

CHANGES

IN THE UK
POLITICAL AND
GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES;



A BRIEFING FOR HIGH COMMISSION STAFF
12TH JULY 2011



RT HON ALUN MICHAEL, JP, MP

First Minister for Wales from its establishment in 1999-2000. Former Cabinet Minister as Secretary of State for Wales and held ministerial posts in the Home Office, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Department for Trade and Industry.

He is a member of the executive of the UK Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

Member of Parliament for Cardiff South and Penarth since 1987



DR. JOAN NWASIKE

A/Head of Section Regional Programmes and Adviser Caribbean Governance and Institutional Development Division, Commonwealth Secretariat

Before joining the Commonwealth Secretariat six years ago, she worked as a Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation (CFTC) Expert in Public Sector Development for the Government of Tanzania for two years. She has designed, developed and implemented high level in-country programmes on Leadership for Development for Cabinet and Permanent Secretaries in several Caribbean countries.



DUNSTAN MAINA

Regional Adviser for East Africa in the Governance and Institutional Development Division (GIDD), Commonwealth Secretariat. This covers Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, Rwanda, Seychelles and Mauritius.

Prior to joining the Secretariat, Dunstan was working for the Ministry of Finance, Kenya as an Under Secretary in the External Resources Department responsible for the UN, United Kingdom and the Commonwealth Secretariat. He has also managed the World Bank/IMF Desk and a number of bilateral Donors such as France, Germany Spain and Italy.



DARRYL HOWE

Spent over 20 years in the UK Civil Service in a variety of roles including as Principal Private Secretary to Cabinet Ministers, Deputy Head of the Government Whips Office and Senior Policy Adviser in the Cabinet Secretariat.

Darryl was previously Programme Director at the National School of Government and joined the Academy for Parliamentary & Policy Studies as its Managing Director in January 2011



NATASHA ENGEL, MP

First ever elected Chair of the House of Commons Back Bench Business Committee.

Nominated back-bench MP of the year 2011 for her work in developing the Committee into a formidable part of the Commons machinery.

Member of Parliament for North East Derbyshire since 2005

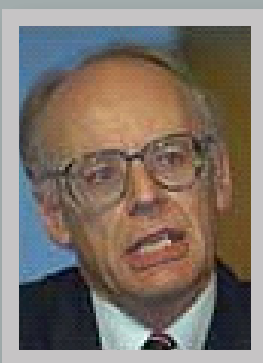
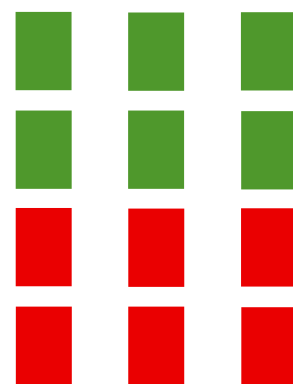


RT HON LORD (BRUCE) GROCOTT

First elected as an MP in 1974 Bruce Grocott has held positions in every Labour Government since 1974. He was Parliamentary Private Secretary to Tony Blair as Leader of the Opposition and then as Prime Minister from 1994-2001.

Raised to the Peerage in 2001 becoming Government Chief Whip in the House of Lords from 2002-2008.

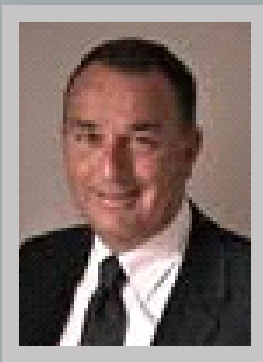
He is a member of the Leader's group on working practices.



LORD (PHILIP) NORTON, OF LOUTH

Raised to the Peerage in 1998, Lord Norton is an academic who has been described as "The United Kingdom's greatest living expert on Parliament" and "a world authority on constitutional issues".

He is a member of the House of Lords Constitution Committee and was its Chair from 2001-2004



HUW EDWARDS

Associate Director of the Academy for Parliamentary & Policy Studies.

Huw was formerly MP for Monmouth and Member of the Welsh Affairs Select Committee.

Huw teaches in Parliamentary and Government process and in devolution issues at the Academy for Parliamentary & Policy Studies.



ANGUS MACNEIL, MP

SNP's Westminster Spokesperson for Transport, for Tourism, for Fishing, Food and Rural Affairs and for Scotland Office matters.

Scottish Parliamentarian of the year 2006 and winner of political awards from the Spectator Magazine and the Political Studies Society.

Member of Parliament for Na h-Eileanan an Iar since 2005



PAUL SKIDMORE

Director of Strategy, the Tony Blair Africa Governance Initiative (AGI)

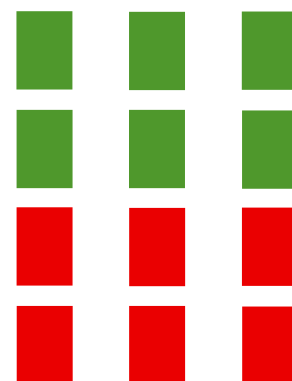
Paul has been AGI's Director of Strategy and Fundraising since September 2010, having previously led the charity's programme with the Government of Sierra Leone. Before that, he worked with AGI in Rwanda helping to set up the Institute for Policy Analysis and Research, Rwanda's first think-tank.

SPEAKERS



12TH JULY 2011

P R O G R A M M E



09.30	Commonwealth Nations working together and learning from each other (Rt Hon Alun Michael, MP, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and former Cabinet Minister)
10.15	State Building: what does the Commonwealth do to improve governance? (Joan Nwasike and Dunstan Maina, Commonwealth Secretariat)
11:00	How the UK Coalition Government works (Darryl Howe, Academy for Parliamentary & Policy Studies)
11.30	Refreshments
11.45	Changes in the House of Commons- Post 2010 General Election (Natasha Engel,MP, Chair Back-bench Business Committee)
12.45	LUNCH
13.45	Changes in House of Lords (Rt Hon Lord Grocott, Leaders' Group on Working Practices)
14.30	Other recent and proposed constitutional reforms - (Lord Norton, HoL Constitution Committee)
15.15	Refreshments
15.30	Devolved Administrations in the UK: An overview (Huw Edwards, Academy for Parliamentary & Policy Studies)
16.15	Developments in Scotland, governing with the first Majority Govt and towards a referendum on independence (Angus MacNeil, MP)
17.00	Developing & Supporting Political Leadership (Paul Skidmore, Africa Governance Initiative)
17.30	Review followed by drinks reception
19.00	END

