

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

HOLAC (16)(2nd)  
**HOUSE OF LORDS APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION**

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**MEETING**

**Wednesday 8th June at 1 Horse Guards Road, London**

**Commission Members present:**

Lord Howard of Lympne, Lord Hart of Chilton, Lord Kakkar (Chairman), Lord Low of Dalston, Professor Gillian Peele, Sir Malcolm Ross and Baroness Scott of Needham Market.

**Secretariat**

Clive Barbour, Maggie O'Boyle and Clare Salters.

**Minutes of the last meeting HoLAC(16)1st**

1. The Commission approved the minutes of the last meeting.

**Chairman's Update**

2. The Chairman updated the full Commission on the interview process that was underway in respect of the eight retained candidates. Four candidates had already been interviewed with another two due to be interviewed the following day and the final two before the end of June.
3. The Chairman informed the Commission that he had requested a meeting with the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition. These requests were being considered by their respective offices.
4. The Chairman was due to give evidence to the Constitution Committee on 13 July.
5. The Commission discussed recent speculation regarding a party-political list after the referendum on continued membership of the EU. Given reduced availability within the Commission and relevant Departments and Agencies necessary for vetting checks the

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Commission discussed signalling to the parties that it would be unlikely to be able to reach final decisions on any list during August. It was agreed that dates for possible meetings of the Commission would be canvassed for late July and early September to hold in the diary against the possibility of a political list being sent to the Commission very soon after the Referendum.

**Communications Update**

6. The press officer, Maggie O'Boyle, gave an oral update on recent media coverage.

**Consideration of new nominations November 2015 - January 2016 (HoLAC 16 (02))**

7. Clive Barbour introduced the paper detailing nominations that had been received in the period January 2016 – May 2016. There were a total of thirty candidates and the Secretariat had carried out an initial sift grouping candidates A, B+, B and C.

8. The Commission considered the B and C groups. Lord Kakkar declared that he had [REDACTED] but did not know any of them sufficiently well enough to need to recuse himself from the consideration process. None of the nominations in this group were retained.

9. The Commission considered the B+ group. Lord Kakkar declared that he knew [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] professionally. The Commission decided to retain the following applications from the B+ group:

[REDACTED]

10. The Commission then considered the A group. Lord Kakkar declared that he knew [REDACTED] professionally. The Commission decided to retain the following application from the A group:

[REDACTED].

11. The unsuccessful candidates would be informed in writing.

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12. The Commission agreed that, given the possibility that numbers of applications would increase in future, the process of a subcommittee (of two of the three independent members) reviewing the secretariat's sift recommendations before these were put to the full Commission should be resumed.

**Business Plan (HoLAC 2016(04))**

13. The Commission considered whether it should produce and publish a Business Plan. While recognising that this was normally good practice for an NDPB, given the limited nature of the Commission's role and the publicly available information already on its website the Commission decided a further document was unnecessary.

**Constitution Committee**

14. The Chairman briefed the Commission on preparations for his evidence session before the Constitution Committee on 13 July.

15. It was agreed that the Hansard transcript of last year's Constitution Committee's hearing would be circulated to the Commission.

**FOI update**

16. Clive Barbour updated the Commission on the nature of the single FOI case that had been received since the last meeting.

**AOB**

17. The next date being held for a meeting of the Commission was 5th October.

**Commission Secretariat**

June 2016