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Sir Christopher Kelly,
Chairman,
The Committee on Standards in Public Life,
c/o Houses of Parliament,
London, SW

6th July 2009

Dear Sir Christopher,

As with everyone in this country and friends across the world we are disgusted at the scandalous behaviour of Members of Parliament.

Your committee's suggestion that MPs be accommodated in State rented property is admirable.

Could this not be taken further? Would it not be possible for the State, i.e. the taxpayers, to own a fully furnished property in every constituency? This could be periodically refurbished/updated at the State's expense - neither the currently occupying MP nor his wife having any choice in the matter? This would ensure that there is no flipping of properties within the constituency.

Secondly, surely since the taxpayer for years has been paying the mortgage interest, stamp duty, legal fees, cost of repairs and furnishings etc on and in the properties that the MPs have purchased, does not that proportion of any profit made when the property is sold (relative to any capital investment by the MP when purchasing the property) legally belong to the taxpayer?

Should the MPs themselves vote for such a measure, it would certainly restore a little of the trust the the public are expected to have in their representatives even if it were to reduce some of the MPs to the markedly reduced circumstances of some of us who are obliged to pay their salaries.

We have no idea of the powers granted to your committee. If they are but advisory, then cynically we believe that that the situation will not change one iota, and the British Parliament will remain disgraced and without honour or trust across the world.

Yours sincerely,

A R. Hyett