



INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT



PRESS NOTICE - 28 April 2026

The Rt Hon. the Lord Beamish PC, Chairman of the Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament (ISC), has provided the following statement on behalf of the Committee:

“Further to our statement of 21 April 2026 regarding the Committee’s work in relation to the Humble Address, the Intelligence and Security Committee has now reviewed all documents which the Government has referred to it - including those provided to it just 24 hours ago - and reached a decision on the redactions which the Government had requested on the basis that it deemed the information was prejudicial to UK national security or international relations. We note that there are documents which the Government has not yet referred to the Committee because they are subject to the ongoing investigation by the Metropolitan Police.

The Committee has prioritised work in relation to the Humble Address, with Members setting aside all other business to read the documents such that the Committee could meet and collectively review them at pace.

It is now for Government to notify the Committee if it wishes to contest any of the Committee’s decisions on redactions. Should the Government choose to do so - and should the Government notify the Committee this week - then the Committee will hold a Contested Redactions Hearing with Government soon after Parliament returns from prorogation, before making its final decision. There will be no further process and Government must then publish the documents as directed by the Committee.

The Committee will continue to keep Parliament informed of its work to discharge the responsibilities given to it by Parliament under the Humble Address. The Committee has made exceptional efforts to ensure that it is not holding up the publication of documents and we wish to make very clear that any delay in Government responding to the Humble Address is in no way due to the Committee’s part in the process.”

ENDS.

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. The Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament (ISC) is a statutory Committee of Parliament. It is not a Select Committee.
2. The Committee consists of nine Members drawn from both Houses of Parliament, and appointed by Parliament. The Chair is elected by its Members.
3. The Committee oversees the intelligence and security activities of the UK Intelligence Community. The Committee was originally established by the Intelligence Services Act 1994, and was reformed , and its powers reinforced, by the Justice and Security Act 2013.
4. Its remit includes oversight of the policies, expenditure, administration and operations of MI5, MI6 (the Secret Intelligence Service or SIS) and the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), and the work of the other parts of the Intelligence Community, including the Joint Intelligence Organisation and the National Security Secretariat in the Cabinet Office; Defence Intelligence in Ministry of Defence; and Homeland Security Group in the Home Office.
5. The Members of the Committee are subject to Section I(1)(b) of the Official Secrets Act 1989 and are routinely given access to highly classified material in carrying out their duties.
6. The current Members of the Committee are:
 - The Rt Hon. the Lord Beamish PC (Chairman)
 - The Rt Hon. Sir Jeremy Wright KC MP (Deputy Chairman)
 - Baroness Brown of Cambridge DBE FREng FRS
 - Peter Dowd MP
 - Richard Foord MP
 - The Rt Hon. Sir John Hayes CBE MP
 - Jessica Morden MP
 - Derek Twigg MP
 - Admiral The Rt Hon. the Lord West of Spithead GCB DSC PC.
7. The Committee sets its own agenda and work programme. It takes evidence from Government Ministers, the Heads of the intelligence and security Agencies, officials from across the UK Intelligence Community, and other witnesses as required. The Committee makes an Annual Report on the discharge of its functions and also produces Reports on specific issues.
8. The Committee's dedicated Press Officer (Alex Hunt) can be reached at:

Alexander.Hunt1@cabinetoffice.gov.uk or 07873 702652.