House of Commons
Business, Innovation and Skills Committee

Formal Minutes

Session 2014–15
Business, Innovation and Skills Committee

The Business, Innovation and Skills Committee is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the expenditure, administration, and policy of the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

Current membership

Mr Adrian Bailey MP (Labour, West Bromwich West) (Chair)
Mr William Bain MP (Labour, Glasgow North East)
Mr Brian Binley MP (Conservative, Northampton South)
Paul Blomfield MP (Labour, Sheffield Central)
Katy Clark MP (Labour, North Ayrshire and Arran)
Mike Crockart MP (Liberal Democrat, Edinburgh South)
Caroline Dinenage MP (Conservative, Gosport)
Rebecca Harris MP (Conservative, Castle Point)
Ann McKechin MP (Labour, Glasgow North)
Mr Robin Walker MP (Conservative, Worcester)
Nadhim Zahawi MP (Conservative, Stratford-upon-Avon)

The following members were also members of the Committee during the parliament.

Luciana Berger MP (Labour, Liverpool, Wavertree)
Jack Dromey MP (Labour, Birmingham, Erdington)
Julie Elliott MP (Labour, Sunderland Central)
Margot James MP (Conservative, Stourbridge)
Dan Jarvis MP (Labour, Barnsley Central)
Simon Kirby MP (Conservative, Brighton Kemptown)
Gregg McClymont MP (Labour, Cumbernauld, Kilsyth and Kirkintilloch East)
Nicky Morgan MP (Conservative, Loughborough)
Chi Onwurah MP (Labour, Newcastle upon Tyne Central)
Rachel Reeves MP (Labour, Leeds West)
Ian Murray MP (Labour, Edinburgh South)
Mr David Ward MP (Liberal Democrat, Bradford East)

Powers

The Committee is one of the departmental select committees, the powers of which are set out in House of Commons Standing Orders, principally in SO No 152. These are available on the Internet via www.parliament.uk.

Publications

The Reports and evidence of the Committee are published by The Stationery Office by Order of the House. All publications of the Committee (including press notices) are on the internet at www.parliament.uk/ibs. A list of Reports of the Committee in the present Parliament is at the back of this volume.

The Reports of the Committee, the formal minutes relating to that report, oral evidence taken and some or all written evidence are available in a printed volume.

Additional written evidence may be published on the internet only.

Committee staff

The current staff of the Committee are James Davies (Clerk), Amelia Aspden (Second Clerk), Josephine Willows (Committee Specialist), Peter Stam (Committee Specialist) and Pam Morris (Committee Assistant).
Contacts

All correspondence should be addressed to the Clerk of the Business, Innovation and Skills Committee, House of Commons, 7th Floor, 14 Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NB. The telephone number for general enquiries is 020 7219 5777; the Committee's email address is biscom@parliament.uk.
Thursday 5 June 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Paul Blomfield  Robin Walker
Mike Crockart   Nadhim Zahawi
Ann McKechin

1. Business-University Collaboration

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Business-University Collaboration be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

- Axillium Research

2. Adult Literacy and Numeracy

The Committee considered this matter.

3. The Retail Sector

Draft Special Report (The Retail Sector: Government Response to the Committee’s Eighth report of Session 2013-14), proposed by the Chairman, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government’s Response to the Eighth Report from the Committee in Session 2013–14 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.
4. Extractive Industries Sector

The Committee considered this matter.

Jenny Willott MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Employment Relations and consumer Affairs, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, gave evidence

[Adjourned till Tuesday 10 June at 9.00 am.

Tuesday 10 June 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain          Ann McKechin
Paul Blomfield           Robin Walker
Katy Clark               Nadhim Zahawi
Rebecca Harris

1. Business-University Collaboration

The Committee considered this matter.

Professor Alan Hughes, Director of the UK Innovation Research Centre, University of Cambridge, Will Hutton, Chair, Big Innovation Centre and Principal of Hertford College, University of Oxford; Professor Sir Keith O'Nions, President and Rector of Imperial College on behalf of The Russell Group, Dr Tim Bradshaw, Head of Policy for Research and Innovation, The Russell Group, Libby Hackett, Chief Executive, University Alliance, Professor Wendy Purcell, Vice-Chancellor, Plymouth University on behalf of University Alliance; Dr David Docherty, CEO, National Centre for Universities and Business, Professor Graeme Reid, Professor of Science and Research Policy at the University College London on behalf of the National Centre for Universities and Business, gave evidence

[Adjourned till Tuesday 17 June at 2.00 pm.]
Tuesday 17 June 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Paul Blomfield  Robin Walker
Mike Crockart

1. Business-University Collaboration

(a) Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Business-University Collaboration be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

- Rolls Royce
- Million+
- Auril
- KTP National Forum

(b) The Committee considered this matter.

Professor Alistair Fitt, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Oxford Brookes University, Nigel Tipple, Chief Executive, Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, Professor Ian Walmsley, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Research, Academic Services and University Collections, University of Oxford, Professor Nick Veck, Head, CEO Office, Satellite Applications Catapult; Dr Charles King, Operations Director, YASA Motors Ltd, Dr Shpend Gerguri, Senior Lecturer, Engineering Design, Oxford Brookes University, Dr Diana Limburg, Senior Lecturer, Information Management, Oxford Brookes Business School and Michael Dibben, Partner and Chief Executive, Brethertons LLP, gave evidence

[Adjourned till Wednesday 18 June at 1.00 pm.

Wednesday 18 June 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair
1. Business-University Collaboration

The Committee considered this matter.

Steve Yianni, Chief Executive, Transport Systems Catapult, Dr Paul Zanelli, Chief Technology Officer, Transport Systems Catapult; Professor Richard Jones, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, University of Sheffield, Professor Greg Marsden, Director of the Institute for Transport Studies, Leeds University and Nigel Foster, Chair of Institute for Transport Studies External Advisory Board, gave evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 1 July at 3.00 pm.]

Tuesday 1 July 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

William Bain
Mike Crockart
Ann McKechin
Robin Walker

1. Business-University Collaboration

The Committee considered this matter.

Professor Nigel Thrift, Vice-Chancellor, University of Warwick, Professor Kevin Warwick, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Coventry University, and John Latham, Vice Chancellor, Coventry University; Will Searle, Managing Director, Axillium, Dr Richard Hutchins, Board Member, Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership, Dr Carl Perrin, Director, The Institute for Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering, and Tony Harper, Head of Research, Jaguar Land Rover, gave evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 2 July at 10.00 am.]

Wednesday 2 July 2014
Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

William Bain  Rebecca Harris
Mr Brian Binley  Ann McKechin
Paul Blomfield  Robin Walker
Katy Clark  Nadhim Zahawi
Mike Crockart

1. Extractive Industries Sector

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Extractive Industries Sector be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

- Camborne School of Mines
- London Mining Network

2. Royal Mail Privatisation

The Committee informally considered the Chair’s draft Report.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 8 July at 9.00 am.

Tuesday 8 July 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

William Bain  Rebecca Harris
Mr Brian Binley  Ann McKechin
Paul Blomfield  Robin Walker
Mike Crockart  Nadhim Zahawi

Apologies: Katy Clark, Caroline Dinenage

1. Royal Mail Privatisation

(a) Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Royal Mail Privatisation be reported to the House for publication on the internet:
(b) Draft Report (Royal Mail Privatisation), proposed by the Chairman, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

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

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

2. Adult Literacy and Numeracy

(a) Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Adult Literacy and Numeracy be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

- Reading Force

(b) An update on the timetable for consideration and publication of report was given

3. Business-University collaboration

(a) Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Business-University Collaboration be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

- University of Sheffield
- Axa

(b) The Committee considered this matter

Iain Gray, Chief Executive Officer, Technology Strategy Board, Professor Jackie Hunter, Impact Champion, Research Councils UK, and Dr David Sweeney, Director, Research, Innovation and Skills, Higher Education Funding Council for England; The Rt Hon the Lord Heseltine of Thenford CH, gave evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 15 July at 10.00 am.

Tuesday 15 July 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair
1. **Student Loans**

Draft Report (*Student Loans*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

*Ordered*, That the draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 88 read and agreed to.

Summary agreed to.

Annexes agreed to.

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

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

*Ordered*, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 134.

2. **Report from EU Scrutiny Reporters (Mr Brian Binley and Paul Blomfield)**

The Committee considered this matter.

3. **Future programme**

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 22 July at 10.00 am.]

**Tuesday 22 July 2014**

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair
1. Business-University collaboration

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Business-University collaboration be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

2. Adult Literacy and Numeracy

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Adult Literacy and Numeracy be reported to the House for publication on the internet:

The Committee informally considered the Chair’s draft Report.

3. Extractive Industries Section

The Committee consideration of draft Heads of Report.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 5 August at 12.00 noon Scotland.

Tuesday 5 August 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

William Bain  Ann McKechin
Katy Clark

1. The Implications of Scottish Independence on Business: Higher Education and Research and Postal Services

Draft Report (The Implications of Scottish Independence on Business: Higher Education and Research: and Postal Services), 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 Fourth Report of the Committee, Session 2014–15, (HC 504)
Tuesday 2 September 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Brian Binley
Paul Blomfield
Caroline Dinenage
Rebecca Harris

Robin Walker
Nadhim Zahawi

1. Adult Literacy and Numeracy

Draft Report (Adult Literacy and Numeracy) 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, Session 2014–15, (HC 557)

2. Leisure Leagues

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Business/University Business Collaboration

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 9 September at 9 am.

Tuesday 9 September 2014

Members present:
1. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Business-University collaboration

The Committee considered this matter.

Dr Malcolm Skingle, Director, Academic Liaison, GlaxoSmithKline, Professor Paul Beasley, Head of R&D, Siemens and Henner Wapenhans, Head of Technology Strategy, Rolls Royce gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 14 October at 9 am.

Tuesday 14 October 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain  Rebecca Harris
Paul Blomfield  Ann McKechin
Katy Clark  Mr Robin Walker
Caroline Dinenage

Apologies: Mike Crockart and Nadhim Zahawi

1. Business-University collaboration

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Business-University collaboration be reported to the House for publication on the internet:
Vice Chancellor of London South Bank University.

2. Extractive Industries Section

The Committee informally considered the Chair’s draft report.

3. Future Programme

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 21 October at 9.00 am.

Tuesday 21 October 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain        Ann McKechn
Paul Blomfield         Mr Robin Walker
Caroline Dinenage

Apologies:  Mr Brian Binley, Mike Crockart, Rebecca Harris, Nadhim Zahawi

Extractive Industries Sector

Draft Report (The Extractive Industries), 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 Sixth Report of the Committee, Session 2014–15, (HC 188).

Future Programme

The Committee discussed this matter

Correspondence

The Committee discussed this matter
Tuesday 28 October 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Paul Blomfield
Rebecca Harris
Ann McKechin

Mr Robin Walker
Nadhim Zahawi

1. Royal Mail Privatisation

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Competition in the postal services sector

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Competition in the postal services sector be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Ajg Parcels (USO0008); BBC TV licensing (USO00016); Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (USO0002); Care & Repair Cymru (USO0021); Citizens Advice (USO0020); Civil Service Pensioners’ Alliance (USO0010); Communication Workers Union (USO0018); Consumer Council for Northern Ireland (USO0028); Countryside Alliance (USO0007); ESRC Centre for Competition Policy (USO0025); Federation of Small Businesses (USO0012); Institute of Directors, Wales (USO0009); Mail Competition Forum (USO0001); Mail Users’ Association (USO0023); NFOP (USO0011); NFSP (USO0026); Ofcom (USO0029); Richard Hooper (USO0006); RNIB (USO0003); Scottish Council for Development and Industry (USO0022); Social Market Foundation (USO0019); Rural Services Network (USO0005); UK Mail Limited (USO0027); Unite the Union – CMA (USO0017); Welsh Local Government Association (Rural Forum) (USO0024); and Whistl (USO0013).

3. Government support for business

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 29 October at 9.30 am.

Wednesday 29 October 2014
Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain Ann McKechn
Mr Brian Binley Nadhim Zahawi
Rebecca Harris

1. Competition in the postal services sector

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Competition in the postal services sector be reported to the House for publication on the internet: TechUK (USO0030).

2. Business-university collaboration

The Rt Hon Greg Clark MP, Minister of State for Universities, Science and Cities, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 4 November at 10.00 am.

Tuesday 4 November 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr Brian Binley Rebecca Harris
Paul Blomfield Ann McKechn
Mike Crockart Nadhim Zahawi
Caroline Dinenage

1. Student loans

Draft Special Report (Student loans: Government Response to the Committee’s Third report of Session 2014-15), proposed by the Chair, brought up, read the first and second time, and agreed to.

The Government’s Response to the Third Report from the Committee in 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 Chairman make the Report to the House.

2. **Government support for business**

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to *Government support for business* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Aldermore Bank (GSB0023); All-Party Parliamentary Manufacturing Group (GSB0024); Association of Convenience Stores (GSB0004); British Bankers Association (GSB0017); British Marine Federation (GSB0006); Campaign Against Arms Trade (GSB0009); Centre for Cities (GSB0012); Creative England Ltd (GSB0020); Crediton Chamber of Commerce (GSB0015); Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (GSB0022); Engineering and Machinery Alliance (GSB0007); Federation of Small Businesses (GSB0018); Finance & Leasing Association (GSB0019); Innovate UK (GSB0002); Lloyds Banking Group (GSB0010); Maestro Business & Academy Ltd (GSB0011); National Federation of Roofing Contractors (GSB0008); Pact - Producers Alliance for Cinema and TV (GSB0021); PLASA (GSB0003); and The Association of Investment Companies (GSB0005).

3. **Business-university collaboration**

The Committee considered this matter.

4. **Tesco**

The Committee considered this matter.

5. **Here East and Apprenticeships**

The Committee considered this matter.

6. **All-Party Design and Innovation Group**

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 11 November at 9 am.]

**Tuesday 4 November 2014**
Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

William Bain  Rebecca Harris
Mr Brian Binley  Ann McKechin
Paul Blomfield  Robin Walker
Mike Crockart  Nadhim Zahawi

1. Competition in the postal services sector

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Competition in the postal services sector be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Royal Mail Group (USO0035); Scottish Chambers of Commerce (USO0032); South Wales Chamber of Commerce (USO0014); and Farmers’ Union of Wales (USO0033) and NI Chamber of Commerce and Industry (USO0036).

2. Student loans

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Tesco

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Government support for business

Mike Cherry, National Policy Chairman, Federation of Small Businesses, Lee Hopley, Chief Economist, EEF (the manufacturers’ organisation), Phil Orford MBE, Chief Executive, Forum of Private Business, and Dr Kevin Farnsworth, Senior Lecturer, University of York, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 18 November at 9 am.

Tuesday 18 November 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair
1. European scrutiny

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Insolvency Service

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from the Insolvency Service.

3. Tesco

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Government support for business

Naomi Clayton, Senior Analyst, Centre for Cities, Mike Palin, Executive Director for Strategic Economic Development, Liverpool City Region LEP, Matthew Cross, Head of Inward Investment, Invest in Bristol and Bath, Dr Cathy Garner, Director of Strategy, Wave 2 Growth Hubs Programme, Lancaster University Management School, Caroline Norbury MBE, Chief Executive Officer, Creative England, Jim Farmery, Director of Business Development, Creative England, and Steve Futter, Senior Account Manager, Solent LEP, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 25 November at 9 am.

Tuesday 25 November 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain  Rebecca Harris
Paul Blomfield  Ann McKechn
1. European scrutiny

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Government support for business

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Government support for business be reported to the House for publication on the internet: UKIE (GSB 28).

3. Competition in the postal services sector

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Competition in the postal services sector be reported to the House for publication on the internet: The PostalGroup (USO 38); Post Office Ltd (USO 39); Cornwall Chamber of Commerce and Industry (USO 41); Council of the Isles of Scilly (USO 42); Amazon (USO 43).

4. Business-university collaboration

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

Frances O’Grady, General Secretary, Trades Union Congress, Sean McGuire, Director of the CBI Brussels Office, Confederation of British Industry, David Babbs, Executive Director, 38 Degrees, and Polly Jones, Head of Campaigns and Policy, World Development Movement, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 26 November at 9 am.

Wednesday 26 November 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain  Ann McKechin
Mr Brian Binley  Mr Robin Walker
Paul Blomfield  Nadhim Zahawi
Mike Crockart
1. Business-university collaboration

Draft Report (Business-university collaboration), 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, Session 2014–15, (HC 249).

2. Competition in the postal services sector

Moya Greene, Chief Executive, Royal Mail, Nick Wells, Chief Executive, Whistl, Guy Buswell, Chief Executive, UK Mail, Daniel Vines, Director of Sales and Customer Services, TNT UK, Roy Perticucci, Vice President, EU Operations, Amazon, Billy Hayes, General Secretary, CWU, Dave Ward, Deputy General Secretary, Postal, CWU, John Park, Assistant General Secretary, Community, and Les Baylis, Special Project Officer, Logistics and Distribution, Community, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 2 December at 9am.

Tuesday 2 December 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr Brian Binley  Ann McKechnie
Mike Crockart  Robin Walker
Rebecca Harris  Nadhim Zahawi

1. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership be reported to the House for publication on the internet: British Chambers of Commerce (TTI0001).

2. Competition in the postal services sector

The Committee considered matter.
3. Government support for business

Dr Gordon Edge, Director of Policy, Renewable UK, Nick Molho, Executive Director, Aldersgate Group, Ian Fitz Harris, Marketing Director, URICA, Stuart Garner, Chief Executive Officer, Norton Motorcycles, Irene Graham, Executive Director for Business Finance, British Bankers Association, Stephen Pegge, Group External Relations Director, Lloyds Banking Group & Chairman of the Small Firms Advisory Panel, British Bankers Association, Carl D’Ammassa, Managing Director of Asset Finance, Aldermore Bank, Keith Morgan, Chief Executive Officer, British Business Bank, Patrick Magee, Chief Operating Officer, British Business Bank, Shaun Kingsbury, Chief Executive, Green Investment Bank, and Oliver Griffiths, Head of Government Affairs and Policy, Green Investment Bank, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 9 December at 9 am.

Tuesday 9 December 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain
Mr Brian Binley
Paul Blomfield
Mike Crockart

Caroline Dinenage
Rebecca Harris
Ann McKechin
Robin Walker

1. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership be reported to the House for publication on the internet: University and College Union (TTI0002).

2. Competition in the postal services sector

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Competition in the postal services sector be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Joost Vantomme (USO0045), Brussels, and Jerry Cox (USO0044).

3. Government support for business

Dr Adam Marshall, Executive Director of Policy and External Affairs, British Chambers of Commerce, Lesley Batchelor OBE, Director General, The Institute of Export, Simon
Moore, International Director, Confederation of British Industry, Matthew McDonnell, Managing Director, Resimac, Dr Julie Madigan MBE, Chief Executive, The Manufacturing Institute, Peter Templeton, Director and Chief Executive Officer, Institute for Manufacturing, Malcom Evans, Chief Executive Officer, UK Manufacturing Accelerator, John Baragwanath OBE, Projects Director, Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre, Janice Munday, Director of Advanced Manufacturing and Services, Manufacturing Advisory Service, Steven Barr, National Director, Manufacturing Advisory Service, Nicola Bolton, Acting Managing Director, UK Trade and Industry, and David Godfrey, Chief Executive Officer, UK Export Finance, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 10 December at 9 am.

Wednesday 10 December 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain  
Mr Brian Binley  
Paul Blomfield  
Katy Clark  
Mike Crockart  
Caroline Dinenage  
Rebecca Harris  
Ann McKechn  
Robin Walker

1. Competition in the postal services sector

Alan Halfacre, Chairman, Mail Users Association, and Adam Scorer, Director of Consumer Focus, Citizens Advice, Ed Richards, Chief Executive Officer, and Chris Rowsell, Competition Policy Director, Ofcom, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Monday 15 December at 2.30 pm.

Monday 15 December 2014

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain  
Paul Blomfield  
Mike Crockart  
Rebecca Harris  
Ann McKechn  
Robin Walker
1. Competition in the postal services sector

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence relating to *Competition in the postal services sector* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: UK Mail Group Plc (USO0047).

2. Government support for business

*Ordered*, That the following written evidence relating to *Government support for business* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Aldersgate Group (GSB0029).

Rt Hon Matthew Hancock MP, Minister for Business and Enterprise, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, Adam Micklethwaite, Deputy Director, Business Support Delivery, Guy Warrington, Director, English Regions, UKTI, and Jan Dixon, Deputy Director, Regional Growth Fund, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 16 December at 9 am.

**Tuesday 16 December 2014**

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain  
Paul Blomfield  
Mike Crockart  
Caroline Dinenage

Rebecca Harris  
Ann McKechnie  
Robin Walker

1. Government support for business

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

Dr Gabriel Siles-Brügge, Lecturer in Politics, University of Manchester, and Professor Sir David Edward, KCMG, QC, Professor Emeritus, University of Edinburgh, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 6 January 2015 at 10 am.]
Tuesday 6 January 2015

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Paul Blomfield          Caroline Dinenage
Mr Brian Binley         Rebecca Harris
Katy Clark              Ann McKechin
Mike Crockart           Robin Walker

1. Government support for business

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to *Government support for business* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (GSB 0034); British Chambers of Commerce (GSB 0032); Lloyds Banking Group (GSB 0033); Dr Cathy Garner (GSB 0031) and UK Manufacturing Accelerator (GSB 0035).

2. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to *Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: 38 degrees (TTI 0004) and David Malone/Neil McDougall (TTI 0003).

3. Competition in the UK postal services sector and the Universal Service Obligation

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to *Competition in the UK postal services sector and the Universal Service Obligation* be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Community (USO 0048); Whistl (USO 0049); UK Mail (USO 0050); TNT (USO 0051) and Royal Mail (USO 0053).

4. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee write to the Secretary of State regarding CityLink.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 13 January 2015 at 10 am.]
Tuesday 13 January 2015

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain          Caroline Dinenage
Mr Brian Binley          Rebecca Harris
Katy Clark               Ann McKechin
Mike Crockart            Robin Walker

1. European scrutiny

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Competition in the postal services sector and the Universal Service Obligation

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Government support for business

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Extractive industries: Government response

The Committee considered this matter.

5. Eurotunnel

Resolved, That the Chair and Mr Binley have leave to visit Folkestone to see Eurotunnel works in a representative capacity.

6. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 20 January 2015 at 9 am.]
Tuesday 20 January 2015

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain  Rebecca Harris
Mr Brian Binley  Ann McKechn
Paul Blomfield  Robin Walker
Mike Crockart  Nadhim Zahawi

1. European scrutiny

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Competition in the postal services sector and the Universal Service Obligation

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Competition in the postal services sector be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Ofcom (USO 54) and CWU (USO 55).

3. Post Office mediation scheme

Resolved, That the Committee take oral evidence from the CWU, National Federation of SubPostmasters, Justice for Subpostmasters Alliance, Second Sight and Post Office Ltd.

4. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership


[Adjourned till Tuesday 27 January 2015 at 10.30 am.]

Tuesday 27 January 2015

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair
1. Decision to hold concurrent meetings

Resolved, That the Committee agrees to meet concurrently with the Scottish Affairs Committee for the purpose of examining and reporting on the Impact of the closure of CityLink on employment.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 27 January 2015 at 2.15 pm.]

Tuesday 27 January 2015

[The Committee met jointly with the Scottish Affairs Committee]

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey
Mr Brian Binley
Katy Clark
Mike Crockart

Caroline Dinenage
Ann McKechin
Robin Walker
Nadhim Zahawi

The following members of the Scottish Affairs Committee were also present, in accordance with Standing Order No. 137A.

Mike Crockart
Mr Ian Davidson
Graeme Morrice

Pamela Nash
Mr Alan Reid

Mr Ian Davidson was called to the Chair, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 137A (1).

1. Impact of the closure of CityLink on employment

Jon Moulton, Founder, Better Capital, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 28 January 2015 at 10.00 am.]
Wednesday 28 January 2015

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr Brian Binley
Katy Clark
Mike Crockart
Rebecca Harris

Ann McKechn
Robin Walker
Nadhim Zahawi

1. Competition in the UK Postal Services sector and the Universal Service Obligation

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Competition in the postal services sector be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Royal Mail (USO 56); Ofcom (USO 57, USO 58 and USO 59).

2. Government support for business

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Government support for business be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (GSB 36).

3. Post Office mediation scheme

The Committee considered this matter.

4. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Professor K D Ewing and John Hendy QC (TTI 07).

Lord Livingston, Minister of State for Trade and Investment, and Edward Barker, Head of Transatlantic & International Unit, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, gave oral evidence.
Tuesday 3 February 2015

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain, Mr Brian Binley, Paul Blomfield, Katy Clark, Mike Crockart, Caroline Dinenage, Rebecca Harris, Ann McKechin, Robin Walker, Nadhim Zahawi

1. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) be reported to the House for publication on the internet: StopTTIP UK (TTI 08) and Keep our NHS Public (TTI 09).

2. Post Office mediation scheme

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Post Office mediation scheme be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Rt Hon James Arbuthnot MP (POM 01); Communication Workers Union (POM 12); Mr Paul Green, Postmaster (POM 13); Post Office Ltd (POM 05); Howe & Co Solicitors (POM 19); and Sir Anthony Hooper (POM 20).

Andy Furey, Assistant General Secretary, Communication Workers Union, Mark Baker, National Branch Secretary, Postmasters Branch, Communication Workers Union, George Thomson, General Secretary, National Federation of SubPostmasters, Alan Bates, Chairman, Justice for Subpostmasters Alliance, Kay Linnell, Chartered Accountant, Kay Linnell & Co, Paula Vennells, Chief Executive, Post Office Ltd, Angela van den Bogerd, Head of Partnerships, Post Office Ltd, and Ian Henderson, forensic computing expert, Advanced Forensics (Second Sight Ltd), gave oral evidence.

Wednesday 4 February 2015

[The Committee met jointly with the Scottish Affairs Committee]
Mr Adrian Bailey  
Mr William Bain  
Katy Clark  

Mike Crockart  
Rebecca Harris  
Ann McKechin  

The following members of the Scottish Affairs Committee were also present, in accordance with Standing Order No. 137A.

Mike Crockart  
Mr Ian Davidson  
Graeme Morrice  

Mark Menzies  
Pamela Nash  

Mr Ian Davidson was called to the Chair, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 137A (1).

1. Impact of the closure of CityLink on employment

Hunter Kelly, City link Administrator, Ernst & Young, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 10 February 2015 at 2.30 pm.]

Tuesday 10 February 2015

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Paul Blomfield  
Katy Clark  
Mike Crockart  

Rebecca Harris  
Ann McKechin  
Robin Walker  

1. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (TTI 10).

2. Extractive industries

Draft Special Report (Extractive industries: Government Response to the Committee’s Sixth report of 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 in Session 2014–15 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. Government support for business

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Government support for business be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Letter from Robert Chote.

Draft Report (Government support for business), 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, Session 2014–15, (HC 770).

[Adjourned till Tuesday 10 February 2015 at 2.15 pm.

Tuesday 10 February 2015

[The Committee met jointly with the Scottish Affairs Committee]

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey
Mr William Bain
Paul Blomfield

Katy Clark
Mike Crockart
Ann McKechin

The following members of the Scottish Affairs Committee were also present, in accordance with Standing Order No. 137A.

Mike Crockart
Mr Ian Davidson
Graeme Morrice

Jim McGovern
Pamela Nash
Mr Alan Reid

Mr Ian Davidson was called to the Chair, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 137A (1).

1. Impact of the closure of CityLink on employment
David Smith, former Chief Executive, City Link, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 25 February 2015 at 9.00 am.

Tuesday 25 February 2015

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain  Caroline Dinenage
Paul Blomfield  Ann McKechn
Katy Clark  Robin Walker
Mike Crockart

1. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Neil McDougall (TTI 11); European Federation for Investment law and Arbitration (EFILA) (TTI 12); and British American Business (TTI 13).

2. Memorandum to the Liaison Committee on Committee effectiveness

The Committee considered this matter.

3. Work of the Department and Mid-year Review

Rt Hon Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State, Martin Donnelly, Permanent Secretary, and Howard Orme, Director General, Finance and Commercial, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, gave oral evidence.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 3 March 2015 at 10 am.

Tuesday 3 March 2015

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Paul Blomfield  Caroline Dinenage
Katy Clark  Ann McKechn
1. Future programme

The Committee considered this matter.

2. Competition in the UK Postal Services sector and the Universal Service Obligation

Draft Report (Competition in the UK Postal Services sector and the Universal Service Obligation), 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, Session 2014–15, (HC 769).

[Adjourned till Wednesday 4 March 2015 at 9 am.

Wednesday 4 March 2015

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain  
Paul Blomfield  
Caroline Dinenage  
Rebecca Harris  
Robin Walker

1. Post Office mediation scheme

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Post Office mediation scheme be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Post Office (POM 29) and Justice for Subpostmasters Alliance (POM 31).

2. Insolvency

Eve Salomon, Chair of the Regulatory Board, and Graham Stockey, Principal Surveyor, RICS Regulation (Valuation), Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, Julian Healey, Incoming Chief Executive Officer, and Daniel Hardy, Chairman, NARA: The Association of Property and Fixed Charge Receivers, Irene Graham, Executive Director of Business Finance, British Bankers Association, Phillip Sykes, Vice-President, R3: Association of Business Recovery Professionals, Bob Pinder, Regional Director, Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, and Sarah Albon, Chief Executive, Graham Horne, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Operations, and Anne Willcocks, Director of External Affairs, Insolvency Service, gave oral evidence.
Tuesday 10 March 2015

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Paul Blomfield               Ann McKechin
Mr Brian Binley             Rebecca Harris
Katy Clark                   Robin Walker
Mike Crockart                Nadhim Zahawi
Caroline Dinenage

1. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 17 March 2015 at 10 am.

Tuesday 17 March 2015

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey, in the Chair

Mr William Bain             Caroline Dinenage
Paul Blomfield              Ann McKechin
Mr Brian Binley             Rebecca Harris
Katy Clark                   Robin Walker
Mike Crockart                Nadhim Zahawi

1. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

Draft Report (Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership), 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, Session 2014–15, (HC 804).

2. Post Office mediation scheme
Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Post Office mediation scheme be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Letter to the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills.

3. Government support for business

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Government support for business be reported to the House for publication on the internet: British Business Bank (GSB 38).

4. Insolvency Service

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Insolvency Service be reported to the House for publication on the internet: RICS (INS 01) and NARA (INS 02).

5. Work of the Department and Mid-Year Review

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to Work of the Department and Mid-Year Review be reported to the House for publication on the internet: Letter from Martin Donnelly, Permanent Secretary, BIS.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 17 March 2015 at 2 pm.

Tuesday 17 March 2015

[The Committee met jointly with the Scottish Affairs Committee]

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey
Katy Clark
Mike Crockart
Caroline Dinenage
Ann McKechn

The following members of the Scottish Affairs Committee were also present, in accordance with Standing Order No. 137A.

Mike Crockart
Mr Ian Davidson
Jim McGovern
Iain McKenzie
Mark Menzies
Graeme Morrice
Mr Alan Reid

Mr Ian Davidson was called to the Chair, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 137A (1).
1. Impact of the closure of City Link on employment

Draft Report (*Impact of the closure of City Link on employment*), 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, Session 2014–15, (HC 928).*

[Adjourned until a date and time to be arranged by the Chair.]