

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Thursday 19 November 2009**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Mr Adrian Bailey  
Mr David S Borrow

Keith Hill  
Mr Anthony Steen

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 23 read 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.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30 pm.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 25 November 2009**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Mr David S Borrow  
Mr William Cash  
Mr James Clappison  
Jim Dobbin  
Mr Greg Hands

Keith Hill  
Kelvin Hopkins  
Lindsay Hoyle  
Bob Laxton  
Mr Anthony Steen

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 17 read 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.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 9 December at 2.30 pm.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 9 December 2009**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Jim Dobbin  
Mr Greg Hands  
Keith Hill

Kelvin Hopkins  
Angus Robertson  
Mr Anthony Steen

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 24 read and 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.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 15 December at 10.30 am.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Tuesday 15 December 2009**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Jim Dobbin  
Keith Hill

Kelvin Hopkins  
Bob Laxton

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 14 read and agreed to.

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

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

[Adjourned till Wednesday 6 January at 2.30 pm.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 6 January 2010**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Mr Adrian Bailey  
Mr David S Borrow  
Mr William Cash  
Jim Dobbins

Mr Greg Hands  
Keith Hill  
Kelvin Hopkins  
Angus Robertson

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 15 read and agreed to.

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

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

## **2. Draft report on the Work of the Committee 2009**

Draft Report (*Work of the Committee 2009*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1 to 6 read and agreed to.

Paragraph 7 read, amended and agreed to.

Paragraphs 8 to 11 read and agreed to.

Paragraph 12 read, amended and agreed to.

Paragraph 13 read and agreed to.

Paragraphs 14 to 17 read, amended and agreed to.

A paragraph— (*Greg Hands*) — brought up, read the first and second time and inserted.

Paragraphs 18 to 25 (now paragraphs 19 to 26) read and agreed to.

Paragraph 26 (now paragraph 27) read as follows:

“The Government provides us with six-monthly breakdowns of departmental overrides of documents which are still under scrutiny. The period from July to December 2008 saw 23 overrides — a deterioration from the 12 recorded during the corresponding period of the previous year. We are glad to note that this appears to have represented an intermission, rather than a conclusion, to the two years of improvement we had seen up

till this point, as the recently provided statistics for January to June 2009 show the number of overrides in single figures. Tables of these overrides, showing the Department responsible and a brief description of the document concerned, can be found in Appendix 1 to this report. The Committee takes breaches of the House’s scrutiny reserve resolution very seriously. We will continue to monitor the incidence of overrides and will invite Ministers to oral evidence sessions to explain the reasons for overrides in those cases where we do not consider that a sufficient justification has been provided.”

Amendment proposed in line 2, to leave out from “scrutiny” to second “to” in line 11 and insert: “The period from July to December 2008 saw 23 overrides — a deterioration from the 12 recorded during the corresponding period of the previous year. We are glad to note that this appears to have represented an intermission, rather than a conclusion, to the two years of improvement we had seen up till this point, as the recently published statistics for January to June 2009 show the number of overrides in single figures. Tables of these overrides, showing the department responsible and a brief description of the document concerned, can be found in Annex 3 to this report. The Committee takes breaches of the House’s scrutiny reserve resolution very seriously. We will continue to monitor the incidence of overrides and will invite Ministers to oral evidence sessions” . – *(The Chairman.)*

Question put, that the Amendment be made.

The Committee divided:

Ayes, 6

Mr Adrian Bailey  
Mr David S. Borrow  
Jim Dobbin  
Keith Hill  
Kelvin Hopkins  
Angus Robertson

Noes, 1

Mr Greg Hands

Paragraph, as amended, agreed to.

Paragraphs 27 to 48 (now paragraphs 28 to 49) read and agreed to.

Annexes agreed to.

A Paper was appended to the report as Appendix 1.

*Resolved*, That the Report, as amended, be the Sixth Report of the Committee to the House.

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

[Adjourned till Wednesday 13 January at 2.30 pm.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 13 January 2010**

Members present:

Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Mr Adrian Bailey

Mr Adrian S Borrow

Mr William Cash

Jim Dobbin

Mr Greg Hands

Mr David Heathcoat-Amory

Keith Hill

Kelvin Hopkins

Mr Anthony Steen

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 12 read and agreed to.

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

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

## **2. COSAC Chairs meeting**

*Resolved*, that the Chairman have leave to visit Madrid to attend the COSAC Chairs

Meeting in a representative capacity

[Adjourned till Wednesday 20 January at 2.30 pm.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 20 January 2010**

Members present:

Mr Adrian Bailey  
Mr David S Borrow  
Mr James Clappison  
Jim Dobbin  
Mr Greg Hands

Mr David Heathcoat-Amory  
Kelvin Hopkins  
Mr Bob Laxton  
Angus Robertson

In the temporary absence of the Chairman, Jim Dobbin was called to the Chair for the meeting.

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 9.19 read and agreed to.

Paragraphs 9.20 to 9.23 read, amended and agreed to.

Paragraphs 10.1 to 13 read and agreed to.

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

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

[Adjourned till Wednesday 27 January at 2.30 pm.]



# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 27 January 2010**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Mr Adrian Bailey  
Mr David S Borrow  
Mr William Cash  
Jim Dobbin

Mr Greg Hands  
Kelvin Hopkins  
Angus Robertson

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 6 read and agreed to.

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

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

[Adjourned till Wednesday 3 February at 2.30 pm.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 3 February 2010**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Mr David S Borrow

Mr William Cash

Jim Dobbin

Mr David Heathcoat-Amory

Keith Hill

Angus Robertson

Mr Anthony Steen

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 7 read and agreed to.

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

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

[Adjourned till Tuesday 9 February at 10.30 am.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 9 February 2010**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

James Clappison  
Jim Dobbin

Keith Hill  
Angus Robertson

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 13 read and agreed to.

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

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

## **2. Standing Order No. 143 and the Scrutiny Reserve Resolution**

*Ordered*, That revised drafts of the Committee's proposed changes to the Scrutiny Reserve resolution and Standing Order No. 143 be sent to the Leader of the House.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 24 February at 2.30 pm.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 24 February 2010**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Mr Adrian Bailey  
Mr David S Borrow  
Mr James Clappison  
Jim Dobbin

Mr Greg Hands  
Keith Hill  
Kelvin Hopkins  
Mr Anthony Steen

## **1. Scrutiny performance of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in relation to the EU and the Arctic**

Chris Bryant MP, Minister for Europe, gave oral evidence.

## **2. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 4.14 read and agreed to.

Paragraph 4.15 read, amended and agreed to.

Paragraphs 5.1 to 13 read and agreed to.

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

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

[Adjourned till Wednesday 3 March at 2.30 pm.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 3 March 2010**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Mr Adrian Bailey  
Mr David S Borrow  
Mr James Clappison  
Jim Dobbin

Mr David Heathcoat-Amory  
Kelvin Hopkins  
Angus Robertson  
Mr Anthony Steen

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 6 read and agreed to.

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

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

[Adjourned till Wednesday 10 March at 2.30 pm.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 10 March 2010**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Mr Adrian Bailey  
Mr James Clappison  
Mr William Cash

Jim Dobbin  
Mr Greg Hands  
Keith Hill

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 8 read and agreed to.

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

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

[Adjourned till Wednesday 17 March at 2.30 pm.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 17 March 2010**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Mr Adrian Bailey  
Mr William Cash  
Jim Dobbins

Mr Greg Hands  
Keith Hill  
Kelvin Hopkins

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 3.13 read and agreed to.

Paragraph 3.14 read, amended and agreed to.

Paragraph 3.15 to 7 read and agreed to.

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

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

[Adjourned till Wednesday 24 March at 3.00 pm.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 24 March 2010**

Members present:

Mr Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Mr David S Borrow  
Mr William Cash  
Jim Dobbins

Mr David Heathcoat-Amory  
Keith Hill

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs read and agreed to.

Paragraph read, amended and agreed to.

Paragraph read and agreed to.

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

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

[Adjourned till Tuesday 30 March at 10.30 am.]



# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 30 March 2010**

Members present:

	Michael Connarty, in the Chair	
Mr David S Borrow		Mr David Heathcoat-Amory
Mr James Clappison		Keith Hill
Jim Dobbin		

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs 1.1 to 11 read and agreed to.

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

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

[Adjourned till Wednesday 7 April at 2.30 pm.]

# Proceedings of the Committee

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**Wednesday 7 April 2010**

Members present:

Michael Connarty, in the Chair

Mr Adrian Bailey  
Mr William Cash  
Mr James Clappison  
Jim Dobbin

Keith Hill  
Kelvin Hopkins  
Mr Bob Laxton

## **1. Scrutiny of Documents**

Draft Report, proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

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

Paragraphs read and agreed to.

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

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

[The Committee adjourned.]