



Appendix B – Issues for study

General

- Parliamentary scrutiny of legislation particularly by the use of committees;
- Parliamentary scrutiny of government particularly by the use of question time (equivalents)
- The involvement of members in the administration of parliaments (including Bureaux and Commissions]
- The role of procedural “reform” in precedent bound institutions
- Opportunities for private members
- Arrangements for the opening of parliament

United Kingdom

House of Commons:

- Meeting with the Modernisation Committee to discuss role and function; reform agenda; approaches to procedural reform
- Meeting with Procedure Committee to discuss approaches to the standing orders; role of the Procedure Committee; recent activities
- Westminster Hall – role and prospects for development
- Prime Minister’s Question Time
- Scrutiny of legislation – approaches; methods; outcomes
- Parliamentary committees – structure and staffing; role of non-members; e-consultations
- Arrangements for opening day including election of Speaker
- Management of business before the House – programming;
- Role of Speaker – particularly in the chamber - rulings; points of order; dissents;
- The security environment - impact on Members, staff and public.

House of Lords:

- Structural reform and future prospects for reform
- Lords' committee system

Parliament of Scotland:

- Developing procedures for new functions
- Petitioning the Parliament (including e-petitions)
- Public information
- Electronic voting
- Use of technology in parliaments
- Committee system
- Conduct of question time

Tynwald (Isle of Man):

- Role of Legislative Council, House of Keys and Tynwald Court
- History of the Tynwald and impact of its legacy on other parliaments
- Approaches to balancing tradition and relevance to current values and expectations - extent to which the balance is reflected in the standing orders
- Maintenance of the standing orders
- Jurisdiction of the Tynwald
- The open air meeting tradition - current status
- Opening day ceremonies

Welsh National Assembly

- Evolution of the Assembly and role/function
- Use of technology (the "paperless chamber")
- Public information
- Electronic voting

French National Assembly

- Overview of the presidential system
- Adapting procedures to changing political circumstances
- Electronic voting
- Arrangements for the election of Presiding Officer
- Arrangements for special committees to consider legislation (government and members)
- scrutiny of the executive
- the concept of a parliamentary bureau