

## **PRESS RELEASE**

# **Legal Warnings Issued to Education Select Committee Chair and All Members**

Researcher Demands Transparency and Accountability Amid Growing Higher Education Governance Crisis

**Immediate release: 29 July 2025**

Peter Kahl, a postgraduate legal researcher specialising in governance, fiduciary duties, and epistemic justice, has issued formal legal warnings to Helen Hayes MP, Chair of the Education Select Committee, and to all committee members, demanding immediate transparency regarding potential conflicts of interest in their ongoing inquiry into UK universities' funding and insolvency.

Drawing from his authoritative and widely disseminated research paper, 'Rot at the Heart of Higher Education', Kahl highlights serious systemic governance failures across the Higher Education sector. His research explicitly addresses breaches of fiduciary and charity trustee duties, potential violations under the Companies Act 2006 (Section 172), and breaches of equality and human rights obligations.

In his recent open letters, Kahl directly challenges the Committee's impartiality, stating that its deliberate limitation of admissible evidence constitutes a troubling form of "epistemic gatekeeping," which prevents essential governance critiques from being properly heard and discussed.

Citing administrative law principles and obligations under the Equality Act 2010 (Section 149), Kahl asserts that the Committee's current procedures compromise democratic accountability and fairness, potentially breaching statutory duties of transparency, impartiality, and equality.

Given these concerns, Kahl has formally refused to submit evidence to the inquiry. He argues that participating under the Committee's restricted terms would implicitly validate biased procedures, undermine his principled stance on epistemic justice, and effectively endorse ongoing governance failures.


Kahl has publicly demanded that each Committee member immediately disclose any formal or informal relationships or affiliations with universities or organisations representing Higher Education interests. He has given a formal deadline (8 August 2025) for response, after which he intends to pursue further legal remedies, including potential judicial review proceedings.

For further commentary, interviews, or access to detailed research documents, contact:

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### **Attachments and references:**

- Open Letters to Helen Hayes MP & Education Select Committee (available on Scribd)  
Letter 1: <https://www.scribd.com/document/889751049/Open-letter-to-Helen-Hayes-MP-Chair-of-Education-Select-Committee-Demanding-Disclosure-2025-07-18>  
Letter 2: <https://www.scribd.com/document/890130082/Education-Select-Committee-No-Participation-2025-07-19-REDEACTED>
- Research Paper 'Rot at the Heart of Higher Education' (available on Scribd)  
<https://www.scribd.com/document/892932711/Kahl-P-Rot-at-the-Heart-of-Higher-Education-25-July-2025>

**ENDS**