Proceedings of the Committee

Wednesday 25 November 2009

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair

Mr David Clelland
Rt Hon Jeffrey Donaldson
Mr Philip Hollobone
Mr John Leech
Mr Eric Martlew

Mark Pritchard
Ms Angela C. Smith
Sir Peter Soulsby
Graham Stringer

1. New Member

Rt Hon Jeffrey Donaldson disclosed his interests, in accordance with the resolution of the House of 13 July 2002.

2. Appointment of Specialist Adviser

Ordered, That the Committee appoint Kelvin MacDonald as Specialist Adviser to assist the Committee in its inquiry, The draft National Policy Statement for ports.

Kelvin MacDonald declared his interests as Senior Visiting Fellow, Department of Land Economy, Cambridge University, and as a member of the Board of Trustees of Shelter.

3. Visit to Peel Ports

Resolved, That the Committee visit Liverpool and Manchester in connection with its inquiry into The draft National Policy Statement for ports.

4. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Priorities for investment in the railways

Maggie Simpson, Policy Manager, Rail Freight Group; Graham Smith, Planning Director, DB Schenker Rail (UK) Ltd; and Christopher Snelling, Head of Rail Freight and Global Supply Chain Policy, Freight Transport Association, gave oral evidence. Chris Mole MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, and Bob Linnard, Director, Rail Strategy, Department for Transport, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till 2.15 pm on Wednesday 2 December.]
Wednesday 2 December 2009

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair

Mr David Clelland  Mark Pritchard
Rt Hon Jeffrey Donaldson  Ms Angela C. Smith
Mr Philip Hollobone  Sir Peter Soulsby
Mr John Leech  Graham Stringer
Mr Eric Martlew

1. The future of aviation

The Committee discussed informally the Chairman’s draft Report.

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

(The formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the First Report of the Committee, HC 125.)

2. Performance of the Department for Transport

Rt Hon Lord Adonis, Secretary of State, and Robert Devereux, Permanent Secretary, Department for Transport, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till 2.30 pm on Wednesday 9 December.

Wednesday 9 December 2009

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair

Rt Hon Jeffrey Donaldson  Ms Angela C. Smith
Mr Philip Hollobone  Sir Peter Soulsby
Mr John Leech  Graham Stringer
Mr Eric Martlew

1. Priorities for investment in the railways

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Future programme
The Committee considered this matter.

3. **Public Petitions**

The Committee noted the observations from the Secretary of State on the following petitions to the House from:

- Gwen Hall, residents of Hadleigh, and others, and
- Concerned motorists and others.

4. **Update on the London Underground and public-private partnership**


Mr Dean Finch, Chief Executive, Tube Lines, gave oral evidence.

Steve Grant, District Organiser for London Underground, ASLEF; Bob Crow, General Secretary, RMT (National Union of Rail Maritime and Transport Workers), and Tim Bellenger, London Travel Watch, gave oral evidence.

Rt Hon Sadiq Khan MP, Minister of State for Transport; and Bronwyn Hill, Director General, City and Regional Networks, Department for Transport, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till 2.30 pm on Wednesday 6 January.

**Wednesday 6 January 2010**

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair

Mr Eric Martlew
Graham Stringer

Mr David Wilshire

1. **Future programme**

The Committee considered this matter.

2. **Public Petition**

The Committee noted the following petition to the House from:

- residents of Sutton Cheam, Worcester Park and others.

3. **The draft National Policy Statement for Ports**
The Committee considered this matter.

4. Update on the London Underground and public-private partnership

Chris Bolt, PPP Arbiter, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till 2.30 pm on Wednesday 13 January.

Wednesday 13 January 2010

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair

Mr David Clelland          Mr Eric Martlew
Rt Hon Jeffrey Donaldson   Mark Pritchard
Mr Philip Hollobone        Ms Angela C. Smith
Mr John Leech              Graham Stringer

1. The work of the Committee in 2008—09

The Committee discussed informally the Chairman’s draft Report.

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

(The formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Second Report of the Committee, HC 262.)

2. Public Petition

The Committee noted the following petition to the House from:

- the New Thundersley Afternoon Townswomen’s Guild, the residents of Castle Point and others.

3. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

4. The draft National Policy Statement for Ports

Bill Newman, Town and Country Planning Association; James Trimmer, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, and Morag Ellis QC, Planning and Environment Bar Association, gave oral evidence.

Ginny Clarke, Network Services Director, Highways Agency; Janet Goodland, Network Rail, and Mark Rowbotham, Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till 2.30 pm on Wednesday 20 January.

**Wednesday 20 January 2010**

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair

Mr David Clelland  
Rt Hon Jeffrey Donaldson  
Mr Philip Hollobone  
Mr John Leech  
Mark Pritchard  
Ms Angela C. Smith  
Graham Stringer

1. **Public Petition**

The Committee noted the observations from the Secretary of State for Transport on the petition to the House from the residents of Sutton, Cheam, Worcester Park and others, regarding financial support for concessionary travel for older and disabled people.

2. **The draft National Policy Statement for Ports**

David Whitehead, Director, British Ports Association, Richard Bird, Executive Director, UK Major Ports Group, Phil Williams, Property Director, Associated British Ports, Stephen Baxter, Chief Executive, Peel Ports and Andrew Harston, Port Development Director, Hutchison Ports (UK) Ltd, gave oral evidence.

David Asprey, Head of Shipping Policy, Chamber of Shipping, Chris Welsh, General Manager for Policy and Campaigns, Freight Transport Association, Matthew Farrow, Head of Energy, Infrastructure and Planning, CBI and Maggie Simpson, Policy Manager, Rail Freight Group, gave oral evidence.

Simon Birch, Head of Planning and Environmental Assessment, Environment Agency, Dr Doug Parr, Chief Scientist and Policy Director, Greenpeace UK and Andrew Dodd, Head of Site Conservation Policy, RSPB, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till 2.30 pm on Wednesday 27 January.
Wednesday 27 January 2010

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair

Mr David Clelland  Mr Eric Martleww
Rt Hon Jeffrey Donaldson  Ms Angela C. Smith
Mr Philip Hollobone  Sir Peter Soulsby
Mr John Leech

1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. The draft National Policy Statement for Ports

Sir Michael Pitt, Chair, Robert Upton CBE, Deputy Chair, and Dr Ian Gambles, Director of Strategy, Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC), gave oral evidence.

Paul Clark MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Richard Bennett, Head of Ports Division, and Philip Grindrod, Team Leader Ports Policy Review, Department for Transport, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till 2.00 pm on Tuesday 9 February.

Tuesday 9 February 2010

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair

Mr David Clelland  Ms Angela C. Smith
Mr Philip Hollobone  Sir Peter Soulsby
Mr John Leech  Graham Stringer
Mr Eric Martleww
1. **Priorities for investment in the railways—Chairman’s draft report**

The Committee discussed informally the Chairman’s draft Report.

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

(The formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Third Report of the Committee, HC 38.)

2. **The impact of flooding on bridges and other transport infrastructure in Cumbria**

The Committee considered this matter.

3. **Future programme**

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till 2.30 pm on Wednesday 24 February.

**Wednesday 24 February 2010**

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair

Mr David Clelland          Ms Angela C. Smith
Mr Philip Hollobone         Sir Peter Soulsby
Mr John Leech              Graham Stringer
Mark Pritchard

1. **The performance of the Department for Transport—Chairman’s draft report**

The Committee discussed informally the Chairman’s draft Report.

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

(The formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Fourth Report of the Committee, HC 76.)

2. **The future of aviation—Government response**

Draft Special Report (*The future of aviation: Government response to the Committee’s First Report of Session 2009–10*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.
The Government’s response to the First Report from the Committee was appended to the Report.

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

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

3. Public Petitions

The Committee noted the following petitions to the House from:

- residents of Hove and Portslade and others, regarding Pedestrian Crossings, and
- residents of the South Lakes and others, regarding gritting.

4. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Transport Questions with the Secretary of State

Rt Hon Lord Adonis, Secretary of State, Department for Transport, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till 2.30 pm on Wednesday 3 March.

Wednesday 3 March 2010

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair

Mr David Clelland          Mark Pritchard
Rt Hon Jeffrey Donaldson   Ms Angela C. Smith
Mr Philip Hollobone        Sir Peter Soulsby
Mr John Leech              Graham Stringer

1. Public Petitions

The Committee noted the observations from the Secretary of State on the following petitions to the House:

- P:000732: from residents of Hove and Portslade and others, regarding Pedestrian Crossings, and
- P:000733: from residents of the South Lakes and others, regarding gritting.
2. **Publication of written evidence**

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence relating to the Department for Transport Spring Supplementary Estimate 2009-10 be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

- Department for Transport: Spring Supplementary Estimate Memorandum 2009-10

3. **Future programme**

The Committee considered this matter.

4. **Mobility scooters**

Greg Lewis, Programme Manager, Age Concern / Help the Aged; Dai Powell, Chair, Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee (DPTAC), and Richard Boyd, Chief Executive, Disability Essex, gave oral evidence.

Penny Carpenter, Crime Prevention Officer, Norfolk Constabulary; Superintendent Smerdon, Norfolk Constabulary; Neil Scales, Chief Executive, Merseytravel; Kevin Clinton, Head of Road Safety, Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA), and Ken MacKay, Director of Rail Infrastructure, Nexus, gave oral evidence.

Phillipa Hunt, Head of Policy and Communications, Living Streets; Elizabeth Box, Head of Research, RAC Foundation, and Mark Yexley, Operations and Commercial Director, Arriva UK Bus, gave oral evidence.

Rt Hon Sadiq Khan MP, Minister of State for Transport, and Tim Crayford, Chief Medical Adviser, Department for Transport, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till 2.30 pm on Wednesday 10 March.

**Wednesday 10 March 2010**

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair

Rt Hon Jeffrey Donaldson  
Mr Philip Hollobone  
Mr John Leech

Mr Eric Martlew  
Graham Stringer

1. **The proposal for a National Policy Statement on ports**

The Committee discussed informally the Chair’s draft Report.

Draft Report, proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.
2. The new European motorcycle test

The Committee discussed informally the Chair’s draft Report.

Draft Report, proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

3. Public Petitions

The Committee noted the following petitions to the House:

- P:000742: from the residents of Watchet and others regarding the footbridge at Watchet station, West Somerset;
- P:000744: from the people of Croydon, regarding gritting, and
- P:000747: from the residents of Irchester, Northamptonshire and the surrounding area, regarding traffic calming measures in Irchester.

4. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Adjourned till 2.30 pm on Wednesday 17 March.

Wednesday 17 March 2010

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair

Mr David Clelland  Mr Eric Martlew
Mr Philip Hollobone  Ms Angela C. Smith
Mr John Leech  Graham Stringer

1. Update on the London Underground and the public-private partnership (PPP) agreements

The Committee discussed informally the Chair’s draft Report.

Draft Report, proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

(The formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Seventh Report of the Committee, HC 100.)
2. Public Petitions

The Committee noted observations from the Secretary of State on the following petitions to the House:

- P:000691: from the New Thundersley Afternoon Townswomen's Guild, the residents of Castle Point and others concerning a car scheme (Castle Point);
- P:000731: from members of Rushden, Northamptonshire and the surrounding areas concerning road repairs (Northamptonshire);
- P:000742: from Residents of Watchet and others concerning station footbridge repair, and
- P:000747: from Residents of Irchester, Northamptonshire and the surrounding area concerning traffic calming (Irchester).

3. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

4. The impact of flooding on bridges and other transport infrastructure in Cumbria

Andrew Moss, Head of Service, Highways and Transportation and Kenneth Brooks, Business Manager, Cumbria Highways, Cumbria County Council; Michael Winter, ADEPT (Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport); Bridges Group Chairman and Head of Engineering, Dorset County Council and Graham Cole, ADEPT Bridges Group Secretary and Structures Group Manager, Surrey County Council, ADEPT and, Amrit Ghose, Chair, Structures & Buildings Board, Institution of Civil Engineers, gave oral evidence.

Matthew Lugg, Chairman, UK Roads Board and Greg Perks, Chairman, UK Bridges Board, UK Roads Liaison Group; John Dora, Principal Engineer (Climate Change), Network Rail, and David Rooke, Head of Strategy and Engagement, Environment Agency, Nexus, gave oral evidence.

Rt Hon Sadiq Khan, Minister of State for Transport and Mostaque Ahmed, Divisional Manager, Regional and Local Major Projects and Roads Maintenance, Department for Transport, and Neil Loudon, Group Manager, Structures Policy and Pavements, Highways Agency, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till 2.30 pm on Wednesday 24 March.

Wednesday 24 March 2010

Members present:

Mrs Louise Ellman, in the Chair
1. **The major road network**

The Committee discussed informally the Chair’s draft Report.

Draft Report, proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

*(The formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Eighth Report of the Committee, HC 414.)*

2. **Mobility scooters**

The Committee discussed informally the Chair’s draft Report.

Draft Report, proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

*(The formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Ninth Report of the Committee, HC 533.)*

3. **Public Petitions**

The Committee noted the following petition to the House:

- P:000768: from residents of Castle Point and others concerning the condition of Felstead Road, Benfleet

The Committee noted observations from the Secretary of State on the following petition to the House:

- P:000742: from the people of Croydon concerning road gritting.

4. **Future programme**

The Committee considered this matter.

[The Committee adjourned.]