



House of Commons
Public Administration Select
Committee

Appointment of the Chair of the UK Statistics Authority

Sixteenth Report of Session 2010–12

Volume I

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with formal minutes*

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The Public Administration Select Committee

The Public Administration Select Committee is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the reports of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration and the Health Service Commissioner for England, which are laid before this House, and matters in connection therewith, and to consider matters relating to the quality and standards of administration provided by civil service departments, and other matters relating to the civil service.

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Publications

The Reports and evidence of the Committee are published by The Stationery Office by Order of the House. All publications of the Committee (including press notices) are on the Internet at <http://www.parliament.uk/pasc>.

Committee staff

The current staff of the Committee are Martyn Atkins (Clerk), Charlotte Pochin (Second Clerk), Alexandra Meakin (Committee Specialist), Paul Simpkin (Senior Committee Assistant) and Su Panchanathan (Committee Assistant).

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1 Background to the appointment

1. In March 2011 the current Chair of the UK Statistics Authority (UKSA), Sir Michael Scholar, announced his intention to retire. We would like to express our gratitude to Sir Michael for his work in establishing the UKSA and his exemplary service as the Authority's first Chair.

2. The Committee takes seriously the necessity for official statistics to be produced and presented to the highest standards of independence and integrity. As the Committee responsible for oversight of the work of UKSA we have maintained a regular dialogue with Sir Michael and with the Authority and have strongly supported the principle of an independent supervisory statistics authority under a Chair who is able, where necessary, to challenge the Government's use of statistical information.

3. We report below on the pre-appointment hearing for Mr Andrew Dilnot, the Government's preferred candidate to succeed Sir Michael, who was nominated as the result of a selection process initiated in September 2011. An earlier selection process was initiated in March 2011, following Sir Michael's announcement of his plans to retire. This process resulted in the nomination of a preferred candidate who withdrew from the process following a pre-appointment hearing. We set out these circumstances in greater detail below.

4. We have been assisted by the Committee's specialist adviser on statistics, Simon Briscoe, appointed on 1 November 2011. Our appointment of a specialist adviser to provide us with a readily available source of expert and technical advice on statistical issues indicates our commitment to regular scrutiny of the policy of the Government and of UKSA in this area during this Parliament.

The initial candidate

5. In June 2011 the Minister for the Cabinet Office, Rt Hon Francis Maude MP, wrote to inform us that Dame Janet Finch was the Government's preferred candidate for the role following the selection process initiated in March 2011. We held a pre-appointment hearing with Dame Janet on 28 June 2011 to examine whether she had the professional competences and personal independence necessary to carry out the role.¹ We did not publish a report with our recommendation on the appointment.

6. Dame Janet subsequently wrote to Sir Gus O'Donnell, Cabinet Secretary, to indicate that during the course of the pre-appointment hearing with the Committee it had become clear that she and the Committee "had differing views over how the job should be undertaken, and in particular how the independence of the Chair should be exercised".² She concluded that, given this difference of view, it would be difficult for her to do the job in the manner she had intended, and withdrew her name from the selection process.

¹ Evidence taken before the Public Administration Select Committee on 28 June 2011, *Pre-appointment hearing for the post of Chair of the UK Statistics Authority*, HC 1261-i.

² Letter from Dame Janet Finch to Sir Gus O'Donnell, 5 July 2011, published at <https://update.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/resource-library/dame-janet-finch-statement>

7. Following the withdrawal of Dame Janet, Sir Michael Scholar agreed to stay on as Chair of UKSA until a successor was in post. **We are grateful to Sir Michael Scholar for agreeing to continue in post until the appointment of his successor as Chair of UKSA.**

8. The Minister for the Cabinet Office indicated that he proposed to re-run the competition, and that he envisaged a greater role for this Committee in the selection process. He subsequently sought the Committee's view on the composition of the selection panel, the remuneration to be offered for the post, and the person specification and job description.

The selection panel

9. The Committee discussed with the Minister the appropriate composition of a panel to select a candidate for a role which required independence from the Executive. The previous panel had been chaired by a Permanent Secretary and had included the Cabinet Secretary in its membership. The composition of the panel agreed between the Minister and the Committee included a parliamentarian, to assess independence from the executive, a representative of key users of official statistics, a representative of the wider user community and an independent assessor from the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments. This fresh panel was chaired by a Director General in the Cabinet Office.

10. We proposed that Kelvin Hopkins MP, a member of the Committee, should serve on the selection panel. We thank the Minister for accepting our recommendation. Having served on the selection panel, Mr Hopkins has taken no part in the pre-appointment hearing process. We would like to thank the selection panel for their work in the selection of the preferred candidate.

11. We welcome the fresh approach taken by the Minister to the selection process for this important and independent post. We particularly appreciate the constructive approach taken to consultation and engagement with the Committee. We trust that this will serve as an example to other Government departments in their engagement with select committees on major public appointments.

Time commitment and remuneration

12. The post was advertised in March 2011 at a time commitment of two days a week and a salary of £57,000, the equivalent salary *pro rata* to that of the Prime Minister (£142,500).

13. Sir Michael Scholar, the first Chair of UKSA, took up the post in 2008 on the basis of a time commitment of three days a week, at a salary of £150,000. He told us that

it was envisaged that after a setting-up period-when the work of setting up the Authority had been accomplished-the time commitment might go down from three to two days a week, and it was envisaged that at that point there would be a discussion with the Cabinet Office Minister about whether I should be on three or two days a week.³

³ Q 99

14. According to Sir Michael, that discussion did not take place: the responsible Minister in the previous administration decided in February 2010 that the time commitment for the post should be reduced to two days a week with a commensurate reduction in pay. Sir Michael himself had advised against the change in time commitment, since he had experienced “no diminution in the amount of work, time and energy that I had to put into the job over that period of time.”⁴

15. The Royal Statistical Society, in its evidence to us in April 2011, did not consider the reduction in the time commitment to be a problem: they considered that “the initial notional three-day week reflected the need to set up the system” but that the effective time required in post by the new Chair was likely to be greater than two days a week, just as Sir Michael in practice had spent more than three days a week on UKSA duties. The Society did express concern over the effect of the reduction in time commitment on the salary to be paid: they were “particularly concerned about the implicit message that the reduction sends regarding the importance of the post, which is regrettable. [. . .] The pay of the UKSA Chair should be comparable with other public sector appointments of similar importance and responsibility.”⁵

16. When he consulted the Committee on the fresh appointment process in July 2011, the Minister indicated that he was prepared to advertise the post afresh with an expected time commitment of two and a half days a week, half a day more than when the post was initially advertised. The proposed salary of £71,250 remained pegged to that of the Prime Minister.

17. We sought the view of Sir Michael Scholar on the revised time commitment. Sir Michael considered that

[. . .] it would be best if the post were advertised as a three day a week role. It is a very heavy post, with major responsibility and a high public profile. The work is complex, detailed and full of potential snares. It is not possible, given the regulator/producer tension within the Authority as it was created by the Statistics [and Registration Service] Act [2007], for the Chair to take a hands-off, non-executive stance: I have found that the role involves a very considerable amount of time each week, and much concentration and effort. [. . .] Although Ministers [in 2010] decided to impose a reduction in my own contractual terms, from three to two days per week, I have noticed no significant diminution of my work-load, or of the time it takes me to discharge it, during the whole four years I have held the appointment.⁶

18. In our recent report on public appointments we criticised the “arbitrary cap” on salaries paid to senior posts in the public sector subject to Ministerial appointment, and recommended its replacement “with a proper system to assess the salaries to be paid for public appointments, as recommended by the report of the Hutton Review of Fair Pay in

⁴ Q100

⁵ Ev 3-4

⁶ Letter from Sir Michael Scholar to Bernard Jenkin MP, Chair of PASC, 21 September 2011, printed at Appendix 1

the Public Sector”.⁷ Although we support the principle of pay restraint in the public sector, we remain of the view that the pro rata salary cap is a crude substitute for a proper system of senior salary assessment.

19. The readiness of the Minister to re-advertise the post of Chair of the UK Statistics Authority at an increased time commitment and commensurately higher salary is welcome, but does not go far enough. On the evidence before us we are not convinced that the actual time commitment required of the Chair of UKSA has substantially diminished since the establishment of the Authority. We are concerned that the overall reduction in the expected time commitment sends the wrong message about the importance of the post and the work required.

20. We note Sir Michael Scholar’s view of the responsibility, workload and actual time commitment required of the post of Chair of UKSA. We also note the confidence expressed by Mr Dilnot during his pre-appointment hearing on 6 December 2011 that two and a half days a week would be a sufficient time commitment. We consider that the contractual terms of the post should be reviewed during 2012, and that, if justified, the time commitment should be restored to three days a week.

Role description

21. We requested that a specific reference to the role of the Chair of UKSA in ensuring the independence of the Authority was inserted in the role description for the re-advertised post. The Minister agreed to make this change, and the amendment was acknowledged with approval by Sir Michael Scholar, who commented that “our direct reporting to Parliament is regarded by the Authority as an essential element in our independence from government”.⁸

22. We welcome the explicit recognition in the role description of the Chair of UKSA that a key responsibility of the role is to ensure the independence of the Authority. We consider this to be an essential element of the role of the Chair.

⁷ Fourteenth Report from the Public Administration Select Committee, Session 2010-12, *Public appointments: regulation, recruitment and pay*, HC 1389, paras 61-76

⁸ Letter from Sir Michael Scholar to Bernard Jenkin MP, Chair of PASC, 21 September 2011, printed at Appendix 1

2 Pre-appointment hearing for the post of Chair of the UK Statistics Authority

23. On 1 December 2011 the Cabinet Office announced that Andrew Dilnot was the Government's preferred candidate for the role of Chair of the UK Statistics Authority. We held a pre-appointment hearing on 6 December 2011 to examine whether Mr Dilnot has the professional competences and personal independence necessary to perform this important role.

The role

24. The Cabinet Office describes the role of the UK Statistics Authority as follows:

The UK Statistics Authority (UKSA) was set up under the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 with the objective of promoting and safeguarding the production and publication of official statistics that serve the public good. UKSA has a statutory objective to promote and safeguard the production and publication of official statistics that serve the public good, and ensure the quality and comprehensiveness of, and good practice in relation to, official statistics across the UK. The Authority delivers this through three main functions:

- a duty to monitor, and report publicly, on areas of concern about the quality, good practice, and comprehensiveness of all official statistics across Government and its arms-length bodies;
- a duty to maintain the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, published in January 2009, to set independent professional standards; to independently assess against those standards all existing National Statistics (currently numbering around 1300); and to assess any additional official statistics submitted for assessment by the person responsible; and
- to provide strong governance to the Authority's executive office, the Office for National Statistics (ONS), which produces around a third of official statistics with the remainder being produced by government departments and arms length bodies.

The Authority also, when necessary, challenges Government Departments and Ministers on the quality and integrity of the statistics for which they are responsible.⁹

25. The full role description and person specification issued by the Cabinet Office is at Appendix 2. The principal requirements of the post holder are to:

- Provide strategic and day-to-day leadership to the Authority;
- Ensure the independence of the Authority;

⁹ Cabinet Office, "Role of the UKSA", published at http://www.uksaseniorappointments.com/sections/about_the_org/role_of_the_uksa

- Ensure there is effective governance of the Office of National Statistics as it faces challenges including statistical modernisation, developing alternatives to the Census and implementation of the spending review;
- Provide oversight, support and guidance to the National Statistician and Head of Assessment of the Office for National Statistics; and
- Ensure the Authority has regard to the advice of the National Statistician as the Authority's principal adviser on:
 - The quality of official statistics,
 - Good practice in relation to official statistics, and
 - The comprehensiveness of official statistics.
- Advise Parliament on the operation in practice of reforms to the statistical system and support effectively the implementation of any changes required to the system
- Work with the National Statistician to determine the role of official statistics in supporting policymaking, wider civil society and open and transparent public services, and to promote and develop data sharing for statistical purposes to maximise the accessibility and use of official statistics for the public good.

These are the competencies against which we assessed Mr Dilnot.

26. We were particularly keen to assure ourselves of the candidate's independence from Government, given the Authority's role in challenging breaches by Government of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Sir Michael Scholar went so far as to describe the organisation's independence as "*perhaps [its] single most important feature*".¹⁰

27. Mr Dilnot's CV is published at Appendix 2.

Evidence

28. We took evidence from the outgoing Chair of UKSA, Sir Michael Scholar, Jil Matheson, National Statistician and Richard Alldritt, Head of Assessment at UKSA in May 2011 to inform ourselves about the challenges currently facing the statistical community. We also received written evidence from the Royal Statistical Society and others.

29. During the pre-appointment hearing we questioned Mr Dilnot on a range of issues including:

- His experience and suitability for the post;
- His ability to demonstrate independence from Government;
- Whether a two-and-a-half day week represents a sufficient time commitment for this post;

¹⁰ Oral evidence taken before the Public Administration Select Committee on 10 May 2011, HC (2010-12) 910i, Q 2

- The implication of UKSA's dual role as both a regulator and producer of statistics;
- Public confidence in statistics;
- Pre-release access to statistics;
- Developing an alternative to the Census;
- The effect of reductions in expenditure on the statistical capacity of the Government and of UKSA;
- The standing of the statisticians, as a profession, within Government;
- The greater engagement of all actual and potential users of statistics; and
- Proposals for a 'well-being' index.¹¹

Recommendation on appointment

30. We are satisfied that Mr Dilnot has both the professional competences and personal independence necessary to fulfil this role. We welcome his independence of mind and his enthusiasm better to communicate statistics and their importance. His experience makes him eminently fitted for the role. We wish him every success as the Chair of the UK Statistics Authority.

¹¹ Evidence taken before the Public Administration Select Committee on 6 December 2011, *Pre-appointment hearing for the post of Chair of the UK Statistics Authority*, HC 1634-i.

Conclusions and recommendations

The initial candidate

1. We are grateful to Sir Michael Scholar for agreeing to continue in post until the appointment of his successor as Chair of UKSA. (Paragraph 7)

The selection panel

2. We welcome the fresh approach taken by the Minister to the selection process for this important and independent post. We particularly appreciate the constructive approach taken to consultation and engagement with the Committee. We trust that this will serve as an example to other Government departments in their engagement with select committees on major public appointments. (Paragraph 11)

Time commitment and remuneration

3. We note Sir Michael Scholar's view of the responsibility, workload and actual time commitment required of the post of Chair of UKSA. We also note the confidence expressed by Mr Dilnot during his pre-appointment hearing on 6 December 2011 that two and a half days a week would be a sufficient time commitment. We consider that the contractual terms of the post should be reviewed during 2012, and that, if justified, the time commitment should be restored to three days a week. (Paragraph 20)

Role description

4. We welcome the explicit recognition in the role description of the Chair of UKSA that a key responsibility of the role is to ensure the independence of the Authority. We consider this to be an essential element of the role of the Chair. (Paragraph 22)

Recommendation on appointment

5. We are satisfied that Mr Dilnot has both the professional competences and personal independence necessary to fulfil this role. We welcome his independence of mind and his enthusiasm better to communicate statistics and their importance. His experience makes him eminently fitted for the role. We wish him every success as the Chair of the UK Statistics Authority. (Paragraph 30)

Appendix 1: Correspondence between Bernard Jenkin MP, Chair of PASC, and Sir Michael Scholar KCB, Chair of the UK Statistics Authority

Letter from Bernard Jenkin MP, Chair of PASC, to Sir Michael Scholar KCB, Chair of the UK Statistics Authority

In the course of your oral evidence to the Committee on 10 May, you put on the record your views on the time commitment required of the Chair of the UK Statistics Authority and outlined the change in the terms and conditions of the post which had been made since you took up your appointment.

You will of course be aware that the post has been advertised again, with a revised time commitment and pro rata salary (linked to the cash remuneration of the Prime Minister).

The Committee would be grateful if you would write to give your view on the adequacy of the time commitment required of the new postholder, and any other element of the terms and conditions of the post as advertised on which you believe it is appropriate to comment.

15 September 2011

Letter from Sir Michael Scholar KCB, Chair of the UK Statistics Authority, to Bernard Jenkin MP, Chair of PASC

Thank you for your recent letter in which you asked for my views on the adequacy of the time commitment required of my successor as Chair of the UK Statistics Authority.

I am aware that the Cabinet Office has begun a further process to find my successor, and that the time commitment has been increased from two to two and a half days per week, rather than the three days per week that formed the terms and conditions of my appointment in 2007. While two and a half days is an improvement compared to the previously advertised time commitment of two days per week, my own view is that this remains inadequate.

As I said to your Committee when I gave oral evidence on 10 May, I was concerned to learn that the advertisement for my successor initially specified a time commitment of two days per week, as I believed that this might have an adverse effect on the quality of those applicants who would put themselves forward; and that it would be seen as a diminution of the Government's regard for the Authority. The increase to two and a half days per week is an improvement on the previous position, but does not, in my view, go far enough.

The terms and conditions of the post are, of course, a matter for Ministers to decide, as the 2007 Statistics Act provides. My own view is that it would be best if the post were advertised as a three day per week role. It is a very heavy post, with major responsibility and a high public profile. The work is complex, detailed, and full of potential snares. It is

not possible, given the regulator/producer tension within the Authority as it was created by the Statistics Act, for the Chair to take a hands-off, non-executive stance: I have found that the role involves a very considerable amount of time each week, and much concentration and effort. At various times during my occupancy of the Chair it has also required a good deal of travel as part of its representational and leadership elements. Although Ministers decided to impose a reduction in my own contractual terms, from three to two days per week, I have noticed no significant diminution of my work-load, or of the time it takes me to discharge it, during the whole four years I have held the appointment.

You also asked me if I had any views on other elements of the terms and conditions of the post as advertised. I am glad to see that the role specification now includes a responsibility for the Chair to ensure the ‘independence of the Authority’ from the Executive. I think you know that our direct reporting to Parliament is regarded by the Authority as an essential element in our independence from government.

There is an ambiguity in the terms and conditions as presently advertised in respect of whether the term of office is fixed for five years and renewable or not. My view is that my successor should be eligible for reappointment if all parties are in agreement, that is the postholder, the Minister for the Cabinet Office and the Public Administration Select Committee.

During the last recruitment round earlier this year, the process opened with a press advertisement. I am told that this has not happened this time, and that advertisements are confined to the Cabinet Office’s Public Appointments website and to the website of the Royal Statistical Society. I am concerned that such a restricted approach to advertising may limit the field of suitable candidates who may apply.

21 September 2011

Appendix 2: Job description and person specification for the role of Chair of the UK Statistics Authority, and terms and conditions of appointment

About the role

The Chair of the UK Statistics Authority (Statistics Board in legislation) is responsible for reinforcing the independence, integrity and quality of official statistics produced in Government. They ensure the official statistics system brought about by the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 is one in which the public, Parliament and all users of official statistics can have confidence.

The Chair is responsible for building on the reforms brought about by the Act and to consider whether any further changes to the official statistics system are required and successfully implementing change where necessary.

This is a very high profile post, which will attract a great deal of Parliamentary and public attention.

Role description

Key responsibilities of the role

The Chair of the UK Statistics Authority will hold the following key responsibilities:

- To provide strategic leadership. This will include setting the vision for the official statistics system across the UK for the Authority; providing strong leadership for the Authority and generating enthusiasm within it; and supporting and challenging the Government Statistical Service throughout the UK.
- To be an effective advocate and influential ambassador with key stakeholders within government, the wider statistics community (including overseas), the media and across the UK public arena. This will include managing key relationships with Parliament, with the Devolved Administrations and within the UK Government.
- To ensure there is strong governance of the Office for National Statistics (Executive Office of the Authority), especially in the face of an ongoing and challenging change programme, which includes statistical modernisation, the delivery of the 2011 census results, development of Census alternatives and implementation of SR2010.
- To provide support, oversight and guidance to the National Statistician, in their role as the Chief Executive of the Authority. In particular the Chair will work with the Chief Executive to ensure that the internal organisation is effective.

- To provide support, oversight and guidance to the Head of Assessment in their role and to maintain the necessary separation of functions.
- To ensure proper co-ordination of the Authority's relationship with Parliament, and its public activities more widely.
- To ensure that the Authority has regard to the advice of the National Statistician, as the Authority's principal adviser. This will relate to the following areas:
 - the quality of official statistics,
 - good practice in relation to official statistics,
 - the comprehensiveness of official statistics;

and to the advice of the Head of Assessment, as the Authority's principal adviser on the Authority's assessment functions.

- Ensures the independence of the Authority.
- Provide leadership to the Authority itself. This includes:
 - ensuring that the Authority has the right mix of skills and experience;
 - providing effective leadership in meetings of the Authority;
 - representing the Authority in dealings with Ministers, with key external stakeholders, and with the media and the public;
 - ensuring the Authority holds the National Statistician to account, in her role as the Chief Executive;
 - ensuring that the Authority holds the ONS Director General to account for the running of the ONS, so that its services are delivered in the most efficient, effective and transparent manner;
 - ensuring that the Authority holds the Head of Assessment to account for the assessment functions of the Authority
 - ensuring that the Authority has the information and resources it needs to function effectively;
 - ensuring that the Authority meets at regular intervals throughout the year, and that the minutes of meetings and any reports to Parliament accurately record the decisions taken and, where appropriate, the views of individual members;
 - developing, implementing and enforcing the procedures by which the Authority will operate, for example a code of conduct and rules on conflict of interest;
 - ensuring that new members of the Authority are fully briefed on the terms of their appointment and on their duties, rights and responsibilities;

- appraising members' performance at least annually and provide this on request to the appropriate body, if members are considered for re-appointment to the Authority or for appointment to the Board of some other public body.
- Advise Parliament as necessary on how the reforms have worked in practice and support effectively the implementation of any required changes to the system.
- Work with the National Statistician to determine the role of official statistics in supporting policy making, wider civil society, and open and transparent public services.
- Work with the National Statistician to promote and develop data sharing for statistical purposes to maximise the accessibility and use of official statistics for the public good.

It will be for the successful candidate to shape the job to suit their understanding of the role and their own interests and strengths.

Person specification

In terms of skills and competencies, candidates for the Chair are required to demonstrate the following:

- Strategic skills, including an ability to analyse complex issues and to think clearly, strategically and laterally; an ability to scan the horizon for future issues; an ability to understand both policy issues and the concerns of the public; independence of view; and an ability to guide and facilitate the resolution of complex debates.
- Leadership skills, including the ability to lead and manage a high profile organisation in a complex and dynamic environment and communicate a sense of purpose and direction to internal and external stakeholders.
- Results orientation, including drive, energy, resilience, a focus on targeted performance measurement, impatience for slow process or undue bureaucracy; and a commitment to deliver concrete benefits to the Authority's customers and staff and to the broader public sector.
- Influencing and communication skills, including an ability to develop and communicate a vision clearly and effectively with a wide range of audiences; an ability to communicate effectively with Ministers; an ability to develop and maintain relationships quickly with groups with disparate views and agendas; an ability to work under a high level of public interest and scrutiny.
- Team building and leadership skills, including an ability to maintain and develop a professional and effective Authority in which all directors, executive and non-executive, are able to play their full part in the organisation's activities; the ability to delegate and manage through others; and high emotional intelligence, perceptiveness and sensitivity to people issues.

Absolute integrity and a strong personal reputation are also necessary.

In terms of specific experience, candidates are also required to have:

- An understanding of the role and use of statistics both within and outside government at a senior level. The successful candidate need not be a professional statistician but must be able to demonstrate experience of working with statistics, an understanding of their value and use. An understanding of, commitment to and enthusiasm for the aims of statistical independence will also be necessary.
- Experience of leading a large, complex organisation, either in the public or private sector. For those with public sector experience some experience of the private sector is desirable.

Seven Principles of Public Life

Selflessness: Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other benefits for themselves, their family or their friends.

Integrity: Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their official duties.

Objectivity: In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.

Accountability: Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.

Openness: Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.

Honesty: Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.

Leadership: Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.

Terms and conditions of appointment

Time commitment

The time commitment as Chair is two and a half days per week, to include attendance at UK Statistics Authority meetings and other activities relevant to the Authority.

Timing of the appointment

The successful candidate will take up the appointment as soon as possible ideally in the New Year.

Location

Authority meetings will take place in Newport, Gwent (where the headquarters of the Office for National Statistics is based) and London, with travel across the UK and occasionally overseas.

Remuneration

This is a senior public appointment and the appointee will receive fees of £71,250 per year. The appointment is not pensionable.

Period of Appointment

The appointment will be for a fixed term of 5 years.

Conflicts of interest

The Statistics Authority is advising on issues with wide implications across the economy and society, and candidates will need to be able to demonstrate that they do not have other interests that would be likely to conflict with their responsibilities as members of the Authority. Please declare any potential conflict of interest as early as possible in the selection process and also disclose information or personal connections that, if you were appointed, might be open to misperception.

Pre-appointment scrutiny

It is current Government policy for the Government nominee for key positions to be subject to a pre-appointment hearing with the relevant select committee. For the Chair of the Authority the hearing will be carried out by the Public Administration Select Committee. The hearing is likely to cover issues such as the candidate's suitability for the role, his or her key priorities, and possibly the process used in selection. Following the hearing the Committee will produce a short report on its findings. Government will consider the report and decide whether to take views expressed by the Committee into consideration on proceeding with the appointment. Cabinet Office will ensure the candidate is adequately briefed ahead of the hearing.

Diversity policy

Cabinet Office is committed to providing equal opportunities for all, irrespective of race, age, disability, gender, marital status, religion, sexual orientation, transgender and working patterns and to the principle of public appointments on merit with independent assessments, openness and transparency of process. This appointment will be carried out in full compliance with these principles. This appointment comes within the remit of the Commissioner for Public Appointments. It is being made using a process which takes into account the Commissioner's Code of Practice. Further information about the work of the Commissioner may be found on the Commissioner's website: www.publicappointmentscommissioner.org. This recruitment process is being undertaken by the Cabinet Office, with the involvement of Olivia Grant, independent appointments assessor, on behalf of the Commissioner for Public Appointments.

Appendix 3: Curriculum vitae of Andrew Dilnot CBE

Date of birth: 19th June 1960

Married, with two children

Principal employment

Principal, St Hugh's College, Oxford, Oct 2002 – August 2012

Warden, Nuffield College, Oxford, September 2012 –

Chairman, Commission on the funding of Care and Support, July 2010 – July 2011

Pro-Vice-Chancellor, University of Oxford, 2005-

Director, Institute for Fiscal Studies, February 1991 – September 2002

Founding Presenter of BBC Radio 4 Series 'More or Less' (magazine programme about statistics) 2001- 2007

Deputy Director, Director of Personal Sector Research, Senior Research Officer, Research Officer, Research Assistant, Institute for Fiscal Studies, 1981-1991

Other activities

Trustee, Nuffield Foundation, 2009 –

Chairman, Statistics Users Forum, Royal Statistical Society, 2009 –

Member of board of National Consumer Council 2003-2008

Member of OST Review of Science in ODPM 2006-7

Vice Chairman of Oxford Conference of Colleges, 2005-2007

Member of Council of Oxford University, 2005-2007

Member of Balance of Funding Review Committee (ODPM) 2003-2005

Member of Social Security Advisory Committee 1992-2002

Regular witness before Treasury and Social Security Select Committees of House of Commons

Member of Steering Group, Performance and Innovation Unit study on modelling and analysis in government, 1999-2000, and subsequent implementation group 2000-2003

Presenter of BBC Radio 4 'Analysis' documentaries, 1994-2001

Member of HM Treasury Evidence Based Policy Fund Panel, 2000-2002

Member of Foresight Panel on Ageing Population 1999-2001

Member of Inland Revenue Peer Review Panel 2000

Member of Advisory Board for Centre for Research in Social Policy, Univ. Loughborough, 1996-2002

Member of Decennial Review of Social Studies, University of Oxford, 1999-2000

Member of Advisory Board for Social Sciences Division, University of Oxford, 2000-2002

Member of Academy of Social Sciences, 1999-

Member of External Relations Group, Economic and Social Research Council 1995-2002

Member of DSS advisory group on Earnings Top-up 1996 – 1999

Member of Council of Royal Economic Society, 1993-1998

Member of Retirement Income Enquiry (Anson Committee) 1994-95

Member of Rowntree Costs of Continuing Care Enquiry (Barclay Committee) 1995-96

Member of Council of Westfield College, University of London, 1987 - 1989

Member of Council of Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London, 1989-1995

Member of Fiscal Studies Task Force, the Effect of the Tax System on Innovative Activity, Office of Science and Technology, 1993-94.

Visiting Professor of Social Economics (Downing Memorial Fellow), Melbourne University, July to November 1989

Member of Gammie Committee on Capital Taxation 1988-1992

Specialist Adviser to House of Lords Select Committee on European Communities (Subcommittee C), 1987. Enquiry into harmonisation of European social security systems.

Specialist Adviser to House of Lords Select Committee on European Communities (Subcommittee A), 1989. Enquiry into proposal for a withholding tax on investment income.

Director of Studies and College Lecturer in Economics, Exeter College, Oxford 1988-89

College Lecturer in Economics, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford 1987-88

Visiting Fellow, Australian National University, Canberra, July-October 1986

Awarded CBE in 2000 for services to economics and economic policy

Honorary Fellow St John's College, Oxford 2002

Honorary Doctorate, City University, 2003

Honorary Fellow, Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London 2004

Honorary Fellow, Institute of Actuaries 2002

Honorary Fellow, Swansea Institute of Higher Education 2004

Member of Board of World Vision UK 1991-1997

Trustee of Relate, Oxfordshire, 1999-2005

Trustee of Our Right to Read, 2004-2006

Patron, Oxford Youth Works 2006-

Education

Olchfa Comprehensive School, Swansea, 1972-1978

St John's College, Oxford, 1978-81, BA in Philosophy, Politics and Economics

Books

The Reform of Social Security, Oxford University Press, 1984 (with J.A. Kay and C.N. Morris)

The Economics of Social Security, Oxford University Press, 1989 (ed. with I. Walker)

Pensions Policy in the UK: An economic analysis, 1994 (with R. Disney, P. Johnson, and E. Whitehouse)

The IFS Green Budget, annually 1982-2002, the principal independent analysis of budget options in the UK (Green in the sense of Green Paper)

The Tiger that isn't – seeing through a world of numbers, August 2007, (with Michael Blastland), Profile Books, London (US version published as 'The Numbers Game' in 2009, translated into six languages)

Articles, book chapters etc. 76, principally related to income and wealth distribution, labour market behaviour, taxation, social security, savings and pensions, public spending, government economic policy, 1981-present

Radio documentaries

BBC Radio 4 Analysis programmes: 29 from 1994 to 2001

Radio series

'More or Less', BBC Radio 4: 12 series from 2001 to 2007

Formal Minutes

Tuesday 6 December 2011

Members present:

Mr Bernard Jenkin, in the Chair

Alun Cairns
Paul Flynn

Robert Halfon

Draft Report (*Appointment of the Chair of the UK Statistics Authority*), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

Ordered, That the draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 30 read and agreed to.

Several papers were appended to the Report.

Resolved, That the Report be the Sixteenth Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

Ordered, That embargoed copies of the Report be made available, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 134.

Written evidence was ordered to be reported to the House for printing with the Report in addition to that ordered to be reported for publishing on 10 May.

[Adjourned till Wednesday 7 December at 10.30 am

List of Reports from the Committee during the current Parliament

The reference number of the Government's response to each Report is printed in brackets after the HC printing number.

Session 2010–12

First Report	Who does UK National Strategy?	HC 435 (HC 713)
Second Report	Government Responses to the Committee's Eighth and Ninth reports of Session 2009-10	HC 150
Third Report	Equitable Life	HC 485 (Cm 7960)
Fourth Report	Pre-appointment hearing for the dual post of First Civil Service Commissioner and Commissioner for Public Appointments	HC 601
Fifth Report	Smaller Government: Shrinking the Quango State	HC 537 (Cm 8044)
Sixth Report	Who Does UK National Strategy? Further Report with the Government Response to the Committee's First Report of Session 2010-11	HC 713
Seventh Report	Smaller Government: What do Ministers do?	HC 530
Eighth Report	Cabinet Manual	HC 900 (Cm 8213)
First Special Report	Cabinet Manual: Government Interim Response to the Committee's Eighth Report of Session 2010-12	HC 1127
Ninth Report	Pre-appointment hearing for the post of Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman	HC 1220-I
Tenth Report	Remuneration of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman	HC 1350
Eleventh Report	Good Governance and Civil Service Reform: 'End of Term' report on Whitehall plans for structural reform	HC 901
Twelfth Report	Government and IT — "a recipe for rip-offs": time for a new approach	HC 715-I
Thirteenth Report	Change in Government: the agenda for leadership	HC 714
Fourteenth Report	Public Appointments: regulation, recruitment and pay	HC 1389
Fifteenth Report	Smaller Government: What do Ministers do? Further Report	HC 1540