



House of Commons  
Treasury Sub-Committee

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# **Formal Minutes**

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**Session 2006–07**



# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 22 November 2006**

Members present:

Mr Michael Fallon, in the Chair

Jim Cousins  
Mr David Gauke  
Ms Sally Keeble  
Mr Andrew Love  
John McFall

Mr Brooks Newmark  
John Thurso  
Mr Mark Todd  
Peter Viggers

***1. The Sub-Committee's programme of work***

The Sub-Committee considered this matter.

***2. HM Revenue & Customs: administration and expenditure in 2005–06***

Mr Paul Gray, Acting Chairman, Stephen Jones, Finance Director, and Mike Eland, Director-General, Enforcement and Compliance, HM Revenue & Customs, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned to a day and time to be fixed by the Chairman.]

**Wednesday 10 January 2007**

Members present:

Mr Michael Fallon, in the Chair

Mr Colin Breed  
Mr David Gauke  
Ms Sally Keeble  
John McFall

Mr Brooks Newmark  
John Thurso  
Mr Mark Todd  
Peter Viggers

***1. The Sub-Committee's programme of work***

The Sub-Committee considered this matter.

***2. Debt Management Office: administration and expenditure in 2005–06***

Mr Robert Stheeman, Chief Executive, Ms Jo Whelan, Deputy Chief Executive, and Mr Jim Juffs, Head of Operations and Resources, Debt Management Office, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 24 January at 2.15 pm.]

## Wednesday 24 January 2007

Members present:

Mr Michael Fallon, in the Chair

Mr Colin Breed	John McFall
Jim Cousins	Mr Brooks Newmark
Mr David Gauke	John Thurso
Ms Sally Keeble	Peter Viggers
Kerry McCarthy	

### ***1. The Sub-Committee's programme of work***

The Sub-Committee considered this matter.

### ***2. Review of the April 2005 merger of HM Customs and Excise and Inland Revenue***

Mr Paul Gray, Acting Chairman, Mr Mike Eland, Director-General, Enforcement and Compliance, and Dave Hartnett, Director General (Policy and Technical), HM Revenue & Customs, gave oral evidence.

Rt Hon Dawn Primarolo MP, Paymaster General, Mr Mike Hanson, Director General (Corporate Functions), HM Revenue & Customs, and Mr Peter Short, Head of Revenue Service delivery team, HM Treasury, gave oral evidence.

### ***3. Valuation Office Agency: administration and expenditure in 2005–06***

Mr Andrew Hudson, Chief Executive, Mr David Park, Deputy Chief Executive & Director of Local Taxation, Mr John Wilkinson, Director of District Valuer Services, and Ms Sue Townsend, Director of Finance, Valuation Office Agency, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 21 February at 2.15 pm.]

## Wednesday 21 February 2007

Members present:

Mr Michael Fallon, in the Chair

Jim Cousins	John McFall
Mr David Gauke	Mr Brooks Newmark
Ms Sally Keeble	Mr Mark Todd
Mr Andrew Love	

### ***1. The Sub-Committee's programme of work***

The Sub-Committee considered this matter.

### ***2. Preparations for the 2011 Census***

Professor David Rhind, Chairman, Mr Richard Alldritt, Chief Executive, and Mr Martin Weale, Commissioner, Statistics Commission, gave oral evidence.

Ms Karen Dunnell, National Statistician and Registrar General, Ms Jil Matheson, Director Census Demography and Regional Statistics, and Mr Ian Cope, Census Director, England and Wales, Office for National Statistics, gave oral evidence.

**3. National Savings and Investments: administration and expenditure in 2005–06**

Ms Jane Platt, Chief Executive and Director of Savings, and Mr Steve Owen, Director, Partnerships and Operations, National Savings & Investments, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 14 March at 2.15 pm.]

**Wednesday 14 March 2007**

Members present:

Mr Michael Fallon, in the Chair

Mr Colin Breed

Jim Cousins

Mr David Gauke

Kerry McCarthy

John McFall

Mr George Mudie

Mr Brooks Newmark

Mr Mark Todd

**1. The Sub-Committee's programme of work**

The Sub-Committee considered this matter.

**2. The administration of tax credits: follow-up**

Rt Hon Dawn Primarolo MP, Paymaster General, Mr Tony Orhnlial, Director, Personal Tax and Welfare Reform, HM Treasury, and Ms Sarah Walker Director, Benefits and Tax Credits, HM Revenue & Customs, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 25 April at 2.15 pm.]

**Wednesday 25 April 2007**

Members present:

Mr Michael Fallon, in the Chair

Ms Sally Keeble

Mr Andrew Love

John McFall

Mr Mark Todd

Peter Viggers

**1. The Sub-Committee's programme of work**

The Sub-Committee considered this matter.

**2. Progress on the efficiency programme in the Chancellor's departments**

Mr Frank Haskew, Head of Tax Faculty, Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, Mr John Whiting, Chartered Institute of Taxation, Mr Robin Williamson, Technical Director, Low Incomes Tax Reform Group, and Ms Kate Green, Chief Executive, Child Poverty Action Group, gave oral evidence.

Mr Charles Cochrane, Secretary for the Council of Civil Service Unions, Mr Peter Lockhart, HMRC Group Secretary, PCS, Mr Paul Whiteman, Head of Business Development, and Ms Michelle Wyer, Association of Revenue and Customs President, FDA, gave oral evidence.

Mr Paul Gray CB, Chairman, HM Revenue & Customs, and Mr Stuart Cruickshank, Chief Finance Officer, HM Revenue & Customs, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 9 May 2007 at 2.15pm.]

**Wednesday 9 May 2007**

Members present:

Mr Michael Fallon, in the Chair

Mr Colin Breed  
Mr David Gauke  
Ms Sally Keeble  
John McFall

Mr Brooks Newmark  
John Thurso  
Mr Mark Todd

**1. The Sub-Committee's programme of work**

The Sub-Committee considered this matter.

**2. Progress on the efficiency programme in the Chancellor's departments**

Professor David Rhind, Chairman, Statistics Commission, Professor Tim Holt, President, Royal Statistical Society, and Mr Keith Dugmore, Statistics User Forum gave oral evidence.

Mr Dean Rogers, PCS, Ms Rose Willis, Prospect, and Ms Ro Marsh, FDA, gave oral evidence.

Ms Karen Dunnell, National Statistician and Registrar General, Mr Dennis Roberts, Director of Registration and Corporate Services, and Mr Steve Newman, Director of Finance and Planning, Office for National Statistics, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 16 May 2007 at 2.15pm.]

## Wednesday 16 May 2007

Members present:

Mr Michael Fallon, in the Chair

Jim Cousins	John Thurso
Mr David Gauke	Mr Mark Todd
Ms Sally Keeble	Peter Viggers
John McFall	

### ***1. The Sub-Committee's programme of work***

The Sub-Committee considered this matter.

### ***2. Progress on the efficiency programme in the Chancellor's departments***

Mr Nicholas Macpherson, Permanent Secretary, Ms Mary Keegan, Managing Director, Government Financial Management, and Ms Samantha Beckett, Director of Operations, HM Treasury, Mr Peter Fanning, Acting Chief Executive, Office of Government Commerce, Mr Chris Daykin, Government Actuary, Government Actuary's Department, and Mr Jim Juffs, Chief Operating Officer, Debt Management Office, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 13 June 2007 at 2.15pm.]

## Wednesday 13 June 2007

Members present:

Mr Michael Fallon, in the Chair

Jim Cousins	John Thurso
Ms Sally Keeble	Mr Mark Todd
John McFall	Peter Viggers
Mr Brooks Newmark	

### ***1. The Sub-Committee's programme of work***

The Sub-Committee considered this matter.

### ***2. Progress on the efficiency programme in the Chancellor's departments***

Professor Colin Talbot, Manchester Business School and Dr Jennifer Law, University of Glamorgan, gave oral evidence.

John Healey MP, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, HM Treasury, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned Wednesday 17 July 2007 at 9.30 am]

## Tuesday 17 July 2007

Members present:

Mr Michael Fallon, in the Chair

Ms Sally Keeble

John Thurso

Mr John McFall

Mr Mark Todd

Mr George Mudie

### **1. *The Sub-Committee's programme of work***

The Sub-Committee considered this matter.

### **2. *Progress on the efficiency programme in the Chancellor's departments***

Draft Report (The efficiency programme in the Chancellor's departments), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

*The draft Report was agreed to and reported to the House. The Minutes of Proceedings relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Eighth Report from the Treasury Committee, Session 2006–07 (HC 483), pp 74–76.*

[Adjourned to a day and time to be fixed by the Chairman.]

## Wednesday 10 October 2007

Members present:

Mr Michael Fallon, in the Chair

Mr Graham Brady

Mr George Mudie

Mr Philip Dunne

John Thurso

Ms Sally Keeble

Mr Mark Todd

John McFall

Peter Viggers

### **1. *Office of Government Commerce: administration and expenditure in 2006–07***

Mr Nigel Smith, Chief Executive, and Mr William Jordan, Deputy Chief Executive, Office of Government Commerce, and Ms Alison Littlely, Chief Executive, OGCBuying.solutions, gave oral evidence.

### **2. *Royal Mint: administration and expenditure in 2006–07***

Mr David Barrass, Deputy Master and Chief Executive, Royal Mint, and Mr Andrew Stafford, Deputy Master and Chief Executive, Royal Mint (from 15 October 2007), gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 14 November at 2.15pm.]