



House of Commons
Commission

Employment of Members' staff by the House

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The House of Commons Commission

The Commission is the overall supervisory body of the House of Commons Administration. It prepares and lays before the House the Estimates for the House of Commons Service; it decides most matters of policy; and it appoints staff of the House, and determines their pay, pensions and other conditions of service. The Commission may increase or reduce the number of House Departments and allocate functions to any House Department.

The Commission was established by the House of Commons (Administration) Act 1978, which provides that the Commission should have six members: the Speaker as Chairman; the Leader of the House; a Member of the House nominated by the Leader of the Opposition (normally the Official Opposition's Shadow Leader of the House); and three other Members appointed by the House, none of whom may be a Minister. One member of the Commission acts as its spokesman in the House (for example in answering Parliamentary Questions).

Membership

The Speaker, Rt Hon John Bercow MP (*Buckingham*)

Sir Stuart Bell MP (*Labour, Middlesbrough*)

Rt Hon Harriet Harman MP, Leader of the House (*Labour, Camberwell & Peckham*)

Nick Harvey MP (*Liberal Democrat, North Devon*)

Rt Hon David Maclean MP (*Conservative, Penrith & The Border*)

Rt Hon Sir George Young MP, Shadow Leader of the House (*Conservative, North West Hampshire*)

Powers

The powers of the Commission are set out in the House of Commons (Administration) Act 1978

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm197879/cmacts/036/19780036.htm>

Publications

The Reports of the Commission are published by The Stationery Office by Order of the House. All publications of the Commission are on the Internet and can be accessed via

www.parliament.uk/about_commons/house_of_commons_commission_.cfm

Staff

The staff of the Commission are Dorian Gerhold (Secretary), Robert Cope (Assistant Secretary) and Louise Sargent (Assistant).

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