

National Security Capability Review

Sarah Wollaston Chair, Health Committee, Chair, Liaison Committee (Commons)

The Liaison Committee was unanimous in supporting the request of the Chair of the Defence Committee, my right hon. Friend Dr Lewis, to have the National Security Adviser appear in front of the Committee. My right hon. Friend the Secretary of State will know that there are precedents for the National Security Adviser appearing in front of the Defence Committee, the Foreign Affairs Committee and elsewhere, and Parliament has never accepted the Osmotherly rules, so will he give permission for the National Security Adviser to appear?

Gavin Williamson The Secretary of State for Defence

I am afraid that my hon. Friend is asking me something I cannot deliver. I can offer the Chief of the Defence Staff if she would like him, but I cannot offer the National Security Adviser. However, I will certainly pass on her request to Mr Sedwill.

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