**CSPL (21) 44**

**COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE**

**303rd MEETING**

**HELD AT 09.00 ON THURSDAY 21 JULY 2022,**

**IN CHURCH HOUSE, LONDON SW1P 3AZ**

**MINUTES**

Present: Lord Evans of Weardale KCB DL, Chair

Ewen Fergusson

Professor Dame Shirley Pearce DBE

Professor Gillian Peele

Rt Hon Dame Margaret Beckett DBE MP

Rt Hon Lord Stunell OBE

Professor Mark Philp (Chair, Research Advisory Board)

(joined remotely)

Lesley Bainsfair, Secretary

Nicola Richardson, Senior Policy Adviser

Amy Austin, Senior Policy Adviser

Lesley Glanz, Executive Assistant

Maggie O’Boyle, Press Officer[[1]](#footnote-1)

**1. APOLOGIES**

 Rt Hon Sir Jeremy Wright MP

**2. REGISTERS**

Members were asked to let the Secretariat know of any changes to their register of interests which had been circulated.

**3. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2022 were agreed.

**Chair’s update**

Members noted:

* An informal catch up meeting with the Heads of Independent Offices that took place on 5 July.
* The Chair’s interview with Week in Westminster on 11 July on standards in public life and recommendations from *Upholding Standards in Public Life*. The interview had received good media coverage.
* Correspondence between the London Borough of Camden’s Standards Committee about the government response to our local government report. It was agreed to write to the Secretary of State, once the new PM had been selected, to note concern about the government response to the *Local Government Ethical Standards* report.
* The Constitution Unit’s report, Parliament’s Watchdogs on the Independence and Accountability of Five Constitutional Regulators.
* The advert for the Committee’s vacant independent member post, which went live on 30 June and closes on 3 August 2022.

The Committee discussed a suggestion of writing to the two Conservative leadership candidates, Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP and Rt Hon Liz Truss MP, drawing attention to the Committee’s work and recommendations in *Upholding Standards in Public Life*.

**4. LEADING IN PRACTICE**

Members approved the draft outline structure and offered comments on the approach to take for the draft report. Members also discussed ideas for the launch of the published report.

**5. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME**

Members discussed ideas for the Committee’s next review and asked the Secretariat to undertake further scoping.

**6. STANDARDS CHECK**

The Committee noted the media coverage of standards issues which are circulated daily to members.

**7. FORWARD AGENDA**

The Committee noted the forward agenda.

**8. AOB**

 **Communications Update**

The Committee noted the communications update for June 2022.

**Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 15 September 2022 at 10.00.

CSPL Secretariat

July 2022

1. Maggie O’Boyle provides part-time press support to the Civil Service Commission, the House of Lords Appointments Commission, the Office for the Commissioner for Public Appointments and the Committee on Standards in Public Life. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)