deputy Chair)
- Earl of Kinnoull
- Lord McLoughlin
- Alice Maynard (external member)
- Charlotte Moar (external member)
- Lord Morse
- Baroness Pitkeathley
- Lord Purvis of Tweed
- Baroness Scott of Needham Market
- Lord True

Apologies were received from Baroness Smith of Basildon

Baroness Carberry of Muswell Hill attended under Standing Order 64

Officials also in attendance:
Sarah Brader, Director of Culture Change; Ed Davis, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod; Carolina Filippini, Portfolio Director, Strategic Estates; Andy Helliwell, Chief Operating Officer; Alix Langley, HR Director; Sarah Kears-Burke, Head of Portfolio Engagement, Parliamentary Security Department; Paul Martin, Interim Director of Parliamentary Security; Chloe Mawson, Clerk of the Parliaments; Jessie Peramal, Interim Finance Director; Duncan Sagar, Clerk Assistant; and Peter Stam, Head of the Security & Access Hub, Parliamentary Security Department.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Commission agreed the records of discussion of the meetings of the House of Lords Commission on 3 June, with redactions, and 3 July 2026.

2. Report from the Clerk of the Parliaments
Clerk of the Parliaments' report [HIGHLY RESTRICTED]

3. Report from the Interim Security Director
Interim Security Director's report [HIGHLY RESTRICTED]

4. The Governance of Security in Parliament
C/26–27/8 [RESTRICTED]

The Commission endorsed the principles and recommendations for a new approach to the governance of security in Parliament.

5. Visitor Information System
C/26–27/9 [HIGHLY RESTRICTED]

The Commission:

- endorsed the principle of a Visitor Information System (VIS) that would be applicable to all visitors;
- agreed that the project team should scope the use of facial matching technology as part of a VIS solution; and
- agreed that the project team should scope potential technical and operational solutions over the summer recess.

6. Refusing Access to the Parliamentary Estate
C/26–27/10 [RESTRICTED]

The Commission endorsed the Refusing Access to the Parliamentary Estate Policy.

7. Passes for Retired Peers and Members' spouses/partners: introduction of security vetting
C/26–27/11 [RESTRICTED]

The Commission:

- agreed that Retired Peer passes should not be issued where an individual is subject to an ongoing investigation by the Commissioners for Standards;
- agreed that Retired Peers should be brought within standard national security vetting arrangements;
- agreed that Peers' spouses/partners who hold passes should be brought within standard national security vetting arrangements;
- agreed that vetting for both groups should be applied at the point of pass renewal; and

- noted that detailed implementation plans, including communications and delivery timelines, will be developed.

8. Victoria Tower Project Update
C/26–27/11 [RESTRICTED]

The Commission noted the update on the progress of the Victoria Tower Fabric Safety Project.

9. Steering Group for Change Annual Report 2025-26
C/26–27/12 [HIGHLY RESTRICTED]

The Commission:
- noted the conclusions of the Annual Report, covering July 2025 to July 2026;
- noted the Steering Group will continue to play a role in identifying where change is needed and how best to achieve it; and
- agreed to continue annual reporting to the Commission by the Steering Group for Change.

10. Update on the Work of the Finance Committee
C/26–27/13 [RESTRICTED]

The Commission noted the update.

Any other business

The Commission agreed that future meetings should start at 10:30am and that new dates should be explored for the meetings between September and December 2026.

Alasdair Love
Secretary to the Commission

Raquel Fernández Vidal
Executive Officer to the Commission