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Friday, 15 May 2009

Sir Christopher Kelly KCB
The Committee on Standards in Public Life
35 Great Smith Street
London
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Re: MPs' Expenses

Dear Sir Kelly,

I am writing in response to the above, I wish to convey my submission.

I believe that MPs' should be entitled to claim for a second home and utilities especially if it not feasible to commute; I do not think that it is right for MPs' to furnish their homes at the expense of the taxpayer. I think that there should be some flexibility for newly elected Members of Parliament to set up second homes, as I consider that it would provide the opportunity for regular persons wishing to stand for Parliament and not just for the affluent.

If, at a later date, MPs' wishing to redecorate or purchase new items of furniture for their second homes then it is up to each individual to disburse for those items and not claim from the Fees Office.

I would confidently conclude that the Government should never have impeded in the process of MPs' salaries over the years. Previously MP's have been advised by the Government to decline pay rises to their salaries in return for more allowances to be claimed, because of this I firmly believe that this has only encouraged members to claim for such items.

I fully support this inquiry into members' expenses and wish you all the best with the report; I do hope that it will put an end to the claiming culture within Parliament.

Yours sincerely

Ronnie Campbell MP



**BLYTH SPARTANS
A.F.C**

Ronnie Campbell M.P. Serving Our Community