

From: COOPER, Yvette <yvette.cooper.mp@parliament.uk>
Sent: 06 November 2020 18:59
To: Consultation [Mailbox]
Subject: Response to consultation on periodic adjustments to MPs' pay: Autumn 2020

Dear Mr Todd,

I am writing in response to the IPSA October 2020 consultation on MP's salary increases and IPSA's proposal to continue with the approach set out in 2015 and to set MPs salaries next year in line with the ONS AWE KAC 9 series (Average Public Sector Earnings) for the three month period to October this year.

I am writing to urge IPSA to change its mind and not to go ahead with this proposal given the completely unprecedented situation the country and the economy are in as a result of the Covid crisis. I do not believe it would be right for IPSA to carry on as normal in this unprecedented year when so many people are on furlough, reduced hours, reduced pay or facing unemployment, and when so many businesses are closing.

I see that IPSA have considered whether to depart from the 2015 approach this year because of the Covid crisis and have decided not to do so. I believe that is the wrong decision. When something on the scale of the Covid crisis hits the country, IPSA, like everyone else, needs to adapt its approach.

I understand that IPSA expects the proposed MP pay rise to be above inflation and there have been media reports that it will be 4.1%. I believe this would be very much the wrong thing to do this year. I would urge IPSA to take account of the Covid crisis and to use the money to support Kickstart jobs for unemployed young people instead.

Yours sincerely

Yvette Cooper MP

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