

**COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE  
324th MEETING HELD  
AT 10.00 ON THURSDAY 20 JUNE 2024**

**MINUTES**

Present: Doug Chalmers CB DSO OBE (Chair)  
Rt Hon Lady Arden DBE  
Rt Hon Dame Margaret Beckett GBE  
Ewen Fergusson  
Baroness (Simone) Finn  
Professor Gillian Peele

Professor Mark Philp, Chair, Research Advisory Board

Lesley Bainsfair, Secretary  
Nicola Richardson, Senior Policy Adviser  
Amy Austin, Senior Policy Adviser  
Peter Kelleher, Senior Policy Adviser  
Maggie O'Boyle, Press Officer<sup>1</sup>

**1. APOLOGIES**

Rt Hon Ian Blackford  
John Henderson CB

**2. REGISTERS**

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

**3. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2024 were agreed.

**Chair's update**

As agreed, the Chair wrote to party leaders about the importance of upholding standards of conduct during the election campaign. The letters were published on the CSPL website on 22nd May.

CSPL had joined a statement on intimidation by the Electoral Commission which had been included in the Commission's 7th June edition of a regular bulletin issued to parties, candidates and non-party campaigners.

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<sup>1</sup> Maggie O'Boyle provides part-time press support to the Civil Service Commission, the House of Lords Appointments Commission, the Advisory Committee for Business Appointments, and the Office for the Commissioner for Public Appointments and the Committee on Standards in Public Life.

The Chair has been invited to take part in the induction of newly-elected MPs following the general election.

The Constitution Unit had been working on further academic papers concerning regulation of standards in a new administration. No discussion had been held between the Committee and the Constitution Unit on these papers.

It was agreed to publish a paper in October 2024 to mark the Committee's 30th anniversary.

**4. ACCOUNTABILITY REVIEW**

Members noted the update on the review on accountability within public bodies. A number of points were noted around emerging themes.

**5. ANNUAL REPORT**

Members agreed the final annual report which would be published in July.

**6. CURRENT STANDARDS ISSUES**

No discussion.

**7. FORWARD AGENDA**

The Committee noted the forward agenda.

**8. AOB**

**Communications Update**

The Committee noted the monthly dashboard overview of CSPL's website for May 2024.

**Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 18 July 2024 at 10.00.

CSPL Secretariat  
June 2024