

Dear Sirs,

I am totally appalled and staggered that MPs are allowed to submit honourable expense claims without these questionable claims being accompanied with a fully itemized receipt.

I also find it incredulous that MPs expenses are not subject to Benefit In Kind Inland Revenue taxation that every other working person has to declare for expenses accrued on behalf of their employees work on their tax returns!

When one considers that Parliament sits for only 128 days this year, which equates to 25.6 working weeks, why are MPs are allowed to claim up to 48 weeks claims for food expenses of 100.00 per week (again without any proof of purchase being required)? According to my basic mathematical calculations, the maximum that they should be allowed to claim for is 2,560, not the 4,800 that many MPs claim for.

The application of commonsense and decency could easily save the public purse up to 1,456,000.00 per annum.

I consider this to be totally fraudulent, and a matter for criminal investigation!

I also consider that the Committee on Standards in Public Life are not serving the public's best interests either; maybe, they are far too close and cosy with the Honourable MPs?

Why must every thing in Parliament be subsidized by the public purse? I am lead to believe that even the canteens and bars are subsidized. Are MPs totally divorced from the real costs of everything, unlike their cash-strapped electorate?

Yours, disgusted,

R Bird