



House of Lords

House of Commons

Joint Committee on
Human Rights

Minutes of Proceedings

Session 2007–08

Joint Committee on Human Rights

The Joint Committee on Human Rights is appointed by the House of Lords and the House of Commons to consider matters relating to human rights in the United Kingdom (but excluding consideration of individual cases); proposals for remedial orders, draft remedial orders and remedial orders.

The Joint Committee has a maximum of six Members appointed by each House, of whom the quorum for any formal proceedings is two from each House.

Current Membership

HOUSE OF LORDS

Lord Bowness (added 4.2.08)
Lord Dubs (added 13.11.07)
Lord Fraser of Carmyllie (discharged 4.2.08)
Lord Judd (discharged 13.11.07)
Lord Lester of Herne Hill
Lord Morris of Handsworth (added 13.11.07)
The Earl of Onslow
Lord Plant of Highfield (discharged 13.11.07)
Baroness Stern

HOUSE OF COMMONS

John Austin MP (Labour, *Erith and Thamesmead*) (added 8.11.07)
Mr Douglas Carswell MP (Conservative, *Harwich*) (discharged 13.10.08)
Mr Andrew Dismore MP (Labour, *Hendon*) (Chairman)
Nia Griffith MP (Labour, *Llanelli*) (discharged 8.11.07)
Dr Evan Harris MP (Liberal Democrat, *Oxford West & Abingdon*)
Mr Virendra Sharma MP (Labour, *Ealing, Southall*) (added 8.11.07)
Mr Richard Shepherd MP (Conservative, *Aldridge-Brownhills*)
Mark Tami MP (Labour, *Alyn and Deeside*) (discharged 8.11.07)
Mr Edward Timpson MP (Conservative, *Crewe and Nantwich*) (added 13.10.08)

Powers

The Committee has the power to require the submission of written evidence and documents, to examine witnesses, to meet at any time (except when Parliament is prorogued or dissolved), to adjourn from place to place, to appoint specialist advisers, and to make Reports to both Houses. The Lords Committee has power to agree with the Commons in the appointment of a Chairman.

Publications

The Reports and evidence of the Joint Committee are published by The Stationery Office by Order of the two Houses. All publications of the Committee (including press notices) are on the internet at www.parliament.uk/commons/selcom/hrhome.htm.

Staff

The staff of the Committee at the end of 2007-08 were: Mark Egan (Commons Clerk), Rebecca Neal (Lords Clerk), Murray Hunt (Legal Adviser), Angela Patrick and Joanne Sawyer (Committee Specialists), James Clarke (Senior Committee Assistant), Emily Gregory and John Porter (Committee Assistants) and John Turner (Lords Committee Assistant).

Contacts

All correspondence should be addressed to The Clerk of the Joint Committee on Human Rights, Committee Office, House of Commons, 7 Millbank, London SW1P 3JA. The telephone number for general inquiries is: 020 7219 2467; the Committee's e-mail address is jchr@parliament.uk.

Proceedings of the Committee

Monday 12 November 2007

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Judd Lord Lester of Herne Hill The Earl of Onslow Lord Plant of Highfield Baroness Stern	Dr Evan Harris MP Mr Virendra Sharma MP
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1. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Mr Virendra Sharma declared his interests (see Appendix).

Lord Lester of Herne Hill declared a non-pecuniary interest as an adviser to the Secretary of State for Justice on constitutional issues and the meaning of public authority in the Human Rights Act; and declared that he would take no further part in the UK Bill of Rights inquiry or in relation to legislative or pre-legislative scrutiny of issues on which he was advising the Secretary of State.

2. HUMAN RIGHTS OF ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

Ivan Lewis MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department of Health, and Anne McGuire MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department of Work and Pensions, were examined.

3. HUMAN RIGHTS OF OLDER PEOPLE IN HEALTHCARE: GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Draft Report (*Government Response to the Committee's Eighteenth Report of Session 2006-07: The Human Rights of Older People in Healthcare*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the First Report of the Committee, HC 72.

4. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

5. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Committee considered this matter.

6. TREATMENT OF ASYLUM SEEKERS

Ordered, That the written evidence relating to the treatment of asylum seekers submitted by Citizens Advice, the Immigration Law Practitioners' Association and the Refugee Council be reported to the House for publication.

[Adjourned till Monday 26 November at 4pm.]

Appendix – Declaration of Interests

Mr Virendra Sharma MP

6. Overseas visits

30 September-3 October 2007, to Cyprus, for study visit with Friends of Cyprus delegation. Accommodation costs, use of car and driver provided by the Republic of Cyprus House of Representatives. (Return flights to Cyprus paid for out of House of Commons European travel allowance.) (Registered 17 October 2007)

23-30 October 2007, visit to India including New Delhi and Mumbai, for International Parliamentarians of Indian origin event. Return Flight to India, Accommodation costs, meals and travel costs all met by the Ministry of External Affairs, India.

Sunday 18 November – 23 November

The Chairman, John Austin MP, Lord Dubs, Dr Evan Harris MP, Baroness Stern, the Lords Clerk, the Legal Adviser and the Committee Assistant visited South Africa, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 4 June.

Monday 26 November 2007

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
The Earl of Onslow	
Baroness Stern	

1. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Lord Morris of Handsworth declared his interests (see Appendix).

2. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

Michael Wills MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, and Edward Adams, Head, Human Rights Division, Ministry of Justice, were examined.

3. HUMAN RIGHTS OF ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

The Committee considered this matter.

4. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

5. WORKING PRACTICES AND FUTURE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the Chairman write to the Home Secretary about the compliance of contracted out services with the provisions of the Human Rights Act and related matters.

6. COMMITTEE PAPERS

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: PLS (07-08) 1 and 2, DIC 3, CTP 6, AS 135, BILLS (06-07) 109, STC 17 and 18, and the forthcoming letters from the Chairman on the Sale of Student Loans and Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bills.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to allegations of torture and inhuman treatment in Iraq be reported to the House for publication on the internet: UNCAT 11 and 15.

[Adjourned till Monday 3 December at 4pm.

Appendix – Declaration of Interests

Lord Morris of Handsworth

***12(f) Regular remunerated employment**

Chair, Midland Heart Housing Association

15(a) Membership of public bodies

Chancellor, Staffordshire University
 Chancellor, University of Technology, Jamaica
 Member of Court, Northampton University
 Member, Employment Appeal Tribunal
 Member Panel on Mergers and Takeovers

15(d) Office-holder in voluntary organisations

Board Member England & Wales Cricket Board

Monday 3 December 2007

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Dubs	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
The Earl of Onslow	Mr Richard Shepherd MP
Baroness Stern	

1. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Lord Dubs declared his interests (see Appendix).

2. BRITISH BILL OF RIGHTS

Professor Sandra Fredman, Professor in Law and Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford University, Martin Howe QC, member of the Conservative Party’s Policy Commission on a Bill of Rights, and Professor Francesca Klug, Professorial Research Fellow, Centre for the Study of Human Rights, London School of Economics; and Katie Ghose,

Director, British Institute for Human Rights, Jago Russell, Policy Officer, Liberty, and Roger Smith, Director, Justice, were examined.

3. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

4. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 9 and 10, PLS (07-08) 3 and 4, STC 19, CTP (07-08) 9 and the forthcoming letters from the Chairman on the Health and Social Care and Housing and Regeneration Bills.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to allegations of torture and inhuman treatment in Iraq be reported to the House for publication on the internet: UNCAT (07-08) 1.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the meaning of public authority be reported to the House for publication on the internet: MPA (07-08) 1.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to monitoring the Government response to court judgments finding breaches of human rights be reported to the House for publication on the internet: ECtHR 39, 40, 46, 47 and DEC 13.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 5 December at 9.30am.]

Appendix – Declaration of Interests

Lord Dubs

*12(f) Regular remunerated employment

Chairman, Code Panel, Association of Energy Suppliers

*12(i) Visits

Visit to Vietnam (18-25 September 2004) as guest of Vietnamese National Assembly (hospitality and accommodation were provided)

Visit to Armenia to take part in seminars arranged by the John Smith Memorial Trust (3-6 November 2005) - travel and accommodation provided

Visit to Moldova to take part in a conference arranged by the John Smith Memorial Trust (6-9 April 2006) - travel and accommodation provided

Visit to Belfast to attend Open University degree ceremony (19-20 May 2006) - travel provided by host

Visit to Leeds to attend annual dinner of the Federation of Irish Societies (17-18 June 2006) - fares and accommodation provided by host

Visit to Belfast to speak at dinner of the Belfast Buildings Preservation Trust who paid my fares (30 June-1 July 2006)

Occasional visits to Open University at Milton Keynes to attend Trustees meetings - fares are paid

Visit to Slovenia as member of IPU delegation (14-19 September 2006). The IPU covered our travel; hospitality and accommodation were provided by the Slovenian Parliament

Visit to Moldova as member of APPG delegation (5-8 October 2006). The IPU covered our travel; hospitality and accommodation were provided by the Moldovan Parliament

Visit to Newry as guest speaker at Newry Chamber of Commerce Dinner (27 October 2006). The Chamber of Commerce paid for travel and accommodation

Visit to Oslo (21-23 February 2007). Travel and accommodation paid by Landmine Action

Visit to Ankara (8-10 March 2007). Travel and accommodation paid by LINKS (an NGO)

Visit to Belfast to attend Open University graduation ceremony (18-20 May 2007) travel and accommodation paid by OU

Visit to Lebanon (7-11 June 2007). Travel and accommodation paid for by Landmine Action

15(c) Office-holder in pressure groups or trade unions

Fabian Society, elected Executive Committee Member

15(d) Office-holder in voluntary organisations

Trustee of Open University Foundation

Wednesday 5 December 2007

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Morris of Handsworth	Dr Evan Harris MP
The Earl of Onslow	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Baroness Stern	Mr Richard Shepherd MP

1. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Committee considered this matter.

Sue Hemming, Head of Counter Terrorism Division, Crown Prosecution Service and Mr Ali Bajwa, Barrister, 25 Bedford Row, were examined.

2. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Monday 10 December at 4.00pm.

Monday 10 December 2007

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Dubs	John Austin MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
The Earl of Onslow	Mr Richard Shepherd MP
Baroness Stern	

1. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

John Austin MP declared his interests (see Appendix).

2. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Draft Report (*Counter-Terrorism Policy and Human Rights: 42 Days*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Second Report of the Committee, HC 156.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: DIC 5 and GEN 13.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the treatment of asylum seekers be reported to the House for publication on the internet: AS 44A.

[Adjourned till Monday 17 December at 4.00pm.

Appendix – Declaration of Interests

John Austin MP**6. Overseas visits**

11-14 February 2007, to Kuwait as Co-Chairman of the Council for the Advancement of Arab British Understanding, with flights and accommodation paid for by the Council. (*Registered 7 March 2007*)

10. Miscellaneous and unremunerated interests

Director (unremunerated), Council for the Advancement of Arab British Understanding.

Director (unremunerated), British Syria Society.

Mr Austin also declared a non-pecuniary interest in that his partner is currently employed as the Head of Equality and Diversity at London Councils (the local government association representing the 32 London Boroughs and the City of London).

Monday 17 December 2007

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Dubs	John Austin MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
The Earl of Onslow	
Baroness Stern	

1. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Committee discussed this matter.

Professor Clive Walker, University of Leeds; and Neil Garnham QC, Special Advocate, 1 Crown Office Row, were examined.

2. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee discussed this matter.

Draft Report (*Legislative Scrutiny: 1) Child Maintenance and Other Payments Bill; 2) Other Bills*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Third Report of the Committee, HC 198.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 18-24 and 32.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to counter-terrorism policy and human rights be reported to the House for publication on the internet: CTP 20.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 9 January 2008 at 2.00pm.]

Wednesday 9 January 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Dubs Lord Fraser of Carmyllie The Earl of Onslow Baroness Stern	John Austin MP Dr Evan Harris MP
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1. FUTURE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

2. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING: UPDATE REPORT

Draft Report (*Government Response to the Committee's Twenty-first Report of 2006-07: Human Trafficking: Update*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Fourth Report of the Committee, HC 220.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 36, 37 and 41 and PLS (07-08) 8.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the use of restraint in secure training centres be reported to the House for publication on the internet: STC 20.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to immigration and human rights be reported to the House for publication on the internet: GEN 16.

[Adjourned till Monday 14 January at 4.00pm]

Monday 14 January 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Dubs	John Austin MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
The Earl of Onslow	Mr Richard Shepherd MP
Baroness Stern	

1. FUTURE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee's regular day and time of meeting shall be Tuesday at 1.30 pm, commencing with the meeting on Tuesday 5 February.

2. DATA PROTECTION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Richard Thomas, Information Commissioner, and Jonathan Bamford, Assistant Commissioner, were examined.

3. UK BILL OF RIGHTS

Roger Jeary, Director of Research, and John Usher, Legal Officer, Unite the Union, Hannah Reed, Senior Employment Rights Officer, Trades Union Congress, and Carlyne Willow, National Co-ordinator, Children's Rights Alliance for England, were examined.

4. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

5. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 42 and 43 and PLS (07-08) 7.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human rights judgments be reported to the House for publication on the internet: ECtHR 2.

[Adjourned till Monday 21 January at 4.00pm]

Monday 21 January 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Dubs	Mr Douglas Carswell MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Dr Evan Harris MP
The Earl of Onslow	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Baroness Stern	

1. FUTURE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

Resolved, That the Committee visit France and Spain in June/July in connection with its inquiry into policing and protest.

Ordered, That the Chairman seek the approval of the House of Commons Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the said visit.

2. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY: CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND IMMIGRATION BILL

Draft Report (*Legislative Scrutiny: Criminal Justice and Immigration Bill*) proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Fifth Report of the Committee, HC 269.

3. COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT 2007

Draft Report (*The Work of the Committee in 2007 and the State of Human Rights in the UK*) proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Sixth Report of the Committee, HC 270.

4. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 45, 46 and 48 and PLS (07-08) 10.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 22 January at 1.30pm]

Tuesday 22 January 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Dubs Lord Morris of Handsworth Baroness Stern	Dr Evan Harris MP
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1. HUMAN RIGHTS OF ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

Draft Report (*A Life Like Any Other? Human Rights of Adults with Learning Disabilities*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Seventh Report of the Committee, HC 73-I.

[Adjourned till Monday 28 January at 4pm]

Monday 28 January 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Dubs	John Austin MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	
The Earl of Onslow	
Baroness Stern	

1. UK BILL OF RIGHTS

Professor Chris Sidoti, Bill of Rights Forum for Northern Ireland, and Professor Brice Dickson, formerly Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, now Professor of International and Comparative Law at Queen's University, Belfast; and Professor Graham Smith, Centre for Citizenship and Democracy, University of Southampton, were examined.

2. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE BILL

Lord Lester of Herne Hill declared a non-pecuniary interest as an adviser to the Secretary of State for Justice on the meaning of public authority in the Human Rights Act, and withdrew.

Draft Report (*Legislative Scrutiny: Health and Social Care Bill*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Eighth Report of the Committee, HC 303.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 50.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the use of restraint in secure training centres be reported to the House for publication on the internet: STC 20.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to immigration and human rights be reported to the House for publication on the internet: GEN 16.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 30 January at 2pm]

Wednesday 30 January 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Dubs	John Austin MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	
Baroness Stern	

1. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Draft Report (*Counter-Terrorism Policy and Human Rights (Eighth Report): Counter-Terrorism Bill*) proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Ninth Report of the Committee, HC 199.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 19 February at 1.30pm]

Tuesday 19 February 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	John Austin MP
Lord Dubs	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
The Earl of Onslow	
Baroness Stern	

1. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Lord Bowness declared his interests (see Appendix).

2. TRAVEL IN A REPRESENTATIVE CAPACITY

Resolved, That the Chairman and a member of staff visit Stockholm in June to attend a Council of Europe colloquy on human rights.

Ordered, That the Chairman seek the approval of the House of Commons Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the said visit.

Ordered, That the Committee Specialists visit Strasbourg in March to discuss with Council of Europe officials work on the implementation of Strasbourg judgments.

3. IMMIGRATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Liam Byrne MP, Minister of State for Nationality, Citizenship and Immigration, and Lin Homer, Chief Executive, Border and Immigration Agency, Home Office, were examined.

4. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Draft Report (*Counter-Terrorism Policy and Human Rights (Ninth Report): Annual Renewal of Control Orders Legislation 2008*) proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Tenth Report of the Committee, HC 356.

5. UK BILL OF RIGHTS

The Committee considered this matter.

6. PRE-APPOINTMENT HEARINGS

The Committee considered this matter.

7. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 56 and 58 and PLS (07-08) 11.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 26 February at 1.30pm]

Appendix – declaration of interests

Lord Bowness

***12(d) Non-parliamentary consultant**
Streeter Marshall - Solicitors

***12(f) Regular remunerated employment**

Notary Public (fees)
Partner, P & J Consultants (legal consultants)

***12(i) Visits**

Visit to Romania as guest of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee (18-21 June 2005). Accommodation travel within Romania and hospitality met by Romanian Senate

Visit to Lithuania (18-20 September 2006). Accommodation Internal transport and hospitality provided by or on behalf of the Seimas of Lithuania

Tuesday 26 February 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	John Austin MP
The Earl of Onslow	Dr Evan Harris MP
Baroness Stern	Mr Virendra Sharma MP

1. FUTURE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

2. TRAVEL IN A REPRESENTATIVE CAPACITY

Resolved, That the Chairman visit Dublin in June to speak at a conference about adults with learning disabilities.

Ordered, That the Chairman seek the approval of the House of Commons Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the said visit.

3. USE OF RESTRAINT IN SECURE TRAINING CENTRES

Draft Report (*The Use of Restraint in Secure Training Centres*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Eleventh Report of the Committee, HC 378.

4. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

Draft Report (*Legislative Scrutiny: 1) Health and Social Care Bill and 2) Child Maintenance and Other Payments Bill: Government Response*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Twelfth Report of the Committee, HC 379.

5. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Draft Report (*Government Response to the Committee's First Report of Session 2006-07: The Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Thirteenth Report of the Committee, HC 380.

6. 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Committee considered this matter.

7. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 59.

[Adjourned till Monday 3 March at 4pm]

Monday 3 March 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness Lord Morris of Handsworth The Earl of Onslow Baroness Stern	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
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1. UK BILL OF RIGHTS

Baroness Hale of Richmond and Lord Justice Maurice Kay; and the Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke MP, Professor Vernon Bogdanor and Henry Porter were examined.

2. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 60 and 62.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 4 March at 1.30pm]

Tuesday 4 March 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Morris of Handsworth Baroness Stern	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
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1. DATA PROTECTION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Draft Report (*Data Protection and Human Rights*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Fourteenth Report of the Committee, HC 132.

2. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Monday 10 March at 8.45am at Committee Room 2, Scottish Parliament

Monday 10 March 2008

The Committee met at Committee Room 2, Scottish Parliament.

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness Lord Dubs The Earl of Onslow Baroness Stern	John Austin MP
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1. UK BILL OF RIGHTS

Kenny MacAskill MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Justice, and Brian Peddie and Paul Cackette, Legal and Constitutional Office, Scottish Government; and Michael Clancy OBE, Director of Law Reform, and Christine O'Neill, Convenor, Constitutional Law Sub-Committee, Law Society of Scotland, were examined.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 18 March at 1.30pm

Tuesday 18 March 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	John Austin MP
Lord Dubs	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
The Earl of Onslow	

1. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

Lord Lester of Herne Hill declared a non-pecuniary interest as an adviser to the Secretary of State for Justice on the meaning of public authority in the Human Rights Act; and stated that he would take no part in the deliberations on the draft Report relating to that issue.

Draft Report (*Legislative Scrutiny*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Fifteenth Report of the Committee, HC 440.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 25 March at 1.30pm]

Tuesday 25 March 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	John Austin MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Dr Evan Harris MP
The Earl of Onslow	Mr Virendra Sharma MP

1. FUTURE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

2. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

Draft Report (*Scrutiny of Mental Health Legislation: Follow Up*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Sixteenth Report of the Committee, HC 455.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 22 April at 1.30pm]

Monday 31 March – Tuesday 1 April

The Committee Specialists visited Strasbourg in a representative capacity, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 19 February.

Tuesday 22 April 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	John Austin MP
Lord Dubs	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Mr Richard Shepherd MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	
The Earl of Onslow	
Baroness Stern	

1. FUTURE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

2. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

Draft Report (*Legislative Scrutiny: 1) Employment Bill; 2) Housing and Regeneration Bill; 3) Other Bills*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Seventeenth Report of the Committee, HC 501.

3. POLICING AND PROTEST

The Committee considered this matter.

4. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 72 and 73.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human rights judgments be reported to the House for publication on the internet: HRJ (07-08) 1 to 5.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 29 April at 1.30pm]

Tuesday 29 April 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness Lord Lester of Herne Hill Lord Morris of Handsworth The Earl of Onslow Baroness Stern	Mr Richard Shepherd MP
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1. FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AGENCY

Resolved, That the Committee visit the Fundamental Rights Agency in Vienna in the autumn.

Ordered, That the Chairman seek the approval of the House of Commons Liaison Committee for expenditure in connection with the said visit.

2. THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE IN 2007: GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Draft Report (*Government Response to the Committee's Sixth Report of Session 2007-08: The Work of the Committee in 2007 and the State of Human Rights in the UK*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Eighteenth Report of the Committee, HC 526.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 85 to 87.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human rights judgments be reported to the House for publication on the internet: HRJ (07-08) 6.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to counter-terrorism policy and human rights be reported to the House for publication on the internet: CTP 41.

4. ALLEGATIONS OF TORTURE AND INHUMAN TREATMENT IN IRAQ

Kevin Laue, REDRESS, and Phil Shiner, Public Interest Lawyers, were examined.

The Chairman's attention having been called to the fact that two Members of the House of Commons were not present, he adjourned the Committee till Tuesday 6 May at 1.30pm.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 6 May at 1.30pm]

Tuesday 6 May 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Richard Shepherd MP
The Earl of Onslow	
Baroness Stern	

1. COUNTER-TERRORISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Committee considered this matter.

2. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 88 and 90.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human rights judgments be reported to the House for publication on the internet: HRJ (07-08) 8 and 9.

[Adjourned till Monday 12 May at 3.30pm]

Monday 12 May 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	John Austin MP
Lord Dubs	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	

1. CONFERENCE OF CHAIRPERSONS OF EU HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEES

Resolved, That Lord Dubs have leave to represent the Committee at a conference of the chairpersons of EU Human Rights Committees in Brussels on 25 June.

2. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

Draft Report (*Legislative Scrutiny: Education and Skills Bill*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Nineteenth Report of the Committee, HC 553.

3. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Draft Report (*Counter-Terrorism Policy and Human Rights (Tenth Report): Counter-Terrorism Bill*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Twentieth Report of the Committee, HC 554.

4. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 94 and 95.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human rights judgments be reported to the House for publication on the internet: HRJ (07-08) 11 and 12.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 21 May at 2pm]

Wednesday 21 May 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	John Austin MP
Lord Dubs	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	
The Earl of Onslow	
Baroness Stern	

1. FUTURE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

2. UK BILL OF RIGHTS

Rt Hon Jack Straw MP, Secretary of State for Justice and Lord Chancellor, and Rt Hon Michael Wills MP, Minister of State, Ministry of Justice, were examined.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 97 and 98.

[Adjourned till Monday 2 June at 3.30pm]

Monday 2 June 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	John Austin MP
Lord Dubs	Mr Douglas Carswell MP
The Earl of Onslow	Dr Evan Harris MP
Baroness Stern	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
	Mr Richard Shepherd MP

1. JCHR REMIT

The Committee considered this matter.

2. GOVERNMENT'S DRAFT LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

3. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Draft Report (*Counter-Terrorism Policy and Human Rights (Eleventh Report): Counter-Terrorism Bill*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was amended and agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Twenty-first Report of the Committee, HC 635.

4. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human rights judgments be reported to the House for publication on the internet: HRJ (07-08) 14 to 16.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human rights ministers be reported to the House for publication on the internet: GEN (07-08) 52.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 10 June at 9.30am

Monday 9 June – Tuesday 10 June

The Earl of Onslow and a Committee Specialist visited Stockholm to attend a Council of Europe human rights colloquy in a representative capacity, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 19 February.

Tuesday 10 June 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Dubs Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Richard Shepherd MP
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1. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to counter-terrorism policy and human rights be reported to the House for publication on the internet: CTP (07-08) 56, 57 and 61 to 63.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 17 June at 1.30pm]

Tuesday 17 June 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness Lord Dubs Lord Lester of Herne Hill Lord Morris of Handsworth The Earl of Onslow Baroness Stern	Dr Evan Harris MP Mr Richard Shepherd MP
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1. UK BILL OF RIGHTS

The Committee considered this matter.

2. POLICING AND PROTEST

The Committee considered this matter.

3. COMMITTEE AWAYDAY

The Committee considered this matter.

4. DATA PROTECTION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Draft Report (*Government Response to the Committee's Fourteenth Report of Session 2007-08: Data Protection and Human Rights*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Twenty-second Report of the Committee, HC 754.

5. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

Draft Report (*Legislative Scrutiny: Government Responses*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Twenty-third Report of the Committee, HC 755.

6. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Draft Report (*Counter-Terrorism Policy and Human Rights: Government Responses to the Committee's Twentieth and Twenty-first Reports and other correspondence*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Twenty-fourth Report of the Committee, HC 756.

7. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 103.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human rights judgments be reported to the House for publication on the internet: HRJ (07-08) 17 to 21.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the human rights of adults with learning disabilities be reported to the House for publication on the internet: ALD 143.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 24 June at 1.30pm

Tuesday 24 June 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Dubs	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	
Lord Morris of Handsworth	
Baroness Stern	

1. POLICING AND PROTEST

Resolved, That Anne Lee has leave to withdraw her memorandum (P&P 11).

Dr Eric Metcalfe, Human Rights Policy Director, Justice, and James Welch, Legal Director, Liberty, were examined.

2. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Draft Report (*Counter-Terrorism Policy and Human Rights (Twelfth Report): Annual Renewal of 28 Days 2008*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Twenty-fifth Report of the Committee, HC 825.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 108.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human rights judgments be reported to the House for publication on the internet: HRJ (07-08) 22.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the human rights of older people in healthcare be reported to the House for publication on the internet: OPH 51.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 8 July at 1.30pm]

Tuesday 25 June – Wednesday 26 June

Lord Dubs visited Brussels to attend a meeting of the chairpersons of human rights committees in EU national parliaments in a representative capacity, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 12 May.

Monday 30 June – Thursday 3 July

The Chairman, John Austin MP, Lord Dubs, the Earl of Onslow, Baroness Stern, the Lords Clerk, the Legal Adviser and the Committee Assistant visited Spain and France, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 21 January.

Tuesday 8 July 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	John Austin MP
Lord Dubs	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	
Baroness Stern	

1. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY: CRIMINAL EVIDENCE (WITNESS ANONYMITY) BILL

Sir Ken MacDonald QC, Director of Public Prosecutions; and Patrick O'Connor QC, Doughty Street Chambers, were examined.

2. PRE-LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

3. MEANING OF PUBLIC AUTHORITY IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

The Committee considered this matter.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 116.

[Adjourned till Monday 14 July at 3pm]

Monday 14 July 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Dubs	John Austin MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Baroness Stern	

1. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY: CRIMINAL EVIDENCE (WITNESS ANONYMITY) BILL

Draft Report (*Legislative Scrutiny: Criminal Evidence (Witness Anonymity) Bill*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Twenty-sixth Report of the Committee, HC 950.

2. THE USE OF RESTRAINT IN SECURE TRAINING CENTRES: GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Draft Report (*The Use of Restraint in Secure Training Centres: Government Response to the Committee's Eleventh Report*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Twenty-seventh Report of the Committee, HC 979.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 15 July at 1.30pm]

Tuesday 15 July 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Dubs	John Austin MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
The Earl of Onslow	
Baroness Stern	

1. UN CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE

Draft Report (*UN Convention Against Torture: Discrepancies in Evidence Given to the Committee About the Use of Prohibited Interrogation Techniques in Iraq*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Twenty-eighth Report of the Committee, HC 527.

2. FUTURE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

[Adjourned till Monday 21]July at 3.30pm

Monday 21 July 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Dubs	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	
The Earl of Onslow	
Baroness Stern	

1. UK BILL OF RIGHTS

Draft Report (*A Bill of Rights for the UK?*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Twenty-ninth Report of the Committee, HC 150-I.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 7 October at 1.30pm.]

Tuesday 7 October 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	John Austin MP
Lord Dubs	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Richard Shepherd MP
The Earl of Onslow	
Baroness Stern	

1. FUTURE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

2. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Draft Report (*Counter-Terrorism Policy and Human Rights (Thirteenth Report): Counter-Terrorism Bill*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Thirtieth Report of the Committee, HC 1077.

3. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That Dr Colm O’Cinneide be appointed a Specialist Adviser to assist the Committee in its scrutiny of the forthcoming Equality Bill.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS JUDGMENTS

Draft Report (*Monitoring the Government’s Response to Human Rights Judgments: Annual Report 2008*) proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Thirty-first Report of the Committee, HC 1078.

5. SCRUTINY OF MENTAL HEALTH LEGISLATION

Draft Report (*Scrutiny of Mental Health Legislation: Government Response to the Committee's Sixteenth Report*) proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

The draft Report was agreed to: the Formal Minutes relating to the consideration of the Report are published in the Thirty-second Report of the Committee, HC 1079.

6. POLICING AND PROTEST

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That Voices in the Wilderness UK be permitted to withdraw their memorandum on Policing and Protest.

7. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 121.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the treatment of asylum seekers be reported to the House for publication on the internet: AS 144.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to international human rights instruments be reported to the House for publication on the internet: DRC 1 and 2 and GEN (07-08) 68.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human trafficking be reported to the House for publication on the internet: HT (07-08) 15.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the human rights of older people in healthcare be reported to the House for publication on the internet: OPH (07-08) 54.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the meaning of public authority be reported to the House for publication on the internet: MPA (07-08) 8.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to immigration and human rights be reported to the House for publication on the internet: IHR (07-08) 8.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human rights ministers be reported to the House for publication on the internet: GEN (07-08) 65.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the use of restraint in secure training centres be reported to the House for publication on the internet: STC 33.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 14 October at 1.30pm.]

Tuesday 14 October 2008

Members present:

Lord Bowness	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Dubs	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Mr Edward Timpson MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	
Baroness Stern	

In the temporary absence of the Chairman, Lord Lester of Herne Hill was called to the Chair for the meeting.

1. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Mr Edward Timpson MP declared his interests (see Appendix).

2. EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Mr Trevor Phillips, Chairman, and Mr John Wadham, Legal Director, Equality and Human Rights Commission, were examined.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human trafficking be reported to the House for publication on the internet: HT (07-08) 16.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 21 October at 1.30pm.]

Appendix – Declaration of Interests

Mr Edward Timpson MP

2. Remunerated employment, office, profession etc

Consultant to Timpson Limited, providing general legal advice, mentoring and counselling.

Practising barrister with outstanding existing cases which will provide future remuneration.

4. Sponsorship or financial or material support

Timpson Ltd has paid for the fitting out of my constituency office.

Tuesday 21 October 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Edward Timpson MP
The Earl of Onslow	
Baroness Stern	

1. POLICING AND PROTEST

Jeremy Dear, General Secretary, National Union of Journalists, Andrew Gay, Marketing Director, Huntingdon Life Sciences, and Richard D. North, Fellow, Social Affairs Unit; and Phil McLeish, Legal Support Team, Climate Camp, Lindis Percy, Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases, and Milan Rai, Justice Not Vengeance, were examined.

2. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

Ordered, That Mr Raza Husein be appointed a Specialist Adviser to assist the Committee in its scrutiny of the forthcoming Immigration and Citizenship Bill.

Ordered, That Mr Raju Bhatt be appointed a Specialist Adviser to assist the Committee in its scrutiny of the forthcoming Coroners and Death Certification Bill.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the UN Convention Against Torture be reported to the House for publication on the internet: UNCAT (07-08) 17 and 18

[Adjourned till Tuesday 28 October at 1.30pm.]

Tuesday 28 October 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Dubs	Mr Richard Shepherd MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Mr Edward Timpson MP
The Earl of Onslow	
Baroness Stern	

1. HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES RELATING TO THE HOME OFFICE

Rt Hon Jacqui Smith MP, Secretary of State for the Home Department, was examined.

2. COUNTER-TERRORISM POLICY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Committee considered this matter.

3. LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

The Committee considered this matter.

4. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 124.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the human rights of older people in healthcare be reported to the House for publication on the internet: OPH (07-08) 56.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the use of restraint in secure training centres be reported to the House for publication on the internet: STC (07-08) 34.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 11 November at 1.30pm]

Tuesday 11 November 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Dubs	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Mr Edward Timpson MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	
Baroness Stern	

1. FUTURE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

2. HUMAN RIGHTS GUIDANCE FOR GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

The Committee considered this matter.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to counter-terrorism policy and human rights be reported to the House for publication on the internet: CTP (07-08) 81.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to pre-legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: PLS 17.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the UN Convention Against Torture be reported to the House for publication on the internet: UNCAT (07-08) 19.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 18 November at 1.30pm.]

Sunday 16 November – Monday 17 November

The Chairman, John Austin MP, Lord Bowness, Lord Dubs, Baroness Stern, the Commons Clerk and the Committee Specialist visited Vienna, in accordance with the Committee's decision of 29 April.

Tuesday 18 November 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	John Austin MP
Lord Dubs	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Edward Timpson MP
Baroness Stern	

1. FUTURE PROGRAMME

The Committee considered this matter.

2. UN DISABILITY RIGHTS CONVENTION

Jonathan Shaw MP, Minister for Disabled People, Mr Richard Timm, Deputy Director, Civil and Human Rights Division, Office for Disability Issues, and Ms Simmy Viinikka, Senior Principal Legal Officer, Department for Work and Pension, were examined.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to human rights issues relating to the Home Office be reported to the House for publication on the internet: GEN (07-08) 85 and 86.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to pre-legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: PLS (07-08) 18.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the use of restraint in secure training centres be reported to the House for publication on the internet: STC (07-08) 36.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 25 November at 1.30pm.]

Tuesday 25 November 2008

Members present:

Mr Andrew Dismore MP, in the Chair

Lord Bowness	John Austin MP
Lord Dubs	Dr Evan Harris MP
Lord Lester of Herne Hill	Mr Virendra Sharma MP
Lord Morris of Handsworth	Mr Edward Timpson MP
The Earl of Onslow	

1. POLICING AND PROTEST

Chris Allison MBE, Acting Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Police Service, Neil Hickey, Police Federation of England and Wales, and Sue Sim, Deputy Chief Constable, Northumbria Police and public order lead officer, Association of Chief Police Officers, were examined.

2. DEATHS IN CUSTODY

Resolved, That Lord Bowness replace Baroness Stern as the Committee's Observer on the Forum for Preventing Deaths in Custody.

3. SCHOOLS AND RELIGION

The Committee considered this matter.

3. COMMITTEE PAPERS

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to legislative scrutiny be reported to the House for publication on the internet: BILLS (07-08) 125.

Ordered, That the following written evidence relating to the human rights of older people in healthcare be reported to the House for publication on the internet: OPH (07-08) 57.

[Adjourned till Tuesday 9 December at 1.30pm.]