

CP4D MALAWI - STRENGTHENING COMMITTEE SCRUTINY REPORT SUMMARY

03 - 05 MARCH 2020



Programme purpose:

Improving parliamentary scrutiny through the strengthening of parliamentary committees in Malawi by enhancing the skills of Members and Clerks attending.

Programme Outcomes:

Outcome 1. Participating committee Members and Clerks have strengthened their technical skills and know-how on scrutiny, aiding the delivery of their respective committees' remit effectively and efficiently.

Outcome 2. The relationships between the UK and Malawi are further strengthened.

Outputs

Output 1: Enhanced technical skills of ten committee Members and two Clerks participating in the programme with demonstrated increase in knowledge on tools of parliamentary scrutiny.

Output 2: UK and Malawian parliamentarians have deepened their understanding of each other's Parliament and political context.

Output 3: A comprehensive report has been produced and disseminated to all key stakeholders.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

From 3 - 5 March 2020, CPA UK organised a programme on Strengthening Committee Scrutiny in partnership with the Scottish Parliament for a project funded by the Commonwealth Partnership for Democracy (CP4D). Building on the Post-Election Seminar delivered in August 2019, the programme focused on the strengthening of committees and enhancing legislative scrutiny through developing the technical skills of committee members and officials.

The delegation was led by Hon. George Zulu MP, Member of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), and included Hon. Horace Chipuwa MP, Chair of the Local Authorities and Rural Development Committee; Hon. Gladys Ganda MP, Vice Chairperson for Defense and Security Committee; and Hon. Ulemu Chilapondwa MP, Vice Chair of the Agriculture Committee. Together, the delegation represented ten of Malawi's parliamentary committees.

The programme consisted of a day of meetings and discussions with MPs and clerks as well as observing committee and chamber proceedings in the Houses of Parliament; followed by a day at the CP4D Inclusive Politics Conference; and lastly observing First Minister's Questions in the Scottish Parliament along with meetings with several officials.

The programme covered a variety of topics including:

- **Parliamentary Scrutiny Tools**
- **Developing Committee Aims, Objectives and Strategy**
- **Conducting Effective Inquiries**
- **Committee Reports & Follow Up**

Feedback from the delegates indicated.....



Delegates in the Chamber of the Scottish Parliament

CP4D MALAWI - STRENGTHENING COMMITTEE SCRUTINY

FULL REPORT

03 - 05 MARCH 2020

PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

This project is working with the Parliament of Malawi through a period of transition. It builds on significant work by a number of stakeholders including CPA UK, CPA Scotland, the UK Parliamentary Office for Science and Technology (POST), AFIDEP and others to build the capacity of the Parliament, particularly around research and evidence-based policy making. Throughout the course of this project, CPA UK is continuously interacting and engaging with all related stakeholders, both parliamentary and development-related, to reduce overlap whilst ensuring greater outcomes.

The project is being delivered through a series of workshops, short-term attachments, and study visits. CPA UK has partnered with the Parliament of Scotland (CPA Scotland), which has historic ties and a long-term strategic relationship with the Parliament of Malawi. In the run-up to the elections in May 2019, CPA UK provided support and capacity building to parliamentary staff, with a focus on committee clerks and staff from the legislative team. A second workshop focused on best practice for designing induction programmes for newly-elected members of parliament. This training was designed to help staff prepare for the new parliament, apply learnings to their processes, and enable the parliament to undertake the CPA Benchmark self-assessment.

Following last year's elections, this project provided support to new members of parliament through a comprehensive induction programme, with particular emphasis on women and young parliamentarians.

Through the upcoming programme in Westminster and Edinburgh, the project will also continue to provide technical support through strengthening of committees and enhancing legislative scrutiny. In the Malawian Parliament, considerable work is undertaken through committees and CPA UK will continue to work closely with the Parliament to enhance their accountability processes and legislative scrutiny function.



Neil Parish MP, Chair of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee

KEY PROGRAMME TOPICS AND EVENTS

TOOLS FOR PARLIAMENTARY SCRUTINY IN THE UK

To form the basis of discussions in the programme, Baroness Barker met the delegation to highlight the tools for parliamentary scrutiny in the UK. One of Parliament's main roles is to examine and challenge the work of the government. The House of Commons and the House of Lords use similar methods of scrutiny, although procedures can vary:

Questions

MPs and Peers get the opportunity to question government ministers directly in their respective chambers through oral questions or in writing.

- In the Commons, Ministers from each government department answer oral questions on a rota basis with each major Government department being allocated a particular day of the week on a rota agreed by the Government and Opposition parties.
- In the Lords, the House questions government ministers at the start of each day's business, but there are no set days for government departments.

Prime Minister's Questions (PMQs)

The Prime Minister answers questions every sitting Wednesday from 12.00noon -12.30pm.

Debates

MPs and Peers hold debates each week to discuss issues and scrutinise legislation.

- MPs look at the creation and amendment of laws as well as national and international issues during debates in the House of Commons chamber. At the end of a debate, often a division is called to see whether a majority of Members support what was discussed or not.
- MPs also have an opportunity to raise local or national issues and receive a response from a government minister through Westminster Hall debates, which take place in the Commons secondary chamber, the Grand Committee Room.
- Peers at the House of Lords have general debates for a full day once a week and shorter debates lasting around 90 minutes on most other days. They also check the work of government by scrutinising legislation.

KEY FACTORS THAT EFFECT THE

PROCESS OF SCRUTINY INCLUDE:

- The access to **information**
- The **rules** governing the access to information
- The **time** needed to obtain information and the time taken to utilise it.

Committees

The UK Committee System is recognised for its effective scrutiny of government policy, proposed new laws and wider topics like the economy.

Depending on the remit of a committee, its role can range from offering advice, to producing reports or altering legislation.

The House of Commons has departmental select committees which shadow government departments and scrutinise the spending, administration and policy of each department. These committees receive much attention from the public and the media.

Both Houses have permanent and temporary committees. MPs and Lords also work together in Joint Select Committees.

Given the effectiveness of committees and the attention by the public and the media, the government tends to issue responses to most committee reports.

Delegates had the opportunity to observe some of the procedures highlighted above including observing debates in the House of Commons, First Minister's Questions in Edinburgh and committee procedures in a Lords Select Committee in Westminster.

DEVELOPING COMMITTEE AIMS, OBJECTIVES & STRATEGY

As several of the delegates were Members of the Public Accounts Committee in Malawi, CPA UK arranged a meeting with experienced UK PAC Members Nigel Mills MP and Chris Evans MP to discuss good practice and the importance of developing committee aims, objectives and strategy.

"VALUE FOR MONEY COMMITTEE"

The UK PAC differs from most other committees as it does not scrutinise policy, but how well government implements policy and if value for money was achieved. In Malawi the challenges for the PAC are of a different nature to those faced in the UK as the Malawi PAC focuses largely on investigating institutional corruption.

Drawing on experience, the UK Members gave insights into how the UK committee functioned effectively in their time, providing examples of successes and challenges faced and how they were overcome.

This included:

Choosing topics and inquiries

- Identify a "main point" at initiation. For the UK PAC sitting between 2015-2019 it was "are you delivering value for money for tax-payer money?"
- Identify interests and priorities of members, have certain members specialise on certain issues and trust them to lead in those areas.

- Carefully pick a topic which members have consensus on and one that is not already a hot topic being extensively debated in the chamber as there will be little value added.

Gathering information

- Acknowledge that expertise within a committee usually correlates with experience
- Identify who the best people are to get information from, who are the experts?
- Identify how will the information be obtained?

Relations within a Committee

- Achieving results hugely depends on building consensus and leaving party politics behind.

"In a committee, you form an alliance different to that of parties, that's how you achieve the best work"

- Building trust with committee staff and ensuring respect of all within a committee is also key.

Finally, to achieve committee aims and objectives, the importance of **good programme management** to deliver the strategy was stressed.

CONDUCTING AN EFFECTIVE INQUIRY

The bulk of committee work is built around inquiries into particular topics – an area of policy, scrutiny of a draft Bill, or a response to some event; Neil Parish MP, Chair of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee and Ian Bradshaw, the Clerk of the Committee, met the delegates to discuss how to conduct effective inquiries. Given that several members sat in committees of a similar remit, many comparisons were drawn, and good practice identified.

The discussion highlighted:

- Formal and informal committee powers
- The role of the Chair
- Building cross-party consensus and selecting topics
- Research on who is affected by the issue, any impact it has whether positive or negative
- Selecting, summoning and questioning witnesses
- Briefing and questioning witnesses
- Questioning Ministers and Senior Civil Servants
- Using digital platforms for outreach in particular when targeting the public to gather information
- Cooperation at the staff level from different committees on topics and research.

In Malawi Ministers are not questioned, usually a senior civil servant would represent them instead which delegates noted would limit findings. Delegates were also interested in how Mr Parish, a government member, balanced party politics with his duties as Chair. Mr Parish

PROGRAMME PARTNERS



CPA UK- MALAWI RELATIONS

CPA UK have a significant and well established relationship with the Parliament of Malawi, and have a long history of working with Members, Parliamentary officials and Parliamentary staff. At the request of the National Assembly, programmes have been designed to assist Members in fulfilling their legislative, oversight and representative roles.

Our Recent Programmes

CPA UK Modern Slavery Project visit to Malawi, Lilongwe, 8-9 June 2018

As part of the Modern Slavery Project, a delegation of UK and Nigerian parliamentarians involved in combatting modern slavery-related crimes in their own jurisdiction visited Malawi to exchange learning and explore challenges and opportunities in the region.

UK MP Alex Norris was joined by Nigerian MPs Hon. Samuel Okon Ikon MNA and Hon. Ibrahim Isiaka MNA for the two-day programme from 8-9 June. During that time, they met with the Speaker of the Malawi Parliament, Hon. Richard Msowoya; held open discussions and sessions with Malawi MPs; and visited a local police victim support unit and an NGO working with victims of modern slavery and human trafficking.

Programme on the Use of Evidence in Parliamentary Work, Westminster, 9-10 March 2017

CPA UK continued their work with parliamentarians in March 2017, hosting a delegation at Westminster and delivering a programme focusing on the use of research in parliamentary processes and evidence-informed policy-making. This programme was run in collaboration with the UK Parliamentary Office for Science and Technology (POST). This programme included sessions with other research staff exploring how evidence can be used by parliamentarians in the course of their work – particularly in legislative scrutiny.

Programme for Young Parliamentarians on Parliamentary Practice and Procedure and Issue-Based Campaigning, Lilongwe, 7-10 November 2016

In November 2016, at the invitation of the National Assembly, CPA UK ran a programme for MPs in Lilongwe. Its aim was to enhance the capacity of the National Assembly of Malawi by



Delegates joined the Speaker of Malawi, Catherine Gotani Hara and Ken Macintosh, Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament for a working lunch

explained that as Chair of the Committee he focused on scrutinising government to ensure that it was effective.

REPORTS & FOLLOW UP

Committee reports are often aimed at government, recommending changes in policy and practices, based on the evidence gathered during an inquiry.

Delegates noted that report follow up and implementation were most challenging and discussed the issue in a session with Rt. Hon Philip Dunne MP, Chair of the Environment Audit Committee and Lloyd Owen, Clerk of the Committee. Mr Dunne concurred that this was a challenge faced by most committees and partly was as a result of the processes in place in committee systems, however, measures can be taken to overcome challenges with implementation and follow-up such as leveraging the media. In one example, the Environmental Audit Committee report on micro-beads, coupled with media pressure, helped the committee successfully call for a ban on products containing the plastic micro-beads. Mr Owen further noted that, at times, sending Ministers recommendations before releasing these to the press proves effective in itself.

Other points on good practice in writing reports and follow up that were noted included:

- The agenda for the report and recommendations should be produced by committee members
- Holding regular meetings with the committee clerk to discuss the report
- The committee needs enough time to prepare and to lobby for the report
- Gain sufficient media attention for inquiries and reports
- Reports and recommendations must be evidence-based and beneficial to constituents

Delegates wanted to know what happens if members within a committee did not agree on findings and recommendations. In the UK, usually members agree -but in very rare

incidents, if minority in the committee disagrees they can write a 'minority report'.

CP4D INCLUSIVE POLITICS CONFERENCE

Delegates attended the opening day of the CP4D final conference on Inclusive Politics which gave them an opportunity to listen and contribute on discussions that highlighted the project's work. It also allowed them to network and discuss collaboration with colleagues from around the commonwealth.

VISITING THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

Delegates visited the Scottish Parliament for the last day of the programme. There are strong historic ties between Malawi and Scotland, but more importantly for the purpose of the programme, both parliaments are unicameral.

Offering a relevant comparison to their own legislature, the visit enabled delegates to observe how a unicameral parliament operates in the UK and how committee work differed without a second chamber scrutinising Government as in Westminster.

It also allowed delegates to observe and distinguish more generally the differences in practice and convention between Westminster and the Scottish Parliament.

Delegates observed First Minister's Questions where the topics of the debate was Covid 19. In a subsequent meeting with the Presiding Officer, Ken Macintosh, it was explained that proceedings were slightly sombre and more serious than usual given the grave situation around the world.



CP4D Malawi Delegates in Scottish Parliament Chamber

COMMONWEALTH PARTNERSHIP FOR DEMOCRACY (CP4D)

The Commonwealth Partnership for Democracy (CP4D) is a UK Government funded programme intended to work with parliaments in 18 Commonwealth Member States across Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia to improve representation of women, young people, people with disabilities and the LGBT+ community in the democratic process. CP4D will support parliaments and local governments to monitor the actions of their executive.

The £4m two-year programme was launched at the 2018 London meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government. It is managed by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and implemented by Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) in partnership with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (Secretariat and UK branch) and the Commonwealth Local Government Forum.

CP4D activities will be implemented at the regional level and with all Commonwealth members to help raise standards and build political commitment to democratic values. The 2012 Commonwealth Charter commits governments, political parties and civil society organisations in member states to uphold and promote democratic culture and practices that are accountable to the public. Parliaments and local governments are essential for effective, inclusive democratic governance and CP4D will contribute to making this a reality by:

- Improving inclusion by engaging more women, young people, persons living with disabilities, religious minorities and the LGBT+ community in the democratic process
- Increase accountability through more effective and transparent parliamentary practices

strengthening parliamentarians' understanding of parliamentary practice, and methods of engagement with the electorate. This programme gave a general introduction to principles of parliamentary representation, but also focused on technical areas, including Private Member's Bills, information networks, and financial scrutiny. The programme also explored issue-based campaigning, and how it can be used to engage voters.

International Parliamentary Conference on National Security and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Cybersecurity & Cybercrime Project - Westminster and beyond, 2016-2017

As part of CPA UK's annual themed projects, the 2016-17 project was designed to increase parliamentarians' knowledge of and build capacity on national security and cybersecurity through engaging interactive discussion sessions and networking opportunities with key stakeholders. The programme focused on a range of themes covering legislation, committee scrutiny, budgets, and engagement with civil society, international institutions and the private sector.

FULL PROGRAMME

Tuesday 3 March

Day One: Parliamentary Scrutiny Tools

Houses of Parliament, Westminster

TIME	SESSION
0845	<i>Enter Houses of Parliament, Portcullis House entrance, Victoria Embankment met by Zahra Soolagh, Programme Officer, CPA UK</i>
0845 - 0910	Welcome and Introduction to Programme Speakers: Mariam El-Azm, Head of the International Partnerships Team, CPA UK Robert Harper, Deputy Head of the International Partnerships Team, CPA UK Zahra Soolagh, Programme Officer, CPA UK
0910 - 0945	Tour of Houses of Parliament <i>The delegation will undertake a tour of the UK Parliament. Please be aware the tour includes stairs.</i>
0945 - 1000	Tea and Coffee
1000 - 1050	Parliamentary Scrutiny Tools in the UK In the UK parliamentary scrutiny, the close examination and investigation of government policies, actions and spending, is carried out by the House of Commons and the House of Lords and their committees. This session will provide a brief overview of the multiple ways that Members of Parliament can scrutinise Government in the UK. The discussion will then focus on the role of parliamentary committees, particularly select committees, in the scrutiny process. The session will also highlight the committee system and their procedures and form the basis of forthcoming sessions. Speakers: Baroness Barker
1055 - 1150	Food, Poverty, Health and Environment Lords Select Committee - Oral Evidence Session Observing a committee evidence session will provide perspective on the scrutiny process in the UK Parliament through the procedures of a select committee and how the evidence session feeds into broader inquiries. Delegates will also gain a sense of the role of the Chair of a Westminster-style Committee and the techniques Members use for questioning. <i>Palace of Westminster, Room 2A</i>
1155-1230	View Proceedings in the House of Commons Chamber This is an opportunity for delegates to observe how oversight and scrutiny is established through the practice, procedures, and customs of the UK House of Commons Chamber.
1245 - 1350	<i>Lunch with Patrick Grady MP and Kate Osamor MP, Chair and Co-Vice Chair of the Malawi APPG respectively, and CPA UK delegates to the Malawi Post Election Seminar August 2019</i>
1400 - 1500	Developing Committee Aims, Objectives and Strategy in the UK Public Accounts Committee (PAC) This session will give delegates the opportunity to learn about the work of the Public Accounts Committee in the UK and what the committee does to function effectively. It is important for any committee to balance party affiliation and collectively identify what their overall aim, objectives and strategy are in order to be effective. Not only does this enable more cohesive and purposeful work, but it also enables committees to measure how effective their work is and to adapt their approaches to scrutiny. Using the PAC and other UK committees the Speakers of the session have served for as an example, this session will provide some insight on how to build consensus within a committee and build a strategy. Speakers: Nigel Mills MP, <i>Member of the PAC (2015 - 2019)</i> Chris Evans MP, <i>Member of the PAC (2015 - 2019)</i>

TIME SESSION

1500 *Tea & Coffee will be available*

1505 - 1600 **Conducting Effective Inquiries in the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee with Chair & Clerk of Committee**

As the bulk of committee work is built around inquiries into particular topics – an area of policy, scrutiny of a draft Bill, or a response to some event - this session will first provide delegates with insight on the work of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee as well as its method for conducting inquiries

Speakers: Neil Parish MP, *Chair of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee*
Ian Bradshaw, *Clerk of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee*

1600 - 1630 **Committee Reports & Follow Up in the Environment Audit Committee with Chair and Clerk of Committee**

Committee reports are often aimed at government, recommending changes in policy and practices, based on the evidence gathered during an inquiry. This session will explore how committee reports are produced and how they are received by government and what follow up the government undertakes. This session will also be an opportunity to discuss relationship building and management with the government in order to increase the persuasive power of committees' reports and recommendations.

Speakers: Rt. Hon Philip Dunne MP, *Chair of the Environment Audit Committee*
Lloyd Owen, *Clerk of the Environment Audit Committee*

1630 *End of Day One*

Wednesday 4 March

Day Two: Inclusive politics in practice in the Commonwealth

The British Academy

TIME SESSION

0845 *Met by Zahra Soolagh at Hotel Lobby to depart for the British Academy. Please make sure you have checked out of the Hotel.*

0900 - 0930 **Inclusive Politics in Practice in the Commonwealth Conference**

Arrival and Registration

1000 - 1115 **Session 1: Inclusive Politics in Practice in the Commonwealth**

This panel session will explore three country examples that are working to achieve political inclusion with sub-national parliaments; with political parties; and with civil society.

Facilitator: Sophia Fernandes, Commonwealth Programme Director, WFD

Speakers: Faith Odidi, Disability Technical Expert, Kenya
Madi Jobarteh, Country Representative, WFD, The Gambia
Zila Fawzi, Sabah Women Action Group (SAWO), Malaysia

1115 - 1130 *Tea and Coffee Break*

1130 - 1300 **Session Two: Using the updated CPA Benchmarks for Democratic Legislatures: a parliamentarians' view**

This session will be a panel session and Q&A of parliamentarians' experience of using the updated CPA Benchmarks for Democratic Legislatures. This session will use an example Bill from the Malawi legislation as an example of how a Bill is passed and what legislative scrutiny involves.

Facilitator: CPA

Speakers: Hon David Ouma Ochieng MP, National Assembly of Kenya
Dr Roberta Blackman-Woods, former MP, UK

1300 - 1355 *Lunch and End of Westminster Programme*

Thursday 5 March

Day Three: Parliamentary Scrutiny Tools Cont.

Scottish Parliament, Holyrood

TIME SESSION

0840	<i>Assemble at Hotel lobby to depart for Scottish Parliament</i>
0900	<i>Arrival to the Scottish Parliament</i>
0915 - 0945	Observe Equalities and Human Rights Committee meeting
0945 - 1045	Role of committees, roles and responsibilities of Conveners and conducting inquiries: Speaker: Ali Walker, Clerk to the Economy, Energy and Fair Work Committee
1045 - 1145	General administration and strategic planning: William Heigh and Erin Borthwick Speakers: William Heigh Erin Borthwick
1145 - 1200	<i>Break and move to Chamber</i>
1250 - 1350	<i>Lunch hosted by the Rt Hon Ken Macintosh MSP, Presiding Officer Attended by Elaine Smith MSP and Ruth Maguire MSP</i>
1400 - 1500	Role of the Chamber Desk, Parliamentary Questions and Motions Speaker: David McLaren, Head of Chamber Desk
1500 - 1600	Tour of the Scottish Parliament building
1600	<i>Depart Parliament for Edinburgh City Chambers</i>
1615 - 1700	Meeting with Scotland Malawi Partnership <i>Briefing on wider civic links, and Year of Governance Strengthening</i>
1700 - 1800	Reception with Lord Provost and civic leaders of Scotland-Malawi links
1800	<i>End of Programme</i>

DELEGATES

Hon. George Zulu MP

Delegation Leader

Honourable George Zulu is a Member of Public Accounts Committee. He has a Bachelor's degree in Computer Sciences obtained from the university of Malawi.

After his studies set up my Computer business company now in transport business and owns a car-hire company.

He is interested in understanding how a similar committee conducts its business and replicate the best practices back home especially in the area of financial oversight. He would also be interested to learn how public enquir-



Hon. Ulemu Jermoth Chilapondwa MP

Ulemu Jermoth Chilapondwa is a Member of Parliament for Ntchisi South constituency. He has a Degree in Food Sciences and Industrial Technology, Diploma in business management, Diploma in Dairy Technology.

He later became Member of Parliament in May 2009, and was appointed Deputy Minister of Agriculture Irrigation and Water development in 2012 and Minister of Transport and Public Works in January 2014.

He is a Vice Chairperson of the Agriculture Committee. His interests are in the field of establishing cooperatives among farmers. He wants to work towards ensuring value-addition for farm produce.



Hon. Steven Mikaya MP

Hon. Steven Mikaya is a Parliamentarian for Blantyre City West and a Member of the Public Accounts Committee.

He has attended Corporate Governance courses within Malawi and in the Republic of South Africa. He is the Managing Director of Stevenson's Transport Group.

As a Member of Public Accounts Committee, he is interested in understanding effective models for curbing corruption in the public sector.



Hon. Arthur Martin Sungitsa MP

Hon. Arthur Martin Sungitsa is a legislator for Dowa Ngala constituency. He is a member of Public Accounts committee. He is a proven administrative, leadership and management expert with specialization in the areas of strategic planning, financial planning and organizational development.

He possesses the experience in financial responsibility for a budget, including experience of IA guidelines, end of year accounts and external liaison with auditors.

He is interested in oversight roles over Government Departments, Ministries and Parastatals performance and accountability. He is further interested in learning how the various national budgets holders are held to account for their roles and actions.



Hon. Gladys Ganda MP

Gladys Ganda is a Member of Parliament for Nsanje Lalanje constituency. She is a member of the Budget and Finance Committee, Parliamentary Women Caucus and Defence and Security Committee.

She is a Corporate Banker by profession, having served in the banking industry for 24 years. Her interests lie in the oversight role on the national budgets in terms of preparation, analysis and implementation of value adding policies and programmes that help in achieving a gender-sensitive budget.

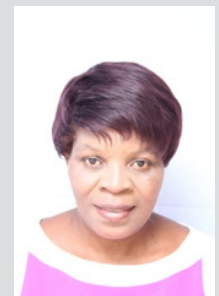
As a Vice Chairperson for Defense and Security, she is interested in understanding parliaments' role in advancing and securing national security interests.



Hon Abigail Shariff Bongwe MP

Hon Abigail Shariff Bongwe, MP is a legislator for Zomba Likangala Constituency. She serves in the Committees on Agriculture and Commissions, Statutory Corporations and State Enterprises.

As a member to these committees, she is very interested in the configuration and functions of Committees on parastatals and sub-vented organisations and how they carry out their oversight roles. She is also interested in the food security agenda as the springboard to socio-economic development in a country which depends more on the agriculture sector.



Hon Owen Chomanika MP

Hon Owen Chomanika is a Member of Parliament for Chikwawa North Constituency. He is a Member of the Agriculture and Social and Community Affairs Committees.

Owen is a holder of a Bachelor of Accountancy from the University of Malawi. He is an accomplished Management Consultant with experience in international development and strategic management. Owen is passionate about economic development, democracy, youth development and governance. His other interests are sports and culture.

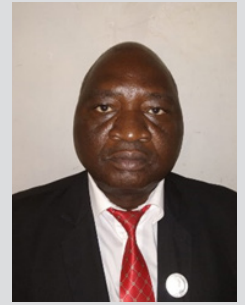


DELEGATES

Hon. Horace Chipuwa MP

Honourable Horace Chipuwa is a Member of Parliament for Lilongwe Mapuyu North constituency. He is a Member of the Budget and Finance Committee and also a Chairperson of the Local Authorities and Rural Development.

As a chair to Local Authorities and Rural Development Committee, he is interested in oversight of local councils' performance and decentralization. With regard to the Budget and Finance Committee his passion is in learning how national budgets are analysed using public finance management lenses.



Hon. Billy Kaunda MP

Hon Billy Kaunda MP is a renowned Malawian musician-cum politician. His musical career dates back to the late 1990's. He is a representative of the people of Mzimba West Constituency. He belongs to the Legal Affairs and Government Assurances Committee of Parliament. This is his third term of office as a Member of Parliament. He has previously represented the People of Blantyre City South East Constituency (2004 to 2009) and then shifted to Mzimba West (2009 to 2014). He looks forward to learning how best to represent his constituents and how to develop good laws and policies for his country.



Hon. Alfred Jiya, MP

Hon Alfred Jiya, MP is a Member of Parliament for Lilongwe City Centre Constituency. He is an active Member of the Public Accounts Committee. He is a holder of Diploma in Business Management and also did CISCO networking with hands-on experience in Local Area Network and computer repairing.

He would like to enhance his knowledge on avenues of advancing better service delivery to the city dwellers in one of the least developed countries in the whole world.

His desire is to learn more about both legislative and oversight responsibilities that would assist him carry his everyday duties as a legislator.



Mr. Johnstone M'dala

Chief Policy and Planning Officer

Mr. Johnstone M'dala is the Chief Policy and Planning Officer. He is responsible for the coordination of National Assembly and donor-funded projects.

He is a former Secondary School Teacher from 1994 to 1997 at Domasi Mission Secondary School. He is a certified Internal Auditor and a Member of the Institute of Internal Auditors. He holds a Master's Degree in Development and Project Planning from University of Bradford, United Kingdom. He joined Parliament in 1997.

He expects to see learn how projects such as those under the CPA are optimally coordinated.



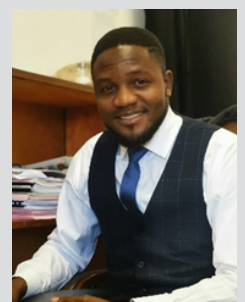
Mr. Ephraim Mwaipopo

Senior Clerk Assistant

Mr. Ephraim Mwaipopo is a Senior Clerk Assistant responsible for providing procedural guidance and advice at the Speakers Table during plenary meetings. He is a Clerk to the Budget Committee.

Ephraim is a holder of a bachelor's degree in Public Administration. He has extensively worked in the public service from 2010; firstly, as a Programmes Officer in the Office of the President and Cabinet and later as a Foreign Service Officer in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Internal Cooperation.

I am interested in understanding the committee system of a legislature and how it can be leveraged for sound social policy development and effective legislative and oversight interventions.



DAY ONE - UK PARLIAMENT SPEAKERS

Baroness Barker *Liberal Democrat*

Baroness Barker is the LGBT Spokesperson and Spokesperson for the Voluntary Sector for the Liberal Democrats in the House of Lords. She was created a Life Peer in 1999. After joining the Liberal Party in 1979 she chaired the Union of Liberal Students from 1982 to 1983. During the same year, she took membership of the Liberal Party National Executive. She became a member of the Federal Policy Committee in 1997, and was chair of the Liberal Democrat Federal Conference Committee. Outside of Parliament she runs a small consultancy which provides strategic business development support to charities, social enterprises and statutory authorities



Kate Osamor MP *Labour*

After studying international development at the University of East London, Kate worked for the Big Issue and in the National Health Service for 15 years. Since being elected in 2015, Kate has consistently used her voice as an MP to speak out for the most vulnerable in society; using her speeches in debates to highlight the impact policies will have on BME communities and arguing for much fuller representation of Black and Ethnic Minority communities in political bodies, especially in Parliament. She has campaigned on social justice issues, championing for example Women for Refugee Women's 'Set Her Free' campaign to end the detention of women who seek asylum in the UK. As Shadow Secretary of State for International Development, Kate spoke extensively on the need to shift the UK's vision of international development away from charity and towards social justice.

Kate participated in the Post Election Seminar organised by CPA UK in Lilongwe, August 2019 and is Co-Vice Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group of Malawi.



Patrick Grady MP *Scottish National Party*

Patrick Grady has been the Member of Parliament for Glasgow North since 2015 and is Chief Whip of the SNP Westminster Group. He was SNP Spokesperson on International Development between 2015-2017 and is the current Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group of Malawi. He served on the House of Commons Procedure Committee 2015-2017. Before his election to Parliament, Patrick worked for the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund and has lived and travelled throughout east and central Africa, including a year in Mzuzu, northern Malawi 2004-2005.

Patrick participated in the Post Election Seminar organised by CPA UK in Lilongwe, August 2019.



Nigel Mills MP *Conservative*

Nigel was first elected in 2010 as the Member of Parliament for Amber Valley with a majority of 536. He was re-elected in May 2015 with an increased majority of 4,205.

Before becoming a Member of Parliament, Nigel was elected to Heanor and Loscoe Town Council in 2007. He also served on Amber Valley Borough Council between 2004 and 2011, representing Shipley Park, Horsley and Horsley Woodhouse.

In Parliament, Nigel initially served on the Work and Pensions Select Committee and on the Northern Ireland Affairs Select Committee. Previously, Nigel was a member of the Public Accounts Committee, the Administration Committee and the Northern Ireland Affairs Select Committee.

Nigel also serves as the Chair or Vice-Chair of many All-Party Parliamentary Groups including the APPG on Accountancy & Pensions (Vice-Chair); Unconventional Oil & Gas (Chair); Anti-Corruption (Co-Chair); Tajikistan (Chair); Pensions (Vice-Chair).



DAY ONE - UK PARLIAMENT SPEAKERS

Chris Evans MP *Labour Co-operative*

Chris was first elected as an MP representing Islwyn the 2010 general election. In July 2012, after two years as an MP, he was promoted to the Shadow Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs as Parliamentary Private Secretary to shadow Secretary of State Mary Creagh. Following a reshuffle in October 2013, Chris joined Labour's Shadow Treasury Team as Parliamentary Private Secretary to Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Chris Leslie.

Chris has served several committees as a Member including the Public Accounts Committee, the Justice Committee and the Environmental Audit Committee.



Neil Parish MP *Conservative*

Neil Parish has been the Member of Parliament for the constituency of Tiverton and Honiton since May 2010.

Before entering politics, Neil was a farmer in his native Somerset and still lives on the family farm to this day. Prior to entering Parliament, Neil was a Member of the European Parliament for the South West of England and a local councillor.

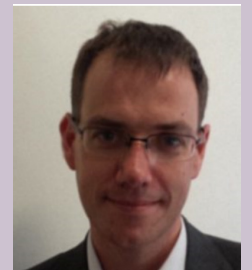
Neil has served continuously on the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee since he was first elected, and as of 2015 was elected Chair of the Committee.



Ian Bradshaw

Senior Clerk, House of Commons

Ian is a Senior Clerk in the House of Commons, and has been Clerk of the EFRA Committee since April 2019. Prior to joining the House in 2017 he worked in a number of policy roles in the UK Civil Service and the charity sector.



Rt Hon. Philip Dunne *Conservative*

Philip was first elected Member of Parliament for the Ludlow Constituency in May 2005. He was re-elected in 2010, and in 2015, 2017 and 2019 he was re-elected with historic majorities for the constituency. He was appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of Defence in September 2012. Following the General Election in May 2015, he was promoted to Minister of State for Defence Procurement at the Ministry of Defence. In July 2016, Philip was appointed Minister of State for Health at the Department of Health, and was reappointed to the same position following the General Election on 8th June 2017. He stepped down as Minister in January 2018. In February 2020, Philip was elected Chairman of the Environmental Audit Committee.



Lloyd Owen

Clerk of the Environmental Audit Committee

Lloyd Owen is the Clerk of the Environmental Audit Committee. He manages the team of House of Commons staff who support the Chair and the Committee in their work. The Committee team provides support to the Committee by managing the practical arrangements for inquiries including scheduling evidence sessions, arranging witnesses to appear before the Committee and providing detailed policy briefings for Committee Members to support their participation in evidence sessions. The Committee team also work closely with the Chair to draft reports to be agreed by the Committee before formal publication.

Lloyd has worked for the House of Commons since 2011 and has worked across a number of different Committees, as well as working in the Private Office of the Clerk of the House of Commons, the most senior official in Parliament. assemblies, provincial, national and senate.



ABOUT CPA UK

CPA UK is the largest and most active of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's branches. Located in and funded by the UK Parliament it supports and strengthens parliamentary democracy throughout the Commonwealth. CPA UK has a distinctive ability and capacity in this area given the origins of CPA since its formation in 1911, and the UK Parliament's propensity to evolve, develop, learn and inform. Peer to peer learning is central to CPA UK's methodology; it designs bespoke interactions between UK and Commonwealth parliamentarians and officials enabling and facilitating knowledge-sharing to achieve improved parliamentary oversight, scrutiny and representation.

Vision. Inclusive, representative and transparent Commonwealth Parliaments; fully effective in enforcing the accountability of the executive and representing the interests and concerns of the electorate.

Purpose. To learn from and strengthen Commonwealth parliaments to deliver effective oversight, scrutiny and representation.

CPA UK's Strategic Objectives are:

Objective 1. To strengthen parliamentary democracy

Being responsive to the complex challenges of Parliaments and facilitating access to information and skills

We will:

- *provide opportunities for UK parliamentarians to learn from Commonwealth peers*
- *convene Commonwealth parliamentarians to increase their capacity to hold governments to account and to effectively represent their electorates*
- *build knowledge within the Commonwealth parliamentary community on issues of common interest and concern*

Objective 2. To link Westminster with the Commonwealth

Promoting collaboration, understanding and cooperation, emphasising its continuing relevance to future generations

We will:

- *play a leading role in CPA*
- *establish and strengthen networks across parliaments, and beyond*
- *engage young people in our work and vision*

Objective 3. To set and demonstrate high performance standards

Increasing the positive impact of all we do

We will:

- *achieve value for money in the organisation and delivery of our activities*
- *set and uphold high standards of behaviour*
- *use evidence-based learning to improve what we do and how we do it*