

**Annual Report**

**July 2020 – June 2021**

**THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC LIFE**

**The Seven Principles of Public Life apply to anyone who works as a public office holder. This includes all those who are elected or appointed to public office, nationally or locally, and all people appointed to work in the public sector. The Principles also apply to all those in the private sector delivering public services.**

**SELFLESSNESS**

*Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.*

**INTEGRITY**

*Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.*

**OBJECTIVITY**

*Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.*

**ACCOUNTABILITY**

*Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.*

**OPENNESS**

*Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.*

**HONESTY**

*Holders of public office should be truthful.*

**LEADERSHIP**

*Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the Principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.*

*The Seven Principles were established in the Committee’s First Report in 1995; the accompanying descriptors were revised following a review in the Fourteenth Report, published in January 2013*.

**PREVIOUS REPORTS**

[**2021, Regulating Election Finance**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulating-election-finance-report)

[**2020, Artificial Intelligence and Public Standards**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/artificial-intelligence-and-public-standards-report)

[**2019, Local Government Ethical Standards**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-government-ethical-standards-report)

[**2018, MPs’ Outside Interests**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mps-outside-interests)

[**2018, The Continuing Importance of Ethical Standards for Public Service Providers**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-continuing-importance-of-ethical-standards-for-public-service-providers)

[**2017, Intimidation in Public Life**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/intimidation-in-public-life-a-review-by-the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life)

[**2016, Striking the Balance: Upholding the 7 Principles in Regulation**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/striking-the-balance-upholding-the-7-principles-in-regulation)

[**2015, Tone from the Top: Leadership, Ethics and Accountability in Policing**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tone-from-the-top-leadership-ethics-and-accountability-in-policing)

[**2014. Ethics in Practice: Promoting Ethical Standards in Public Life**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ethics-in-practice-promoting-ethical-standards-in-public-life)

[**2014, Ethical Standards for Providers of Public Services**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ethical-standards-for-providers-of-public-services)

[**2013, Strengthening Transparency around Lobbying**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strengthening-transparency-around-lobbying)

[**2013, Standards Matter: a Review of Best Practice in Promoting Good Behaviour in Public Life**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/standards-matter-a-review-of-best-practice-in-promoting-good-behavior-in-public-life)

[**2011, Political Party Finance: Ending the Big Donor Culture**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/political-party-finance-ending-the-big-donor-culture)

[**2009, MPs’ Expenses and Allowances: Supporting Parliament, Safeguarding the Taxpayer**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/twelfth-report-of-the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life-november-2009)

[**2007, Review of the Electoral Commission**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-electoral-commission-eleventh-report-of-the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life)

[**2005, Getting the Balance Right: Implementing Standards of Conduct in Public Life**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tenth-report-of-the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life)

[**2003, Defining the Boundaries within the Executive: Ministers, Special Advisers and the Permanent Civil Service**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/defining-the-boundaries-within-the-executive-ministers-special-advisers-and-the-permanent-civil-service)

[**2002, Standards of Conduct in the House of Commons**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/standards-of-conduct-in-the-house-of-commons)

[**2000, Standards of Conduct in the House of Lords**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/standards-of-conduct-in-the-house-of-lords--2)

[**2000, Reinforcing Standards: A summary**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reinforcing-standards-summary)

[**1998 The Funding of Political Parties in the United Kingdom**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-funding-of-political-parties-in-the-united-kingdom--2)

[**1997, Review of Standards of Conduct in Executive NDPBs, NHS Trusts and Local Public Spending Bodies**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-standards-of-conduct-in-executive-ndpbs-nhs-trusts-and-local-public-spending-bodies)

[**1997, Standards of Conduct of local government in England, Scotland and Wales**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/standards-of-conduct-of-local-government-in-england-scotland-and-wales)

[**1996, Local Public Spending Bodies**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-public-spending-bodies)

[**1995, MPs, Ministers and Civil Servants, Executive Quangos**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mps-ministers-and-civil-servants-executive-quangos)

**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: July 2020 - June 2021**

**Terms of Appointment**



**Dame Shirley Pearce DBE**

*(31 Mar 2018 – 30 Mar 2023)*



**Dr Jane Martin CBE**

*(1 Jan 2017 – 31 Dec 2021)*

**Jane Ramsey**

*(1 Sep 2016 – 28 Oct 2020)*

**Rt Hon Jeremy Wright QC MP**

*(21 Nov 2019 – 20 Nov 2022)*

**Chair, Lord Evans of Weardale KCB DL**

*(1 Nov 2018 – 31 Oct 2023)*

**Rt Hon Dame Margaret Beckett DBE MP**

***(Labour)*** *(31 Oct 2019 – 30 Oct 2022)*

**Rt Hon Lord Stunell OBE**

**(Liberal Democrat)**

*(1 Dec 2019 – 30 Nov 2022)*

**Monisha Shah**

*(1 Dec 2015 – 30 Jul 2021)*

***Independent Chair and 4 independent members, appointed under the governance code for public appointments, for 5 years, non-renewable terms.***

***3 political representatives, appointed for 3 years, renewable terms.***

***All appointments made by the Prime Minister.***

**FOREWORD BY THE CHAIR**

I am pleased to present the Committee on Standards in Public Life’s Annual Report for 2020/21, my third as Chair of the Committee.

The past year has seen everyone continue to be deeply affected by the continuing pandemic. The pressure on the NHS, the economy and social care have impacted on every aspect of our lives. Many individuals have demonstrated levels of selflessness and leadership that have gone above and beyond. Staff in both the public and private sectors have had to adapt quickly to new ways of working.

The Committee and its small Secretariat has similarly had to adapt, working remotely and thinking about how to do things differently against an increasing workload.

The Committee recognises that the need for immediate action at a time of crisis means that the normal way of doing things might have to be set aside. But there have been some areas of concern where important norms have been disregarded. In my Hugh Kay lecture at the Institute for Business Ethics in November, I set out the case for the ‘real life’ importance of standards in public life, and why they continue to matter. Demonstrating the principles of public life, and showing a sense of fairness in carrying out its duties, has a critical impact on the ability of government to take the public and business with them and is necessary for building consensus.

The past year we have followed up previous reviews on intimidation in public life and local government ethical standards. I would like to highlight two outcomes in particular. First, on intimidation in public life, we published a joint statement of conduct for political parties, working closely with The Jo Cox Foundation (The JCF). We are especially grateful to Catherine Anderson, then CEO of The JCF, for her tireless work resulting in the successful conclusion of this joint work.

Secondly, the Local Government Association acted promptly to take forward our 2019 recommendation of a model code of conduct for local councils. We wanted to enhance the consistency and quality of local codes, and to support action against bullying and harassment. LGA’s new model code provides vital support for local authorities in holding councillors and officers to the high ethical standards expected by the public.

However, we remain concerned that 2 ½ years after its publication, the government has not formally responded to our local government ethical standards report and we would urge them to look at the important recommendations we made as a matter of urgency.

The majority of the Committee’s time and work during the period of this Annual Report has been focused on 2 new major reviews. In July, we published a review of the complex subject of election finance, looking at the regulation and enforcement of donations and campaign expenditure by candidates, political parties and non-party campaigners in election campaigns. Weighing up a wide range of evidence and differing views, this report sets out a package of practical recommendations to modernise and streamline the current system.

In September 2020, we started a major review of the standards landscape, looking at strengths, gaps and weaknesses in our complex tapestry of standards regulators - Standards Matter 2. For both reviews, we talked to experts, practitioners, academics and the public about what works well and what needs to be improved.

We have considered the role of the Committee during this time when its profile has been high during the ongoing debate about standards in public life post-Brexit. We have thought about how we can have the most impact and value and contribute to the maintenance of high standards in a timely way. Although it is welcome to see the Nolan principles widely cited in the media, it is clear there is confusion and dissatisfaction about how some aspects of the standards regime is working in practice.

In order to provide timely advice, we [wrote](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/981904/Lord_Evans_Letter_to_the_Prime_Minister_on_the_Independent_Adviser__15_April_2021.pdf) to the Prime Minister in advance of the appointment of a new Independent Adviser on Ministers’ Interests. Our recommendations were informed by evidence from a wide range of witnesses to the *Standards Matter 2* review including former Independent Advisers and former Cabinet Secretaries. We welcomed the appointment of Lord Geidt and we were pleased that some of our recommendations relating to the independence of his role were accepted. Although the Prime Minister did not decide to grant the Adviser the ability to initiate their own investigations, we continue to believe that this is necessary to improve confidence in the regulation of the Ministerial Code. We will continue to monitor how the role works in practice under its new terms of reference.

In light of sustained public scrutiny on standards regulation, and a number of parliamentary and government inquiries launched in the first half of 2021, we also published findings from our *Standards Matter 2* review. The Committee found that four areas of standards regulation require significant reform: the Ministerial Code and the Independent Adviser on Ministers’ Interests; the government’s Business Appointment Rules and ACOBA; transparency around lobbying; and the regulation of public appointments. These findings will inform our final report and recommendations to the Prime Minister which is due towards the end of 2021.

Looking ahead, the Committee will continue to monitor the impact of the pandemic on ethical standards in public life. And our next review, to be launched later this year, will identify best practice in education, culture, and leadership on ethical standards. It will report to the Prime Minister in 2022.

Finally I would like to thank Committee members, our Research Advisory Board Chair, and the Secretariat for their hard work and resilience during this past year. In particular, I would like to thank two independent members - Monisha Shah who finishes her term in July, after kindly agreeing to extend her term of appointment by 8 months; and Jane Ramsey, who resigned from the Committee in October 2020 to take up a new role to lead on a new independent complaints process for internal disciplinary matters in the Labour party.

Monisha contributed markedly to many of our reports during her 5 ½ years on the Committee, always making the Committee think carefully about the role of regulators, the importance of diversity of thought and public perceptions of standards. Jane led the Committee’s pivotal report into Intimidation in Public Life in 2017, provided key support on the local government report in 2019, drove the Committee’s close watching brief on bullying and harassment issues in Parliament and jointly led our election report before leaving the Committee in October. Jane and Monisha helped the Committee make the case for high standards in public life during a time of political turmoil and unprecedented crisis and we are indebted to them both.

**Lord (Jonathan) Evans of Weardale KCB DL**

**Chair**

**The Committee’s Remit**

The Committee on Standards in Public Life (CSPL, the Committee) advises the Prime Minister on ethical standards across the whole of public life in England. It monitors and reports on issues relating to the standards of conduct of all public office-holders. The Committee is an advisory non-departmental public body sponsored by the Cabinet Office. The Chair and members are appointed by the Prime Minister.

The Committee is a standing committee. It conducts inquiries into areas of current concern about standards in public life; revisits those areas to monitor whether and how well its recommendations have been put into effect; and can look to issues of the future.

The Committee was established in October 1994, by the then Prime Minister, with the following terms of reference:

**“To examine current concerns about standards of conduct of all holders of public office, including arrangements relating to financial and commercial activities, and make recommendations as to any changes in present arrangements which might be required to ensure the highest standards of propriety in public life.”**

The remit of the Committee excludes investigation of individual allegations of misconduct.

On 12 November 1997, the terms of reference were extended by the then Prime Minister:

**“To review issues in relation to the funding of political parties, and to make recommendations as to any changes in present arrangements.”**

**The terms of reference were clarified following the Triennial Review of the Committee in 2013. The then Minister for the Cabinet Office confirmed that the Committee “should not inquire into matters relating to the devolved legislatures and governments except with the agreement of those bodies”, and that “the Government understands the Committee’s remit to examine ‘standards of conduct of all holders of public office’ as encompassing all those involved in the delivery of public services, not solely those appointed or elected to public office.”**

**INTRODUCTION**



The Committee identifies areas of concern in conduct and behaviours and undertakes impartial, balanced and comprehensive reviews with recommendations based on evidence received. Our independence of both government and Parliament is key. We make informed contributions to public debates about ethical standards, including submissions to public consultations; and we proactively identify and respond to emerging ethical risks, and engage with a wide-range of partners on the ethical standards agenda.

The maintenance of high standards in public life is important for the good functioning of society as a whole, it helps maintain public trust in institutions, and is important for democracy. High standards of conduct underpin public confidence in every aspect of public life, from the delivery of health and social care services to education, policing and legislation.

The Committee plays a key role in examining areas of concern and maintaining a watching brief on standards in public life.

We are part of a complex landscape. There is a wide range of different regulatory bodies involved in investigating, promoting and maintaining standards, based on the Nolan Principles - some of those bodies came about as a result of the Committee’s recommendations over the past 26 years. We are not a regulator so we have no statutory powers and no remit to investigate individual cases. Instead we use a variety of means to do our work, to gather evidence, to influence, and to make sure our voice is heard. You can hear more about how we carry out our work in [our videos here](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLO4xn0gFY8rx2an6GM112Q).

It is a broad field so we are committed to working with others to ensure this vision of high ethical standards is met and that the Principles of Public Life are understood and embedded across public life. We have been pleased to hear directly from those also playing important roles in this complex landscape.

Our effectiveness depends on our ability to build powerful arguments using research and evidence which convinces others to take forward our recommendations for change.

In this report, we describe how we have carried out these activities in areas that have been our priorities in the period July 2020 – June 2021.

Factual information about the Committee’s remit, membership, data protection, financial information, reports published, speeches and presentations, submissions to external consultations and our Research Advisory Board can be found in Annexes A-I and on our website.

**REVIEW OF MAIN AREAS OF WORK JULY 2020 - JUNE 2021**

**REGULATION OF ELECTION FINANCE**

In June 2020, we launched our review of the complex subject of the regulation of election finance. We looked at the regulation and enforcement of donations and campaign expenditure by candidates, political parties and non-party campaigners in election campaigns.

The review was not prompted by a specific concern, but given our longstanding interest in this area, we wanted to consider whether the current framework for regulating campaign finance laws was coherent and proportionate.[[1]](#footnote-1)

Proportionate and effective regulation of the money spent to influence the outcome of elections and referendums is vital to the operation of a functioning democracy. We assessed the way donations and campaign expenditure by candidates, political parties and non-party campaigners in election and referendum campaigns are regulated and enforced.

We considered whether the system for regulating campaign spend and donations meets the challenges of 21st century elections. Digital campaigning is revolutionising the way parties and campaigners engage with voters. It has made it harder to track how much is being spent, on what, where and by whom.

Our public consultation and public focus groups asked about first principles – what values and principles should guide regulation of finance during elections? And, guided by those principles and the evidence we took from a range of contributors, we have made a series of practical recommendations that seek to modernise and reform important aspects of the regime.

Our recommendations are intended to balance the needs of those regulated by the system in terms of proportionality and clarity and fairness, with the right of the public to know how money is being spent in trying to influence their vote and the need for effective enforcement when rules are broken. We believe the recommendations deliver significant improvements to the current framework for regulating election finance, creating a system that is fair without being so complex and demanding that it deters people from taking part.

We would like to thank all those who gave evidence to our review. Our review would not have been possible if they had not been willing to share with us their knowledge and experience of, and research into, this highly complex subject.

**STANDARDS LANDSCAPE - STANDARDS MATTER 2**

We launched our review of the institutions, processes and structures in place to support high standards of conduct in September 2020.

This followed the publication of [research mapping the various regulatory bodies overseeing ethical standards](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-standards-in-england-25-years-since-the-creation-of-cspl), which was commissioned by the Committee as part of its 25th anniversary commemorations. Having surveyed the landscape - which includes a number of bodies created or reformed in line with CSPL recommendations - the Committee launched *Standards Matter 2* to assess the strengths, weaknesses and gaps in our framework for regulating ethics in public life.

We wanted to review to what extent high standards in public life are currently being upheld; if the Seven Principles of Public Life articulate the right set of ethical expectations of public office holders, and whether our regulatory system to maintain and uphold standards is fit for purpose.

We have taken evidence from a wide range of stakeholders, through a public consultation, public sector survey, stakeholder meetings, online evidence sessions and an academics' roundtable. We are very grateful to those who have given their time and expertise.

We published our [findings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/standards-matter-2-the-committees-findings) in June 2021. The Committee believes four areas of standards regulation require significant reform: the Ministerial Code and the Independent Adviser on Ministers’ Interests; ACOBA and the Business Appointment Rules; transparency around lobbying; and the regulation of public appointments. These findings will inform our final report and recommendations to the Prime Minister later this year.

Our final report will also cover some important cross-cutting themes. We are assessing how well standards are upheld in public life, considering the ongoing relevance and suitability of the Seven Principles of Public Life and their current descriptors, and examining options for standardising and simplifying our complex standards landscape.

We will also look at what is working well to support high standards of conduct across public life and will start a new, separate review that will examine best practice so that we can share the best examples of strong ethical cultures from both the public and private sector.

**FOLLOW UP TO PREVIOUS REPORTS**

**Artificial Intelligence And Public Standards, February 2020**

The Committee published its [report on AI and Public Standards](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/868284/Web_Version_AI_and_Public_Standards.PDF) in February 2020. It made a number of recommendations about the need for effective and informed governance of the use of AI in the public sector.

The review found that the Nolan Principles remain a valid guide for public sector practice and do not need reformulating for AI, but three are particularly relevant – openness, accountability and objectivity. There is a real need for openness, accountability and objectivity around any technology being used to make decisions in the public sector and the public expect transparency and accountability when things go wrong.

We found that far from needing a single regulator, successful AI governance is a question of clear regulation and proper controls for managing and mitigating risk. We said that all regulators should consider and respond to the challenges of AI in the fields for which they have responsibility.

In November 2020, [we wrote to regulators](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/artificial-intelligence-and-public-standards-regulators-survey-and-responses) asking them for an update on how they are adapting to the challenges posed by AI.

We welcome the government’s recent [response](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/artificial-intelligence-and-public-standards-government-response-to-report) to the report and continue to maintain a watching brief on progress made against the report’s recommendations.

**Local Government Ethical Standards Report, January 2019**

In January 2019, the Committee published a report and recommendations on local government ethical standards, an area of long-standing interest for CSPL.

Our work was a health check of the current framework established by the Localism Act 2011. The 2019 report provided assurance that the arrangements in place in local authorities are promoting and maintaining standards expected by the public and that the majority of local councillors do maintain high ethical standards.

We recommended though that some improvements were required, in particular, the need for maximum independence in local complaints processes and the need for greater sanctions, where appropriate, in the rare cases of significant or repeated breaches of the code of conduct.

One of our key recommendations was that there should be a non-mandatory model code of conduct. We welcome the work done by the Local Government Association over the past year to consult and produce a new [Model Code of Conduct](https://local.gov.uk/publications/local-government-association-model-councillor-code-conduct-2020). This is vital support for local authorities as they ensure councillors and officers adopt and maintain high ethical standards and we see this as an important step towards encouraging good conduct and safeguarding the public’s trust in local government. The importance of an ethical culture in every local council to maintain public trust and confidence in local democracy should not be underestimated.

At the end of 2020, we followed up progress against our 15 best practice recommendations. The replies we have received can be found [here](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-government-ethical-standards-progress-made-against-best-practice-recommendations). The responses we have received from local authorities have been positive with most local authorities confirming that they have already implemented or are taking steps to implement our best practice recommendations.

We are of course aware that the Covid-19 pandemic has involved significant additional work for those in local government and we are grateful to those who responded to our request for progress and we will continue to receive responses.

We are disappointed that the government has not yet formally responded to that report more than 2 years after its publication.

**Intimidation In Public Life, December 2017**

In our 2017 report *Intimidation in Public Life*, we made a number of recommendations for government, social media companies, Parliament, the police, political parties and others to address intimidation in public life. We have monitored developments since then, and we have actively worked with The Jo Cox Foundation on the recommendation of a joint statement on conduct for political parties.

In December 2020, we were pleased to publish this [joint statement](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/intimidation-in-public-life-joint-statement-on-conduct-of-political-party-members) that had the support of Labour, Liberal Democrats, the SNP, Plaid Cymru, and the Green Party. This is a high-level statement of principle outlining the minimum standards of behaviour that all members of political parties should aspire to.

We are indebted to Catherine Anderson and her colleagues at The Jo Cox Foundation for working with us to achieve the joint statement. We wish Catherine well in her new role as Executive Director at the London Marathon Charitable Trust.

We were also pleased to see progress in a number of other areas against our recommendations; progress against those recommendations can be found [here](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/intimidation-in-public-life-progress-report-on-recommendations).

**WATCHING BRIEFS**

**Bullying And Harassment**

When allegations of widespread bullying and harassment in Parliament came to light in late 2018, it was clear that fundamental reform was needed to change the culture of both Houses and the way Parliament regulated the conduct of parliamentarians and staff.

The establishment of the Independent Complaints and Grievances Scheme (ICGS) was a significant step forward, based on the important principle that those working in both Houses of Parliament would be subject to an independent and impartial process dedicated to upholding the new Behaviour Code.

Recognising the importance of these reforms to the way standards are upheld in Parliament, CSPL has maintained a close watching brief on the implementation of the ICGS since it was set up in 2018.

The 18 month review of the ICGS was published earlier this year and we welcome the commitment of both Houses of Parliament to implementing Alison Stanley's recommendations. [Our submission to that review](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cspl-submission-to-the-icgs-18-month-review) welcomed the work that has been done but noted that there is still some need for improvement. Notably, investigations take too long to complete; the scheme needs greater resources; and support offered to complainants and respondents needs to be better assessed.

We also welcome the House of Commons’ endorsement of a revised regime of sanctions for breaches of the Code of Conduct, both in respect to the Independent Complaints and Grievance Scheme (ICGS) and non-ICGS cases; and the revisions to confidentiality arrangements so that the Commissioner for Standards now has leave to publish information about complaints received and matters under investigation. We agree with the Commissioner that this step will encourage greater confidence in the parliamentary standards system.

**Impact of Covid-19 on Standards In Public Life**

We have monitored the impact on Covid-19 on public standards over the past year, looking at standards issues arising as a result of the pandemic, including any compromise of the Nolan Principles; changes to parliamentary procedure and scrutiny; challenges around democratic accountability; and any impact on public trust.

We of course understand that there may be imperatives driving departure from normal processes, but these cannot become the norm. How decisions are made - in the public interest - is what the Seven Principles of Life are about. These are the values that those serving the public should demonstrate.

We have published a number of Covid blog posts covering the different areas of public life that Covid has affected:

[Robust debate, not intimidation: May elections](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/12/intimidation-and-may-elections/), Lord Evans

[Jackie Weaver – a catalyst for change in local government standards](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/08/jackieweaver-a-catalyst-for-change-in-local-government-standards/), Dr Jane Martin

[Decision making by algorithm must meet Nolan’s tests](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2020/08/19/decision-making-by-algorithm-must-meet-nolans-tests/), Lord Evans

[Do exceptional times call for exceptional measures?](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2020/08/07/do-exceptional-times-allow-for-exceptional-measures/), Monisha Shah

[Principles in practice](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2020/07/20/principles-in-practice/), Professor Mark Philp, Research Advisory Board

[Leadership in times of crisis](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2020/07/06/leadership-in-times-of-crisis/), Dame Shirley Pearce

[National problem, local solutions: openness and accountability at risk](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2020/06/26/national-problem-local-solutions-openness-and-accountability-at-risk/), Dr Jane Martin

[Understanding the value of selflessness in the coronavirus crisis](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2020/06/19/understanding-the-value-of-selflessness-in-the-coronavirus-crisis/), Dame Shirley Pearce

[Building equality into our coronavirus recovery](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2020/06/15/building-equality-into-our-coronavirus-recovery/), Monisha Shah

[Upholding objectivity in Covid-19 decision making](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2020/06/02/upholding-objectivity-in-covid-19-decision-making/), Professor Mark Philp, Research Advisory Board

[Ethical standards in a time of crisis](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2020/05/04/ethical-standards-in-a-time-of-crisis/), Professor Mark Philp, Research Advisory Board

[Nolan’s Principles underpin trust](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2020/03/20/nolans-principles-underpin-trust/), Lord Evans

**ANNEXES**

[**ANNEX A: ABOUT THE COMMITTEE**](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life/about)

[**ANNEX B: MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE**](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life/about/membership)

[**ANNEX C: DATA PROTECTION**](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life/about/personal-information-charter)

[**ANNEX D: REPORTS PUBLISHED**](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/cspl-reports)

[**ANNEX E: RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD**](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life/about/research)

[**ANNEX F: COMMITTEE BLOGS**](https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/)

**ANNEX G: EXTERNAL EVENTS**

**October 2020**

22 October: Jane Ramsey spoke at LGA Councillors Forum follow-up meeting

23 October: Dame Shirley Pearce spoke at Public Chairs’ Forum event on good governance

**November 2020**

2 November: Dr Jane Martin spoke at the LGA Monitoring Officers Conference

11 November: Lord Evans delivered the [Hugh Kay Lecture](https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-hugh-kay-lecture-are-we-in-a-post-nolan-age)

12 November: Lord Evans spoke at the Wilton Park/RUSI event on the future of AI governance in the Public Sector

24 November: Lord Evans and Dr Jane Martin gave evidence to the House of Commons Standards Committee

**December 2020**

1 December: Lord Evans and Dr Jane Martin gave evidence to the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee

**January 2021**

8 January: Professor Mark Philp participated in the Study of Parliament Group on the Regulation of MPs

26 January: Lord Evans spoke at the Non Executive Director Induction Event

**March 2021**

18 March: Lord Evans spoke at the joint Public Chairs’ Forum and Association of Chief Executives event on AI Governance

**May 2021**

6 May: Dr Jane Martin participated in a roundtable: Women and civility/incivility in politics, organised by the Maison Française d'Oxford and Worcester College, Oxford

**June 2021**

29 June: Lord Evans spoke at the Non Executive Director (NED) Induction Event

**ANNEX H: COMMITTEE SUBMISSIONS TO PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS**

November 2020: [Parliamentary Inquiry on Code of Conduct for MPs](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cspl-submission-to-parliamentary-inquiry-on-code-of-conduct-for-mps)

November 2020: [Scotland Ethical Standards Commissioner's Review of Ministerial Appointments](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cspl-submission-to-scotland-esc-review-of-ministerial-appointments)

November 2020: [Parliamentary Inquiry into APPGs](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cspl-submission-to-parliamentary-inquiry-into-appgs)

December 2020: [Independent Complaints and Grievance Scheme 18 month review](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cspl-submission-to-the-icgs-18-month-review)

January 2021: [Impress Standards Code](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/intimidation-in-public-life-cspl-submission-to-impress-standards-code-review)

January 2021: [Welsh Assembly Code of Conduct](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cspl-submission-to-welsh-assembly-code-of-conduct-consultation)

**ANNEX I: FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

The Chair is paid a remuneration of £36k pa with the expectation that he commits an average of 5-6 days a month, although this time increases significantly during periods of Committee reviews.

Independent members of the Committee on Standards in Public Life may claim £240 for each day they work on Committee business and claim for expenses incurred.

The 3 political members of the Committee do not receive any fees or expenses.

As an advisory non-departmental public body, the Committee on Standards in Public Life receives a delegated budget from the Cabinet Office. Day-to-day responsibility for financial controls and budgetary mechanisms are delegated to the Secretary of the Committee. Creation of new posts are subject to the Cabinet Office Approvals process.

Members of the Secretariat are permanent civil servants employed by the Cabinet Office. There are 5 full-time members of the Secretariat.

The Committee’s media and communications activity is managed by a contracted Press Officer.

The Committee’s spend for 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2021 was £414,872.83.

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**July 2021**

1. Our predecessors recommended the setting up of the Electoral Commission in 1998 and reviewed its work in 2007. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)