Amendments to Standing Order No. 122B (Election of select committee chairs), Standing Order No. 143 (European Scrutiny Committee), Standing Order No. 146 (Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee), Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) and Standing Order No. 152K (Public Bodies: draft orders)
The text of the amended Standing Order No. 122B (Election of select committee chairs) is as follows.¹

122B.—(1) The chairs of the following select committees shall be elected by the House in accordance with paragraphs (2) to (14) below:

(a) select committees appointed under Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments);

(b) the Environmental Audit Committee;

(c) the Petitions Committee;

(d) the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee;

(e) the Committee of Public Accounts;

(f) the Procedure Committee; and

(g) the Committee on Standards.

(2) The day following his election at the start of a new Parliament, the Speaker shall communicate to the leaders of each party represented in the House the proportion of chairs of select committees to be elected under this order falling to each such party which would reflect the composition of the House.

(3) If, within a week of the Queen’s Speech, a motion in the name of the leaders of all the parties entitled to one or more chairs of select committees subject to election under this order specifying to which party each such chair is allocated is moved, the questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the

¹. New text shown in italics.
motion shall be put not later than one hour after their commencement, proceedings on the motion shall be exempted business and Standing Order No. 41A (Deferred divisions) shall not apply.

(4) If a motion to which paragraph (3) above applies also makes changes to Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) which are consequential on changes to the machinery of government, then the questions necessary to dispose of proceedings on the motion shall be put not later than one and a half hours after their commencement; proceedings on the motion shall be exempted business; and Standing Order No. 41A (Deferred divisions) shall not apply.

(5) If, on the expiry of two weeks after the Queen’s Speech, no motion in the name of the leaders of all the parties entitled to one or more chairs of select committees subject to election under this order specifying to which party each said chair is allocated has been tabled, on the following sitting day the Speaker shall give precedence to a motion tabled thereafter by any Member to allocate chairs under this order and the provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) shall apply to proceedings on such a motion.

(6) If the House has agreed a motion allocating chairs to parties the election of the chairs shall take place in accordance with the remaining provisions of this order.

(7) The ballots shall take place fourteen days after the approval of the motion allocating chairs to parties.

(8) (a) Nominations of candidates shall be in writing and shall be received by the Clerk of the House by 5.00 pm on the day before the ballot.

(b) Each nomination shall consist of a signed statement made by the candidate declaring his willingness to
55 stand for election, accompanied by the signatures of fifteen Members elected to the House as members of the same party as the candidate or ten per cent. of the Members elected to the House as members of that party, whichever is the lower.

60 (c) Statements may be accompanied by signatures of up to five Members elected to the House as members of any party other than that to which the candidate belongs, or members of no party.

(d) No Member may sign the statement of more than one candidate for chair of the same select committee.

(e) No Member may be a candidate for the chair of a select committee which has not been allocated to his party under paragraph (3) of this order or otherwise, or for which he is ineligible under Standing Order No. 122A (Term limits for chairs of select committees).

(f) No Member may be a candidate for the chair of the Committee of Public Accounts or the Committee on Standards unless his party is that of the official Opposition.

(g) No Member may be a candidate for more than one chair elected under this order.

(h) As soon as practicable following the close of nominations, lists of the candidates and their accompanying signatories shall be published.

90 (9) Election of chairs of select committees under this order shall be by secret ballot.

(10) Preparatory arrangements for the ballots shall be made under the supervision of the Clerk of the House.
(11) (a) If there is only one candidate for the chair of a select committee, that candidate shall be declared elected without a ballot.

(b) The ballot shall take place in a place appointed by the Speaker.

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

(d) Members will vote by ranking as many candidates as they wish in order of preference, marking 1 by the name of their first preference, 2 by the name of their second preference, and so on. Any candidate who receives more than half the first preferences shall be elected. If no candidate is so elected, the candidate or candidates with the lowest number of first preferences shall be eliminated and their votes distributed among the remaining candidates according to the preferences on them. If no candidate has more than half the votes, the process of elimination and distribution is repeated, until one candidate has more than half the votes.

(e) The ballot shall be open between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm and counting shall take place under arrangements made by the Clerk of the House.

(12) The Speaker shall have power to give directions on any matter of doubt arising from the conduct of a ballot or from an individual ballot paper and to vary the timings given in paragraphs (6) to (11) of this order.

(13) As soon as practicable after the closing of the ballot the results shall be published under the direction of the Speaker.
(14) A chair elected under this order is a member of the committee of which he is elected chair.

The text of the amended Standing Order No. 143
(European Scrutiny Committee) is as follows.¹

143.—(1) There shall be a select committee, to be called the European Scrutiny Committee, to examine European Union documents and—

(a) to report its opinion on the legal and political importance of each such document and, where it considers appropriate, to report also on the reasons for its opinion and on any matters of principle, policy or law which may be affected;

(b) to make recommendations for the further consideration of any such document pursuant to Standing Order No. 119 (European Committees); and

(c) to consider any issue arising upon any such document or group of documents, or related matters.

The expression ‘European Union document’ in this order and in Standing Order No. 16 (Proceedings under an Act or on European Union documents), No. 89 (Procedure in general committees) and No. 119 (European Committees) means—

(i) any proposal under the Community Treaties for legislation by the Council or the Council acting jointly with the European Parliament;

¹. New text shown in italics.
(ii) any document which is published for submission to the European Council, the Council or the European Central Bank;

(iii) any proposal for a common strategy, a joint action or a common position under Title V of the Treaty on European Union which is prepared for submission to the Council or to the European Council;

(iv) any proposal for a common position, framework decision, decision or a convention under Title VI of the Treaty on European Union which is prepared for submission to the Council;

(v) any document (not falling within (ii), (iii) or (iv) above) which is published by one Union institution for or with a view to submission to another Union institution and which does not relate exclusively to consideration of any proposal for legislation;

(vi) any other document relating to European Union matters deposited in the House by a Minister of the Crown.

(2) The committee shall consist of sixteen Members.

(3) The committee and any sub-committee appointed by it shall have the assistance of the Counsel to the Speaker.

(4) The committee shall have power to appoint specialist advisers either to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the committee’s order of reference.

(5) The committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of
the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report from
time to time.

(6) The quorum of the committee shall be five.

(7) The committee shall have power to appoint sub-
committees and to refer to such sub-committees any of the
matters referred to the committee.

(8) Every such sub-committee shall have power to send for
persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any
adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and
to report to the committee from time to time.

(9) The committee shall have power to report from time to
time the evidence taken before such sub-committees.

(10) The quorum of every such sub-committee shall be two.

(11) The committee shall have power to seek from any
committee specified in paragraph (12) of this order its opinion
on any European Union document, and to require a reply to
such a request within such time as it may specify.

(12) The committees specified for the purposes of this order
are those appointed under Standing Order No. 152 (Select
committees related to government departments) including any
sub-committees of such committees, the Public Administration
and Constitutional Affairs Committee, the Committee of Public
Accounts, and the Environmental Audit Committee.

(13) Unless the House otherwise orders, each Member
nominated to the committee shall continue to be a member of
it for the remainder of the Parliament.
The text of the amended Standing Order No. 146 (Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee) is as follows.¹

146.—(1) There shall be a select committee, to be called the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee, 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; to consider matters relating to the quality and standards of administration provided by civil service departments, and other matters relating to the civil service; and to consider constitutional affairs.

(2) The committee shall consist of eleven Members.

(3) The committee shall have power—

(a) to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report from time to time; and

(b) to appoint specialist advisers to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the committee’s order of reference.

(4) Unless the House otherwise orders, each Member nominated to the committee shall continue to be a member of it for the remainder of the Parliament.

(5) The committee shall have power to appoint a sub-committee, which shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of
the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report to the committee from time to time.

(6) The committee shall have power to report from time to time the evidence taken before the sub-committee.

(7) The quorum of the sub-committee shall be three.

_The text of the amended Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) is as follows._¹ ²

**152.—** (1) Select committees shall be appointed to examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the principal government departments as set out in paragraph (2) of this order and associated public bodies.

(2) The committees appointed under paragraph (1) of this order, the principal departments of government with which they are concerned and the maximum numbers of each committee shall be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Committee</th>
<th>Principal government departments concerned</th>
<th>Maximum members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Business, Innovation and Skills</td>
<td>Department for Business, Innovation and Skills</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Communities and Local Government</td>
<td>Department for Communities and Local Government</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Culture, Media and Sport</td>
<td>Department for Culture, Media and Sport</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹. New text shown in italics.
². This amendment is to have effect until the end of the current Parliament.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Committee</th>
<th>Principal government departments concerned</th>
<th>Maximum members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Defence</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Education</td>
<td>Department for Education</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Energy and Climate Change</td>
<td>Department of Energy and Climate Change</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</td>
<td>Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>Foreign and Commonwealth Office</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Health</td>
<td>Department of Health</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Home Affairs</td>
<td>Home Office</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 International Development</td>
<td>Department for International Development</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Justice</td>
<td>Ministry of Justice (including the work of staff provided for the administrative work of courts and tribunals, but excluding consideration of individual cases and appointments, and excluding the work of the Scotland and Wales Offices and of the Advocate General for Scotland); and administration and expenditure of the Attorney General’s Office, the Treasury Solicitor’s Department, the Crown Prosecution Service and the Serious Fraud Office (but excluding individual cases and appointments and advice given within government by Law Officers)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(3) Each select committee appointed under this order shall have the power to appoint a sub-committee.

(4) Select committees appointed under this order shall have power—
(a) to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, and to report from time to time;

(b) to appoint specialist advisers either to supply information which is not readily available or to elucidate matters of complexity within the committee’s order of reference; and

(c) to report from time to time the evidence taken before sub-committees, and the formal minutes of sub-committees;

and the sub-committees appointed under this order shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to adjourn from place to place, to report from time to time their formal minutes, and shall have a quorum of three.

(5) Unless the House otherwise orders, all Members nominated to a committee appointed under this order shall continue to be members of that committee for the remainder of the Parliament.

The text of the amended Standing Order No. 152K
(Public Bodies: draft orders) is as follows.¹

152K.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the select committee charged with reporting on a draft order for the purposes of section 11(5) and (6) of the Public Bodies Act 2011 shall be—

¹. New text shown in italics.
(a) the select committee appointed under Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) appointed to examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the department of the Minister who has laid the draft order; or

(b) in respect of a draft order laid by a Minister in the Cabinet Office, the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee.

(2) The Liaison Committee may report that it has designated a select committee appointed under Standing Order No. 152 (Select committees related to government departments) or the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee as the select committee charged with reporting on a specified draft order for the purposes of section 11(5) and (6) of the Public Bodies Act 2011 in place of the select committee to which paragraph (1) applies.