

HAMPSHIRE
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13 July 2009

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Sir Christopher Kelly KCB
Committee on Standards in Public Life
33 Great Smith Street
LONDON
SW1P 3BQ

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13 JUL 2009

Dear Sir Christopher

Efforts are being made by the Prime Minister and others to discourage Members of Parliament from taking outside employment.

I feel strongly that it is greatly in the public interest for Members (other than ministers) to hold outside employment in order to broaden their understanding of life outside Westminster and Brussels. To encourage this I would favour the elimination of all expenses (other than travelling and secretarial and research support) and a freezing of parliamentary salaries.

The unhealthy position in which Members find themselves is the result of their treating a part time service as a full time job. I am told that they are about to take off for 12 weeks of holiday. I do not begrudge them this, I am all for it, as it will give them a good opportunity to seek outside employment.

Yours sincerely

P. R Davies