



1 February – 3 February 2022

Post-Election Seminar: St Helena Legislative Council

Programme Booklet



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Welcome Messages



On behalf of CPA UK and its Executive Committee, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all those who will be joining us from the St Helena Legislative Council for our 2022 Post-Election Seminar. This three-day programme will be held virtually from Tuesday 1 February to Thursday 3 February 2022.

Over the course of these three days, Members and clerks will hear from an excellent line up of speakers from across the UK and the Overseas Territories. We hope that all participants will feel empowered to share their own knowledge and experience as well as benefiting from the extensive experience of the speakers across a broad range of topics.

In addition to these valuable learning opportunities, this Seminar is also a chance to deepen the partnership between our two legislatures. This Seminar follows on from St Helena's General Election in October 2021 – the first to be observed (albeit remotely) by an Election Expert Mission - and which saw positive gains with regards to women's participation and increased voter turnout. This Seminar will also address the constitutional changes, including the introduction of the ministerial system of government and the introduction of select committees, introduced after the October Election.

We look forward to introducing ourselves to the many new members and clerks in the Legislative Council, as well as building on existing links with those who have participated in previous CPA UK activities.

Thank you for your participation in this exciting programme. We hope you find it an engaging and worthwhile experience.

Best wishes,

Jon Davies

Chief Executive, CPA UK



Welcome Messages



As Speaker of the St Helena Legislative Council I am delighted to welcome you all to this CPA UK St Helena Post-Election Seminar. The Post-Election Seminar is a part-day programme delivered on three consecutive days and focuses on preparing both newly elected and returning Members for their roles as legislators, particularly taking into account recent constitutional changes in St Helena including the transition to the ministerial system and the introduction of select committees.

I am extremely grateful to CPA UK for organising and delivering the Post-Election Seminar for our parliamentarians and clerking staff. Previous post-election seminars took place physically on-island. Given St Helena's current 10-day Covid quarantine restrictions, this Post-Election Seminar is being delivered virtually. At the end of the programme I am confident that all assembled will have taken as much as they possibly can from the seminar to strengthen our respective parliamentary roles. Thank you.



Hon. Cyril Gunnell Speaker of the St Helena Legislative Council



About CPA UK

Supporting & strengthening parliamentary democracy throughout the Commonwealth CPA UK supports and strengthens parliamentary democracy throughout the Commonwealth. It focuses on key priority themes including **women in parliament**, **modern slavery**, **financial oversight**, **security** and **trade**.

CPA UK brings together UK and Commonwealth parliamentarians and officials to share knowledge and experience through peer to peer learning. It aims to improve parliamentary oversight, scrutiny and representation and is located in, and funded by, the UK Parliament.

CPA UK's core work is to build relationships with parliaments across the Commonwealth. This is achieved through a programme of parliamentary strengthening and capacity building activities. CPA UK undertakes work at the request of other parliaments around the Commonwealth, and our tailored programmes include both individual country activities, and large scale projects and activities that bring together Commonwealth parliamentarians and clerks.

For more information about our work and activities, please visit our website: uk-cpa.org

UK Overseas Territories Project



Since 2016 the CPA UK, in consortium with the United Kingdom's National Audit Office (NAO) and Government Internal Audit Agency (GIAA), has delivered the **UK Overseas Territories Project**. UKOTP works with partners in the UK and across the Overseas Territories (OTs) to deliver an ongoing programme of support for **good governance** and **public financial management**. Now in its second phase, the project is funded by the HMG-wide Conflict, Security and Stability Fund, and is committed to strengthening the role of parliamentary scrutiny across the OTs and building the capacity and effectiveness of important financial oversight and electoral institutions.



The Project stood out as being different & one that has the potential to make a substantial impact. It addresses a recognised problem & is robust in its oversight.

Government departments with interests abroad can replicate success with this approach.

Public Finance Awards 2020 Judge



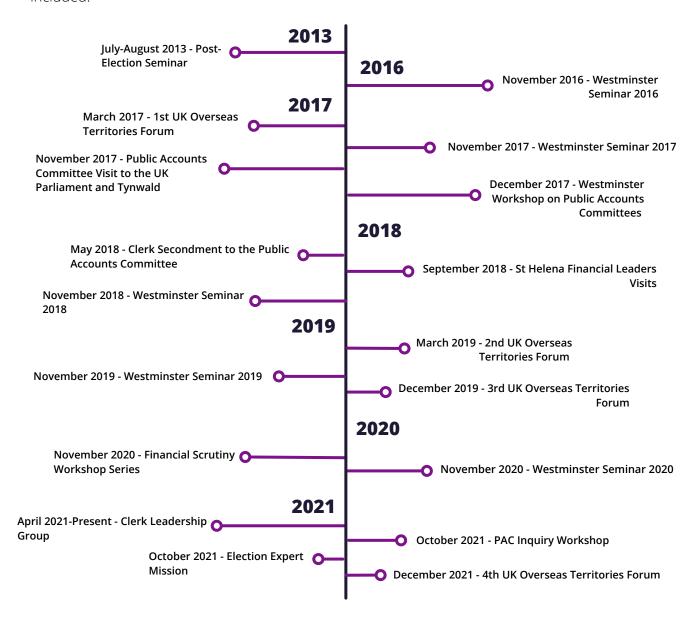
In October 2020, the Project was awarded the Public Finance Award 2020 for Good Governance, Risk Management or Prevention. The Award recognises an individual or team that has developed a governance, risk management or prevention project, displaying high accountability standards, strong oversight and risk awareness alongside improved outcomes and impact.

CPA UK & St Helena

Over the years CPA UK and the St Helena Legislative Council have developed a strong relationship and have successfully partnered in a range of activities to strengthen good governance and best parliamentary practice.

St Helena regularly engages in bilateral and multilateral activities delivered as part of the CPA UK-led UK Overseas Territories Project however this relationship predates the launch of UKOTP particularly in CPA UK's capacity as secretariat for CPA British Isles and Mediterranean Region (CPA BIMR).

In recent years, activities delivered by CPA UK with the St Helena Legislative Council have included:



For more information about our work with St Helena please visit: www.uk-cpa.org/where-we-work/uk-overseas-territories/st-helena/

Outcome and Outputs

Impact

Through exchange of good practice and a range of workshops, new and returning elected parliamentarians and clerks from the St Helena Legislative Council will be equipped to undertake their parliamentary duties effectively and efficiently.

Outcomes

Adopting a flexible and tailored approach to capacity building, the Post-Election Seminar will comprise of presentations, question and answer sessions, and discussions. It will aim to deliver the following outcomes:

- Members and parliamentary staff of the St Helena Legislative Council have increased their technical skills, and their confidence to deliver their parliamentary responsibilities effectively and efficiently.
- Members and parliamentary staff have increased their understanding of the role, remit, and operation of effective scrutiny within a ministerial system context, particularly in relation to select committees in the St Helena Legislative Council.
- The relationship between the UK Parliament and the St Helena Legislative Council has further strengthened through the mutually beneficial sharing of knowledge and experience.



Output 1

Members and parliamentary staff have attended the training programme and reported greater confidence in performing their parliamentary responsibilities.



Output 2

Participants have identified specific changes or actions based on the programme sessions which they will implement within six months after the post-election seminar.



Output 3

A comprehensive post-programme report has been produced and disseminated to all key stakeholders.



Output 4

The UK participants have deepened their understanding of the St Helena Legislative Council and the St Helenian political context.

General Information

Programme Attendance

Participants are expected to attend all sessions of the programme.

Presentations

Where visual presentations have been used throughout the programme, CPA UK will send copies to participants after the programme.

Online Engagement

Please refrain from responding to emails, taking calls or texting unless urgent business arises, and try to avoid distractions whilst taking part in the programme. Where an urgent call must be taken, please do so outside of the room and let the session facilitator know beforehand.

Research & Reading

During the course of the week, delegates will be provided with material. In order to make the most of the programme, these materials should be read and reviewed thoroughly in advance.

Contributions

During the programme, participants may be invited to give speeches or presentations as part of the course.

Behaviour Code

The UK Houses of Parliament have clear guidelines in place on how all staff should be treated, and how they should treat others in return. Unacceptable behaviour will be dealt with seriously, independently and with effective sanctions. You can find a copy of our Behaviour Code at www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/standards-and-financial-interests/parliaments-behaviour-code/.

Please report any such behaviour confidentially to the CPA UK member of staff involved in the programme or to CPA UK Chief Executive, Jon Davies, +44 207 219 6638, daviesjon@parliament.uk

Feedback

As indicators determine if the to programme's have been outcomes achieved seek continuous and to improvement, CPA UK will disseminate pre and post-assessment polls to participants for feedback. All data collated from these polls will be for internal use only.

Programme

DAY 1 - GOOD GOVERNANCE

TUESDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2022

TIME (GMT) SESSION

0930 - 1000

Opening of the Post-Election Seminar

Participants will be introduced to the format of the Post-Election Seminar and asked to fill in a survey to record their expectations and learning processes. Opening remarks will also be made, followed by a short presentation on the work of CPA UK and UKOTP in the UK Overseas Territories and the completion of pre-assessment forms.

Speakers:

- Victoria Bower, Head of International Partnerships Team, CPA UK
- Hon. Cyril Gunnell, Speaker of the St Helena Legislative Council
- Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)

1000 - 1020

Discussion on Opportunities and Challenges in St Helena

In this session participants will reflect upon and discuss the main opportunities and challenges in St Helena; identify what works and does not work, including expectations for the recent constitutional changes; and determine metrics and outcomes for where they want to be at the end of the current parliamentary term

Facilitator:

- Axell Kaubo, Programme Officer, CPA UK

1020 - 1030	BREAK
1030 - 1140	Session 1 – The Functions of the Branches of Government
	This session focuses on the importance of autonomy for each of the three branches of power, and how they relate to each other. In particular, this session will emphasise the role and functions of the Legislative Council and explore what this means in practice.

Speakers:

- David Melding CBE, former Member of the Senedd, Wales
- Axell Kaubo, Programme Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)

1140 - 1150 BREAK

1150 - 1300 Session 2 - Roles and Responsibilities of Members and Clerks

This session will explore how Members and parliamentary staff contribute to an effective Legislative Council. It examines what makes an effective working relationship between Members and parliamentary officials, to ensure Members are best supported in their role.

Speakers:

- Deputy Adrian Gabriel, Peoples Deputy, States of Guernsey
- Adam Mellows-Facer, Clerk of Private Members Bills, House of Commons
- Axell Kaubo, Programme Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)

1300 - 1345 LUNCH

1345 - 1445 Session 3 - Best Practice for Legislative and Policy Scrutiny

This session will look at best practice for legislative and policy scrutiny, with a view to compare experiences. The focus of this session is to explore the processes of scrutiny within the Chamber, including the role of standing orders.

Speakers:

- Maria Miller MP, UK Parliament
- The Lord Lisvane KCB DL, Member of the House of Lords and former Clerk to the House of Commons, UK Parliament
- Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)

1445 - 1455 BREAK

1455 - 1610 Session 4 – The Ministerial System and Relations with the Legislative Council

In this roundtable participants will examine the role of the ministerial system and the obligations and responsibilities of Ministers in relation to the Legislative Council, including in the context of collective responsibility. This session will also examine relations between the front bench and back bench.

Speakers:

- Hon. Akierra Missick MHA, Minister of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Development, Turks and Caicos Islands
- Hon. Patricia Gordon-Pamplin, Former Member of Parliament, Bermuda
- Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)

1610 - 1630 Debrief of Day One

Facilitator:

- Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK

1630 END OF DAY ONE

DAY 2 - LIFE AS A PARLIAMENTARIAN

WEDNESDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2022

TIME (GMT) SESSION

0930 - 0940 Guided Reflection of Day One & Introduction to Day Two

Facilitator:

-Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK

0940 - 1040 Session 5 - Being a Parliamentarian: Opportunities and Challenges

In this roundtable participants will discuss the opportunities and challenges of being a parliamentarian including a discussion between returning and newly elected Members. Members from St Helena are encouraged to share their own experiences to this session.

Speakers:

- Theo Clarke MP, House of Commons, UK Parliament
- Kate Osamor MP, House of Commons, UK Parliament
- Axell Kaubo, Programme Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)

1040 - 1050 BREAK

1050 - 1135 Session 6 - A Parliament that Works for Everyone: Diversity and Inclusion

In this session participants will discuss how to structure and organise a Legislative Council to create an inclusive working environment which works for everyone. This session will also cover the importance of work-life balance and mental health.

Speakers:

- Holly Dustin, Steering Group for Change Lead, House of Lords, UK Parliament
- Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)

1135 - 1220 Session 7 - Standards in Public Life

Taking the UK Parliament's Code of Conduct as a starting point, this session will explore good practice in maintaining standards in public life including: conduct inside and outside the chamber; appropriate behaviour between Members, staff, and the public; and, declaring interests and addressing conflict of interest. Participants will be encouraged to discuss the Legislative Council's Code of Conduct.

Speakers:

- Chloe Challender, Senior Clerk in the Table Office, House of Commons, UK Parliament
- Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)

1220 - 1230	BREAK
1230 - 1315	Session 8 – Parliamentary Resources and Services
	The session will explore the financial and human resources and services needed to facilitate and support parliamentarians to engage in effective parliamentary action.
	Speakers: - Francisca Gale, Deputy Head of the Chamber and Information Service and Clerk to the Environment and Infrastructure Policy Review Committee, Tynwald - Axell Kaubo, Programme Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)
1315 - 1400	LUNCH
1400 - 1500	Session 9 - Working Effectively with Members and Building Consensus
	In this roundtable participants will discuss the role of consensus building across the chamber. Participants will also get the opportunity to note the challenges they have come across while trying to do so and share ideas on how to tackle such challenges.
	Speakers: - Gagan Mohindra MP, House of Commons, UK Parliament - Senator Tracey Vallois, States of Jersey - Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)
1500 - 1510	BREAK
1510 - 1610	Session 10 - Outreach and Engagement with the Public
	This session will consider how parliamentarians engage with the public and including how to communicate and share details of their work and how to manage the expectations of voters. This session will include a discussion of the role of the constituency surgery.
	Speakers: - Gagan Mohindra MP, House of Commons, UK Parliament - Alasdair Mackenzie, Education and Engagement Manager, UK Parliament - Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)
1610 - 1630	Debrief of Day Two
	Facilitator: - Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK
1630	END OF DAY TWO

DAY 3 - THE COMMITTEE SYSTEM

THURSDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2022

TIME (GMT) SESSION

0930 - 0940 Guided Reflection of Day Two & Introduction to Day Three

Facilitator:

-Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK

0940 - 1040 Session 11 - The Role and Remit of Public Accounts Committees

This session will take an in-depth look into the unique role and function of the Public Accounts Committee in holding the Government and civil servants to account. It will examine financial scrutiny and the financial supervision of the Executive; the budget cycle; cooperation with the Chief Auditor; and the role of lay members.

Speakers:

- Hon. Juan Watterson SHK, Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, Tynwald (Isle of Man)
- -Fay Bowen, Clerk to the Public Administration and Public Accounts Committee, Senedd (Wales)
- Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)

1040 - 1050 BREAK

1050 - 1205 Session 12 - The Role and Remit of Select Committees

This session will look at the role and importance of select committees in facilitating the effective scrutiny of government. It will explore the powers of select committees, the various roles and responsibilities of members on the committee (clerk, chair, member etc), and the different timeframes and timelines for select committees engaging in scrutiny. This session will also explore the types of scrutiny which select committees can engage in, including departmental strategy, policy, and performance; pre-legislative scrutiny; bills and delegated legislation; post-legislative scrutiny; and appointments.

Speakers:

- Deputy Inna Gardiner, States of Jersey
- -Dr Stephen McGinness, Clerk to the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee, House of Commons, UK Parliament
- Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)

1205 - 1215

BREAK

Session 13 - Similarities and Differences Between Select Committees 1215 - 1300 and Public Accounts Committees

In this roundtable participants will compare and contrast the differences between select committees and public account committees in their remit and roles. This session will involve a discussion on how select committees and public accounts committees can divide their work within the St Helena context.

Speakers:

- Hon. Juan Watterson SHK, Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, Tynwald (Isle of Man)
- Deputy Inna Gardiner, States of Jersey
- Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)

1300 - 1345 LUNCH **Session 14 - Select Committee Public Engagement** 1345 - 1415 This session will explore how select committee members can engage with the public and how to effectively leverage committee reports to encourage an executive response. **Speakers:** - Robert Baldry, Select Committees Engagement Team, UK Parliament - Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator) 1415 - 1445 **Forward Planning, Pledges, Monitoring and Evaluation**

In this session participants and CPA UK staff will engage in forward planning to determine future activities which can build on discussions during the postelection seminar. Participants will be invited to make pledges on next steps and to determine metrics and outcomes for where they want to be at the end of the current parliamentary term. This will be followed by monitoring and evaluation.

Facilitators:

- Matthew Hamilton, Monitoring & Evaluation Manager, CPA UK
- Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK

Closing of the Post-Election Seminar 1445 - 1500

Speakers:

- Victoria Bower, Head of International Partnerships Team, CPA UK
- Hon. Cyril Gunnell, Speaker of the St Helena Legislative Council
- Lex Ray, Programme Support Officer, CPA UK (Facilitator)

1500

END OF THE POST-ELECTION SEMINAR

Speaker Biographies

Day 1

Hon. Cyril Gunnell

Speaker of the St Helena Legislative Council



Cyril Gunnell was elected Speaker of the St Helena Legislative Council in October 2021 following the move to ministerial government. He was elected to Council in 1991 and, on Executive Council chaired the Health & Social Welfare Committee and Employment & Social Security Committee. Other council committees he served on included Agriculture & Natural Resources and Education. Cyril chaired the Public Accounts Committee for five years and the Prison Visiting Committee for six. He represented the Legislative Council overseas at various conferences including the Overseas Territories Consultative Council and the EU Overseas Countries and Territories Forum. His local education finished at the Island's Secondary Selective School; thereafter he enrolled in International Correspondence Schools examinations. Cyril has worked as a Fire Inspector, Medical Assistant, Flight Operations Clerk, Progress Control Manager, Income Tax Clerk, Social Worker, Investigations Officer and News Editor. Currently he is also a Freelance Journalist and Chamber of Commerce Member.

David Melding CBE

Former Member of the Senedd



David Melding is a former Member of the Parliament of Wales, who stepped down from office in 2021. He was first elected to the National Assembly for Wales in May 1999 and has served as the Conservatives' Shadow Minister for Health and Social Care and for Economy and Transport. Between 2000 and 2011, David was the Welsh Conservatives' Director of Policy and wrote the Welsh Conservatives' manifestos for the 2003, 2007 and 2011 Assembly elections. David has previously chaired the Assembly's Audit; Health and Social Services; Standards of Conduct; and Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committees. He was Deputy Presiding Officer during the Fourth Assembly. David is also a former manager of the Carers National Association in Wales and a former Deputy Director of the Welsh Centre for International Affairs.

Deputy Adrian Gabriel

Peoples Deputy, States of Guernsey



Adrian was born and raised in Guernsey. His father sat as a Parish Douzenier as well as successfully standing in a Deputy's election in 2002. Adrian was encouraged to take an interest in local politics through this exposure at home. He has furthered this knowledge by firstly being elected as a parish Douzenier in 2017, serving a full term of four years. The first Island-wide (one district) general election took place in October 2020. Adrian was successful and was elected as one of 38 representatives of the States of Deliberation. He was then elected by his parliamentary peers to serve on the Environment and Infrastructure Committee.

Adam Mellows-Facer

Clerk of Private Members' Bills, House of Commons Public Bill Office, UK Parliament



Adam has been Clerk of Private Members' Bills in the House of Commons Public Bill Office since June 2018. In that role he advises Members of Parliament on all aspects of Private Members' Bill procedure and practice. He also works on Government Bills (most recently the Elections and Building Safety Bills) and sits at the Table in the Commons Chamber. He was previously Clerk of the Work and Pensions Committee, Director of Research and Head of Economics in the House of Commons Library, Clerk of the Joint Committee on the draft Modern Slavery Bill, Deputy Head of the House of Commons Scrutiny Unit with responsibility for pre-legislative scrutiny, and Deputy Chief of Staff of the Parliamentary Commission on Banking Standards.

Maria Miller MP

House of Commons, UK Parliament



Maria Miller was first elected to represent Basingstoke in 2005. Before entering Parliament, Maria worked for 20 years in marketing, including board level experience, and appreciates some of the pressures faced by working parents. Maria was appointed Minister for Disabled People at the Department for Work and Pensions in the Coalition Government in May 2010 and was promoted to Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, and Minister for Women and Equalities, from September 2012 to April 2014. In June 2015 Maria was elected as Chair of the newly established Women and Equalities Select Committee. Maria was nominated for the position by MPs across the House in 2017 and was re-elected unopposed. Maria is a Director and Trustee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, a trustee of the Belarus Free Theatre and holds offices in a number of All-Party Parliamentary Groups, including Women in Parliament, Domestic Violence and Carbon Monoxide as well as Patron of HCUK.

The Lord Lisvane KCB DL

Member of the House of Lords and former Clerk of the House of Commons, UK Parliament



As Sir Robert Rogers, Lord Lisvane was Clerk of the House of Commons from 2011 to 2014. He was knighted in 2012, and on his retirement in August 2014 he was created a Peer and member of the House of Lords where he sits as a Crossbencher. He currently serves on the Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee and Ecclesiastical Committee (Joint Committee), and specialises in parliamentary, constitutional, and legal issues. Robert is an Honorary Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford, an Honorary Bencher of the Middle Temple, and a Deputy Lieutenant for Herefordshire. In 2016 he was appointed to the ancient office of Chief Steward of the City of Hereford. He is a former independent member of the Parliamentary and Political Service Honours Committee. He is Chairman of the Royal College of Organists, and a Trustee of the musical performance and education foundation VOCES8. In 2020 he conducted a review of the corporate governance of the City of London. He is joint author of the textbook How Parliament Works, now in its 8th edition; and he is the author of two light-hearted parliamentary miscellanies, Order! Order and Who Goes Home?

Hon. Akierra M. D. Missick MHA

Minister of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Development, Turks and Caicos Islands



Hon. Akierra M. D. Missick is the elected Member for the Leeward and Long Bay District in the Turks and Caicos Islands, a position she's held since 2012. She currently serves as the Minister of Physical Planning and Infrastructure Development. She has previously served as the Deputy Premier of the Turks and Caicos Islands, and Minister of Education, Youth Affairs, Sport and Library Services. Hon. Missick has also served on two Turks and Caicos Islands Constitution Review Committees and was the previous Chair of the Public Accounts Committee. Hon. Missick obtained a LLB (Hons) from the University of Nottingham and is a member of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn. She is called to the Turks and Caicos Islands Bar and practiced as an Attorney with a focus on Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution.

Hon. Patricia Gordon-Pamplin

Former Member of Parliament, Bermuda



Patricia Gordon-Pamplin served in the Parliament of Bermuda from 1998 to 2020. She first entered Parliament in 1998 after being appointed to the Senate, before winning a seat in the House of Assembly in 1999. During her tenure Patricia held the portfolios of Minister for Health; Public Works; Community, Culture and Sport; and Immigration, Labour, and Home Affairs. While in opposition Patricia shadowed Health and Seniors; Labour and Home Affairs; and was House spokesperson for Finance. She also served as the Chair of the Public Accounts Committee. A Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, Patricia recently retired from primary employment as the Vice President and Chief Accountant for two reinsurance companies domiciled in Bermuda. She is the mother of two sons, an avid tennis player and spectator, writes poetry, and enjoys reading and traveling.

Theo Clarke MPHouse of Commons, UK Parliament



Theo Clarke MP has a keen interest in foreign affairs, international development and global trade. Ms Clarke is the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Kenya. Before becoming the Member of Parliament for Stafford, she was an entrepreneur and she also founded and was the Chief Executive of the Coalition for Global Prosperity. Ms Clarke was the Director of Conservative Friends of International Development and its Vice-Chair. As an MP, Ms Clarke continues her important international work. She is currently a member of the Women and Equalities Select Committee and the International Development Select Committee, and she is also the Chair of the Select Committee's subcommittee on the work of ICAI. Ms Clarke is the Co-Chair of the Trade Out of Poverty All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG), the Co-Chair for the APPG for the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals as well as being the Co-Chair of the APPG on International Conservation and Vice-Chair of the APPG for Africa. Ms Clarke has also been selected by the Prime Minister to be part of the United Kingdom's delegation to the Council of Europe.

Kate Osamor MPHouse of Commons, UK Parliament



Since being elected in 2015, Kate has consistently used her voice as an MP to speak out for the most vulnerable in society; using her speeches in debates to highlight the impact policies will have on BME communities and arguing for much fuller representation of Black and Ethnic Minority communities in political bodies, especially in Parliament. She has campaigned on social justice issues, championing for example Women for Refugee Women's 'Set Her Free' campaign to end the detention of women who seek asylum in the UK. As Shadow Secretary of State for International Development, Kate spoke extensively on the need to shift the UK's vision of international development away from charity and towards social justice. Kate currently serves on the International Development Committee and the Committees on Arms Export Controls

Holly Dustin

Steering Group for Change Lead, House of Lords, UK Parliament



Holly is the Steering Group for Change Lead in the House of Lords, a mixed group of Peers and staff that was established following the Ellenbogen Report into bullying and harassment. She is also leading pilot training on domestic abuse as a workplace issue in the House of Commons. Holly has worked on gender equality, inclusion and culture change in Parliament since 2016 when she joined the House of Commons as a Committee Specialist for the Women and Equalities Committee and managed inquiries into a Gender Sensitive Parliament, Sexual Harassment of Women and Girls in Public Places, and CEDAW among others. She set up the pilot Gender Equality Policy Hub to link civil society organisations, researchers and frontline experts to Committee staff and she managed the Gender Norms Advisory Group for the Cultural Transformation Team. Prior to Parliament, Holly worked in the women's sector for over a decade developing policy and campaigns on violence against women, criminal justice issues, equalities and human rights. She was previously a Solicitor working with women in prison.

Chloe Challender

Senior Clerk in the Table Office, House of Commons, UK Parliament



Chloe is a Senior Clerk in the Table Office. She has worked at the House of Commons for 15 years, during which she has held a number of roles including heading the secretariat for select committees (most recently Digital, Culture, Media & Sport) and Deputy Director of Security (Delivery). She is a former Chair and a member of the Parligender Committee (the Workplace Equality Network on gender equality in Parliament).

Francisca Gale

Research and Scrutiny Support Manager, Tynwald



Francisca has over six years' experience of working in a small parliament across a range of service areas. In her current role she leads a team that delivers research and information services for Members and Committees, supports the clerking of the scrutiny Committees, and provides administrative support for all Committees of Tynwald. Between 2019 and 2021 Francisca was Clerk to the Environment and Infrastructure Policy Review Committee, one of the permanent Committees of Tynwald. Since 2021, she has been responsible for developing and implementing proactive research products. She has also managed and assisted with Committee inquiries across a wide range of topic areas. Francisca is currently clerk to a temporary Select Committee of Tynwald. She has successfully completed the McGill Professional Development Certificate in Parliamentary Management.

Gagan Mohindra MP

House of Commons, UK Parliament



Gagan was elected to the UK Parliament in December 2019, representing the constituency of South West Hertfordshire, just northwest of London. Gagan currently serves as Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Home Office, assisting ministerial colleagues with their duties. Before serving in Parliament, Gagan held a number of positions in local government in Epping Forest, Essex. First being elected in 2004, Gagan has worked as a Parish, District and County Councilor, his most recent position being the finance lead elected member of a large county council prior to his election to Parliament. Before local government, Gagan joined and ran his family furniture retail business, expanding the business from one store in London to multiple stores. After reading Mathematics at Kings College London, Gagan had a career in finance before joining the family business.

Senator Tracey Vallois

States of Jersey



First elected to the States Assembly in 2008, Senator Vallois has previously served on the Public Accounts Committee and all but one Scrutiny Panel, and has held Assistant Minister posts in both the Treasury and Education departments. During this term of office they have served as Education Minister, Deputy Chief Minister and the Chairman of the States Employment Board, returning to Scrutiny in January 2021. Senator Vallois has carried out a number of roles that have had an influence on many policies and legislation. From Fiscal Strategies, Comprehensive Savings Reviews, Economic Stimulus Plans to Higher Education Funding, Income Support, Criminal Justice and Education Reform to name a few. Since the change to Ministerial Government in 2005 Senator Vallois has been a regular member of review panels to recommend and implement improvements to Parliament/Government practices.

Alasdair Mackenzie

Education and Engagement Outreach Manager, UK Parliament



Alasdair is Education and Engagement Outreach Manager at the UK Parliament. He co-manages a team of 13 outreach officers based in every nation and region of the UK, who deliver workshops and presentations on engaging with Parliament to schools and community groups on request. He has worked in Parliament since 2001 and was a parliamentary reporter for Hansard until 2009. During his time in Parliament, Alasdair has also worked as the secretary to the Speaker's Advisory Council on Public Engagement and as Committee Specialist for the Scottish Affairs Committee. In his spare time, Alasdair is a trustee of the London Prisons Mission charity and is a volunteer mentor to men leaving Wandsworth Prison. Before working in Parliament, he taught English, Film and Media in a south London sixth form college.

Hon. Juan Watterson SHK

Speaker of the House of Keys and Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, Tynwald



The Hon. Juan Watterson is a qualified chartered accountant and was first elected to the House of Keys as the Member for Rushen in 2006. He was appointed as Minister for Home Affairs in 2011 and served until 2016 when he was elected as Speaker of the House of Keys. In 2021 he was re-elected as both Speaker and Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee. He is currently the Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, Tynwald Standards and Members' Interests Committee, Tynwald Management Committee, the Standing Orders Committee of Tynwald, the Standing Orders Committee of the House of Keys, the Emoluments Committee, the House of Keys Management and Members' Standards Committee. He is the Joint Branch President of CPA Isle of Man Branch Executive Committee and has attended the Plenary Conference in Nairobi in 2010, Cameroon in 2014, Bangladesh in 2017 and Uganda in 2019.He has also published articles in The Parliamentarian on Public Financial Management. He is Regional Representative and Vice Chairman on the CPA Small Branches Network and on the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Association of Public Accounts Committees.

Fay Bowen

Clerk to the Public Administration and Public Accounts Committee, Senedd



Fay Bowen is Clerk to the Senedd's Public Administration and Public Accounts Committee. Within this role she has responsibility for managing the relationship between the Committee, the Auditor General for Wales and his staff. Previous roles include being Clerk to the Senedd's Legislation Committees, which involved assisting Members in scrutinising and amending Welsh Government legislation. Prior to joining the Senedd, Fay was a Committee Clerk in local government, working with a range of committees across three local authorities. She holds a BA in History and an MSc in Public Policy and Evaluation. Fay has been actively involved with the CPA UK Overseas Territories Project since its inception, including hosting a visit to the Senedd by the PAC of Bermuda in January 2018, participating in a Clerking secondment to St Helena during May 2018, and being a regular speaker at the Overseas Territories Clerk Leadership Group.

Deputy Inna Gardiner

Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, States of Jersey



Deputy Inna Gardiner was elected to the States of Jersey in 2019. Since October 2020 she has chaired the Public Accounts Committee. Deputy Gardiner is also a member on several other committees including the Scrutiny Liaison Committee, Government Plan Review Panel, Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Panel, and the Diversity Forum. Deputy Gardiner has 20 years of experience as a management consultant, working with international businesses, government organisations and educational institutions to improve their efficiency and team dynamics.

Dr Stephen McGinness

Clerk to the Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport Committee, House of Commons, UK Parliament



Stephen began life as a scientist, gaining a PhD in microbiology from the University of Wales, Bangor followed by six years of post-doctoral research. Stephen came to Parliament as an environmental specialist in the House of Commons Library, providing briefing to MPs on issues as diverse as science policy, the countryside, and air pollution. He became the Head of the Information Office which included overseeing the process of moving from Word to database stored content. After an interesting year as part of the Legg Review team, he moved to the Committee Office, first clerking the Science and Technology Committee, Second Clerk to the Liaison Committee, then the Public Accounts Committee. Stephen is currently the clerk to the Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport Committee.

Robert Baldry

Select Committees Engagement Team, UK Parliament



My name is Robert Baldry and I work for the Select Committee Engagement Team. The Select Committee Engagement team works with people and communities across the United Kingdom to increase public understanding of, and engagement with, the House of Commons and House of Lords select committees. We support select committees to engage with the public through informal, deliberative events and gather views and experiences of audiences that committees want to hear from but can't reach through other channels.

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