Formal Minutes of the Justice Committee

Tuesday 15 May 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine
Jeremy Corbyn
Nick de Bois

Ben Gummer
Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Elizabeth Truss

1. Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Petition

The Committee noted the Government’s observations on the petition presented by Stephen Williams on the East Bristol Youth Inclusion Programme.

3. Main estimates memoranda

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Main estimates be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Ministry of Justice; Serious Fraud Office; and HM Procurator General and Treasury Solicitor.


Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the Post-legislative scrutiny of the Freedom of Information inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Ian Benson; Paul Conroy; Tristan Lane; Michael and Pam Clarkson; CFOI; and the Association of Colleges.

Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Business Strategy and Support, Kent County Council; Edward Hammond, Research and Information Manager, Centre for Public Scrutiny; Tracy Phillips, Information Compliance Advisor (Solicitor), Lambeth Council; Mark Turnbull, Head of Property Finance and Technology Legal Services, Leeds City Council; Glenn Preston, Deputy Director of Information and Devolution and Pam Teare, Director of Communication and Information, Ministry of Justice; Marion Furr, Director of Ministerial Business and Parliamentary Accountability, Department of Health; Brendan Walsh, Head, Information Rights Team, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; and Roger Smethurst, Deputy Director of Knowledge, Cabinet Office, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 16 May at 9.15am.]
Wednesday 16 May 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine  Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Mr Robert Buckland  Seema Malhotra
Jeremy Corbyn  Yasmin Qureshi
Ben Gummer  Karl Turner

1. Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Public Bodies (Abolition of Public Board and HM Inspectorate of Court Administration) Order 2012

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee would not make any recommendation under section 11 of the Public Bodies Act 2011 in relation to the draft Order.


Rt Hon Dominic Grieve QC MP, Attorney General, Rt Hon Lord McNally, Ministry of Justice and Rt Hon Frances Maude MP, Cabinet Office, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 22 May at 10.15am.]
Tuesday 22 May 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine    Ben Gummer
Mr Robert Buckland    Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Jeremy Corbyn    Elizabeth Truss
Chris Evans    Karl Turner

1. Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.


Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the Post-legislative scrutiny of the Freedom of Information inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Jo and Celia Kelly; Susanna Rees; Public Concern at Work; Jan Savage; and Alistair Sloan.

3. Budget and structure of the MOJ

James Allen, Head of Partnerships and Public Services, National Council for Voluntary Organisations; Clive Martin, Director, Clinks; and Michael Spurr, Chief Executive Office, National Offender Management Service, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 23 May at 2.15pm.

Wednesday 23 May 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine    Ben Gummer
Mr Robert Buckland    Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Jeremy Corbyn    Elizabeth Truss
Chris Evans    Karl Turner

1. Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Budget and Structure of the MOJ

Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke QC MP, Secretary of State for Justice and Lord Chancellor and Sir Suma Chakrabarti, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 13 June at 9.15am.
Wednesday 13 June 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Mr Robert Buckland Seema Malhotra
Jeremy Corbyn Yasmin Qureshi
Nick de Bois Elizabeth Truss
Chris Evans

1. **Committee's programme of work**

The Committee considered this matter.

2. **Framework Agreement for Language Services**

*Ordered*, That correspondence with HM Courts and Tribunals Service regarding the Framework Agreement for Language Services be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

3. **Budget and Structure of the MOJ**

Jonathan Djanogly MP, Parliamentary-Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Justice, and Tim Loughton MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Education, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 19 June at 10.15am.

Tuesday 19 June 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Mr Robert Buckland Seema Malhotra
Jeremy Corbyn Yasmin Qureshi
Chris Evans Elizabeth Truss

1. **Committee's programme of work**

The Committee considered this matter.

2. **Youth Justice**

*Resolved*, That the Committee visit HMYOI Feltham and HMYOI Hindley in connection with its inquiry into youth justice.
3. **Future programme**

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into *women and custody*.

Resolved, That the Committee take evidence from the Attorney General.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the European Union data protection proposals.

4. **Youth Justice**

   a) *Memoranda for publication on the internet*

   *Ordered*, That the following written evidence relating to the Youth Justice inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Youth Offending Service, Reading; Catch22; Prison Reform Trust; HM Inspectorate of Prisons; and the Children’s Commissioner.

   b) *Declaration of interests*

Mr Elfyn Llwyd declared that he had been a member of the advisory panel to the Howard League’s inquiry into former armed service personnel in prison and that he had participated in a visit to Milan which had been sponsored by the same organisation.

   c) *Oral evidence*

Alexandra Crossley, Senior Researcher, Centre for Social Justice, Andrew Neilson, Director of Campaigns, Howard League for Penal Reform and Enver Solomon, Chair, Standing Committee on Youth Justice, gave oral evidence.

Resolved, That the Committee take the evidence to be given by User Voice at this day’s sitting in private.

The public withdrew, in accordance with the Committee’s Resolution of this day’s sitting.

User Voice gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 26 June at 10.15am.]
Tuesday 26 June 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine  Ben Gummer
Mr Robert Buckland  Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Jeremy Corbyn  Seema Malhotra
Nick de Bois  Elizabeth Truss
Chris Evans

1. Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Budget and structure of the MoJ

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the budget and structure of the MoJ inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Professional Interpreters’ Alliance.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 3 July at 10.15am.]
Tuesday 3 July 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine  Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Mr Robert Buckland  Seema Malhotra
Jeremy Corbyn  Yasmin Qureshi
Chris Evans  Elizabeth Truss
Ben Gummer  Karl Turner

1. Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into Women Offenders.

Resolved, That the Committee take evidence from the Attorney General.

Resolved, That the Committee take evidence from the Serious Fraud Office.


Draft Report (Post-legislative scrutiny of the Freedom of Information Act 2000), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to; the formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the First Report of the Committee, HC 96-I.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 10 July at 10.15am.]
Tuesday 10 July 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine  Ben Gummer
Mr Robert Buckland  Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Jeremy Corbyn  Seema Malhotra
Chris Evans  Elizabeth Truss

1. Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into EU Data Protection framework proposals.


Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the Post-legislative scrutiny of the Freedom of Information inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Rt Hon Tony Blair.

3. Youth Justice

Mr Robert Buckland declared that he was a Recorder of the Crown Court.

Paul O’Hara, Manager, Bradford Youth Offending Service, Gareth Jones, Vice-Chair, Association of Youth Offending Team Managers, Wendy Poynton, Manager, Leicestershire Youth Offending Service, John Bache, Chairman, Youth Courts Committee, Magistrates’ Association, Steve Crocker, Association of Directors of Children’s Services, and Assistant Chief Constable Kevin Wilkins, Association of Chief Police Officers, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 17 July at 9.15am.]
Tuesday 17 July 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine  Ben Gummer
Mr Robert Buckland  Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Jeremy Corbyn  Seema Malhotra
Nick de Bois  Elizabeth Truss

1. **Committee’s programme of work**

   The Committee considered this matter.

   **Resolved**, That the Committee inquire into interpreting and translation services in the courts.

2. **Post-legislative scrutiny of the Freedom of Information Act 2000**

   **Ordered**, That the following written evidence relating to the *Post-legislative scrutiny of the Freedom of Information* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Rt Hon Tony Blair.

3. **Budget and structure of the Ministry of Justice**

   Draft Report (The *budget and structure of the Ministry of Justice*), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

   *The draft Report was agreed to; the formal minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the First Report of the Committee, HC 97-I.*

   [Adjourned till Tuesday 4 September at 10.15am.]
Tuesday 4 September 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine Seema Malhotra
Mr Robert Buckland Yasmin Qureshi
Jeremy Corbyn Elizabeth Truss
Mr Elfyn Llwyd

1. Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. European Data Protection framework proposals

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the European Data Protection framework proposals inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Brussels European Employee Relations Group; Information Commissioner; Towers Watson; Stephanie Johnson; FLA; Microsoft Ltd; RSA Insurance Group; Equifax Ltd; Professional Publishers Association; Christopher Millard, Alan Cunningham, Kuan Hon of the Cloud Legal Project, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary, University of London; U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Welcome Trust; CIFAS; NHS European Office; Association of Chief Police Officers; Advertising Association; Federation of Small Businesses; Association of British Insurers; International Regulatory Strategy Group; Which?; Thomson Reuters; British Bankers' Association; Market Research Society; ISBA; Symantec Corporation; Business Software Alliances; Direct Marketing Association of the United States; UK Cards; Adobe Systems; MoJ; Association for Financial Markets in Europe; Information Commissioner; Newspaper Association; Society of Editors; Internet Advertising Bureau UK; Association of Medical Research; Intellect; Direct Marketing Association (UK) Ltd; Ebay Inc; Pearson Plc; Aimia; British Medical Association; CBI; and Privacy International.

Ian Readhead, Director of Information, Association of Chief Police Offices, Merilyne Knox, Head of Public Access Office, Metropolitan Police, Jean Gonié, Director of Privacy EU Affairs, Microsoft, Sietske de Groot, Senior EU and International Affairs Policy Advisor, Federation of Small Businesses, Christopher Graham, Information Commissioner, and David Smith, Deputy Commissioner and Director of Data Protection, Information Commissioner’s Office, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 11 September at 10.15am.]
Tuesday 11 September 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine  Seema Malhotra
Mr Robert Buckland  Yasmin Qureshi
Jeremy Corbyn  Elizabeth Truss
Mr Elfyn Llwyd

1. Committee’s programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee undertake pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Children and Families Bill.

Resolved, That the Committee take evidence from the Secretary of State for Justice.

2. Petition

The Committee noted the petition from residents of Wellingborough, Northamptonshire and the surrounding areas, presented by Peter Bone MP, on the subject of the proposed closure of Wellingborough Prison.

3. European Data Protection framework proposals


[Adjourned till Monday 17 September at 4.45pm.]
Monday 17 September 2012

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine  Chris Evans
Mr Robert Buckland  Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Jeremy Corbyn

1. **Committee’s programme of work**

The Committee considered this matter.

2. **European Data Protection framework proposals**

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the European Data Protection framework proposals inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Digital Policy Alliance; and Microsoft Ltd.

Lord McNally, Minister of State, Glenn Preston, Deputy Director, Information and Devolution, and Tim Jewell, Deputy Director, Legal Directorate, Ministry of Justice, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 16 October at 9.15am.]