

**Committee on  
Standards  
in Public Life**

# **Annual Report 2023 – 2024**

Honesty | Objectivity | Openness | Selflessness | Integrity | Accountability | Leadership

## 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.*

### **HONESTY**

*Holders of public office should be truthful.*

### **OBJECTIVITY**

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

### **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.*

### **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.*

### **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.*

### **LEADERSHIP**

*Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour and treat others with respect. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.*

*The Seven Principles were established in the Committee's First Report in 1995; some of the accompanying descriptors were revised following a review in the 14th Report, Standards Matter, published January 2013, and in the 23rd Report, Upholding Standards in Public Life, published November 2021.*

## **FOREWORD BY THE CHAIR**

I am pleased to present the Committee on Standards in Public Life's Annual Report for 2023/2024, my first since being appointed as Chair in December 2023. I would like to place on record my gratitude to current and past members and my admiration for what they have achieved. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the work undertaken by my predecessor, Lord (Jonathan) Evans, whose leadership and counsel were invaluable in helping steer the Committee through significant challenges to the standards system during his term.

I hope to build on Lord Evans' legacy by continuing our evidence-based review work; maintaining strong relationships with those delivering the standards landscape, including within the Devolved Administrations; and engaging widely to promote the Nolan principles.

During the past year, the Committee has maintained its watching brief on standards across public life. We have championed our 2023 Leading in Practice report; held a seminar on lobbying exploring how current lobbying rules are working in practice, particularly in respect of governance and transparency arrangements; and followed up our 2020 AI and public standards report with a seminar which considered the assurances required to enable public office holders to be comfortably accountable for advice and decisions derived from, or made by, AI. As always, we are grateful to those who give their time so generously, and without whom we could not undertake our work.

### **Upholding Standards in Public Life review**

Our 2021 Upholding Standards in Public Life report made a series of recommendations designed to maintain the highest standards of public life in government. The concerns we expressed and the recommendations we made were also echoed in a range of other reports published by civil society organisations.

Whilst we were pleased that the previous government accepted some of our recommendations, including on government department returns and reform of the Business Appointment Rules, we continue to believe that the range of measures proposed would strengthen and modernise the standards system and we believe that they must be a matter for continuing, and cross-party, debate. As part of this process, we wish to underline that the timely response to formal recommendations is an important factor in maintaining the confidence of the public in the wider standards environment

### **Accountability Review**

In March, we launched our new review on accountability within public bodies looking at how public bodies can act on early warning signs and ensure that issues are uncovered and addressed more rapidly. Accountability cannot be an afterthought, it needs to be part of day to day decision making, especially in an increasingly complex public sector.

## **Intimidation in public life**

There were serious concerns about intimidation of candidates in the general election. I wrote to all leaders of political parties to help tackle this by setting clear expectations about the standards they expect of their candidates as they campaign. Intimidation and abuse damages democracy.<sup>1</sup> We know it puts off candidates from standing and that some MPs have chosen to step down because of this unacceptable behaviour. If we want high calibre, talented and diverse candidates to serve across public life, we should be prepared to call out intimidation; it damages our country.

I also wrote an open letter to all candidates thanking them for stepping forward and taking the opportunity to reinforce awareness of the Principles of Public Life.<sup>2</sup> It is important that those candidates elected to office understand the values they should exhibit and will be expected to live by, many of whom may be entering public life for the first time.

High standards do not emerge by accident. An ethical culture and standards system requires both principles and rules, a chance for people to step back and think 'is this the right decision', as well as proactive attention at all levels. As a Committee, we approach our 30-year anniversary in October 2024. I believe that the work of this Committee and the long-established principles of selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership remain of key relevance. Against a backdrop of rapid and complex societal changes, the importance of high ethical standards and public trust in our democratic institutions must be kept front of mind.



**Doug Chalmers, CB, DSO, OBE**  
**Chair**

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/letters-to-political-party-leaders-and-parliamentary-candidates-about-upholding-standards-of-conduct-ahead-of-the-forthcoming-general-election>

<sup>2</sup>[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/664c8ca5ae748c43d3793f5b/2024-05-22\\_Chair\\_s\\_op\\_en\\_letter\\_to\\_parliamentary\\_candidates.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/664c8ca5ae748c43d3793f5b/2024-05-22_Chair_s_op_en_letter_to_parliamentary_candidates.pdf)

## THE COMMITTEE'S REMIT

The Committee is an independent, advisory non-departmental public body sponsored by the Cabinet Office, which advises the Prime Minister on arrangements for upholding ethical standards across the whole of public life in England. The Committee does that by undertaking independent reviews and producing evidence-based reports.

The Committee was established as a standing committee in October 1994, by the then Prime Minister, John Major, 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 allegations of misconduct. We are not a regulator and cannot investigate individual complaints.

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.”

## THE COMMITTEE'S ROLE AND HOW IT GOES ABOUT ITS WORK

The Committee advises the Prime Minister on ethical standards across public life. We conduct broad inquiries, collecting evidence to assess institutions, policies and practices and make recommendations to the Prime Minister where appropriate. We identify areas of concern and undertake impartial, evidence-based reviews, making recommendations to uphold and drive improvement in standards in public life based on evidence received. Our independence from both government and Parliament is key.

The Committee may decide to conduct inquiries into areas of current concern about standards in public life; revisit areas to see if and how our recommendations have been put into effect; and can also look ahead to emerging issues relating to public standards. We promote the Principles of Public Life, which outline the ethical standards those working in the public sector are expected to adhere to. The Principles apply to all public office holders and to private and voluntary organisations where they are delivering services paid for by public funds.

The Committee is committed to building a strong evidence-base for our reviews and to working with others to ensure that high ethical standards are met and that the Principles of Public Life are understood and embedded across public life.

We make informed contributions to public debates about ethical standards, including through submissions to public consultations and participating in seminars and discussion events. We monitor emerging ethical risks and engage with a wide range of partners on the ethical standards agenda.

The Committee is not a regulator and we have no statutory powers and no remit to investigate individual cases. Our effectiveness depends on our independence, impartiality, and our ability to make powerful arguments for change, which in turn is based on conducting well researched reviews, with a strong evidence base after wide-ranging consultation. Where possible, we aim to follow-up our reviews with the relevant stakeholders to ensure that our recommendations stand the strongest possible chance of being implemented.

Under its remit since 2013, the Committee cannot inquire into matters relating to devolved legislatures and governments except with their agreement. When the subject of the Committee's reviews impact on reserved areas however, the Committee seeks the views of the devolved administrations as appropriate.

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 which came about as a result of the Committee's recommendations over the past almost 30 years.

You can learn more about how we carry out our work in videos published on Youtube and our website.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1QX1AcgRURs>

## CORE WORK PROGRAMME 2023-2024

### Accountability Review

We announced our review into accountability within public bodies on 25 March 2024.<sup>4</sup>

In recent years we have seen several examples of major failures within public institutions, where it seems that opportunities were missed to address issues before they escalated and it took many years for cases of injustice to come to light. We are asking in this review, when things go wrong in public bodies, why it can take so long for problems to be recognised and the leadership to respond appropriately, and what needs to change.

This review will look at how public bodies can do their best to ensure that issues are uncovered and addressed rapidly. Its purpose is to share best practice. We have chosen to look at accountability within public bodies because we want to help organisations in the public sector get better at holding themselves to account for the effective delivery of public services.

We intend to publish the report in spring 2025.

### AI Follow-up Work

In 2020, the Committee on Standards in Public Life (CSPL) published its report, *Artificial Intelligence and Public Standards*<sup>5</sup>, looking at whether the then regulatory and governance framework for AI was sufficient to ensure that public standards would continue to be upheld as AI is adopted more widely across the public sector. The government published their response to our report in May 2021, which was broadly positive although not all recommendations were accepted.

In light of developments in the intervening period, we wanted to review progress made against the recommendations. In July 2023, the then Chair wrote to the Minister for AI and Intellectual Property, regulators, and public bodies asking for an update on progress. We published a short follow up report summarising what stakeholders told us they had done in response to our recommendations in March 2024.<sup>6</sup> We also published separately the responses we received from the government<sup>7</sup>, regulators<sup>8</sup> and public bodies.<sup>9</sup>

On 21 March 2024, we held an AI seminar. Its purpose was to hear from experts in the field on some of the issues raised in the 2020 report, in particular, the assurances required to enable public office holders to be comfortably accountable for advice and decisions derived from, or made by, AI. The summary note of the seminar is available on our website.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/accountability-within-public-bodies>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/artificial-intelligence-and-public-standards-report>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ai-and-public-standards-an-update-on-progress-made-against-our-2020-recommendations>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ai-and-public-standards-government-update-on-progress-against-recommendations>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ai-and-public-standards-2023-regulators-survey>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ai-and-public-standards-2023-public-bodies-survey>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ai-and-public-standards-2024-ai-seminar-summary-note>

We are very grateful to all those who attended and were willing to give up their time and share their expertise with us. A number of key themes emerged including: engaging and assuring the public, the behaviours, values and accountability of AI professionals, transparency in decision-making, and the risks of ‘sleepwalking’ into a world without human involvement in processes. We intend to maintain a watching brief on AI developments during the forthcoming period.

## **RECENT PREVIOUS REPORTS: UPDATES AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSES**

### **Upholding Standards In Public Life, 2021**

The Committee published *Upholding Standards in Public Life* in November 2021.<sup>11</sup> The report included recommendations for reforming: the Ministerial Code and the Independent Adviser; ACOBA and the Business Appointment Rules; transparency around lobbying; and the regulation of public appointments. The Committee also called for new primary legislation to establish in statute the independence of standards regulators.

We welcomed the previous government’s full response published in July 2023 although we were disappointed that the previous government took 18 months to respond.<sup>12</sup>

We were pleased that the previous government accepted a number of our recommendations particularly around greater transparency of government departmental returns; the Business Appointment Rules including for the first time a ministerial deed; greater transparency around direct ministerial appointments; and that appointments of Non-Executive Directors of government departments will in future be regulated under the Governance Code for Public Appointments. Our tracker noting a summary of the previous government response to each of the Committee’s recommendations and our assessment of whether or not the recommendation has been met is available on our website.<sup>13</sup>

These are important steps in the right direction. However, it should not be the end of the story. We would encourage the new government to review our recommendations. We will maintain a close interest in progress on these reforms.

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<sup>11</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/upholding-standards-in-public-life-published-report>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strengthening-ethics-and-integrity-in-central-government>

<sup>13</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64b7fccfef537100147aeee5/2023-07-20\\_Upholding\\_Standards\\_in\\_Public\\_Life\\_-\\_government\\_response\\_to\\_recommendations.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64b7fccfef537100147aeee5/2023-07-20_Upholding_Standards_in_Public_Life_-_government_response_to_recommendations.pdf)



## Regulating Election Finance, 2021

In September 2021, the previous government set out their initial view on our recommendations regarding the regulation of election finance.<sup>14</sup> They said in that response that they ‘look forward to considering each of the recommendations in more detail in due course’.

We wrote to the former Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, to request an update on the government’s consideration of the report, in May 2023.<sup>15</sup> In July 2023, Baroness Scott of Bybrook, former Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, replied saying that the government had no plans to produce a further response. That correspondence is available on our website.<sup>16</sup>

## Local Government Ethical Standards, 2019

Our evidence-based report, published in January 2019, exploring ethical standards in local government was welcomed by the sector, backing our call to strengthen the arrangements in place to support high ethical standards, whilst respecting the benefits of a localised approach.<sup>17</sup>

The previous government responded three years later in March 2022.<sup>18</sup> We were disappointed that the previous government in its response rejected most of our recommendations, stating that it thought that the best route for change was best practice by local authorities. Lord Evans, our former Chair, wrote a number of times to the then Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. The most recent reply from the then Minister for Local Government in February 2023 confirmed that the government will not be taking up our recommendations.<sup>19</sup>

We believe this is a missed opportunity to update and improve the locally-based standards regime in local government. We continue to make the case for our recommendations and influence where we can.

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<sup>14</sup>[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64b7fccfef537100147aeee5/2023-07-20\\_Upholding\\_Standards\\_in\\_Public\\_Life\\_-\\_government\\_response\\_to\\_recommendations.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64b7fccfef537100147aeee5/2023-07-20_Upholding_Standards_in_Public_Life_-_government_response_to_recommendations.pdf)

<sup>15</sup><https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/letter-from-lord-evans-to-rt-hon-michael-gove-mp-about-the-cspl-report-regulating-election-finance>

<sup>16</sup><https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64ad1633b504f70012cdb8c4/20230707163217004.pdf>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-government-ethical-standards-report>

<sup>18</sup>[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1061773/Government\\_response\\_to\\_CSPL\\_review\\_of\\_local\\_government\\_ethical\\_standards.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1061773/Government_response_to_CSPL_review_of_local_government_ethical_standards.pdf)

<sup>19</sup>[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1154663/Letter\\_from\\_Lee\\_Rowley\\_MP\\_Local\\_Government\\_Minister\\_to\\_Lord\\_Evans.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1154663/Letter_from_Lee_Rowley_MP_Local_Government_Minister_to_Lord_Evans.pdf)

## WATCHING BRIEFS

### Lobbying

Lobbying is an important and legitimate part of public life - the right of individuals, businesses and interest groups to make representations to governments and elected officials is essential.

The Committee held a seminar in September 2023, which explored issues around lobbying: how the rules are working in practice, transparency and governance arrangements, and access provided by All Party Parliamentary Groups (APPGs).

We are grateful to all those who so generously gave up their time to share their expertise with us.

The note of the seminar is available on our website.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>20</sup>[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/653bb6a2d10f35000d9a6abd/CSPL\\_Lobbying\\_Seminar\\_Summary\\_Note.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/653bb6a2d10f35000d9a6abd/CSPL_Lobbying_Seminar_Summary_Note.pdf)

## BLOGS PUBLISHED DURING THE PERIOD OF THIS REPORT

*Reforming standards in central government - a step forward*<sup>21</sup>, July 2023

Former Chair, Lord Evans of Weardale, on the government response to Upholding Standards in Public Life.

*Lobbying - building a culture of openness and transparency*<sup>22</sup>, September 2023

Former Chair, Lord Evans of Weardale, on lobbying.

*Introducing our new Chair, Doug Chalmers*<sup>23</sup>, December 2023

Chair, Doug Chalmers.

*Post Office Horizon - an accountability failure*<sup>24</sup>, January 2024

Chair, Doug Chalmers, about the standards of public sector and corporate conduct.

*Making sense of the standards landscape*<sup>25</sup>, February 2024

Chair, Doug Chalmers, on evidence he and Professor Gillian Peele gave to the House of Commons Standards Committee as part of the Commons Standards Committee's inquiry into the House of Commons Standards landscape.<sup>26</sup>

*A new Code of Ethics for Policing*<sup>27</sup>, March 2024

Chief Constable Andy Marsh QPM, Chief Executive of the National College of Policing, about the development of the new Code of Ethics providing ethical principles to support decision making and behaviour in policing.

*Setting the Standard*<sup>28</sup>, July 2024

Chair, Doug Chalmers, writes about Lord Nolan's principles that represent the standards that the public expects those in public life to operate by on their behalf. They have stood the test of time and are the bedrock of a range of rules and codes of conduct, including for MPs

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<sup>21</sup> <https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2023/07/20/reforming-standards-in-central-government-a-step-forward/>

<sup>22</sup> <https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2023/09/06/lobbying-building-a-culture-of-openness-and-transparency/>

<sup>23</sup> <https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2023/12/22/introducing-our-new-chair-doug-chalmers/>

<sup>24</sup> <https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2024/01/22/post-office-horizon-an-accountability-failure/>

<sup>25</sup> <https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2024/02/14/making-sense-of-the-standards-landscape/>

<sup>26</sup> <https://committees.parliament.uk/work/7843/house-of-commons-standards-landscape/>

<sup>27</sup> <https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2024/03/21/a-new-code-of-ethics-for-policing/>

<sup>28</sup> <https://cspl.blog.gov.uk/2024/07/08/setting-the-standard/>

## ANNEXES

### ANNEX A: ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

#### Governance

Our governance statements are published on our website.<sup>29</sup>

They include the following:

- Code of practice for members;
- Expectations of Committee members and the Secretariat;
- Ground rules on public statements;
- Registers of Members' Interests;
- Way of Working;
- Register of stakeholder meetings.

#### Membership of the Committee

The Committee comprises the independent Chair, four independent members and three political members. Our political members are currently represented by the Conservative and Labour parties and the Scottish National Party. This mix of independent and political membership has served the Committee well, allowing the Committee to maintain a considered and impartial view whilst also understanding political perspectives.

Independent members are appointed for a five-year, non-renewable term through open competition run by the Cabinet Office.

Political members are appointed for a three-year term which can be renewed. Party members are nominated by their party leader.

The Chair and all members, independent and political, are appointed by the Prime Minister.

The workload of Committee members is high. Independent members are asked to co-lead reviews, attend evidence gathering meetings and hearings, and to consider drafts of consultations and reports.

Our membership is listed on the next page.

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<sup>29</sup><https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life/about/our-governance>

## Current Membership

### Chair



**Doug Chalmers CB, DSO, OBE**  
12 December 2023 - 11 December 2028

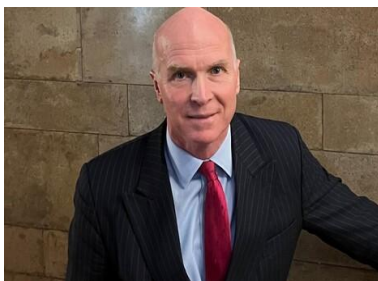
### *Independent Members*



**Rt Hon Lady Arden of  
Heswell DBE**  
13 February 2023 -  
12 February 2028



**Ewen Fergusson**  
1 August 2021 -  
31 July 2026



**John Henderson**  
26 February 2024 -  
25 February 2029



**Professor Gillian Peele**  
1 August 2021 -  
31 July 2026

***Political Members***



**Rt Hon Dame Margaret Beckett GBE <sup>30</sup>**  
**Labour Party**  
Appointed 1 November 2022



**Rt Hon Ian Blackford**  
**Scottish National Party**  
Appointed 26 June 2023



**Baroness Finn**  
**Conservative Party**  
Appointed 21 November 2022

***Chair for part of the period of this annual report***



**Lord (Jonathan) Evans KCB DL**  
1 November 2018 - 31 October 2023

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<sup>30</sup> Dame Margaret Beckett was awarded a life peerage in the 2024 Dissolution Honours List.

## Research Advisory Board

In order to assist the Committee and the researchers, an Advisory Board was appointed in 2001 and has been involved in all of the key milestones of the research programme, which led to the publication of the results of the first public survey in September 2004.<sup>31</sup>

In 2005, the Committee decided to maintain an Advisory Board for the repeat survey and review of the Seven Principles, albeit with a smaller membership and placed on a more formal footing, with members paid a daily rate and expenses.

The Board is chaired by Professor Mark Philp, Professor, University of Warwick. Mark attends Committee meetings to advise the Committee.

In practice, whilst Professor Philp remains the Chair, the Board is not now a standing body, but is formed of academics called in as necessary, including Professor Cees van der Eijk, Professor of Social Science Research Methods at the University of Nottingham.

## Personal Information Charter

Our privacy notice, which explains how the Committee on Standards in Public Life uses the personal information of members of the public, can be found on our website.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> From 2004 - 2013, the Committee conducted 2-yearly surveys to keep us in touch with current attitudes, in order to analyse the standards of behaviour the British public feel public office holders should be kept to, the extent to which these standards are believed to be upheld, and the perception of how well the systems put in place to enforce them are operating. Following the recommendations in the Triennial Review, the latest public attitude survey published on 23 September 2013 was the final one published by the Committee. The Committee now conducts smaller pieces of research where appropriate to support its work.

<sup>32</sup><https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life/about/personal-information-charter>

## **ANNEX B: REPORTS PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE**

**2023, Leading in Practice<sup>33</sup>**

**2021, Upholding Standards in Public Life<sup>34</sup>**

**2021, Regulating Election Finance<sup>35</sup>**

**2020, Artificial Intelligence and Public Standards<sup>36</sup>**

**2019, Local Government Ethical Standards<sup>37</sup>**

**2018, MPs' Outside Interests<sup>38</sup>**

**2018, The Continuing Importance of Ethical Standards for Public Service Providers<sup>39</sup>**

**2017, Intimidation in Public Life<sup>40</sup>**

**2016, Striking the Balance: Upholding the 7 Principles in Regulation<sup>41</sup>**

**2015, Tone from the Top: Leadership, Ethics and Accountability in Policing<sup>42</sup>**

**2014. Ethics in Practice: Promoting Ethical Standards in Public Life<sup>43</sup>**

**2014, Ethical Standards for Providers of Public Services<sup>44</sup>**

**2013, Strengthening Transparency around Lobbying<sup>45</sup>**

**2013, Standards Matter: a Review of Best Practice in Promoting Good Behaviour in Public Life<sup>46</sup>**

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<sup>33</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/leading-in-practice>

<sup>34</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/upholding-standards-in-public-life-published-report>

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/regulating-election-finance-report>

<sup>36</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/artificial-intelligence-and-public-standards-report>

<sup>37</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-government-ethical-standards-report>

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mps-outside-interests>

<sup>39</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-continuing-importance-of-ethical-standards-for-public-service-providers>

<sup>40</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/intimidation-in-public-life-a-review-by-the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life>

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/striking-the-balance-upholding-the-7-principles-in-regulation>

<sup>42</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tone-from-the-top-leadership-ethics-and-accountability-in-policing>

<sup>43</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ethics-in-practice-promoting-ethical-standards-in-public-life>

<sup>44</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ethical-standards-for-providers-of-public-services>

<sup>45</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strengthening-transparency-around-lobbying>

<sup>46</sup> <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<sup>47</sup>**

**2009, MPs' Expenses and Allowances: Supporting Parliament, Safeguarding the Taxpayer<sup>48</sup>**

**2007, Review of the Electoral Commission<sup>49</sup>**

**2005, Getting the Balance Right: Implementing Standards of Conduct in Public Life<sup>50</sup>**

**2003, Defining the Boundaries within the Executive: Ministers, Special Advisers and the Permanent Civil Service<sup>51</sup>**

**2002, Standards of Conduct in the House of Commons<sup>52</sup>**

**2000, Standards of Conduct in the House of Lords<sup>53</sup>**

**2000, Reinforcing Standards: A summary<sup>54</sup>**

**1998 The Funding of Political Parties in the United Kingdom<sup>55</sup>**

**1997, Review of Standards of Conduct in Executive NDPBs, NHS Trusts and Local Public Spending Bodies<sup>56</sup>**

**1997, Standards of Conduct of local government in England, Scotland and Wales<sup>57</sup>**

**1996, Local Public Spending Bodies<sup>58</sup>**

**1995, MPs, Ministers and Civil Servants, Executive Quangos<sup>59</sup>**

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<sup>47</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/political-party-finance-ending-the-big-donor-culture>

<sup>48</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/twelfth-report-of-the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life-november-2009>

<sup>49</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-electoral-commission-eleventh-report-of-the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life>

<sup>50</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tenth-report-of-the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life>

<sup>51</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/defining-the-boundaries-within-the-executive-ministers-special-advisers-and-the-permanent-civil-service>

<sup>52</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/standards-of-conduct-in-the-house-of-commons>

<sup>53</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/standards-of-conduct-in-the-house-of-lords--2>

<sup>54</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reinforcing-standards-summary>

<sup>55</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-funding-of-political-parties-in-the-united-kingdom--2>

<sup>56</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-standards-of-conduct-in-executive-ndpbs-nhs-trusts-and-local-public-spending-bodies>

<sup>57</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/standards-of-conduct-of-local-government-in-england-scotland-and-wales>

<sup>58</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-public-spending-bodies>

<sup>59</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mps-ministers-and-civil-servants-executive-quangos>

## **ANNEX C: EXTERNAL EVENTS**

### **August 2023**

30 August - Lord Evans participated at the Non-Executive Directors Induction Event by the Cabinet Office

### **September 2023**

14 September - Ewen Fergusson attended an AI Conference, hosted by AGL Communication Rob Thomson CBE DSO

21 September - Lord Evans spoke (remotely) at the Transparency International forum for New Zealand public sector leaders conference

### **October 2023**

5 October - Ewen Fergusson spoke at the Protect 30th Anniversary Conference

17 October - Lord Evans valedictory speech at the IfG public event hosted by the Director of IfG, Dr Hannah White

18 October - Lord Evans was part of the panel discussion at an event organised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants for England and Wales (ICAE&W)

19 October - Lord Evans gave a presentation on public standards in the UK and the Leading in Practice report to the Excellence in Policing conference

31 October - Ewen Fergusson attended the Electoral Commission Strategic Roundtable

### **November 2023**

7 November - Ewen Fergusson, was a guest speaker at Good Corporation, Business ethics consultancy to speak about Leading in Practice report

16 November - Ewen Fergusson spoke to Academy Trusts CEOs on Leading in Practice

### **December 2023**

6 December - Ewen Fergusson spoke at the Cabinet Office Non-Executive Directors Induction Event

### **January 2024**

23 January - Doug Chalmers, and Gillian Peele gave oral evidence to the Commons Committee on Standards inquiry into the Commons standards landscape

## March 2024

18 March - Doug Chalmers chaired a discussion with Baroness Stuart of Edgbaston, First Civil Service Commissioner, and Daniel Greenberg CB, Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, organised by Politico Home on Fixing Parliament's Ethics Crisis

25 March - Doug Chalmers took part in a Cabinet Office 'Lunch and Learn' discussion regarding CSPL and the Nolan principles.

## April 2024

24 April - Doug Chalmers spoke at the Public Body Non-Executive Board Members Induction Training Event.

*The pre-election period of sensitivity took place from 25 May to 4 July.<sup>60</sup>*

## July 2024

9 July - Doug Chalmers spoke in Parliament at the induction sessions of new MPs.

## ANNEX D: COMMITTEE SUBMISSIONS TO PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

December 2023: We submitted written evidence to the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee, in response to their inquiry on Civil Leadership and Reform.<sup>61</sup>

December 2023: We submitted written evidence to the Lords' Communications and Digital Committee Inquiry on Large Language Models.<sup>62</sup>

## ANNEX E: 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 political members of the Committee do not receive any fees or expenses.

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<sup>60</sup> The pre-election period of sensitivity occurs in the weeks leading up to an election or referendum. It is a time when governments, ministers and civil servants exercise caution in making announcements or decisions that might have an effect on the election campaign.

<sup>61</sup><https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cspl-submission-to-pacac-inquiry-on-civil-service-leadership-and-reform>

<sup>62</sup><https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cspl-submission-to-lords-communications-and-digital-committee-inquiry-on-large-language-models>

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 4 full-time members and one part-time member of the Secretariat.

The Committee's media and communications activity is managed by a contracted part-time Press Officer.

The Committee's spend for 1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024 was £428,877.73 against a budget of £441,350.00.

**Published by the Committee on Standards in Public Life**

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**July 2024**