

Formal Minutes of the Justice Committee

Tuesday 14 May 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Jeremy Corbyn	Andy McDonald
Nick de Bois	Seema Malhotra
Gareth Johnson	Graham Stringer

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Supreme Court*

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Supreme Court in connection with its ongoing scrutiny work.

3. *Crown Dependencies*

Resolved, That the Committee visit Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man in connection with its inquiry into *Crown Dependencies: developments since 2010*.

Resolved, That the Committee hold an informal seminar on *Crown Dependencies: developments since 2010*.

4. *Joint Enterprise*

Ordered, That correspondence received from the Director of Public Prosecutions, relating to *Joint Enterprise*, be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

5. *Funding of Expert Witnesses*

Ordered, That correspondence received from the Ministry of Justice, in response to the Committee's Report *Pre-legislative scrutiny of the Children and Families Bill*, be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

6. *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; Crown Prosecution Service;

Serious Fraud Office; and HM Procurator General and Treasury Solicitor; The National Archives.

7. *Government Consultation on Transforming Legal Aid*

Resolved, That the Committee hold an evidence session on the Government's consultation on Transforming Legal Aid.

8. *Sexual Offences Sentencing Guideline*

Draft Report (*Sexual Offences Guideline: Consultation*), proposed by the Chairman, 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 93.

9. *Older Prisoners*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Older prisoners* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Prisoner L; Prisoner M; and Prisoner N.

Dr Seena Fazel, Royal College of Psychiatrists, Dr Iain Brew, Royal College of GPs, Professor Jennifer Shaw, Offender Health Research Network gave oral evidence. Paul Grainge, RECOOP, Dr Stuart Ware, Restore Support Network, and Gill Walker, Chair of the Older People in Prison Forum, Age UK, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 21 May at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 21 May 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Andy McDonald
Rehman Chishti	Seema Malhotra
Jeremy Corbyn	Graham Stringer
Mr Elfyn Llwyd	Mike Weatherley

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Crime reduction policies inquiry*

Resolved, That the Committee hold an informal seminar on crime reduction policies.

3. *Freedom of Information*

Ordered, That correspondence received from the Ministry of Justice, in relation to *Freedom of Information*, be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

4. *The work of the Crown Prosecution Service*

a) Declaration of interests

Rehman Chishti, Mr Elfyn Llwyd and Andy McDonald declared interests as legal practitioners; and Mike Weatherley declared an interest arising from personal involvement in a case being dealt with by the Crown Prosecution Service.

b) Oral evidence

Keir Starmer QC, Director of Public Prosecutions, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 4 June at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 4 June 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Rehman Chishti	Andy McDonald
Jeremy Corbyn	Seema Malhotra
Nick de Bois	Graham Stringer
Gareth Johnson	Mike Weatherley

1. Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till tomorrow at 9.15am.]

Wednesday 5 June 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Jeremy Corbyn	Andy McDonald
Mr Elfyn Llwyd	Seema Malhotra

1. Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Older Prisoners

Jeremy Wright MP, Minister for Prisons and Rehabilitation, Ministry of Justice, Michael Spurr, Chief Executive of NOMS, and Bruce Calderwood, Director, Mental Health, Disability and Equality, Department of Health, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 11 June at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 11 June 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Rehman Chishti	Andy McDonald
Jeremy Corbyn	Seema Malhotra
Nick de Bois	Yasmin Qureshi
Gareth Johnson	Graham Stringer

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Transforming Legal Aid*

a) *Declaration of interests*

Rehman Chishti, Gareth Johnson, Mr Elfyn Llwyd, Andy McDonald and Yasmin Qureshi declared interests as legal practitioners.

b) *Oral evidence*

Lucy Scott-Moncrieff, President, Law Society, Bill Waddington, Chair, Criminal Law Solicitors Association, Michael Turner QC, Chair, Criminal Bar Association, Maura McGowan QC, Chair, Bar Council gave oral evidence.

Tudur Owen, Senior Partner, Tudur Owen Roberts Glynne & Co, Roger Smith, Academic and former Director of JUSTICE, and Steve Brooker, Legal Services Consumer Panel, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till tomorrow at 9.15am.]

Wednesday 12 June 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Andy McDonald	Seema Malhotra
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Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 18 June at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 18 June 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Andy McDonald
Rehman Chishti	Seema Malhotra
Nick de Bois	Graham Stringer
Gareth Johnson	Mike Weatherley
Mr Elfyn Llwyd	

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Crown Dependencies: Developments since 2010*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Crown Dependencies: Developments since 2010* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Michael Dunn, Jonathan Irving, Isle of Man Government, Peter Willers, Government of Jersey, Michael Higgins, The Chief Pleas of Sark, Policy Council of the States of Guernsey, Nicholas Le Cornu, Stephen Holmes, and the Ministry of Justice.

3. *Older prisoners*

Ordered, That the written evidence from Prisoner P relating to the *Older prisoners* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

4. *Environmental Offences Guideline Consultation*

Resolved, That the Committee hold an informal seminar on the Environmental Offences Guideline Consultation.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 25 June at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 25 June 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine
Nick de Bois

Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Andy McDonald

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Crime Reduction Policies: a coordinated approach?*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Crime reduction policies: a coordinated approach?* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Magistrates' Association; Howard League for Penal Reform; Big Brother Watch; Ministry of Justice; Prison Reform Trust; DrugScope; Local Government Association; Centre for Justice Innovation; Richard Lomax; National Policing Lead for Integrated Offender Management; Probation Chiefs Association; Criminal Justice Alliance; London Councils; Unilink Software Ltd; A4e; and Professor Mike Hough and colleagues.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 2 July at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 2 July 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Andy McDonald
Jeremy Corbyn	Seema Malhotra
Gareth Johnson	Graham Stringer
Mr Elfyn Llwyd	Mike Weatherley

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Transforming Rehabilitation*

Savas Hadjipavlou, Business Manager, Probation Chiefs' Association, Ian Lawrence, General, Secretary, NAPO, Richard Monkhouse, Deputy Chairman, Magistrates' Association, Martyn Oliver, Chief Executive, 3SC, and Richard Johnson, Independent Consultant, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till tomorrow at 9.15am.]

Wednesday 3 July 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Andy McDonald
Jeremy Corbyn	Seema Malhotra
Gareth Johnson	Yasmin Qureshi
Mr Elfyn Llwyd	Graham Stringer

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *The functions, powers and resources of the Information Commissioner*

Draft Special Report (*The functions, powers and resources of the Information Commissioner: Government Response to the Committee's Ninth Report of Session 2012–13*), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Committee's Ninth Report of Session 2012–13 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. *Transforming Legal Aid*

Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, Elizabeth Gibby, Deputy Director of Legal Aid and Legal Services Policy, Ministry of Justice, and Hugh Barrett, Director of Legal Aid Commissioning & Strategy, Legal Aid Agency, gave oral evidence.

4. *Women offenders*

Draft Report (*Women offenders: after the Corston Report*), 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 Second Report of the Committee, HC 92.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 16 July at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 16 July 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Seema Malhotra
Rehman Chishti	Andy McDonald
Nick de Bois	Graham Stringer
Mr Elfyn Llwyd	

1. *Committee's programme of work*

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the Ministry of Justice measures in the EU JHA block opt-out.

2. *Petition*

The Committee considered the petition to the House from a resident of the UK concerning sentences on drink driving.

3. *Crown dependencies: developments since 2010*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to *Crown dependencies: developments since 2010* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: A resident of Jersey (Resident A); Cyril Vibert; and Maria Le Fustec.

4. *Ministry of Justice Annual Report and Accounts 2012-13*

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from Dame Ursula Brennan DCB, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice, on the Ministry of Justice Annual Report and Accounts 2012-13.

5. *Transforming Legal Aid: evidence taken by the Committee*

Rehman Chishti, Mr Elfyn Llwyd and Andy McDonald declared interests as legal practitioners.

Draft Report (*Transforming Legal Aid: evidence taken by the Committee*), 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 Third Report of the Committee, HC 91.

6. *Environmental Offences Guideline: Consultation*

Draft Report (*Environmental Offences Guideline: Consultation*), 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 Fourth Report of the Committee, HC 604.

7. *Older Prisoners*

Draft Report (*Older Prisoners*) 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 Fifth Report of the Committee, HC 89.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 3 September at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 3 September 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Jeremy Corbyn	Seema Malhotra
Nick de Bois	Andy McDonald
Gareth Johnson	Graham Stringer

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *HM Chief Inspector of Probation*

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from the preferred candidate for the post of HM Chief Inspector of Probation.

3. *EU conference: Assises de la Justice*

Ordered, That the Chair have leave to visit Brussels in November to attend the Assises de la Justice Conference in a representative capacity, and that he seek the approval of the Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the visit.

4. *Petitions*

The Committee considered the following petitions to the House: from Samuel Collingwood Smith concerning cyber bullying and trolling; and from residents of the UK concerning the Probation Service.

5. *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach*

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach* submitted by the Centre for Mental Health be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

6. *Post-legislative scrutiny of Part 2 of the Serious Crime Act*

Draft Report (*Post-legislative scrutiny of Part 2 of the Serious Crime Act*), 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 Sixth Report of the Committee, HC 639.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 11 September at 9.15am.]

Wednesday 11 September 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Jeremy Corbyn	Andy McDonald
Nick de Bois	Yasmin Qureshi
Gareth Johnson	

1. *Committee's programme of work*

Resolved, that the Committee hold an informal seminar on the draft Fraud, Bribery and Money Laundering Offences Guideline.

2. *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach*

Katy Bourne, Police and Crime Commissioner, Sussex, Rt Hon Alun Michael, Police and Crime Commissioner, South Wales, and Sue Mountstevens, Police and Crime Commissioner, Avon and Somerset; and Dr Eamonn O'Moore, Senior Director Health and Justice, Public Health England, Dr Alison Frater, Head of public health and offender health for London, NHS England, Councillor Claire Kober, London Councils, and Councillor Joanna Spicer, Vice-Chair Safer and Stronger Communities Board, Local Government Association, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 8 October at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 8 October 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Jeremy Corbyn	Andy McDonald
Nick de Bois	Yasmin Qureshi
Gareth Johnson	Graham Stringer
Mr Elfyn Llwyd	

1. *Committee's programme of work*

Resolved, that the Committee hold a further evidence session on *Transforming Rehabilitation*.

2. *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Sue Mountstevens, Police and Crime Commissioner for Avon & Somerset; and London Councils.

3. *Ministry of Justice measures in the JHA block opt-out*

Ordered, That the written evidence from Justice across Borders relating to *Ministry of Justice measures in the JHA block opt-out* be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

4. *Joint Enterprise*

Ordered, That the material submitted by the Director of Public Prosecutions on joint enterprise murder cases in 2012 be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

Resolved, That Jeremy Corbyn be appointed to act as rapporteur on behalf of the Committee on joint enterprise.

5. *Appointment of HM Chief Inspector of Probation*

(a) Paul McDowell, the Government's preferred candidate for HM Chief Inspector of Probation, gave oral evidence.

(b) Draft Report (*Appointment of HM Chief Inspector of Probation*), 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 Seventh Report of the Committee, HC 640.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 16 October at 9.15am.]

Wednesday 16 October 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Jeremy Corbyn	Andy McDonald
Nick de Bois	Graham Stringer
Gareth Johnson	

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Criminal Cases Review Commission*

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from the Criminal Cases Review Commission.

3. *Ministry of Justice measures in the JHA block opt-out*

- a) *Ordered*, That the written evidence submitted by the Ministry of Justice be reported to the House for publication on the internet.
- b) Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, and Rebecca Stimson, Deputy Director, International Policy, Ministry of Justice, gave oral evidence.

4. *Transforming Legal Aid*

- a) Mr Johnson, Mr McDonald and Mr Llwyd declared interests as legal practitioners; and Mr Brine declared an interest as son-in-law of a Justice of the Supreme Court.
- b) Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, and Hugh Barrett, Director of Legal Aid, Commissioning and Strategy, Ministry of Justice, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 22 October at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 22 October 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Rehman Chishti	Andy McDonald
Jeremy Corbyn	Graham Stringer

1. *Petition*

The Committee considered the petition to the House from a mother living in Birmingham, Yardley, concerning care proceedings in Birmingham.

2. *Ministry of Justice Annual Report 2012-13*

Dame Ursula Brennan, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice, Ann Beasley, Director-General Finance, Ministry of Justice, and Matthew Coats, Chief Executive, Legal Aid Agency and Director General for the Ministry of Justice Corporate Services, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 23 October at 9.15am.]

Wednesday 23 October 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Gareth Johnson	Andy McDonald
Mr Elfyn Llwyd	

Committee's programme of work

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 29 October at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 29 October 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Rehman Chishti	Andy McDonald
Jeremy Corbyn	Yasmin Qureshi
Nick de Bois	Graham Stringer

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Fraud, Bribery and Money Laundering Offences Guideline*

The draft letter from the Chair to Lord Justice Leveson, the Chairman of the Sentencing Council, on the fraud sentencing guidelines was agreed to.

3. *Liaison Committee inquiry into Committee effectiveness*

The Committee's draft memorandum on its effectiveness was agreed for submission to the Liaison Committee.

4. *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Rob Allen; Centre for Crime and Justice Studies; Martyn Underhill; and It's Mine Technology.

5. *Ministry of Justice measures in the JHA block opt-out*

Draft Report (*Ministry of Justice measures in the JHA block opt-out*), 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 Eighth Report of the Committee, HC 605.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 5 November at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 5 November 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine

Jeremy Corbyn

Nick de Bois

Gareth Johnson

Andy McDonald

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Petitions*

The Committee considered two petitions on the Probation Service.

3. *Fraud, Bribery and Money Laundering Offences Guideline*

Draft Report (*Fraud, Bribery and Money Laundering Offences Guideline: consultation*), 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 Ninth Report of the Committee, HC 804.

4. *Crown Dependencies: developments since 2010*

Ordered, That the written evidence from the Policy Council of the States of Alderney be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

Lord McNally, Minister of State, and Cathryn Hannah, Head of Crown Dependencies, Overseas Territories and Visits Team, Ministry of Justice, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 5 November at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 12 November 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Mr Christopher Chope	Andy McDonald
Jeremy Corbyn	Yasmin Qureshi
Gareth Johnson	

1. *Declaration of interests*

Mr Christopher Chope declared his interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (*see Appendix*).

2. *Committee's programme of work*

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into Prisons: policy and planning.

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into the impact of Part 1 of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012.

3. *Crime reduction: a co-ordinated approach?*

Ordered, That the written evidence from Gillian Riley, a Victim Liaison Officer at the Northumbria Probation Trust, be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

Ian Mulheirn, Oxford Economics, Toby Eccles, Social Finance, Tom Gash, Institute for Government, Max Chambers, Policy Exchange; and Sue Hall, Probation Chiefs' Association, Seburt Cox, Probation Association, and Oliver Henman, National Council for Voluntary Organisations, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 4 December at 9.15am.]

Wednesday 4 December 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Rehman Chishti	Gareth Johnson
Mr Christopher Chope	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Jeremy Corbyn	Andy McDonald
Nick de Bois	John McDonnell

1. *Declaration of interests*

John McDonnell declared his interests, in accordance with the Resolution of the House of 13 July 1992 (*see Appendix*).

2. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

3. *Petitions*

The Committee considered the following petitions to the House: from Sarah Matthews, a mother living in England, on the subject of the appeals process for the removal of capacity in legal proceedings; and from residents of Dudley on the subject of Dudley Magistrates Court.

4. *Chair of the Office for Legal Complaints*

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from the preferred candidate for the post of Chair of the Office for Legal Complaints.

5. *Meeting of EU Chairs of Justice and Home Affairs Committees*

Ordered, That Mr Elfyn Llwyd have leave to visit Athens on 16-17 February to attend the meeting of EU Chairs of Justice and Home Affairs Committees in a representative capacity, and that the approval of the Chair of the Liaison Committee be sought for expenditure in connection with the visit.

6. *Parole Board*

Resolved, That the *Committee* take oral evidence from representatives of the Parole Board.

7. *Crown Dependencies: developments since 2010*

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Seigneur of Sark, Ministry of Justice, Paul Arditti, Advocate Dawes on behalf of Sir David and Sir Frederick Barclay, and Advocate Dawes on behalf of Kevin Delaney.

8. *Ministry of Justice Annual Report and Accounts*

Ordered, That the letter of 30 June from the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice on the MoJ Spending Round 2013 Settlement be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

9. *Crime reduction: a co-ordinated approach?*

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication on the internet: National Council for Voluntary Organisations, Clinks, Christine Lawrie, Prisoners Education Trust, Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales, Ministry of Justice: Transforming rehabilitation: Information Session, and Ministry of Justice: Transforming rehabilitation: Evidence Session.

Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, and Jeremy Wright MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Justice, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 10 December at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 10 December 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Jeremy Corbyn

Andy McDonald

Mr Elfyn Llwyd

John McDonnell

1. *Crown Dependencies: developments since 2010*

Draft Report (*Crown Dependencies: developments since 2010*) 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 Tenth Report of the Committee, HC 726.

2. *Pre-appointment scrutiny hearing: Chair of the Office for Legal Complaints*

Andy McDonald declared an interest as a solicitor.

Elfyn Llwyd declared an interest as a solicitor and member of the bar.

Stephen Green, preferred candidate for the post of Chair of the Office for Legal Complaints, gave oral evidence.

Draft Report (*Appointment of Chair of the Office for Legal Complaints*), 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 Eleventh Report of the Committee, HC 916.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 17 December at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 17 December 2013

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Mr Christopher Chope
Jeremy Corbyn
Nick de Bois

Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Andy McDonald
John McDonnell

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Crime reduction policies*

Resolved, That the Chair and Jeremy Corbyn visit Stockport in a representative capacity in connection with the inquiry into crime reduction policies.

3. *Government response to the Committee's Report on post-legislative scrutiny of Part 2 of the Serious Crime Act*

Draft Special Report (*Government Response to Justice Committee Report on post-legislative scrutiny of Part 2 of the Serious Crime Act*), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Committee's Sixth Report of Session 2013–14 was appended to the Report.

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

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

4. *Petitions*

The Committee considered a petition to the House from an interpreter working in England on evidence accepted in family courts and the Government observations on a petition to the House from residents of the UK on privatisation of the Probation Service.

5. *The Work of the Parole Board*

Sir David Calvert-Smith, Chair, and Claire Bassett, Chief Executive, Parole Board, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 7 January at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 7 January 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Rehman Chishti	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Mr Christopher Chope	Andy McDonald
Jeremy Corbyn	John McDonnell
Nick de Bois	Yasmin Qureshi
Gareth Johnson	

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Government response to the Committee's Report on Ministry of Justice measures in the JHA block opt-out*

Draft Special Report (*Ministry of Justice measures in the JHA block opt-out: Government Response to the Committee's Eighth Report of Session 2013-14*), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government's response to the Committee's Eighth Report of Session 2013–14 was appended to the Report.

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

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

3. *The Government's Transforming Rehabilitation programme*

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 14 January at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 14 January 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Mr Christopher Chope	Andy McDonald
Jeremy Corbyn	John McDonnell
Gareth Johnson	

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Petition*

The Committee considered the Government observations on the petition from a mother in Yardley on certain care proceedings in Birmingham, presented by John Hemming MP.

3. *The Government's Transforming Rehabilitation programme*

Draft Report (*Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach?: interim report on the Government's Transforming Rehabilitation programme*) 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 Twelfth Report of the Committee, HC 1004

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication on the internet: NAPO and Ministry of Justice.

4. *The work of the Criminal Cases Review Commission*

Richard Foster CBE, Chair, and Karen Kneller, Chief Executive, Criminal Cases Review Commission, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 21 January at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 21 January 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Andy McDonald
Mr Christopher Chope	John McDonnell
Jeremy Corbyn	Yasmin Qureshi
Mr Elfyn Llwyd	

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from the Judicial Appointments Commission.

Ordered, That the letter dated 21 January 2014 from the Chair to the Chairman of the Sentencing Council for England and Wales be reported to the House for publication on the internet.

2. *Petition*

The Committee considered the Government observations on the petition from Sarah Matthews on the appeals process for the removal of capacity in legal proceedings, presented by John Hemming MP.

3. *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach*

Professor Cynthia McDougall, York Criminal Justice Economics, Professor Gloria Laycock, University College London, Professor David Farrington, Cambridge University, and Professor Stephen Farrell, University of Sheffield, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 28 January at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 28 January 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Rehman Chishti
Jeremy Corbyn
Nick de Bois

Mr Elfyn Llwyd
John McDonnell
Yasmin Qureshi

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from Rt Hon Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, on the work of the Lord Chief Justice.

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from Lord Justice Munby, President of the Family Division, on the Court of Protection.

2. *Witnesses and exercise of committee powers*

The Committee considered the guidance from the Clerk of Committees on this matter.

3. *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach*

Richard Garside, Director, Centre for Crime and Justice Studies, Professor Mike Hough, Institute for Criminal Policy Research, Birkbeck College, London, Ben Page, Chief Executive, IPSOS/MORI, and Professor Andromachi Tseloni, University of Loughborough, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 4 February at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 4 February 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Rehman Chishti
Jeremy Corbyn
Nick de Bois

Mr Elfyn Llwyd
John McDonnell
Yasmin Qureshi

1. *Committee's programme of work*

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from Lord McNally, Chair-designate of the Youth Justice Board.

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from the Chair of the Administrative Justice Forum when appointed.

Resolved, That the Committee use funds from its 2013-14 entertainment allowance to hold a reception for justice-related media representatives.

2. *UK/Nigeria prisoner transfer agreement*

The Committee considered the UK/Nigeria Agreement on the transfer of sentenced persons (Cm. 8791) and associated explanatory memorandum.

3. *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach*

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication on the internet: (PPC 36 and PPC 37).

Nick Hardwick, HM Chief Inspector of Prisons and Eoin McLennan Murray, President, Prison Governors' Association, gave oral evidence.

Richard Allen, independent consultant, Frances Crook, Director, Howard League for Penal Reform, Mike Day, Head of Policy, Prison Reform Trust, and Sarah Salmon, Interim Director, Criminal Justice Alliance, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 25 February at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 25 February 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine
Jeremy Corbyn

Mr Elfyn Llwyd
John McDonnell

1. *Petitions*

The Committee considered the Government observations on the following petitions: on the Probation Service, presented by Iain Wright MP; and on evidence accepted in family courts, presented by John Hemming MP.

2. *Ministry of Justice Mid-Year Report*

The Committee considered this matter.

3. *Supplementary Estimates 2013/14*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to *Supplementary Estimates* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Justice Judicial Pensions Scheme; and HM Procurator General and Treasury Solicitor.

4. *Serious Fraud Office Supplementary Estimate 2013-14*

Draft Report (*Serious Fraud Office Supplementary Estimate 2013-14*), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

The Draft Report was agreed to; the final minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Thirteenth Report of the Committee, HC 1005.

5. *Royal Prerogative of Mercy*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Royal Prerogative of Mercy* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: correspondence with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice.

6. *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach?*

Richard Monkhouse, Chair, Magistrates' Association, Phillip Bowen, Director, Centre for Justice Innovation, Adam Pemberton, Assistant Chief Executive, Victim Support, and Penelope Gibbs, Director, Transform Justice, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 5 March at 9.15am.]

Wednesday 5 March 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Jeremy Corbyn	Andy McDonald
Mr Christopher Chope	John McDonnell
Nick de Bois	Yasmin Qureshi
Mr Elfyn Llwyd	

1. *EU reporter*

Resolved, That Mr Llwyd be appointed as the Committee's reporter on EU justice matters.

2. *Supplementary Estimates 2013/14*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to *Supplementary Estimates* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: National Achieves; Crown Prosecution Service; and Supreme Court.

3. *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach?* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Nacro.

4. *The work of the Judicial Appointments Commission*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to *The work of the Judicial Appointments Commission* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Judicial Appointments Commission.

Mr Christopher Stephens, Chairman; Mr Justice Bean, Commissioner; and Dame Valerie Strachan, Commissioner, Judicial Appointments Commission, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 11 March at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 11 March 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine

Jeremy Corbyn

Nick de Bois

Mr Elfyn Llwyd

John McDonnell

1. *Future programme*

The Committee considered this matter.

2. *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach?*

The Committee considered this matter.

3. *The Government's Responses to Reports by the Parliamentary Committees on the 2014 JHA block opt-out*

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 18 March at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 18 March 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine

Andy McDonald

Nick de Bois

John McDonnell

1. *Future programme*

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit the National Archives in Kew.

2. *Petition*

The Committee considered the Government observations on the petition presented by Ian Austin MP, on Dudley Magistrates' Court.

3. *The Government's Responses to Reports by the Parliamentary Committees on the 2014 JHA block opt-out*

Draft Report (*The Government's Response to the Committees' Reports on the 2014 block opt-out decision*), 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 Joint Report from the European Scrutiny, Home Affairs and Justice Committees, HC 1177.

4. *The work of the Court of Protection*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to *The work of the Court of Protection* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Ministry of Justice, Post Legislative assessment of the Mental Capacity Act 2005; Lord Justice Munby and Mr Justice Charles, Court of Protection; correspondence with Jeremy Wright MP; and correspondence with Peter Handcock, HM Courts and Tribunals Service.

Sir James Munby, President of the Court of Protection and President of the Family Division, and Mr Justice Charles, Vice-President, Court of Protection, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 26 March at 9.15am.]

Wednesday 26 March 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine

Jeremy Corbyn

Nick de Bois

Mr Elfyn Llwyd

Andy McDonald

John McDonnell

1. *Petition*

The Committee noted the petition from a lay advocate/McKenzie friend, presented by John Hemming MP, on the appeals process against the sanctioning and removal of state benefits.

2. *Mesothelioma*

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into mesothelioma claims.

3. *Future programme*

The Committee considered this matter.

4. *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach?*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach?* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: the Government's response to the Committee's interim report.

Jeremy Wright MP, Minister for Prisons and Rehabilitation, Ministry of Justice, and Norman Baker MP, Minister for Crime Prevention, Home Office, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 2 April at 5.15am.]

Wednesday 2 April 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Nick de Bois
Rehman Chishti	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Mr Christopher Chope	Andy McDonald
Jeremy Corbyn	Yasmin Qureshi
John Cryer	

1. *Declaration of interests by a new Member*

John Cryer MP disclosed his interests in accordance with the resolution of the House of 13 July 1992, as follows: his wife was a barrister and his sister worked for the Crown Prosecution Service.

2. *Confidentiality of Committee papers and proceedings*

The Committee considered this matter.

3. *Petition*

The Committee noted the petition from Miss Enid L. Gibson on the freezing of her bank accounts, presented by John Hemming MP.

4. *Future programme*

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Chair and Mr McDonald visit HMP Oakwood and HMP Featherstone in a representative capacity in connection with the inquiry into *Prisons: Planning and policies*.

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

5. *The work of the Lord Chief Justice*

a) *Declaration of interests*

Mr Elfyn Llwyd declared that he was likely to practise law again in the near future.

b) *Oral evidence*

Rt Hon Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd, Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 8 April at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 8 April 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Jeremy Corbyn
Mr Elfyn Llwyd

Andy McDonald
Yasmin Qureshi

1. *Women offenders*

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from Simon Hughes MP, Minister of State for Justice and Civil Liberties, on steps taken by the Government in response to the Committee's previous recommendations on women offenders.

2. *Information Commissioner*

Ordered, That the following written evidence be reported to the House for publication on the internet: correspondence from the Information Commissioner.

3. *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach?*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Crime reduction policies: a co-ordinated approach?* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: correspondence from Jeremy Wright MP.

4. *Government response to the Joint Report from the European Scrutiny, Home Affairs and Justice Select Committees*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Government response to the Joint Report from the European Scrutiny, Home Affairs and Justice Select Committees: The Government's response to the Committees' Reports on the 2014 block opt-out decision* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: correspondence from Rt Hon Theresa May MP and Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP.

5. *The work of the Youth Justice Board*

Lord McNally, Chair, and Lin Hinnigan, Chief Executive, Youth Justice Board, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 6 May at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 6 May 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine	Mr Elfyn Llwyd
Rehman Chishti	Andy McDonald
Jeremy Corbyn	John McDonnell
John Cryer	Yasmin Qureshi
Nick de Bois	

1. *Joint enterprise*

Resolved, That the Committee inquire into *Joint enterprise* (follow-up).

2. *Main Estimates 2014–15*

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; HM Procurator General and Treasury Solicitors; and Crown Prosecution Service.

3. *Serious Fraud Office Supplementary Estimate 2013–14*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Serious Fraud Office Supplementary Estimate 2013–14* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: correspondence from Rt Hon Dominic Grieve MP.

4. *Sentencing Council*

Resolved, That the Committee hold an informal seminar on the work of the Sentencing Council.

5. *Mesothelioma Claims*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Mesothelioma claims* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Association of Personal Injury Lawyers; RSA Group; Irwin Mitchell LLP; Aviva; TUC; Zurich Insurance PLC; Thompsons Solicitors; Asbestos Victims Support Groups Forum UK; BLM; Plexus Law; Pattinson & Brewer; Joint Union Asbestos Committee; Axa Liabilities Managers; Clyde & CO LLP; Mesothelioma UK; Association of British Insurers; DAC Beachcroft LLP; Unison; DWF LLP; Keoghs; and Slater & Gordon.

6. *Government response to the Joint Report from the European Scrutiny, Home Affairs and Justice Select Committees*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Government response to the Joint Report from the European Scrutiny, Home Affairs and Justice Select Committees: The*

Government's response to the Committees' Reports on the 2014 block opt-out decision inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: correspondence from Rt Hon Theresa May MP and Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 13 May at 9.15am.]

Tuesday 13 May 2014

Members present:

Sir Alan Beith, in the Chair

Steve Brine

John Cryer

Nick de Bois

Mr Elfyn Llwyd

Andy McDonald

John McDonnell

1. *Petition*

The Committee considered the Government observations on the petition from a lay advocate/McKenzie friend, presented by Mr John Hemming MP, on the subject of the appeals process against the sanctioning and removal of state benefits.

2. *Impact of changes to civil legal aid under the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Impact of changes to civil legal aid under the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Mark Senior; Andrew Jackson Solicitors; All Wales Family Panel Chairmen Forum; Legal Action Group; Association Of Personal Injury Lawyers; Osbornes Solicitors Llp; Legal Services Consumer Panel; Clark Willis Law Firm; Knowsley Domestic Violence Support Services; Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit; National Family Mediation; Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit; Community Law Partnership; Liverpool Law Society; The Family Law Company; Action Against Medical Accidents (Avma); Gingerbread; Sally Cheshire; Young Legal Aid Lawyers; Friends, Families And Travellers; Greenwich Housing Rights; Mary Ward Legal Centre; Chartered Institute Of Arbitrators; Women's Aid; Coram Children's Legal Centre; British Red Cross; Resolution; The Law Society of England And Wales; Citizens Advice; Refuge; Legal Aid Practitioners Group (Lapg); The Magistrates' Association; General Council of The Bar; Immigration Law Practitioners' Association, ILPA; TV Edwards LLP; Jane Pritchard; Gittins Mcdonald Solicitors; Garden Court Chambers Housing Team; Leigh Day; Mind; Housing Law Practitioners Association; Prison Reform Trust; Detention Action; Bail For Immigration Detainees; Law Centres Network; The Personal Support Unit; Southwark Law Centre; Association Of Lawyers For Children; Watkins Solicitors; London Gypsy And Traveller Unit; Liberal Democrat Lawyers Association; Shelter; Community Legal Outreach Collaboration Keele, Keele University; Family Law Bar Association; The Angelou Centre; Islington Law Centre; Ben Hoare Bell LLP; Ministry of Justice; Mackintosh Law; Julie Burton; Foster & Foster; Lucy Reed; Civil

Justice Council; Rights of Women; Family Justice Council; Inquest Lawyers Group; and the Judicial Office.

3. *Mesothelioma Claims*

a) *Written Evidence*

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the *Mesothelioma Claims* inquiry be reported to the House for publication on the internet: correspondence from Lord Faulks, Minister of State for Civil Justice and Legal Policy, Ministry of Justice.

b) *Declaration of interests*

Andy McDonald declared that he was a former member of Thompsons Solicitors.

c) *Oral evidence*

Ian McFall, Thompsons Solicitors, Adrian Budgen, Irwin Mitchell LLP, Doug Jewell, Vice-Chair, Asbestos Victims Support Groups Forum UK, and Helen Buczynsky, Legal Officer, Unison, gave oral evidence.

Nick Pargeter, Berryman Lace Mawer LLP, Derek Adamson, DWF LLP, James Dalton, Head of Motor and Liability, Association of British Insurers, Mike Klaiber, UK Disease Claims Manager, Zurich Insurance plc, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 10 June at 9.15am.]