

HOUSE OF LORDS APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE 70th MEETING HELD ON 25th January 2012

Present: Lord Jay (Chairman)
Lord Hart
Prof Dame Joan Higgins
Lord Howard
Dr John Low
Baroness Scott

Geraldine Alexander (secretariat)
Kate Campbell (secretariat)
Maggie O'Boyle (press officer)
Roger Sampson (secretariat)

Apologies

1. Apologies were received from Baroness Campbell and Dr Richard Jarvis, the Secretary.

Minutes of 69th meeting (paper 1)

2. The minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2011 were agreed.

Chairman's update

3. Lord Jay had appeared before the House of Lords Constitution Committee that morning for the annual evidence session he attends on behalf of the Commission.
4. It was noted that the Annual Report for April 2010 to September 2011 had been published on Monday.
5. Lord Jay updated the Commission on the plans for an information sharing event scheduled to take place in the House of Lords on the 8th February.
6. The Commission noted recent coverage in the media of the New Years Honours and of the organisation Awards Intelligence.
7. Lord Jay updated the Commission on the progress of the nomination of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
8. Lord Jay informed the Commission about correspondence received from [REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

Consideration of HoLAC nominations (paper 2)

9. The Commission discussed [REDACTED] nomination and agreed that it would recommend [REDACTED].
10. The Commission discussed the recent interviews of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED].
11. The Commission discussed [REDACTED] nomination, which had been retained for further consideration, and agreed to interview her.
12. Following discussion, the Commission considered the possibility of re-ordering its selection criteria to reflect the importance it placed on the ability of a nominee to make a contribution to the House. It asked the secretariat to circulate a paper on this for further consideration.

Work plan (paper 3)

13. The Commission noted the indicative work plan for 2012 and agreed that the Secretariat should proceed with arranging meeting dates as appropriate.
14. It was noted that a meeting of the Commission may need to be convened at relatively short notice once the Draft Bill on House of Lords Reform was published.

Communications

15. The Press Officer updated the Commission on recent media coverage.

Freedom of information

16. The Commission was updated on recent FOI and DPA requests.

Any other business

17. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 28th March 2012.

Commission Secretariat
January 2012