

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 November 2017 20:29
To: LAMING, Lord <LAMINGH@parliament.uk>
Subject: Long Table menu

Dear Herbert,

I am sorry to add to your burdens with another tale of woe, but I have just had a truly horrible meal in the dining room at the Long Table. Wrongly described on the actual menu as a panna cotta of celeriac and something else, which sounded interesting, it turned out to be a petrified carrot in a pool of egg yolk. The carrot was too hard to cut; the egg yolk dangerously undercooked. Had it been advertised for what it was, it would have had few takers.

Last week I had a similarly disastrous meal of 'gnocchi' with pickled mushrooms. The only virtue of these two dishes was that they were minute in scale.

Im not a vegetarian, but I don't eat red meat, and I find the fish dishes, with slabs of unidentifiable fish, really unappealing. The vegetables are often undercooked and I know you have already had complaints about them.

If I were a vegetarian, I would be in despair.

I know that we were spoiled for a while with an excellent buffet and really good menus, and that the table was full each night. It is very different now, sadly, and I am not sure why, but come the New year when the House will be sitting long hours, I think the food must improve because tempers will be frayed anyway!

As always the staff have been wonderful, and I know are embarrassed by the difficulty I had tonight in eating anything on my plate.

I don't normally complain - in fact this is the first time in [REDACTED] years in the House, but I do think we have to look for higher standards and possibly be aware of health issues as well.

Best wishes - as ever -

[REDACTED]