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CRAYFORD
Kent

Sir Christopher Kelly
Chairman
Committee on Standards in Public Life
Houses Of Parliament
LONDON



18 June 2009

Dear Sir Christopher

No doubt you have had many letters from members of the public concerning their anger with the abuse by some Members of Parliament regarding their finances.

The public are not only shocked about this abuse but they are also amazed that the MPs have their utility bills and council tax paid for, along with furnishings, new kitchens, etc. What exactly do they spend their salary on?

If they live within a train journey of one and a half hours they should not require a second home. Indeed many people I have spoken to think they should stay in accommodation similar to the Olympic Village. These flats would be owned by the Government, furnished comfortably but not luxuriously by the taxpayer. They could then live there rent free but pay for their own utility bills. Therefore there would be no need of anyone claiming for a second property. The only expenses they would need to claim for would be office staff and office related expenses in their constituency.

The hours of Parliament should be changed to 10.00 am until 6.00 pm Monday to Thursday leaving them Friday to return to their constituency and work for their constituents. They are after all public servants and should be required to be working in Parliament every day of the week. This is their employment, it is not a part-time position, and as such they should be attending their work place. If they do not attend all day, every day, then their salary should be stopped. If any MP does not regard this as their main employment they should resign.

Although some MPs have abused the system I find it astonishing that the people employed in the Fees Office, who should be aware of the rules and have still passed these dubious claims, remain in their employment. If they had not passed one claim unrelated to MPs' employment then no-one else would have tried to claim for unrelated expenses. Therefore they should all be fired!

Yours sincerely-

D M LEE

Cc: Gordon Brown, David Cameron, Nick Clegg, Mirror Newspaper.