



MINUTES

Session 2026-27

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Minutes of the 8th Meeting, held at 10.15am on Wednesday, 2 September 2026

Present: Lord Beith
Lord Bellamy
Lord Bichard
Lord Burnett of Maldon
Lord Griffiths of Burry Port
Baroness Hamwee
Lord Jones of Penybont
Lord Murphy of Torfaen
Lord Strathclyde (Chair)
Lord Waldegrave of North Hill

Advisers in attendance: Professor Roger Masterman (legal adviser)
Professor Stephen Tierney (legal adviser)

1. Apologies and notices

Apologies were received from Lord Cryer and Baroness Laing of Elderslie.

2. The UK's constitutional safeguards inquiry: oral evidence

At 10.30am the Committee heard evidence from:

- Lord O'Donnell, former Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Civil Service

A full transcript was taken.

3. The UK's constitutional safeguards inquiry: private deliberation

The Committee considered the note by the Policy Analyst regarding the updated indicative oral evidence programme (**CC/26-27/28**) and agreed the programme, with amendments.

4. Legislative scrutiny

The Committee considered the note by the Legal Adviser regarding the Public Office (Accountability) Bill (**CC/LS/26-27/11**) and agreed to clear the bill from scrutiny.

The Committee took note of the Government's response on the National Security (State Threats) Bill report.

5. Any other business

The Committee considered its forward work programme (**CC/26-27/29**)

6. Date of next meeting

The Committee would next meet on 16 September 2026 at 10.15am in Committee room 4A.

2 September 2026