Election of the Speaker: Member presiding

1.—(1) Whenever it is necessary to proceed forthwith to the choice of a new Speaker in consequence of the Speaker having ceased for any reason to be a Member of this House, the chair shall be taken by that Member, present in the House and not being a Minister of the Crown, who has served for the longest period continuously as a Member of this House.

(2) Whenever it is necessary to proceed to the choice of a new Speaker in consequence of an intimation to Her Majesty by the Speaker of his or her wish to relinquish that office then the Speaker shall continue to take the chair and shall perform the duties and exercise the authority of Speaker until a new Speaker has been chosen, whereupon the Speaker shall leave the chair and shall cease to perform those duties and to exercise that authority and the Speaker Elect shall take the chair accordingly:

Provided that, if when this House proceeds to choose a new Speaker the unavoidable absence of the Speaker has been announced, the Deputy Speaker shall forthwith leave the chair and the chair shall be taken in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (1) of this order.

(3) A Member taking the chair under the provisions of paragraph (1) of this order shall enjoy all those powers which may be exercised by the Speaker during proceedings under (2) thereof.

Addition for neutral gender in para (2).
Re-election of former Speaker.

1A.—(1) If at the commencement start of a Parliament the Member who was Speaker at the dissolution of the previous Parliament is returned to the House, the Member presiding in accordance with Standing Order No. 1 (Election of the Speaker: Member presiding) shall, when the House meets to proceed with the choice of a Speaker, ascertain whether the former Speaker is willing to be chosen as Speaker, and, the former Speaker having submitted him or herself to the House, shall call upon a Member to move that he or she do take the Chair of this House as Speaker; and the question thereon on it shall be put forthwith.

(2) If the question is agreed to, the former Speaker shall thereupon then take the chair as Speaker-elect.

(3) If the question is negatived, the Member presiding shall forthwith adjourn the House to the following day at half past two o’clock 2.30 pm, and the House shall proceed in accordance with Standing Order No. 1B (Election of Speaker by secret ballot).

Drafting amendments and additions for neutral gender in para (1).

Drafting amendment in para (3).
Election of Speaker by secret ballot.

1B.—(1) If the question put in accordance with Standing Order No. 1A (Re-election of former Speaker) has been negatived, and on any other occasion when it is necessary to proceed with the choice of a new Speaker, the election shall be by secret ballot.

(2) Arrangements for a ballot shall be made under the supervision of the Clerk of the House.

(3) (a) Nominations of candidates shall be in writing and shall be received by the Clerk of the House between half past nine o’clock and half past ten o’clock in the morning 9.30 and 10.30 am on the day on which the House is to elect a Speaker.

(b) Each nomination shall consist of a signed statement made by the candidate declaring his or her willingness to stand for election accompanied by the signatures of not fewer than twelve nor more than fifteen Members, of whom not fewer than three shall be Members elected to the House as members of any party other than that to which the candidate belongs or members of no party.

(bb) No Member shall sign more than one such statement and if any Member does so, his or her signature shall no longer be valid.

(c) As soon as practicable following the close of nominations, lists of the candidates shall be placed in the Members’ lobby and published.

(4) If only one Member is nominated in accordance with paragraph (3) above, the Member presiding shall, when the House meets to elect a Speaker, invite the Member so nominated to submit himself or herself to the House, and shall then put forthwith the question that that Member do take the Chair of this House as Speaker.

(5) Paragraphs (6) to (13) of this order shall apply if two or more Members are nominated in accordance with paragraph (3) above.

(6) When the House meets, the order in which candidates may address the House shall be determined by lot; the Member presiding shall then invite each candidate to address the House; and after all candidates have been given an opportunity to speak, the Member presiding shall direct the House to proceed to a ballot.

(7) The Member presiding may not vote in any ballot.

(8) (a) A ballot shall take place in the lobbies unless the Member presiding directs otherwise.

(b) Each Member intending to vote shall be provided with a ballot paper bearing the names of the candidates listed in alphabetical order.

(c) Each such Member may vote for only one candidate on the ballot paper.

(d) A ballot shall be declared closed after the expiration of half an hour and counting shall take place under arrangements made by the Clerk of the House.
(e) The Member presiding shall have discretion to vary the timings given in this order and power to give final directions on any matter of doubt arising from the conduct of a ballot or from an individual ballot paper.

(9) As soon as practicable after the votes have been counted the Member presiding shall announce to the House the numbers of votes cast for each candidate.

(10) If a candidate has received more than half the votes cast in a ballot, the Member presiding shall forthwith put the question that that Member do take the Chair of this House as Speaker.

(11) If no candidate has received more than half the votes cast in a ballot the Member presiding shall direct the House to proceed forthwith to a further ballot to which paragraph (12) below shall apply.

(12) In any further ballot no new nominations may be received and the names of—

(a) the candidate who received the fewest votes in the previous ballot;

(b) any candidate who received less than five per cent. of the votes cast in the previous ballot; and

(c) any candidate who, within ten minutes of the announcement in the House of the result of the previous ballot, shall have notified the Member presiding of his or her intention to withdraw,

shall be removed from the ballot paper, except that where two or more candidates received the same number of votes, their names shall remain on the ballot paper unless paragraph (b) applies.

(13) If the effect of paragraph (12) above is to remove from the ballot paper the name of every candidate except one, the Member presiding shall forthwith put the question that that Member do take the Chair of this House as Speaker.

(14) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Orders No. 9 (Sittings of the House) and No. 11 (Friday sittings), on any day on which the House meets to elect a Speaker, it shall meet at half-past two o’clock 2.30 pm.

(b) No amendment may be offered to the question that a Member do take the Chair of this House as Speaker.

(c) If that question is agreed to, that Member shall thereupon then take the chair as Speaker-elect.

(d) If that question is negatived, the Member presiding shall forthwith adjourn the House to the following day at half-past two o’clock 2.30 pm, and the provisions of paragraph (3) above shall apply in respect of a fresh ballot.
Drafting amendments in paras (3)(a), (8)(d) and (14) (a) and (d).

Additions for neutral gender in paras (3)(b), (4) and (12)(c).
Deputy Chairmen

2. At the commencement of every Parliament, or from time to time, as necessity may arise, the House may appoint two Deputy Chairmen of Ways and Means, who shall be known respectively as the First and the Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means, and who shall be entitled to exercise all the powers vested in the Chairman of Ways and Means, including his powers as Deputy Speaker.

Deletion of SO, because it has been superseded by No. 2A.
Election of the Deputy Speakers.

2A.—(1) At the commencement of every Parliament, or from time to time, as necessity may arise, the Speaker shall notify the House of the arrangements to be made to elect a Chairman of Ways and Means and two Deputy Chairmen of Ways and Means, who shall be known respectively as the First and the Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means. The Deputy Chairmen shall be entitled to exercise all powers vested in the Chairman of Ways and Means, including his or her powers as Deputy Speaker. [Was para (9) of this SO.]

(2) The election shall be by secret ballot.

(3) Preparatory Arrangements for a ballot shall be made under the supervision of the Clerk of the House.

(4) (a) Nominations of candidates shall be in writing and shall be received by the Clerk of the House between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm on the day before the House is to elect the Deputy Speakers.

(b) Each nomination shall consist of a brief signed statement made by the candidate declaring his or her willingness to stand for election accompanied by the signatures of not fewer than six nor more than 10 Members. No Member shall sign more than three such statements and if any Member does so, his or her signature shall no longer be valid.

(c) As soon as practicable following the close of nominations, lists of the candidates and their sponsors and the statements shall be placed in the Members’ lobby and published.

(5) (a) A ballot shall take place between eleven o’clock and twelve o’clock in a place appointed by the Speaker.

(b) Each Member intending to vote shall be provided with a ballot paper bearing the names of the candidates listed in alphabetical order.

(c) Each such Member may vote for as many or as few candidates on the ballot paper as he or she wishes, marking them in order of preference.

(d) Counting shall take place under arrangements made by the Clerk of the House.

(e) The ballot shall be counted under the single transferable vote system with constraints that of those elected:

(i) two candidates shall come from the opposite side of the House to that from which the Speaker was drawn, the first of which candidates will be Chairman of Ways and Means and the second, Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means;

(ii) one candidate shall come from the same side of the House as that from which the Speaker was drawn and shall be First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means; and

(iii) at least one man and at least one woman shall be elected across the four posts of Speaker and Deputy Speakers.
(f) The Speaker shall have discretion to vary the timings given in this order and power to give final directions on any matter of doubt arising from the conduct of a ballot or from an individual ballot paper.

(6) As soon as practicable after the votes have been counted the Speaker shall announce to the House the results of the ballot and direct the Clerk to enter the names of the elected Members in the Journal.

(7) Where a ballot is needed to elect to a single vacant post of Deputy Speaker as a result of a change in the Speaker, the election shall be held with candidates from only the relevant side of the House.

(8) Each Deputy Speaker elected under this order is so elected to serve until the end of the Parliament.

(9) The Deputy Chairmen shall be entitled to exercise all powers vested in the Chairman of Ways and Means, including his powers as Deputy Speaker. [Moved to end of para (1)]

________________________________________________________________________

Additions for neutral gender in paras (1) addition, (4)(b) and (5)(c).

Drafting amendment in paras (1).

Change of timing of ballot in para (5)(a) to reflect current practice.

Clarification of para (7).

Former para (9) moved to end of para (1) for clarity

NOTE: The issue of nominating temporary Deputy Speakers to serve from the beginning of a Parliament until the House has elected Deputy Speakers is dealt with in the motions connected with the Procedure Committee’s 2010 report on elections to positions in the House.
Deputy Speaker  

**Duties and powers of Deputy Speakers**

3.—(1) The Chairman of Ways and Means or a Deputy Chairman shall take the chair as Deputy Speaker when requested so to do by the Speaker, without any formal communication to the House.

(2) Whenever the House shall be informed by the Clerk at the Table of the unavoidable absence or the absence by leave of the House of the Speaker, or where paragraph (3) of this order applies, the Chairman of Ways and Means shall perform the duties and exercise the authority of the Speaker in relation to all proceedings of this House, as Deputy Speaker, until the Speaker resumes the chair or, if he does not resume the chair during the course of the sitting, until the next meeting of the House, and so on from day to day, on the like information being given to the House, until the House shall otherwise order:

Provided that if the House shall adjourn for more than twenty-four hours the Chairman of Ways and Means shall continue to perform the duties and exercise the authority of the Speaker, as Deputy Speaker, for twenty-four hours only after such adjournment.

(3) For the purpose of paragraph (2) of this order, the Speaker shall have leave of absence, if he thinks fit, on any Friday on which the House sits.

(4) Whenever the House has been informed by the Clerk at the Table of the unavoidable absence or the absence by leave of the House both of the Speaker, and of the Chairman of Ways and Means, the First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means shall perform the duties and exercise the authority of the Speaker in accordance with paragraph (2) of this order; and if the House should be so informed of the unavoidable absence or the absence by leave of the House of the First Deputy Chairmen also, the Second Deputy Chairman shall perform those duties and exercise that authority.

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*Title changed to reflect substance of SO.*
Panel of Chairs

4.—(1) The Speaker shall nominate not fewer than ten Members to act as temporary chairs of committees when requested by the Chairman of Ways and Means.

(2) The Members nominated in accordance with the preceding paragraph together with the Chairman of Ways and Means and the Deputy Chairmen of Ways and Means shall constitute the Panel of Chairs.

(3) The chair or chairs of each legislation committee shall be appointed by the Speaker from the Panel of Chairs, provided that the Chairman of Ways and Means and the Deputy Chairmen of Ways and Means may take the chair of a legislation committee or sub-committee without having been so appointed.

(4) The Speaker may change the chairs so appointed from time to time.

(5) When more than one chair is appointed to a legislation committee any of the chairs so appointed may exercise the powers conferred by paragraphs (3) and (4) of Standing Order No. 89 (Procedure in general committees).

(6) The Panel of Chairs, of whom three shall be a quorum, shall have power to consider matters of procedure relating to legislation committees and to report its opinion on those matters to the House from time to time.

(7) Any member of a legislation committee may, at the request of the chair of the committee, act as chair for not more than a quarter of an hour on any one occasion.

Provided that that member shall not exercise the powers conferred on the chair of a legislation committee by paragraphs (3) and (4) of Standing Order No. 89 (Procedure in legislation committees).

Addition of paras (3) to (7) from SO No. 85 for clarity and ease of reference

Addition of provision to allow Deputy Speakers to chair legislation committees and programming sub-committees without having been appointed by the Speaker to provide flexibility when appointed chairs are unexpectedly unavailable.

NOTE: SO to be moved to SOs on General Committees (now Legislation Committees)
NO CHANGE TO:

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<th>SO No.</th>
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<td>Affirmation in lieu of oath</td>
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Sittings of the House

9. — (1) Subject to the provisions of Standing Order No. 1B (Election of Speaker by secret ballot), the House shall meet on Mondays at half-past two o’clock, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at half-past eleven o’clock and on Thursdays at half-past nine o’clock 2.30pm, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 11.30 am and on Thursdays at 9.30 am and will first proceed with unopposed private business, motions for unopposed returns and questions:

Provided that, when the House sits on a Tuesday or Wednesday which immediately follows a periodic adjournment of more than two days or is the first day of a Session, references to specific times in the Standing Orders of this House shall apply as if that day were a Monday.

(2) No motion for the adjournment of the House shall be made on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday until all the questions asked at the commencement of public business shall have been disposed of, and, save as provided in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 24 (Emergency debates), No Member other than a Minister of the Crown may make such a motion for the adjournment of the House on any day before the orders of the day or notices of motions shall have been entered upon started.

(3) At ten o’clock on Mondays, at seven o’clock on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and at five o’clock on Thursdays 10.00 pm on Mondays, at 7.00 pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and at 5.00 pm on Thursdays (the ‘moment of interruption’), the proceedings on any business then under consideration shall, save as otherwise provided in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business), be interrupted; and,

(a) if the House be in committee, the occupant of the chair shall leave the chair, and report progress and ask leave to sit again; and

(b) if a motion has been made for the adjournment of the House or of the debate, or that the House has considered a specified matter, (unless that motion is included in a motion to be made after the interruption of business under paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business)), or in committee that the occupant of the chair do report progress, or do leave the chair, every such motion shall lapse, except for a motion for the adjournment of the House moved by a Minister of the Crown for the purpose of ending the sitting under paragraph (5) of this Standing Order.

(4) On the interruption of business the closure may be claimed; and if moved, or if proceedings under Standing Order No. 36 (Closure of debate) be then in progress, the Speaker or the occupant of the chair shall not leave the chair until the questions consequent thereon and any further question, as provided in Standing Order No. 36 (Closure of debate), have been decided. [Moved to SO No. 36]

(5) An order of the day not disposed of before the termination of a sitting shall be deferred to such day being a day on which the House ordinarily sits as the Member in charge of that order may appoint and any order of the day not reached before the termination of a sitting shall, unless the Member in charge of the order has given other instructions to the Clerk at the Table, stand over until the next sitting.
(6) (4) After the business under consideration at the moment of interruption has been disposed of, no opposed business shall be taken, save as provided in Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) otherwise provided for under any Standing Order or Order of the House.

(7) (5) The House shall not be adjourned except in pursuance of by a resolution or by the Speaker in pursuance of Standing Order No. 46 (Power of the Speaker to adjourn House or suspend sitting):

Provided that, when a substantive motion for the adjournment of the House has been made a motion for the adjournment of the House has been moved by a Minister of the Crown for the purpose of ending the sitting:

(a) the motion shall not be liable to interruption under paragraph (3) of this order but may be proceeded with for no more than half an hour after the moment of interruption or for half an hour after it has been made, whichever is the later;

(b) the motion cannot be opposed after the moment of interruption;

(c) on the expiry of the time mentioned in sub-paragraph (a), the Speaker shall adjourn the House without putting any question.

at or after the moment of interruption, the Speaker shall, after the expiration of half an hour after that motion has been made, adjourn the House without putting any question.

Drafting amendments in paras (1), (3) and new para (5), and division of para (3) into sub-paragraphs for ease of reading.

Deletion of obsolete provision and reference to SO NO. 24 in para (2), because emergency debates are no longer motions for the adjournment.

Clarification in para (1).

Changes to paras (3) and (7) to stop adjournment debates lapsing at moment of interruption.
Sittings in Westminster Hall

10.—(1) On days on which the House shall sit after an address has been agreed to in answer to Her Majesty’s Speech there shall be a sitting in Westminster Hall—

(a) on Mondays beginning at half past four o’clock and continuing for up to three hours, if the Backbench Business Committee has reported its determination that a sitting in Westminster Hall to consider an e-petition or e-petitions should take place on that day;

(b) on Tuesdays and Wednesdays beginning at half past nine o’clock, which shall be suspended from half past eleven o’clock until half past two o’clock and may then continue for up to a further two and a half hours; except that if the Tuesday or Wednesday immediately follows a periodic adjournment of the House of more than two days, the sitting shall be between half past nine o’clock and two o’clock 9.30 am, which shall be suspended from 11.30 am until 2.30 pm and may then continue for up to a further two and a half hours; except that if the Tuesday or Wednesday immediately follows a periodic adjournment of the House of more than two days, the sitting shall be between 9.30 am and 2.00 pm; and

(c) on Thursdays beginning at half past one o’clock and continuing for up to three hours,

and in calculating the periods of two and a half or three hours no account shall be taken of any period during which the sitting may be suspended owing to a division being called in the House or a committee of the whole House.

(2) Any Member of the House may take part in a sitting in Westminster Hall.

(3) (2) On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, the business taken at any sitting in Westminster Hall shall be such as the Chairman of Ways and Means shall determine and may include oral answers to questions under arrangements to be made by him and shall be debated on the motion, That this House has considered the specified matter[s], unless otherwise determined by the Chairman of Ways and Means.

(4) (3) Subject to paragraph (15), the business taken at any Thursday sitting in Westminster Hall shall be such as the Backbench Business Committee shall determine. The business taken at any Thursday sitting in Westminster Hall shall be such as may be determined by the Backbench Business Committee or the Liaison Committee under arrangements made by the Chairman of Ways and Means, provided that the time available in a Session is divided as equally as possible between the two committees. The Chairman of Ways and Means shall have power to give final directions on any matter of doubt arising from the division of time between the two committees.

(5) (a) The business taken at a Monday sitting in Westminster Hall shall be the e-petition or e-petitions which the Backbench Business Committee has determined should be debated,
and each such e-petition shall be debated on the motion, That this House has considered the e-petition relating to [subject of petition].

(b) Paragraph (12) of this Order shall not apply to proceedings under sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph; no dilatory motion may be made in relation to proceedings under that sub-paragraph except by a Minister of the Crown; and the question on any such dilatory motion shall be put forthwith.

(6) The Chairman of Ways and Means or a Deputy Chairman, or a member of the Panel of Chairs when so requested by the Chairman of Ways and Means, shall take the chair in Westminster Hall as Deputy Speaker, and the House may appoint not more than four other members of the Panel of Chairs to sit in Westminster Hall as Deputy Speaker.

(7) Any member of the Panel of Chairs may also take the chair at a sitting in Westminster Hall when so requested by the Chairman of Ways and Means, with the duties and powers conferred on additional Deputy Speakers; and Members so appointed shall be addressed by name.

(8) Any order made or resolution come to at a sitting in Westminster Hall (other than a resolution to adjourn) shall be reported to the House by the Deputy Speaker and shall be deemed to be an order or resolution of the House.

(9) If a motion be made by a Minister of the Crown that an order of the day be proceeded with at a sitting in Westminster Hall, the question thereon shall be put forthwith, but such motion may be made only with the leave of the House and may not be made on a Friday.

(10) The quorum at a sitting in Westminster Hall shall be three.

(11) If at a sitting in Westminster Hall the opinion of the Deputy Speaker as to the decision of a question (other than a question for adjournment) is challenged, that question shall not be decided, and the Deputy Speaker shall report to the House accordingly; and any such question shall be put forthwith upon a motion being made in the House.

(12) If any business other than a motion for adjournment or a motion that the House has considered a specified matter is under consideration at a sitting in Westminster Hall, and not fewer than six Members rise in their places and signify their objection to further proceedings, that business shall not be further proceeded with in Westminster Hall, and the Deputy Speaker shall report to the House accordingly, and any order under paragraph (9) above relating thereto shall be discharged.

(13) At the end of each sitting in Westminster Hall, unless a question for adjournment has previously been agreed to, the Deputy Speaker shall adjourn the sitting without putting any question; and proceedings on any business which has been started but not disposed of shall lapse.

(14) The provisions of Standing Orders No. 29 (Powers of chair to propose question), No. 36 (Closure of debate), No. 37 (Majority for closure or for proposal of question), No. 38
(Procedure on divisions), No. 39 (Voting), No. 40 (Division unnecessarily claimed), No. 41 (Quorum), No. 43 (Disorderly conduct), No. 44 (Order in debate), No. 45 (Members suspended, &c., to withdraw from precincts), No. 45A (Suspension of salary of Members suspended) and No. 163 (Motions to sit in private) shall not apply to sittings in Westminster Hall.

(15) In each Session, the Speaker shall appoint twenty Thursdays on which the business to be taken in Westminster Hall should be debates on select committee reports chosen by the Liaison Committee, but the Speaker may appoint fewer than twenty days with the agreement of the Liaison Committee. [moved to para 3]

Drafting amendments in para 1

Deletion of otiose para (2)

Deletion of para (9) to reflect current practice

Addition to para (12) to reflect current practice

Rationalisation of paras (3) and (4) and (6) and (7) and para (15)

NB: The Procedure Committee has an inquiry into Procedure in Westminster Hall.
Friday sittings

[New Standing Order, combining elements of SOs No. 11, No.12 and No. 19]

11.—(1) Unless the House otherwise orders, the House shall not sit on any Friday other than those on which private Members’ bills have precedence. [from SO No. 12]

(2) At its rising on the Thursday before a Friday on which the House is not sitting the House shall stand adjourned till the following Monday without any question being put, unless it shall have resolved otherwise; and when it meets on Friday, shall, at its rising, stand adjourned until the following Monday without any question being put. [from SO No. 12]

(3) Unless the House shall have resolved to adjourn otherwise than from the previous Thursday to the following Monday, the Fridays on which the House does not sit shall be treated as sitting days for the purpose of calculating any period under any order of the House and for the purposes of paragraph (6) of Standing Order No. 22 (Notices of questions, motions and amendments) and of Standing Order No. 64 (Notices of amendments, &c., to bills); and on such Fridays—

(a) notices of questions and of written statements may be given by Members to received by the Table Office, and

(b) notices of amendments to bills, new clauses, sections and new schedules and of amendments to Lords amendments, and notices of motions relating to proceedings on bills committed to a public bill committee or to a select committee, may be received by the Public Bill Office, between eleven o'clock and three o'clock 11.00 am and 3.00 pm. [from SO No. 12]

(4) The House, when it meets on Friday, shall meet on Fridays at half past nine o’clock 9.30 am, and will first proceed with unopposed private business, petitions, and motions for unopposed returns. [from SO No. 11]

(5) If a motion for a new writ is made on any day on which private Members’ bills have precedence, and is opposed, proceedings on it shall lapse. [from SO No. 19, amended]

(6) Standing Orders No. 9 (Sittings of the House) and No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to the sittings on Fridays with—

(a) the omission of paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 9; and

(b) the insertion of references to half past two o’clock 2.30 pm as the moment of interruption. [from SO No. 11]

(7) At eleven o’clock 11.00 am, the Speaker may interrupt the proceedings in order to permit urgent questions to be asked which are in his opinion of an urgent character and relate either to matters of public importance or to the arrangement of business, statements to be made by Ministers, or personal explanations to be made by Members, and if the House is in committee at eleven o’clock 11.00 am, on an occasion when the Speaker’s intention to permit such questions, statements or explanations has been made known, the occupant of the chair shall
leave the chair without putting any question, and report that the committee has made progress and ask leave to sit again on that day, and on conclusion of after the questions, statements or explanations, the House shall again resolve itself into committee without Question put. [from SO No. 11, two paragraphs combined, with drafting amendments]

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**Creation of new SO from elements of three existing SOs**

**Drafting amendments in paras (3), (4) and (7).**

**Amendment of para (4) to bring in line with existing practice and remove clash with SO No. 154(1) (Time and manner of presenting petitions)**

**New para (5) with text (amended) of SO No 19.**

**Addition to paras (3) and (7) to reflect existing practice.**
Friday sittings

11.—(1) Subject to Standing Order No. 12 (House not to sit on certain Fridays), the House shall meet on Fridays at half past nine o’clock 9.30 am, and will first proceed with unopposed private business, petitions, and motions for unopposed returns.

(2) Standing Orders No. 9 (Sittings of the House) and No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to the sittings on Fridays with—

(a) the omission of paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 9; and

(b) the insertion of references to half past two o’clock 2.30 pm as the moment of interruption; and

(c) the substitution of reference to half past three o’clock for reference to eleven o’clock in relation to proceedings on nomination of members of departmental select committees.

(3) In the application of Standing Order No. 17 (Delegated legislation (negative procedure)) to the sittings on Fridays there shall be substituted references to four o’clock for references to half past eleven o’clock.

(4) At eleven o’clock 11.00 am the Speaker may interrupt the proceedings in order to permit questions to be asked which are in his opinion of an urgent character and relate either to matters of public importance or to the arrangement of business, statements to be made by Ministers, or personal explanations to be made by Members.

(5) If the House is in committee at eleven o’clock 11.00 am, on an occasion when the Speaker’s intention to permit such questions, statements or explanations has been made known, the occupant of the chair shall leave the chair without putting any question, and report that the committee have made progress and ask leave to sit again that day, and on conclusion of the questions, statements or explanations, the House shall again resolve itself into committee without Question put.

(6) The House, when it meets on Friday, shall, at its rising, stand adjourned until the following Monday without any question being put.

Changes indicated to text taken into new SO. Deletions reflecting current practice (ie text not taken across) indicated by double strikethrough.
Standing Order amalgamated with SO No. 11

House not to sit on certain Fridays

12.—(1) Unless the House otherwise orders, the House shall not sit on any Friday other than those on which private Members’ bills have precedence.

(2) At its rising on the Thursday before a Friday on which the House is not sitting the House shall stand adjourned till the following Monday without any question being put, unless it shall have resolved otherwise.

(3) Unless the House shall have resolved to adjourn otherwise than from the previous Thursday to the following Monday, the Fridays on which the House does not sit shall be treated as sitting days for the purpose of calculating any period under any order of the House and for the purposes of paragraph (6) of Standing Order No. 22 (Notices of questions, motions and amendments) and of Standing Order No. 64 (Notices of amendments, &c., to bills); and on such Fridays—

(a) notices of questions may be given by Members to the Table Office, and

(b) notices of amendments to bills, new clauses, sections and new schedules and of amendments to Lords amendments, and notices of motions relating to proceedings on bills committed to a public bill committee or to a select committee, may be received by the Public Bill Office, between eleven o’clock and three o’clock 11.00 am and 3.00 pm.

Changes indicated to text taken into new SO, consisting of addition to reflect current practice and drafting amendment in para (3).
Earlier meeting of House in certain circumstances.

13.—(1) Whenever the House stands adjourned and it is represented to the Speaker by Her Majesty’s Ministers that the public interest requires that the House should meet at a time earlier than that to which the House stands adjourned, the Speaker, if he is satisfied that the public interest does so require, may give notice that, being so satisfied, he appoints a time for the House to meet, and the House shall accordingly meet at the time stated in such notice.

(2) The government business to be transacted on the day on which the House shall so meet shall, subject to the publication of notice thereof in the order paper to be circulated on the day on which the House shall so meet, be such as the government may appoint, but subject as aforesaid the House shall transact its business as if it had been duly adjourned to the day on which it shall so meet, and any government order of the day and government notices of motions that may stand on the order book for any day shall be appointed for the day on which the House shall so meet.

(3) In the event of the Speaker being unable to act owing to illness or other cause, the Chairman of Ways and Means, or either Deputy Chairman, shall act in his stead for the purposes of this order.

Deletion of archaism and otiose provision in para (2).
DIVISION OF SO NO. 14 INTO FOUR SEPARATE SOS FOR CLARITY

Government business

AA.—(1) Save as provided in this order, government business shall have precedence at every
sitting. Government business shall have precedence at every sitting, save as provided for in
Standing Orders No. BB (Opposition days), No. CC (Backbench business) and No. DD
(Private Members’ Fridays).

Opposition days

BB.—(1) Twenty days shall be allotted in each session for proceedings on opposition
business, seventeen of which shall be at the disposal of the Leader of the Opposition and
three of which shall be at the disposal of the leader of the second largest opposition party; and
matters selected on those days shall have precedence over government business provided
that—

(a) two Friday sittings shall be deemed equivalent to a single sitting on any other day;

(a) on any day other than a Friday, not more than two of the days at the disposal of the
Leader of the Opposition may be taken in the form of four half days, and one of the days
at the disposal of the leader of the second largest opposition party may be taken in the
form of two half days; and

(b) on any such half day, proceedings under this paragraph shall last not more than three
hours and, at the end of that time, the motion, unless otherwise disposed of, shall lapse;
proceedings under this sub-paragraph may be proceeded with, though opposed, after the
moment of interruption and Standing Order No. 41A (Deferred divisions) shall not apply
shall either—

(i) lapse at seven o’clock on Monday, four o’clock on Tuesday or Wednesday or two
o’clock on Thursday if not previously concluded, or

(ii) be set down for consideration at the hour specified in sub-paragraph (i) above and,
except on days on which private business has been set down for consideration under
the provisions of paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 20 (Time for taking private
business), shall be entered upon at that time:

Provided that on days on which business stands over until seven o’clock, four o’clock or two
o’clock under the provisions of Standing Order No. 24 (Emergency debates), proceedings
under this sub-paragraph shall not be entered upon until such business has been disposed of,
and may then be proceeded with for three hours, notwithstanding the provisions of Standing
Order No. 9 (Sittings of the House).

(2) For the purposes of this order ‘the second largest opposition party’ shall be that
party, of those not represented in Her Majesty’s Government, which has the second largest
number of Members elected to the House as members of that party.
Backbench business

CC—(1) Thirty-five days or its equivalent shall be allotted in each session for proceedings in the House and in Westminster Hall on backbench business of which at least twenty-seven days or its equivalent shall be allotted for proceedings in the House; the business determined by the Backbench Business Committee shall have precedence over government business (other than any order of the day or notice of motion on which the question is to be put forthwith) on those days; and the provisions of paragraph (2)(c) of this Standing Order paragraph (2)(b) of Standing Order No. BB (Opposition days) shall apply to any of those days taken in the House in the form of half-days.

(2) In addition to those days allotted under paragraph (1) of this order, the Backbench Business Committee may determine that a sitting in Westminster Hall may be held on a Monday in accordance with paragraph (1)(a) of Standing Order No. 10 to consider e-petitions.

(3) For the purposes of paragraph (1) above, a Thursday sitting in Westminster Hall at which the business is appointed by the Backbench Business Committee shall count as one half day and a topical debate shall count as one quarter-day.

(4) Backbench business comprises all proceedings in the Chamber relating to any motion or order of the day except:

(a) government business, that is proceedings relating to government bills, financial business, proceedings under any Act of Parliament, or relating to European Union Documents, or any other motion in the name of a Minister of the Crown;

(b) opposition business under paragraph (2) above Standing Order No. BB (Opposition days);

(c) motions for the adjournment of the House under paragraph (7) of Standing Order No. 9 (Sittings of the House), private Members’ motions for leave to bring in bills under Standing Order No. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement the start of public business) and private Members’ bills under paragraphs (9) to (14) below Standing Order No. DD (Private Members’ Fridays);

(d) proceedings relating to private business;

(e) any motion to amend this order or Standing Orders AA, BB, DD or No. 152J (Backbench Business Committee);

(f) business set down at the direction of, or given precedence by, the Speaker.
(5) The proceedings to be taken as backbench business shall be determined by the Backbench Business Committee, as set out in Standing Order No. 152J (Backbench Business Committee).

**Private Members’ bills**

DD—(1) Private Members’ bills shall have precedence over government business on thirteen Fridays in each session to be appointed by the House.

(2) On and after the eighth Friday on which private Members’ bills have precedence, such bills shall be arranged on the order paper in the following order—

consideration of Lords amendments, third readings, proceedings on consideration of reports not already entered upon started, adjourned proceedings on consideration, bills in progress in committee, bills appointed for committee, and second readings.

(3) The ballot for private Members’ bills shall be held on the second sitting Thursday on which the House shall sit during of the session under arrangements to be made by the Speaker, and each bill shall be presented by the Member who has given notice of presentation or by another Member named by him or her in writing to the Clerks at the Table, at the commencement start of public business on the fifth sitting Wednesday on which the House shall sit during the session.

(4) Until after the fifth Wednesday on which the House shall sit during the session, no private Member shall—

(a) give notice of a motion for leave to bring in a bill under Standing Order No. 23 (Motions for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement the start of public business); or

(b) give notice for presenting a bill under Standing Order No. 57 (Presentation and first reading); or

(c) inform the Clerks at the Table Public Bill Office of his or her intention to take charge of a bill which has been brought from the Lords.

(5) A private Member’s bill to which the provisions of paragraphs (2) to (6) of Standing Order No. 97 (Scottish Grand Committee (bills in relation to their principle)) have applied, and which has been considered by a Scottish public bill committee, shall not be set down for consideration on report so as to have precedence over any private Member’s bill so set down which was read a second time on a day preceding that on which the bill was reported from the Scottish Grand Committee under paragraph (3) of that Standing Order.
(6) An order appointing a day for the second reading of a private Member’s bill shall lapse at the rising of the House on the preceding sitting day if at that time the bill has not been printed and delivered to the Vote Office, and the House shall make no further order appointing a day for the second reading of the bill until it has been printed.

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Division into four separate SOs for clarity.

Amendments and deletions in BB(1) to reflect existing practice (and drafting amendments).

Amendment to BB(2) to remove uncertainty about what ‘second largest opposition party’ means elsewhere.

Addition in BB(4) to reflect practice.

Addition in CC(1) to reflect existing practice of half-days.

Additions for neutral gender and drafting amendment in paras DD (3) and (4).

Deletion of obsolete provisions in DD(5).

Amendment in DD(6) to reflect move from printing to publishing.
Exempted business

15.—(1) The following business may be proceeded with at any hour though opposed, shall not, save for the purpose of moving a motion pursuant to paragraph (2) of this order, be interrupted at the moment of interruption, and, if under discussion when business is postponed under the provisions of any standing order, may be resumed, though opposed, after the interruption of business:

(a) proceedings on a bill brought in upon a ways and means resolution;

(b) proceedings in pursuance of any standing order of this House which provides that proceedings, though opposed, may be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business;

(c) proceedings on a motion such as is referred to in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 121 (Nomination of select committees) for the nomination or discharge of members of select committees to which that paragraph applies which has been opposed at or after the interruption of business on a preceding day:

Provided that any questions necessary to dispose of the proceedings on such a motion shall be put at eleven o’clock on Monday, eight o’clock on Tuesday or Wednesday or six o’clock on Thursday or one hour after the commencement of those proceedings, whichever is the later.

(cc) proceedings on a programme motion; or

(dd) proceedings subject to a programme order.

(2) If a notice of motion in the name of a Minister of the Crown stands upon the order paper at the commencement of public business to the effect that any specified business may be proceeded with at this day’s sitting though opposed—

(a) until any hour;

(b) until a specified hour;

(bb) until the end of a specified period after it has been started; or

(c) until either a specified hour or the end of a specified period after it has been entered upon, whichever is the later;

or in a form combining any or all of these effects in respect of different items of business, the motion shall stand over and may not be made until after the interruption of business and shall then be proceeded with, though opposed, in accordance with the following paragraphs of this order; provided that on any day on which the Speaker is directed to put questions at the moment of interruption pursuant to paragraph (6) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates), any such motion shall stand over until those questions have been decided.
(3) If the business interrupted is included in the business specified in the motion or in paragraph (1) of this order, the Speaker shall, immediately after the interruption of business, or if the House has been in committee, before any day is named for the House again to resolve itself into that committee, call upon the Minister to move his [his] motion and the question thereon shall be put forthwith, and after that question has been decided the consideration of the business interrupted shall be resumed if such business is included in the business specified in paragraph (1) of this order or if the question be resolved in the affirmative is agreed to.

(4) If the business interrupted is not included in the business specified in the motion or in paragraph (1) of this order, the Speaker shall call upon the Minister to move his [his] motion at the conclusion [end] of any proceedings arising on the interruption of business [under the provisions of Standing Order No. 9 (Sittings of the House)] but before the resumption of any proceedings postponed under Standing Order No. 20 (Time for taking private business) or Standing Order No. 24 (Emergency debates).

(5) If a motion made under either of the two preceding paragraphs [be is] agreed to, the business so specified shall be proceeded with as if it were included in the business specified in paragraph (1) of this order, save that—

(a) business which may be proceeded with until a specified hour may not, if opposed, be entered upon [started or resumed after that hour and the proceedings thereon [on it] if not previously concluded [ended] shall be interrupted at that hour;

(b) when proceedings on such business have been postponed under the provisions of Standing Order No. 24 (Emergency debates), such business may be proceeded with after the specified hour for a further period of time equal to the duration of the proceedings upon the motion under the said Standing Order No. 24; and

(c) the proceedings upon business which may be proceeded with until either a specified hour or the end of a specified period after it has been entered upon, whichever is the later, shall if not previously concluded be interrupted at that hour or at the end of that period, as the case may be [business which may continue under sub-paragraphs (bb) or (c) of paragraph (2) of this order shall if not previously ended be interrupted when the time specified has expired.

(6) Not more than one motion under paragraph (2) of this order may be made at any one sitting and after any business proceeding under the provisions of this order is disposed of after the moment of interruption, the remaining business of the sitting shall be dealt with according to the provisions of Standing Order No. 9 (Sittings of the House) applicable to business taken after the moment of interruption.

Drafting amendments in paras (1), (1)(b), (3), (4), (5) and (5)(a) and (c).

Move of para (1)(c) to SO No. 121 for clarity.
Addition to para (1) to end need for business motions at moment of interruption, with corresponding deletions of No. 83A(13) and 83I(2).

Addition to para (2) for clarity and to reflect existing practice.

Additions for neutral gender to paras (3) and (4).

Deletion of (5) (b) because of proposed addition to SO No. 24 (and remaining sub-paras (a) and (c) could be swapped to follow logical order).
Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents.

16.—(1) The Speaker shall put the questions necessary to dispose of proceedings under any Act of Parliament or on European Union documents (as defined in Standing Order No. 143 (European Scrutiny Committee)) not later than one and a half hours after the commencement of such proceedings, subject to the provisions of Standing Order No. 17 (Delegated legislation (negative procedure)).

(2) Business to which this order applies may be proceeded with at any hour, though opposed after the moment of interruption.

Drafting amendments.

NB: Separate amendments proposed by European Scrutiny Committee (Twenty-fourth report of Session 2013-14)
Delegated legislation (negative procedure).

17.—(1) No proceedings on a motion to which this order applies shall be entered upon at or after half-past eleven o’clock on Monday, half-past eight o’clock on Tuesday or Wednesday, or half-past six o’clock on Thursday.

(2) If such a motion is under consideration at that hour, the Speaker shall forthwith put any question which may be requisite to bring to a decision any question already proposed from the chair:

Provided that, if he shall be of opinion that—

(a) owing to the lateness of the hour at which consideration of the motion was entered upon, or

(b) because of the importance of the subject matter of the motion, the time for debate has not been adequate, he shall interrupt the business and the debate shall stand adjourned till the next sitting (other than a Friday).

(3) A debate which has been adjourned under paragraph (2) of this order shall not be resumed less than half an hour before the time specified in paragraph (1) of this order, but shall stand further adjourned till the next sitting (other than a Friday), and the foregoing provisions of this paragraph shall apply to any debate which has been further adjourned under this paragraph as if the further adjournment were an adjournment under paragraph (2) of the order.

(4) This order applies to proceedings under an Act of Parliament on—

(a) any motion for an humble address to Her Majesty praying that a statutory instrument be annulled, and any motion that a draft of an Order in Council be not submitted to Her Majesty in Council, or that a statutory instrument be not made,

(b) any motion that, or for an humble address to Her Majesty praying that, any other document be annulled, or cease to be in force, or be not made or be disapproved, or words to that effect.

Repeal SO because unnecessary: last paragraph covered by SO No. 16.
Consideration of draft legislative reform orders etc.

18.—(1) If the Regulatory Reform Committee has recommended under paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 141 (Regulatory Reform Committee) or paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 142 (Localism Act 2011, etc.: scrutiny of certain orders and draft orders) that a draft order subject to the affirmative procedure should be approved, or has recommended under paragraph (6) of Standing Order No. 141 (Regulatory Reform Committee) or paragraph (7) of Standing Order No. 142 (Localism Act 2011, etc.: scrutiny of certain orders and draft orders) that a draft order should be approved, and a motion is made by a Minister of the Crown to that effect, the question thereon shall—

(a) if the committee’s recommendation was agreed without a division, be put forthwith; and

(b) if the committee’s recommendation was agreed after a division, be put not later than one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the motion.

(2) If the committee has recommended under paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 141 (Regulatory Reform Committee) or paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 142 (Localism Act 2011, etc.: scrutiny of certain orders and draft orders) that a draft order subject to the affirmative procedure be not approved, or has recommended under paragraph (6) of Standing Order No. 141 (Regulatory Reform Committee) or paragraph (7) of Standing Order No. 142 (Localism Act 2011, etc.: scrutiny of certain orders and draft orders) that a draft order be not approved, no motion to approve the draft order shall be made unless the House has previously resolved to disagree with the committee’s report; the questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the motion for such a resolution shall be put not later than three hours after their commencement; and the question on any motion made by a Minister of the Crown that the draft order be approved shall be put forthwith.

(3) If the committee has recommended under paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 141 (Regulatory Reform Committee) or paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 142 (Localism Act 2011, etc.: scrutiny of certain orders and draft orders) that a draft order subject to the negative resolution procedure should not be made (and that the recommendation is not intended to operate section 16(4) of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006), that recommendation shall be deemed to constitute notice of a motion under sub-paragraph (4)(a) of Standing Order No. 118 (Delegated Legislation Committees).

(4) Motions under paragraphs (1) or (2) of this order may be proceeded with, though opposed, until any hour.

Drafting amendments in paras (1)(b) and (2).
New writs.

19. If a motion to the effect that the Speaker do issue his warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new writ for the electing of a Member is proposed to be made or is made after prayers on any day on which private Members’ bills have precedence, and is opposed, proceedings thereon shall lapse.

Moved to new SO No. 12 on Friday sittings and drafting amendments made.
Time for taking private business

20.—(1) On Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays the time for private business shall end not later than a quarter of an hour after the House sits and business entered upon or not reached at that hour shall be deferred to such time as the Chairman of Ways and Means may appoint. Business not reached shall stand over to the next sitting, or in the case of opposed business until the next sitting other than a Friday.

(2) During the time of private business, opposed business shall not be proceeded with but shall be deferred to such time, other than a Friday, as the Chairman of Ways and Means may appoint.

(3) Opposed business shall include any proceedings on a private bill or a confirming bill which have been deferred under paragraph (2) of this order, so long as a notice of an amendment stands upon the order paper in the form of a notice of motion (other than a notice of motion in the name of the Chairman of Ways and Means) on second reading, consideration or third reading of such a bill:

Provided that no such notice of motion shall stand on the order paper for more than seven days unless renewed.

(4) No opposed private business shall be taken on a Friday.

(5) Business deferred under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this order shall be considered at the time of private business on the day appointed unless the Chairman of Ways and Means directs that such business shall be set down for seven o’clock on any specified Monday, four o’clock on any specified Tuesday or Wednesday or two o’clock on any specified Thursday 7.00 pm on any specified Monday, 4.00 pm on any specified Tuesday or Wednesday or 2.00 pm on any specified Thursday, and business so set down (including any motion contingent directly or otherwise upon any item of such business) shall be taken in such order as the Chairman of Ways and Means may determine:

Provided that business so set down shall be distributed as nearly as may be proportionately between the sittings on which government business has precedence and other sittings.

(6) On any day specified under paragraph (5) of this order at seven o’clock, four o’clock or two o’clock 7.00 pm, 4.00 pm or 2.00 pm or as soon thereafter as any motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 (Emergency debates) has been disposed of, the business set down by direction of the Chairman of Ways and Means shall be entered upon and may be proceeded with subject to the provisions of Standing Order No. 9 (Sittings of the House).

Drafting amendments in paras (1), (3), (4), (5) and (6).

Addition to reflect current practice in para (4).
Deletion of proviso to para (5) to reflect current practice.

Deletion in para (6) to reflect emergency debates no longer being adjournment debates.
Time for taking questions

21.—(1) Questions shall be taken on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, after private business and motions for unopposed returns have been disposed of.

(2) No question shall be taken more than one hour after the House sits, except urgent questions which have not appeared on the order paper but which are in the Speaker’s opinion of an urgent character and relate either to matters of public importance or to the arrangement of business.

(3) Any questions tabled for written answer on a day on which the House does not sit by reason of the continuance of a previous sitting shall be deemed to be questions for written answer on the next sitting day and shall appear in the questions book for that day.

Drafting amendment in para (2) to reflect changes in SO No. 11.
Notices of questions, motions and amendments

22.—(1) Notices of questions shall be given by Members in writing to the Table Office in a form determined by the Speaker; and each such notice shall indicate whether the question is for oral or written answer.

(2) A notice of a question, or of an amendment to a motion standing on the order paper for which no day has been fixed or of the addition of a name in support of such a motion or amendment, which is given later than half an hour after the normal moment of interruption shall be treated for all purposes as if it were a notice handed in after the rising of the House.

(3) A Member shall indicate on the notice of any question whether it is for oral or written answer and a Member may indicate a date for answer of a question for written answer in accordance with paragraph (4) of this order.

(4) Notices of questions for written answer shall be set down for answer on the second sitting day after that on which they are received, except that where a Member has indicated that a question is for written answer on a named day the Minister to whom it is addressed shall cause an answer to be given to the Member on the date for which notice has been given, provided that—

(a) notice has appeared at latest on the notice paper circulated two days (excluding Saturday and Sunday) before that on which an answer is desired; and

(b) a Member may not table more than five such questions on any one day.

(5) Notice of a question for oral answer may be given only for answer on the next day on which the Member to whom it is addressed is due to give oral answers; and in respect of each such day the Speaker shall specify the latest date and time at which notice may be given and how many questions are to be printed for each Member answering; and only that number of notices of questions (selected at random from those received in a manner to be prescribed by the Speaker) shall be treated as valid notices received on the day concerned:

Provided that the latest date and time specified by the Speaker shall be such as to enable the notices selected to be printed and circulated—

(a) in the case of questions to the Secretaries of State for Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales and the Advocate General at least four days (excluding Friday, Saturday and Sunday) before the question is to be answered, except during the week following the first day of a Session, when the period shall be at least three days, or

(b) in the case of questions to other Ministers, at least two days (excluding Friday, Saturday and Sunday) before the question is to be answered.

(6) When it is proposed that the House should adjourn for a period of more than three days the Speaker shall cause to have printed and circulated with the Vote a memorandum superseding the provisions of paragraphs (4) and (5) of this order and specifying the arrangements for tabling questions during the adjournment.
Amendments to para (1) to reflect current practice and consequential deletion of para (3).

Addition to para (4) to specify date for ordinary written questions.

Amendment in para (5) to remove need for end-of-session resolution on questions to territorial departments.

Amendment to reflect move from printing to publishing in para (6).
NO CHANGE TO:

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<tr>
<th>SO No.</th>
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<td>22A</td>
<td>Written statements</td>
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Notices of questions etc. and written statements during September

22B.—(1) **When the House stands adjourned for the whole of September**, notices of questions for written answer on a named day by a Minister of the Crown may be given on three appointed tabling days, for answer on three appointed answering days, between 2 and 21 September.

(2) A motion to appoint tabling days and answering days under paragraph (1) may be made by a Minister of the Crown; and the question on such a motion shall be put forthwith and may be decided, though opposed, after the moment of interruption.

(3) Notices of questions for named day answer on one of the appointed answering days, received by the Table Office on any day after the rising of the House for the summer adjournment, shall be treated as if given on—

(a) that day, if they are received on an appointed tabling day; or

(b) the next appointed tabling day, if they are received on any other day, and a Member may not give notice of more than five such questions in respect of each appointed tabling day.

(4) Notwithstanding sub-paragraph (4)(a) of Standing Order No. 22 (Notices of questions, motions and amendments), no notice of a question may be given under this order for a day earlier than five days (excluding Saturday and Sunday) after the day on which the notice is given.

(5) A Minister of the Crown, being a Member of the House, or other Member of the House to whom written questions may be addressed, may give notice on an appointed tabling day of his or her intention to make a ministerial statement in written form on an appointed answering day.

(6) In the event of a recall of the House under Standing Order No. 13 (Earlier meeting of House in certain circumstances), the Speaker may publish a memorandum amending the arrangements made under this order.

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**Clarification in title**

Addition to para (1) to clarify that SO is for years in which House does not sit in September;

Amendment to para (5) to reflect changes to SO No 22A; addition for neutral gender.
NO CHANGE TO:

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<td>22C</td>
<td>Motions and amendments with a financial consequence for the House of Commons: Administration Estimate</td>
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Select Committee statements.

22D.—(1) (a) On any day allotted for proceedings in the House on backbench business (and not being taken in the form of a half-day), or on any Thursday sitting in Westminster Hall other than one to which subparagraph (b) applies, the Backbench Business Committee may determine that a statement will be made on the publication of a select committee report or announcement of an inquiry.

(b) The Liaison Committee may determine that such a statement may be made in Westminster Hall on any day appointed under paragraph (153) of Standing Order No. 10 (Sittings in Westminster Hall).

(2) A statement on the publication of a select committee report or announcement of an inquiry—

(a) shall be made by the chair or another member of the select committee acting on its behalf;

(b) shall take place—

(i) in the House, after questions and any ministerial statements, or

(ii) in Westminster Hall, at the commencement of proceedings.

(3) A statement made under paragraph (1) above may not take place later than 5 sitting days after the day on which the report is published or inquiry announced.

(4) The Member making a statement may answer questions on it asked by Members called by the Chair, but no question shall be taken after the end of any period specified by the Backbench Business Committee or the Liaison Committee in its determination.

Drafting amendment in para (2)(b)(ii).
Motions *Ten minute rule motions* for leave to bring in bills and nomination of select committees at commencement *the start* of public business

23.—(1) On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and, if given by a Minister of the Crown, on Mondays and Thursdays, notices of motions for leave to bring in bills, and for the nomination of select committees, may be set down for consideration at the commencement *start* of public business.

(1A) The Speaker, after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement *of up to ten minutes* from the Member who makes and from a Member who opposes any such motion respectively, shall put either the question on it, or the question, ‘That the debate be now adjourned’.

(2) With respect to a private Member’s motion for leave to bring in a bill under this order—

(a) notice shall be given in the Public Bill Office by the Member in person or by another Member on his or her behalf, but on any one day not more than one notice shall be accepted from any one Member;

(b) no notice shall be given for a day on which a notice of motion under this order already stands on the paper;

(c) no notice shall be given for a day earlier than the fifth or later than the fifteenth sitting day after the day on which it is given;

(d) not more than one such notice shall stand on the paper in the name of any one Member for a day within any period of fifteen sitting days.

(3) No notice may be given under this order for a day on which *Mr the* Chancellor of the Exchequer has declared *his* intention of opening *his* the Budget; but—

(i) *notices proposed to be given for such day, and*

(ii) *notices so given for a day in respect of which such intention is subsequently declared, shall be treated as having been given for the first Monday on which the House shall sit after the Budget is opened, and may be proceeded with on that day as though it were a Tuesday or a Wednesday.*

*Drafting amendment in Title and para (1).*

*Division of para (1) into two for clarity and removal of unused provision.*

*Gender-neutral amendments to para (3).*
Emergency debates

24.—(1) On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, except on a Friday, a Member rising in his or her place at the commencement of public business may propose, in an application lasting not more than three minutes, that the House should debate a specific and important matter that should have urgent consideration.

(1A) If the Speaker is satisfied that the matter is proper to be debated, the Member shall either obtain the leave of the House, or, if such leave be refused, the assent of not fewer than forty Members who shall thereupon rise in their places to support the motion, or, if fewer than forty Members and not fewer than ten shall thereupon rise in their places, the House shall, on a division, upon question put forthwith, determine whether such motion shall be made.

(2) If leave is given or the motion is so supported or the House so determines that it shall be made—

(a) the debate shall be held on a motion that the House has considered the specified matter; and

(b) the Speaker shall announce either—

(i) the length of the debate and the time at which it is to be held; or

(ii) that he will make such a statement at a later named hour during that sitting.

(3) Proceedings in respect of a debate under this order may last not more than three hours and, at the conclusion of the time allocated to them, pursuant to paragraph (2)(b) of this order, the motion, unless otherwise disposed of, shall lapse.

(4) A Member intending to make an application under this order shall give notice to the Speaker by twelve o’clock on a Monday, half past ten o’clock on a Tuesday or Wednesday or nine o’clock on a Thursday noon on a Monday, 10.30 am on a Tuesday or Wednesday or 9.00 am on a Thursday, if the urgency of the matter is known at that hour, and if the urgency is not so known, he shall give notice as soon thereafter as is practicable. If the Speaker so desires he may defer giving his decision upon whether the matter is proper to be discussed until a named hour, when he may interrupt the proceedings of the House for the purpose.

(5) In determining whether a matter is proper to be discussed the Speaker shall have regard to the extent to which it concerns the administrative responsibilities of Ministers of the Crown or could come within the scope of ministerial action.

(5A) In determining whether a matter is urgent the Speaker shall have regard to the probability of the matter being brought before the House in time by other means.

(6) The Speaker shall state whether or not he is satisfied that the matter is proper to be discussed without giving the reasons for his decision to the House.
(6A) If the Speaker so desires he may defer giving his decision upon whether the matter should be debated until a named hour, when he may interrupt the proceedings of the House for the purpose.

(7) If the Speaker announces that the debate will take place on the same day as the application is made, proceedings on any business postponed as the result of that announcement, may continue, following the conclusion of proceedings on that debate, for the same time beyond the moment of interruption as that taken by the debate, and shall not be interrupted, except as provided in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business).

(8) On a day on which a debate takes place under this order (whether on the same day as that on which the application was made or on a subsequent day) any business which is, under any standing order or order of the House, due:

(a) to start at a specified hour,

(b) to continue for a specified period of time after its start, or

(c) to end at a time specified in the standing order or order of the House, and which is postponed or interrupted as a result of the emergency debate, shall instead start at, continue for or end at a time which is set after the time fixed by a period equivalent to that taken by the emergency debate, regardless of the moment of interruption.

Drafting amendment to paras (1), (3) (4) and (7)

Addition to para (1) for neutral gender.

Splitting of para (5) and move of last sentence of para (4) to new para for clarity.

New para (6A) to give Speaker greater flexibility in announcements.

New para (8) to remove need for repeated provisions in other Standing Orders.
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Amendments to motions to consider specified matters

24B. Where, in the opinion of the Speaker, or the Chair in Westminster Hall or a grand committee, a motion, That this House, or as the case may be, the committee, has considered the matter, is expressed in neutral terms, no amendments to it may be tabled.

Extension of rule to Westminster Hall and grand committees.

Deletion of archaism.
Periodic adjournments

25. When a motion shall have been made by a Minister of the Crown for the adjournment of the House for a specified period or periods, the question thereon the questions on any amendments selected by the Speaker and on the motion shall be put forthwith and may be decided at any hour, though opposed after the moment of interruption.

Addition to allow putting of selected amendments.

Drafting amendment.
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<td>27</td>
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Anticipation.

28. In determining whether a discussion is out of order on the ground of anticipation, regard shall be had by the Speaker to the probability of the matter anticipated being brought before the House within a reasonable time.
Powers of chair to propose question—Closure on proposal of question

29.—(1) When a Member is in the course of making a motion or moving an amendment at any stage of proceedings on a bill, a Member rising in his or her place may claim to move, ‘That the question be now proposed’, and, unless it shall appear to the chair that such motion is an abuse of the rules of the House, the question, ‘That the question be now proposed’, shall be put forthwith, and if a division is held on the question it shall not be approved unless the numbers declared from the chair show that at least one hundred Members voted in the majority in support of the motion. [from SO no 37]

(2) This order shall apply in committee only when the Chairman of Ways and Means or either Deputy Chairman is in the chair.

Clarification of para (1), gender-neutral addition, drafting amendment and addition for clarity of provision from deleted SO No. 37, with drafting amendments. (Added provision is identical to provision in SO No. 36.)

Deletion of para (2) to allow temporary chair in committee of the whole House to use SO.
**NO CHANGE TO:**

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Questions on amendments.

31. When an amendment has been moved, the question to be proposed thereon shall be, ‘That the amendment be made’, except that—

(1) when to the question ‘That a bill be now read a second time (or the third time)’ an amendment has been moved to leave out the word ‘now’, the question shall be, ‘That the word “now” stand part of the question’; and

(2) on the twenty days allotted under paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 44 (Arrangement of public business) BB (Opposition days),

(a) where to any substantive motion an amendment has been moved by a Minister of the Crown to leave out a word or words and insert (or add) others, the question shall be, ‘That the original words stand part of the question’, and, if that question be passed in the negative, the question ‘That the proposed words be there inserted (or added)’ shall be put forthwith;

(b) if such amendment involves leaving out all the effective words of the motion the Speaker shall, after the amendment has been disposed of, forthwith declare the main question (as amended or not as the case may be) to be agreed to.

Deletion of obsolete provision in sub-para (1)

Drafting amendment in sub-para (2)(a) and (b).
Selection of amendments.

32.—(1) In respect of any motion or any bill under consideration on report or any Lords amendment to a bill, the Speaker shall have power to select the amendments, new clauses, sections or new schedules to be proposed thereto.

(1A) The powers conferred on the Speaker by this order may be delegated by him to the Chairman of Ways and Means.

(2) In committee of the whole House, the Chairman of Ways and Means and either Deputy Chairman shall have the like power to select the amendments, new clauses, sections or new schedules to be proposed.

(3) The Speaker, or in a committee of the whole House, the Chairman of Ways and Means or either Deputy Chairman, may, if he think fit, call upon any Member who has given notice of an amendment, new clause or new schedule to give such explanation of the object thereof as may enable him to form a judgment upon it.

(4) For the purposes of this order, motions for instructions to committees on bills, motions to commit or re-commit bills and motions relating to the proceedings on bills shall be treated as if they were amendments under paragraph (1) of this order.

(5) The powers conferred on the Speaker by this order shall not be exercised by the Deputy Speaker save during the consideration of the estimates.

Addition of provision allowing Speaker to delegate to CWM, and consequent deletion of para (5).

Drafting amendments in paras (1) and (2).

Deletion of para (3) because provision has never been used and explanatory notes to amendments make it obsolete.
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Dilatory motions

34.—(1) When a motion is made for the adjournment of a debate or of the House during any debate or of further consideration of a bill or of the Lords amendments to a bill or that the chair do report progress, or do leave the chair, the debate thereupon shall be confined to the matter of such motion; and no Member, having made any such dilatory motion, shall be entitled to make any similar motion during the same debate.

(2) The Speaker, or the chair, has discretion whether to allow a Member to move a dilatory motion, and, if he allows the motion, may permit debate or put the question forthwith.

Drafting amendments in para (1).

Amendment for clarity in para (2), incorporating substance of SO No. 35.
Dilatory motion in abuse of rules of House

35.—(1) If the Speaker, or the chair, shall be of the opinion that a dilatory motion is an abuse of the rules of the House, he may forthwith put the question thereupon from the chair, or he may decline to propose the question thereupon to the House or the committee.

(2) For the purposes of this order the expression ‘dilatory motion’ shall include a motion for the adjournment of a debate, or of the House, during any debate, or of further consideration of a bill or of the Lords amendments to a bill, or that the occupant of the chair do report progress or do leave the chair.

Deletion because substance included in new para in SO No. 34.
Closure of debate

36.—(1) After a question has been proposed a Member rising in his or her place may claim to move, ‘That the question be now put,’ and, unless it shall appear to the chair that such motion is an abuse of the rules of the House, or an infringement of the rights of the minority, the question ‘That the question be now put,’ shall be put forthwith, and if a division is held on the question it shall not be approved unless the numbers declared from the chair show that at least one hundred Members voted in the majority in support of the motion. [from SO no 37]

(2) When a question ‘That the question be now put’ has been decided in the affirmative, and the question consequent thereon has been decided, a Member may claim that any further question be put which may be requisite to bring to a decision any question already proposed from the chair, and if the assent of the chair, as aforesaid, be not withheld, any question so claimed shall be put forthwith.

(3) This order shall apply in committee only when the Chairman of Ways and Means or either Deputy Chairman is in the chair.

Additions in para (1) for neutral gender and for clarity of provision (with drafting amendments), from deleted SO No. 37. (Added provision is identical to provision in SO No. 29.)

Drafting amendments in paras (1) and (2).

Deletion of para (3) to allow temporary chair in committee of the whole House to use SO.
Majority for closure or for proposal of question

37. If a division be held upon a question for the closure of debate under Standing Order No. 36 (Closure of debate) or for the proposal of the question under Standing Order No. 29 (Powers of chair to propose question), that question shall not be decided in the affirmative unless it appears by the numbers declared from the chair that not fewer than one hundred Members voted in the majority in support of the motion.

Repeal: provisions moved to SOs No. 29 and No. 36 for clarity.
Procedure on divisions.

38.—(1) If the opinion of the Speaker or the chair as to the decision of a question is challenged he or she shall direct that the lobby be cleared.

(2) Not more than two minutes from this direction he or she shall put the question again, and, if his or her opinion is again challenged, he or she shall announce the names of tellers.

(3) After the lapse of at least no less than eight minutes from the direction to clear the lobby he or she shall direct that the doors giving access to the division lobbies be locked.

Additions for neutral gender in paras (1) to (3).

Drafting amendments in paras (1) and (3).
Voting.

39.—(1) A Member may vote in a division although he or she did not hear the question put.

(2) A Member is not obliged to vote.

Addition for neutral gender.
Division unnecessarily claimed.

40. The Speaker or the chair may, after the lapse of two minutes, if in his or her opinion the division is unnecessarily claimed, take the vote of the House, or committee, by calling upon the Members who support, and who challenge, his or her decision, successively to rise in their places; and he or she shall thereupon, as he or she thinks fit, either declare the determination of the House or committee, or name tellers for a division.

Additions for neutral gender and drafting amendment
Quorum.

41.—(1) If it should appear that fewer than forty Members (including the occupant of the chair and the tellers) have taken part in a division, the business under consideration shall stand over until the next sitting of the House and the next business shall be taken.

(2) The House shall not be counted at any time.

Deletion of obsolete para (2).
Deferred divisions

41A.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this order, Standing Order No. 38 (Procedure on divisions) shall not apply if, after the time for the moment of interruption of business, the opinion of the Speaker as to the decision on a question is challenged in respect of any question.

(2) Standing Order No. 38 (Procedure on divisions) shall apply (and this order shall not apply) to questions—

(a) on motions or amendments in the course of proceedings on bills or allocating time to or programming such proceedings;

(b) on motions which may be made without notice;

(c) on motions to be disposed of immediately following the disposal of amendments proposed thereto, and on such amendments;

(d) on motions made under—

(i) paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business);

(ii) paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 51 (Ways and means motions);

(iii) sub-paragraph (1)(a) of Standing Order No. 52 (Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills);

(iiiia) sub-paragraph (1)(a) of Standing Order No. 80A (Carry-over of bills);

(iiib) sub-paragraph (1)(a) of Standing Order No. 80B (Carry-over (bills brought in upon a ways and means resolution));

(iv) paragraph (6) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates); and

(v) paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 55 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c); and

(da) motions for instructions to committees on bills, if such a motion is made at the same sitting as that at which the bill has been read a second time;

(e) on motions made under paragraph (3) below or to which an order made under that paragraph applies; and

(f) on motions for the adjournment of the House made under Standing Order No. 25 (Periodic adjournments).

(3) After the moment of interruption and the conclusion of proceedings under any other Standing Order which fall to be taken immediately after it, a Minister of the Crown may make a motion to the effect that this order shall not apply to questions on any specified
motions; such motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, and the question thereon shall be put forthwith.

(4) If the opinion of the Speaker is challenged under paragraph (1) of this order, he shall defer the division until half past eleven o’clock 11.30 am on the next Wednesday on which the House shall sit.

(5) On any Wednesday to which a division has been deferred under paragraph (4) above—

(a) Members may record their votes on the question under arrangements made by the Speaker;

(b) votes may be recorded for two and a half hours after half past eleven o’clock 11.30 am, no account being taken of any period during which the House or committee proceeds to a division; and

(c) the Speaker, or the chair, shall announce the result of the deferred division as soon as may be after the expiry of the period mentioned in sub-paragraph (b) above.

Drafting addition in para (1) and amendments in paras (3), (4) and (5)(b) and (c).

Exemption from deferred divisions of carry-over motions and instructions to committees, in same way as other bill-related motions.

Exemption of periodic adjournment motions from deferred divisions.
Irrelevance or repetition.

42. The Speaker, or the chair, after having called the attention of the House, or of the committee, to the conduct of a Member who persists in irrelevance, or tedious repetition either of his own arguments or of the arguments already used by other Members in debate, may direct him or her to discontinue his or her speech.

Simplification and additions for neutral gender.
Sub judice.

42A. The Speaker, or the chair, may direct any Member who breaches the terms of the sub judice resolution of the House to resume his seat or discontinue his or her speech.

Amendment to ensure consistency by using same language as SO No.42.
Disorderly conduct

43. (1) The Speaker, or the chair, shall order any Member or Members whose conduct is grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the House during for the remainder of that day’s sitting; and the Serjeant at Arms shall act on such orders as he may receive from the chair in pursuance of under this order.

(2) But if on any occasion the Speaker, or the chair, deems that his powers under the previous provisions of this order are inadequate considers that the circumstances warrant it, he or she may name such Member or Members, in which event the same procedure shall be followed as is prescribed by Standing Order No. 44 (Order in debate).

Drafting amendments

Division into two paragraphs and drafting amendment to clarify two-step nature of process.
Order in debate Naming of members

44.—(1) Whenever a Member shall have been named by the Speaker, or by the chair, immediately after the commission of the offence of disregarding the authority of the chair, or of persistently and wilfully obstructing the business of the House by abusing the rules of the House or otherwise, then if the offence has been committed by such Member in the House, the Speaker shall forthwith put the question, on a motion being made, ‘That such Member be suspended from the service of the House’; and if the offence has been committed in a committee of the whole House, the chair shall forthwith suspend the proceedings of the committee and report the circumstances to the House; and the Speaker shall on a motion being made forthwith put the same question as if the offence had been committed in the House itself.

Proceedings in pursuance of this paragraph, though opposed, may be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business.

(2) If any Member be suspended under paragraph (1) of this order, his or her suspension on the first occasion shall continue for five sitting days, and on the second occasion for twenty sitting days, including in either case the day on which he or she was suspended, but, on any subsequent occasion, for the remainder of the session or until the House shall resolve order that the suspension of such Member do terminate.

(3) Not more than one Member shall be named at the same time, unless two or more Members, present together, have jointly disregarded the authority of the chair.

(4) If a Member, or two or more Members acting jointly, who have been suspended under this order from the service of the House, shall refuse to obey the direction of the Speaker, when severally summoned under the Speaker’s orders by the Serjeant at Arms to obey such direction, the Speaker shall call the attention of the House to the fact that recourse to force is necessary in order to compel obedience to his direction, and the Member or Members named by him as having refused to obey his direction shall thereupon and without any further question being put be suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of the session.

(5) Nothing in this order shall be taken to deprive the House of the power of proceeding against any Member according to ancient usages.

Amendment of title for clarity

Drafting amendments in paras (1) and (2).

Addition to para (2) to clarify end of suspension for repeated offences.

Additions for neutral gender in para (2).

Drafting amendments in para (4), also clarifying period of suspension.
Deletion of obsolete para (5).
Members suspended, &c., to withdraw from precincts.

45.—(1) Members who are ordered to withdraw under Standing Order No. 43 (Disorderly conduct) or who are suspended from the service of the House shall forthwith withdraw from the precincts of the House.

(2) Suspension from the service of the House shall not exempt the Member so suspended from serving on any committee for the consideration of a private bill to which he or she may have been appointed before the suspension.

Addition for neutral gender in para (2).
Suspension of salary of Members suspended.

45A. The salary of a Member suspended from the service of the House shall be withheld for the duration of his or her suspension.

Addition for neutral gender: possible alternative redraft is ‘of that suspension’.
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Time limits on speeches

47.—(1) The Speaker or the chair may announce that he or she intends to call Members to speak in a debate, or at certain times during that debate, for no longer than any period he or she may specify, and he or she may at any time make subsequent announcements varying the terms of an announcement under this paragraph.

(2) Whenever the Speaker or the chair has made an announcement under paragraph (1), he or she may, subject to paragraph (5), direct any Member (other than a Minister of the Crown, a Member speaking on behalf of the Leader of the Opposition, or not more than one Member nominated by the leader of the second largest opposition party) who has spoken for that period to resume his or her seat forthwith.

(3) The Speaker or the chair may announce, at or before the commencement of any debate (other than a topical debate) in respect of which he or she has made or intends to make an announcement under paragraph (1) of this order, that speeches by a Minister of the Crown, Members speaking on behalf of the Leader of the Opposition, and not more than one Member nominated by the leader of the second largest opposition party shall be limited to twenty minutes and he or she may direct any such Member who has spoken for that period to resume his seat forthwith.

(4) The Speaker or the chair may announce, at or before the commencement of a topical debate in respect of which he or she has made or intends to make an announcement under paragraph (1) of this order, that speeches by a Minister of the Crown and any Member speaking on behalf of the Leader of the Opposition shall be limited to ten minutes and he or she may direct any such Member who has spoken for that period to resume his seat forthwith.

(5) In relation to any speech, the Speaker or the chair shall add to any period specified—

(a) under paragraph (1) of this order—

(i) one minute if one intervention is accepted, plus the time taken by that intervention;

(ii) two minutes if two or more interventions are accepted, plus the time taken by the first two such interventions;

(b) under paragraph (3) or (4) of this order, one minute for each intervention accepted up to a maximum of fifteen minutes.

Addition of 'chair' to reflect current practice.

Gender-neutral amendments in paras (1) to (4).

Addition for neutral gender in para (2).

Drafting amendments in paras (3) and (4).
Recommendation from Crown required on application relating to public money

48. This House will not receive any petition for any sum relating to public service or not proceed upon any motion for a grant or charge upon the public revenue, whether payable out of the Consolidated Fund or the National Loans Fund or out of money to be provided by Parliament, or for releasing or compounding any sum of money owing to the Crown, unless recommended from the Crown.

Correction of syntax and removal of obsolete provision relating to petitions.
Certain proceedings relating to public money.

49. Any charge upon the public revenue[1] whether payable out of the Consolidated Fund or the National Loans Fund or out of money to be provided by Parliament[2] including any provision for releasing or compounding any sum of money owing to the Crown[3] shall be authorised by resolution of the House.

Punctuation amended to follow SO No. 48.
Procedure upon bills whose main object is to create a charge upon the public revenue

50.—(1) A bill (other than a bill which is required to be brought in upon a ways and means resolution) the main object of which is the creation of a public charge may either be presented, or brought in upon an order of the House, by a Minister of the Crown, and, in the case of a bill so presented or brought in, the creation of the charge shall not require to be authorised by a resolution of the House until the bill has been read a second time, and after the charge has been so authorised the bill shall be proceeded with in the same manner as a bill which involves a charge that is subsidiary to its main purpose.

(2) The provisions of paragraph (1) of this order shall apply to any bill brought from the Lords, of which a Minister of the Crown has informed the Clerks at the Table Public Bill Office of his or her intention to take charge.

Addition for neutral gender and drafting amendment in para (2)
Ways and means motions.

51.—(1) A ways and means motion may be made in the House without notice on any day as soon as an address has been agreed to in answer to Her Majesty’s Speech.

(2) A Minister of the Crown may without notice make a motion for giving provisional statutory effect to any proposals in pursuance of section 5 of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act 1968; and the question on such a motion shall be put forthwith.

(3) When the question has been decided on the first of several motions upon which a bill is to be brought in for imposing, renewing, varying or repealing any charge upon the people, the question on each such further motion shall be put forthwith; and proceedings in pursuance of this paragraph, though opposed, may be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business. **moment of interruption**.

Drafting amendments in paras (2) and (3).
Money resolutions and ways and means resolutions in connection with bills.

52.—(1) The Speaker shall put the questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on motions authorising expenditure in connection with a bill and on ways and means motions in connection with a bill—

(a) forthwith, if such a motion is made at the same sitting as that at which the bill has been read a second time; or

(b) not later than three-quarters of an hour after the commencement of those proceedings, if the motion is made otherwise.

(2) Business to which this order applies may be proceeded with at any hour after the moment of interruption, though opposed.

Drafting amendments
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Consideration of estimates

54.—(1) Three days, other than Fridays, shall be allotted in each session for the consideration of estimates set down under the provisions of paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 145 (Liaison Committee); and not more than one day so allotted may be taken in the form of two half days, not being Fridays.

(2) On any such day—

(a) consideration of estimates or reports of the Liaison Committee relating thereto shall stand as first business, unless the Speaker has set down an emergency debate as first business that day; and

(b) other business may be taken before the moment of interruption only if the consideration of estimates has been concluded.

Provided that the foregoing provisions of this paragraph shall not apply on any day on which time has been allocated pursuant to paragraph (2)(b) of Standing Order No. 24 (Emergency debates).

(3) On any such half day—

(a) proceedings on consideration of estimates or reports of the Liaison Committee relating thereto, standing as first business, shall either be interrupted at seven o’clock on Monday, four o’clock on Tuesday or Wednesday or two o’clock on Thursday; or

(b) notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2) of this order, consideration of estimates or reports of the Liaison Committee relating thereto may be set down for consideration at the hour specified in sub-paragraph (a) above and shall be entered upon at that time.

Provided that on days on which time has been allocated pursuant to paragraph (2)(b) of Standing Order No. 24 (Emergency debates) or the Chairman of Ways and Means has set down opposed private business under paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 20 (Time for taking private business), proceedings under this sub-paragraph if not concluded at that time shall not be entered upon started until the business in question has been disposed of and may then be proceeded with for three hours, notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 9 (Sittings of the House).

(4) On any day or half day allotted under this order, questions necessary to dispose of proceedings (other than a dilatory motion) on the estimates on which debate has been concluded ended shall be deferred until the day and hour prescribed under paragraph (6) of this order.

(5) Any estimates on which questions have been deferred to another day in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (4) and (6) of this order, together with any questions so deferred,
and all other estimates appointed for consideration on any previous day or half day allotted under this order shall be set down for consideration on the day to which the questions have been deferred.

(6) On the day to which the provisions of paragraph (2) or (3) of Standing Order No. 55 (Questions on voting of estimates, &c.) apply which falls after or on any day or half-day allotted under this order, the Speaker shall, at the time prescribed in paragraph (1) of that order, put, successively, any questions deferred under paragraph (4) of this order on any previous day or half day allotted under this order, any questions deferred under paragraph (4) of this order on the day and any questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on all other estimates appointed for consideration on any day or half day allotted under this order.

Drafting amendments in title and paras (1), (2), (3) and (4).

Deletion of sub-para (2)(b) as unnecessary.

Deletions in para (3) as a result of new language in SO No. 24 and to simplify paragraph.
Questions on voting of estimates, &c.

55.—(1) On any day to which the provisions of paragraph (2) or (3) of this order apply, at the moment of interruption or as soon afterwards as proceedings under the proviso to paragraph (3)(b) of Standing Order No. 54 (Consideration of estimates) have been disposed of, the Speaker shall (after putting any questions required to be put under paragraph (6) of Standing Order No. 54) put the questions on—

(a) any outstanding vote relating to numbers for defence services;

(b) any motion authorising amounts set out in outstanding estimates.

(2) The provisions of paragraph (1) of this order shall apply on a day not later than 18 March, if any of the following total amounts have been put down for consideration:

(a) votes on account for the coming financial year;

(b) supplementary and new estimates for the current financial year which have been presented at least fourteen days previously;

(c) votes relating to numbers for defence services;

(d) excess votes, provided that the Committee of Public Accounts has reported that it sees no objection to the amounts necessary being authorised by excess vote.

(3) The provisions of paragraph (1) of this order shall apply on a day not later than 5 August in respect of any motion authorising amounts set out in outstanding estimates.

(4) At least two days’ notice shall be given of the motions which are to be put down for consideration under paragraphs (2) or (3) of this order.

(5) The provisions of this order shall not apply to any vote of credit or votes for supplementary or additional estimates for war expenditure.
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Presentation and first reading.

57.—(1) A Member may, after notice, present a bill without previously obtaining leave from the House to bring it in the same.

(2) When a bill is presented either in pursuance of under an order of the House or under the provisions of paragraph (1) of this order, the bill shall be read the first time without any question being put, shall be ordered to be read a second time on such day as the Member presenting it shall appoint, and shall be ordered to be printed.

Drafting amendments.
Bills brought from the Lords

57A.—(1) If a Member informs the Clerks at the Table of his or her intention to take charge of a bill which has been brought from the Lords, the bill shall be deemed to have been read the first time on the day on which the Member so informs the Clerks, and to have been ordered to be read a second time on such day as he or she shall appoint, and shall be recorded in the Journal of the House as having been read the first time and ordered to be read a second time on the day so appointed, and shall be ordered to be printed.

(2) If a public bill is passed by the Lords and carried to the office of the Clerk of the House at a time when this House is not sitting, then, provided that a Member shall have notified the Clerks, in writing, of his or her intention to take charge of the bill—

(a) the Clerk of the House shall arrange for the printing and circulation of copies of the bill, and

(b) the bill shall be recorded in the Journal of the House as having been read the first time on the next sitting day and as having been ordered to be printed pursuant to this standing order and to be read a second time on such day as the Member shall have appointed.

Additions for neutral gender and drafting amendments in paras (1) and (2).
Consolidation bills

58.—(1) In this order ‘a consolidation bill’ means a public bill which falls to be considered by the select committee appointed under Standing Order No. 140 (Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills).

(2) Notices of amendments, new clauses, sections and new schedules to be moved in committee in respect of a consolidation bill may be received by the Clerks at the Table before the bill has been read a second time.

(3) When a motion shall have been made for the second reading, or for the third reading, of a consolidation bill, the question thereon on it shall be put forthwith.

(4) If a motion that a consolidation bill be not committed is made by a Minister of the Crown immediately after the bill has been read a second time, the motion shall not require notice and the question thereon on it shall be put forthwith and may be decided at any hour, though opposed after the moment of interruption.

Drafting amendments in para (2), (3) and (4).
Law Commission bills.

59.—(1) Any public bill, the main purpose of which is to give effect to proposals contained in a report by either of the Law Commissions, other than a private Member’s bill or a bill to which Standing Order No. 58 (Consolidation bills) applies, shall, when it is set down for second reading, stand referred to a second reading committee, unless—

(a) the House otherwise orders, or

(b) the bill is referred to the Scottish Grand Committee.

(2) If a motion that a bill such as is referred to in paragraph (1) above shall no longer stand referred to a second reading committee is made by a Minister of the Crown at the commencement of public business, the question thereon shall be put forthwith.

(3) The provisions of paragraphs (3) to (5) of Standing Order No. 90 (Second reading committees) shall apply to any bill referred to a second reading committee under paragraph (1) above.

Drafting amendment in para (2).
Tax law rewrite bills.

60.—(1) In this order ‘a tax law rewrite bill’ means a bill which has been presented, or brought in upon an order of the House, by a Minister of the Crown and which has been ordered to be proceeded with as such a bill.

(2) A motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown at the commencement of public business, that a specified bill be so proceeded with, and the question thereon shall be put forthwith.

(3) A tax law rewrite bill shall, upon the making of an order under paragraph (2) above, stand referred to a second reading committee unless the House otherwise orders.

(4) A motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown at the commencement of public business, that a tax law rewrite bill shall no longer stand referred to a second reading committee, and the question thereon shall be put forthwith.

(5) The provisions of paragraphs (3) to (5) of Standing Order No. 90 (Second reading committees) shall apply to any bill referred to a second reading committee under paragraph (3) above.

(6) A tax law rewrite bill shall, upon its being read a second time, stand committed to the Joint Committee on Tax Law Rewrite Bills.

(7) A bill which has been reported from the said Joint Committee shall stand re-committed to a committee of the whole House unless the House otherwise orders.

(8) If a motion that the committee of the whole House be discharged from considering a tax law rewrite bill is made by a Minister of the Crown immediately after the order of the day has been read for the House to resolve itself into a committee on the bill, the motion shall not require notice and the question thereon shall be put forthwith and may be decided at any hour, though opposed; and if such question is agreed to the bill shall be ordered to be read the third time.

Drafting amendment in paras (2), (4) and (8).
Bills which are *prima facie* hybrid

61.—(1) Where a public bill (not being a bill to confirm a provisional order or certificate) is ordered to be read a second time on a future day, and it appears that the standing orders relating to private business may be applicable to the bill, the Examiners of Petitions for Private Bills shall be ordered to examine the bill and they shall proceed and report with all convenient speed whether the said standing orders are applicable hereto.

(2) If the Examiners find that the standing orders are applicable, they shall further report whether they have been complied with.

(2) (3) If the Examiners report that any standing order applicable to the bill has not been complied with, and the Standing Orders Committee report that such standing order ought not to be dispensed with, the order of the day relating to the bill shall be discharged.

Deletion of obsolete provision in para (1) and division of para into two for clarity.

Drafting amendment in para (1)
Amendment on second or third reading

62.—(1) If on an amendment to the question “That a bill be now read a second time (or the third time)” it is decided that the word “now” stand part of the question, the Speaker shall forthwith declare the bill to be read a second or the third time as the case may be.

(2) When the question has been proposed “That a bill be now read a second time (or the third time)” and the question on any amendment to leave out all the words after ‘That’ and insert other words has passed in the negative been negatived, the main question shall be put forthwith.

Deletion of obsolete para (1).

Updating of archaic language in para (2)
63.—(1) When a public bill (other than a Consolidated Fund or an Appropriation Bill, or a tax law rewrite bill, or a bill for confirming a provisional order) has been read a second time, it shall stand committed to a public bill committee unless the House otherwise orders.

(2) A motion—

(a) to commit a bill to a committee of the whole House or to a select committee, or a motion that it is expedient that a bill be committed to a joint committee of Lords and Commons; or

(b) to give a public bill committee to which a bill has been committed under this order power to send for persons, papers and records,

may be made by any Member and if made immediately after the bill has been read a second time shall not require notice, and, though opposed, may be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business, and the question thereon shall be put forthwith.

(3) A motion to commit a bill to a public bill committee in respect of some of its provisions and to a committee of the whole House in respect of other provisions may be made by the Member in charge of the bill and, if made immediately after the bill has been read a second time, shall not require notice, and may, though opposed, be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business. If such a motion is opposed, the Speaker after permitting, if he thinks fit, a brief explanatory statement of up to ten minutes from the Member who makes and from a Member who opposes the motion shall, without permitting any further debate, put the question thereon.

(4) If the question on a motion made under paragraph (2) or paragraph (3) of this order is negatived, the Speaker shall forthwith declare that the bill stands committed to a public bill committee.

Drafting amendments in paras (2)(b) and (3).

Amendment to match language in SO No. 23 on 10 minute rule bills in para (3).
Notices of amendments, &c., to bills

64. Whenever the House is adjourned for more than one day, notices of amendments to bills, new clauses, sections or new schedules or of amendments to Lords amendments received in the Public Bill Office at any time not later than half past four o’clock 4.30 pm on the last day (excluding any Saturday, Sunday, bank holiday or public holiday in England) on which the House is not sitting, or at 3.00 pm if a Friday (excluding any Saturday, Sunday, bank holiday or public holiday in England) may be accepted as if the House were sitting.

Drafting amendments

Addition to match arrangements for non-sitting Fridays in sitting weeks (SO No 11(3)).
Amendments in committee.

65. All committees to which bills may be committed or referred for consideration on report shall have power to make such amendments therein as they shall think fit, provided they be relevant to the subject matter of the bill: but if any such amendments shall not be within the long title of the bill, the committee shall amend the long title accordingly, and report the same specially to the House.

Drafting amendments for clarity.
Committee of whole House on bill.

66. Whenever an order of the day is read for the House to resolve itself into a committee on a bill, the Speaker shall leave the chair without putting any question, and the House shall thereupon then resolve itself into such committee, unless notice of an instruction to such committee has been given, when in which case such that instruction shall be first disposed of first, or unless the committee is discharged in pursuance of under paragraph (8) of Standing Order No. 60 (Tax law rewrite bills).

Drafting amendments for clarity.
67. In a committee on a bill any preamble shall stand postponed until after the consideration of the clauses and of any schedules.

Repeal SO, because settled practice of the House does not require specification in Standing Orders.
Debate on clause section or schedule standing part.

68. If, during the consideration of a bill in a committee of the whole House, the chair is of the opinion that the principle of a clause section or schedule and any matters arising thereon have been adequately discussed in the course of debate on the amendments proposed thereto, he or she may, after the last amendment to be selected has been disposed of, state that he or she is of this opinion and shall then forthwith put the question ‘That the clause section (or, the clause section, as amended) stand part of the bill’ or ‘That this schedule (or this schedule, as amended) be the schedule to the bill’, as the case may be.

Drafting amendments.

Additions for neutral gender.
Procedure on offer of new-clause

69. When a Member has brought up a clause or schedule in committee on a bill or on consideration of a bill on report, it shall be read the first time without any question being put.

Repeal SO, because settled practice of the House does not require specification in Standing Orders.
When chair leaves chair without question put.

70. When the chair of a committee of the whole House has been ordered to make a report to the House, he or she shall leave the chair without putting any question.

(2) Every such report shall be brought up without any question being put.

Addition for neutral gender.

Deletion of otiose provision.
Drafting amendments for clarity.
Consideration of bill as amended in committee of whole House.

72. When the order of the day for the consideration of a bill, as amended in a committee of the whole House, has been read, the House shall proceed to consider the same without question put, unless the Member in charge thereof nominates a future day for its consideration or a motion shall be made to re-commit the bill in whole or in part.

Repeal SO, because settled practice of the House does not require specification in Standing Orders.
Report of bills committed to public bill committees.

73. Save as provided in Standing Order No. 92 (Consideration on report of certain bills by a general legislation committee) every bill committed to and reported from a public bill committee, whether amended or not, shall be considered on report by the House, and the provisions of Standing Order No. 72 (Consideration of bill as amended in committee of whole House) shall apply to such consideration.

Drafting amendment following change of general committees to legislation committees.

Deletion of provision referring to deleted SO No. 72.
Re-committal of bill.

74. If a motion to re-commit a bill as a whole be made, the Speaker shall permit an brief explanatory statement of up to ten minutes of the reasons for such re-committal from the Member who makes, and a brief statement from a Member who opposes, any such motion, and shall then put the question on it.

Amendment to match language in SO No. 23 on 10 minute rule bills, and drafting amendment.
NO CHANGE TO:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SO No.</th>
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<td>Amendments on report</td>
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Debate on bill reported from public bill committee **Second speeches**

76. When a bill has been committed to a public bill committee, or has been so committed in respect of some of its provisions, then, on consideration on report of the bill or such of its provisions as were so committed, the rule against speaking more than once shall not apply to the Member in charge of the bill or to the mover of any amendment or new clause or schedule in respect of that amendment or clause or schedule.

A Member may speak only once to any Question unless the House has given leave to speak again; but this rule shall not apply to the mover of a motion, other than a motion for the adjournment or a dilatory motion, or order of the day, or, at consideration on report of a Bill, to the Member in charge of the Bill or to the mover of any amendment, new section or new schedule in respect of that amendment, new section or new schedule.

**Rewriting to remove obsolete and inoperable restriction and to reflect current practice.**

Rewrite adds new right for mover of order of the day to speak twice.
Third Reading

77.—(1) No amendments, not being merely verbal, shall be made to any bill on the third reading.

(2) The third reading of a bill brought in upon a one or more ways and means resolutions may be taken at the same sitting of the House as its consideration on report.

Addition to reflect current practice.
Lords amendments.

78.—(1) Lords amendments to public bills and Lords reasons shall be appointed to be considered on a future day, unless the House shall order them to be considered forthwith, and the provisions of Standing Order No. 57A (Bills brought from the Lords) shall apply to the appointment of consideration and the printing of Lords amendments and reasons as they apply to the appointment of second reading and the printing of bills brought from the House of Lords.

(2) When the order of the day for the consideration of Lords amendments to a public bill or Lords reasons has been read, the House shall proceed to consider the same without question put, unless the Member in charge thereof nominates a future day for their consideration.

(3) If the Speaker is satisfied that a Lords amendment imposes a charge upon the public revenue such as is required to be authorised by resolution of the House under Standing Order No. 49 (Certain proceedings relating to public money) and that such charge has not been so authorised, or that it would need a ways and means resolution and such a resolution has not been passed, on reaching that amendment, the Speaker shall declare that he is so satisfied and the amendment shall be deemed to have been disagreed to and shall be so recorded in the Journal.

Deletion of para (2) for consistency with SO No. 72.

Para (4), addition of reference to ways and means resolution to reflect current practice.
Financial privilege

79. With respect to any bill brought to this House from the House of Lords, or returned by the House of Lords to this House, with amendments, whereby any pecuniary penalty, forfeiture, or fee shall be authorised, imposed, appropriated, regulated, varied, or extinguished, this House will not insist on its ancient and undoubted financial privileges in the following cases:

(1) when the object of such pecuniary penalty or forfeiture is to secure the execution of the Act, or the punishment or prevention of offences;

(2) where such fees are imposed in respect of benefit taken or service rendered under the Act, and in order to further the execution of the Act, and are not made payable into the Consolidated Fund, or in aid of the public revenue, and do not form the ground of public accounting by the parties receiving the same, either in respect of deficit or surplus;

(3) when such the bill shall be is a private bill for a local or personal Act.

Amendment to title for consistency with SO No. 80

Removal of archaisms
Financial privilege  Privilege (bills brought from the Lords)

80. The House may proceed with any public bill brought from the Lords except a bill of aids and supplies, provided that—

(a) it is so framed that no charge upon the people or upon public funds, unless it be a such a charge as is defined in Standing Order No. 79 (Pecuniary penalties), is imposed or altered; and

(b) in the case of a bill which, if it were not so framed, would have as its main object the imposition or alteration of such a charge, a Minister of the Crown has informed the Clerk at the Table or the Public Bill Office of his or her intention to take charge of it.

Clarification in title:

Drafting amendments in sub-para (a).

Addition for neutral gender and drafting amendment in sub-para (b).
Carry-over of bills

80A.—(1) Subject to the following provisions of this order and of Standing Order No 80B (Carry-over of bills brought in upon a Ways and Means Resolution), a Minister of the Crown may give notice of a motion (a ‘carry-over motion’) that proceedings on a public bill not completed before the end of the Session shall be resumed in the next Session of Parliament; and the Speaker shall put any question necessary to dispose of proceedings on such a motion (other than a motion relating to a bill brought in upon a ways and means resolution)—

(a) forthwith if the motion is made on the day the bill is read a second time; or

(b) not more than one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the motion if the motion is made at any other time.

(2) A carry-over motion may be proceeded with, though opposed, after the moment of interruption.

(3) A carry-over motion shall not be made in respect of more than one bill.

(4) A carry-over motion shall not be made in respect of a bill carried over from a previous Session of Parliament.

(5) A carry-over motion may be made only in respect of a bill presented by a Minister of the Crown.

(6) The provisions of this order shall not apply to a carry-over motion made in respect of a bill brought from the Lords.

(7) Paragraphs (8) to (11) of this order shall apply to any bill (other than a bill brought in upon a ways and means resolution) ordered to be carried over to the next Session of Parliament in pursuance of a carry-over motion.

(8) If proceedings in committee on the bill are begun but not completed before the end of the first Session, the chair shall report the bill to the House as so far amended and the bill and any evidence received by the committee shall be ordered to lie upon the Table.

(9) In any other case, proceedings on the bill shall be suspended at the conclusion of the Session in which the bill was first introduced.

(10) If a bill is presented in the next Session in the same terms as the bill reported to the House under paragraph (8) or as it stood when proceedings were suspended under paragraph (9), the bill shall be read the first and second time without question put, shall be ordered to be printed, and—

(a) in the case of a bill reported from a public bill committee under paragraph (8), shall stand committed to a public bill committee in respect of those clauses and schedules not ordered to stand part of the bill in the first Session;
(b) in the case of a bill reported from a committee of the whole House under paragraph (8), shall stand committed to a committee of the whole House in respect of those clauses, sections, and schedules not ordered to stand part of the bill in the first Session;

(c) in the case of a bill committed to a public bill committee but on which proceedings on the bill were not begun, shall again stand committed to a public bill committee;

(d) otherwise shall be set down as an order of the day for (as the case may be) committee, consideration, further consideration or third reading.

(11) Notices of amendments, new clauses, sections and new schedules given in respect of parts of a bill not disposed of in the first Session shall be reprinted as notices in respect of the bill as presented and proceeded with under paragraph (10).

(12) A programme order relating to a bill which is carried over to the next session of Parliament shall continue to apply in the next Session.

(13) Proceedings on a bill ordered to be carried over to the next Session of Parliament shall lapse on the expiry of the period of twelve months from the date of its first reading in this House and the bill shall be laid aside unless the House shall order, in pursuance of a motion under paragraph (14), that proceedings on the bill be extended for a specified period.

(14) A motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown to extend for a specified period proceedings on a bill which would otherwise lapse under paragraph (13), and any such motion—

(a) may contain provisions amending or supplementing a programme order in respect of the bill;

(b) may be proceeded with, though opposed, after the moment of interruption;

and the Speaker shall put any question necessary to dispose of proceedings on any such motion not later than one and a half hours after the commencement of those proceedings.

Addition of reference to SO No. 80B in para (1).

Drafting amendments in paras (1)(b), (7), (9), (10), (11), (13) and (14).
Carry-over (bills brought in upon a ways and means resolution).

80B.—(1) The Speaker shall put any question necessary to dispose of proceedings on a carry-over motion of which a Minister of the Crown has given notice under Standing Order No. 80A (Carry-over of bills) relating to a bill brought in upon a ways and means resolution—

(a) forthwith if the motion is made on any day before the bill is read a second time, or

(b) not more than one and a half hours after the commencement of proceedings on the motion if the motion is made at any other time.

(2) The following paragraphs of this order shall apply to any bill ordered to be carried over to the next Session of Parliament in pursuance of a carry-over motion to which paragraph (1) applies.

(3) If proceedings in committee on the bill are begun but not completed before the end of the first Session, the chair shall report the bill to the House as so far amended and the bill and any evidence received by the committee shall be ordered to lie upon the Table.

(4) In any other case, proceedings on the bill shall be suspended at the conclusion of the Session in which the bill was first introduced.

(5) In the next Session of Parliament, a Minister of the Crown may, after notice, present a bill in the same terms as the bill reported to the House under paragraph (3) of this order or as it stood when proceedings were suspended under paragraph (4) of this order; the bill shall be read the first time without question put and shall be ordered to be printed; and paragraphs (6) to (13) shall apply to the bill.

(6) In respect of all proceedings on the bill, any resolution which the bill was brought in upon in the first Session shall be treated as if it were such a resolution of the House in the next Session and any reference in any resolution upon which the bill was brought in to a Bill or Act of the present Session shall be treated in the next Session as a reference to a Bill or Act of that Session.

(7) In respect of all proceedings on the bill, the bill shall be treated as a bill brought in upon ways and means resolutions.

(8) If the bill was read a second time in the first Session, it shall be read a second time without question put.

(9) If the bill was not set down for consideration at any time in the first Session, any committal order in respect of the bill shall apply to proceedings on the bill in the next Session (subject to paragraphs (10) and (11)).

(10) If the bill was reported from a public bill committee under paragraph (3), it shall stand committed to a public bill committee in respect of those clauses and schedules which
were committed to a public bill committee in the first Session and not ordered to stand part of the bill in that Session.

(11) If the bill was reported from a committee of the whole House under paragraph (3), it shall stand committed to a committee of the whole House in respect of those clauses and schedules which were committed to a committee of the whole House in the first Session and not ordered to stand part of the bill in that Session.

(12) If the bill was read a second time in the first Session and was not set down for consideration at any time in that Session, any order of the House giving leave for a committee on the bill to sit twice on the first day on which it meets in the first Session shall apply to the first day on which the committee meets in the next Session.

(13) If the bill was set down for consideration at any time in the first Session, the bill shall be set down as an order of the day for (as the case may be) consideration, further consideration or third reading.

(14) Notices of amendments, new clauses and new schedules given in respect of parts of the bill not disposed of in the first Session shall be reprinted as notices in respect of the bill as presented and proceeded with under paragraph (5).

Drafting amendments in paras (1)(b), (2)(4), (10), (11) and (14).
Temporary laws.

81. The precise duration of every temporary law or enactment shall be expressed in a distinct clause or subsection of the bill.

Drafting amendment.
Business Committee

82. There shall be a committee, to be called the Business Committee, consisting of the Chairman of Ways and Means, who shall be chair of the committee, and not more than eight other Members to be nominated by the Speaker, in respect of each bill to which this order applies. The quorum of the committee shall be four. The committee—

(a) shall, in the case of any bill in respect of which an order has been made by the House, allotting a specified number of days or portions of days to the consideration of the bill in committee of the whole House or on report, divide the bill into such parts as it may see fit and allot to each part so many days or portions of a day so allotted as it may consider appropriate; and

(b) shall report its resolution (or resolutions) to the House, and on a motion being made for the consideration of such report the question thereon on it shall be put forthwith and on consideration of the said that report the question ‘That this House doth agree with the committee in its resolution (or resolutions)’ shall be put forthwith and, if that question be agreed to, any such resolution shall have effect as if it were an order of the House.

Proceedings in pursuance of under this sub-paragraph, though opposed, may be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business

Drafting amendments in para (1)(b).
Allocation of time to bills

83. If a motion, which is not a programme motion, be made by a Minister of the Crown providing for an allocation of time to any proceedings on a bill the Speaker shall, not more than three hours after the commencement of the proceedings on such a motion, put any question necessary to dispose of those proceedings.

Clarification and drafting amendments.
Programme motions

83A.—(1) If, before second reading of a bill, notice of a motion providing—

(a) for committal of the bill, and

(b) for any proceedings on the bill to be programmed,

is given by a Minister of the Crown, the motion may be made immediately after second reading, and Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills not subject to a programme order) shall not apply to the bill.

(2) Such a motion is to be called a programme motion.

(3) A programme motion may not disapply paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 84A (Public bill committees).

(4) An order made by the House as a result of a programme motion is to be called a programme order.

(5) A motion to vary or supplement a programme order is also to be called a programme motion.

(6) A programme motion may provide for the allocation of time for any proceedings on a bill.

(7) Except in the following four cases, the question on a programme motion is to be put forthwith.

(8) The first exception is where—

(a) a public bill committee has reported a resolution under paragraph (12) of Standing Order No. 83C (Programming sub-committees) proposing an alteration of the date by which the bill is to be reported to the House, and

(b) the motion made under paragraph (13) of Standing Order No. 83C does not give effect to the public bill committee’s proposal.

(9) The second exception is where the motion makes further provision for proceedings on consideration and third reading of the bill otherwise than in accordance with a resolution of a public bill committee under paragraph (14) of Standing Order No. 83C.

(10) The third exception is where the motion reduces the amount of time allocated under a programme order for any proceedings on the bill (whether or not it also increases the amount of time allocated for other proceedings on the bill).

(11) The fourth exception is where the motion relates to a resolution of a programming committee.
(12) If any of the exceptions applies, any question necessary to dispose of proceedings on a programme motion is to be put not later than three-quarters of an hour after the commencement of proceedings on the motion.

(13) Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) applies to proceedings on a programme motion.

(14) Standing Order No. 83 (Allocation of time to bills) does not apply to a programme motion.

(15) If a programme order applies to a bill, neither Standing Order No. 82 (Business Committee) nor Standing Order No. 120 (Business sub-committees) applies to the bill.

Drafting amendment in para (12).

Deletion of para (13) because of related changes to SO No. 15(1).
Programming committees.

83B.—(1) This order applies if proceedings in committee of the whole House or on consideration and third reading are subject to a programme order.

(2) There is to be a committee for the bill consisting of—

(a) the Chairman of Ways and Means (who is to be chair of the committee); and

(b) not more than eight other Members, nominated by the Speaker.

(3) The committee is to be called the programming committee.

(4) The quorum of the programming committee is four.

(5) The programming committee shall consider the allocation of time to proceedings in committee of the whole House or on consideration and third reading and report any resolution which it makes to the House.

(6) Proceedings in the programming committee shall be brought to a conclusion not later than two hours after their commencement.

(7) For the purposes of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph (6), the chair shall—

(a) first put forthwith any question which has been proposed from the chair and not yet decided; and

(b) then put successively questions on any motions made by a Minister of the Crown.

(8) Resolutions of the programming committee—

(a) may be reported from time to time; and

(b) subject to the powers of the Speaker or chair to select the amendments, new clauses, sections and new schedules to be proposed, may include alterations in the order in which specified proceedings on the bill are to be taken.

Drafting amendments in paras (6), (7) and (8).
Programming sub-committees

83C.—(1) If a bill is subject to a programme order which commits it to a public bill committee, the order stands referred to the committee and, subject to paragraph (10) of this order, shall be considered by a sub-committee of the committee.

(2) The sub-committee is to be called the programming subcommittee.

(3) The programming sub-committee shall consist of—

(a) the chair or one of the chairs of the committee (who is to be chair of the sub-committee); and

(b) seven members of the committee, nominated by the Speaker.

(4) The quorum of the programming sub-committee is four.

(5) The programming sub-committee shall report to the committee any resolution which it makes about—

(a) the number of sittings to be allotted to the consideration of the bill in the committee, and sitting twice on the first day on which the committee meets;

(b) the allocation of the proceedings to each sitting;

(c) the time at which any proceedings, if not previously concluded, are to be brought to a conclusion;

(d) the date by which the bill is to be reported to the House;

(e) the programming of consideration and third reading.

(6) Proceedings in the programming sub-committee shall be brought to a conclusion not later than two hours after their commencement.

(7) For the purposes of bringing any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph (6), the chair shall—

(a) first put forthwith any question which has been proposed from the chair and not yet been decided; and

(b) then put forthwith successively questions on any motions made by a Minister of the Crown.

(8) Resolutions of the programming sub-committee—

(a) may be reported from time to time; and

(b) subject to the powers of the chair to select the amendments, new clauses and new schedules to be proposed, may include alterations in the order in which specified proceedings are to be taken.
(9) On a motion in the terms of a resolution of the programming sub-committee being made in the committee, any question necessary to dispose of proceedings on the motion is to be put not later than half an hour after the commencement start of those proceedings.

(10) A Minister of the Crown may make any motion in a public bill committee which could have been the subject of a resolution of the programming sub-committee; and for the purposes of this order the motion shall be treated as if it were in the terms of a resolution of the programming sub-committee:

provided that proceedings on such a motion shall lapse if any member of the committee signifies objection to it.

(11) If the provisions of a resolution of the programming subcommittee under sub-paragraphs (a), (b) or (c) of paragraph (5) are agreed to (with or without modification) by the committee, the provisions (or the provisions as modified) are to have effect as if they were included in the programme order for the bill:

Provided that the chair may allow a sitting at which oral evidence is heard to continue for up to a quarter of an hour beyond the time provided for in the resolution. Provided that at a sitting at which oral evidence is heard the chair may allow proceedings relating to particular witnesses or groups of witnesses to continue for up to a quarter of an hour beyond the time allocated in the resolution and the sitting to continue for up to a quarter of an hour beyond the time provided for in the resolution.

(12) Any resolution of the committee—

(a) proposing an alteration to the date by which the bill is to be reported to the House; or

(b) making a recommendation about the programming of the bill on consideration and third reading;

shall be reported to the House.

(13) If a resolution is reported proposing an alteration to the date by which the bill is to be reported to the House, a supplemental programme motion shall be set down for a day not later than the fifth sitting day after the day when the report was made which may—

(a) give effect to the committee’s proposal;

(b) otherwise alter or supplement the provisions of the original programme of the bill; or

(c) confirm the date set in the original programme order for the bill.
(14) If a resolution is reported making a recommendation about the programming of the bill on consideration and third reading, a supplemental programme motion shall be set down before the consideration of the bill on report which may—

(a) give effect to the committee’s recommendations;

(b) otherwise alter or supplement the provisions of the original programme of the bill; or

(c) confirm the original programme order for the bill.

Addition in para (5)(a) to allow for PBC to sit twice on first day.

Drafting amendments in paras (5), (6), (7), (8) and (9).

Amendment in para (11) to provide flexibility for all knives, not just last one.
83D.—(1) This order applies for the purpose of bringing proceedings in public bill committee or in committee of the whole House to a conclusion in accordance with a programme order.

(2) The chair shall put forthwith the following questions (but no others) in the same order as they would fall to be put if this order did not apply—

(a) any question already proposed from the chair;
(b) any question necessary to bring to a decision a question so proposed;
(c) the question on any amendment, new clause section or new schedule selected by the chair for separate decision;
(d) the question on any amendment moved or motion made by a Minister of the Crown;
(e) any other question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded.

(3) On a motion made for a new clause section or a new schedule, the chair shall put only the question that the clause section or schedule be added to the bill.

(4) If two or more questions would fall to be put under paragraph (2)(d) on successive amendments moved or motions made by a Minister of the Crown, the chair shall instead put a single question in relation to those amendments or motions.

(5) If two or more questions would fall to be put under paragraph (2)(e) in relation to successive provisions of the bill, the chair shall instead put a single question in relation to those provisions, except that the question shall be put separately on any clause section of or schedule to the bill which a Minister of the Crown has signified an intention to leave out.

(6) On conclusion of the proceedings in a committee, the chair shall report the bill (or such of the bill’s provisions as were committed to it) to the House without putting any question.
Programme orders: conclusion end of proceedings on consideration or third reading.

83E.—(1) This order applies for the purpose of bringing ending proceedings on consideration and third reading to a conclusion in accordance with a programme order.

(2) The Speaker shall put forthwith the following questions (but no others) in the same order as they would fall to be put if this order did not apply—

(a) any question already proposed from the chair;

(b) any question necessary to bring to a decision a question so proposed;

(c) the question on any amendment, new clause section or new schedule selected by the Speaker for separate decision;

(d) the question on any amendment moved or motion made by a Minister of the Crown;

(e) any other question necessary for the disposal of the business to be concluded ended.

(3) On a motion made for a new clause section or a new schedule, the Speaker shall put only the question that the clause section or schedule be added to the bill.

(4) If two or more questions would fall to be put under paragraph (2)(d) on successive amendments moved or motions made by a Minister of the Crown, the Speaker shall instead put a single question in relation to those amendments or motions.

Drafting amendments in Title and paras (1), (2) and (3)
Programme orders: conclusion of proceedings on consideration of Lords amendments.

83F.—(1) This order applies for the purpose of bringing proceedings on consideration of Lords amendments to a conclusion in accordance with a programme order.

(2) The Speaker shall first put forthwith any question which has been proposed from the chair and not yet decided.

(3) If that question is for the amendment of a Lords amendment, the Speaker shall then put forthwith—

   (a) a single question on any further amendments of the Lords amendment moved by a Minister of the Crown; and

   (b) the question on any motion made by a Minister of the Crown that this House agrees or disagrees with the Lords in their amendment or (as the case may be) in their amendment as amended.

(4) The Speaker shall then put forthwith—

   (a) a single question on any amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown to a Lords amendment; and

   (b) the question on any motion made by a Minister of the Crown that this House agrees or disagrees with the Lords in their amendment or (as the case may be) in their amendment as amended.

(5) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the question on any motion made by a Minister of the Crown that this House disagrees with the Lords in a Lords amendment.

(6) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the question that this House agrees with the Lords in all the remaining Lords amendments.

(7) As soon as the House has—

   (a) agreed or disagreed with the Lords in any of their amendments; or

   (b) disposed of an amendment relevant to a Lords amendment which has been disagreed to,

the Speaker shall put forthwith a single question on any amendments moved by a Minister of the Crown relevant to the Lords amendment.
Programme orders: conclusion end of proceedings on further messages from the Lords.

83G.—(1) This order applies for the purpose of bringing proceedings on any further message from the Lords to a conclusion in accordance with a programme order.

(2) The Speaker shall first put forthwith any question which has been proposed from the chair and not yet decided.

(3) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the question on any motion made by a Minister of the Crown which is related to the question already proposed from the chair.

(4) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the question on any motion made by a Minister on or relevant to any of the remaining items in the Lords message.

(5) The Speaker shall then put forthwith the question that this House agrees with the Lords in all of the remaining Lords proposals.

Drafting amendments in Title and para (1).
Programme orders: reasons committee

83H.—(1) This order applies in relation to any committee to be appointed to draw up reasons after proceedings have been brought to a conclusion in accordance with a programme order after proceedings on a bill subject to a programme order have ended, whether or not in accordance with the programme order.

(2) The Speaker shall put forthwith the question on any motion made by a Minister of the Crown for the appointment, nomination and quorum of a committee to draw up reasons and the appointment of its chair.

(3) The committee shall report before the conclusion end of the sitting at which it is appointed.

(4) Proceedings in the committee shall be brought to a conclusion ended not later than half an hour after their commencement.

(5) For the purpose of bringing ending any proceedings to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph (4), the chair shall—

(a) first put forthwith any question which has been proposed from the chair and not yet decided; and

(b) then put forthwith successively questions on motions which may be made by a Minister of the Crown for assigning a reason for disagreeing with the Lords in any of their amendments.

(6) The proceedings of the committee shall be reported without any further question being put.

Amendment in para (1) to reflect current practice, which applies SO to all Lords Amendments, not only when knife has fallen.

Drafting amendments in paras (3), (4) and (5).
Programme orders: supplementary provisions

83I.—(1) The provisions of this order apply to proceedings in the House or in committee of the whole House on a bill which is subject to a programme order.

(2) Standing Order No. 15(1) (Exempted business) applies to the proceedings for any period after the moment of interruption allocated to them in accordance with the programme order.

(3) The proceedings may not be interrupted under any Standing Order relating to the sittings of the House.

(4) If, on a day on which the bill has been set down to be taken as an order of the day, a motion for the adjournment of the House or an emergency debate under Standing Order No. 24 (Emergency debates) would, apart from this order, stand over to seven o’clock, four o’clock or three o’clock—

(a) that motion stands over until the conclusion of any proceedings on the bill which, in accordance with the programme order, are to be brought to conclusion at or before that time; and

(b) has been set down by the Speaker, the bringing to a conclusion or ending of any proceedings on the bill which, in accordance with the programme order, are to be brought to a conclusion or ended after that time set by the Speaker is postponed for a period of time equal to the duration of the proceedings on that motion or emergency debate.

(5) If a day on which the bill has been set down to be taken as an order of the day is one to which a motion for the adjournment of the House under Standing Order No. 24 stands over from an earlier day, the bringing to a conclusion of any proceedings on the bill which, in accordance with the programme order, are to be brought to a conclusion on that day is postponed for a period equal to the duration of the proceedings on that motion.

(6) No dilatory motion may be made in relation to the proceedings except by a Minister of the Crown; and the question on any such motion is to be put forthwith.

(7) If at any sitting the House is adjourned, or the sitting is suspended, before the expiry or end of the period at the end of which proceedings are to be brought to a conclusion under a programme order, no notice is required of a motion made at the next sitting by a Minister of the Crown for varying or supplementing the provisions of the programme order.

Deletion of para (2) because of related changes to SO No. 15(1)

Clarificatory amendments in para (4) and deletion of para (5)

Drafting amendments in paras (4)(b) and (7)
General Legislation Committees

84. —(1) The following committees shall be general legislation committees:

(a) second reading committees;
(b) public bill committees;
(c) committees to consider bills on report;
(d) the Scottish Grand Committee;
(e) the Welsh Grand Committee;
(f) the Northern Ireland Grand Committee;
(g) the Regional Affairs Committee;
(h) Delegated Legislation Committees;
(i) the European Committees.

(2) Procedure in Grand Committees and the Regional Affairs Committee follows that in legislation committees, save where otherwise provided.

Change ‘General committees’ to ‘Legislation committees’ for clarity.
Public bill committees

84A.—(1) A public bill committee shall be appointed for the consideration of each bill committed to such a committee, subject to paragraphs (4) and (5).

(2) A public bill committee to which a bill is, or certain provisions of a bill are, committed by means of a programme order under Standing Order No. 83A (Programme motions) shall have the power to send for persons, papers and records.

(3) A public bill committee given the power (under paragraph (2) of this order or paragraph (2)(b) of Standing Order No. 63 (Committal of bills not subject to a programme order)) to send for persons, papers and records may hear oral evidence at such meetings as the committee may appoint, and, unless the committee otherwise orders, all such evidence shall be given in public. At any meeting at which oral evidence is to be heard, after any business relating to motions under paragraphs (9) and (10) of Standing Order No. 83C (Programming sub-committees), has been concluded, the Committee shall sit in private until the witnesses are admitted. The oral evidence shall be published in the official report of the committee’s debates and the committee shall have power to report written evidence to the House as if it were a select committee and, subject to the discretion of the Chair, any written evidence received by the Committee shall be reported to the House for publication.

(4) A Scottish public bill committee shall be appointed for the consideration of—

(a) each bill certified by the Speaker as relating exclusively to Scotland and committed to a public bill committee, and

(b) each bill committed to a Scottish public bill committee.

(5) The Committee of Selection may not nominate a public bill committee in respect of a private Member’s bill while proceedings in another public bill committee on a private Member’s bill are still active, unless notice of a motion in support of that nomination has been tabled by a Minister of the Crown:

Provided that, if a private Member in charge of a bill for which a public bill committee has been nominated informs the Committee of Selection that he or she does not intend for the time being to proceed with the committee stage of his or her bill, the committee may nominate another public bill committee; but in such cases the first public bill committee may not meet until the second public bill committee has concluded its proceedings.

Addition in para (3) to remove need for each PBC to resolve to sit in private after the programme motion has been agreed, but with the effect that the public will still have to leave after the Committee’s discussion of the programme.

Addition in para (3) to remove need for each PBC to resolve to publish evidence.

Change of ‘print’ to ‘publish’ in para (3).
Additions for neutral gender in proviso to para (5): possible redraft of line 3 ‘of that bill’. 

Drafting amendment in proviso to para (5).
Chairs of general committees

85.—(1) The chair or chairs of each general committee shall be appointed by the Speaker from the Panel of Chairs.

(2) The Speaker may change the chairs so appointed from time to time.

(3) When more than one chair is appointed to a general committee any of the chairs so appointed may exercise the powers conferred by paragraphs (3) and (4) of Standing Order No. 89 (Procedure in general committees).

(4) The Panel of Chairs, of which three shall be a quorum, shall have power to consider matters of procedure relating to general committees and to report its opinion thereupon to the House from time to time.

(5) Any member of a general committee may, at the request of the chair of the committee, act as chair for not more than a quarter of an hour on any one occasion:

Provided that such member shall not exercise the powers conferred on the chair of a general committee by paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 89 (Procedure in general committees).

Consolidate with SO No. 4 for clarity and ease of reference.
Nominations of general legislation committees

86.—(1) Save in the case of—

(a) the Scottish Grand Committee,

(b) the Welsh Grand Committee,

(c) a committee for the consideration of a bill on report, and

(d) a European Committee,

the Committee of Selection shall nominate not fewer than sixteen nor more than fifty Members to serve on each general legislation committee for the consideration of each bill allocated or referred to it, or for the consideration of instruments (whether or not in draft) referred to it.

(2) In nominating such Members the Committee of Selection shall have regard to the qualifications of those Members nominated and to the composition of the House, and shall have power to discharge Members from time to time and appoint others in substitution for those discharged:

Provided that—

(i) for the consideration of any public bill certified by the Speaker as relating exclusively to Scotland or of a public bill (or part of a public bill) ordered to be considered by a Scottish public bill committee, the committee shall be so constituted as to include not fewer than sixteen Members representing Scottish constituencies;

(ii) for the consideration of any public bill relating exclusively to Wales, the committee shall be so constituted as to include all Members sitting for constituencies in Wales;

(iii) for the consideration of any bill a draft of which, or of parts of which, has been considered by a committee of this House, the Committee of Selection shall treat a Member’s membership of that committee as one of the qualifications to which it shall have regard.

Amendments in title and para (1) to reflect change of general committees to legislation committees and new SOs on Grand Committees.

Addition to para (1) to include NIGC.

Drafting amendment in para (2)

Deletion of consistently disapplied provision of para (2).
Attendance of law officers and ministers in general legislation committees

87.—(1) The Attorney General, the Advocate General and the Solicitor General, or any of them, being if they are Members of the House, though but not members of a general legislation committee, may take part in the deliberations of the committee, but shall not vote or make any motion or move any amendment other than a motion in the Scottish Grand Committee under Standing Order No. 93 (Scottish Grand Committee (composition and business)) or a motion in the Welsh Grand Committee under Standing Order No. 102 (Welsh Grand Committee (composition and business)) or a motion in the Northern Ireland Grand Committee under Standing Order No. 109 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (composition and business)) or a motion or an amendment in a European Committee under Standing Order No. 119 (European Committees) or be counted in the quorum except as otherwise provided under any Standing Order or Order of the House.

(2) In a general legislation committee which is to consider a bill brought in upon a ways and means resolution any Minister of the Crown, being if he or she is a Member of the House, though but not a member of the general legislation committee, may take part in the deliberations of the committee, but shall not vote or make any motion or move any amendment or be counted in the quorum.

Amendments in title and paras (1) and (2) to reflect change of general committees to legislation committees.

Drafting amendments in paras (1) and (2).

Simplification of list of exemptions in para (1).
Meetings of general legislation committees

88.—(1) A general legislation committee to which a bill or other business has been or stands committed shall meet to consider such business on the day and at the hour named by the Member appointed chair of the committee in respect of that business. If the consideration of the business is not completed at that sitting, and subject to the proviso in paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 84A (Public bill committees), the committee shall meet further to consider the business on such days of the week and at such times as may be appointed by the committee:

Provided that no general legislation committee shall sit at Westminster, on a day on which the House sits, between the hours of one o’clock and half past three o’clock in the afternoon on Mondays, between the hours of twenty five minutes past eleven o’clock in the morning and half past one o’clock in the afternoon on Tuesdays or Wednesdays or between the hours of twenty five minutes past nine o’clock in the morning and half past eleven o’clock in the morning on Thursdays, between 1.00 pm and 3.30 pm on Mondays, between 11.25 am and 1.30 pm on Tuesdays or Wednesdays or between 9.25 am and 11.30 am or 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm on Thursdays, except as hereinafter provided.

(2) If a general legislation committee to which the proviso to paragraph (1) of this order applies is not previously adjourned, the chair shall adjourn the committee without putting any question at one o’clock, twenty five minutes past eleven o’clock or twenty five minutes past nine o’clock at 1.00 pm, 11.25 am or 9.25 am, as the case may be, save as provided in Standing Order No. 100 (Scottish Grand Committee (sittings)), Standing Order No. 108 (Welsh Grand Committee (sittings)) and Standing Order No. 116 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (sittings)), [references changed to new, amalgamated SOs]:

Provided that—

(i) if, in the opinion of the chair, the proceedings on a bill or other business could be brought to a final conclusion and by a short extension of the sitting, he or she may defer adjourning the committee for a quarter of an hour;

(ii) if proceedings under Standing Order No. 36 (Closure of debate) be in progress at the time when the chair is required to adjourn the committee under this paragraph, he or she shall not adjourn the committee until the question for the closure of debate, the question or questions consequent thereon and on any further motion as provided in that Standing Order, have been decided.

(3) Any general legislation committee may sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House.

Amendments in title and paras (1), (2) and (3) to reflect change of general committees to legislation committees.
Drafting amendments in para (1).

Addition of lunch break on Thursdays in para (1).

Additions for neutral gender and drafting amendment in para (2) proviso.
Proceedure in general legislation committees

89.—(1) Except as provided in Standing Order No. 93 (Scottish Grand Committee (composition and business)), Standing Order No. 102 (Welsh Grand Committee (composition and business)), Standing Order No. 109 (Northern Ireland Grand Committee (composition and business)), Standing Order No. 117 (Regional Affairs Committee) and Standing Order No. 119 (European Committees) the quorum of a general legislation committee shall be seventeen or one third of the number of its members excluding the chair, whichever is the less; and in calculating the quorum fractions shall be counted as one.

(2) A legislation committee may not proceed to business unless a quorum be present; and if at any time during the sitting of the committee a quorum is not be present, the clerk of the committee shall bring this fact to the notice of the chair, who shall suspend the proceedings of the committee until a quorum be present, or adjourn the committee.

(3) In determining whether the requisite number of Members is present to form the quorum the chair shall be counted.

(2) The public shall be admitted to a general legislation committee unless the committee otherwise orders.

(3) (a) (4) Any notice of an amendment to a bill which has been committed or referred to a general committee, or of a motion relative to a European Union document or documents or an amendment thereto given under Standing Order No. 119 (European Committees) shall stand referred to the committee, and The chair of a legislation committee shall have the like powers as are given to of the Speaker, the Chairman of Ways and Means and either Deputy Chairman respectively by Standing Order No. 32 (Selection of amendments).

(b) (5) Standing Orders No. 29 (Powers of chair to propose question), and No. 36 (Closure of debate) and No. 37 (Majority for closure or for proposal of question) shall apply to general legislation committees, except that the number necessary to render the majority effective for the closure or for the proposal of the question shall be the number prescribed as the quorum by paragraph (1) of this order.

(c) (6) The chair of a general legislation committee shall have the like powers as are given to of a chair of a committee of the whole House under the following Standing Orders:

No. 35 (Dilatory motion in abuse of rules of House),

No. 42 (Irrelevance or repetition),

No. 42A (Sub judice), and

No. 68 (Debate on clause section or schedule standing part).
The following Standing Orders shall apply to general committees:

No. 124 (Quorum of select committees),
No. 128 (Entry on formal minutes of select committee), and
No. 129 (Formal minutes to be reported).

On a division being called in the House or a committee of the whole House the chair of a general legislation committee shall suspend the proceedings of the committee for such time as will, in his or her opinion, enable Members to vote in the division and return to the committee.

All general committees shall have leave to print and circulate their proceedings with the Vote.

Amendments in title and old paras (1) and (2) and new paras (5), (6) and (7) to reflect change of general committees to legislation committees.

Simplification of list of exemptions in para (1) and clarification of old para (3).

Addition of relevant paras of SO No. 124 (Quorum of select committees) as new paras (2) and (3), with drafting amendments.

Removal of references in new para (5) to merged SO No. 37, in old para (3)(d) to formal minutes (no longer produced) and in old para (5) to proceedings (no longer printed).

Drafting amendment in new paras (5) and (6).

Addition for neutral gender in new para (7).
Second reading committees

90.—(1) A motion, of which at least ten days’ notice has been given, may be made by a Minister of the Crown at the commencement of public business, that a public bill be referred to a second reading committee, and the question thereupon shall be put forthwith; and if, on the question being put, not fewer than twenty Members rise in their places and signify their objection thereto, the Speaker shall declare that the motion is negatived:

Provided that no such notice shall be given until the bill has been printed and delivered to the Vote Office.

(2) A motion, of which at least ten days’ notice has been given, may with the leave of the House be made by the Member in charge of a private Member’s bill at the commencement of public business on any day when private Members’ bills have precedence under the provisions of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business) DD (Private Members’ Bills), that the said bill be referred to a second reading committee, and the question thereupon shall be put forthwith. If such a motion be agreed to, any order that the said bill be read a second time which stands on the paper for that or any subsequent day shall be discharged. No such motion shall be made before the eighth Friday on which private Members’ bills have precedence and no such notice shall be given until the bill has been printed and delivered to the Vote Office.

(3) A second reading committee shall report to the House either that it recommends that the bill ought to be read a second time or that it recommends that the bill ought not to be read a second time, and in the latter case it shall have power to state its reasons for so recommending.

(4) When a second reading committee shall have made a report to the House in respect of a bill referred to it under paragraph (2) above, the bill shall be ordered to be read a second time upon a future day.

(5) Upon a motion being made for the second reading of a bill reported from a second reading committee, the question thereon shall be put forthwith, and may be proceeded with, though opposed, after the moment of interruption.

Removal of ambiguity in para (1) over whether Speaker’s decision can be challenged.

Change of ‘print’ to ‘publish’ in proviso to para (1).

Drafting amendments in paras (1) and (2).

Amendment in para (5) to remove the need for the current practice of tabling exemption motions.
SO No. 91 was repealed on 1 November 2006.
Consideration on report of certain bills by a general legislation committee.

92.—(1) A bill which has been considered by a second reading committee or by the Scottish Grand Committee in relation to the principle of the bill may be referred for consideration on report to a committee to consider bills on report or to the Scottish Grand Committee, as the case may be, upon a motion made after notice by a Minister of the Crown at the commencement of public business, and the question on such motion shall be put forthwith; and if, on the question being put, not fewer than twenty Members rise in their places and signify their objection thereto, the Speaker shall declare that the motion is negatived.

(2) A committee to consider bills on report shall consist of not fewer than twenty nor more than eighty Members, to be nominated by the Committee of Selection to serve on the committee for the consideration of each bill referred to it; and in the nomination of such Members, the Committee of Selection shall have regard to their qualifications and to the composition of the House:

Provided that, for the consideration of all public bills relating exclusively to Wales, the committee shall be so constituted as to include all Members sitting for constituencies in Wales.

(3) Any committee to which a bill is referred under this order shall report to the House that it has considered the bill and has made amendments or has made no amendment thereunto, as the case may be; and the bill so reported shall be ordered to be read the third time upon a future day.

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Amendment in title to reflect change of general committees to legislation committees.

Deletion of para (2) to mirror deletion of SO No. 86(3)(ii).

Removal of ambiguity in para (1) over whether Speaker’s decision can be challenged.

Drafting amendment in para (1).
A. Grand Committees (composition)

(1) There shall be three committees called the Scottish Grand Committee, the Welsh Grand Committee and the Northern Ireland Grand Committee.

(2) The Scottish Grand Committee shall consist of all Members representing constituencies in Scotland.

(3) The Welsh Grand Committee shall consist of all Members representing constituencies in Wales, together with not more than five other Members nominated for a Parliament by the Committee of Selection.

(4) The Northern Ireland Grand Committee shall consist of all Members representing constituencies in Northern Ireland, together with not more than twenty-five other Members nominated for the duration of a Parliament by the Committee of Selection.

(5) The Committee of Selection shall have power from time to time to discharge the Members nominated by it and to appoint others in substitution for those discharged.

(6) The quorum of the Scottish Grand Committee and the Northern Ireland Grand Committee shall be ten and the quorum of the Welsh Grand Committee shall be seven, subject in each case to paragraph (4) of Standing Order H (Grand Committees (conclusion of sitting)).

(7) Any Minister of the Crown, being a Member of the House, though not a member of the committee, may take part in the deliberations of a Grand Committee and may make a motion, but shall not vote or be counted in the quorum.

This reproduces S.O.s Nos. 93(1) and (3), 102(1), (2) and (4) and 109 (1), (2) and (4), without alteration, except that the added members for the WGC and NIGC are added for a whole Parliament instead of a session. This does not prevent changes being made within the Parliament.
Replacement of SOs No. 93 to No. 116 on Grand Committees

B. Grand Committees (sittings)

(1) A motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown providing (or varying previous provision) for—

(a) the times and places of sittings of a Grand Committee,

(b) the consideration at such sittings of such business as has been referred to the committee,

(c) the taking of oral questions or the consideration of specified matters at such sittings, and

(d) the interruption of proceedings at such hours (or after such periods) as may be specified,

and the Speaker shall put forthwith the question on such a motion, which may be decided after the moment of interruption.

(2) A motion under paragraph (1) may provide for—

(a) the Scottish (or Welsh) Grand Committee to sit at Westminster or in (or at specified places in) Scotland (or Wales);

(b) the Northern Ireland Grand Committee to sit at Westminster or, on not more than two specified days, in Northern Ireland at places to be named by the Member appointed chair.

(3) Nothing in this order shall prevent the committee from considering further at a sitting at Westminster business adjourned at a previous sitting away from Westminster, nor from considering at a sitting away from Westminster business adjourned at a sitting at Westminster.

(4) The provisions of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of general committees), so far as they relate to the naming of a day in respect of business by the Member appointed chair and the committee’s appointment of future days in respect of business not completed at a sitting, shall not apply to a Grand Committee.

This reproduces S.O.s Nos. 100(1) and (2), 108(1) and (2) and 116(1) and (2) (except references to the maximum of 12 days for substantive motions for the adjournment (SGC) and to short debates). The provision for the government to determine the precedence of the business in the SGC (100(3)) is not reproduced. References to the possibility of specifying a duration, rather than a finishing hour, is new.
Replacement of SOs No. 93 to No. 116 on Grand Committees

C. Grand Committees (questions for oral answer)

(1) Notices of questions for oral answer in—

   (a) the Scottish Grand Committee by the Secretary of State for Scotland or the
       Advocate General,

   (b) the Welsh Grand Committee by the Secretary of State for Wales, or

   (c) the Northern Ireland Grand Committee by the Secretary of State for Northern
       Ireland,

may be given by members of the committee to the Table Office.

(2) Notices of questions given under this order shall bear an indication that they are for oral
answer in the relevant Grand Committee.

(3) No more than one notice of a question may be given under this order by any member of
the committee for each day specified under paragraph (1) of Standing Order B (Grand
Committees (sittings)) for the taking of questions.

(4) On any day so specified —

   (a) questions shall be taken at the start of the sitting;

   (b) no question shall be taken later than half an hour (or in the case of the Scottish
       Grand Committee, three-quarters of an hour) after the start of the proceedings
       on it; and

   (c) replies to questions not reached shall be printed with the official report of the
       committee’s debates for that day.

(5) Notices of questions under this order must be given at least four days (excluding Friday,
Saturday and Sunday) before the question is to be answered save where otherwise provided
by a memorandum under paragraph (6) of Standing Order No. 22 (Notices of questions,
motions and amendments).

This reproduces S.O.s Nos. 94, 103 and 110; the descriptions of those to whom questions are
addressed (previously “Scotland Office ministers or Scottish law officers”, “Wales Office
ministers” and “Northern Ireland Office ministers”) are simplified to match those used in the
House. The period of notice required is reduced to that now applying to oral questions in the
House. It presumes that the Secretaries of State are members of the Commons.
Replacement of SOs No. 93 to No. 116 on Grand Committees

D. Grand Committees (ministerial statements)

(1) The chair of a Grand Committee may permit a Minister of the Crown, whether or not a Member of the House, to make a statement, of which notice has been given to him or her, and to answer questions on it put by members of the committee.

(2) Ministerial statements may be made—

(a) at the start of a sitting, or

(b) immediately after the end of any questions.

(3) Proceedings under this order shall be ended at the discretion of the chair.

(4) A Minister of the Crown who is not a Member of the House may not make a statement from the body of the committee; and shall not vote, make any motion or be counted in the quorum.

This reproduces S.O. Nos. 96, 105 and 112. The previous SGC provision in 96(2)(a) provided for the Committee, rather than the chair, to decide how long certain categories of statement should last.
Replacement of SOs No. 93 to No. 116 on Grand Committees

E. Grand Committees (bills)

(1) This order applies to bills certified by the Speaker as relating exclusively to Scotland and to bills relating exclusively to Wales or to Northern Ireland.

(2) After any public bill has been first published, the Speaker shall, if of the opinion that its provisions relate exclusively to Scotland, give a certificate to that effect:

Provided that a certificate shall not be withheld by reason only that the bill—

(a) makes minor consequential amendments of enactments which extend to England and Wales or Northern Ireland; or

(b) amends Schedule 2 to the Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1967, Schedule 1 to the House of Commons Disqualification Act 1975 or Schedule 1 to the Northern Ireland Assembly Disqualification Act 1975.

(3) A motion, of which at least ten days’ notice has been given, may be made by a Minister of the Crown to the effect that a bill to which this order applies be referred to the relevant Grand Committee, and the question on it shall be put forthwith and may be decided at any hour, though opposed after the moment of interruption; and if, on the question being put, not fewer than twenty Members rise in their places and signify their objection thereto, the Speaker shall declare that the motion is negatived:

Provided that no such notice shall be given until the bill has been published.

(4) A bill so referred to a Grand Committee shall be considered on a motion, ‘That the bill ought to be read a second time’; and, when the committee has considered that question for a total of two and half hours (whether on one or more than one day), the chair shall put the question necessary to dispose of the motion, and shall then report accordingly to the House (or shall report that the committee has come to no resolution), without any further question being put on it:

Provided that a Minister of the Crown may, immediately before the motion ‘That the bill ought to be read a second time’, is made, make without notice a motion to extend the time-limit specified in this paragraph; and the question on that motion shall be put forthwith.

(5) A bill in respect of which a report has been made under paragraph (3) above shall be ordered to be read a second time on a future day.

(6) Upon a motion being made for the second reading of a bill reported from a Grand Committee, the question on it shall be put forthwith and may be decided after the moment of interruption.

This applies a single procedure, replacing that for Scotland and Northern Ireland (S.O. Nos. 97(1)–(6) and 113(1)–(4) (which required the referral motion to be moved on the reading of the order for second reading of the bill) with that previously used for Wales (S.O. No. 106).
and in Second Reading Committees, except that the motion is not required to be moved at the commencement of public business.

In the Committee, the motion is “that the Bill ought to be read a second time”, which is similar to second reading committees (except without the opportunity to give reasons if the Committee thinks the bill ought not to be read a second time). The current motion in the SGC and NIGC ‘that the Committee has considered the bill in relation to its principle’. The time limit and the provision for its extension (paragraph (3)) comes from the Scottish and Northern Ireland provision.

The procedure for the second reading of a bill which has been discussed in a Grand Committee is made the same as for one discussed in a second reading committee, except that the question (as well as being put forthwith) may be decided, if opposed, after the moment of interruption.
Replacement of SOs No. 93 to No. 116 on Grand Committees

F. Grand Committees (delegated legislation)

(1) Where—

(a) a Member has given notice of a motion for an humble address to Her Majesty praying that a statutory instrument be annulled, or of a motion of a similar character relating to a statutory instrument or to any other instrument (whether or not in draft) which may be subject to proceedings in the House in pursuance of a statute, or of a motion that the House takes note of a statutory instrument, or

(b) a Minister of the Crown has given notice of a motion to the effect that an instrument (whether or not in draft) upon which proceedings may be taken in pursuance of an Act of Parliament (other than a draft regulatory reform order) be approved,

a motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown to the effect that the instrument be referred to the relevant Grand Committee; and the question on such motion shall be put forthwith and may be decided after the moment of interruption.

(2) The committee shall consider each instrument referred to it on a motion, ‘That the Committee has considered the instrument’; and the chair shall put any question necessary to dispose of the proceedings on the motion, if not previously disposed of, not later than one and a half hours after the start of proceedings; and shall report the instrument to the House without any further question being put:

(3) If any motion is made in the House of the kind specified in paragraph (1)(a) or (1)(b) of this order, in relation to any instrument in respect of which a report has been made to the House in accordance with paragraph (2) of this order, the Speaker shall put forthwith the question on it; which may be decided after the moment of interruption.

This is the provision from S.O. Nos. 98 (Scotland) and 115 (Northern Ireland), the provision for extending the time limit coming from the Northern Ireland provision. This draft S.O. extends the provisions to Wales and removes the provision for extending the time limit for Northern Ireland because of Northern Ireland statutory instruments are not as long as they were when the Assembly was not fully functioning.
Replacement of SOs No. 93 to No. 116 on Grand Committees

G. Grand Committees (conclusion of sitting)

(1) At any sitting of a Grand Committee the chair shall interrupt proceedings (other than on a motion made under paragraph (3) below) at the time specified in relation to the sitting by an order made under paragraph (1) of Standing Order B (Grand Committees (sittings)), or, in the absence of such provision, at 1.00 pm on Mondays, at 11.25 am on Tuesdays or Wednesdays or at 9.25 am on Thursdays, subject to paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of general committees).

(2) At the moment of interruption, proceedings under consideration and not disposed of shall stand adjourned.

(3) Save as provided in paragraph (5) below, after the interruption of proceedings, or on the completion of the business appointed for consideration at that sitting, whichever is the earlier, a motion for the adjournment of the committee may be made by a Minister of the Crown, and, notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of general committees), the chair shall, not later than half an hour after the motion has been made, adjourn the committee without putting any question.

(4) In respect of business taken under paragraph (3) above the quorum of the committee shall be three.

(5) Paragraph (3) of this order shall apply to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee only on a day specified in an order made under paragraph (1) of Standing Order B (Grand Committees (sittings)).

This reproduces the provisions in S.O. Nos. 100(4)–(6) (Scotland), 108(3)–(5) (Wales) and 116(3)–(5) (Northern Ireland), retaining the provision that a half-hour debate takes place in the NIGC only if the motion in the House provides for this.
Regional Affairs Committee.

117.—(1) There shall be a general committee called the Regional Affairs Committee, which shall consider any matter relating to regional affairs in England which may be referred to it.

(2) The Committee shall consist of thirteen Members representing English constituencies nominated by the Committee of Selection; and in nominating such Members, the Committee of Selection shall—

(a) have regard to the qualifications of the Members nominated and to the composition of the House; and

(b) have power to discharge Members from time to time, and to appoint others in substitution.

(3) Any Member of the House representing an English constituency, though not nominated to the committee, may take part in its proceedings, but may not make any motion, vote or be counted in the quorum; provided that a Minister of the Crown who is a Member of this House but not nominated to the committee may make a motion as specified in paragraph (10) below.

(4) The quorum of the committee shall be three.

(5) Paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 88 (Meetings of general committees) shall not apply to the committee; except that the proviso to that paragraph shall apply to any sitting at Westminster.

(6) A motion may be made in the House by a Minister of the Crown to specify (or to vary) any or all of the following—

(a) the matter or matters to be referred to the Committee;

(b) the period to be allotted to proceedings on such matters;

(c) when and where (within England) the Committee shall meet;

(d) the hours for the commencement and conclusion of any sitting;

(e) any days when the committee shall meet at Westminster;

and such motion may be moved at any time; and the question thereon shall be put forthwith and may be decided at any hour, though opposed after the moment of interruption.

(7) Where any order made under paragraph (6) above makes no provision for the period to be allotted to the proceedings on any matter or matters which have been referred to the committee for consideration at a particular sitting, those proceedings shall be brought to a conclusion no later than three hours after their commencement.

(8) At the commencement of business at any sitting of the committee, the chair may permit Ministers of the Crown, being Members of the House, to make statements on any
matter or matters referred to the committee for consideration at that sitting, and may then permit members of the committee to ask questions thereon.

(9) No question on a statement by a Minister of the Crown shall be taken one hour after the expiry of a period of one hour from the commencement of the first such statement, except that the chair may, at his or her discretion, allow such questions to be taken for a further period not exceeding half an hour.

(10) The committee shall, following any such statements and questions, consider each matter referred to it on a motion ‘That the committee has considered the matter’; the chair shall put the question necessary to dispose of the proceedings on each matter at the time, or after the period, specified in accordance with paragraph (6) or paragraph (7) of this order, and the committee shall thereupon report to the House that it has considered the matter or matters without any further question being put.

(11) Any period allocated to the consideration of any matter or matters shall include any time spent on statements by Ministers of the Crown and questions thereon, except when otherwise provided by any order of the House made in accordance with paragraph (6) above.

Amendment in para (1) to reflect change of general committees to legislation committees.

Drafting amendments in paras (6)(b), (7), (8) and (9).

Addition for neutral gender in para (9).
Delegated Legislation Committees

118.—(1) There shall be one or more committees, to be called Delegated Legislation Committees, for the consideration of such instruments (whether or not in draft) as may be referred to them; and those instruments shall be distributed among the committees by the Speaker.

(2) Any Member, not being a member of such a committee, may take part in the deliberations of the committee, but shall not vote or make any motion or move any amendment or be counted in the quorum.

(3) Where a Minister of the Crown has given notice of a motion to the effect that an instrument (whether or not in draft) upon which proceedings may be taken under an Act of Parliament (other than a draft legislative reform order) be approved, the instrument shall stand referred to a Delegated Legislation Committee, unless—

(a) notice has been given by a Minister of the Crown of a motion that the instrument shall not so stand referred, or

(b) the instrument is referred to the Scottish Grand Committee or to the Northern Ireland Grand Committee.

(4) Where a Member has given notice of—

(a) a motion for an humble address to Her Majesty praying that a statutory instrument be annulled, or a motion of a similar character relating to a statutory instrument, or to any other instrument (whether or not in draft) which may be subject to proceedings in the House under a statute, or a motion that the House takes note of a statutory instrument, or

(b) a motion that a measure under the Church of England Assembly (Powers) Act 1919 be presented to Her Majesty for her Royal Assent, or a motion relating to an instrument made under such a measure,

a motion may be made by a Minister of the Crown at the commencement of public business, that the instrument be referred to such a committee, and the question thereon on it shall be put forthwith; and if, on the question being put, not fewer than twenty Members rise in their places and signify their objection thereto, the Speaker shall declare that the motion is negatived.

(5) Each committee shall consider each instrument referred to it on a motion, ‘That the committee has considered the instrument’; and the chair shall put any question necessary to dispose of the proceedings on such a motion, if not previously concluded, when the committee shall have sat for one and a half hours, or, in the case of an instrument relating exclusively to Northern Ireland, two and a half hours, after the commencement of those
proceedings; and the committee shall thereupon report the instrument to the House without any further question being put.

(6) If any motion is made in the House of the kind specified in paragraphs (3) or (4) of this order, in relation to any instrument reported to the House in accordance with paragraph (5) of this order, the Speaker shall put forthwith the question on it and such question may be decided at any hour, though opposed after the moment of interruption.

Drafting amendments in paras (1), (3), (4), (5) and (6).

Amendment of para (3) to reflect existing practice.

Deletion of Church of England Measures to ensure that they are covered by ‘nod or nothing’.

Removal of ambiguity in para (4) over whether Speaker’s decision can be challenged.

Removal of the provision for a longer time limit for Northern Ireland because of Northern Ireland statutory instruments are not as long as they were when the Assembly was not fully functioning Also in new Grand Committee SO F.
European Committees

119.—(1) There shall be three general legislation committees, called European Committees, to which shall stand referred for consideration on motion, unless the House otherwise orders, such European Union documents as defined in Standing Order No. 143 (European Scrutiny Committee) as may be recommended by the European Scrutiny Committee for further consideration.

(2) If a motion that specified European Union documents as aforesaid shall not stand referred to a European Committee is made by a Minister of the Crown at the commencement of public business, the question thereon shall be put forthwith. If a Minister of the Crown gives notice of a motion relating to a document for consideration in the chamber on a specified day, that document shall no longer stand referred to a European Committee.

(3) Each European Committee shall consist of thirteen Members nominated by the Committee of Selection in respect of any European Union document which stands referred to it, and the Committee of Selection may nominate the same membership in respect of several documents.

(4) In nominating the members of a European Committee, the Committee of Selection shall have regard to the qualifications of the Members nominated and to the composition of the House; and where practicable it shall nominate at least two members of the European Scrutiny Committee and at least two members of the select committee appointed under Standing Order No. 152 whose responsibilities most closely relate to the subject matter of the document or documents.

(5) The quorum of a European Committee shall be three, excluding the chair.

(6) Any Member, though not nominated to a European Committee, may take part in the committee’s proceedings and may move amendments to any motion made as provided in paragraphs (9) and (10) below, but such Member shall not make any motion, vote or be counted in the quorum; provided that a Minister of the Crown who is a Member of this House but not nominated to the committee may make a motion as provided in paragraphs (9) and (10) below.

(7) The European Committees, and the principal subject matter of the European Union documents to be referred to each, shall be as set out below; and, in making recommendations for further consideration, the European Scrutiny Committee shall specify the committee to which in its opinion the documents ought to be referred; and, subject to paragraph (2) of this order, the documents shall be referred to that committee accordingly—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>European Committees</th>
<th>Principal subject matter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Matters within the responsibility of the following Departments— Energy and Climate Change, Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; Transport; Communities and Local Government; Forestry Commission; and analogous responsibilities of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland Offices.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(8) The chair may permit a member of the European Scrutiny Committee appointed to the committee under paragraph (4) above to make a brief statement of no more than five minutes, at the beginning of the sitting, explaining that committee’s decision to refer the document or documents to a European Committee.

(9) The chair may permit Ministers of the Crown to make statements and to answer questions put by Members, in respect of each motion relative to a European Union document or documents referred to a European Committee of which a Minister shall have given notice; but no question shall be taken after the expiry of a period of one hour from the commencement of the first such statement at the start of the sitting:

Provided that the chair may, if he or she sees fit, allow questions to be taken for a further period of not more than half an hour after the expiry end of that period.

(10) Following the conclusion end of the proceedings under the previous paragraph, the motion referred to therein may be made, to which amendments may be moved; and, if proceedings thereon on it have not been previously concluded ended, the chair shall interrupt the consideration of such motion and amendments when the committee shall have has sat for a period of two and a half hours, and shall then put forthwith successively—

(a) the question on any amendment already proposed from the chair; and

(b) the main question (or the main question, as amended).

The chair shall thereupon then report to the House any resolution to which the committee has come, or that it has come to no resolution, without any further question being put.

(11) If any motion is made in the House in relation to any European Union document in respect of which a report has been made to the House in accordance with paragraph (10) of this order, the Speaker shall forthwith put successively—

(a) the question on any amendment selected by him which may be moved;

(b) the main question (or the main question, as amended); and proceedings in pursuance of under this paragraph, though opposed, may be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business moment of interruption.

(12) With the modifications provided in this order, the following Standing Orders shall apply to European Committees—

No. 85 (Chair of general legislation committees);
No. 88 (Meetings of general legislation committees); and
No 89 (Procedure in general legislation committees).

Amendments in paras (1) and (12) to reflect change from general committees to legislation committees.

Amendment of para (3) to reflect existing practice.

Amendment in list of Committees to reflect name of Department

Deletion in para (8) to allow ESC member not on the Committee to make statement.

Drafting amendments in paras (9), (10) and (11)(b).

Addition for neutral gender in para (9) proviso.

NB: Separate amendments proposed by European Scrutiny Committee (Twenty-fourth report of Session 2013-14)
Business subcommittees.

120.—(1) Whenever an order has been made by the House allocating time to the proceedings of a public bill committee on any bill which has been allocated or committed to it, the order shall stand referred to that committee, and shall be considered by a sub-committee thereof to be called the business sub-committee.

(2) A business sub-committee shall consist of the chair or one of the chairs of the committee (who shall be chair of the sub-committee) and seven members of the committee, to be nominated by the Speaker as soon as may be after such an order has been made; the quorum of the sub-committee shall be four, of whom the chair so nominated shall be one; and the sub-committee shall have power to report from time to time to the committee.

(3) A sub-committee shall report to the committee its resolutions upon—

(a) the number of sittings to be allotted to the consideration of the bill;

(b) the allocation of the proceedings to each sitting; and

(c) the time at which any proceedings, if not previously concluded, shall be brought to a conclusion.

(4) All such resolutions shall be reported to the committee at the commencement of the next sitting of the committee and shall be recorded in the minutes of the proceedings of the committee.

(5) Whenever a sub-committee has made a report to the committee, the Member in charge of the bill may forthwith move ‘That this committee do agree with the business sub-committee in its resolution (or resolutions)’; and the question on such a motion shall be put forthwith.

(6) If the question is agreed to, the resolution (or resolutions) shall have effect as though included in the order aforesaid, but if it is negatived the resolution (or resolutions) shall stand re-committed to the business sub-committee.

Drafting amendments in paras (3)(b) and (4).
Nomination of select committees.

121.—(1) Any Member intending to propose that certain Members be members of a select committee, or be discharged from a select committee, shall give notice of the names of Members whom he intends so to propose, shall endeavour to ascertain previously whether each such Member will give his attendance on the committee, and shall endeavour to give notice to any Member whom he proposes to be discharged from the committee.

(2) No motion shall be made for the nomination of members of select committees appointed under the standing orders of this House (with the exception of the Liaison Committee, the Committee of Selection, the Committee on Standards and any Committee established under a temporary standing order), or for their discharge, unless—

(a) notice of the motion has been given at least two sitting days previously, and

(b) (i) in the case of a motion to agree with a report from the Liaison Committee to appoint and nominate Members to a National Policy Statement Committee under Standing Order No. 152H (Planning: national policy statements) the motion is made on behalf of the Liaison Committee by the chair or another member of the committee; or

(ii) in other cases the motion is made on behalf of the Committee of Selection by the chair or another member of the committee.

(2A) Except as otherwise provided in these Standing Orders, or unless the House otherwise orders, each Member nominated to a select committee shall continue to be a member of it for the remainder of the Parliament.

(2B) Any questions necessary to dispose of the proceedings on a motion under this Order which has been opposed at or after the interruption of business on a preceding day shall be put one hour after the start of those proceedings and a motion under this paragraph may be proceeded with after the moment of interruption.

Simplification of appointment provisions (with corresponding change in SO No 152H).

Addition of provision on membership of select committees to avoid the need for repetition in SOs on individual select committees.

Addition of provisions from SO No. 15 for clarity.
Lists of Members serving on select committees

122. Lists shall be fixed in some conspicuous place in the Committee Office and in the lobby of the House of all Members serving on each select committee. The names of all members serving on each select committee shall be published.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SO No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>122A</td>
<td>Term limits for chairs of select committees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Election of select committee chairs**

122B.—(1) The chairs of the following select committees shall be elected by the House in accordance with paragraphs (2) to (14) below:

(a) select committees appointed under Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments);

(aa) the Political and Constitutional Reform Committee;

(b) the Environmental Audit Committee;

(c) the Select Committee on Public Administration;

(d) the Committee of Public Accounts; and

(e) the Procedure Committee.

(2) The day following his or her election at the start of a new Parliament, the Speaker shall communicate to the leaders of each party represented in the House the proportion of chairs of select committees to be elected under this order falling to each such party which would reflect the composition of the House.

(3) If, within a week of the Queen’s Speech, a motion in the name of the leaders of all the parties entitled to one or more chairs of select committees subject to election under this order specifying to which party each such chair is allocated is moved, the questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the motion shall be put not later than one hour after their commencement. Proceedings on the motion shall be exempted business and Standing Order No. 41A (Deferred divisions) shall not apply.

(4) If a motion to which paragraph (3) above applies also makes changes to Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) which are consequential on changes to the machinery of government, then the questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the motion shall be put not later than one and a half hours after their commencement; proceedings on the motion shall be exempted business; and Standing Order No. 41A (Deferred divisions) shall not apply.

(5) If, on the expiry of two weeks after the Queen’s Speech, no motion in the name of the leaders of all the parties entitled to one or more chairs of select committees subject to election under this order specifying to which party each said chair is allocated has been tabled, on the following sitting day, the Speaker shall give precedence to a motion tabled thereafter by any Member to allocate chairs under this order and the provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) shall apply to proceedings on such a motion.

(6) If the House has agreed a motion allocating chairs to parties the election of the chairs shall take place in accordance with the remaining provisions of this order.
(7) The ballots shall take place fourteen days after the approval of the motion allocating chairs to parties.

(8) (a) Nominations of candidates shall be in writing and shall be received by the Clerk of the House by 5.00 pm on the day two sitting days before the ballot.

(b) Each nomination shall consist of a signed statement made by the candidate declaring his or her willingness to stand for election, accompanied by the signatures of fifteen Members elected to the House as members of the same party as the candidate or ten per cent. of the Members elected to the House as members of that party, whichever is the lower.

c) Statements may be accompanied by signatures of up to five Members elected to the House as members of any party other than that to which the candidate belongs, or members of no party.

d) No Member may sign the statement of more than one candidate for chair of the same select committee.

(e) No Member may be a candidate for the chair of a select committee which has not been allocated to his or her party under paragraph (3) of this order or otherwise, or for which he or she is ineligible under Standing Order No. 122A (Term limits for chairs of select committees).

(f) No Member may be a candidate for the chair of the Committee of Public Accounts unless his or her party is that of the official Opposition.

g) No Member may be a candidate for more than one chair elected under this order.

(h) As soon as practicable following the close of nominations, lists of the candidates and their accompanying signatories shall be published.

(9) Election of chairs of select committees under this order shall be by secret ballot.

(10) Preparatory arrangements for the ballots shall be made under the supervision of the Clerk of the House.

(11) (a) If there is only one candidate for the chair of a select committee, that candidate shall be declared elected without a ballot.

(b) The ballot shall take place in a place appointed by the Speaker.

(c) Each Member intending to vote shall be provided with a ballot paper for each select committee bearing the names of the candidates listed in alphabetical order.

d) Members will vote by ranking as many candidates as they wish in order of preference, marking 1 by the name of their first preference, 2 by the name of their second preference, and so on. Any candidate who receives more than half the first preferences shall be elected. If no candidate is so elected, the candidate or candidates
with the lowest number of first preferences shall be eliminated and their votes distributed among the remaining candidates according to the preferences on them. If no candidate has more than half the votes, the process of elimination and distribution is repeated, until one candidate has more than half the votes.

(e) The ballot shall be open between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm and counting shall take place under arrangements made by the Clerk of the House.

(12) The Speaker shall have power to give directions on any matter of doubt arising from the conduct of a ballot or from an individual ballot paper and to vary the timings given in paragraphs (6) to (11) of this order.

(13) As soon as practicable after the closing of the ballot the results shall be published under the direction of the Speaker.

(14) A chair elected under this order is a member of the committee of which he or she is elected chair.

Additions for neutral gender in paras (2), (8) (b), (e) and (f) and (14).

Drafting amendments in paras (4) and (5).

Deletion in para (5) to give flexibility to Speaker.

Extension of notice period in para (8) to give more time for the practicalities of the preparation of ballots.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SO No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>122C</td>
<td>Resignation or removal of chairs of select committees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Election of Chair of Backbench Business Committee

122D.—(1) (a) The election of the chair of the Backbench Business Committee shall take place at the start of each session on a day to be determined by the Speaker.

(b) Nominations of candidates shall be in writing and shall be received by the Clerk of the House between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm on the day two sitting days before the day appointed for election.

(c) No member may be a candidate for the chair of the committee if that Member’s party is represented in Her Majesty’s Government.

(d) Each nomination shall consist of a signed statement made by the candidate declaring their willingness to stand for election, accompanied by the signatures of not fewer than twenty nor more than twenty-five Members, of whom no fewer than ten shall be members of a party represented in Her Majesty’s Government and no fewer than ten shall be members of a party not so represented or of no party.

(e) No Member may sign the statement of more than one candidate.

(f) As soon as practicable following the close of nominations, a list of the candidates and their accompanying signatories shall be published.

(g) Arrangements for the election shall follow those set out in paragraphs (9) to (14) of Standing Order No. 122B (Election of select committee chairs), save that in sub-paragraph (11)(e) the opening hours of the ballot shall be between 11.00 am and 1.00 pm and in paragraph (12) reference to variation of timings shall be read as applying also to the timings in sub-paragraph (b) and (g) of this paragraph.

(2) Standing Order No. 122C (Resignation or removal of chairs of select committees) shall apply to the chair of the Backbench Business Committee, save for paragraph (2) of that Order; and any election following a vacancy in the chair shall be held under the provisions of paragraph (1)(b) to (g) above.

Extension of notice period in para (1) to give more time for the practicalities of the preparation of ballots.
Sittings of committees

123. All committees, other than committees of the whole House, shall have leave to sit at any time on any day on which the House sits, but may not otherwise sit during any adjournment of the House, without the leave of the House, and such leave shall not be moved for without notice. Any select committee shall have leave to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, unless the House otherwise orders.

Simplification, given provisions in SOs on Select Committees.
Quorum of select committees.

124.—(1) Except as otherwise provided, the quorum of a select committee shall be three or a quarter of the number of its members, whichever is the greater; and in calculating the quorum fractions shall be counted as one.

(2) Where more than two select committees or sub-committees thereof meet concurrently pursuant to subparagraphs (1)(b) or (1)(ba) of Standing Order No. 137A (Select committees: power to work with other committees), the quorum of each shall be two.

(3) A select committee may not proceed to business unless a quorum be present; and if at any time during the sitting of a select committee a quorum shall not be present, the clerk of the committee shall bring this fact to the notice of the chair, who shall thereupon suspend the proceedings of the committee until a quorum be present, or adjourn the committee.

(4) In determining whether the requisite number of Members is present to form the quorum the chair shall be counted.

Drafting amendments in paras (2) and (3).
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<td>Select committees (admission of the public)</td>
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Withdrawal of Members from meetings of select committees.

126. If any select committee, or sub-committee thereof, considers that the presence at a meeting, or part of a meeting, of that committee to which the public are not admitted of any specified Member of the House not nominated to that committee would obstruct the business of the committee, it shall have power to direct such Member to withdraw forthwith; and the Serjeant at Arms shall act on such instructions as he may receive from the chair of the committee in pursuance of this order.
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<td>Entry on formal minutes of select committee</td>
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129. The formal minutes of a select committee shall be reported to the House during the session to which they relate, unless the committee proposes to bring them up with a report in a following session of the same Parliament. The formal minutes of a select committee may be published without first being reported to the House.

Redraft and amendment to title to reflect existing practice.
Entry on the record of evidence of select committee

130. The names of Members present at each sitting of a select committee shall be entered on the record of the evidence, if any.

Obsolete.
Entry of questions asked

131. To every question or series of questions asked of a witness in the proceedings of a select committee, there shall be prefixed the name of the inquiring Member.

Obsolete.
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Power to report opinion and observations

133. Every select committee shall have leave to report to the House its opinion and observations upon any matters referred to it for its consideration within its order of reference, together with the evidence taken before it, and also to make a special report of any matters which it may think fit to bring to the notice of the House.

Drafting amendment to reflect current practice.
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<td>Publication of evidence (select committees)</td>
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Select committees (adjournment of the House)

137. Whenever the House stands adjourned for more than two days, and any select committee having power to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House shall have agreed to a report, or shall have resolved that its formal minutes should be printed or that the evidence taken before it or before any sub-committee appointed by it or any papers laid before it should be reported to the House and printed, published, it shall have power to direct the printing, publication of such report, minutes or papers, and such printing, publication shall be under the authority of the House; and any such reports, minutes or papers shall be deemed to have been reported to the House and shall be reported when the House next sits.

Change of ‘printing’ to ‘publication’ to reflect current practice.

Deletion of references to formal minutes to reflect current practice.
Select committees: power to work with other committees

137A.—(1) Any select committee or sub-committee with power to send for persons, papers and records shall have power—

(a) to communicate its evidence to any other select committee or sub-committee of either House of Parliament or to the Scottish Parliament, the National Assembly for Wales or the Northern Ireland Assembly or to any of their committees; provided that evidence from the National Audit Office shall first have been agreed between that Office and the government department or departments concerned;

(b) to meet concurrently with any committee or sub-committee of either House of Parliament for the purpose of deliberating or taking evidence;

(ba) to agree with any other select committee or subcommittee of this House on the exercise of any power which each of those committees, or sub-committees may separately have to appoint specialist advisers, to authorise witnesses to publish written evidence submitted by them, or to adjourn from place to place;

(c) to meet concurrently with any other select committee of this House for the purpose of considering a draft report and to agree amendments to any such draft report; and

(d) to agree in the choice of a chair for any concurrent meetings.

(2) Where two or more select committees have agreed reports to the House in identical terms, those reports may be published as a joint report.

(3) Each of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee, the Scottish Affairs Committee and the Welsh Affairs Committee may invite members of any specified committee of National Assembly for Wales, the respective devolved Parliament or Assembly to attend and participate in its proceedings (but not to vote).

Addition in para (1)(c) to allow committees to agree joint reports jointly.

Addition in para (3) to extend Welsh Affairs Committee’s power to invite members of devolved legislatures to participate to the other territorials.

NB Para 1(a) is largely obsolete but is theoretically needed for unreported (eg confidential) memoranda.
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Administration Committee

139.—(1) There shall be a select committee, to be called the Administration Committee, to consider the services provided for and by the House and to make recommendations thereon to the House of Commons Commission or to the Speaker. Any such recommendation whose implementation would incur additional expenditure charged to the Estimate for House of Commons: Administration shall also be considered by the Finance and Services Committee.

(2) The committee shall make rules and give directions to Officers of the House in respect only of such administrative matters as may from time to time be determined by the Speaker or by the House of Commons Commission.

(3) The committee shall consist of not more than sixteen Members, of whom five shall be a quorum.

(4) The committee shall have power—

(a) to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report from time to time;

(b) to appoint specialist advisers either to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the committee’s order of reference; and

(c) to communicate its evidence to the House of Commons Commission.

(5) The committee shall have power to appoint subcommittees and to refer to such subcommittees any of the matters referred to the committee and to delegate to such subcommittees any of the powers delegated to the committee under paragraph (2) above.

(6) Any such sub-committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place and to report from time to time its formal minutes, and shall have a quorum of three.

(7) The committee and any sub-committee appointed by it shall have the assistance of the relevant officials of the House appropriate to the matters under consideration.

(8) Unless the House otherwise orders, each Member nominated to the committee shall continue to be a member of it for the remainder of the Parliament.

Drafting changes in paras (1), (2) and (7).
Deletion of para (8) because of addition to SO No. 121.
Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills

140.—(1) There shall be a select committee, to consist of twelve Members, to join with the committee appointed by the Lords as the Joint Committee on Consolidation, &c., Bills to consider—

(a) consolidation bills, whether public or private;

(b) Statute Law Revision Bills;

(c) bills prepared pursuant to the Consolidation of Enactments (Procedure) Act 1949, together with any memoranda laid pursuant to that Act and any representations made with respect thereto;

(d) bills to consolidate any enactments with amendments to give effect to recommendations made by one or both of the Law Commissions, together with any report containing such recommendations;

(e) bills prepared by one or both of the Law Commissions to promote the reform of the statute law by the repeal, in accordance with Law Commission recommendations, of certain enactments which (except in so far as their effect is preserved) are no longer of practical utility, whether or not they make other provision in connection with the repeal of those enactments, together with any Law Commission report on any such bill; and

(f) any Order in Council laid or laid in draft before the House where an affirmative resolution is required before it is made, or is a condition of its continuance in operation, and which but for the provisions of the Northern Ireland Act 1974 would, in the opinion of the committee, have been enacted by a consolidation bill, whether public or private, or by a Statute Law Revision Bill.

(2) The committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records; and to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House.

(3) Two shall be the quorum of the committee.

(4) Unless the House otherwise orders, each Member nominated to the committee shall continue to be a member of it for the remainder of the Parliament.

Drafting amendments in para (1)(c).
Deletion of obsolete para (1)(f), which brings SO in line with Lords equivalent.
Deletion of para (4) because of addition to SO No. 121.
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except for deletion of language in para (10) of SO No. 141 on Members remaining for length of Parliament, because of addition to SO No. 121.
European Scrutiny Committee

143.—(1) There shall be a select committee, to be called the European Scrutiny Committee, to examine European Union documents and—

(a) to report its opinion on the legal and political importance of each such document and, where it considers appropriate, to report also on the reasons for its opinion and on any matters of principle, policy or law which may be affected;

(b) to make recommendations for the further consideration of any such document pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Committees); and

(c) to consider any issue arising upon any such document or group of documents, or related matters.

The expression ‘European Union document’ in this order and in Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents), No. 89 (Procedure in general committees) and No. 119 (European Committees) means—

(i) any proposal under the Community Treaties for legislation by the Council or the Council acting jointly with the European Parliament;

(ii) any document which is published for submission to the European Council, the Council or the European Central Bank;

(iii) any proposal for a common strategy, a joint action or a common position under Title V of the Treaty on European Union which is prepared for submission to the Council or to the European Council;

(iv) any proposal for a common position, framework decision, decision or a convention under Title VI of the Treaty on European Union which is prepared for submission to the Council;

(v) any document (not falling within (ii), (iii) or (iv) above) which is published by one Union institution for or with a view to submission to another Union institution and which does not relate exclusively to consideration of any proposal for legislation;

(vi) any other document relating to European Union matters deposited in the House by a Minister of the Crown.

(2) The committee shall consist of sixteen Members.

(3) The committee and any sub-committee appointed by it shall have the assistance of the Counsel to the Speaker.

(4) The committee shall have power to appoint specialist advisers either to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the committee’s order of reference.
(5) The committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report from time to time.

(6) The quorum of the committee shall be five.

(7) The committee shall have power to appoint subcommittees and to refer to such sub-committees any of the matters referred to the committee.

(8) Every such sub-committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report to the committee from time to time.

(9) The committee shall have power to report from time to time the evidence taken before such sub-committees.

(10) The quorum of every such sub-committee shall be two.

(11) The committee shall have power to seek from any committee specified in paragraph (12) of this order its opinion on any European Union document, and to require a reply to such a request within such time as it may specify.

(12) The committees specified for the purposes of this order are those appointed under Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) including any sub-committees of such committees, the Select Committee on Public Administration, the Committee of Public Accounts, and the Environmental Audit Committee.

(13) Unless the House otherwise orders, each Member nominated to the committee shall continue to be a member of it for the remainder of the Parliament.

Drafting amendment in para (1)(b).
Deletion of para (13) because of addition to SO No. 121.
House Finance and Services Committee

144.—(1) There shall be a select committee, to be called the House Finance and Services Committee, to consider expenditure on and the administration of services provided from the Estimates for the House of Commons and—

(a) with the assistance of the Management Board, to prepare the Estimates for House of Commons: Administration for submission to the House of Commons Commission;

(b) with the assistance of the Accounting Officer, to prepare the Estimates for House of Commons: Members for submission to the Members Estimate Committee;

(c) to monitor the financial performance of the House Administration; and

(d) to report to the House of Commons Commission and the Members Estimate Committee or the Speaker on the financial and administrative implications of recommendations made to them by other Committees of the House.

(2) The committee shall consist of not more than eleven Members.

(3) The committee shall be assisted by the Accounting Officer and by other officials of the House appropriate to the matters under consideration.

(4) The committee shall have power—

(a) to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report from time to time; and

(b) to communicate its evidence to the House of Commons Commission or the Members Estimate Committee as appropriate.

(5) Unless the House otherwise orders, all Members nominated to the committee shall continue to be members of the committee for the remainder of the Parliament.

Change of name to reflect remit of committee more accurately

Drafting amendment in para 3

Deletion of para (5) because of addition to SO No. 121.
Liaison Committee

145.—(1) A select committee shall be appointed, to be called the Liaison Committee—

(a) to consider general matters relating to the work of select committees,

(b) to give such advice relating to the work of select committees as may be sought by the House of Commons Commission, and

(c) to report to the House its choice of determine the select committee reports to be debated on such days as may be appointed by the Speaker under paragraph (15) of Standing Order No. 10 (Sittings in Westminster Hall).

(2) The committee may also hear evidence from the Prime Minister on matters of public policy.

(3) The committee shall report its recommendations as to the allocation of time for and subjects of consideration by the House of the estimates on any day or half day which may be allotted for that purpose; and upon a motion being made that the House do agree agrees with any such report the question shall be put forthwith and, if that question is agreed to, the recommendations shall have effect as if they were orders of the House:

Proceedings in pursuance of under this paragraph, though opposed, may be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business under the moment of interruption.

(4) The committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, and to report from time to time.

(5) Unless the House otherwise orders, each Member nominated to the committee shall continue to be a member of it for the remainder of the Parliament.

(6) The committee shall have power to appoint two subcommittees, one of which shall be a National Policy Statements sub-committee.

(7) A National Policy Statements sub-committee—

(a) shall be composed of—

(i) those members of the committee who are members of the Communities and Local Government, Energy and Climate Change, Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Transport and Welsh Affairs Committees; and

(ii) up to two other members of the committee, one of whom shall be appointed chair of the subcommittee;

(b) shall report to the committee on the use of the committee’s powers under paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 152H (Planning: national policy statements); and

(c) may report to the committee on matters relating to national policy statements under the Planning Act 2008.
(8) Each sub-committee shall have—

(a) a quorum of three; and

(b) power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, and to report to the committee from time to time.

(9) The committee shall have power to report from time to time the minutes of evidence taken before any sub-committee.

(10) The quorum of the committee shall be as provided in Standing Order No. 124 (Quorum of select committees), save that for consideration of a report from a National Policy Statements sub-committee under sub-paragraph (7)(b) the quorum shall be three.

Amendment in para (1)(c) to reflect existing practice
Drafting amendments in paras (1)(c) and (3).  
Addition in para (3) to reflect existing practice.
Deletion of para (5) because of addition to SO No. 121.
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except for deletion of para on Members remaining for length of Parliament, because of addition to SO No. 121.
Lay members of the Committee on Standards: appointment, etc.

149A.—(1) Lay members shall be appointed to the Committee on Standards by a resolution of the House on a motion made under the provisions of this order and shall remain as lay members in accordance with the provisions of this order.

(2) No person may be first appointed as a lay member if that person is or has been a Member of this House or a Member of the House of Lords; and any person so appointed shall cease to be a lay member upon becoming a Member of this House or of the House of Lords.

(3) No person may be appointed as a lay member unless that person has been selected on the basis of a fair and open competition.

(4) A person appointed as a lay member may resign as a lay member by giving notice to the House of Commons Commission.

(5) A person appointed as a lay member shall be dismissed from that position only following a resolution of the House, after the House of Commons Commission has reported that it is satisfied that the person should cease to be a lay member; and any such report shall include a statement of the Commission’s reasons for its conclusion.

(6) Subject to the provisions of paragraphs (2), (4) and (5) of this order, a person appointed as a lay member shall continue as a lay member for the remainder of the Parliament in which that person was first appointed.

(7) A person first appointed as a lay member who has been a lay member for the remainder of one Parliament may be reappointed by a resolution of the House in the subsequent Parliament, and the provisions of paragraph (3) of this order shall not apply to any such re-appointment. The period of reappointment shall be specified in the resolution of the House for re-appointment and shall not exceed two years from the dissolution of the Parliament in which the person was first appointed as a lay member, and a resolution under this paragraph shall cease to have effect on the dissolution of the Parliament in which the resolution of the House for reappointment was made.

(8) No person may be re-appointed as a lay member other than in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (7) of this order.

(9) No motion may be made under the provisions of this order unless—

(a) notice of the motion has been given at least two sitting days previously, and

(b) the motion is made on behalf of the House of Commons Commission by a Member of the Commission.

(10) The Speaker shall put the questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on motions made under the provisions of this order not later than one hour after the commencement of those proceedings.
(11) Business to which this order applies may be proceeded with at any hour, though opposed after the moment of interruption.

Drafting amendment in paras (10) and 11.
**Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards**

150.—(1) There shall be an Officer of this House, called the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, who shall be appointed by the House.

(2) The principal duties of the Commissioner shall be—

   (a) to maintain the Register of Members’ Financial Interests and any other registers of interest established by the House, and to make such arrangements for the compilation, maintenance and accessibility of those registers as are approved by the Committee on Standards or an appropriate sub-committee thereof;

   (b) to provide advice confidentially to Members and other persons or bodies subject to registration on matters relating to the registration of individual interests;

   (c) to advise the Committee on Standards, its sub-committees and individual Members on the interpretation of any code of conduct to which the House has agreed and on questions of propriety;

   (d) to monitor the operation of such code and registers, and to make recommendations thereon to the Committee on Standards or an appropriate sub-committee thereof; and

   (e) to investigate, if he or she thinks fit, specific matters which have come to his or her attention relating to the conduct of Members and to report to the Committee on Standards or to an appropriate sub-committee thereof, unless the provisions of paragraph (4) apply.

(3) In determining whether to investigate a specific matter relating to the conduct of a Member the Commissioner shall have regard to whether in his or her view there is sufficient evidence that the Code of Conduct or the rules relating to registration or declaration of interests may have been breached to justify taking the matter further.

(4) No report shall be made by the Commissioner—

   (a) in any case where the Member concerned has agreed that he or she has failed to register or declare an interest, if it is the Commissioner’s opinion that the interest involved is minor, or the failure was inadvertent, and the Member concerned has taken such action by way of rectification as the Commissioner may have required within any procedure approved by the Committee for this purpose; and

   (b) in any case involving parliamentary allowances, or the use of facilities or services, if the Commissioner has with the agreement of the Member concerned referred the matter to the relevant Officer of the House for the purpose of securing appropriate financial reimbursement, and the Member has made such reimbursement within such period of time as the Commissioner considers reasonable.
(5) The Commissioner may at any time in the course of investigating a complaint, and if so requested by the Committee on Standards shall, appoint an Investigatory Panel to assist him/her in establishing the facts relevant to the investigation.

(6) An Investigatory Panel shall—

(a) consist of the Commissioner, who shall be Chair of the Panel, and two assessors, one of whom shall be a legally qualified person appointed by the Commissioner and the other shall be a Member, who shall not be a member of the Committee on Standards, appointed by the Speaker; and

(b) meet in private.

(7) The Commissioner—

(a) shall determine the procedures of the Panel, subject to the provisions of this order; and

(b) may appoint counsel for the purpose of assisting the Panel.

(8) Any report that the Commissioner may have made to the Committee on Standards in relation to the complaint before the appointment of the Panel shall be made available to the Panel by the Committee.

(9) Any Member who is the subject of the complaint under investigation shall, if he or she so requests, be heard by the Panel; may call witnesses; and may examine other witnesses.

(10) When the Panel has completed its proceedings—

(a) the Commissioner shall report as in paragraph (2)(e); and

(b) the legal assessor shall report to the Committee on Standards his or her opinion as to the extent to which its proceedings have been consistent with the principles of natural justice; and

(c) the Member assessor may report to the Committee on Standards his or her opinion as to the extent to which its proceedings have had regard to the customs and practice of the House and its Members.

(11) The Commissioner shall report each year to the House on the exercise by him of his, her of her functions.

(12) The Commissioner shall have leave to publish from time to time—

(a) information and papers relating to—

(i) matters resolved in accordance with paragraph (4) of this order; and

(ii) complaints not upheld;
(b) information about complaints received and matters under investigation.

(13) The Commissioner may be dismissed only following a resolution of the House, moved for by a Member of the House of Commons Commission, after the Committee on Standards has reported to the House that it is satisfied that the Commissioner is unfit to hold his her office or unable to carry out his her functions; and any such report shall include a statement of the Committee’s reasons for its conclusion.

Paras (2)(e), (3), (5), (11) and (13), amend to 'she' and 'her' to reflect gender of office-holder.

Additions for neutral gender in paras (4(a), (9) and (10)(a) and (b).

Drafting amendment in para (4)(b).
Statutory Instruments (Joint Committee).

151.—(1) A select committee shall be appointed to join with a committee appointed by the Lords to consider—

(A) every instrument which is laid before each House of Parliament and upon which proceedings may be or might have been taken in either House of Parliament, in pursuance of under an Act of Parliament, being—

(a) a statutory instrument, or a draft statutory instrument;

(b) a scheme, or an amendment of a scheme, or a draft thereof, requiring approval by statutory instrument;

(c) any other instrument (whether or not in draft), where the proceedings in pursuance of under an Act of Parliament are proceedings by way of an affirmative resolution; or

(d) an order subject to special parliamentary procedure;

but excluding any remedial order or draft remedial order under Schedule 2 to the Human Rights Act 1998, any draft order proposed to be made under Part 1 of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006, any draft order laid before the House under or by virtue of section 7 or 19 of the Localism Act 2011 or section 5E of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 and any subordinate provisions order made or proposed to be made under the Regulatory Reform Act 2001;

(B) every general statutory instrument not within the foregoing classes, and not within paragraph (10) of this order, but not including any Scottish statutory instrument or any statutory instrument made by the Welsh Ministers unless it is required to be laid before Parliament or either House of Parliament and not including measures under the Church of England Assembly (Powers) Act 1919 and instruments made under such measures:

with a view to determining whether the special attention of the House should be drawn to it on any of the following grounds—

(i) that it imposes a charge on the public revenues or contains provisions requiring payments to be made to the Exchequer or any government department or to any local or public authority in consideration of any licence or consent or of any services to be rendered, or prescribes the amount of any such charge or payment;

(ii) that it is made in pursuance of under any enactment containing specific provisions excluding it from challenge in the courts, either at all times or after the expiration of a specific period;
(iii) that it purports to have retrospective effect where the parent statute confers no express authority so to provide;

(iv) that there appears to have been unjustifiable delay in the publication or in the laying of it before Parliament;

(v) that there appears to have been unjustifiable delay in sending a notification under the proviso to section 4(1) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946, where an instrument has come into operation before it has been laid before Parliament;

(vi) that there appears to be a doubt whether it is *intra vires* or that it appears to make some unusual or unexpected use of the powers conferred by the statute under which it is made;

(vii) that for any special reason its form or purport calls for elucidation;

(viii) that its drafting appears to be defective;

or on any other ground which does not impinge on its merits or on the policy behind it; and to report its decision with the reasons thereof in any particular case.

(2) The quorum of the committee shall be two.

(3) The committee shall have power to appoint one or more sub-committees severally to join with any sub-committee or sub-committees appointed by the committee appointed by the Lords; and to refer to such sub-committee or sub-committees any of the matters referred to the committee.

(4) The committee and any sub-committee appointed by it shall have the assistance of the Counsel to the Speaker and, if their Lordships think fit, of the Counsel to the Lord Chairman of Committees.

(5) The committee shall have power to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House and to report from time to time, and any sub-committee appointed by it shall have power to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House.

(6) The committee and any sub-committee appointed by it shall have power to require any government department concerned to submit a memorandum explaining any instrument which may be under its consideration or to depute a representative to appear before it as a witness for the purpose of explaining any such instrument.

(7) The committee and any sub-committee appointed by it shall have power to take evidence, written or oral, from Her Majesty’s Stationery Office, relating to the printing and publication of any instrument.
(8) The committee shall have power to report to the House from time to time any memorandum submitted to it or other evidence taken before it or any sub-committee appointed by it from any government department in explanation of any instruments.

(9) It shall be an instruction to the committee that before reporting that the special attention of the House be drawn to any instrument the committee do afford to any government department concerned therewith an opportunity of furnishing orally or in writing to it or to any sub-committee appointed by it such explanations as the department think fit.

(10) It shall be an instruction to the committee that it shall consider any instrument which is directed by Act of Parliament to be laid before and to be subject to proceedings in this House only, being—

(a) a statutory instrument, or a draft of a statutory instrument;

(b) a scheme, or an amendment to a scheme, or a draft thereof, requiring approval by statutory instrument; or

(c) any other instrument (whether or not in draft), where the proceedings in pursuance of an Act of Parliament are proceedings by way of an affirmative resolution; and that it have power to draw such instruments to the special attention of the House on any of the grounds on which the Joint Committee is empowered so to draw the special attention of the House;

and that in considering any such instrument the committee do not join with the committee appointed by the Lords.

(11) Unless the House otherwise orders, each Member nominated to the committee shall continue to be a member of it for the remainder of the Parliament.

Drafting amendments in paras (1)(A), (1)(A)(c) and (1)(B)(ii).

Deletion in para (7) to reflect current practice.

Deletion of para (11) because of addition to SO No. 121.
Select committees related to government departments

152.—(1) Select committees shall be appointed to examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the principal government departments as set out in paragraph (2) of this order and associated public bodies.

(2) The committees appointed under paragraph (1) of this order, the principal departments of government with which they are concerned and the maximum numbers of each committee shall be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Committee</th>
<th>Principal government departments concerned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Business, Innovation and Skills</td>
<td>Department for Business, Innovation and Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Communities and Local Government</td>
<td>Department for Communities and Local Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Culture, Media and Sport</td>
<td>Department for Culture, Media and Sport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Defence</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Education</td>
<td>Department for Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Energy and Climate Change</td>
<td>Department of Energy and Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</td>
<td>Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>Foreign and Commonwealth Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Health</td>
<td>Department of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Home Affairs</td>
<td>Home Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 International Development</td>
<td>Department for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Justice</td>
<td>Ministry of Justice (including the work of staff provided for the administrative work of courts and tribunals, but excluding consideration of individual cases and judicial appointments, and excluding the work of the Scotland and Wales Offices and of the Advocate General for Scotland); and administration and expenditure of the Attorney General’s Office, the Treasury Solicitor’s Department, the Crown Prosecution Service and the Serious Fraud Office (but excluding individual cases and judicial appointments and advice given within government by Law Officers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Northern Ireland Affairs</td>
<td>Northern Ireland Office, including relations with the Northern Ireland Assembly: administration and expenditure of the Crown Solicitor’s Office (but excluding individual cases and advice given by the Crown Solicitor); and other matters within the responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (but excluding the expenditure, administration and policy of the Office of the Director of Public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Science and Technology</td>
<td>Government Office for Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Scottish Affairs</td>
<td>Scotland Office (including (i) relations with the Scottish Parliament and (ii) administration and expenditure of the offices of the Advocate General for Scotland (but excluding individual cases and advice given within government by the Advocate General))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Transport</td>
<td>Department for Transport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Treasury</td>
<td>Treasury, HM Revenue &amp; Customs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Welsh Affairs</td>
<td>Wales Office (including relations with the National Assembly for Wales)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Work and Pensions</td>
<td>Department for Work and Pensions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) Each select committee appointed under this order shall have the power to appoint a sub-committee.

(4) Select committees appointed under this order shall have power—

   (a) to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report from time to time;

   (b) to appoint specialist advisers either to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the committee’s order of reference; and

   (c) to report from time to time the evidence taken before sub-committees, and the formal minutes of sub-committees; and the sub-committees appointed under this order shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, to report from time to time their formal minutes, and shall have a quorum of three.

(5) Unless the House otherwise orders, all Members nominated to a committee appointed under this order shall continue to be members of that committee for the remainder of the Parliament.

(6) If a motion in the name of a Minister of the Crown makes changes to paragraph (2) of this Order which are consequential on changes to the machinery of government, then the questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the motion shall be put not later than one and a half hours after their commencement; proceedings on the motion shall be exempted business; and Standing Order No. 41A (Deferred divisions) shall not apply.
Addition to Justice Committee to make clear that scrutiny of non-judicial appointments is within its remit.

Amendment to Northern Ireland Committee terms of reference to bring into line with other devolved committees and to delete responsibilities that no longer fall to NIO.

Addition of provision (taken from SO No. 122B(4)) to simplify procedure on changes following machinery of government changes.

Deletion of para (5) because of addition to SO No. 121.
**NO CHANGE TO:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SO No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>152A</td>
<td>Environmental Audit Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>152B</td>
<td>Human rights (Joint Committee)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>152C</td>
<td>Tax law rewrite (Joint Committee)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

except for deletion of para on Members remaining for length of Parliament, because of addition to SO No. 121.
House of Commons Members Estimate Committee.

152D.—(1) There shall be a committee of this House, called the House of Commons Members Estimate Committee.

(2) The members of the committee shall be those Members who are at any time members of the House of Commons Commission pursuant to section 1 of the House of Commons (Administration) Act 1978; the Speaker shall be chair of the committee; and three shall be the quorum of the committee.

(3) The functions of the committee shall be—

(a) to agree the Estimates for House of Commons: Members;

(b) to codify and keep under review the provisions of the resolutions of this House relating to expenditure charged to the Estimate for House of Commons: Members;

(c) to modify those provisions from time to time as the committee may think necessary or desirable in the interests of clarity, consistency, accountability and effective administration, and conformity with current circumstances;

(d) to provide advice, when requested by the Speaker, on the application of those provisions in individual cases;

(e) to carry out the responsibilities conferred on the Speaker by the resolution of the House of 5 July 2001 relating to Members’ Allowances, Insurance, &c.

(4) Paragraph (3)(c) above does not empower the committee—

(a) to create a new form of charge on the Estimate for House of Commons: Members; or

(b) to increase any rate of charge or payment determined by resolution of this House.

(5) The committee shall report to the House from time to time, and in any case not less than once a year, the provisions of the resolutions of this House relating to expenditure charged to the Estimate for House of Commons: Members, as codified and modified pursuant to paragraph (3) of this order.

(6) The committee shall have power to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House.

Drafting amendments in paras (2) and (5).
Members of the Intelligence and Security Committee

152E.—(1) The Committee of Selection may propose that certain Members be recommended to the Prime Minister for appointment to the Intelligence and Security Committee under section 10 of the Intelligence Services Act 1994.

(2) No Motion may be made for the House to agree to a proposal under this order unless—

(a) notice of it has been given at least two sitting days previously; and

(b) it is made on behalf of the Committee of Selection by the chair or another member of the committee.

(3) Paragraph (1)(c) of Standing Order No. 15 (Exempted business) shall apply to any motion made under this Order.

Delete because procedure for nomination of members of the Committee was changed by the Justice and Security Act 2013; the current Standing Order was therefore not used in the last nomination.
Standing Order No. 152F expired in April 2010

NO CHANGE TO:

SO No. Title
152G Committee on Members’ expenses

except for deletion of para (3) on Members remaining for length of Parliament, because of addition to SO No. 121.
Planning: national policy statements

152H.—(1) Whenever a proposal for a national policy statement is laid before this House under section 9(2) of the Planning Act 2008 (‘the Act’), the Liaison Committee shall report either—

(a) that it has designated a select committee appointed under Standing Order No. 152, or

(b) that it recommends the appointment of a National Policy Statement Committee to consider the proposal.

(1A) The motion for the nomination of members of a National Policy Statement Committee shall be made on behalf of the Liaison Committee by the chair or another member of the committee.

(2) A National Policy Statement Committee—

(a) shall be composed of not fewer than seven nor more than fourteen members, all of whom shall be, at the time of nomination, members of one or more of the following select committees—

Communities and Local Government

Energy and Climate Change

Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Transport

Welsh Affairs;

(b) shall have power—

(i) to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place within the UK; and

(ii) to appoint specialist advisers either to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the committee’s order of reference; and

(c) may report from time to time and shall cease to exist when the relevant national policy statement is designated.

(3) A committee designated or appointed to consider a proposal for a national policy statement shall have power, in the course of its proceedings under this order, to invite Members of the House who are not members of the committee to attend, and, at the discretion of the chair, take part in, its proceedings, but such Members may not move any motion or amendment to any motion or draft report, nor vote nor be counted in the quorum of the committee.
Addition of provision from simplified SO No. 121
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SO No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>152I</td>
<td>National Security Strategy (Joint Committee)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

except for deletion of para (4) on Members remaining for length of Parliament, because of addition to SO No. 121.
Backbench Business Committee

152J.—(1) There shall be a select committee, called the Backbench Business Committee, to determine the backbench business to be taken in the House and in Westminster Hall on days, or parts of days, allotted for backbench business.

(2) The committee shall consist of a chair and seven other Members, of whom four shall be a quorum.

(3) The chair of the committee shall continue as chair for the remainder of the Session in which that person is elected as chair unless the chair is declared vacant by the Speaker under the provisions of Standing Order No. 122C (Resignation or removal of chairs of select committees) as applied by paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 122D (Election of chair of Backbench Business Committee).

(4) The chair of the committee shall be elected in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 122D (Election of chair of Backbench Business Committee).

(5) No Member who is a Minister of the Crown or parliamentary private secretary or a principal opposition frontbench spokesperson shall be eligible to be the chair or a member of the committee: the Speaker’s decision shall be final on such matters.

5A) The committee shall have power to report from time to time.

(6) The committee shall have power to invite Government officials to attend all or part of any of its meetings and to hear representations from Members in public.

(7) The Committee shall have power to invite Members of the House who are not members of the Committee and who are of a party not represented on the Committee or of no party to attend its meetings and, at the discretion of the chair, take part in its proceedings, but—

(a) no more than one Member may be so invited to attend in respect of the same meeting;

(b) a Member so invited shall not move any motion or amendment to any motion, vote or be counted in the quorum.

(8) The committee shall determine the backbench business to be taken—

(a) in the House on any day, or any part of any day, allotted under paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 14 (Arrangement of public business), and

(b) in Westminster Hall, in accordance with paragraphs (4) and (5) of Standing Order No. 10 (Sittings in Westminster Hall),

and shall report its determinations to the House.

Addition of reporting powers, to reflect current practice.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SO No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>152K</td>
<td>Public Bodies: draft orders</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Presentation of petitions.

153. Each Member offering to present a petition to the House, not being a petition for a private bill, or relating to a private bill before the House, shall confine him or herself to a statement of the parties from whom it comes, the number of signatures attached to it, and the material allegations contained in it, and to reading the prayer of such petition.

Drafting amendment and addition for neutral gender.
Time and manner of presenting petitions

154.—(1) Every petition presented under Standing Order No. 153 (Presentation of petitions) not containing matter in breach of the privileges of this House, and which according to the rules or usual practice of this House can be received, shall be presented after a member of the government Minister of the Crown shall have signified his or her intention to move ‘That this House do now adjourn’, for the purpose of bringing ending the sitting to a conclusion.

(2) Proceedings under paragraph (1) of this order shall not be interrupted at the moment of interruption.

(3) The Speaker shall not allow any debate, or any Member to speak upon, or in relation to, such petition; but it may be read by the Clerk if required.

Drafting amendments and addition for neutral gender in para (1).
NO CHANGE TO:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SO No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>155</td>
<td>Petition as to present personal grievance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>156</td>
<td>Publishing of petitions and ministerial replies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Petitions against imposition of tax

157. Petitions against any resolution or bill imposing a tax or duty for the current service of the year shall be henceforth received, and the usage under which the House has refused to entertain such petitions shall be discontinued.

Obsolete
Presentation of command papers

158. If, during the existence of a Parliament, papers are commanded by Her Majesty to be presented to this House at any time, the delivery of such papers to the Votes and Proceedings Office shall be deemed to be for all purposes the presentation of them to this House.

Presentation of statutory instruments.

159. Where, under any Act of Parliament, a statutory instrument is required to be laid before Parliament, or before this House, the delivery of a copy of such instrument to the Votes and Proceedings Office on any day during the existence of a Parliament shall be deemed to be for all purposes the laying of it before the House:

Provided that nothing in this order shall apply to any statutory instrument being an order which is subject to special parliamentary procedure or to any other instrument which is required to be laid before Parliament, or before this House, for any period before it comes into operation.

Presentation of command papers and statutory instruments

If a paper is commanded by Her Majesty to be presented to this House or a statutory instrument is required under any Act of Parliament to be laid before Parliament, or before this House, the delivery of such paper or instrument to the Journal Office on any day during the existence of a Parliament shall be deemed to be for all purposes the presentation or laying of it before the House:

Provided that nothing in this order shall apply to any statutory instrument being an order which is subject to special parliamentary procedure or to any other instrument which is required to be laid before Parliament, or before this House, for any period before it comes into operation.

Merger of two SOs for clarity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SO No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>160</td>
<td>Notification in respect of certain statutory instruments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Duties of Serjeant at Arms with respect to the public

161.—(1) The Serjeant at Arms attending this House shall take into his custody any member of the public whom he may see, or who may be reported to him to be, in any part of the House or gallery appropriated to the Members of this House, and also any member of the public who, having been admitted into any other part of the House or gallery, shall misconduct him—or herself, or shall not withdraw when the public are directed to withdraw, while the House, or any committee of the whole House, is sitting.

(2) The power conferred upon the Serjeant at Arms by paragraph (1) of this order may, if the chair so directs, be exercised in respect of members of the public present at sittings of committees or sittings in Westminster Hall.

Addition for neutral gender in para (1).

Addition to make explicit that SO also applies to Westminster Hall.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SO No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>162</td>
<td>Places to which the public are not admitted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Motions to sit in private

163.—(1) If at any sitting of the House, or in a committee of the whole House, any Member moves ‘That the House sit in private’ the Speaker or the chair shall forthwith put the question ‘That the House sit in private’, and such question, though opposed, may be decided after the expiration of the time for opposed business but such a Motion may be made no more than once in any sitting:

Provided that the Speaker or the chair may, whenever he or she thinks fit, order the withdrawal of those other than Members or Officers from any part of the House.

(2) An order under paragraph (1) of this order shall not apply to members of the House of Lords.

(3) When the House, or committee of the whole House, is sitting in private, at any time more than half an hour after a Motion to sit in private has been agreed to, whether or not the House or committee has been suspended during that time, a Member, with the consent of the Speaker or the chair, may move ‘That the House no longer sit in private’ and the Speaker or the chair shall forthwith put that question, and the question, though opposed, may be decided after the moment of interruption.

Addition for neutral gender and drafting amendments in para (1).

Addition of provisions for exiting private session.
**Matters sub judice**

*Resolved.* That, subject to the discretion of the Chair, and to the right of the House to legislate on any matter or to discuss any delegated legislation, the House in all its proceedings (including proceedings of committees of the House) shall apply the following rules on matters sub judice:

(1) Cases in which proceedings are active in United Kingdom courts shall not be referred to in any motion, debate or question.

   (a) (i) Criminal proceedings are active when a charge has been made or a summons to appear has been issued, or, in Scotland, a warrant to cite has been granted.

   (ii) Criminal proceedings cease to be active when they are concluded by verdict and sentence or discontinuance, or, in cases dealt with by courts martial, after the conclusion of the mandatory posttrial review.

   (b) (i) Civil proceedings are active when arrangements for the hearing, such as setting down a case for trial, have been made, until the proceedings are ended by judgment or discontinuance.

   (ii) Any application made in or for the purposes of any civil proceedings shall be treated as a distinct proceeding.

   (c) Appellate proceedings, whether criminal or civil, are active from the time when they are commenced by application for leave to appeal or by notice of appeal until ended by judgment or discontinuance.

But where a ministerial decision is in question, or in the opinion of the Chair a case concerns issues of national importance such as the economy, public order or the essential services, reference to the issues or the case may be made in motions, debates or questions.

(2) Specific matters which the House has expressly referred to any judicial body for decision and report shall not be referred to in any motion, debate or question, from the time when the Resolution of the House is passed until the report is laid before the House.

(3) For the purposes of this Resolution—

   (a) matters before coroner’s courts or fatal accident inquiries shall be treated as matters within paragraph (1)(a);

   (b) ‘Motion’ includes a motion for leave to bring in a bill; and

   (c) ‘Question’ includes a supplementary question.

*Deletions to reflect existing state of law (cleared by Speaker’s Counsel).*
NO CHANGE TO:

Resolution on Scrutiny of European Business
Resolved, That this House affirms the freedom of this Parliament to legislate for any part of the United Kingdom but recognises the convention that it will not normally legislate on matters falling within the legislative competence of the National Assembly for Wales, the Northern Ireland Assembly or the Scottish Parliament without the relevant legislature having previously signified its consent to such legislation.

That, subject always to the discretion of the Chair and in addition to the established rules of order on the form and content of questions, questions may not be tabled on matters for which responsibility has been devolved by legislation to the Scottish Parliament or the National Assembly for Wales unless the question—

(a) seeks information which the United Kingdom Government is empowered to require of the devolved executive, or

(b) relates to matters which—

   (i) are included in legislative proposals introduced or to be introduced in the United Kingdom Parliament,

   (ii) are concerned with the operation of a concordat or other instrument of liaison between the United Kingdom Government and the devolved executive, or

   (iii) United Kingdom Government ministers have taken an official interest in,

   or

   (c) presses for action by United Kingdom ministers in areas in which they retain administrative powers.

Change of title for clarification

New text to reflect current practice, and assurances made to devolved legislatures; deletion of rest of resolution, which is not applied.
NO CHANGE TO:

Resolution on Notice of amendments in public bill committees
Temporary Standing Order on Political and Constitutional Reform Committee
Temporary Standing Order on Liaison Committee (Membership)
NEW STANDING ORDER

Communications from other UK legislatures (legislative consent motions)

When any communication from the presiding officer of another United Kingdom legislature of a resolution or other proceeding of that legislature has been received by the Speaker, the Speaker shall report the communication to the House.

Regularisation of procedure and increase in transparency on legislative consent motions