

From:
Sent: 28 May 2009 20:38
To: Inquiry
Subject: MPs - review

Dear Sir,

Simplification is the key to reforms.

1. MP numbers

It would be sensible to reduce the number of Members of Parliament to approximately 200.

2. Accommodation and Office premises

Accommodation and office premises should be provided to MPs, as is the case for the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer. The properties should be bought from the "public purse" in each constituency, for occupation by the MP during their term of service. The properties should probably have 3 to 4 bedrooms to cater for varying family sizes, and basic furniture should be supplied including fridge, freezer, beds etc, as one would expect in a rental property. Similarly, office space should be bought in each constituency for occupation by the MP for the duration of their term of service, and suitable furniture and equipment supplied. Office equipment should be purchased by the "public purse" from one central department to ensure compatibility and continuity. Utility bills for the office space should be met by the "public purse". This strategy will be expensive initially, but will be cost-effective in the long-run.

A department should be set up, if one does not already exist, to be in charge of maintaining government buildings, which would include these MP constituency residences. All repairs and refurbishments would be co-ordinated through them.

As MPs require accommodation in London for their attendance in Parliament, the "public purse" should pay for overnight accommodation at Bed and Breakfasts or Hotels in the Westminster area, for MPs with constituencies that are more than 1 1/2 hours commuting distance from central London.

3. Expenses

The only expenses allowable should be for travel when on parliamentary business. Receipts should be provided for all sums claimed.

4. Salary

With accommodation and utility bills paid, the MPs' salary can stay the same at this time. When leaving service, MPs should receive between 1 and 12 months' pay on a sliding scale based on their length of service. The level of staff salaries should be set and reviewed by a Human Resources department, and staff should be interviewed and approved by the department, including any MPs' relatives or spouses applying for the jobs.

Thank you for your time.

Yours faithfully,
L. Anderson

This email was received from the INTERNET and scanned by the Government Secure Intranet anti-virus service supplied by Cable&Wireless in partnership with MessageLabs. (CCTM Certificate Number 2007/11/0032.) In case of problems, please call your organisation's IT Helpdesk.

Communications via the GSI may be automatically logged, monitored and/or recorded for