House of Commons
Home Affairs Committee


Sixth Special Report of Session 2009–10

Ordered by the House of Commons
to be printed 16 March 2010
The Home Affairs Committee

The Home Affairs Committee is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the expenditure, administration, and policy of the Home Office and its associated public bodies.

Current membership
Rt Hon Keith Vaz MP (Labour, Leicester East) (Chair)
Tom Brake MP (Liberal Democrat, Carshalton and Wallington)
Mr James Clappison MP (Conservative, Hertsmere)
Mrs Ann Cryer MP (Labour, Keighley)
David TC Davies MP (Conservative, Monmouth)
Mrs Janet Dean MP (Labour, Burton)
Mr Khalid Mahmood MP (Labour, Birmingham Perry Barr)
Patrick Mercer MP (Conservative, Newark)
Margaret Moran MP (Labour, Luton South)
Gwyn Prosser MP (Labour, Dover)
Bob Russell MP (Liberal Democrat, Colchester)
Martin Salter MP (Labour, Reading West)
Mr Gary Streeter MP (Conservative, South West Devon)
Mr David Winnick MP (Labour, Walsall North)

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

Publication
The Reports and evidence of the Committee are published by The Stationery Office by Order of the House. All publications of the Committee (including press notices) are on the Internet at www.parliament.uk/homeaffairscom. A list of Reports of the Committee since Session 2005–06 is at the back of this volume.

Committee staff
The current staff of the Committee are Elizabeth Flood (Clerk), Eliot Barrass (Second Clerk), Elisabeth Bates (Committee Specialist), Sarah Petit (Committee Specialist), Darren Hackett (Senior Committee Assistant), Sheryl Dinsdale (Committee Assistant) and Jessica Bridges-Palmer (Select Committee Media Officer).

Contacts
All correspondence should be addressed to the Clerk of the Home Affairs Committee, House of Commons, 7 Millbank, London SW1P 3JA. The telephone number for general enquiries is 020 7219 3276; the Committee’s email address is homeaffcom@parliament.uk.

Report

1. We considered it might be useful to provide an overview of our work in the 2005–10 Parliament, concentrating on how—if at all—our recommendations have been implemented. Accordingly, we asked the Home Office to inform us of the progress in implementing the Committee’s recommendations and any other relevant updates. The Home Office’s response is available on our website as an appendix to this Special Report.¹

2. Our principal remit, as set out in House of Commons standing orders, is “to examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the Home Office and its associated public bodies”. These bodies include “agencies” such as the UK Border Agency (UKBA) and the Serious and Organised Crime Agency (SOCA), which possess a degree of autonomy but remain the ultimate responsibility of the Home Office. In carrying out our remit we aim to strike a balance between undertaking inquiries into major policy issues, examining the Department’s discharge of its duties across the range of its activities—including legislation and legislative proposals—and responding rapidly to important developments relating to the work of the Home Office and that of its associated public bodies.

3. Since 9 May 2007, issues relating to the courts, probation, prisons and prevention of re-offending in England and Wales are no longer within the remit of the Home Office but fall to the Ministry of Justice. We have therefore excluded from our update all reports prior to that date dealing with these issues. We have also excluded reports where insufficient time has passed since publication to enable any meaningful assessment of progress to be made.

4. We list below the reports that we have published from the start of the 2005–10 Parliament up to the date on which we make this Special Report, 16 March 2010. The reports are listed together with the reference for the initial Government Response to the report, where applicable. Those reports included in the Appendix to this Report are printed in bold type; those excluded are listed with a brief note explaining why they were excluded.

Session 2005–06


¹ http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200910/cmselect/cmhaft/492/annex/492annex.pdf


**Session 2006–07**


**Session 2007–08**


**Session 2008–09**


**Session 2009–10**


