



House of Commons
Public Administration Select
Committee

**Work of the
Committee in 2008–09**

Second Report of Session 2009-10

Report, together with formal minutes

*Ordered by the House of Commons
to be printed 26 November 2009*

HC 20

Published on 2 December 2009
by authority of the House of Commons
London: The Stationery Office Limited
£0.00

The Public Administration Select Committee

The Public Administration Select Committee is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the reports of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration and the Health Service Commissioner for England, which are laid before this House, and matters in connection therewith, and to consider matters relating to the quality and standards of administration provided by civil service departments, and other matters relating to the civil service.

Current membership

Dr Tony Wright MP (*Labour, Cannock Chase*) (*Chairman*)
Mr David Burrowes MP (*Conservative, Enfield Southgate*)
Paul Flynn MP (*Labour, Newport West*)
David Heyes MP (*Labour, Ashton under Lyne*)
Kelvin Hopkins MP (*Labour, Luton North*)
Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger MP (*Conservative, Bridgwater*)
Julie Morgan MP (*Labour, Cardiff North*)
Mr Gordon Prentice MP (*Labour, Pendle*)
Paul Rowen MP (*Liberal Democrats, Rochdale*)
Mr Charles Walker MP (*Conservative, Broxbourne*)
Jenny Willott MP (*Liberal Democrats, Cardiff Central*)

Powers

The powers of the Committee are set out in House of Commons Standing Orders, principally in SO No 146. These are available on the Internet via www.parliament.uk

Publications

The Reports and evidence of the Committee are published by The Stationery Office by Order of the House. All publications of the Committee (including press notices) are on the Internet at <http://www.parliament.uk/pasc>

Committee staff

The current staff of the Committee are Steven Mark (Clerk), David Slater (Second Clerk), Pauline Ngan (Committee Specialist), Louise Glen (Senior Committee Assistant) and Su Panchanathan (Committee Assistant)

Contacts

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Contents

Report	<i>Page</i>
1 Introduction	3
2 The Committee's activity in relation to the 'Core Tasks'	4
To examine policy proposals from the UK Government and the European Commission in Green Papers, White Papers, draft Guidance etc, and to inquire further where the Committee considers it appropriate.	5
To identify and examine areas of emerging policy, or where existing policy is deficient, and make proposals.	5
To examine specific output from the department expressed in documents or other decisions.	6
To examine the expenditure plans and out-turn of the department, its agencies and principal NDPBs; To examine the department's Public Service Agreements, the associated targets and the statistical measurements employed, and report if appropriate.	7
To monitor the work of the department's Executive Agencies, NDPBs, regulators and other associated public bodies.	7
To examine the implementation of legislation and major policy initiatives.	7
To produce reports which are suitable for debate in the House, including Westminster Hall, or debating committees.	8
3 The Committee at work	9
Working methods	9
Relationship with Government	9
Future programme	9
Annex – Sessional Return	11
Formal Minutes	17
List of Reports from the Committee during the current Parliament	19

1 Introduction

1. This report reviews the activities of the Public Administration Select Committee in the parliamentary session 2008–09, which ran from 3 December 2008 to 12 November 2009. The focus of the Committee’s work is on the consistency and coherence of government policy and practice across the entire field of public administration. Our inquiries have reflected the broad scope of the Committee’s remit

to examine the reports of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration and of the Health Service Commissioner for England, which are laid before this House, and matters in connection therewith and to consider matters relating to the quality and standards of administration provided by civil service departments, and other matters relating to the civil service.¹

2. The past Session has seen us report on three major inquiries, on Lobbying, Good Government and Leaks and Whistleblowing in Whitehall, with recommendations that cut across the entire work of Government.

3. Although we are not a departmental Committee, we scrutinise the work of the Cabinet Office and its associated public bodies. We also examine specific issues arising out of our broad oversight of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration and Health Service Ombudsman (the Ombudsman), and the UK Statistics Authority. This has been particularly true over the last year, during which we have challenged the Government’s decision to reject many of the findings of the Ombudsman’s reports into Equitable Life and scrutinised the release of knife crime statistics by the Home Office.

4. This Session we have had three major policy achievements. The Civil Service clauses of the Constitutional Reform and Governance Bill follow our long-running campaign to put Civil Service values and their oversight on a statutory footing. In July 2009 the Government announced it would adopt an entitlement-based approach to the delivery of public services broadly in line with our 2008 report *From Citizen’s Charter to Public Service Guarantees: Entitlements to Public Services*. Finally, the Government has, after some initial hesitation, allowed the independent inquiry into the Iraq war to be held predominantly in public, in line with our arguments, and those of others.

¹ Standing Orders of the House of Commons S.O. No 146

2 The Committee's activity in relation to the 'Core Tasks'

5. On 14 May 2002 the House, by Resolution, invited the Liaison Committee to establish common objectives for select committees. The Liaison Committee subsequently issued a list of indicative core tasks, and has asked departmental select committees to reflect these in their annual reports. These are set out in Annex A. Although our remit is wider than a single department, we have found it helpful to consider our work against them. The table below shows the relationship of our inquiries and evidence sessions to these core tasks. A detailed commentary is then set out in the paragraphs which follow. Where the pieces of work by the Committee fulfil more than one of the core tasks, we discuss the work in the section to which it is most directly relevant.

	Government and EU policy proposals	Examination of emerging policies and of deficiencies	Draft bills	Decisions and documents	Work and expenditure of the Cabinet Office and associated Public bodies	Major appointments	Implementation of legislation and major policy initiatives	Informing debates in the House	Evidence from Ministers
Good Government		x					x		x
Lobbying		x							x
Equitable Life		x		x	x			x	x
The Work of the Cabinet Office				x	x				
The Work of the Ombudsman				x	x				
Leaks and Whistleblowing in Whitehall		x		x	x				
The Iraq Inquiry	x			x			x	x	
An Elected Second Chamber	x	x							
House of Lords Appointments					x		x		
Committee on Standards in Public Life					x				
Official Statistics				x	x		x		x
Constitutional Reform and Governance Bill								x	
Official Language		x							
Outside Appointments to the		x			x				

Civil Service									
Executive Pay in the Public Sector		x			x				
Ministerial and Other Appointments from Outside Parliament		x							x
Special Advisers		x		x					x
Operation of the Honours System		x					x		
Civil and Public Service Issues		x			x		x		

To examine policy proposals from the UK Government and the European Commission in Green Papers, White Papers, draft Guidance etc, and to inquire further where the Committee considers it appropriate.

6. On 15 June 2009 the Prime Minister announced an **inquiry into the Iraq War**. We have a long-standing interest in the conduct of public inquiries. Anticipating the Government's announcement, the Committee had held a seminar under the Chatham House rule bringing together key figures including chairs of previous inquiries, Members of both Houses of Parliament, former diplomats and others with relevant knowledge and expertise. Following the seminar the Chairman wrote to the Prime Minister outlining our findings and we subsequently issued a short report making recommendations on how the inquiry should be conducted.

7. In July 2008 the Government published a White Paper *An Elected Second Chamber: Completing the Reform*. We responded to the White Paper with a short report building on the substantial work that this Committee undertook on **House of Lords reform** in the last Parliament and repeating our call for interim measures between now and the completion of Lords reform.

To identify and examine areas of emerging policy, or where existing policy is deficient, and make proposals.

8. Despite an increasingly negative public perception of professional lobbying, our inquiry into ***Lobbying: Access and influence in Whitehall*** was the first undertaken by a Parliamentary Committee since 1991. In January 2009 we produced a report recommending major reforms, including a new register of lobbying activity, a rigorous and effective single body to oversee the activities of lobbyists and a strengthened and refreshed Advisory Committee on Business Appointments, to ensure transparency and effective regulation. This was a major piece of work that has prompted the lobbying industry to look again at its system of self-regulation and the Government to adopt some moves towards greater transparency.

9. The arrest of Damian Green MP in November 2008 led us to investigate the wider issues around the prevention and investigation of leaks and the treatment of whistleblowers. Our

report, *Leaks and Whistleblowing in Whitehall*, was published in August 2009. It made a number of recommendations aimed at preventing leaks from Government and concluded that the Civil Service needed more robust procedures to support whistleblowers who raised concerns in good faith.

10. Recruitment and personnel issues within the Senior Civil Service have been the focus of two of our inquiries. The prospect of cuts to public spending has meant that **executive pay in the public sector** has become an increasingly controversial issue. We have taken evidence on executive pay within Whitehall, the wider public sector and local government. We have also been examining **outside appointments to the Senior Civil Service** in the light of evidence of increasing numbers of such appointments. We expect to report on both these inquiries shortly.

11. Since June 2007 there has been a major increase in the number of **directly appointed ministers**, who have been made members of the House of Lords in order to join the Government. This has led some commentators to propose major reforms to the way government ministers are appointed. We took evidence on these proposals from a number of eminent people, including the former Prime Minister Sir John Major, and intend to report before the end of the Parliament.

12. We also undertook a short inquiry into **official language**. The impenetrability of political and administrative language is often a target of mockery but can also have serious consequences. As well as taking oral evidence we invited Members of Parliament and the public to provide us with examples of good and bad official language.

To examine specific output from the department expressed in documents or other decisions.

13. The Parliamentary Ombudsman produced a report on **Equitable Life** on 17 July 2008 following a four year investigation. We produced an initial report, *Justice Delayed: The Ombudsman's Report on Equitable Life*, supporting the Ombudsman's findings of maladministration and injustice and making recommendations to the Government on how it should respond. The Government replied to the Ombudsman's findings in January 2009, following which we produced a second report, *Justice denied? The Government's response to the Ombudsman's report on Equitable Life*. We concluded

that the Government has chosen to act as judge on its own behalf by rejecting and qualifying a number of the Ombudsman's findings ... for reasons which are not well explained.²

Our members have continued to support the Ombudsman's findings and to press the Government to accept them in full through debates in the House and Westminster Hall.

14. Following the high-profile sacking of one of the Prime Minister's **special advisers** we revisited the role of special advisers and their accountability.

² Sixth Report, *Justice denied? The Government's response to the Ombudsman's report on Equitable Life* (HC 219) pg. 3

To examine the expenditure plans and out-turn of the department, its agencies and principal NDPBs; To examine the department's Public Service Agreements, the associated targets and the statistical measurements employed, and report if appropriate.

15. We conduct annual scrutiny of the accounts, expenditure and performance of the **Cabinet Office** through correspondence on specific details of the Estimates and the Annual Report, followed by an evidence session with Sir Gus O'Donnell, the Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Home Civil Service, who is the accounting officer for the department. The session enables us to discuss not only financial operations, but also performance against Public Service Agreements and associated targets, and to raise wider issues of concern relating to the Civil Service and government. The quality of Cabinet Office's performance reporting continues to make it difficult to scrutinise its work as well as we would like. We have also taken evidence from the Ombudsman on her office's progress against its targets and from the Office for National Statistics on its preparations for the 2011 Census.

16. We have continued to benefit from significant support from the Committee Office Scrutiny Unit in our analysis of expenditure and administration issues and also on Equitable Life. The National Audit Office have also supported us in our work on the Cabinet Office Annual Report. We would like to express our gratitude for the expertise and assistance that we have received from both sources.

To monitor the work of the department's Executive Agencies, NDPBs, regulators and other associated public bodies.

17. The creation of the UK Statistics Authority in April 2008 meant that we took over scrutiny of the provision of **official statistics** from the Treasury Committee. The past Session saw us hold an evidence session on preparations for the 2011 Census. We also followed up concerns raised by the Chair of the UK Statistics Authority in relation to high profile controversies involving the use of statistics on knife crime and the release of migration statistics.

18. We have taken a long-standing interest in the operation of the **honours system**. In April 2009 we took evidence from some of those involved in nominating people to receive honours.

19. In the 2007-08 Session we held a pre-appointment hearing with the now Chair of the **House of Lords Appointments Commission**, Lord Jay of Ewelme. In July 2009 we reviewed the Commission's work during his first full year in post and examined related issues including the propriety of nominations for peerages that could emerge following a General Election.

To examine the implementation of legislation and major policy initiatives.

20. In June 2009 we published our report into *Good Government*. This report distilled much of the work of the Public Administration Select Committee over the last ten years along with the views of commentators and participants into a set of wide-ranging

conclusions and recommendations about the strengths and weaknesses of British government. We identified five requirements for good government and, whilst we concluded that many of these conditions are being met, we identified scope for improvement.

To produce reports which are suitable for debate in the House, including Westminster Hall, or debating committees.

21. We have long campaigned to put the Civil Service on a statutory footing, even producing our own draft Civil Service Bill in 2004. This Session saw the welcome introduction of the **Constitutional Reform and Governance Bill**, which contained clauses to place the Civil Service on a statutory footing along the lines of those contained in the draft Constitution Renewal Bill, which we scrutinised in the previous Session. While we gave these clauses a broad welcome, we also suggested areas in which they could be improved. Members of the Committee tabled relevant amendments to the Bill during its passage through the Commons, but the timetabling of business meant that there was no opportunity to debate the majority of these. We regard this as a very disappointing outcome, given our long-standing and constructive interest in this area.

3 The Committee at work

Working methods

22. We continue to rely principally on oral evidence and written evidence submitted in response to the announcement of a new inquiry. All of our formal evidence during the Session was taken in public. We also held a private seminar under the Chatham House rule on the arrangements for the Iraq War Inquiry, allowing a broad range of people to exchange views freely and frankly. We are grateful to all those who have given evidence and otherwise assisted us in our inquiries.

23. Our only visit in this Session was to the Welsh Assembly Government and Office of National Statistics (ONS). We met the First Minister of Wales and officials to discuss the Welsh Assembly Government's approach to outside appointments to the civil service. Our visit to the headquarters of the ONS allowed us to see at first hand the impact of the organisation's relocation to Newport.

24. The broad scope of our remit means that we often encounter areas of mutual interest with other committees. During our work on *Leaks and Whistleblowing* we were aware of the Home Affairs Committee's report *Policing Process of Home Office Leaks Inquiry* and carefully studied their findings when coming to our own.³ We have also coordinated our work with other committees in the Commons during the progress of the Constitutional Reform and Governance Bill.

Relationship with Government

25. As our inquiries can range widely across government we continue to rely heavily on the Cabinet Office, and particularly on their Propriety and Ethics team, to manage our interactions across the public sector. As always, we are grateful for the continued support they have provided to us.

26. Our last annual report drew attention to the length of time the Government has taken to respond to our reports. Despite previous assurances of better performance this remains unsatisfactory. Four of the nine Government Responses published this Session were received more than six months after the publication of the original report and only three were received within the target two month period.

Future programme

27. A proportion of our work is inspired by those concerns brought before us by the Ombudsman, by government announcements and in response to current affairs and this will continue to be the case.

28. We will continue to follow closely the progress of the Constitutional Reform and Governance Bill through Parliament. We expect to report on four of our ongoing inquiries, into unelected ministers, outside appointments to the Civil Service, executive pay in the

³ Home Affairs Committee, Fourth Report of Session 2008-09, *Policing Process of Home Office Leaks Inquiry*, HC 157

public sector and official language, in the next Session. With the end of the Parliament approaching we do not expect to be able to launch any major new inquiries. However, we expect to continue the policy of the past year in focusing short inquiries on specific issues where parliamentary scrutiny would be productive.

Annex – Sessional Return

Public Administration

For website access click on www.parliament.uk/pasc

The Committee was nominated by the House of Commons on 13 July 2005.

Members	Meetings attended
Wright, Dr Tony (Chairman)	31 out of 32
Burrowes, Mr David	7 out of 32
Flynn, Paul	30 out of 32
Heyes, David	24 out of 32
Hopkins, Kelvin	31 out of 32
Liddell-Grainger, Mr Ian	22 out of 32
Morgan, Julie	27 out of 32
Prentice, Mr Gordon	30 out of 32
Rowen, Paul	14 out of 32
Walker, Mr Charles	30 out of 32
Willott, Jenny	0 out of 32
Overall Attendance:	69.9 %

Total number of meetings:	32
Of which:	
Number of meetings at which oral evidence was taken	30
Number of times oral evidence was taken partly or wholly in private	0
Number of wholly private meetings	2
Number of concurrent meetings with other committees	0

Other activities

Informal meetings	0
Conferences/Seminars hosted	1

Staff

Details of the permanent staff of the Committee during the Session can be found in the Committee's publications.

Specialist Advisers during the Session

Prof Justin Fisher and Mr Steve Tatton.

Witnesses

Oral Evidence was given during the Session by the following categories of witnesses:

Number of appearances by:	
Cabinet Ministers	1
Other Minister	9
Members of the House of Lords	5
Number of appearances by officials from, or representatives of:	

12 Work of the Committee in 2008-09

Cabinet Office	5
Department for Children, Schools and Families	1
HM Treasury	2
Home Office	2
Ministry of Justice	1
Number of appearances by officials from or representatives of public bodies and non-Ministerial departments comprising	
Committee on Standards in Public Life	2
Higher Education Funding Council for England	1
House of Lords Appointments Commission	1
National Archives	1
National Lottery Commission	1
Ofcom	1
Office of the Civil Service Commissioners	2
Senior Salaries Review Body	1
UK Statistics Authority	5
Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman	2
Appearances by other witnesses	52

Overseas Visits

None.

Visits to European Institutions

None.

UK Visits

Date	Destination	Members	Staff	Purpose	Cost
11.5.09	Welsh Assembly Government, Cardiff and the Office for National Statistics, Newport	Wright, Flynn, Hopkins, Morgan, Prentice, Rowen	2	Outside Appointments to the Senior Civil Service/ Official Statistics	£1,322.75

Reports and Oral and Written Evidence

Title	HC No. (2008–09)	Date of publication	Government reply
First Report: <i>Lobbying: Access and influence in Whitehall</i>	36-I	5.1.09	Received 21.10.09: published as Eighth Special Report Session 2008–09
Oral and Written Evidence: <i>Lobbying: Access and influence in Whitehall</i>	36-II	5.1.09	Not applicable
Second Report: <i>Justice delayed: The Ombudsman's report on Equitable Life</i>	41-I	15.12.08	Received 14.7.09: published as Fourth Special Report Session 2008–09
Oral and Written Evidence: <i>Justice delayed: The Ombudsman's report on Equitable Life</i>	41-II	29.1.09	Not applicable

Title	HC No. (2008-09)	Date of publication	Government reply
Third Report: <i>Ethics and Standards: Further Report</i>	43	2.1.09	Received 3.3.09: published as First Special Report Session 2008-09
Fourth Report: <i>Work of the Committee in 2007-08</i>	42	16.1.09	Not applicable
Fifth Report: <i>Response to White Paper: "An Elected Second Chamber"</i>	137	21.1.09	Awaited
Sixth Report: <i>Justice denied? The Government's response to the Ombudsman's report on Equitable Life</i>	41	19.3.09	Received 19.5.09: published as Third Special Report Session 2008-09
Seventh Report: <i>Further Report on Machinery of Government Changes: With the Government Response to the Committee's Eighth Report of Session 2007-08</i>	540	1.6.09	Not applicable
Eighth Report: <i>Good Government</i>	97-I	18.6.09	Received 16.10.09: published as Seventh Special Report Session 2008-09
Oral and Written Evidence: <i>Good Government</i>	97-II	18.6.09	Not applicable
Ninth Report: <i>The Iraq Inquiry</i>	721	18.6.09	Received 21.7.09: published as Fifth Special Report Session 2008-09
Tenth Report: <i>Leaks and Whistleblowing in Whitehall</i>	83	10.8.09	Awaited
First Special Report: <i>Ethics and Standards: Further Report: Government Response to the Third Report from the Committee</i>	332	20.3.09	Not applicable
Second Special Report: <i>Mandarins Unpeeled: Memoirs and Commentary by Former Ministers and Civil Servants: Government Response to the Committee's Fourteenth Report of Session 2007-08</i>	428	28.4.09	Not applicable
Third Special Report: <i>Justice denied? Government Response to the Committee's Sixth Report of Session 2008-09</i>	569	27.5.09	Not applicable
Fourth Special Report: <i>Justice delayed: The Ombudsman's report on Equitable Life: Government Response to the Committee's Second Report of Session 2008-09</i>	953	23.7.09	Not applicable

Title	HC No. (2008–09)	Date of publication	Government reply
Fifth Special Report: <i>The Iraq Inquiry: Government Response to the Committee's Ninth Report of Session 2008–09</i>	992	21.10.09	Not applicable
Sixth Special Report: <i>From Citizen's Charter to Public Service Guarantees: Entitlements to Public Services: Further Government Response to the Committee's Twelfth Report of Session 2007–08</i>	993	21.10.09	Not applicable
Seventh Special Report: <i>Good Government: Government and other Responses to the Committee's Eighth Report of Session 2008–09</i>	1045	28.10.09	Not applicable
Eighth Special Report: <i>Lobbying: Access and influence in Whitehall: Government Response to the Committee's First Report of Session 2008–09</i>	1058	23.10.09	Not applicable
Oral and Written Evidence: <i>The Work of the Cabinet Office in 2007–08</i>	45-i	27.2.09	Not applicable
Oral and Written Evidence: <i>Official Statistics: Publication of statistics relating to knife crime</i>	229-i	30.4.09	Not applicable
Oral and Written Evidence: <i>Committee on Standards in Public Life</i>	242-i	1.4.09	Not applicable
Oral Evidence: <i>Civil and Public Service Issues</i>	352-i	1.5.09	Not applicable
Oral and Written Evidence: <i>Operation of the Honours System</i>	386-i	5.6.09	Not applicable
Oral and Written Evidence: <i>Official Statistics: Publication of Migration and Workforce Statistics</i>	387-i	5.6.09	Not applicable
Oral and Written Evidence: <i>Special Advisers</i>	504-i	4.9.09	Not applicable
Oral Evidence: <i>House of Lords Appointments</i>	744-i	4.9.09	Not applicable
Oral and Written Evidence: <i>Official Statistics</i>	1146-i	19.1.09	Not applicable
Oral and Written Evidence: <i>Charity Commission Annual Report</i>	1156-i	8.12.08	Not applicable
Oral Evidence published on the Internet: <i>Outside Appointments to the Senior Civil Service</i>	303-i	1.4.09	Not applicable

Title	HC No. (2008-09)	Date of publication	Government reply
Oral Evidence published on the Internet: <i>Outside Appointments to the Senior Civil Service</i>	303-ii	5.6.09	Not applicable
Oral Evidence published on the Internet: <i>Executive Pay in the Public Sector</i>	304-i	20.5.09	Not applicable
Oral Evidence published on the Internet: <i>Executive Pay in the Public Sector</i>	304-ii	29.6.09	Not applicable
Oral Evidence published on the Internet: <i>Executive Pay in the Public Sector</i>	304-iii	20.7.09	Not applicable
Oral Evidence published on the Internet: <i>Official Statistics: 2011 Census</i>	742-i	29.7.09	Not applicable
Oral Evidence published on the Internet: <i>Official Language</i>	743-i	29.7.09	Not applicable
Oral Evidence published on the Internet: <i>Lobbying: Six Months On</i>	843-i	29.7.09	Not applicable
Oral Evidence published on the Internet: <i>Ministerial and other appointments from outside Parliament</i>	994-i	6.11.09	Not applicable
Uncorrected Oral Evidence published on the Internet: <i>Ministerial and other appointments from outside of Parliament</i>	994-ii	21.10.09	Not applicable

Government replies to Reports for Session 2007-08

Reply to the Committee's Fourteenth Report: *Mandarins Unpeeled: Memoirs and Commentary by Former Ministers and Civil Servants*, received 2.4.09 and published as the Committee's Second Special Report Session 2008-09

Reply to the Committee's Eighth Report: *Machinery of Government Changes: Further Report*, received 7.5.09 and published as an Appendix to the Committee's Seventh Report of Session 2008-09

A further reply to the Committee's Twelfth Report: *From Citizen's Charter to Public Service Guarantees: Entitlements to Public Services*, received 30.9.09 and published as the Committee's Sixth Special Report

Formal Minutes

The Formal Minutes of the Committee were published electronically after each meeting of the Committee. They are available on the Committee's website at <http://www.parliament.uk/pasc>.

Divisions

None.

Debates

Committee reports were tagged on the Order Paper as being relevant to debates in the House of Commons or Westminster Hall on 6 occasions. Further details can be found in the Committee's Sessional Report.

Number of oral evidence sessions for each inquiry during the Session

Inquiry	Number of oral evidence sessions
Civil and Public Service Issues	1
Committee on Standards in Public Life	1
Equitable Life	2
Executive Pay in the Public Sector	3
Good Government	3
House of Lords Appointments	1
Justice delayed: The Ombudsman's report of Equitable Life	1
Leaks and Whistleblowing in Whitehall	6
Lobbying: Access and influence in Whitehall	1
Ministerial and other appointments from outside Parliament	3
Bad Language: The Use and Abuse of Official Language	1
Official Statistics: 2011 Census	1
Official Statistics: Publication of Migration and Workforce Statistics	1
Official Statistics: Publication of statistics relating to knife crime	1
Operation of the Honours System	1
Outside Appointments to the Senior Civil Service	2
Special Advisers	1
Work of the Cabinet Office in 2007-08	1
Work of the Cabinet Office in 2008-09	1
Work of the Ombudsman in 2008-09	1
Total	33

Formal Minutes

Thursday 26 November 2009

Members present:

Dr Tony Wright, in the Chair

Paul Flynn

David Heyes

Kelvin Hopkins

Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger

Julie Morgan

Mr Gordon Prentice

Mr Charles Walker

Draft Report (*Work of the Committee in 2008-09*), proposed by the Chairman, brought up and read.

Ordered, That the Chairman's draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 28 read and agreed to.

Annex agreed to.

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

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

[Adjourned till Thursday 3 December at 9.45 am]

List of Reports from the Committee during the current Parliament

The reference number of the Government's response to each Report is printed in brackets after the HC printing number.

Session 2009-10

First Report	Bad Language: The Use and Abuse of Official Language	HC 10
Third Report	Selection of a new Chair of the Advisory Committee on Business Appointments	HC 42

Session 2008-09

First Report	Lobbying: Access and Influence in Whitehall	HC 36
Second Report	Justice Delayed: The Ombudsman's Report on Equitable Life	HC 41 (HC 953)
Third Report	Ethics and Standards: Further Report	HC 43 (HC 332)
Fourth Report	Work of the Committee in 2007-08	HC 42
Fifth Report	Response to White Paper: "An Elected Second Chamber"	HC 137 (HC 59)
Sixth Report	Justice denied? The Government response to the Ombudsman's report on Equitable Life	HC 219 (HC 569)
Seventh Report	Further Report on Machinery of Government Changes	HC 540
Eight Report	Good Government	HC 97 (HC 1045)
Ninth Report	The Iraq Inquiry	HC 721

Session 2007-08

First Report	Machinery of Government Changes: A follow-up Report	HC 160 (HC 514)
Second Report	Propriety and Peerages	HC 153 (Cm 7374)
Third Report	Parliament and public appointments: Pre-appointment hearings by select committees	HC 152 (HC 515)
Fourth Report	Work of the Committee in 2007	HC 236 (HC 458)
Fifth Report	When Citizens Complain	HC 409 (HC 997)
Sixth Report	User Involvement in Public Services	HC 410 (HC 998)
Seventh Report	Investigating the Conduct of Ministers	HC 381 (HC 1056)
Eighth Report	Machinery of Government Changes: Further Report	HC 514 (HC 540, Session 2008-09)
Ninth Report	Parliamentary Commissions of Inquiry	HC 473 (HC 1060)
Tenth Report	Constitutional Renewal: Draft Bill and White Paper	HC 499 (Cm 7688)
Eleventh Report	Public Services and the Third Sector: Rhetoric and Reality	HC 112 (HC 1209)
Twelfth Report	From Citizen's Charter to Public Service Guarantees: Entitlement to Public Services	HC 411 (HC 1147)
Thirteenth Report	Selection of a new Chair of the House of Lords Appointments Commission	HC 985

Fourteenth Report	Mandarins Unpeeled: Memoirs and Commentary by Former Ministers and Civil Servants	HC 664 (<i>HC 428, Session 2008–09</i>)
Session 2006–07		
First Report	The Work of the Committee in 2005–06	HC 258
Second Report	Governing the Future	HC 123 (<i>Cm 7154</i>)
Third Report	Politics and Administration: Ministers and Civil Servants	HC 122 (<i>HC 1057, Session 2007–08</i>)
Fourth Report	Ethics and Standards: The Regulation of Conduct in Public Life	HC 121 (<i>HC 88, Session 2007–08</i>)
Fifth Report	Pensions Bill: Government Undertakings relating to the Financial Assistance Scheme	HC 523 (<i>HC 922</i>)
Sixth Report	The Business Appointment Rules	HC 651 (<i>HC 1087</i>)
Seventh Report	Machinery of Government Changes	HC 672 (<i>HC 90, Session 2007–08</i>)
Eighth Report	The Pensions Bill and the FAS: An Update, Including the Government Response to the Fifth Report of Session 2006–07	HC 922 (<i>HC 1048</i>)
Ninth Report	Skills for Government	HC 93 (<i>HC 89</i>)
First Special Report	The Governance of Britain	HC 901
Session 2005–06		
First Report	A Debt of Honour	HC 735 (<i>Cm 1020</i>)
Second Report	Tax Credits: putting things right	HC 577 (<i>HC 1076</i>)
Third Report	Legislative and Regulatory Reform Bill	HC 1033 (<i>HC 1205</i>)
Fourth Report	Propriety and Honours: Interim Findings	HC 1119 (<i>Cm 7374</i>)
Fifth Report	Whitehall Confidential? The Publication of Political Memoirs	HC 689 (<i>HC 91, Session 2007–08</i>)