



HOUSE OF COMMONS

By email

Neil Hood [<mailto:request-8017-26ca20c8@whatdotheyknow.com>]

9 April 2009

Dear Mr Hood

Internal Review F09-049

Thank you for your email of 7 March in which you requested an internal review of our handling of your request. I am sorry that you are not satisfied with the response but I can confirm that this information is not held by the House of Commons.

The Green Book sets out the rules for the allowances (<http://www.parliament.uk/documents/upload/GreenBook.pdf>). This makes it clear that Members themselves are responsible for ensuring that their use of allowances is above reproach. This is described further in the Accounting Officer's statement of financial controls in the published accounts (<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmresource/975.pdf>) which states:

"The framework is based on the principle that Members are primarily responsible for identifying, claiming and certifying their own expenditure. The Department of Resources is responsible for ensuring that the stated purpose of Members' claims falls within the agreed framework. The controls on expenditure therefore ensure that payments are correctly accounted for and paid to the correct recipient; but it is primarily the responsibility of Members to ensure the regularity and propriety of expenditure for which they claim reimbursement."

If you remain dissatisfied, you may appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

A J Walker

Director General of Resources

HOUSE OF COMMONS

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF RESOURCES ANDREW WALKER CPFA

JANET RISSEN (BUSINESS MANAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT) CHRIS RIDLEY MBA FCCA (FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT)

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