

**THE  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
COMMISSION**

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**Lay Members of the Committee on  
Standards: Nomination of Candidates**

*Report presented to the House of Commons by the Speaker*

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## Commissioners

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The Speaker (John Bercow) (Chair), The Leader of the House of Commons (David Lidington), Sir Paul Beresford, Tom Brake, Stewart Hosie, Valerie Vaz, Dame Rosie Winterton, David Natzler (Clerk of the House), Ian Ailles (Director General), Dame Janet Gaymer (External member) and Jane McCall (External member).

Secretary to the Commission: Marianne Cwynarski.

Assistant Secretary: Helen Wood.

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## HOUSE OF COMMONS COMMISSION

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### Lay Members of the Committee on Standards: Nomination of Candidates

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#### *Introduction*

1. In 2009 the Committee on Standards in Public Life recommended:  
“There should be at least two lay members who have never been Parliamentarians on the Standards and Privileges Committee. Their appointment should be made in the same way as that of the lay members of the Speaker’s Committee of the independent regulator”.<sup>1</sup>
2. On 2 December 2010 the House agreed to the principle of lay members, and invited the Procedure Committee to bring forward proposals to implement it.<sup>2</sup> Those proposals, with some slight modifications, were given effect by the House on 12 March 2012 when Standing Orders No. 148A and 149A were made and Standing Order No. 149 was amended. On 13 December 2012 the House appointed three lay members to the Committee on Standards. Since then, further amendments to Standing Orders in March 2015 increased the number of lay members on the Committee to seven, establishing an equal balance of lay and elected members on the Committee. The four additional lay members were appointed by the House on 19 May 2016.
3. The terms of office of the first tranche of lay members come to an end on 30 March 2017, and in July 2016 the House of Commons Commission agreed a recruitment process to replace them. In line with the requirement in Standing Order No.149A the process was designed to fair and open.
4. The three posts were advertised on the Parliamentary website, through the Outreach Service, through social media and through advertisement and search by recruitment consultants. There were 255 applicants. These were reduced through sifts and interviews to a short list of ten for final interview in January 2017 by a Selection Panel comprising Rt Hon Sir Kevin Barron (Chair of the Committee on Standards), Sir Peter Rubin (lay member of the Committee on Standards), Jane McCall (external member of the House of Commons Commission and Chair of the selection panel) and Paul Evans (Clerk of Committees).
5. The Selection Panel made a report to the Commission, recommending three candidates for appointment. The panel further recommended that the new appointments be for a term of six years.

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<sup>1</sup> Twelfth Report from the Committee on Standards in Public Life, *MPs’ Expenses and Allowances*, Cm 7244

<sup>2</sup> Sixth Report from the Procedure Committee, Session 2010–12, *Lay membership of the Committee on Standards and Privileges*, HC 1606, and the Government Response, Third Special Report from the Procedure Committee, Session 2010–12, HC 1689

***The nominated candidates***

6. Following the exacting process set out above, the House of Commons Commission proposes the following three candidates to the House:

Tammy Banks

Rita Dexter

Paul Thorogood

7. Together they represent a combination of experience and qualities which should further increase public confidence in the robustness and independence of the House's disciplinary processes.

***The outgoing lay members***

8. The Commission would also like to take this opportunity to express the thanks of the House to the outgoing lay members, Sharon Darcy, Peter Jinman and Walter Rader, for the significant contribution they have made to the Committee on Standards and to the standards system in the House more widely. They have been pioneers in establishing an independent element as a key part of the regulation of standards for MPs, and we are grateful for the fresh perspective and dedication they have brought to this task.

## ANNEX – BRIEF DETAILS OF NOMINATED CANDIDATES

### TAMMY BANKS

#### Current roles

Chief Executive Officer Yorkshire, Humberside and Lincolnshire Circles of Support and Accountability since 2013

Director Taye Training and Consultancy since 2016

School Governor since 2014

#### Previous roles

Committee Member National Institute of Clinical Excellence 2015–2016

Regional Safeguarding Manager Children England 2013–2015

Project Manager Foundation 2010–2013

Manager, Temporary Accommodation and Travellers Sites –  
City York Council 2005–2010

Trainee Forensic Psychologist – Her Majesty’s Prison Service 2003–2005

Residential Social Worker – Northampton County Council 1999–2004

## **RITA DEXTER**

### **Employment roles**

Deputy Commissioner, London Fire Brigade	2009–2015
Director of Corporate Services, London Fire Brigade	2001–2009
Acting/Deputy/Assistant Chief Executive, Barnet Council	1995–2001
Head of Local Authorities' Interests in Companies, Department of the Environment	1992–1995
Clerk through to Assistant Director, Birmingham City Council	1979–1992

### **Committee and voluntary work**

Member of the Ministerial working group on Beds in Sheds	2013–2014
Member of the Steering Group, Holocaust Memorial Day	2000–2003
Member and Chair of the West Midlands Committee of The Prince's Trust and Member of the Management Board of The Prince's Trust	1986–1996

### **Awards**

Awarded an OBE in 2013 for services to local government and the fire service.

### **Educational qualifications**

HNC Public Administration; Birmingham Polytechnic	1985
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Government (2:1), Birmingham Polytechnic	1988
Master of Social Science (Urban and Regional Studies), University of Birmingham	1991

## **PAUL THOROGOOD**

### **Current roles**

Chief Executive Officer, The Football Foundation, since 2006

Trustee, The Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply Foundation, since 2013

Fellow, The Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply, since 2013

Judging Panel Member – The Football Business Awards, since 2012

### **Previous roles**

The Royal Air Force (Group Captain) 1975–2006

Trustee, Global Board of The Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply 2013–2016

Director, The Sport and Recreation Alliance 2012–2014

Member, The Royal Aeronautical Society 1997–2006

Member, The Institute of Logistics and Transport 1997–2006

Judging Panel Member – The North-west Football Awards 2008–2016

### **Academic and Qualifications**

MA – Defence Studies & International Security, Kings College London

Post Graduate Award – Engineering Business Management, University of Warwick

Graduate, Advanced Command and Staff Course, UK Joint Services Command and Staff College

Graduate, Royal Air Force College Cranwell

Visiting Lecturer – International Sports Management MBA, Loughborough University

Visiting Lecturer – The Football Industries MBA, University of Liverpool