

HOUSE OF LORDS APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE 67th MEETING HELD ON 14 JULY 2011

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

Geraldine Alexander (secretariat)
Richard Jarvis (secretariat)
Maggie O'Boyle (press officer)
Roger Sampson (secretariat)

Apologies

1. There were no apologies.

Minutes of 66th meeting (paper 1)

2. The minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2011 were agreed.

Chairman's update

3. The Chairman had written to Lord Steel of Aikwood about his article in the Observer in which he had referred to the need for "an independent appointments commission".
4. The Commission had received a further letter from [REDACTED]

5

6. The Annual Report would be published towards the end of the calendar year.

Consideration of HoLAC nominations (paper 2)

7. The Commission considered the nominations of five individuals who had been interviewed recently. The Commission noted that Lord Jay would not be involved in the consideration of [REDACTED] and that Lord Howard would not be involved in the consideration of [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] nominations.

8. It was agreed that the Commission would recommend two individuals for appointment and that it would aim to announce the names as soon as HM Queen gave her approval. The Commission agreed to recommend [REDACTED]
9. The Commission agreed that it would not be recommending the remaining three nominees for appointment [REDACTED], and it would write to them to inform them that their nomination had not been successful.
10. It was agreed that the Commission would consider the new nominees at its next meeting as it wished to have more time to give them full consideration. In the meantime the secretariat was invited to arrange interview slots in Members' diaries for the autumn.

Review of the Commission's processes – the vetting criteria for party-political nominations (paper 3)

11. The Commission considered the paper on the review of its vetting criteria, which it noted was part of a wider review of its operations. It was agreed, following discussion, that the draft criteria proposed in the paper should be adopted. The draft criteria clarified the Commission's role and remit in vetting party-political nominees; the process itself remained the same.
12. The Commission confirmed its view that its approach to nominees who are or have been party-political donors had proved to be effective and should remain unchanged.

Lords reform discussion

13. The Commission discussed the progress of Lords reform, noting that Baroness Scott was a member of the Joint Committee on Lords Reform.

Communications

14. The press officer updated the Commission on recent press enquiries.

Freedom of information

15. The Commission was updated on recent FOI requests.

Commission Secretariat
July 2011