



INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT



CHAIRMAN: THE RT. HON. SIR MALCOLM RIFKIND, MP

Further Inquiry into the role of the UK Government and Security and Intelligence Agencies in relation to detainee treatment and rendition

Call for Evidence

On 19 December 2013, the Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament (ISC) announced that it would investigate the issues highlighted in the report published by Sir Peter Gibson's Detainee Inquiry¹.

Sir Peter raised important questions as to the Government's policies, and the UK Security and Intelligence Agencies' procedures and conduct, in relation to detainees in the decade following the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001. In addition to considering the issues raised in the Gibson report the ISC will also consider the adequacy of the current framework governing matters related to detainees.

The ISC has received the Agencies' written responses to the 27 issues identified by Sir Peter and his panel, as well as the views of the Intelligence Services Commissioner on current compliance with those aspects of the consolidated guidance on detainee issues that he monitors. In addition, the Committee has been given access to the information (including primary material) that Government Departments and Agencies provided to the Gibson Inquiry. The additional resources which the Government agreed to provide to the ISC, so that it could undertake this work alongside the other important Inquiries which it is carrying out, are also now in place.

The ISC is accordingly in a position to take forward its inquiry on detainee issues and will take evidence from witnesses in due course. As a first step the Committee is inviting written submissions from those who wish to contribute to the Inquiry. The ISC would welcome written evidence on the following matters:

¹ <http://isc.independent.gov.uk/news-archive/19december2013>

- a) The 27 specific issues raised in the Detainee Inquiry report, published on 19 December 2013, and the broader themes covered by that report; and
- b) The adequacy of the *Consolidated Guidance to Intelligence Officers and Service Personnel on the Detention and Interviewing of Detainees Overseas, and on the Passing and Receipt of Intelligence Relating to Detainees* published by the Government in July 2010 and amended in November 2011².

Those wishing to respond on these matters should note that the separate question of criminal involvement in mistreatment is currently being investigated by the police.

The deadline for submitting evidence is **31 October 2014**.

Submissions should adhere to the following guidelines:

- 1) Submissions should be no more than 3,000 words, plus an executive summary of up to 500 words.
- 2) Submissions may be sent via post to: Detainee Team, Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament, 35 Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BQ. Submissions in Word format may be sent via email to: detainee@isc.x.gsi.gov.uk
- 3) Please keep the use of colour in the document to a minimum and use numbered paragraphs.
- 4) Please state clearly who the submission is from (e.g. from yourself in a personal capacity or sent on behalf of an organisation).
- 5) All submissions may be published, in whole or in part, in the Committee's published reports. Any material that should remain confidential should be clearly labelled as such. Evidence to the ISC is subject to certain protections under Schedule 1 (paragraph 7) to the Justice and Security Act 2013.

11 September 2014

² https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/62632/Consolidated_Guidance_November_2011.pdf.

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. The Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament (ISC) is a statutory committee of Parliament that has responsibility for oversight of the UK intelligence community. The Committee was originally established by the Intelligence Services Act 1994, and has recently been reformed by the Justice and Security Act 2013.
2. The Committee oversees the intelligence and security activities of the UK, including the policies, expenditure, administration and operations of the Security Service (MI5), the Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) and the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ). The Committee also scrutinises the work of other parts of the UK intelligence community, including the Joint Intelligence Organisation and the National Security Secretariat in the Cabinet Office; Defence Intelligence in the Ministry of Defence; and the Office for Security and Counter-Terrorism in the Home Office.
3. The Committee consists of nine members drawn from both Houses of Parliament. The Chair is elected by its members. The Members of the Committee are subject to Section 1(1) (b) of the Official Secrets Act 1989 and are routinely given access to highly classified material in carrying out their duties. The current membership is:

The Rt. Hon. Sir Malcolm Rifkind, QC, MP (Chairman)

The Rt. Hon. Hazel Blears, MP

The Rt. Hon. Lord Butler, KG, GCB, CVO

The Rt. Hon. Sir Menzies Campbell, CH, CBE, QC, MP

Mr Mark Field, MP

Ms Fiona MacTaggart, MP

The Rt. Hon. George Howarth, MP

Dr Julian Lewis, MP

Lord Lothian, QC, PC

4. The Committee sets its own agenda and work programme. It takes evidence from Government Ministers, the Heads of the Intelligence Agencies, officials from the intelligence community, and other witnesses as required. The Committee is supported in its work by an independent Secretariat and an Investigator. It also has access to legal and financial expertise where necessary.
5. The Committee produces an Annual Report on the discharge of its functions. The Committee may also produce Reports on specific investigations.