

**HOUSE OF LORDS
APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION**

Room G/38, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ

General Enquiries: 07355 021 584

Internet: <http://lordsappointments.independent.gov.uk>

E-mail: enquiry@lordsappointments.gov.uk

Ref: HOLAC FOI 2026/1

30 January 2025

By email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Ref: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I am replying to your Freedom of Information request, which the House of Lords Appointments Commission (HOLAC) received on 15 January 2026.

You asked:

- 1) *What ethical criteria Lord Parker satisfied in order to be appointed as a Lord.*
- 2) *Whether your outfit will be bestowing the honour of lordship, posthumously, on special MI5 agent Frederick Scappaticci or whether he will merely be given a knighthood.*

Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("FOIA"). I can confirm that HOLAC does not hold the information you requested.

In response to question 1, the Commission does not apply a set of 'ethical criteria' as you have described for political appointments. HOLAC vets political nominees to the House of Lords for propriety only, with suitability being a matter for the party leader making the nomination. The Commission considers information from a range of sources, including a range of government agencies, relevant professional bodies and media searches. Issues are assessed on a case by case basis, rather than against an explicit set of criteria.

In response to question 2, a peerage can only be awarded to living individuals. HOLAC plays no role in the wider UK honours system, including the award of knighthoods. As noted on the government honours website, "*the only honours which can be awarded after someone's death are gallantry awards*".

If you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may write to the Secretary to the Commission to ask for an internal review by another person not involved with this request. Please note that we will not normally accept an application for internal review if it is received more than two months after the date that the reply was issued.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision.

Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by HOLAC.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

Secretariat to the House of Lords Appointments Commission