



Delegation Visit by the Parliament of Malaysia

23 May 2022

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Welcome Message

I am delighted that we can open the doors of Westminster Hall once again to colleagues from the Parliament of Malaysia and welcome you to the UK Parliament for the first time since the pandemic began. We trust that this delegation visit will strengthen the valuable bilateral links between our legislatures.

This one-day programme is structured to facilitate the sharing of parliamentary knowledge and good practice around the specific interests the Special Select Committee have identified. Participating Members of the House of Commons and the House of Lords and parliamentary officials will share what they have learnt through experience. They and we look forward to hearing your own reflections from your experience in the Parliament of Malaysia. All parliaments are, in a sense, a work in progress, and peer-to-peer learning is central to our programmes.

There will be sessions on effective scrutiny by parliamentary committees, as well as maintaining committee resilience and momentum during times of political uncertainty. You will also have the opportunity to explore how Select Committees in the UK engage with vulnerable and child witnesses during parliamentary inquiries, in addition to the civil society organisations who represent them. I encourage you to network, share your views and ask questions as freely as possible. I hope you will find this visit a valuable and worthwhile experience.



Jon Davies
Chief Executive, CPA UK



About CPA UK

Supporting and strengthening parliamentary democracy throughout the Commonwealth

CPA UK supports and strengthens parliamentary democracy throughout the Commonwealth. It focuses on key priority themes including women in parliament, modern slavery, financial oversight, security and trade.

CPA UK brings together UK and Commonwealth parliamentarians and officials to share knowledge and experience through peer to peer learning. It aims to improve parliamentary oversight, scrutiny and representation and is located in, and funded by, the UK Parliament. .

Building Stronger Parliaments and Advancing Democracy

CPA UK's core work is to build relationships with parliaments across the Commonwealth. This is achieved through a programme of parliamentary strengthening and capacity building activities.

CPA UK undertakes work at the request of other parliaments around the Commonwealth, and our tailored programmes include both individual country activities, and large scale projects and activities that bring together Commonwealth parliamentarians and clerks.

For more information about our work and activities, please visit our website: uk-cpa.org

About the Programme

This programme focuses on the areas of interest expressed by delegates from the Parliament of Malaysia. CPA UK gathered these interests in the weeks before this programme, and they have been used to shape the sessions and meetings arranged. We are delighted to welcome this delegation for their first in-person Westminster visit since the pandemic began.

There is significant interest in Malaysia in the UK Parliament, as demonstrated by the successful visit of a CPA UK delegation visit to Malaysia in 2020.

For the smooth-running of this programme, we would kindly ask delegates to bear the following in mind:

- We would request delegates attend all scheduled sessions and meetings in the programme and be mindful of timekeeping as this is a busy schedule.
- Delegates will need to follow the UK Parliament COVID-19 guidance to keep those on the parliamentary estate safe. The guidance includes taking lateral flow tests, wearing masks, and following public health advice throughout the estate.

Kindly note that there may be occasions when UK colleagues participate in sessions virtually, for example if they are self-isolating.

We hope you enjoy this programme and have a productive and fruitful time engaging with UK colleagues.



Outcome and Outputs

Impact

To strengthen parliamentary scrutiny in Malaysia by supporting the Special Select Committee on Women and Children Affairs and Social Development to be more effective in holding the government to account; to maintain committee resilience and momentum during times of political uncertainty; as well as to build a strong evidence base through inquiries, informed by lived experience.

Outcome

Through a one-day programme of interactive sessions, this programme aims to have the following outcomes:

- 1** The visiting delegates have an increased understanding and knowledge of parliamentary practice and procedure, including effective scrutiny carried out by select committees, maintaining committee resilience and momentum, and engaging with diverse witnesses.
- 2** Strengthened relationship and knowledge-exchange between representatives from the Parliament of Malaysia and the UK Parliament.
- 3** Facilitated discussion between Malaysia and UK parliamentarians on common challenges and solutions around the resilience of committees and committee members in fulfilling their mandates.



Output 1

A one-day in-person training programme attended by the delegation from the Parliament of Malaysia with cross-party engagement from UK parliamentarians.



Output 2

Enhanced knowledge and understanding of parliamentary practice and procedure by the Special Select Committee on Women and Children Affairs and Social Development.



Output 3

A programme article published and shared with participants and key stakeholders.

General Information

Programme Attendance

Participants are expected to attend all sessions of the programme.

Presentations

Where visual presentations have been used throughout the programme, CPA UK will send copies to participants after the programme.

Online Engagement

Please refrain from responding to emails, taking calls or texting unless urgent business arises, and try to avoid distractions whilst taking part in the programme. Where an urgent call must be taken, please do so outside of the room and let the session facilitator know beforehand.

Research & Reading

During the course of the week, delegates will be provided with material. In order to make the most of the programme, these materials should be read and reviewed thoroughly in advance.

Contributions

During the programme, participants may be invited to give speeches or presentations as part of the course.

Behaviour Code

The UK Houses of Parliament have clear guidelines in place on how all staff should be treated, and how they should treat others in return. Unacceptable behaviour will be dealt with seriously, independently and with effective sanctions. You can find a copy of our Behaviour Code at

www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/standards-and-financial-interests/parliaments-behaviour-code/ .

Please report any such behaviour confidentially to the CPA UK member of staff involved in the programme or to CPA UK Chief Executive, Jon Davies, +44 207 219 6638, daviesjon@parliament.uk

Feedback

As indicators to determine if the programme's outcomes have been achieved and to seek continuous improvement, CPA UK will disseminate pre and post-assessment polls to participants for feedback. All data collated from these polls will be for internal use only.

Programme

MONDAY 23 MAY 2022

All meetings will be held in the CPA Room unless stated otherwise

TIME	SESSION
0900 - 0920	Arrival at the UK Parliament CPA UK staff will welcome delegates at the Portcullis House visitors entrance and accompany them to the CPA room.
0920 - 1000	Tour of the UK Houses of Parliament The delegation will receive a tour of the historic Houses of Parliament buildings.
1015 - 1045	Formal Welcome and Learning Objectives The session will formally welcome the delegation from the Parliament of Malaysia. There will be an introduction to the work of CPA UK and an overview of the programme. Delegates will share their learning objectives for the day. Speakers: <i>Mr Jon Davies, Chief Executive, CPA UK</i> <i>Helen Haywood, Deputy Chief Executive, CPA UK</i>
1045 - 1145	Session 1: Effective Scrutiny by Select Committees This initial session will provide an overview of the role of Committees in the Westminster system. It will outline how Committees effectively scrutinise the executive and consider how to strengthen their impact. It will also cover Committee culture and cross-party consensus, as well as gaining wider house support on Committee recommendations. Speakers: <i>Ruth Cadbury MP, Member of the House of Commons</i> <i>Baroness Manzila Uddin, Member of the House of Lords</i> <i>Chloe Challender, Senior Clerk, Select Committee Team, House of Commons</i>

1200 - 1300**Session 2: Maintaining Committee Momentum and Resilience During Political Uncertainty**

This session will provide an overview of how to maintain Committee momentum during political uncertainty. It will focus on the use of standing orders and other relevant mechanisms to ensure the resilience and sustainability of Committees.

Speakers:

Catherine West MP, Member of the House of Commons
Wera Hobhouse MP, Member of the House of Commons
Judith Boyce, Clerk of the Transport Committee, House of Commons

1300 - 1400**1400 - 1500****Session 3: Lived Experience: Hearing from a Diverse Range of Witnesses**

This session will examine engaging with vulnerable and child witnesses during parliamentary inquiries. It will also cover engaging with civil society as representatives of victim survivors and how to secure a strong evidence base to inform conclusions and recommendations.

Speakers:

Tim Loughton MP, Member of the House of Commons
Mark Earl, Committee Operations Manager responsible for safeguarding and witness support
Elektra Garvie Adams, Second Clerk on the Home Affairs Committee

1500 - 1530**Session 3: Feedback and Next Steps**

At the end of the day delegates will reflect together on what they have learnt through the programme and consider what actions they may take as a result in the Parliament of Malaysia. Post-assessment forms will be completed.

Speakers:

Matthew Hamilton, Monitoring and Evaluation Manager
Amy Knox, Project Officer

Delegates from Malaysia

Hon. Azalina Othman Said MP

Chair, Parliamentary Special Select Committee



Dato' Sri Azalina Othman is the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Special Select Committee on Women and Children Affairs and Social Development, and the Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Malaysia on Law and Human Rights. She was appointed as the Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives in 2020 and was the first woman to be appointed for that position. She's also Chairperson for the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Prison and Detention Centre Reforms. She previously served as the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Parliament & Legal Affairs) in 2015, Minister of Tourism in 2008 and Minister of Youth and Sports Ministry in 2004. Dato'Sri Azalina was previously a member of the Parliamentary Caucus on Reform and Governance, a member of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Consideration of Bills and a member on the Parliament House Committee. She is serving her fourth term as Member of Parliament for Pengerang, Johor since 2004. A lawyer by training, Dato' Sri Azalina obtained her LLM, Master in Laws from the London School of Economics.

Hon. Mr. Ahmad Tarmizi bin Sulaiman MP

Parliament of Malaysia



Hon. Mr. Ahmad Tarmizi bin Sulaiman MP is a Member of Parliament for the constituency of Sik. He holds a Diploma in Islamic Education and Arabic Language, a Diploma in Syariah Law and Practice, and a Bachelor of Syariah and Law. He previously held the position of a teacher. He is currently the Chairman of the Young Agricultural Development Authority and sits on numerous committees including the Public Accounts Committee.

Hon. Fuziah binti Salleh MP

Parliament of Malaysia



Hon. Fuziah binti Salleh MP was first elected in 2008 and is now serving a third term, appointed as the Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Religion) in the Pakatan Harapan government in 2018. She was first trained as a counsellor from the University of Reading, before continuing her education with a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Wales. She also has a long record of gender activism, from founding a teenage girls shelter, Raudhatus, to founding the Malaysian Parliamentary Gender Caucus and co-chairing this between 2013-2018.

Hon. Mr. Ahmad Fahmi bin Mohamed Fadzil MP

Parliament of Malaysia



Hon. Mr. Ahmad Fahmi bin Mohamed Fadzil MP was first elected in May 2018 and holds numerous positions including Communications Director for Pakatan Harapan, and Steering Committee Member of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Government of Malaysia and Pakatan Harapan. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Chemical Engineering.

Hon. Alice Lau Kiong Yieng MP

Parliament of Malaysia



Hon. Alice Lau Kiong Yieng MP was first elected in 2018. She holds a Master of Pharmacy from the University of Strathclyde, and previously practiced as a pharmacist. She holds several positions in her political party including Chief Whip, Central Executive Committee Member, Sarawak State Deputy Chairperson, and Chairperson for DAP Bukit Assek Branch. She is also the treasurer of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Malaysia.

Hon. Hannah Yeoh MP

Parliament of Malaysia



Hon. Hannah Yeoh MP is the former Deputy Minister of Women, Family and Community Development. She is also the current Member of Parliament for P117 Segambut, a parliamentary constituency in the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur. She was the Speaker of the Selangor State Legislative Assembly from 2013-2018, making her the first woman Speaker and the youngest of any legislative body in Malaysia. Prior to her election into Parliament, she served two terms in the Selangor State Legislative Assembly as the State Assemblyman for the constituency of N31 Subang Jaya (2008-2018). She holds a Bachelor of Laws and was a practising lawyer in Australia and Malaysia before venturing into politics.

Ms. Rozana Abdullah

Secretary to the Delegation



Ms Rozana Abdullah is a Parliamentary Researcher at the Parliament of Malaysia. She holds a BA in Public Relations and an MA in Knowledge Management, both from the Universiti Teknologi MARA. She previously lectured at Limkokwing University College of Creative Technology, Cyberjaya and University Tunku Abdul Rahman, Petaling Jaya, and has several published materials.

Ms. Mona Hanim binti Sheikh Mahmud

Special Officer to the Hon. Chairperson



Mona has a total of 20 years' experience in public health and international development. She is an experienced public health consultant and have provided a wide range of technical assistance to civil society organizations, national governments, development agencies and international funders in Asia, Africa, Central Asia, Eastern Europe, Middle East, and Northern Africa. Her work encompasses key populations interventions, community system strengthening, gender, human rights, institutional development, and national grant implementation management.

She holds a MSc (Public Health) from University Malaya and a Bachelors' Degree of Commerce in Accountancy from the University of Canberra, Australia. Mona is currently undergoing Implementation Science Research training as a Doctoral student scholar with University Malaya and Yale University.

Ms. Loh Jing Rou

Human Rights Officer to the Hon. Chairperson



Jing Rou is a passionate human rights lawyer, currently acting as the Human Rights Officer in the Office of Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Malaysia on Law and Human Rights. Her scope of work includes advising the Special Advisor on the legal position of a multitude of national and international human rights issues, providing assistance to the Special Advisor in her role as the chairwoman of the Parliamentary Special Select Committee on Women and Children Affairs & Social Development, as well as providing technical supports to the Special Advisor in forwarding human rights agenda as a member of the parliament.

She was called to the Bar in 2019 and practiced as an advocate and solicitor of High Court of Malaya. She holds an Advance LLM in European and International Human Rights Law from Leiden University, Netherlands and a LLB Bachelor of Laws from the University of Malaya, Malaysia. She has more than 8 years of volunteering experience in various human rights themes, including refugees and migrants, urban poor, and homelessness, as well as environmental and animal protection, public health, etc.

Speaker Biographies

Ruth Cadbury MP

Member of the House of Commons



Ruth has been an MP for Brentford & Isleworth since the 2015 election, prior to that a councillor for 20 years for Brentford where she lives and is a qualified town planner. Ruth was raised as a Quaker; she has always believed in the concept that everybody should have the same shot at life and that our society should always show compassion to people who are struggling, this has always been at the core of what Ruth does.

Ruth is currently Shadow Minister for International Trade, previously has served as Shadow Minister for Planning and Shadow Minister for Housing. Ruth currently serves as co-chair of the All Parliamentary Group for Walking and Cycling and is a member of the Transport Select Committee, holding the Government to account on their transport policy.

Chloe Challenger

Senior Clerk, Select Committee Team, House of Commons



Chloe is a Senior Clerk in the Table Office. She has worked at the House of Commons for 15 years, during which she has held a number of roles including heading the secretariat for select committees (most recently Digital, Culture, Media & Sport) and Deputy Director of Security (Delivery). She is a former Chair and a member of the Parligender Committee, the Workplace Equality Network on gender equality in Parliament.

Judith Boyce

Clerk of the Transport Committee, House of Commons



Judith Boyce is the Clerk of the Transport Committee in the House of Commons. She joined the House in 2008 as a children's services policy specialist after working in local government. She has previously been Clerk of the Women & Equalities Committee, and has undertaken a wide variety of roles in the procedural offices, digital projects, guidance and learning and other select committees.

Catherine West MP

Member of the House of Commons



Catherine is the Labour MP for Hornsey & Wood Green and Shadow Foreign Minister (Asia and the Pacific). Catherine was born in Mansfield, a small town in Australia. Catherine holds a degree in Social Science and Languages, from the University of Sydney, a Masters Degree in Chinese Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies and speaks five languages including Mandarin.

Since being elected to Parliament, Catherine has taken on a number of roles including Shadow Foreign Minister from October 2015 – June 2017 with responsibility for the Americas, Asia-Pacific, Oceania and the Overseas Territories and Shadow Sports Minister from January-April 2020. Catherine has also previously served as a member of the Parliamentary Select Committee on International Trade, the joint Committee on Arms Export Controls (September 2017 – March 2019) and member of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee (March-November 2019). In April 2020, Catherine was appointed to Labour's front bench as Shadow Foreign Minister (Europe & Americas) and in December 2021 she moved within the Shadow Foreign Office Team to cover Asia and the Pacific.

Wera Hobhouse MP

Member of the House of Commons



Wera was elected Bath's first female MP in 2017. She is a committed environmentalist and the Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for the Climate Emergency, Justice, Women and Equalities and Shadow Leader of the House.

In Parliament, Wera has campaigned to end Government investment in fracking, championed the role of local authorities in tackling the climate emergency, and is one of the leading voices in the campaign to unlock community energy. Her constituency of Bath is extremely engaged on green issues and Wera works with her local community to support local government net zero targets.

Mr Tim Loughton MP

Member of the House of Commons



Tim was first elected to Parliament in 1997 as Member for East Worthing and Shoreham. Prior to Parliament, Tim worked in the private sector as a fund manager in the City of London before becoming a Director at Fleming Private Asset Management. Tim has held various positions during his time in Parliament, such as Shadow Minister for Environment from 2000, Shadow Minister for Health and Children from 2001. He was appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Children and Families following the 2010 General Election until 2012 leading on several areas of successful reform in child protection, child sexual exploitation and adoption in particular.

From the backbenches, he continues to work vigorously in support of improving the life chances of children and young people and making sure their voices are heard in Parliament. Tim chairs the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Conception to Age 2 (first 1001 days). He sits on the influential Home Affairs Select Committee. Tim was also elected as Vice Chair of the All-Party Groups on Youth and Care Leavers.

Elektra Garvie-Adams

Second Clerk of the Home Affairs Committee, House of Commons



Elektra studied Law with French Law at King's College London and the Sorbonne in Paris. She joined the House of Commons in 2016 and has held a variety of administrative, policy and procedural roles in the Select Committee Team. She has worked on the Treasury Committee, Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and is now the Second Clerk on the Home Affairs Committee. During the Brexit negotiations, she took the post of Brexit Liaison Manager and worked coordinating scrutiny across teams in Parliament.

In addition to her main role, she is part of a team who draft the Speaker's Dossier, has previously been a Committee Clerk for the British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly and currently holds the post of Joint Secretary to the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments.

Mark Earl

Safeguarding and Witness Support, House of Commons



After graduating in Art History and Spanish, Mark spent thirty years working in both local government and the charity sector spending much of this time managing services supporting adults with learning difficulties and autism.

He joined the House at the start of 2019 and has held a variety of administrative, and policy roles in the Select Committee Team. He has worked on the Housing Committee and the Committee on Exiting the European Union and is now the Safeguarding and Witness Support Lead across the Home Affairs cluster of committees (Justice, Home Affairs, Joint Committee on Human Rights, and Women and Equalities).

In addition to working with the committees in the Home Affairs cluster, Mark also supports other committees when they engage with vulnerable witnesses or plan to hear distressing evidence. Recently these have included the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee, the Education Committee, and the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee.

Meet the Team



Sonu Masania

Asia Pacific Regional Programme Manager, CPA UK

Sonu Masania is CPA UK's Asia Pacific Regional Programme Manager. Sonu leads inter-parliamentary work between UK Parliament partner legislatures to support strengthening democracy through information sharing and learning. Prior to joining CPA UK in 2020, Sonu managed programmes in the development sector, specialising in gender-based violence and abuse. Sonu holds a Master's (Hons) in Human Rights Law from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London.



Amy Knox

Project Officer, CPA UK

Amy Knox has been employed at CPA UK since December 2020, supporting CPA UK's Women in Parliament thematic area and Racial Disparity Working Group. Prior to this, she worked at the Welsh Parliament as a Committee Support Officer. Amy graduated from the Cardiff University with a BSc (Hons) in Human Geography in 2016, followed by the University of Warwick with a MA (Hons) in Social and Political Thought.

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CPA UK

Westminster Hall | Houses of Parliament | London | SW1A 0AA

T: +44 (0)207 219 5373

W: www.uk-cpa.org

E: cpauk@parliament.uk