



**10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA**

THE PRIME MINISTER

4 November 2009

Dear Sir Christopher

Thank you for sending me your report. I am grateful to you and your Committee for the time and effort you have put into this report.

The vast majority of MPs work extremely hard and are determined to serve the public. The old, discredited and flawed system of expenses has shaken the public's confidence in the conduct of those it elects to serve them.

It is because I know that most MPs want to see the very highest standards in public life that I am determined that we sweep away this old system and introduce a new system and in doing so move back to ensuring the focus in Parliament is on the issues that affect our constituents' lives.

It is right that this new system is not determined, administered or amended by MPs. I therefore agree with your recommendation that it will be for the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority to implement this new system.

I accept your report. We need to establish a new system to re-establish trust. IPSA will set to work immediately and we expect they will proceed swiftly to put these changes into effect.

Please pass on my appreciation to the members of your Committee and the secretariat for their work producing this report.

Yours sincerely

Sir Christopher Kelly KCB