



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr. Richard Lloyd,
Interim Chair,
Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority,
85 Strand,
London
WC2R 0DW.

Our Ref: [REDACTED]

14 October 2020

Dear Mr Lloyd,

I am writing to express my concern and disappointment at reports in the Times Newspaper of IPSA's proposal to award a significant pay increase to Members of Parliament.

I appreciate that the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority is by its very definition independent of MPs but I do want to place on record my strong objection to the proposed pay increase for Members of Parliament.

I did not ask for this pay increase and I do not agree with it. As you cannot fail to be aware people across the country, including many of my constituents are currently either furloughed or facing the prospect of unemployment. In such circumstances a pay increase for Members of Parliament is completely inappropriate, especially when considering the above inflation pay increases MPs have already received in recent years. Any pay increase of this nature would be viewed dimly by the public, who have had to make enormous sacrifices in recent months, and I suspect undermine public trust both in MPs and the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority.

I would strongly recommend that you reconsider what is at best an ill-judged proposal that cannot and should not find support amongst most Members of Parliament let alone the wider public.

I trust you will take these comments on board and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Cat Smith
Member of Parliament
Lancaster and Fleetwood