

HOUSE OF LORDS APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE 73rd MEETING HELD ON 18 JULY 2012

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

Richard Jarvis (Secretary)
Ekpe Attah (secretariat)
Claire Hanna (secretariat)
Beth Watson (secretariat)
Maggie O'Boyle (press officer)

Apologies

1. Apologies were received from Lord Hart

Minutes of 72nd meeting (paper 1)

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 31 May 2012 were agreed.

Chairman's update

2. The Chairman provided an overview of the Government's plans for House of Lords Reform and the related Bill's progress through Parliament to date.
3. The Secretary had written to the Cabinet Office, recalling that the non-renewable five-year terms of the Chairman and fellow independent members of the Commission would come to an end in October 2013. The three party-political members had been appointed for a three-year term in November 2010. This meant that the terms of the entire membership of the Commission would come to an end at around the same time in autumn 2013. While the party-political members could be invited to serve a second term, a new chair and independent member appointments would be required if the Commission was to be able continue its work.

Consideration of nominations (sub-committee sift and recent interviews) (paper 2)

4. The Commission discussed the recent interviews of [REDACTED]. It was agreed that the nomination of [REDACTED] was particularly strong, and that her nomination, along with that of [REDACTED] should be retained for consideration alongside [REDACTED] should be

notified that her nomination had been unsuccessful.

5. [REDACTED]
6. The Commission considered the recommendations made on 5 July by a sub-committee of the Commission. After discussion, it was agreed that [REDACTED] should be invited to interview. The Commission agreed to inform the remaining nominees considered by the sub-committee that their nominations had been unsuccessful.

Freedom of information

7. The Commission was informed about a current FOI case.

Communications

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

Any other business

9. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 12 September 2012. It was agreed that this meeting would take the form of a sub-committee sift to consider new nominations received over the summer. Short-listed nominees from this sift would be invited to interview in October, along with [REDACTED].
10. Although the Commission recognised that it was not its responsibility to monitor Peers' attendance, the Chairman agreed to discuss informally with Lord Laming, the Convenor of the Cross Bench Peers, how Cross Bench Members' attendance in the House could be encouraged.

Commission Secretariat
July 2012