Education Committee

Formal Minutes Session 2015—16

Wednesday 8 July 2015

Members present

Neil Carmichael in the Chair

Lucy Allan        Lucy Frazer
Ian Austin        Kate Hollern
Michelle Donelan  Ian Mearns
Marion Fellows    Caroline Nokes
Suella Fernandes  Kate Osamor

1. Declaration of interests

Members declared their interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (see Appendix 1).

2. Working methods

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the Committee examine witnesses in public, except where it otherwise orders.

Ordered, That witnesses who submit written evidence to the Committee are authorised to publish it on their own account in accordance with Standing Order No. 135, subject always to the discretion of the Chair or where the Committee otherwise orders.

3. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from the Secretary of State for Education, on her responsibilities.

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from Ofsted, on its responsibilities.

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from Ofqual, on its responsibilities.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 15 July at 9.15 am]
Wednesday 15 July 2015

Members present

Neil Carmichael in the Chair

Lucy Allan  Lucy Frazer
Ian Austin  Kate Hollern
Michelle Donelan  Ian Mearns
Marion Fellows  Caroline Nokes
Suella Fernandes

1. Estimates memoranda

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the Estimates memoranda relating to the Main Estimates for financial year 2015–16 laid on behalf of the Department for Education, the Teachers’ Pension Scheme, Ofsted and Ofqual be reported to the House for publication on the Internet.

2. Apprenticeships and traineeships for 16 to 19 year olds

Draft Special Report (Apprenticeships and traineeships for 16 to 19 year olds – Government response to the Sixth Report of the Committee, Session 2014–15), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government’s response to the Sixth Report from the Committee of Session 2014–15 was appended to the Report.

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

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

3. Extremism in schools

Draft Special Report (Extremism in schools: the Trojan Horse affair – Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills (Ofsted) response to the Seventh Report of the Committee, Session 2014–15), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

Ofsted’s response to the Seventh Report from the Committee of Session 2014–15 was appended to the Report.

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

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.
4. School starting age

Ordered, That the correspondence received from the Minister of State for Schools be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

5. Social media

The Committee considered this matter.

6. Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Education

The Committee considered this matter.

7. The work of Ofsted

Resolved, That the Committee seek written evidence on this matter.

8. The role of the regional schools commissioners

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into this matter.

9. Education, skills and productivity

The Committee considered this matter.

10. The administration of the Department for Education

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Department for Education.

11. Visit by the Swedish parliamentary committee on education

The Committee considered this matter.

12. Specialist advisers

Ordered, That Professor Becky Francis be appointed as standing specialist adviser on general education matters for Session 2015–16.

Ordered, That Professor David Berridge and Marion Davis be appointed as standing specialist advisers on general matters relating to children’s services for Session 2015–16.

13. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 9 September at 9.15 am]
1. **Children’s Centres**

*Ordered*, That the correspondence received from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Childcare and Education be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

2. **Child protection and well-being**

The Committee considered this matter.

*Resolved*, That the Committee take oral evidence from the Children’s Commissioner for England, on her responsibilities.

3. **Future programme**

The Committee considered this matter.

*Resolved*, That the Committee take oral evidence on the recruitment and retention of teachers.

*Resolved*, That the Committee inquire into mental health and well-being in the care system for young people.

*Resolved*, That the Committee visit the offices of Microsoft in London to see its showcase classroom.

4. **Academies annual report and accounts**

The Committee considered this matter.

5. **Recruitment of the new Chief Regulator, Ofqual**

The Committee considered this matter.
6. **The work of Ofsted**

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence received in connection with this matter be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Professor Stephen Gorard  
Mr William Harrison  
Mr Bryan Meyer  
British Humanist Association  
Durand Academy  
Local Government Association  
Barbara Saltmarsh Ltd  
National Deaf Children’s Society  
Who Cares? Trust  
Teacher Support Network Group  
GL Assessment  
National Day Nurseries Association  
Association of School and College Leaders  
Sense  
Catholic Education Service  
Association of Teachers and Lecturers  
National Union of Teachers  
The Scout Association  
Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years  
Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals  
Mr Andrew Walker  
Liberal Democrats Education Association  
National Association of Teachers of Religious Education  
Mrs Helen Astley  
Wellcome Trust  
National Association of Head Teachers  
Emeritus Professor John Lancaster  
National Association of Fostering Providers  
Confederation of British Industry  
British Chambers of Commerce  
Mr Geoff Barton  
Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education  
National Governors’ Association  
National Children’s Bureau  
Ben Gibbs
Oasis Community Learning
Mr Andreas Wesemann
Children’s Services Development Group
Parents Want a Say
Creative Skillset
John Denning
Blind Children UK
National Secular Society
Michael Cosh

7. **Responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Education**

Rt Hon Nicky Morgan MP, Secretary of State for Education, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 16 September at 9.15 am]
Wednesday 16 September 2015

Members present

Neil Carmichael in the Chair

Lucy Allan  Lucy Frazer
Ian Austin  Kate Hollern
Michelle Donelan  Ian Mearns
Marion Fellows  Caroline Nokes
Suella Fernandes  Kate Osamor

1. Declaration of interests by specialist advisers

Professor David Berridge OBE, Marion Davis CBE and Professor Becky Francis, specialist advisers, declared interests (see Appendix 2).

2. Department for Education Main Estimates 2015–16

Ordered, That the written evidence received from the Department for Education be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

3. Fairer funding

Ordered, That the correspondence from the Chair to the Secretary of State for Education be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

4. Free schools: planning rules

Ordered, That the correspondence from the Chair to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

5. Mental health and well-being of looked after children

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the mental health and well-being of looked after children.

6. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into Holocaust education.
7. **The role of the regional schools commissioners**

The Committee considered this matter.

*Resolved*, That the Committee visit Coventry in connection with this inquiry.

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence received in connection with this matter be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

Robert Hill  
Joe Nutt  
GL Assessment  
Mrs Sharon Harvey  
Nottinghamshire County Council  
Association of Colleges  
Mr Ian Bauckham  
Nottingham City Council  
London Diocesan Board for Schools  
National Union of Teachers  
National Association of School Business Management  
NASUWT  
Socialist Educational Association  
Church of England Education Office  
Catholic Education Service  
Liberal Democrat Education Association  
National Middle Schools Forum  
Herts For Learning  
NFER  
Education Endowment Foundation  
Kent County Council  
National Association of Head Teachers  
The Education Foundation  
Ofsted  
Association of Directors of Children’s Services  
Academies Enterprise Trust  
Department for Education  
ASCL  
Local Government Association  
Greater London Authority  
National Governors’ Association  
Northamptonshire County Council
8. **Inter-parliamentary committee meeting on Education and Youth**

*Resolved*, That the Chair and Kate Osamor have leave to attend the inter-parliamentary committee meeting on Education and Youth in Brussels on 3 December, and that the Chair seek funding from the Liaison Committee.

9. **Committee away day**

The Committee considered this matter.

10. **Work of Ofsted**

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence received in connection with this matter from Titus Alexander be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

Sir Michael Wilshaw, Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Education, Children’s Services and Skills and Matthew Coffey, Chief Operating Officer, Ofsted, gave evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 14 October at 9.15 am]
APPENDIX 1: DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS’ INTERESTS

8 July 2015: Declaration of Members’ interests

Interests declared in addition to those registered in the Register of Members’ Financial Interests as at 8 June 2015.

Lucy Allan:
Nil.
Donations registered include two from donors connected to an educational trust. David Ross set up the David Ross Educational Trust. This is a charitable organisation involved in turning round failing schools. Nick Teagle, also a donor to my election campaign, is connected to the David Ross Educational Trust.

Ian Austin:
Nil

Neil Carmichael:
Board member, Education, Wild Search (unpaid)
Director, Festomane PLC (unpaid)

Michelle Donelan:
Nil

Marion Fellows:
Further payment from North Lanarkshire Council

Suella Fernandes:
Chairman of Governors, Michaela Community School, Wembley

Lucy Frazer:
My husband is the Chief Executive Officer of a privately-owned international education business. Study Group operates high schools, language schools and university pathway programmes for international students in the UK, as well as similar operations in Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand.

The following are also in my register of interests:
Name of donor: Samuel Kaye
Address of donor: private
Amount of donation or nature and value if donation in kind: £2,200
Donor status: individual
(Registered 10 June 2015)

9 July 2015, payment of £500 received from Homan Fenwick and Willan LLP, 65 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2AE, for legal services work done on 3 October 2013. (Registered 13 July 2015)

Kate Hollern:
Unison member

Ian Mearns:
Governor, Thomas Hepburn Community Academy
Chair of Governors, Kelvin Grove Primary School

Caroline Nokes:
Advisory governor at Eastleigh College

Kate Osamor:
Member of Unite the Union
A Governor at West Lee School, Edmonton, N9 9TU
APPENDIX 2: DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY SPECIALIST ADVISERS

16 September 2015

Professor David Berridge:

1. Employee of the University of Bristol
2. I apply for research grants from central and local government, trusts, charities and other sources.
3. Co-opted member of corporate parenting panel, Bristol City Council

Marion Davis

1. I am a Trustee of a children’s charity, Children and Families across Borders (CFAB) – unremunerated.
2. I am a member of the Improvement Board for Children’s Services in Northamptonshire County Council.
3. I have acted as an external adviser to the Safeguarding Board of Northern Ireland in respect of a thematic review of Child Sexual Exploitation (due to conclude September 2015).
4. I was the author of a Serious Case Review for Sutton LSCB and may be required to respond/contribute to media interest when it is published (likely to be late 2015/early 2016).

Professor Becky Francis

1. Employee of King’s College London
2. Member of the Labour Party
3. Member appointed governor of Hinchley Wood Secondary School
4. Trustee of Impetus-Pef
5. Trustee of the Girls Network