



Minutes Sponsor Board

SB/22/029

Meeting date	31 January 2022
Meeting location	Archbishop's Room, Millbank House
Meeting time	4.30pm – 6.30pm

Attendees

Members Present
Liz Peace, Chair
Baroness Doocey
Kirsty Blackman MP
Lord Best
Lord Carter of Coles
Mark Tami MP
Marta Phillips
Paul Lewis
Robin Millar MP
Simon Thurley
Simon Wright
Sir Edward Leigh MP

Attendees	Item
Andy Helliwell, Chief Operating Officer, House of Lords (Simon Burton's nominated delegate)	All
Simon Burton, Clerk of the Parliaments, House of Lords	All
Claire Maugham, Communications Director, Sponsor Body	All
Johanna Porter, Board Secretary, Sponsor Body	All
John Benger, Clerk of the House of Commons	All
Karen Watling, Executive Assistant, Sponsor Body	All
Sarah Johnson, CEO, Sponsor Body	All

1. Welcome, agenda and declarations of interest

- 1.1 The Chair opened the meeting noting a quorum was present. She welcomed Robin Millar MP to his first formal Board meeting following his appointment to the Sponsor Board on Wednesday 26 January 2022.
- 1.2 Apologies had been received from Lord Deighton. Marta Phillips and Kirsty Blackman MP joined the meeting virtually.
- 1.3 The Board NOTED the meeting agenda (SB/22/014). No amendments were proposed.
- 1.4 The Board NOTED the Registration of interests (SB/22/015). There were no further declarations of interest made relevant to the items on the agenda, except where previously disclosed.



2. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

2.1 The Board APPROVED the minutes of the January meeting (SB/22/016).

2.2 The Board NOTED the requested redactions to the minutes of the December meeting (SB/22/017).

2.3 The Board NOTED the progress against the action log (SB/22/018).

3. Feedback from House Commissions discussion on the emerging cost & schedule and continued presence (Verbal Update)

Official: Sarah Johnson, CEO, Sponsor Body

3.1 The CEO reported that the emerging cost & schedule and continued presence work had been discussed with the Commissions of both Houses. The Commissions had expressed the same concerns as the Sponsor Board previously about the length of the decant period. The House of Lords Commission had requested that no further work be done on the continued presence.

3.2 The Clerk of the Parliaments said that the Lords Commission were awaiting further information following feedback from the House of Commons Commission.

3.3 The Clerk of the House directed the Board to the minutes of the House of Commons Commission of Monday 24 January 2022. The House of Commons Commission would be holding a further meeting to discuss the matter on Tuesday 1 February 2022.

3.4 The Board discussed the position of the Programme. They considered whether there would be merit in suggesting to the Commissions that they should ask for work to be done on a much-reduced programme, which could perhaps be mobilised faster and might obviate the need for a lengthy period of decant. This was not what was required by the Act and there would, therefore, need to be a formal instruction to the Sponsor Body. But it was noted that even if the Commissions decided to wind up the Sponsor Board and Body, this would be a useful piece of work that could be completed while the necessary alternative governance arrangements were put in place and while there were still appropriately qualified staff available.

3.5 The Board also noted the need to ensure that in the intervening period, before the Commissions decided exactly how an alternative R&R Programme might be pursued, expenditure on the current programme was minimised and nugatory expenditure, as far as possible, avoided.

4. House of Lords Decant: QEII Options Selection (SB/22/019)

Official: Amanda Colledge, Business Case Director, Sponsor Body

4.1 The paper would be considered at a future meeting.

5. Main Estimate 2022/23 & Phase 1 Expenditure Limit (SB/22/020)

Official: Gurdip Juty, Corporate Services & Finance Director, Sponsor Body



HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

R&R SPONSOR BODY

5.1 The paper would be considered at a future meeting.

6. Papers for Noting

The following papers were not discussed during the Board meeting. Any Member of the Board could have made a request to the Chair (either in advance or at the start of the meeting) to elevate the paper for discussion.

Sponsor Body Progress Report

(SB/22/021)

Period: January 2022

Sarah Johnson, CEO, Sponsor Body

DECISION The Board NOTED the Sponsor Body Progress Report for January 2022.

DA Programme Executive Summary

(SB/22/022)

& Programme Report

(SB/22/023)

Period: December 2021

David Goldstone, CEO, Delivery Authority

Matt White, Programme Director, Delivery Authority

DECISION The Board NOTED the DA Programme Executive Summary for December 2021.

Restoration & Renewal of the Palace of Westminster: Progress Update

(SB/22/024)

21 January 2022

National Audit Office

DECISION The Board NOTED the NAO's January 2022 Progress Report.

7. Comments, announcements, and other business

7.1 The Board NOTED the Future agenda (SB/22/025).

7.2 There was no further business.

7.3 The date of the next meeting would be confirmed shortly.

7.4 The Chair brought the meeting to a close.

8. Papers enclosed for information

8.1 Audit & Assurance Committee December Meeting Draft Minutes

(SB/22/026)

Signed by:

Date: 7 March 2022
