

Submission of a proposal to the Review of MPs' expenses by the Committee on Standards in Public Life. I authorise this proposal for publication and discussion.

PROPOSAL

* MPs' accommodation, located within walking distance of the Palace of Westminster, should be provided by the state in the form of a secure fully-serviced building, similar to a business-class hotel.

* This "all found" accommodation would be fully furnished and include all housekeeping services.

* Business services, such as office facilities and/or staff, would be available within the building.

* The accommodation will be permanently allocated to Parliamentary seats, rather than named MPs.

* Meals will be provided to MPs by the state in an integral restaurant.

* Optionally, additional accommodation and/or meals could be provided for MPs' staff.

ADVANTAGES

* MPs would have their accommodation and food provided directly by the state, eliminating this as an expense claim.

* The state, rather than the MP, would retain the value of the accommodation asset.

* Commuting time and costs to and from Parliament would be significantly reduced.

* MPs' security would be improved.

* The accommodation could be let-out to generate income during Parliamentary holidays.

* Overall cost to the taxpayer would be far lower than at present.

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