

**LIAISON COMMITTEE
MEETING ON TUESDAY 9 MARCH 2021 at 3pm
DECISIONS DOCUMENT**

Present:

Bradley, L.
Campbell of Surbiton, B.
Davies of Oldham, L.
Howe, E.
Judge, L.
Lang of Monkton, L.
McFall of Alcluith, L. (Chair)
Smith of Hindhead, L.
Tyler, L.
Walmsley, B.

1. COMMON FRAMEWORKS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Committee reviewed the Common Frameworks Committee in the light of the Government's revised timetable. The Committee considered note 1/19-21/115 which set out associated resourcing constraints.

The Committee agreed to recommend the reappointment of the Common Frameworks Committee. The Committee agreed the case for extending the Common Frameworks Committee, with the same terms of reference and membership, at the start of the next session of Parliament, with the expectation that it should complete its work by the end of 2021.

The Committee *agreed* a short draft report.

2. SUB COMMITTEE REQUEST

The Committee *discussed* Lord Forsyth's letter and request for a year-long sub-committee of the Economic Affairs Committee. The Committee *agreed* that this request and other similar requests should be considered in the late autumn together with the requests for new special inquiry committees.

3. SPECIAL INQUIRY FOLLOW-UP

The Committee *noted* the new stage two follow-up request from Lord Hodgson of Astley Abbots, formally requesting follow-up to the Civic Engagement Committee.

The Committee *took note of* the Government's response to the Liaison Committee's first follow-up report, on AI in the UK.

4. COP 26

The Committee *took note of* the proposal for Lords Committees to participate with House of Commons committees in a bid to the Cabinet Office to host a series of events at COP26.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee *took note of* the letter from Lord Adonis regarding elected Chairs.

The Committee *discussed* the draft letters to the Government regarding the Select Committee on Rural Economy and the Select Committee on Regenerating Seaside Towns and Communities. The Committee *agreed* the draft letters, with additions.

The hybrid House arrangements were briefly discussed in relation to the future operating model for committees. In discussion, it was noted that there were different considerations for the Chamber and for committees, and that the current operating model had received positive feedback including in relation to witness diversity, and was more accessible to members and witnesses with disabilities. The Chair agreed that this could be put forward as an item of business for a future meeting.

The Committee *took note of* the procedure for special inquiry follow-up, in regard to the financial exclusion follow-up session that is being held on 16 March 2021.

6. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee would meet next on 16 March.

Lord McFall of Alcluith
March 2021