gramme as it forthcoming events.

With the election of a reform prog

Who's Who in the new Constitution Unit

initial research topics

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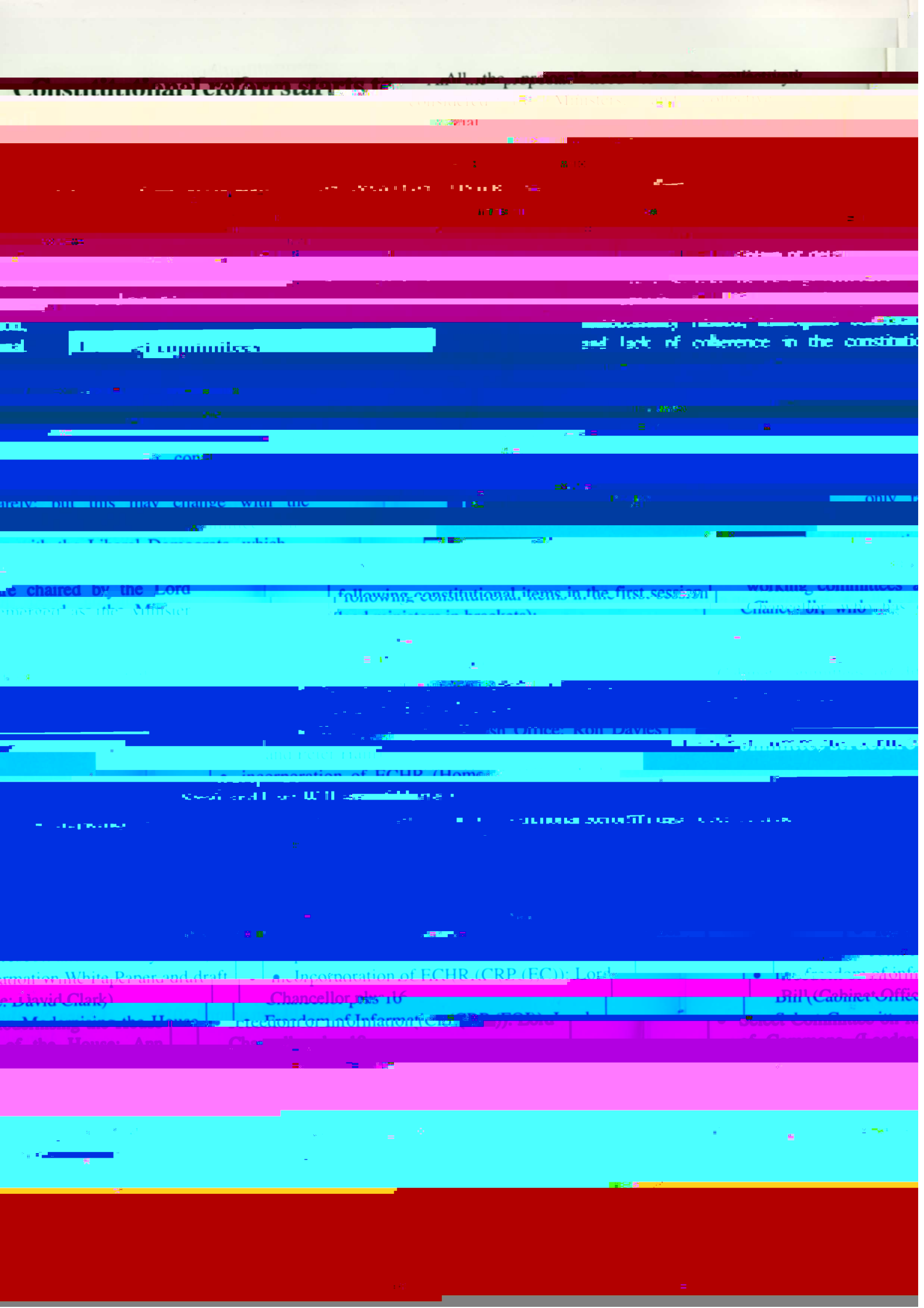
Brook House



The Cabinet sub-committee on London existed under the previous government, but an important part of its new role is to develop the plans for the strategic authority for London and in this we

nd's

Scotla

The Scottish White Paper (Scotl

The Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill was

after two days in Committee on the floor of the House. It was sent amended to the House of Lords where the Government suffered only one defeat on the referendums to be held on the Scottish Parliament and the UK Government. This is not sufficient to justify separate representation for Scotland in the British Cabinet. In time the

risen to around 99% of the UK average.

Criticisms voiced in the parlia

Lords is, in most matters,

the final court of the UK's

and all other constitutional disputes.

The first elections to the new asse

be held in spring/s

assemblies being fully

up and running in 2000.

by the body which appoints them and which
rufus them."

The Welsh White Paper ("A Voice for Wales: The

or long lasting settlement. The specific chambers. It does not explain why the a stable

government RDAs. In subsequent negotiations the DTI has accountability by adopting a local

White Paper see order form for details

this way. RDAs might be required to give an

has been consulted about this, together with Professor Iain McLean (elections expert) and the

Foreign Office Royal Copy

Office bill to oversee the Treaty

A Foreign

approach to timetabling, increased consultation on draft bills, and more pre-legislative scrutiny, including by Select Committees; more effective use of Standing Committees; and carry-over of

Home Office Jack Straw and Lord Willia Mostyn.

A White Paper is to be published at the

mmittee's report merely sets out the opposing

Will the courts be able to strike down legislation which is inconsistent with the ECHR? There

Co

legislation, and to amend the

tentative terms the

adaptation of the New Zealand model. This

Although expressed in

esent in bold them.

inconsistency, but leave it to Parliament to amend or repeal the offending statute.

big a change they repre

legislative procedures will depend on how the new government is in making use of

This is not simply a matter of

• Human Rights

must be passed by the summer of 1998 for the Freedom of Information

but is now expected in the autumn. The

the possibility of pre-legislative hearings on the

- Scope

other public bodies

to hospitals and NHS trusts; to schools, colleges

will nominate the additional members.

What Next?

- Costs and charges

over the cost without

records, card indexes, files

sector bodies is likely to be for the next

the new data protection regime. It will