



House of Commons

Thursday 16 January 2025

Votes and Proceedings

The House met at 9.30 am.

Prayers

- 1 **Questions to (1) the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport
(2) the hon. Member representing the Church Commissioners and the Rt hon.
Member representing the Speaker's Committee on the Electoral Commission**

- 2 **Business Question (Leader of the House)**

- 3 **Statement: Middle East (Secretary David Lammy)**

- 4 **Royal Assent**

The Deputy Speaker reported that the King had signified Royal Assent to the following Acts under the Royal Assent Act 1967:

Lords Spiritual (Women) Act 2015 (Extension) Act 2025
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and International Committee of the Red
Cross (Status) Act 2025
Financial Assistance to Ukraine Act 2025

- 5 **Statements: (1) Government response to the Covid-19 Inquiry Module 1 Report (Pat
McFadden)
(2) Child sexual exploitation and abuse (Secretary Yvette Cooper)**

- 6 **Backbench Business**

Performance of the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

Motion made and Question proposed, That this House notes that the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) continues to need substantial reform, as recognised by the Independent Medicines and Medical Devices Safety Review (IMMDS), with patient safety concerns persisting and exacerbating since the review's publication in 2020; believes that the MHRA's 2017 expert working group report on Primodos was deeply flawed, with IMMDS later concluding the drug had caused avoidable harm; further notes that the yellow card system for reporting suspected adverse drug reactions is failing, with no process for following up on serious or fatal reactions and conflicts of interest, with 75% of the MHRA's funding being derived from industry fees, a concern raised in the Fourth Report of Session 2004-05 of the Health Committee, The Influence of the Pharmaceutical Industry, HC 42-I, published on 5 April 2005; also notes the MHRA's delayed response to reports of myocarditis, pericarditis and vaccine-induced thrombotic thrombocytopenia following covid-19 vaccination, despite action from regulators in other countries; and calls on the Government to fully implement the recommendations in the

IMMDS review and to acknowledge the harm done to patients and the financial burden on the healthcare system as a result of the MHRA's widespread regulatory failures.—
(*Esther McVey*.)

The Deputy Speaker announced a time limit on backbench speeches (Standing Order No. 47(1)).

Question put and agreed to.

7 Adjournment

Subject: Future of UK air defence (Dr Andrew Murrison)

Resolved, That this House do now adjourn.—(*Mark Tami*.)

Adjourned at 6.28 pm until tomorrow.

Other Proceedings

Lords Messages

8 Financial Assistance to Ukraine Bill

The Lords agree to the Financial Assistance to Ukraine Bill without amendment.

Changes to Notices Given

9 Trade Agreements (Exclusion of National Health Services) Bill

Order for Second Reading on Friday 17 January, read and discharged.

Bill to be read a second time on Friday 7 March.

General Committees: Reports

10 Employment Rights Bill Committee

*This item has been corrected since publication. See the Votes and Proceedings relating to Tuesday 21 January 2025.

Sir Christopher Chope (Chair) reported:

(1) written evidence submitted to the Committee; and

(2) the Bill, as amended.

Written evidence to be published.

Bill, as amended, to be considered tomorrow; and to be printed (Bill 163).

11 Tobacco and Vapes Bill Committee

Peter Dowd (Chair) reported written evidence submitted to the Committee.

Written evidence to be published.

12 Water (Special Measures) Bill [Lords] Committee

Dr Rupa Huq (Chair) reported:

(1) written evidence submitted to the Committee; and

(2) the Bill, as amended.

Written evidence to be published.

Bill, as amended, to be considered on Tuesday 28 January; and to be printed (Bill 162).

General Committees: Appointments

The Speaker appoints the Chair of General Committees and members of Programming Sub-Committees, and allocates Statutory Instruments to Delegated Legislation Committees.

The Committee of Selection nominates Members to serve on General Committees (and certain Members to serve on Grand Committees).

13 Third Delegated Legislation Committee (draft Heat Networks (Market Framework) (Great Britain) Regulations 2025)

Members: Bradley Thomas discharged and John Cooper nominated in substitution.

*Select Committees: Reports***14 Backbench Business Committee**

Determination of business to be taken on Monday 20 January in the Chamber and Thursday 30 January, Tuesday 4 February and Thursday 13 February in Westminster Hall (Bob Blackman).

15 Public Accounts (Committee of)

(1) *HMRC Customer Service and Accounts 2023–24*: Third Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 347);

(2) *Tackling homelessness*: Fourth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 352);

(3) *NHS financial sustainability*: Fifth Report, to be printed, with the formal minutes relating to the Report (HC 350)

(Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown).

Sir Lindsay Hoyle

Speaker

Westminster Hall

The sitting began at 1.30 pm.

Business determined by the Backbench Business Committee (Standing Orders No. 10(7) and No. 14(4))

1 Government support for the marine renewables industry

Resolved, That this House has considered Government support for the marine renewables industry.—(*Mr Alistair Carmichael*.)

Sitting adjourned without Question put (Standing Order No. 10(14)).

Adjourned at 3.25 pm until Monday 20 January.

Ms Nusrat Ghani

Chairman of Ways and Means

Papers Laid

Papers subject to Affirmative Resolution

1 Immigration

Draft Immigration and Nationality (Fees) (Amendment) Order 2025 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum and an Impact Assessment (by Command) (Secretary Yvette Cooper)

2 Pensions

Draft Guaranteed Minimum Pensions Increase Order 2025 (by Act), with an Explanatory Memorandum (by Command) (Torsten Bell)

Other papers

3 Cabinet Office

Government Response to the Module 1 Report of the Covid-19 Inquiry (by Command) (CP 1240) (Pat McFadden)

4 National Health Service

Explanatory Memorandum to the draft Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 (by Command) (Andrew Gwynne)

Withdrawn papers

5 National Health Service

Explanatory Memorandum to the draft Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 (laid 6 January)

SPEAKER'S CERTIFICATE

VOTING BY PROXY (STANDING ORDER NO. 39A)
(Variations to existing arrangements appear in bold.)

Member	From	To	Proxy
Sarah Gibson	16 January	15 February	Anna Sabine