Society of Clerks-at-the-Table in Commonwealth Parliaments

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR *THE TABLE* IN RESPECT OF 2016

Please reply to the assistant, Andrew Conway, House of Lords, London SW1A 0PW (email conwayaf@parliament.uk), by 31 March 2018 (if this timetable causes difficulty please contact the assistant). For bicameral parliaments, it is helpful if the two Houses' answers to question 8 are co-ordinated. Please email copy in Microsoft Word. If emailing, there is no need to post a hard copy. The editor edits all contributions and includes such material as seems appropriate.

1. **Members of the Society** Has any member of the Society died, retired, been promoted or received any decoration or award in 2017? Please include only members of the Society.

    The full List of Members is not included in *The Table*, but is circulated separately twice a year. If there are any changes or corrections to the list, please notify Karen Georgiou, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA (email georgioukj@parliament.uk).

2. **Articles** Has anything significant happened in your House in 2017 which would be of interest to other members of the Society? Any major change in law or practice concerning parliament (procedure, membership, staff, premises, management practices, electoral system)? Any unusual parliamentary proceedings or events? Is there an historical event of interest to Society members? Or a parliamentary development which spans several years? If so, full articles would be welcome. Articles need not be long. They appear at the start of the volume and are attributed to authors. Please include the name and position of the author.

3. **Miscellaneous notes** Has anything else happened in your House in 2017 which would be of interest to other members of the Society? Any other changes in law or practice concerning parliament? Any other unusual parliamentary proceedings or events? If so, brief miscellaneous notes would be welcome. Miscellaneous notes are anonymous. There is no need to replicate as a miscellaneous note a development covered in an article, or in the privilege or standing orders sections.

4. **Privilege** Please give details of significant cases of breach of privilege or contempt of the House in 2017. Questions of privilege which were raised but clearly had no merit need not be included.

5. **Standing orders** Were your standing orders significantly amended in 2017? If so, how and why? Only significant amendments need be included. If a major review of procedure is pending, in progress or being implemented, please give details.

6. **Sitting days** On how many days in each calendar month in 2017 did your House sit? If sittings were interrupted by an election, please indicate. Please include only full sittings of your House; committee days should not be included.

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7. **Unparliamentary expressions** Please list, in date order, any expressions disallowed in 2017, in the following format: "Expression" (date). Please do not include expressions which amount to straightforward abuse or accusations of lying. Expressions which were not ruled unparliamentary may be omitted. Each expression and variations thereof need be included only once. If expressions were in a language other than English, please provide an English translation.

8. **Books** Please list and where appropriate provide short reviews of good books on parliament published in your region in 2017. Please use the following format: *Title*, by author, publisher, price, ISBN number. Please include the name and position of the author of reviews. Books only please; pamphlets, reports, briefing notes, etc. should not be included. Only books specifically on parliament please. Only original reviews please; material on a back cover or forward, etc., of a book should not be included.

9. **Annual comparative study: dissolution of parliament**
Who has power to dissolve your parliament or legislature? In what circumstances may your parliament or legislature be dissolved? Are there conventions or practices applying to dissolution?