

**HOUSE OF LORDS APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**11 February 2025**

**Archbishop's Room, Millbank House**

**Attendees: Baroness Deech (Chair), Baroness Noakes, Baroness Taylor, Baroness Parminter, Lord Chartres, Sir Hugh Robertson, Dame Fionnuala Jay-O'Boyle, Wayne Reynolds, Secretariat and Press Officer**

**Apologies**

**None**

1. The Chair welcomed members and provided updates on conversations that she had held with the Leader of the House of Lords and representatives of the government.
2. The Chair gave an update on the recruitment of the HOLAC independent members.

**Assessment of crossbench candidates for interview**

3. Members discussed the current expertise gaps on the crossbenches, and considered ways in which these might be addressed. They also considered ways of targeting outreach to seek applications in fields where gaps exist, and to improve regional diversity of applicants.
4. The Commission discussed the ongoing crossbench application process and agreed on an initial list of candidates for interview. The Secretariat proposed potential dates and outlined an indicative timeline for the process.

**House of Lords Appointments Commission Secretariat  
February 2025**