



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Richard Lloyd
Interim Chair
Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority
2nd Floor
85 Strand
London
WC2E 0DW

27th November 2020

Dear Richard,

I am writing to you to urge IPSA abandon its proposed £3000 pay increase for MPs.

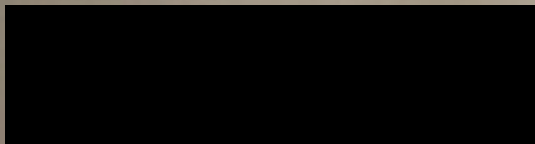
Across my constituency of Eastbourne and Willingdon - which is heavily reliant on hospitality; an industry devastated by the pandemic - many people have been furloughed, seen hours reduced or their jobs disappear. I cannot therefore justify accepting a pay rise in these circumstances.

The consequences of the pandemic are continually unfolding but it is clear that across the economy private sector workers are facing redundancy or having to forego wage rises. Most recently the Government announced a partial public sector freeze. Therefore, I do not think it is right to award MPs an above inflationary pay increase and would recommend a freeze in line with other public servants.

I fully appreciate that IPSA is mandated to review remuneration following each election; and it is of course right that such decisions are no longer taken by MPs themselves. However, I hope you would be mindful of the unique circumstances in which the country is currently facing and to consider my comments, that of colleagues and of the Prime Minister when reaching your decision.

I look forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards,



Caroline Ansell
Member of Parliament for Eastbourne & Willingdon