



House of Commons
Members Estimate Committee

Review of past ACA payments

First Report of Session 2009–10

Report, together with formal minutes

*Ordered by the House of Commons
to be printed 2 February 2010*

HC 348

Published on 4 February 2010
by authority of the House of Commons
London: The Stationery Office Limited
£23.00

Members Estimate Committee

The Members Estimate Committee has the same Members as the House of Commons Commission:

Rt Hon John Bercow MP, Speaker
Sir Stuart Bell MP
Rt Hon Harriet Harman MP, Leader of the House
Nick Harvey MP
Rt Hon David Maclean MP
Rt Hon Sir George Young MP, Shadow Leader of the House

The Committee is appointed under Standing Order No 152D (*House of Commons Members Estimate Committee*):

152D.—(1) There shall be a committee of this House, called the House of Commons Members Estimate Committee.

(2) The members of the committee shall be those Members who are at any time members of the House of Commons Commission pursuant to section 1 of the House of Commons (Administration) Act 1978; the Speaker shall be chairman of committee; and three shall be the quorum of the committee.

(3) The functions of the committee shall be—

- (a) to codify and keep under review the provisions of the resolutions of this House and the Guide to Members' Allowances known as the Green Book relating to expenditure charged to the Estimate for House of Commons: Members;
- (b) to modify those provisions from time to time as the committee may think necessary or desirable in the interests of clarity, consistency, accountability and effective administration, and conformity with current circumstances;
- (c) to provide advice, when requested by the Speaker, on the application of those provisions in individual cases;
- (d) to carry out the responsibilities conferred on the Speaker by the resolution of the House of 5th July 2001 relating to Members' Allowances, Insurance, &c.;
- (e) to consider appeals against determinations made by the Committee on Members' Allowances under paragraph (1)(d) of Standing Order No. 152G.

(4) Paragraph (3)(b) above does not empower the committee—

- (a) to create a new form of charge on the Estimate for House of Commons: Members; or
- (b) to increase any rate of charge or payment determined by resolution of this House.

(5) The committee shall report to the House from time to time, and in any case not less than once a year, the provisions of the resolutions of this House relating to expenditure charged to the Estimate for House of Commons: Members, as codified and modified pursuant to paragraph (3) of this order.

(6) The committee shall have power to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House.

Committee staff

The staff of the Committee are Dorian Gerhold, Rob Cope and Louise Sargent.

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Review of past ACA payments

1. On 19 May 2009, it was agreed at a meeting of the party leaders and the members of this Committee that there should be a review of past payments of Additional Costs Allowance (the “second home allowance”). The then Speaker announced the review that evening, and we made arrangements for setting up the review the following day. Sir Thomas Legg agreed to conduct the review. Terms of reference were agreed on 1 July, and are set out in Sir Thomas’s report.

2. On 23 November, we agreed that any sums recommended for repayment by Sir Thomas should be recovered from Members, preferably voluntarily, but if necessary by deduction from pay and allowances on the authority of a resolution of the House. This was, however, subject to Members having the opportunity to show in an independent appeal process any special reasons why it would not be fair or equitable to require them to make the repayments. The Rt Hon Sir Paul Kennedy agreed to conduct the appeal process.

3. Sir Thomas reported on 16 December, but has since carried out further work in cases where Members had not then supplied relevant mortgage or rent documents. That further work has been incorporated by him into a revised report, received today. Sir Paul completed the appeal process and reported the outcomes on 29 January. Where the decisions on appeals have resulted in changes to the recommended repayments these changes have been referred to by Sir Thomas in his report. We are grateful both to Sir Thomas and Sir Paul for their hard work, and also to the staff who assisted them.

4. We are publishing as appendices to this short report both Sir Thomas Legg’s report and Sir Paul Kennedy’s decisions on the appeals. Both are published in full.

5. As Sir Thomas Legg says in his report (paragraph 37), “my conclusions and recommendations... imply no reflections on the conduct or motives of individual MPs.” There are many types of repayment, and among the repayments for mortgages, in particular, are a significant number of cases which do no more than reconcile the difference between the House of Commons financial year and the various 12-month periods used by mortgage providers. Such cases are unavoidable and are better understood as accounting adjustments.

6. The review of past ACA payments has been painful for many Members, for the House and for the public, whose trust in the House has been undermined. We believe that the review, alongside the establishment of the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, demonstrates the House’s determination to deal with the problems over Members’ allowances and to create a situation in which public confidence in Members of Parliament can begin to be restored.

Appendix 1: ACA Review: Report by Sir Thomas Legg

ACA REVIEW

Report by Sir Thomas Legg

1 FEBRUARY 2010

Report to the Members Estimate Committee of the Review by Sir Thomas Legg KCB QC of the validity of payments of the Additional Costs (or 'Second Homes') Allowance made to Members of Parliament during the years 2004-05 to 2008-09, with recommendations for repayment.

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ACA REVIEW

Report by Sir Thomas Legg

To the Right Honourable the Speaker and the Members Estimate Committee of the House of Commons:-

You appointed me in June 2009 to determine the validity of payments of the Additional Costs Allowance (ACA) made to Members of Parliament during the period April 2004 to March 2009, and to recommend any repayments which MPs should make.

An earlier version of this report was submitted on 16 December 2009. However, following your decision to allow MPs to appeal against my recommendations, you asked me to complete certain outstanding work during the appeal process and update the report to coincide as far as possible with the completion of that process. This final report therefore speaks from 1 February 2010.

This main part of my report sets out the background to my review, my approach and reasoning, and general remarks and considerations. My individual conclusions and recommendations about the 752 MPs and former MPs concerned are set out in the Annex.

I submit this report in the hope that it will contribute to restoring full public confidence in Members of Parliament, thus enabling the House of Commons to move forward with confidence in its vital role as the democratically-elected and leading branch of our national legislature.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. I have carried out this review in accordance with my terms of reference, and as fairly as I can to the public purse on the one hand and to the 752 MPs and former MPs concerned on the other (paragraphs 35-36).
2. The ACA system was deeply flawed. In particular, the rules were vague, and MPs were themselves self-certifying as to the propriety of their use of the allowance. Taken with the prevailing lack of transparency and the ‘culture of deference’, this meant that the Fees Office’s decisions lacked legitimacy; and many of them were in fact mistaken (paragraphs 25-34, 52).
3. My remit calls for objective decisions on the validity of ACA payments. My conclusions and recommendations imply no reflection on the conduct or motives of individual MPs (paragraph 37).
4. By the same token, where I have judged ACA payments invalid, I have recommended that the MPs who received them should repay them in full. In his separate review, Sir Paul Kennedy has decided appeals from MPs claiming special reasons why repayments recommended by me should be remitted (paragraph 38).
5. An MP’s overall expenditure of the ACA was irrelevant to the validity or otherwise of the individual payments that he or she actually received. If invalid, such payments could not be legitimated by the fact that the MP receiving them did not claim up to the limit of the whole annual allowance (paragraph 39).
6. The ACA was and is an annual allowance based on financial years. There was no scope for carry-over, and under-claims in one year could not off-set over-claims in another. Nor could the ACA be used for expenditure only payable under other Parliamentary allowances (paragraph 40).
7. My remit requires me to apply the rules and standards governing the ACA during the review period. It is not open to me to question the main structure of the ACA, however questionable some aspects of it may now appear. Examples were the MP’s option to designate and re-designate his or her second home, the size of mortgages, and whether a second home was needed at all. These aspects will fall for decision by the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority as part of the future system, in light of the report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life. During my review period, they were plainly permitted (paragraphs 41-42).
8. My review was excluded from dealing with issues under investigation before 20 July 2009 by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards or at any stage by the Police; nor has it dealt with tax aspects, which fall to HM Customs and Revenue (paragraphs 43-44).
9. A particular challenge has proved to be the widespread lack of proper evidence on the record from MPs to support substantial payments, especially of mortgage interest, even though this was expressly required by the rules (paragraph 46-47).

10. The interpretation of the rules and standards in force at the time is not straightforward. However, it is clear that, as well as the specific provisions of the Green Book, the rules and standards included fundamental principles which were also laid down and published by the House and its authorities at the time (paragraphs 51-53, 59-68).
11. These principles, taken together, amounted to the same general requirement of propriety in the use of public money which the House of Commons itself requires across government and the public sector (paragraph 69).
12. It followed, among other things, that the ACA could never be properly used as a supplementary source of income. It could only be used as reimbursement for specific and proportionate expenditure on accommodation needed for the performance of Parliamentary duties (paragraph 70).
13. Payments by the Fees Office which contravened these requirements breached the published rules and standards in force at the time. To hold such payments invalid is not to impose new rules retrospectively, but to apply *now* the rules that were properly in force *then*, but were overlooked or misunderstood at the time (paragraph 71).
14. For this reason, the fact that in some cases the Fees Office and MPs acted in apparent ignorance of the rules and standards then in force cannot cure the invalidity of the payments. Suggestions that MPs necessarily acted ‘in accordance with the rules’ simply because the Fees Office made payments to them, and even encouraged and endorsed their claims, are therefore misconceived (paragraphs 72-73).
15. Against this background, while most ACA payments appear to have been valid, a considerable number of them (a) could not initially be judged valid or invalid, in the absence of the necessary supporting evidence; or (b) were invalid because they breached specific Green Book rules; or (c) were invalid because they breached the essential requirement of propriety (paragraph 74).
16. Where essential evidence to support significant payments was lacking, MPs were requested to provide it. Most of those concerned have done so (paragraph 75).
17. In the few cases where they failed to do so on reasonable notice, and in the absence of special reasons to the contrary, the ACA payments involved have been determined to be invalid, and the whole allowance recommended to be repaid (paragraph 76).
18. However, MPs have not been requested to provide evidence which was not required at the time, or which it would be unreasonably disproportionate to request now (paragraphs 77-78).
19. Where ACA payments were clearly in breach of specific Green Book requirements, those payments have been judged invalid and the MPs who received them have been recommended to repay them. Many have already done so (paragraph 79).
20. Certain *de minimis* exceptions have been made for relatively insignificant payments (paragraph 80).

21. Where ACA payments were clearly in breach of the requirement of propriety, those payments have also been judged invalid, and the MPs who received them have been recommended to repay them. Many have already done so (paragraph 81).
22. Payments of disproportionate amounts for purposes secondary to the defined scope and purpose of the allowance thereby breached the requirement of propriety. Although the Fees Office applied acceptable limits in some such cases, such as the costs of furniture and household equipment, it failed to do so consistently in others, notably the costs of cleaning and garden maintenance (paragraph 82-83).
23. Proportionate limits on such expenditure must be taken to have been in force. Accordingly, payments in excess of £2,000 and £1,000 a year for cleaning and garden maintenance respectively in MPs' second homes have been judged disproportionate and therefore invalid (paragraphs 84-85).
24. A small number of cases involved conflicted transactions, where MPs used the ACA to buy or rent a second home from, or have works to it done by, a relative, business associate or employee. The use of the ACA in such circumstances also breached the requirement of propriety, and the view has been taken that in such cases the whole allowance ought to be repaid (paragraphs 86-88).
25. The broad picture that emerges from the review is that, out of the £55.5m. spent on the ACA during the review period, just over £1.3m. has been recommended for repayment and almost £800,000 has already been repaid, although this includes some excess repayments (paragraph 96-97).
26. 48% of the 752 MPs and former MPs concerned have no issues arising from the review and 52% have been recommended to make repayments (paragraph 99).
27. Three MPs have been recommended to repay sums over £40,000, the highest being just under £65,000; 56 MPs have been recommended to repay sums between £40,000 and £5,000; 182 MPs have been recommended to repay sums between £5,000 and £1,000; and 149 MPs have been recommended to repay sums between £1,000 and £100 (paragraph 100).
28. The overall effect of Sir Paul Kennedy's decisions to remit repayments will be to reduce the total amount repayable under my recommendations by just under £185,000 (14%) to £1.12m., and will bring the highest single recommended repayment down to £42,458 (paragraph 102).

INTRODUCTION

Remit

1. On 23 June 2009, the Leader of the House, Ms Harriet Harman MP, referring back to earlier statements about Parliamentary expenses and allowances, said that “On payback, work has begun by Sir Thomas Legg, who has been contracted by the House authorities to lead a reassessment of all claims over the over the last four years and, having reconsidered each claim and the evidence submitted to support it, to report back whether it was within the rules as they obtained at the time, with a view to ensuring that where there has been overpayment, it is paid back. The public expect that over-claims will be paid back, and that will happen, together with any necessary disciplinary action” (Official Report, Col. 678).
2. On 30 June, the Members Estimate Committee (MEC) confirmed that the terms of reference of my review would be:-

‘To conduct an independent review of all claims made by Members of Parliament (except those who have since died) for the Additional Costs Allowance during the financial years 2004-05 to 2007-08;

To examine all payments made on such claims, against the rules and standards in force at the time, and identify any which should not have been made, and any claims which otherwise call for comment;

To allow Members who received such payments or made such claims a fair opportunity to make representations about them;

Subject to any such representations, to recommend where necessary any repayments which Members should make and otherwise to comment as seems appropriate; and

To report as soon as possible to the Members Estimate Committee.’
3. The following day, 1 July 2009, the establishment of the review was announced to all Members of Parliament by letters and to the public by a press release.
4. On 20 July 2009, the Members Estimate Committee amended my terms of reference to include in the review the financial year 2008-09, and to exclude from it any payments under investigation by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards before 20 July 2009, or at any stage by the Police. This too was announced to MPs.
5. It is important to notice that my review only covered the ACA. It did not cover any of the other Parliamentary allowances, namely those for staff, offices, communications, travel and redundancy.

Personnel

6. My own background has been as a government lawyer in the Lord Chancellor’s Department (now the Ministry of Justice). I served as its Permanent Secretary, and

therefore as its Accounting Officer, from 1989 to 1998. During most of my 36 years in the Department, I worked in the Palace of Westminster. As Permanent Secretary, I was also Clerk of the Crown in Chancery and, as such, an officer of both Houses of Parliament. After that, I served for nearly ten years on the House of Commons Audit Committees. In that capacity, my concern about the system of MPs' expenses, dating from 2004, the first year the Committee had jurisdiction in the field, is on the public record.

7. My supporting team for this review ranged in number from 54 down to 10 over the successive phases of the task. It was widely based, and included colleagues drawn from PricewaterhouseCoopers, various branches of the House service, including the Department of Resources and the Internal Audit team, and former members of the Office of National Statistics. The discussions leading to the development of my approach to the system and rules included observers from the National Audit Office, and in determining individual cases I received critical challenge from a representative of the Audit Commission.

Tributes

8. While taking full personal responsibility for the review and for this report, I received invaluable assistance from the review team, and I am very grateful to them all. I pay especial tribute to Edward Wood (Project Director), Paul Dillon-Robinson (Head of Internal Audit), Paul Smith (Project Manager), Edwin Harland (PwC) and Michael Haworth-Maden (Audit Commission).
9. I would also like to record my thanks to the support services of the House of Commons and, also and especially, to the numerous individual MPs concerned who co-operated with my review.

BACKGROUND

History of the ACA

10. MPs with constituencies outside Inner London have to divide their time between Westminster and their constituencies and, as a result, can incur additional costs, either on hotels, renting a flat or buying a second home. This expenditure is necessary to enable them to carry out their Parliamentary duties.
11. That is the purpose of the ACA. During my review period, all MPs could claim it except those representing Inner London constituencies, who instead received a London supplement in their salaries. MPs representing outer London constituencies could choose whether to claim ACA or the London supplement.
12. Like other Parliamentary allowances, the ACA was administered and managed by the Operations Directorate of the Resources Department of the House of Commons, usually known (and referred to in this report) as the Fees Office.

13. The ACA was first introduced by Resolution of the House in 1971 to cover the reasonable additional costs of provincial MPs of staying either in London or their constituency, when engaged on Parliamentary duties. The Top Salaries Review Body had proposed that the allowance should take the form of a daily subsistence rate. The Government, however, proposed a scheme which reimbursed expenses within an annual limit.
14. This annual limit was at first set at £750, from 1 April 1972. Over the years, this maximum was increased in various ways and by various amounts. For the five years now under review, the maximum rates of ACA were:-
 - 2004/05 – £20,902
 - 2005/06 – £21,634
 - 2006/07 – £22,110
 - 2007/08 – £23,086
 - 2008-09 – £24,006
15. In 1983, the ACA was exempted from income tax by section 28 of the Finance Act of that year, now embodied in section 292 of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003.
16. In 1985, the key step was taken of allowing the ACA to be used to help purchase second homes, as opposed to renting them or staying in hotels. MPs were advised that there was no reason why they should not claim mortgage interest payments against the ACA. Thereafter, the rules and practice gradually expanded the scope of this provision, so as to allow expenditure on such matters as mortgage increases to fund improvements, new mortgage products, and so on.
17. In its report of January 2008, the Senior Salaries Review Board noted (paragraphs 5.54-5) that “Although... we have received no substantive evidence of abuse, we are concerned that it is in the areas of ACA that the greatest scope for abuse is thought to exist... this element of the expenses regime gives rise to more problems and misunderstandings, both within and outside the House, than any other and a fuller review of the ACA might be appropriate”.
18. In its judgment of May 2008 on the disclosure of information about the ACA requested under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (*Corporate Officer v. Information Commissioner and others*, TLR 22 May 2008), the Divisional Court held that it was the “deep flaws in the [ACA] system identified by the [Information] Tribunal which had so convincingly established the necessity of full disclosure”, tipping the balance against the interests of MPs in privacy and in favour of allowing public scrutiny.
19. Against this background, the MEC’s own Review of Allowances recommended in June 2008 (HC 578-1) that the ACA should be adapted into an overnight expenses allowance, comprising a £19,600 maximum budget for accommodation (excluding furniture, household goods, and capital improvements) but operating on the basis of itemised reimbursement and a flat rate of £30 for daily subsistence. In its subsequent debate on the Review, on 3 July 2008, the House implicitly rejected this recommendation.

20. More recently, however, on 20 May 2009, the MEC in effect reversed this decision and, on the recommendation of the Leader of the House, imposed immediate curbs on the ACA pending the conclusions of the then current further review of allowances by the Committee on Standards in Public Life (CSPL). But these curbs were not, of course, in force during my review period.
21. In July, the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 was passed, to establish the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA), to set and manage the whole system of MPs' expenses and allowances in future.
22. On 4 November 2009, the CSPL made its report to the Prime Minister on MPs' Expenses and Allowances (Cm 7724), proposing a new framework of rules for this purpose. In January 2010, IPSA published its own consultation paper with a view to establishing the new system, if possible in time to take effect to coincide with the new Parliament to be elected this year.

Usage of the ACA

23. The MEC's Review of Allowances in June 2008 gave a useful snapshot of how the ACA was being used about half-way through the review period.
24. In 2006-07, 621 MPs were eligible for ACA, and 589 did in fact claim it. 415 MPs (70%) of those claimed for mortgage interest payments. 133 MPs (23%) claimed for rent and 12 MPs (2%) for hotels. 80% of claiming MPs registered their second home in London, the remaining 20% in their constituencies. 45% of claiming MPs claimed all or almost all the full allowance (then £22,110), and nearly two-thirds claimed over 90%. Of those who claimed, the average spend was £19,375 (88% of the maximum).

Flaws of the system

25. In May 2009, after the House had decided to accept the judgment of the Divisional Court that records of MPs' expenses could not be withheld under the Freedom of Information Act, but before its own planned release of 'redacted' versions of these records, the Daily Telegraph published voluminous and detailed stories of MPs' claims and payments, apparently sourced by someone with authorised access. This publication brought many of the key dealings of MPs with the ACA and other allowances into the public domain. There followed, and continues, widespread criticism of the way the system appears to have worked to the excessive and unjustified benefit of MPs.
26. This criticism has been recognised by the major changes already made last year and mentioned above, which will no doubt carry forward into greater changes to come, in the light of the CSPL report and the establishment of IPSA. The scene has thus changed considerably in recent months. However, during the period subject to this review, as both the Information Tribunal and the Divisional Court also found, there were 'deep flaws' in the whole ACA system. These included (a) the vagueness of the rules; (b) the weakness of the position occupied by the Fees Office in administering the allowance; (c) the lack of transparency; (d) the lack of audit; and (e) the special position of MPs as self-certifying the propriety of their own expenditure.

Position of the Fees Office

27. The problems about the rules are dealt with in more detail below. Alongside those problems, the authority and legitimacy of the Fees Office was much less than seems to have been realised by most MPs at the time. These officials were not Civil Servants with an independent duty to, and accountability for, the public purse. They were servants of the House and, while of course supposed to observe and apply its rules, they were also in practice expected to do so in the ways most beneficial to the MPs whom they were there to serve. The CSPL report has spoken of a ‘culture of deference’, and my own view over the years, on the Audit Committee and conducting this review, has been that this expression is justified.
28. The Fees Office was therefore vulnerable to the influence of higher authorities in the House of Commons, from the Speaker down, and of individual MPs. In practice during most of the review period, these influences tended more towards looking after the immediate interests of MPs than to safeguarding propriety in public expenditure.

Position of MPs

29. But the problem went deeper than that. Throughout this period, alone across the entire public service, MPs were self-certifying as to the propriety of their own expenditure. They were both entitled and personally responsible for ensuring that the moneys they drew in allowances were properly spent for the purposes voted.
30. The Speaker’s Introductions to successive Green Books confirmed this, stating that “Members themselves are responsible for ensuring that their use of allowances is above reproach”. In spite of suggestions to the contrary in some of the same Introductions, it therefore seems doubtful how far the Fees Office actually had any effective function or authority beyond advising MPs how to use the ACA and other allowances. They did sometimes purport to reject doubtful claims, but just as often they paid them and then sought to persuade the MP, sometimes successfully and sometimes not, to change or withdraw the claim. In addition, the Fees Office operated an extremely generous system whereby over half the annual maximum of the ACA could be paid over without requiring the MP to provide any receipts at all.

Lack of audit

31. Another consequence of the sovereignty of individual MPs over their own use of the allowances was another unique feature, which was strongly defended during most of the review period. This was that there was no audit of any kind of the individual use by MPs of the ACA or any other Parliamentary allowance. Neither internal nor external auditors could ‘go behind the Member’s signature’. This was recognised by the National Audit Office. The Clerk of the House, as Accounting Officer, made clear in his Statement of Internal Control that he could not vouch for the use of MPs’ allowances. Only last year did the House resolve to introduce a full audit system, and this is still in process of being implemented.

Lack of transparency

32. Moreover, as is well known, there was at the same time very limited transparency about the use made of all Parliamentary allowances. It was not until the judicial decisions of

2008 that the Freedom of Information Act began to allow more light on the way the system worked. This too was a further factor undermining the ACA system.

Resulting effect

33. In these circumstances, the inter-relationship of the Fees Office and the claimant MPs was symbiotic. Each influenced the other, with the overall result that the ACA was administered in a way that was far more generous than was envisaged or allowed by its own governing principles.
34. Thus, the fact that the Fees Office paid the ACA to MPs, and often explicitly endorsed and encouraged their claims, is of considerably less significance in legitimating ACA payments than seems to have been realised either at the time or since. And of course in those cases where the payments were made in breach of the rules in force at the time, as quite a number of them were, it cannot cure the consequent invalidity of the payments.

THE TASK AND THE PROCESS

Approach and scope

35. My remit required me to interpret the rules and standards in force during the review period, to apply them as so interpreted to every one of the payments of the ACA made during the review period, to determine which of these payments was valid and which of them invalid, and where appropriate to recommend repayment.
36. I have done my best to perform this task in strict accordance with my terms of reference, and with fairness to the public purse on the one hand, and to the 752 MPs and former MPs concerned on the other.

No reflection on individual MPs' conduct or motives

37. It is important to make it clear at the outset that my remit necessitates what amount to a series of objective quasi-judicial decisions on the validity of the payments made by the Fees Office. These decisions are essentially legal and not ethical, and impute no specific fault or blame. My conclusions and recommendations therefore imply no reflections on the conduct or motives of individual MPs. In so far as such issues arise, they are for others to judge. Where I have recommended repayment, the position is analogous to under-payments of tax or over-payments of social security benefits, where the citizen is liable to pay or repay regardless of his or her intent.

Repayment recommended in full

38. By the same token, once having determined an ACA payment to be invalid, I have in every case recommended that the MP who received it should repay it in full. This is on the basis that, by definition, the money should not have been disbursed, and ought to be restored to the public purse, which was its rightful owner throughout. Shortly before the completion of my main review, the MEC commissioned the Rt. Hon. Sir Paul Kennedy to decide appeals from MPs claiming special reasons why repayments should be remitted (see further paragraph 101 below).

Irrelevance of overall expenditure

39. An MP's overall expenditure of the ACA, or of any of the other Parliamentary allowances, was irrelevant to determining the validity or otherwise of the individual payments that he or she actually received, which is the task that my remit gives me. Several MPs have suggested to me that, because they did not claim up to the full annual limit of the ACA or other allowances, but could legitimately have done so, the invalid payments that they did receive are thereby in some way themselves legitimated. That argument seems plainly unfounded, since otherwise a single grossly improper payment for (say) £10,000 could be validated by the fact the MP receiving it made no other claim that year and could demonstrate after the event that he might have done so.

Annuality of the ACA

40. Another feature of the ACA that is relevant to the validity of payments is that it was and is granted and expended on an annual basis by reference to financial years. There was therefore no scope for carry-over between one year and the next. Under-claims in one year could not be used to off-set over-claims in another. Nor, of course, could the ACA be used for expenditure which was only payable under another Parliamentary allowance.

Acceptance of ACA's main structure

41. My terms of reference also carry another implication. Limiting my remit to the rules and standards in force at the time means that it is not open to me to question the main structure of the ACA, however questionable some aspects of it may appear in hindsight. Major examples were the power given to MPs to choose which home to designate as their main and which as their second home, and then to 'flip', ie change the designation, to suit their own convenience; allowing mortgages of very large houses; or financing MPs to rent or buy houses when they already owned quite sufficient accommodation in their private capacity. Nor was it within my remit to question the provision of the ACA to MPs who were also serving as senior Ministers and in that capacity enjoyed accommodation in 'grace and favour' residences.
42. Thus, while I can and must apply the internal rules of the ACA system properly, which means in some cases differently from the way they were applied at the time, I cannot retrospectively put right its wider structural defects. Nor do I thereby impliedly defend or condone them. Sorting them out is a task for the future, and will be dealt with, not by this review, but by IPSA, in light of the CSPL report. During my review period, they were plainly permitted by the rules of the allowance.

Other investigations

43. My terms of reference expressly excluded me from dealing with ACA payments where the MP concerned was under investigation before 20 July 2009 by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, or at any stage by the Police. Because these investigations are conducted in confidence, mainly for the protection of the MPs concerned, I have not drawn attention to such issues where the investigation is or was still ongoing. I have also regarded issues previously dealt with by the Committee on Standards and Privileges as outside my remit, as having been already adjudicated by or on behalf of the House. I have equally not looked into issues of tax, and especially Capital Gains Tax, which are the province of HM Customs and Revenue.

44. Accordingly, where an MP had been referred to the Commissioner for Parliamentary Standards before the start of my review, or is or has been under investigation by the Police at any stage, the issue under investigation by the Commissioner or the Police has been automatically taken out of my jurisdiction. It is therefore important to register that, just because my review has not raised a particular ACA issue with an individual MP, sometimes with the result that my own conclusion is ‘no issues’ at all, it does not follow that those other regulatory authorities may not be looking into ACA issues of their own about that MP.

Scale

45. The scale of the review has been substantial, and this has accounted for the time it has taken, which was longer than at first hoped. The raw material in the Fees Office records for the five years in question included nearly 147,000 individual items of claim by 752 serving and former MPs. After the sifting process described below, some 2,345 individual items were put to me and my senior assistants for consideration. I personally considered every item put to every MP in the provisional stage, and all the items listed in the Annex to this report, which in the end included 665 overpayments recommended for repayment. However, the sheer bulk of the task, taken with its novelty and complexity, means that, although all practicable precautions have been taken, there remains a residual risk of errors.
46. The quality of the Fees Office’s document management was very variable, and there are significant gaps and omissions in the records. That is one reason why it was essential for me to show my provisional conclusions to the MPs concerned, so as to give them a full opportunity to help me with any necessary corrections – as in many cases they did. I fully accept that MPs themselves could not fairly be expected to keep full records of every one of these transactions, however minor, especially after several years, but at least the process helped to minimise the risks of inaccuracy.
47. One particular challenge was not foreseen, and has complicated and delayed the process. It soon became clear that in many cases the Fees Office records did not include vital supporting evidence for what in the aggregate were payments of substantial sums of public money. The outstanding example is mortgage interest and rental statements, without which it is impossible to be sure that ACA payments were correct. There is therefore a large class of cases where the MPs concerned have had to be requested to produce (or re-produce) the evidence needed.

Process

48. The process followed in this review has been to sift the Fees Office records by defined stages, submitting every item to quality assurance, deleting non-issues and elevating the remaining issues to the next stage. This was done in accordance with criteria proposed by PwC and initially tested by an Assessment Panel composed of experts drawn from various internal and external quarters, including observers from the National Audit Office. The process of quality assurance and elevation continued until the issues remaining reached me for personal determination, in many cases with the help of my critical challenger from the Audit Commission.

49. Having formulated my provisional conclusions, I sent them on 12 October 2009 to every MP and former MP concerned, together with a covering letter and explanatory note, and invited their comments and representations within three weeks, that is by 2 November. Neither then nor at any stage have I purported to ‘demand’ repayments from MPs, which would have been beyond my remit and authority. In reply to my provisional conclusions, I and my team received a large number of comments and representations from MPs, together with many voluntary repayments, and also supporting evidence where I had suggested that it was required. I have personally considered all these comments and representations.
50. I sent all the MPs concerned advance notice of my final conclusions concerning each of them individually, as set out in the Annex to this report.

INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES

Nature of the task

51. My remit requires me to apply the ‘rules and standards in force at the time’, ie during the review period of 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2009. For this purpose, I have had to interpret and determine what those rules and standards actually were at the relevant time.
52. This is by no means a straightforward task. As already mentioned, among the flaws in the whole system noted by the judicial authorities was that the rules governing the allowance were vague, incomplete and inadequate. Although some of them were straightforward enough, there were also gaps and tensions between their separate elements. These are difficult to reconcile, and this in turn complicates the task of interpreting and applying the rules.
53. However, as will be seen, my judgment is that one major strand of the rules and standards in force at the time was a requirement of propriety in the use of public money, that this requirement was not given full and effective weight in the administration of the ACA, and that this failure invalidated many payments.

Elements of the rules

54. To understand this, the rules and standards in force during the review period must be seen as a whole. They consisted of three elements: (a) the ‘Green Book’, which set out rules based on Resolutions of the House; (b) the practice of the Fees Office in interpreting and applying the rules; and (c) certain fundamental principles, also in the Green Book or otherwise approved by the House or the Speaker on its behalf, or contained in the Code of Conduct adopted by the House in 1995.

Green Book

Nature of the rules

55. The Green Book set out a framework of more or less specific, though not exhaustive, rules under which the ACA, with the other Parliamentary allowances, was to be administered. Derived from Resolutions of the House, and amended and updated from time to time over the review period, these rules were clear enough as far as they went. But they did not cover the whole ground, and perhaps were not intended to; many of them have the appearance of general guidelines rather than a detailed code.

Scope and purpose of the ACA

56. However, the relevant section of the Green Book began with a provision which is basic to the interpretation of all branches of the rules. This defined the scope and purpose of the ACA as follows:- *“The allowance reimburses Members for expenses wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred when staying away from their main UK residence for the purpose of performing Parliamentary duties. This excludes expenses that have been incurred for purely personal or political purposes”* (formulation of April 2005).

Remaining provisions

57. The remainder of the Green Book set out provisions under such headings as eligibility, documentation needed, allowable expenditure, definition of ‘main home’, and examples of expenditure allowable under ACA.

Practice of the Fees Office

58. The practice of the Fees Office supplemented the Green Book rules, in line with rulings and guidance from the House authorities. Thus, for example, as mentioned above, the Fees Office normally allowed claims of up to £250 a month for certain heads of expenditure, and up to £400 for food, without receipts (until 2008-09, when the limit for all heads was re-set at £25). It also applied, although MPs were never officially informed of it, the so-called ‘John Lewis list’ as a benchmark of acceptable cost for certain household purchases, above which claims were to be rejected. The Fees Office did reject some claims, but it operated under the disadvantages, and in the climate and culture, described above under the heading ‘flaws of the system’.

Fundamental principles

59. At the same time as the Green Book rules and the practice of the Fees Office, the ACA system was also governed by overriding fundamental principles laid down by the House and its authorities, and published and available at all times to the Fees Office and MPs. Although general in character, they were an integral and binding element of the rules and standards in force throughout the review period.

Necessity

60. The most basic principle was the requirement, stated in the Green Book throughout and also derived from the Resolutions of the House, that all claims for ACA should be for expenses ‘*necessarily*’ incurred in the performance of Parliamentary duties. When the Green Book was revised in July 2006, this was expanded to make the requirement

that the expenses must have been ‘*wholly, exclusively and necessarily*’ incurred in such performance. This extension is difficult to apply to accommodation, and I have not given it great weight. The requirement of necessity, however, is clearly relevant, applicable and binding. It implies, among other things, that the ACA was not to be used for any expenditure which was extravagant or luxurious.

The Code of Conduct

61. On 19 July 1995, the House passed a Resolution adopting a Code of Conduct for Members of Parliament. The Code has at all times since then required MPs to observe the ‘Nolan’ principles of conduct in public life. Among these, ‘selflessness’, ‘accountability’, ‘honesty’ and ‘leadership’ are plainly relevant to claiming and receiving Parliamentary allowances. The Code was undoubtedly intended to apply to MPs’ conduct in relation to allowances, including as it did from the start provisions expressly referring to them.
62. The relevant Nolan principles in full are:-
- Selflessness.* Holders of public office should take decisions solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family or their friends.
- Accountability.* Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.
- Honesty.* Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.
- Leadership.* Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.
63. The Code of Conduct was re-issued twice, in May 2002 and July 2005. However, although the drafting and layout was altered on these occasions, the only relevant substantial amendment was to the article expressly about allowances (now Article 14). This had previously provided that “No improper use shall be made of any payment or allowance made to Members for public purposes and the administrative rules which apply to such payments must be strictly observed.” In 2005, this was altered to provide that “Members shall at all times ensure that their use of expenses, allowances, facilities and services provided from the public purse is strictly in accordance with the rules laid down on these matters, and that they observe any limits placed by the House on the use of such expenses, allowances, facilities and services”. As far as the ACA is concerned, this does not appear to have been a major change from the pre-2005 provision.
64. I am clear that the Code was a binding element in the rules and standards governing the ACA at all times after 1995. I am also clear that in practice the Code was given insufficient weight in the administration of the allowance.

The Speaker's introduction

65. Another source of fundamental principles was the Speaker's introduction to the Green Book. In particular, in all relevant editions up to 2006, he stated that "*Members themselves are responsible for ensuring that their use of allowances is above reproach*". In July 2006, ie about half-way through the review period, this requirement was incorporated into the body of the Green Book but, in view of the Code of Conduct and the self-certifying power of MPs, it must be treated as having normative force throughout the review period. The Speaker also cautioned MPs to "seek advice in cases of doubt and read the Green Book with care".

Further principles

66. Also at the time of the July 2006 revision, a new section was introduced to the Green Book, headed "Principles". This provided as follows:-

"You must ensure that arrangements for your ACA claims are above reproach and that there can be no grounds for a suggestion of misuse of public money. Members should bear in mind the need to obtain value for money from accommodation, goods or services funded from the allowances.

You must avoid any arrangement which may give rise to an accusation that you are, or someone close to you is, obtaining an immediate benefit or subsidy from public funds or that public money is being diverted for the benefit of a political organisation."

67. In the light of the previous and already operating principles, these additions appear only to have made explicit for convenience what was already implicit, and I therefore consider that they too formed a part of the fundamental principles in force throughout the review period.

Summary of the fundamental principles

68. In short, MPs were thus personally required to ensure, and it was the duty of the Fees Office to help them ensure, that their use of the ACA throughout the review period was:-
- a) necessary for the performance of their Parliamentary duties;
 - b) in accordance with the Nolan principles of selflessness, accountability, honesty and leadership;
 - c) strictly in accordance with the rules governing the allowance;
 - d) above reproach;
 - e) took account of the need to obtain value for money; and
 - f) avoided any appearance of benefit or subsidy to the MP or anyone close to him or her from public funds, or diversion of public money for the benefit of a political organisation.

The requirement of propriety

69. These principles, taken together, clearly amount to at least the same general requirement of propriety as the House of Commons itself rightly expects and enforces across government and the public sector. 'Propriety' here means the proper handling of public money, in the sense used by the Public Accounts Committee and the National Audit

Office (see, for example, *Propriety and Audit in the Public Sector*, Public Audit Forum, August 2001; and *Regularity, Propriety and Value for Money*, Treasury Officer of Accounts, November 2004). The accountable stewardship of public money is a primary obligation on all public servants, elected or appointed, and especially on those who can reasonably be expected to set an example in that respect. It is therefore not surprising that, in making the laws governing the ACA, the House of Commons subjected the grant of the allowance to the same conditions as apply to the use of taxpayer's money throughout the public service.

70. It followed from this that all ACA payments had to be compliant with the requirement of propriety, which carried with it, among other consequences, that they had to be within the defined scope and purpose of the allowance. And it followed in turn from this that the ACA was never to be available as a supplementary source of income. It could only be properly paid as a support for specific and proportionate expenditure on accommodation needed for the performance of Parliamentary duties.
71. Payments by the Fees Office that contravened these requirements were therefore made in breach of the rules and standards that were in force at the time, published and available for inspection. To hold such payments invalid is not to impose a new rule retrospectively. It is simply to apply *now* the rules that were properly in force *then* but were overlooked or misunderstood at the time. The fact that the Fees Office and self-certifying MPs acted in apparent ignorance of the true rules applicable in these cases is regrettable, but cannot cure the invalidity of the payments.
72. It is important to underline this point, because MPs who drew the ACA tend to assert, doubtless in good faith, that because their claims were granted, and even expressly endorsed and encouraged, by the Fees Office, the payments they received were within the rules and must therefore have been valid.
73. In any event that would not follow, but it especially does not follow in these circumstances, where the rules were so vague, the Fees Office was so weakly placed to enforce them, and MPs were themselves the self-certifying and responsible guardians of those funds as well as their recipients. Of course the words and actions of the Fees Office might well constitute a defence against charges of deliberate abuse by the MPs concerned. But that is an issue separate from the validity or otherwise of the payments and not for this review.

APPLICATION OF THE RULES

74. Against this background, most of the individual ACA payments made by the Fees Office to MPs during the review period appear in fact to have been valid. However, a considerable number of them either (a) could not initially be judged valid or invalid, because they were not supported by sufficient evidence, as required by the Green Book; or (b) had to be judged invalid because they breached specific Green Book rules; or (c) had to be judged invalid because they significantly breached the vital requirement of propriety.

Insufficient evidence

75. The most important single class of evidence to support ACA payments is mortgage interest statements. These statements are essential to support what were cumulatively substantial payments from the public purse, and their production was and is an explicit requirement of the Green Book. Other similar types of essential supporting evidence include rental statements and completion statements on sales and purchases of houses and flats. ACA payments made in such cases cannot be regarded as valid unless and until these essential records are supplied. Bank statements or other secondary evidence are insufficient for this purpose. MPs who did not produce these records at the time, or where the records for whatever reason could not be found in the Fees Office's files, have therefore been requested to produce (or re-produce) them now. Most of the MPs concerned have now done so. Where they did so in time before the completion of this report, the resulting position has been calculated and the MPs concerned have been listed either as having no issues or recommended to make any repayments apparently due.
76. In fairness to the MPs concerned, it was important to allow them a reasonable amount of time to obtain the records from their mortgagees, landlords, etc. However, that time has now been allowed. In the few cases where even now an MP has been unwilling or unable to produce such records, then in the absence of special and exceptional reasons to the contrary, my recommendation is that the payments concerned should in default be determined to be invalid, and the MP should repay the whole of the allowance. In determining whether there are such special and exceptional reasons, I have had to make a discretionary judgement, taking a pre-determined list of relevant factors into account.
77. More broadly, however, it would be neither reasonable nor realistic to require supporting evidence in all cases, however minor, given the multiplicity of claims and the lapse of time since much of the review period. I accordingly decided, for the purposes of this review, not to go behind the practice of the Fees Office before 2008-09 of not requiring receipts for a variety of expenditures less than £250 a month, and £400 in the case of food. However, where subsequent claims or other evidence suggest that such earlier payments may have been materially incorrect (as has happened in a number of cases following the change to a £25 limit in 2008-09), I have requested that evidence should be provided to substantiate the earlier payments.
78. In addition, on a *de minimis* basis, I have not requested further supporting evidence for single payments before 2008-09 of less than £1,000 not forming part of a larger pattern, and where there is no other reason to doubt the validity of the payment. This implies no judgment about the validity of the payments concerned, but merely a recognition that it would not now be a proportionate use of public resources to pursue the evidence for such payments further.

Breach of specific rules

79. Where a payment made by the Fees Office was incorrect on the face of it, by reference to specific rules in the Green Book, I have determined it to have been invalid and recommended the MP who received it to repay the amount involved. Many MPs have already done so.

80. However, here too and on the same basis, certain *de minimis* exceptions have also been allowed. These are:-
- a) single payments of less than £100, erroneous under the Green Book rules, but not cumulative with others forming part of a larger connected pattern; and
 - b) standing charges for utilities, council tax, etc. (but not more significant items like mortgage interest statements) mistakenly claimed during the Dissolution in 2005.

Breach of principles

81. Where a decision or practice of the Fees Office was significantly contrary to the fundamental principles set out in the rules or the Code of Conduct, I have determined the payment made to have been invalid, for the reasons explained above, and recommended the MP concerned to repay the amount involved. Many have already done so.

Disproportionate payments for secondary items

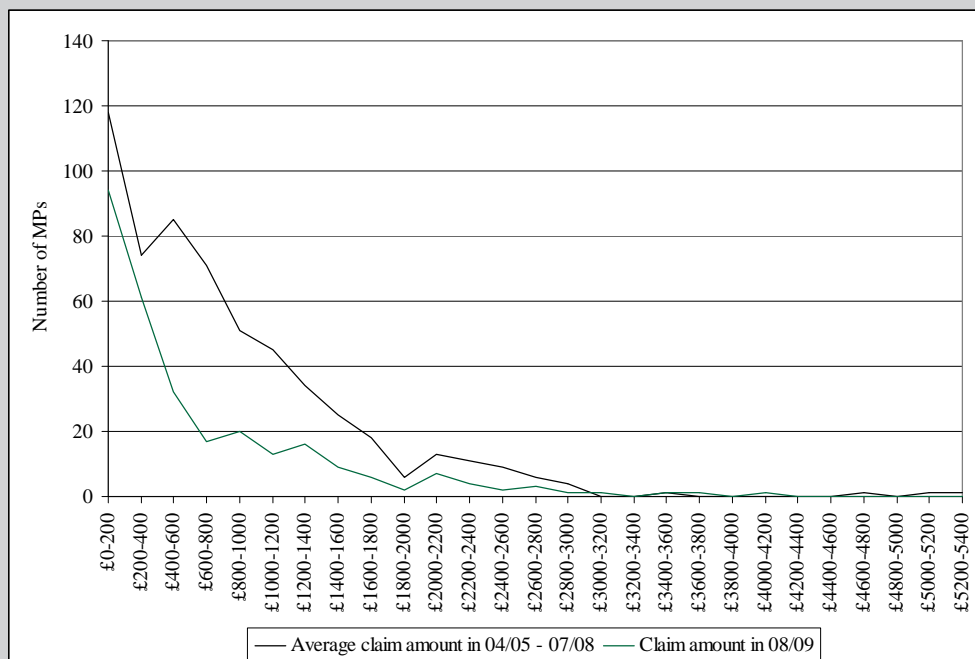
82. One frequent example of this was the regular failure of the Fees Office to apply proper limits to disproportionate claims. The defined scope and purpose of the ACA, taken with the requirement of propriety, entailed throughout that, for purposes legitimate in themselves but secondary to the central aim of providing accommodation, limits must be regarded as having been in place to prevent disproportionate and unnecessary expenditure from the public purse. The failure to apply these limits amounted, in effect, to treating the ACA as a supplementary source of income, and not as what it properly was, namely an allowance for specific and proportionate purposes.
83. In some areas, such as household furniture and equipment (as mentioned above), the Fees Office did in fact usually impose such limits. In others they failed to do so, at least consistently, and in these areas my review has had to establish the limits which must be taken, in compliance with the rules then in force, to have been in place at the time for certain recurring heads of subordinate expenditure. Two cases especially in point are cleaning and garden maintenance.

Cleaning

84. On this basis, I have regarded payments for cleaning in the second home as acceptable up to £2,000 a year, but beyond that I have held them to have been disproportionate and therefore invalid, and recommended them to be repaid. (It may be worth noting that 93% of those MPs who claimed cleaning costs at all in fact stayed within that limit.) Of course there was nothing to stop MPs spending more than £2,000 a year on cleaning. However, given the purpose and amount of the ACA, it does not seem appropriate for them to have expected to be reimbursed for doing so at public expense.

Garden maintenance

85. Similarly, I have regarded payments of up to £1,000 a year as having been acceptable for garden maintenance, but above that limit as invalid and recommended them to be repaid.



CLEANING

Over the period of the review, 93% of MPs who made claims for cleaning had an average annual claim value of less than £2,000 per annum. Therefore 1 in 14 MPs claimed over £2,000 per annum, a total of 41 of the 574 who claimed for cleaning.

It is noteworthy that total claims for cleaning fell significantly in 2008/09, in comparison with earlier years, as demonstrated in the chart above.

Conflicted transactions

86. Where an MP used the ACA to enter into a conflicted transaction, for example by buying or renting a second home from a close relative, a company in which he or she had shares, or a close associate such as an employee, I have regarded the transaction as tainted and the whole payment accordingly invalid. There were only seven of these cases, but they exercised me considerably. In the end I decided that in all of them, as in all other cases where I judged the payments invalid, I should recommend that the whole allowance should be repaid.
87. An alternative view could be that, even where a transaction is tainted by a conflict of interest, it should be accepted as a proper expenditure of public funds if the MP concerned can prove that (a) the transaction was effected at arms' length, typically on the basis of an independent valuation; (b) it was openly disclosed to the Fees Office at the time; (c) the public purse has not suffered; and (d) no third party has improperly benefited.
88. I accept that this is an arguable view, although if it were adopted the burden of proof would be considerable. I have nevertheless come down on the side of recommending the more rigorous view, mainly because the House of Commons, which is the national guardian of public funds, should surely regard itself as held to the highest standards of propriety and example in its Members' own dealings with taxpayers' money. The reputational considerations here seem crucial, in light of the Nolan principles mentioned above.

INDIVIDUAL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

89. My conclusions and recommendations about each of the 752 MPs and former MPs concerned are set out, in alphabetical order, in the Annex to this report.
90. In every case where an MP made comments or representations on my conclusions at the provisional stage, I have considered them and taken them into account in reaching my final conclusions, in many cases making significant changes.
91. My conclusions are set out in a standard format. Under the name of each MP or former MP, I have recorded either 'no issues' or a statement of the payments in respect of which I conclude that the MP should either make a repayment or should provide supporting evidence.
92. Where an MP is described as having 'no issues', it means that my review has raised no issues about the validity of ACA payments made to him or her during the review period. As mentioned above, this does *not* mean that he or she may not have ACA issues that are or were under investigation by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards before 20 July 2009, or by the Police at any stage, or tax issues to be dealt with by HM Customs and Revenue.
93. Where I have concluded that a repayment is due, I have also set out the amount of any repayment that the MP concerned has already made since 1 April 2009 (the end of the review period), together with the resulting balance that the MP is recommended to repay. As far as practicable, the Annex takes account of repayments received up to and including 1 February 2010. Many MPs made repayments between 1 April and 12 October 2009 (when I sent out my provisional findings to most of the MPs concerned) which were not specifically assignable to over-payments which this review has identified. Where appropriate, these repayments have been set-off against repayments recommended by this report. In some cases, MPs had already repaid more than the amount that I subsequently concluded they were required to, leaving a balance of nothing further to be repaid. The recovery of such over-payments will be a matter for the MPs concerned to raise with the Fees Office. In a few cases, MPs have requested that their repayments should not be recorded here, and in these cases I have entered a nil return for repayments.
94. As far as practicable, the Annex also takes account of mortgage interest statements and other supporting evidence, with their implications for possible repayment, received up to and including Friday 29 January 2010.

THE BROAD RESULT

95. The broad picture that emerges from the review is as follows.
96. Over the five years of the review period, about £55.5m. was paid out to MPs under the ACA. An additional £2.5m. claimed by MPs was rejected by the Fees Office. Of that £55.5m. paid out, about £11m. (20%) was initially called in question by the review. Of that £11m., around £9.5m. (86%) required validating by supporting evidence that should have been provided at the time. Only just under £1.5m. (14%) was provisionally recommended for repayment.
97. At this final stage, a total of just over £1.3m. has been recommended for repayment by 390 MPs. At the date of this report, almost £800,000 has been repaid since 1 April 2009, although this includes some repayments in excess of my recommendations.

ISSUES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED FOR REPAYMENT, BY ACA CATEGORY		
Category	Number of Issues	Recommended Repayment Amount £'000
Hotel Stays	7	£4
Mortgage/Rent	208	£711
Food	12	£12
Utilities	30	£10
Council Tax / Rates	59	£35
Telephone & telecommunications	35	£23
Cleaning	56	£105
Service / Maintenance	52	£81
Repairs / Insurance / Security	24	£73
Other	182	£252
Total	665	£1,305

98. Out of that approximately £1.3m. recommended for repayment, £163,000 (12%) was spent on gardening claims over £1,000 a year, £105,000 (8%) on cleaning claims over £2,000 a year, £152,000 (12%) on duplicate claims and £515,000 (39%) on other over-payments, mainly mortgage interest and rental payments.
99. Out of the 752 MPs and former MPs concerned, 360 (48%) in the end presented no issues for the review, and have been informed accordingly. That left 392 (52%) who have been recommended to make repayments of some amount. It must be emphasised that many MPs requested to make repayments had already done so since April 2009, or did so after receiving my provisional conclusions.
100. The highest single repayment recommended is just under £65,000, and two other MPs are recommended to repay more than £40,000 each. 56 MPs have been recommended to

repay between £40,000 and £5,000. 182 MPs have been recommended to repay between £5,000 and £1,000; and 149 have been recommended to repay between £1,000 and £100.

CLOSING CONSIDERATIONS

Appeal

101. On 1 December 2009 the MEC announced that MPs who felt that they could show special reasons why it would not be fair or equitable to require them to make repayments recommended by my review could make written appeals to the Rt Hon Sir Paul Kennedy.
102. Sir Paul's separate report and decisions will be published with this report. In the 44 cases where he has decided that the repayment I recommend should be remitted in part or in full, notes to that effect have been inserted at the appropriate places in the Annex to this report. Since the amount decided by Sir Paul is taken as the actual figure which the MEC will seek in repayment, the final balance has also been adjusted accordingly. The overall effect of Sir Paul's decisions will reduce the total amount repayable under my recommendations by just under £185,000 (14%) to £1.12m., and will bring the highest single recommended repayment down to £42,458.

Cost of review

103. The total cost of this review from its commencement to the submission of this report has been approximately £1.16m.

Envoi

104. The saga of MPs' expenses and freedom of information has been traumatic and painful. Public confidence has been damaged, and the scars will no doubt take time to heal. But there is a positive side. In responding, our national institutions, including a free press, an independent judiciary and in the end the executive government, political parties and above all the House of Commons itself, are showing that, when things do go wrong, we have together the will and the means to put matters right, heal and reform the systems and the culture, and move forward. It is in that spirit that I submit this report.

Sir Thomas Legg
1 February 2010

Annex: Individual conclusions and recommendations

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Mr Gerry Adams MP

Belfast West

Mr Adams has no issues.

Mr Adam Afriyie MP

Windsor

Mr Afriyie did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr Nick Ainger MP

Carmarthen West & South Pembrokeshire

Mr Ainger's mortgage payments on his second home for the period April 2004 to December 2005 included both interest and capital element. Only the interest element is allowable under Green Book rules. On recalculation the excess amounts to £777.77.

Total repayment recommended: £777.77

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £810.85

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Peter Ainsworth MP

East Surrey

Mr Ainsworth has no issues.

Rt Hon Robert Ainsworth MP

Coventry North East

Mr Ainsworth was paid £575 for an antique Welsh dresser in February 2007. Antiques are not allowable under Green Book rules.

He was also paid £951.50 for a new gate and a fence, and installing a drainage gully and a consumer board in March 2006. These items had already been paid for as part of the MP's July 2005 claim.

Total repayment recommended: £1,526.50
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,526.50
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Danny Alexander MP

Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey

Mr Alexander was overpaid £40.83 for utilities and £4.75 for insurance (totalling £45.58) in 2008-09.

He was paid £125 in April 2007 for financial planning advice which is not allowable under Green Book rules.

He was paid £781 for council tax in 2007-08. This was £120.24 in excess of the council tax charged for that year.

Total repayment recommended: £290.82
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £512.92
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Douglas Alexander MP

Paisley & Renfrewshire South

Mr Alexander has no issues.

Mr Graham Allen MP

Nottingham North

Mr Allen was overpaid by £3,182.23 for mortgage interest from April 2004 to March 2006.

He was also overpaid by £159.51 for service charges in 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £3,341.74
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,679.72
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Amess MP

Southend West

Mr Amess was paid £139.50 for a TV licence in October 2008, having already been paid for it in August 2008.

He was overpaid £960.56 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £1,100.06
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,100.06
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Michael Ancram QC DL MP

Devizes

Mr Ancram was paid a total of £11,250 for cleaning costs over the four years 2004-05 to 2007-08, thereby exceeding the allowable maximum by a total of £3,250.

He was also paid a total of £5,702.34 for gardening costs over the period 2005-06 to 2007-08, thereby exceeding the allowable maximum by a total of £2,702.34.

He was also paid a total of £171.08 in May 2006 for servicing a swimming pool boiler (£98.58) and for servicing the boiler in a cottage attached to his second home (£72.50), neither of which are allowable under the Green Book.

He was also paid £159.01 in July 2006 for repairs to a garden tractor, which is not regarded as necessary.

Total repayment recommended: £6,282.43

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £6,282.43

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Anderson MP

Blaydon

Mr Anderson has no issues.

Mrs Janet Anderson MP

Rosendale & Darwen

Mrs Anderson has no issues.

Rt Hon James Arbuthnot MP

North East Hampshire

Mr Arbuthnot was paid £150 for garden compost between June and September 2008. This was not allowable under the Green Book rules.

He was paid for maintenance works in 2008-09. This included £2,241.85 for the renovation and repair of a summerhouse, which was not a necessity.

He was paid £10,840.38 for gardening from 2004-05 to 2008-09. This exceeds £1,000 a year by a total of £5,840.38.

He was paid £2,608.10 in 2007-08 and £6,630 in 2008-09 for cleaning. This exceeds £2,000 a year by a total of £5,238.10.

Total repayment recommended: £13,470.33

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £13,470.33

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Hilary Armstrong MP**North West Durham**

Ms Armstrong has no issues.

Mrs Charlotte Atkins MP**Staffordshire Moorlands**

Mrs Atkins was paid a total of £9,601.44 for a new bathroom in 2007, exceeding the guideline price of £6,968.50 by £2,632.94.

She was paid cleaning costs of £5,060 over a two-year period from April 2004 to March 2006, exceeding the allowable maximum by £1,060.

She was also paid a total of £2,427 for gardening costs (£1,320 in 2005-06 and £1,107 in 2007-08), exceeding the allowable maximum by a total of £427.

She was also overpaid £868.96 in 2005-06 as a result of a duplicated claim.

She was further overpaid £445.16 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £5,434.06

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £10,226.50

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Peter Atkinson MP**Hexham**

Mr Atkinson has no issues.

Mr Ian Austin MP**Dudley North**

Mr Austin has no issues.

Mr John Austin MP**Erith & Thamesmead**

Mr Austin has no issues.

Mr Richard Bacon MP**South Norfolk**

Mr Bacon has no issues.

Mr Adrian Bailey MP**West Bromwich West**

Mr Bailey has no issues.

Ms Vera Baird QC MP**Redcar**

Ms Baird was overpaid by £1,279.23 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £1,279.23

Reduced on appeal by: £1,279.23

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Norman Baker MP**Lewes**

Mr Baker has no issues.

Mr Tony Baldry MP**Banbury**

Mr Baldry was overpaid by £12,197.36 for mortgage interest for the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06, 2007-08 and 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £12,197.36

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £12,197.36

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Ed Balls MP**Normanton**

Mr Balls shares a second home with his wife, who is also an MP. They could each therefore receive payment for half their mortgage interest under the Green Book rules. On this basis, Mr Balls was overpaid for mortgage interest by £13.44 in 2006-07 and by £1,349.73 in 2008-09, making a total overpayment of £1,363.17.

Total repayment recommended: £1,363.17

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,363.44

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Gordon R Banks MP**Ochil & South Perthshire**

Mr Banks has no issues.

Mr Gregory Barker MP**Bexhill & Battle**

Mr Barker has no issues.

Ms Celia Barlow MP**Hove**

Ms Barlow was paid £635 for a mortgage valuation on her main home in August 2005. This was not allowable under the Green Book rules.

Total repayment recommended: £635.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £635.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr John Baron MP**Billericay**

Mr Baron extended his mortgage in June 2004 by £34,035 to allow him to pay for other expenses. Re-mortgages were not allowed under Green Book rules except for maintenance and improvements. He received a total of £8,821.10 over the period 2004-05 to 2008-09 for the increase in the mortgage.

Total repayment recommended: £8,821.10

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £8,821.10

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr John Barrett MP**Edinburgh West**

Mr Barrett has no issues.

Rt Hon Kevin Barron MP**Rother Valley**

Mr Barron has no issues.

Rt Hon John Battle MP**Leeds West**

Mr Battle has no issues.

Mr Hugh Bayley MP**City of York**

Mr Bayley has no issues.

Rt Hon Margaret Beckett MP**Derby South**

Mrs Beckett's payments for gardening costs exceeded the allowable maximum by a total of £2,539.75 (£520 in 2005-06, £274 in 2006-07 and £1,745.75 in 2007-08).

Total repayment recommended: £2,539.75

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £2,539.75

Miss Anne Begg MP**Aberdeen South**

Miss Begg has no issues.

Rt Hon Sir Alan Beith MP**Berwick-upon-Tweed**

Sir Alan was overpaid by a total of £1,841.23 for rent (£592.25 in 2004-05 and £1,248.98 in 2005-06), taking into account contributions from his spouse.

Total repayment recommended: £1,841.23

Reduced on appeal by: £1,841.23

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Sir Stuart Bell MP**Middlesbrough**

Sir Stuart has no issues.

Mr Henry Bellingham MP**North West Norfolk**

Mr Bellingham has no issues.

Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP**Leeds Central**

Mr Benn has no issues.

Mr Joseph Benton MP**Bootle**

Mr Benton has no issues.

Mr Richard Benyon MP**Newbury**

Mr Benyon has no issues.

Rt Hon John Bercow MP**Buckingham**

Mr Speaker was overpaid by £978.51 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £978.51

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £978.51

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Sir Paul Beresford MP**Mole Valley**

Sir Paul was paid a total of £1,352.02 more than the agreed proportion of his mortgage costs (£475.02 in 2004-05, £239.49 in 2005-06 and £637.51 in 2006-07).

Total repayment recommended: £1,352.02

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,352.02

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Dr Roger Berry MP**Kingswood**

Dr Berry was paid £1,067.49 in December 2005 for a washer/dryer, which exceeded the guideline price of £550.00 by £517.49.

He was also paid £574.28 in December 2005 for a dishwasher, which exceeded the guideline price of £415 by £159.28.

He was also paid £499.00 in May 2007 for a lamp table, which exceeded the guideline price of £220.00 by £279.00.

He was further paid £502.00 each in February 2008 for two bedside cabinets, which exceeded the guideline price of £110.00 per item by £282.00.

Total repayment recommended: £1,237.77

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,873.02

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Clive Betts MP**Sheffield Attercliffe**

Mr Betts was overpaid by a total of £169.14 for mortgage interest in 2004-05 and 2006-07.

Total repayment recommended: £169.14
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,642.63
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Brian Binley MP

Northampton South

Mr Binley has no issues.

Ms Elizabeth Blackman MP

Erewash

Ms Blackman has no issues.

Dr Roberta Blackman-Woods MP

City of Durham

Dr Blackman-Woods has no issues.

Rt Hon Hazel Blears MP

Salford

Ms Blears was paid £445 in March 2005 for a glass shelving unit, which exceeded the guideline price of £220 by £225.

Total repayment recommended: £225.00
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £225.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Robert Blizzard MP

Waveney

Mr Blizzard was overpaid a total of £3,872.79 for mortgage interest (£2,444.65 in 2005-06, and £1,428.14 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £3,872.79
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,437.87
Balance recommended to be repaid: £2,434.92

Rt Hon David Blunkett MP

Sheffield Brightside

Mr Blunkett has no issues.

Mr Crispin Blunt MP**Reigate**

Mr Blunt was paid for mortgage interest for April - July 2004 on a mortgage of £340,000 that had been used to purchase both his main and second homes. The full amount of the mortgage interest was claimed, rather than the proportion related to the purchase of the second home. Mr Blunt has not provided evidence of the portion of the mortgage that related to the purchase of the second home, in the absence of which the validity of the ACA payments is determined on the basis that it was half the total, which came to £3,077.42.

Total repayment recommended: £3,077.42

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,077.42

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Peter Bone MP**Wellingborough**

Mr Bone has no issues.

Mr David Borrow MP**South Ribble**

Mr Borrow has no issues.

Mr Timothy Boswell MP**Daventry**

Mr Boswell has no issues.

Mr Peter Bottomley MP**Worthing West**

Mr Bottomley has no issues.

Mr Benjamin Bradshaw MP**Exeter**

Mr Bradshaw has no issues.

Mr Graham Brady MP**Altrincham & Sale West**

Mr Brady was paid £1,815 for a sofa in instalments, starting in July 2004. This exceeded the guideline price of £1,100 by £715.

Total repayment recommended: £715.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £715.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Thomas Brake MP**Carshalton & Wallington**

Mr Brake did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr Julian Brazier MP**Canterbury**

Mr Brazier was paid £248.49 in January 2005 for mobile phone costs. These are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

Total repayment recommended: £248.49

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £414.03

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Colin Breed MP**South East Cornwall**

Mr Breed was overpaid by a total of £2,575.81 for mortgage interest (£581.50 in 2004-05, £264.14 in 2005-06, £170.50 in 2006-07, £678.87 in 2007-08 and £880.80 in 2008-09).

He was also overpaid by a total of £1,063.68 in 2004-05 and 2005-06 for a mortgage protection policy, which was not an allowable expense.

Total repayment recommended: £3,639.49

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,639.49

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Kevin Brennan MP**Cardiff West**

Mr Brennan was overpaid by a total of £171.40 for his mortgage interest (£53.15 in 2004-05; £30.40 in 2005-06; and £87.85 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £171.40

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £171.40

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr James Peter Brokenshire MP**Hornchurch**

Mr Brokenshire has no issues.

Ms Annette Brooke MP**Mid Dorset & Poole North**

Ms Brooke was paid £238.78 in 2004 for mobile phone costs, which are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

She was also paid a total of £1,300 in error for two rental payments in April and June 2006.

Total repayment recommended: £1,538.78

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,538.78

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP**Kirkcaldy & Cowdenbeath**

The Prime Minister was paid a total of £21,189.53 for cleaning costs between April 2004 and March 2009, exceeding the maximum allowable by £11,189.53.

He was also paid £1,396 twice in April and July 2006 for internal redecoration.

He was further paid £1,302.50 in 2007-08 for garden maintenance, exceeding the allowable maximum by £302.50.

Total repayment recommended: £12,888.03

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £13,723.04

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Lyn Carol Brown MP**West Ham**

Ms Brown shared her second home with two other MPs. In 2007-08 they received £2,402.03 for cleaning costs, exceeding the allowable maximum by £402.03. Ms Brown's share of the excess was £134.01.

Total repayment recommended: £134.01

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £134.01

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Nicholas Brown MP**Newcastle upon Tyne East & Wallsend**

Mr Brown was paid cleaning costs totalling £8,697.65 over the four-year period 2004-05 to 2007-08, exceeding the allowable maximum by a total of £697.65.

Total repayment recommended: £697.65
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £697.65

Mr Russell Brown MP

Dumfries & Galloway

Mr Brown was paid for 13 months' rent in 2008-09, resulting in an overpayment of £1,146.63.

Total repayment recommended: £1,146.63
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,146.63
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Desmond Browne MP

Kilmarnock & Loudoun

Mr Browne has no issues.

Mr Jeremy Richard Browne MP

Taunton

On his election in 2005, Mr Browne extended the mortgage on his London home to assist in the purchase of a home in his constituency. As he designated the London home as his second home, the loan extension was not within the Green Book rules. The amount paid was £17,894.24.

Total repayment recommended: £17,894.24
Reduced on appeal by: £17,894.24
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mrs Angela Browning MP

Tiverton & Honiton

Mrs Browning has no issues.

Mr Malcolm Bruce MP

Gordon

Mr Bruce was paid a total of £622 twice for insurance (£309.87 in October 2004 and £312.13 in September 2006).

Total repayment recommended: £622.00
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £622.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Chris Bryant MP**Rhondda**

Mr Bryant was overpaid by £4,439.28 for mortgage interest in 2008-09 because his claims did not reflect the element of his mortgage actually used to purchase his second home.

Total repayment recommended: £4,439.28

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £5,743.02

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Richard Burden MP**Birmingham Northfield**

Mr Burden was overpaid by a total of £458.01 for mortgage interest in 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £458.01

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £718.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Colin Burgon MP**Elmet**

Mr Burgon has no issues.

Rt Hon Andy Burnham MP**Leigh**

Mr Burnham was paid service charge costs twice for the following periods: £563.68 in July 2007 and January 2008; £583.06 in June and September 2008; and £291.53 in December 2008 and January 2009. The duplicated payments thus total £1,438.27.

He was paid twice for rent of £1,402.92 for November 2005.

Total repayment recommended: £2,841.19

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,181.13

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Simon Burns MP**Chelmsford West**

Mr Burns was overpaid by a total of £3,305.76 for rent (£2,236.60 in 2004-05; £715.16 in 2005-06; and £354 in 2006-07).

Total repayment recommended: £3,305.76

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,731.92

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Burrowes MP**Enfield Southgate**

Mr Burrowes did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr Paul Burstow MP**Sutton & Cheam**

Mr Burstow did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr Alistair Burt MP**North East Bedfordshire**

Mr Burt has no issues.

Mrs Lorely Burt MP**Solihull**

Mrs Burt was paid £1,087.50 twice for mortgage interest for April 2006.

Total repayment recommended: £1,087.50

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,087.50

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Dawn Butler MP**Brent South**

Ms Butler has no issues.

Sir John Butterfill MP**Bournemouth West**

Sir John was over-paid by a total of £2,032.47 for mortgage interest (£1,407.85 in 2006-07 and £624.62 in 2008-09).

He was also overpaid by a total of £331.66 for council tax in 2005-06 (of which £47.66 was due to payments not being reduced for dissolution, and £284.00 due to an incorrect adjustment when moving house).

Total repayment recommended: £2,364.13

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £17,478.43

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Stephen Byers MP**North Tyneside**

Mr Byers was paid cleaning costs totalling £9,125 over the four years 2004-05 to 2007-08, exceeding the allowable maximum by a total of £1,125.

Total repayment recommended: £1,125.00
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,125.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Liam Byrne MP

Birmingham Hodge Hill

Mr Byrne was paid £111.84 for mobile telephone costs in October 2004, which are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

Total repayment recommended: £111.84
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,269.01
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Dr Vincent Cable MP

Twickenham

Dr Cable did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Rt Hon Richard Caborn MP

Sheffield Central

Mr Caborn has no issues.

Mr David Cairns MP

Inverclyde

Mr Cairns was overpaid by a total of £2,782.30 for his service charge and parking space for January to June 2007.

Total repayment recommended: £2,782.30
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,782.30
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon David Cameron MP

Witney

Mr Cameron was overpaid by £237.07 for mortgage interest in April to November 2006.

Total repayment recommended: £237.07
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £965.45
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Alan Campbell MP

Tynemouth

Mr Campbell has no issues.

Mr Gregory Campbell MP

East Londonderry

Mr Campbell was overpaid by a total of £741 for hotel stays between October 2004 and March 2006.

He was also overpaid by a total of £1,456.54 for service charges between November 2006 and October 2007.

He was overpaid by a total of £458.56 for ground rent (£303.23 for November 2007 - April 2008, and £155.33 for May 2008 - March 2009).

He has also not provided sufficient evidence to support payments of £1,017.28 for mortgage interest for the month of December 2008, in default of which I must regard this payment as having been invalid. Accordingly my recommendation is that Mr Campbell should repay the whole of this sum.

Total repayment recommended: £3,673.38

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £3,673.38

Rt Hon Sir Menzies Campbell CBE QC MP

North East Fife

Sir Menzies was paid £1,490.66 over the period 2006 - 2008 for the services of an interior designer, which are regarded as unnecessary.

Total repayment recommended: £1,490.66

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,772.94

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Ronnie Campbell MP

Blyth Valley

Mr Campbell received duplicate payments for council tax totalling £829.22 during 2004 and 2007.

He also received duplicate payments totalling £912.61 in 2005 for ground rent and service charge (£555.13) and electricity costs (£357.48).

He was also paid for full council tax of £1,509.58 in 2008-09 when in receipt of a 10% discount, thus being overpaid by £150.96.

Total repayment recommended: £1,892.79

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,892.79

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Alistair Carmichael MP

Orkney & Shetland

Mr Carmichael was paid a total of £243.90 twice for three items: phone bill in September 2005, £70.12; phone bill in December 2005, £42.28; and TV licence in July 2006, £131.50.

He was also paid £90 for legal costs associated with non-payment of council tax in 2007-08 and £146.88 legal fees due to late payment of service charge/ground rent in May 2007. These costs, totalling £236.88, were not allowable under the Green Book rules.

Total repayment recommended: £480.78

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £480.78

Mr Douglas Carswell MP

Harwich

Mr Carswell moved home in January 2008 and claimed a deposit on the new flat without repaying the £2,010 deposit paid for the old one.

He was also paid £149 twice in March and April 2006 for a council tax single payment notification.

Total repayment recommended: £2,159.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,159.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr William Cash MP

Stone

Mr Cash was paid £14,840 from April 2004-April 2005 for rent under a tenancy agreement with his daughter. This was a conflicted transaction.

He was paid £429.33 towards the purchase of an antique desk and chair in December 2005. The purchase of antiques is not allowable under Green Book rules.

Total repayment recommended: £15,269.33

Reduced on appeal by: £14,840.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £429.33

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Martin Caton MP

Gower

Mr Caton has no issues.

Mr Ian Cawsey MP**Brigg & Goole**

Mr Cawsey has no issues.

Mr Colin Challen MP**Morley & Rothwell**

Mr Challen was paid a total of £8,795 for renting a room from his own Senior Researcher, at £60 per night, from November 2006 to January 2008. This was a conflicted transaction.

Mr Challen was paid a total of £1,078 in June 2005 for two items of furniture (a display cabinet at £719 and a chair at £359), which exceeded the relevant guideline prices by a total of £363.

Total repayment recommended: £9,158.00

Reduced on appeal by: £8,795.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £363.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Ben Chapman MP**Wirral South**

Mr Chapman was paid a total of £6,600.25 for gardening over the five years of the review period, exceeding the allowable maximum by a total of £1,600.25.

He was also paid £1,229 in January 2006 for a fridge-freezer, exceeding the guideline price of £550 by £679.

He was also paid £1,108.66 twice for council tax in 2005-06.

Total repayment recommended: £3,387.91

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,387.91

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Chaytor MP**Bury North**

Mr Chaytor has no issues.

Mr Christopher Chope MP**Christchurch**

Mr Chope was overpaid by a total of £252.61 for mortgage interest (£119.00 in 2006-07, £133.61 in 2007-08).

He was also paid £105.25 in April 2004 for mobile phone bills, which are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

Total repayment recommended: £357.86

Reduced on appeal by: £357.86

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Michael Clapham MP

Barnsley West & Penistone

Mr Clapham has no issues.

Mr James Clappison MP

Hertsmere

Mr Clappison has no issues.

Mr Gregory Clark MP

Tunbridge Wells

Mr Clark has no issues.

Ms Katy Clark MP

North Ayrshire & Arran

Ms Clark was paid a total of £336.39 between November 2006 and January 2007 for mobile phone bills and accessories, which are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

She was also paid £446.50 in January 2007 for removal expenses from the former second home to the main address in August 2006, which was also not allowable.

Total repayment recommended: £782.89

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £782.89

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Paul Clark MP

Gillingham

Mr Clark was paid £549.95 for a new washing machine in October 2004, which exceeded the guideline price of £385 by £164.95.

In default of evidence to support payments for mortgage interest of £11,750.35 for 2008-09, I must regard these payments as having been invalid. Accordingly my recommendation is that Mr Clark should repay the whole of this sum.

Total repayment recommended: £11,915.30

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £508.43

Balance recommended to be repaid: £11,406.87

Rt Hon Charles Clarke MP**Norwich South**

Mr Clarke was overpaid by a total of £743.64 for mortgage interest in two years (£400.34 in 2004-05 and £343.30 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £743.64

Reduced on appeal by: £743.64

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke QC MP**Rushcliffe**

Mr Clarke was paid a total of £7,345 for cleaning (£2,210 in 2006-07; £2,470 in 2007-08; and £2,665 in 2008-09), exceeding the allowable maximum by a total of £1,345.

Total repayment recommended: £1,345.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,345.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Tom Clarke CBE JP MP**Coatbridge, Chryston & Bellshill**

Mr Clarke has no issues.

Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP**Sheffield Hallam**

Mr Clegg was paid a total of £3,910 gardening costs for the period July 2006 to March 2009. This exceeds £1,000 a year by a total of £910.

Total repayment recommended: £910.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £989.50

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Clelland MP**Tyne Bridge**

Mr Clelland increased his mortgage in June 2004 from £116,000 to £161,500 in order to buy out his partner's share in the second home. Consequently he was paid an additional £12,970 under the Green Book rules over the review period to cover the additional mortgage interest. He and his partner were subsequently married. In these circumstances, the transaction appears conflicted, and Mr Clelland ought to repay the additional interest.

He was also paid £431.36 in May 2004 for legal fees for the purchase mentioned above. This payment is also invalid for the same reason.

Total repayment recommended: £13,401.36
Reduced on appeal by: £13,101.36
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £300.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP

Cotswold

Mr Clifton-Brown has no issues.

Rt Hon Ann Clwyd MP

Cynon Valley

Mrs Clwyd was overpaid by a total of £3,085.42 for mortgage interest (£826.08 in 2006-07; £230.38 in 2007-08; and £2,028.96 in 2008-09).

She was also overpaid by a total of £1,097 for council tax (£594 in 2006-07, and £503 in 2008-09).

She was also paid £1,390 for two chairs purchased during 2005-06 and 2006-07, which exceeded the guideline price for two chairs of £1,100 by £290.

Total repayment recommended: £4,472.42
Reduced on appeal by: £2,360.62
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,472.42
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Vernon Coaker MP

Gedling

Mr Coaker has no issues.

Ms Ann Coffey MP

Stockport

Ms Coffey was paid a total of £1,381.08 more than the maximum allowable for cleaning costs over the five years of the review period (£2,140.00 in 2004-05; £2,201.08 in 2005-06; £2,360.00 in 2006-07; £2,600.00 in 2007-08; and £2,080.00 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £1,381.08
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,381.08
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Harry Cohen MP

Leyton & Wanstead

Mr Cohen was paid £325 in July 2004 for a bedside cabinet, which exceeded the guideline price of £110 by £215.

He was also paid £150 in December 2004 for a flower vase, which appears excessive.

He was also overpaid by £155.01 for council tax in 2006-07.

He was also paid £205 for a bed/mattress in February 2008: this was the fourth payment for such an item, which appears excessive.

He was further overpaid by a total of £208.37 over the five years of the review period for various items not allowable under Green Book rules.

Total repayment recommended: £933.38

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £933.38

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Michael Connarty MP

Linlithgow & East Falkirk

Mr Connarty was overpaid by £309.02 for service charges during 2004-05.

He was also overpaid by a total of £4,872.54 for mortgage interest for the years 2004-05 and 2005-06.

Total repayment recommended: £5,181.56

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £5,181.56

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Derek Conway TD MP

Old Bexley & Sidcup

Mr Conway has no issues.

Mr Frank Cook MP

Stockton North

Mr Cook was paid £1,238.41 for a refrigerator in April 2004, which exceeded the guideline of £605 by £633.41.

He was also overpaid by £271.27 for council tax in 2005-06.

He was further overpaid by a total of £748.03 for council tax in the last three years of the review period (£146 in 2006-07; £296.03 in 2007-08; and £306 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £1,652.71

Reduced on appeal by: £633.41

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,019.30

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Rosie Cooper MP**West Lancashire**

Ms Cooper has no issues.

Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP**Pontefract & Castleford**

Ms Cooper shares a second home with her husband, who is also an MP. They could each therefore receive half their mortgage interest under the Green Book rules. On this basis, Ms Cooper was overpaid for mortgage interest by £13.48 in 2006-07 and by £1,349.73 in 2008-09, making a total overpayment of £1,363.21.

Total repayment recommended: £1,363.21

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,363.48

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Sir Patrick Cormack MP**South Staffordshire**

Sir Patrick was paid cleaning costs of £2,610 in 2004-05; £2,592 in 2006-07 and £2,820 in 2007-08. These exceed the allowable maximum of £2,000 a year by a total of £2,022.

Total repayment recommended: £2,022.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,022.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Jim Cousins MP**Newcastle upon Tyne Central**

Mr Cousins has no issues.

Mr Geoffrey Cox QC MP**Torrige & West Devon**

Mr Cox has no issues.

Mr Stephen Crabb MP**Preseli Pembrokeshire**

Mr Crabb was overpaid by a total of £1,495 for rental payments for July 2005 - July 2006.

He was also overpaid by £144.30 for mortgage interest in 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £1,639.30

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,495.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Crausby MP

Bolton North East

Mr Crausby was paid £1,904 in May 2005 which wasn't correctly reduced for dissolution.

Total repayment recommended: £307.10

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £307.10

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Mary Creagh MP

Wakefield

Ms Creagh was overpaid by £633.47 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

She also received a total of £367.75 twice in the same year, 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £1,001.22

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,001.22

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Jon Cruddas MP

Dagenham

Mr Cruddas was overpaid by a net total of £361.52 for service charges in 2004-05.

He was also paid £173.84 twice for electricity in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £535.36

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £855.30

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mrs Ann Cryer MP

Keighley

Mrs Cryer was paid a total of £16,646.45 for the rental between 1 April 2004 and 19 July 2005 of a flat from her son-in-law. This was a conflicted transaction.

She was also paid a total of £2,973.50 for furnishings in March 2007, including £1,350 for a table and £795 for a rug. This exceeds the guideline prices of £660 and £330 respectively by a total of £1,155.

She was also overpaid by a total of £441.25 for a carpet in March 2009.

Total repayment recommended: £18,241.70

Reduced on appeal by: £16,646.45

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,596.25

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr John Cummings MP**Easington**

Mr Cummings was paid cleaning costs totalling £10,130 over the five-year period. This exceeds £2,000 a year by a total of £130. The payments also included a Christmas bonus of £50 which is not allowed, bringing the total overpayment to £180.

Total repayment recommended: £180.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,907.06

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Jim Cunningham MP**Coventry South**

Mr Cunningham was overpaid by £240.59 for rent in 2005-06. He had submitted a claim in May 2005 for an underpayment in March 2005, which could not be attributed to the ACA for 2005-06.

Total repayment recommended: £240.59

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £240.59

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Tony Cunningham MP**Workington**

Mr Cunningham was overpaid by a total of £2,718.02 for mortgage interest (£431.93 in 2005-06; £348.29 in 2006-07; and £1,937.80 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £2,718.02

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,718.02

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon David Curry MP**Skipton & Ripon**

Mr Curry was paid a total of £8,512.75 in 2008 for professional advice and renovations to his second home. Out of this total, £3,483.29 was for the work, while £5,029.46 was paid to a firm of consulting engineers for professional services, technical advice and project management. The latter payment appears excessive, and Mr Curry should repay one-third of it, which is £1,676.48.

Total repayment recommended: £1,676.48

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,676.48

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Claire Curtis-Thomas MP

Crosby

Ms Curtis-Thomas was paid £191.12 in 2008-09 for expenses related to mobile phones and computers. These are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

Total repayment recommended: £191.12

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £191.12

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Alistair Darling MP

Edinburgh South West

Mr Darling was paid £1,104 for a chest of drawers in February 2007. That exceeded the guideline price of £550 by £554.

Total repayment recommended: £554.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,512.04

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Edward Davey MP

Kingston & Surbiton

Mr Davey did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr Wayne David MP

Caerphilly

Mr David was paid a total of £6,184.16 (£155.23 a month from April 2004 to March 2008) for critical illness insurance cover, which is not allowable under the ACA.

In August 2007, he changed mortgage providers and increased the amount borrowed for a purpose not allowable under the ACA. As a result, he was overpaid by a total of £6,038.33.

He was also paid £430 for a bedroom chair in March and again in July 2007.

He was further overpaid by £262.20 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £12,959.69

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £13,149.67

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Ian Davidson MP

Glasgow South West

Mr Davidson was overpaid £474.47 for mortgage interest in 2007-08.

He was paid a total of £120 for court costs associated with non-payment of council tax (£55 in July 2005, and £65 in June 2007).

He was also overpaid by £646.92 for council tax in 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £1,241.39

Reduced on appeal by: £474.47

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £766.92

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Dai Davies MP

Blaenau Gwent

Mr Davies was paid expenses in November 2006 for his constituency office - £328.00 for council tax, £48.35 for telephone and £63.45 for repairs. These expenses, which came to a total of £439.80 are not allowable under the ACA, and should have been submitted under Incidental Expenses.

He was paid for 12 payments of council tax in 2008-09. The evidence provided shows that only 10 payments were required. One additional payment was disallowed by the Fees Office, so the MP received an overpayment of £110.

Total repayment recommended: £549.80

Reduced on appeal by: £439.80

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £110.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Davies MP

Monmouth

Mr Davies was overpaid by a net total of £2,021.39 for mortgage interest in September 2006, and for council tax in May 2007.

Total repayment recommended: £2,021.39

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,033.87

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Phillip Davies MP

Shipley

Mr Davies was paid £232.64 in May 2005 for a telephone and answer machine, telephone line installation and telephone and broadband line rental, which were for his constituency office. These expenses were not allowable under the ACA, and should have been submitted under Incidental Expenses.

Total repayment recommended: £232.64

Reduced on appeal by: £232.64

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Quentin Davies MP

Grantham & Stamford

Mr Davies was paid cleaning costs of £6,658 over three years as follows: £2,168 in 2004-05; £2,090 in 2005-06; £2,400 in 2006-07. That exceeds the maximum allowable of £2,000 a year by a total of £658.

Total repayment recommended: £658.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £658.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon David Davis MP

Haltemprice & Howden

Mr Davis was overpaid by £134.00 for mortgage interest in March 2006.

He was also paid more than £1,000 a year for gardening for three years of the review period. He received £1,126.83 in 2004-05, £1,328.54 in 2006-07 and £1,294.34 in 2008-09. This resulted in a total payment of £749.71 above £1,000 a year.

Total repayment recommended: £883.71

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £917.76

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mrs Janet Dean MP

Burton

Mrs Dean has no issues.

Rt Hon John Denham MP

Southampton Itchen

Mr Denham was paid £1,590 for two armchairs in August 2005. This exceeded the guideline price of £1,100 by £490.

He was also overpaid by £775.51 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £1,265.51

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,265.51

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Jim Devine MP**Livingston**

Mr Devine has no issues.

Mr Parmjit Dhanda MP**Gloucester**

Mr Dhanda was overpaid for mortgage interest by a total of £2,208.28 (2005-06 by £256.36; 2006-07 by £1,043.35; and 2008-09 by £908.57).

Total repayment recommended: £2,208.28

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,208.28

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Andrew Dismore MP**Hendon**

Mr Dismore has no issues.

Mr Jonathan Djanogly MP**Huntingdon**

Mr Djanogly was paid gardening costs of £11,066.66 over the five-year period (2004-05 to 2008-09). That exceeds £1,000 a year by a total of £6,066.66.

He was also paid cleaning costs of £21,192.35 over the five-year period (2004-05 to 2008-09). That exceeds £2,000 a year by a total of £11,192.35.

He was paid £105.75 in 2007 for call-out charges for the repair of a laptop computer at a property not listed as his second home.

Total repayment recommended: £17,364.76

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £25,000.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Jim Dobbin MP**Heywood & Middleton**

Mr Dobbin has no issues.

Mr Nigel Dodds OBE MP**Belfast North**

Mr Dodds has no issues.

Mr Pat Doherty MP**West Tyrone**

Mr Doherty has no issues.

Rt Hon Jeffrey Donaldson MP**Lagan Valley**

Mr Donaldson was overpaid by £535.23 for quarterly service charges (based on a 50% share) from 2006-07 to 2008-09.

He was also paid £633.50 between April 2004 and January 2006 for room service charges in hotels, which were not allowable.

He was further paid £690 between April 2004 and December 2006 for mobile phone bills, which are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

Total repayment recommended: £1,858.73

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,858.73

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Brian Donohoe MP**Central Ayrshire**

Mr Donohoe has no issues.

Mr Frank Doran MP**Aberdeen North**

Mr Doran has no issues.

Rt Hon Stephen Dorrell MP**Charnwood**

Mr Dorrell was overpaid by a total of £1,530.16 for service charges for the period April to September 2005.

Total repayment recommended: £1,530.16

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,624.60

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Nadine V Dorries MP**Mid Bedfordshire**

Ms Dorries was paid £882.31 twice for hotel expenses in January 2007.

She was also paid £161.04 twice for internet service in April 2007.

She was further paid £271.02 twice for a telephone bill in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £1,314.37

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £1,314.37

Mr David Drew MP

Stroud

Mr Drew has no issues.

Mr James P Duddridge MP

Rochford & Southend East

Mr Duddridge was paid for council tax relating to two separate properties in the year 2006-07, with over-lapping periods. The rebate due was not offset against the second claim, resulting in an overpayment of £480.98.

Total repayment recommended: £480.98

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £480.98

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Alan Duncan MP

Rutland & Melton

Mr Duncan was paid £610 in November 2007 for electrical services carried out at both his main and second homes. In the absence of records apportioning the bill, half is attributed to the main home, on which basis he was overpaid by £305.

He was also paid £575.75 in January 2008 for a pole saw, which is not allowable under the ACA.

He was paid £194.92 in April – May 2005 for mobile phone bills, which are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

He was paid a total of £5,281 over the five years of the review period for gardening costs, thus exceeding the allowable maximum by a total of £281.

Total repayment recommended: £1,356.67

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,704.86

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Iain Duncan Smith MP

Chingford & Woodford Green

Mr Duncan Smith has no issues.

Mr Philip Dunne MP**Ludlow**

Mr Dunne did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr Mark Durkan MP**Foyle**

Mr Durkan has no issues.

Ms Angela Eagle MP**Wallasey**

Ms Eagle has no issues.

Ms Maria Eagle MP**Liverpool Garston**

Ms Eagle has no issues.

Mrs Louise Ellman MP**Liverpool Riverside**

Mrs Ellman was overpaid by £278 for mortgage interest for February to November 2006.

She was also overpaid a total of £1,132.15 during the years 2004-05 to 2007-08 for council tax, by reason of direct debits covering the whole year which were not collected in February and March (excepting March 2007).

Total repayment recommended: £1,410.15

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,573.15

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Tobias Ellwood MP**Bournemouth East**

Mr Ellwood was overpaid by £940.98 for mortgage interest during 2005-06.

Total repayment recommended: £940.98

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £940.98

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Natascha Engel MP**North East Derbyshire**

Ms Engel was overpaid by £1,339.25 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

She was also overpaid £595 in 2005-06 for an unreturned deposit.

Total repayment recommended: £1,934.25

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,934.25

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Jeffrey Ennis MP**Barnsley East & Mexborough**

Mr Ennis has no issues.

Mr William Etherington MP**Sunderland North**

Mr Etherington was overpaid by a total of £434.71 for mortgage interest for the period January - March 2009.

Total repayment recommended: £434.71

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £434.71

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Nigel Evans MP**Ribble Valley**

Mr Evans received a total of £858.33 in duplicate payments for service charge and ground rent in 2004-05 and 2005-06.

Total repayment recommended: £858.33

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £858.33

Mr David Evennett MP**Bexleyheath & Crayford**

Mr Evennett did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr Michael Fabricant MP**Lichfield**

Mr Fabricant has no issues.

Mr Michael Fallon MP**Sevenoaks**

Mr Fallon was paid a total of £7,700 for cleaning costs for the financial years 2004-05 to 2006-07 (£2,250, £3,000 and £2,450 respectively). That exceeds the maximum allowable of £2,000 a year by a total of £1,700.

He was also paid £300 twice in October and November 2004 for service charges.

Total repayment recommended: £2,000.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,000.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Paul Farrelly MP**Newcastle-under-Lyme**

Mr Farrelly was paid £123.93 twice for his BT phone bill in 2008.

Total repayment recommended: £123.93

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £123.93

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Tim Farron MP**Westmorland & Lonsdale**

In June 2008 Mr Farron was paid £235.00 for removal costs from his second home in London to his main home in Cumbria. In the circumstances this expenditure was unnecessary.

Total repayment recommended: £235.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £235.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Lynne Featherstone MP**Hornsey & Wood Green**

Ms Featherstone did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Rt Hon Frank Field MP

Birkenhead

Mr Field was paid a total of £19,885 over the five years of the review period for the services of a housekeeper, cleaning and gardening. No other MP is known to have claimed in this form, and the detailed content of the resulting payments is not easy to allocate to recognised headings. Mr Field has provided examples, from which it would appear that some of the housekeeping services involved were clearly allowable; some consisted of further cleaning and garden maintenance, and were thus allowable up to defined limits; some were clearly not allowable; and some were arguable either way. The proportions of these various elements are not clear. In the unusual circumstances, I recommend what is admittedly a rough-and-ready solution. This is to take Mr Field's total claim (£19,885), give him the full benefit of the annual cleaning and garden maintenance allowances (£15,000), and then allow one half of the remainder (£4,885) as valid and regard the other half as invalid. On this basis, Mr Field would be treated as having been overpaid by £2,442.50.

He was also paid £800 for petty cash and household sundries from July to December 2004. From June to December 2005 he was paid a further £1,000 in unspecified incidental costs and sundry expenses. Petty cash in any form is not payable under the ACA, so under this head he was overpaid a total of £1,800.

He was also paid a total of £228.55 for three BT bills which did not relate to his second home address: £80.79 in December 2004; £75.35 in April 2007 and £72.41 in August 2007.

He was further paid twice for the following items: electricity, £19.58, in September 2004 and November 2004; gas, £17.41, in September 2004 and November 2004; clock radio, £79.95, in May 2007 and August 2007 (total overpayment £116.94).

Total repayment recommended: £4,587.99

Reduced on appeal by: £428.55

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,159.44

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Mark Fisher MP

Stoke-on-Trent Central

Mr Fisher has no issues.

Mr Robert Flelo MP

Stoke-on-Trent South

Mr Flelo was paid an extra month's rent of £1,200 in 2005-06 (duplicate payment for June 2005).

Total repayment recommended: £1,200.00

Reduced on appeal by: £1,200.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Caroline Flint MP

Don Valley

Ms Flint was paid £572 for a washing machine in July 2004, which exceeded the guideline price by £187.

She was also paid £385 twice, in May and June 2005, for tree services.

Total repayment recommended: £572.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £734.15

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Paul Flynn MP

Newport West

Mr Flynn was overpaid a total of £2,625.61 for mortgage interest (£404.49 for 2004-05, £499.09 for 2005-06, £53.89 for 2006-07, £1,487.99 for 2007-08 and £180.15 for 2008-09). This total includes a duplicate payment for £1,359.52 covering April to June 2007.

Total repayment recommended: £2,625.61

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,066.48

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Barbara Follett MP

Ms Follett was paid a total of £34,776.30 from April 2004 to November 2008 for mobile security patrols at her second home. This went beyond the Green Book provisions limiting claims to 'basic security measures'.

She was also paid a total of £8,908.36 for six telephone lines at her second home between April 2004 and November 2008. The number of lines and the amount claimed are excessive, and half the allowance, i.e. £4,454.18, should be repaid.

Ms Follett was further overpaid by an estimated £2,812.95 in 2004-05 - 2006-07 for an additional household insurance premium for fine art, which is not allowable.

She was also paid £221 twice for boiler insurance in June 2004 and again in August 2004.

She was also paid £193.78 for pest control in April-June 2006 for an address other than her second home.

Total repayment recommended: £42,458.21

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £32,976.17

Balance recommended to be repaid: £9,482.04

Mr Don Foster MP**Bath**

In August 2005, Mr Foster took out an additional mortgage on his second home for a purpose not allowable under the ACA. As a result, he was overpaid a total of £3,557.02 for mortgage interest.

He was also overpaid by a total of £193.72 for mortgage interest for April - June 2007.

He was further paid £525 twice in 2008-09 for mortgage and term variation fees.

Total repayment recommended: £4,275.74

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £4,275.74

Mr Michael Jabez Foster DL MP**Hastings & Rye**

Mr was overpaid by £515.76 for mortgage interest during the period April and May 2005 when Parliament was dissolved.

Total repayment recommended: £515.76

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £515.76

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Michael John Foster MP**Worcester**

Mr Foster was overpaid by a total of £438.71 for mortgage interest in 2004-05.

Total repayment recommended: £438.71

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £466.25

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Dr Liam Fox MP**Woodspring**

Dr Fox was overpaid by a total of £22,476.03 for mortgage interest (£2,045.17 in 2004-05, £6,004.93 in 2005-06, £4,673.25 in 2006-07, £4,223.70 in 2007-08 and £5,528.97 in 2008-09).

He was paid £762.42 twice for service charges in September 2006.

He was further paid £125 twice for service charges in July 2007.

He was paid a total of £1,514.82 twice for expenses in November 2008 (£1,248.41 for mortgage interest, £71 for utilities; £159 for council tax and £36.41 for insurance).

Total repayment recommended: £24,878.27
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £24,878.27
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Dr Hywel Francis MP

Aberavon

Dr Francis was overpaid by a total of £618.05 for food in 2004-05.

Total repayment recommended: £618.05
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £618.05
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Mark Francois MP

Rayleigh

Mr Francois has no issues.

Mr Christopher Fraser MP

South West Norfolk

Mr Fraser's rent payments were not reduced for dissolution during May 2005, resulting in an overpayment of £193.55.

Total repayment recommended: £193.55
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £251.55
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Roger Gale MP

North Thanet

Mr Gale was paid a total of £2,098.47 for office mobile phone bills between April 2004 and June 2005. Mobile phone costs are not allowed under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

He was also paid 13 times for rent in 2008-09. The March claim for £354 covered a payment for rent in April 2009, which should have been paid in the following financial year.

Total repayment recommended: £2,452.47
Reduced on appeal by: £2,452.47
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr George Galloway MP

Bethnal Green & Bow

Mr Galloway was paid £3,187.28 for mobile phone charges for April to November 2004. Mobile phone bills are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

Total repayment recommended: £3,187.28
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,187.28
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Mike Gapes MP

Ilford South

Mr Gapes was paid £186.89 for council tax in April 2004, relating to a period in the previous financial year (21 November 2003 – 31 March 2004). This was not an allowable expense for 2004-05.

Total repayment recommended: £186.89
Reduced on appeal by: £186.49
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.40
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Barry Gardiner MP

Brent North

Mr Gardiner was overpaid by £174.17 for mortgage interest in 2005-06 (claim not reduced for dissolution).

Total repayment recommended: £174.17
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £15,404.07
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Edward Garnier QC MP

Harborough

Mr Garnier was paid £1,920 for gardening in 2005-06. This exceeded £1,000 a year by £920.

He was also overpaid by a total of £301.68 for rent in 2006-07 (£295.68) and 2008-09 (£6.00).

Total repayment recommended: £1,221.68
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £1,221.68

Mr David Gauke MP**South West Hertfordshire**

Mr Gauke has no issues.

Mr Andrew George MP**St Ives**

Mr George was paid £1,397.34 twice for hotel costs for May 2005.

He was overpaid by a total of £159.44 for food during 2004-05 and 2005-06.

He was also overpaid by £233.83 for hotel costs for June 2006.

He was further overpaid by £694.44 for council tax in 2008-09, the amount of a rebate which should have been claimed.

He was also overpaid by a total of £1,695.12 for mortgage interest in 2008-09, as a result of two monthly claims being duplicated.

He was overpaid by a total of £168.08 in 2008-09, through duplicate payments of telephone and electricity costs.

Total repayment recommended: £4,348.25

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,160.41

Balance recommended to be repaid: £1,187.84

Rt Hon Bruce George MP**Walsall South**

Mr George has no issues.

Mr Neil Gerrard MP**Walthamstow**

Mr Gerrard did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr Nicolas Gibb MP**Bognor Regis & Littlehampton**

Mr Gibb was overpaid by a total of £780.83 for mortgage interest (2004-05 by £332.95; 2005-06 by £55.73; and 2006-07 by £392.15).

Total repayment recommended: £780.83

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £780.83

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Sandra Gidley MP**Romsey**

Ms Gidley has no issues.

Ms Michelle Gildernew MP**Fermanagh & South Tyrone**

Ms Gildernew has no issues.

Mrs Cheryl Gillan MP**Chesham & Amersham**

Mrs Gillan was overpaid by £434.98 for mortgage interest in 2006-07 and £1,449.25 in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £1,884.23

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,888.70

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mrs Linda Gilroy MP**Plymouth Sutton**

Mrs Gilroy was overpaid for rent by £751 in 2005-06.

She was also overpaid by £480 for council tax in 2005-06.

She was further paid £1,748.33 twice in September and November 2007.

Total repayment recommended: £2,979.33

Reduced on appeal by: £1,842.45

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,510.88

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Roger Godsiff MP**Birmingham Sparkbrook & Small Heath**

Mr Godsiff was overpaid by a total of £2,224.30 for mortgage interest in 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £2,224.30

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £2,224.30

Mr Paul Goggins MP**Wythenshawe & Sale East**

Mr Goggins was paid £2,826 for a suite of furniture on 21 January 2006. This exceeded the guideline price of £2,200 by £626.

He was also overpaid by a total of £449.31 for mortgage interest: £170.92 in 2004-05 and £279.01 in 2005-06.

Total repayment recommended: £1,075.93

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £21,307.15

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mrs Julia Goldsworthy MP

Falmouth & Camborne

Mrs Goldsworthy was overpaid by £171.32 for mortgage interest in 2005-06.

Total repayment recommended: £171.32

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,176.32

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Helen Goodman MP

Bishop Auckland

Ms Goodman has no issues.

Mr Paul Goodman MP

Wycombe

Mr Goodman was overpaid by a total of £2,318.90 for mortgage interest (£572.57 in 2005-06, £3.04 in 2006-07, £122.93 in 2007-08 and £1,620.36 in 2008-09).

He was also paid a total of £1,310.17 in 2004-05 for mobile phone bills, which are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

He was also overpaid by £252 for council tax in 2006-07 (payment for 12 instalments when only ten required).

Total repayment recommended: £3,881.07

Reduced on appeal by: £3,881.07

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Robert Goodwill MP

Scarborough & Whitby

Mr Goodwill has no issues.

Mr Michael Gove MP

Surrey Heath

Mr Gove has no issues.

Mr James Gray MP**North Wiltshire**

Mr Gray was paid £687.35 for newspapers during April 2004 to March 2007. These are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

He was also overpaid by a total of £1,055.56 for rent (£638.10 in 2005-06 and £417.46 in 2006-07).

Total repayment recommended: £1,742.91

Reduced on appeal by: £1,418.07

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £324.84

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Chris Grayling MP**Epsom & Ewell**

Mr Grayling was overpaid by a total of £136.59 for mortgage interest (£34.04 in 2004-05; £61.54 in 2005-06; and £41.01 in 2006-07).

Total repayment recommended: £136.59

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £6,226.02

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Damian Green MP**Ashford**

Mr Green was overpaid by a total of £902.14 for mortgage interest (£143.03 in 2004-05 and £759.11 in 2008-09).

He was also paid cleaning costs totalling £5,200 for 2007-08 and 2008-09, exceeding the allowable maximum by £1,200.

Total repayment recommended: £2,102.14

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,102.14

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr John Greenway MP**Ryedale**

Mr Greenway was paid a total of £537.47 for garden plants in the period April 2004 to June 2005, and also in February 2009. These are not an allowable expense under the Green Book rules.

Total repayment recommended: £537.47

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £537.47

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Dominic Grieve MP**Beaconsfield**

Mr Grieve has no issues.

Ms Nia Griffith MP**Llanelli**

Ms Griffith was overpaid by a total of £4,099.77 for mortgage interest in three years (£475.89 in 2006-07; £2,248.25 in 2007-08; and £1,375.63 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £4,099.77

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,099.77

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Nigel Griffiths JP MP**Edinburgh South**

Mr Griffiths was overpaid by a total of £4,005.84 for mortgage interest (£464.51 in 2004-05; £961.38 in 2005-06; and £2,579.95 in 2006-07). Mr Griffiths' mortgage lender has acknowledged that the interest calculations they provided to the MP, and were used as the basis of his claims, contained errors. The mortgage lender is therefore arranging to reimburse the House of Commons directly for this element, which has yet to be determined.

Total repayment recommended: £4,005.84

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,005.84

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr John Grogan MP**Selby**

Mr Grogan has no issues.

Rt Hon John Gummer MP**Suffolk Coastal**

Mr Gummer was paid £612.81 in 2007-08 for repair and maintenance of a lawnmower. This was not an allowable cost.

He was also paid cleaning costs of £19,693.67 over a four-year period (£3,900 in 2004-05; £5,304.67 in 2005-06; £5,000 in 2006-07; and £5,489 in 2007-08). That exceeds the maximum allowable of £2,000 a year by a total of £11,693.67.

He was further paid for gardening costs of £21,091.98 over the same four-year period (£8,639.35 in 2004-05; £6,001.91 in 2005-06; £4,926.71 in 2006-07; and £1,524.01 in 2007-08). That exceeds the maximum allowable of £1,000 a year by a total of £17,091.98.

Total repayment recommended: £29,398.46
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £29,398.46
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Andrew Gwynne MP

Denton & Reddish

Mr Gwynne was overpaid by a total of £2,969.56 for mortgage interest (£226.73 in 2006-07; £284.50 in 2007-08; and £2,458.33 in 2008-09).

He was also paid £358 twice in 2006 for the same item of furniture.

Total repayment recommended: £3,327.56
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,327.56
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon William Hague MP

Richmond (Yorkshire)

Mr Hague was overpaid a total of £601.14 for mortgage interest (£308.91 in 2005-06 and £292.23 in 2006-07)

Total repayment recommended: £601.14
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £601.14
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Peter Hain MP

Neath

Mr Hain has no issues.

Mr Mike Hall MP

Weaver Vale

Mr Hall was paid a total of £10,364.28 during the period 2004-05 to 2007-08 for cleaning, laundry, dry cleaning and ironing. This exceeds £2,000 per year by £2,364.28.

He was paid £250 per month for petty cash from April to August 2004. This is not allowable under Green Book rules.

He was also paid £250 per month for incidental expenses in September and October 2004. Incidental expenses are not allowed under the Green Book rules.

He was also paid a total of £8,789 for household sundries (variable amounts up to £250 per month during the period November 2004 to March 2008, and £24 a month for 11 months in 2008-09). No receipts were provided.

Total repayment recommended: £12,639.28
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £12,639.28

Mr Patrick Hall MP

Bedford

Mr Hall was overpaid by £266.10 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £266.10
Reduced on appeal by: £266.10
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Hamilton MP

Midlothian

Mr Hamilton was overpaid by a total of £2,595.51 for mortgage interest (£783.36 in 2004-05; £511.10 in 2005-06; £304.24 in 2006-07; and £996.81 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £2,595.51
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £2,595.51

Mr Fabian Hamilton MP

Leeds North East

Mr Hamilton was over-paid by a total of £1,693.93 for mortgage interest (£341.75 in 2004-05 and £1,352.18 in 2008-09).

Mr Hamilton was also paid £980 for the redecoration of the hall, stairs and kitchen of his second home, in February 2006, which was only two months before he completed the purchase of a new second home.

He was also paid £7,060.81 twice on duplicate claims in April and May 2006 which included the cost of a new kitchen installation and a bed.

Total repayment recommended: £9,734.74
Reduced on appeal by: £3,186.59
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £6,548.15
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Philip Hammond MP

Runnymede & Weybridge

Mr Hammond has no issues.

Mr Stephen Hammond MP

Wimbledon

Mr Hammond did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr Mike Hancock MP**Portsmouth South**

Mr Hancock was overpaid a total of £2,674.26 for mortgage interest in 2005-06 to 2008-09 (£89.95 in 2005-06; £447.66 in 2006-07; £669.49 in 2007-08; and £1,467.16 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £2,674.26

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,674.26

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Hanson MP**Delyn**

Mr Hanson has no issues.

Mr Mark Harper MP**Forest of Dean**

Mr Harper has no issues.

Dr Evan Harris MP**Oxford West & Abingdon**

Dr Harris has no issues.

Mr Tom Harris MP**Glasgow South**

Mr Harris has no issues.

Mr Nicholas Harvey MP**North Devon**

Mr Harvey has no issues.

Rt Hon Sir Alan Haselhurst MP**Saffron Walden**

Sir Alan was paid gardening expenses of £13,358.81 for the five-year period of the review, thus exceeding the allowable maximum of £1,000 a year by £8,358.81.

He was also paid cleaning costs of £11,321.00 for the period 2004-05 to 2007-08, thus exceeding the allowable maximum of £2,000 a year by £3,321.00.

Total repayment recommended: £11,679.81

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £14,574.82

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Dai Havard MP**Merthyr Tydfil & Rhymney**

Mr Havard has no issues.

Mr John Hayes MP**South Holland & The Deepings**

Mr Hayes has no issues.

Mrs Sylvia Heal MP**Halesowen & Rowley Regis**

Mrs Heal has no issues.

Mr Oliver Heald MP**North East Hertfordshire**

Mr Heald has no issues.

Mr John Healey MP**Wentworth**

Mr Healey was overpaid by a total of £2,354.35 for mortgage interest (£460.00 in 2004-05; £359.49 in 2005-06; £447.65 in 2006-07; £639.50 in 2007-08; and £447.72 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £2,354.35

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,354.35

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Heath MP**Somerton & Frome**

Mr Heath has no issues.

Rt Hon David Heathcoat-Amory MP**Wells**

Mr Heathcoat-Amory was paid cleaning costs of £12,995.35 over the five years of the review period. That exceeded £2,000 a year by a total of £2,995.35.

He was also paid a total of £30,696.58 for gardening during the four years 2004-05 to 2007-08. This exceeded £1,000 a year by £26,696.58.

Total repayment recommended: £29,691.93

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £29,691.93

Mr John Hemming MP**Birmingham Yardley**

Mr Hemming has no issues.

Mr Douglas Henderson MP**Newcastle upon Tyne North**

Mr Henderson has no issues.

Mr Mark Hendrick MP**Preston**

Mr Hendrick was overpaid by a net total of £2,117.83 for mortgage interest over the review period.

He was also paid £3,868.87 for replacement doors and window frames in March 2007, one month before changing the designation of his second home to his constituency address, which appears an unnecessary use of the allowance.

Mr Hendrick was also overpaid by a total of £899 in August 2004 for a dining table and a wardrobe, which exceeded guideline prices.

Total repayment recommended: £6,885.70

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £9,003.53

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Charles Hendry MP**Wealden**

Mr Hendry was paid combined cleaning and gardening costs of £3,223.26 in 2005-06, thus exceeding the combined allowable maximum of £3,000 a year by a total of £223.26.

Total repayment recommended: £223.26

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £473.18

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Stephen Hepburn MP**Jarrow**

Mr Hepburn was overpaid by a total of £2,321.44 for mortgage interest (2005-06 by £891.31; 2006-07 by £358.39; and 2007-08 by £1,071.74).

Total repayment recommended: £2,321.44

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,321.44

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr John Heppell MP**Nottingham East**

Mr Heppell has no issues.

Mr Nick Herbert MP**Arundel & South Downs**

Mr Herbert was over-paid by a total of £988.95 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £988.95

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £988.95

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Lady Sylvia Hermon MP**North Down**

Lady Hermon has no issues.

Mr Stephen Hesford MP**Wirral West**

Mr Hesford was overpaid by a total of £4,256.91 for mortgage interest between 2005 and 2009.

Total repayment recommended: £4,256.91

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,256.91

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Patricia Hewitt MP**Leicester West**

Ms Hewitt has no issues.

Mr David Heyes MP**Ashton under Lyne**

Mr Heyes has no issues.

Mr Mark Hoban MP**Fareham**

Mr Hoban was overpaid by £93.94 in January 2005 for a washing machine which exceeded the guideline price of £385.

He was also paid £150 twice for food in April 2004.

He was also overpaid by £165 for a bookshelf in 2006 which exceeded the guideline price of £220.

Total repayment recommended: £408.94

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £613.10

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Margaret Hodge MBE MP

Barking

Mrs Hodge did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mrs Sharon Hodgson MP

Gateshead East & Washington West

Mrs Hodgson has no issues.

Rt Hon Douglas Hogg QC MP

Sleaford & North Hykeham

Mr Hogg was overpaid by a total of £20,639.42 during the five year period (£4,925.81 in 2004-05; £9,348.81 in 2005-06; £1,404.26 in 2006-07; and £4,960.54 in 2007-08).

This arose because Mr Hogg claimed, and was paid, one twelfth of the annual ACA allowance each month, relying on a list of expenses associated with his second home. The total cost of these exceeded the annual maximum allowance in every year, and the list of expenses included numerous items that were not allowable, including expenses for a housekeeper, a gardener, utilities and repair work for other buildings within the grounds of Mr Hogg's second home.

In May 2009, Mr Hogg repaid £2,200 that he had received for moat cleaning, but this was in respect of the year 2003-04, before the review period began.

Total repayment recommended: £20,639.42

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £20,639.42

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Phillip Hollobone MP

Kettering

Mr Hollobone was overpaid by £1,115.83 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £1,115.83

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,115.83

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Adam Holloway MP**Gravesham**

Mr Holloway was paid £271.98 twice in 2007-08 for water rates.

He was also paid £1,011.75 in excess of his council tax liability for the financial year 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £1,283.73

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,332.73

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Paul Holmes MP**Chesterfield**

Mr Holmes was paid £920 for a wardrobe in July 2007, which was £150 above the guideline price.

Total repayment recommended: £150.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £150.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr James Hood MP**Lanark & Hamilton East**

Mr Hood was overpaid a total of £1,185 in 2006-07 (for the following items: £400 for food, £80 for utilities, £75 for council tax, £100 for telephone and telecommunications, £200 for cleaning, £200 for service/maintenance and £130 for repairs, insurance, security).

He was also overpaid by a total of £3,783.35 for mortgage interest (£2,434.46 in 2004-05 and £1,348.89 in 2005-06).

He was further overpaid by £445.14 for mortgage interest in 2006-07.

Total repayment recommended: £5,413.49

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,783.35

Balance recommended to be repaid: £1,630.14

Rt Hon Geoffrey Hoon MP**Ashfield**

Mr Hoon was overpaid by £1,013.13 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

He was also paid £138.29 twice for a gas bill, also in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £1,151.42

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £383.76

Balance recommended to be repaid: £767.66

Mr Phil Hope MP**Corby**

Mr Hope was overpaid by a total of £1,431.64 for mortgage interest (£158.50 in 2004-05, £319.03 in 2005-06 and £954.12 in 2006-07).

He was paid a total of £447.95 during the period June 2004-June 2005 for gardening equipment items and a barbecue, which are not allowable under the Green Book rules.

He was also paid £116.99 in April 2006 for an electric razor, which is also not allowable.

He was paid £4,769.07 in 2007-08 for wooden flooring and fitting, which exceeded the guideline price of £2,400 by £2,369.07.

Total repayment recommended: £4,365.65

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £42,674.13

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Kelvin Hopkins MP**Luton North**

Mr Hopkins has no issues.

Mr John Horam MP**Orpington**

Mr Horam has no issues.

Mr Martin Horwood MP**Cheltenham**

Mr Horwood has no issues.

Mr Stewart . MP**Dundee East**

Mr Hosie was paid £379.45 in February 2009 for staying in a hotel when his home was flooded. This cost should have been reclaimed from the insurance company.

Total repayment recommended: £379.45

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £379.45

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Michael Howard QC MP**Folkestone & Hythe**

Mr Howard was paid a total of £18,058.45 over the five year period for the costs of employing a gardening company. The company has stated that one-third of the work related to maintenance of the house, resulting in a gardening cost of £12,039. That exceeds £1,000 a year by a total of £7,039.

Total repayment recommended: £7,039.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £7,039.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Howarth MP**Cambridge**

Mr Howarth did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr George Howarth MP**Knowsley North & Sefton East**

Mr Howarth has no issues.

Mr Gerald Howarth MP**Aldershot**

Mr Howarth was paid a total of £1,894 for gardening in 2004-05, exceeding the maximum of £1,000 by £894.

He was also paid a total of £284 for a barbecue and garden chairs in 2004, and for garden furniture in 2005. These items are not allowable under Green Book rules.

Total repayment recommended: £1,178.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,178.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr John Howell OBE MP**Henley**

Mr Howell has no issues.

Rt Hon Kim Howells MP**Pontypridd**

Dr Howells was overpaid by a total of £665.11 for mortgage interest (£144.78 in 2006-07, £399.68 in 2007-08 and £120.65 in 2008-09).

He was also overpaid by a total of £288 for gas bills in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £953.11
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £294.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £659.11

The Hon Lindsay Hoyle MP

Chorley

Mr Hoyle has no issues.

Rt Hon Beverley Hughes MP

Stretford & Urmston

Ms Hughes has no issues.

Mr Christopher Huhne MP

Eastleigh

Mr Huhne was paid gardening costs of £1,975.80 for the year 2008-09. This exceeds £1,000 a year by £975.80.

He was paid twice for the following items: £117.50 for gardening services in June 2006 and again in August 2006; and £58.75 for gardening services in August 2006 and again in September 2006. This resulted in a total overpayment of £176.25.

Total repayment recommended: £1,152.05
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,152.05
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mrs Joan Humble MP

Blackpool North & Fleetwood

Mrs Humble has no issues.

Mr Jeremy Hunt MP

South West Surrey

Mr Hunt has no issues.

Mr Mark Hunter MP

Cheadle

Mr Hunter has no issues.

Mr Nicholas Hurd MP

Ruislip Northwood

Mr Hurd did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Rt Hon John Hutton MP**Barrow & Furness**

Mr Hutton was paid £1,568.09 for gardening costs in 2008-09, exceeding the allowable maximum by £568.09.

Total repayment recommended: £568.09

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £568.09

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Dr Brian Iddon MP**Bolton South East**

Dr Iddon has no issues.

Mr Eric Illsley MP**Barnsley Central**

Mr Illsley has no issues.

Rt Hon Adam Ingram MP**East Kilbride, Strathaven & Lesmahagow**

Mr Ingram has no issues.

Mr Huw Irranca-Davies MP**Ogmore**

Mr Irranca-Davies was overpaid by a total of £2,008.19 for mortgage interest (2004-05 by £1,441.35; 2005-06 by £43.11; 2006-07 by £233.66; 2007-08 by £30.87; and 2008-09 by £259.20).

Total repayment recommended: £2,008.19

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,750.27

Balance recommended to be repaid: £257.92

Rt Hon Michael Jack MP**Fylde**

Mr Jack was overpaid by a total of £832.74 for council tax in 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2007-08.

He was also paid £1,200 for a fridge freezer in 2008. This exceeded the guideline price of £605 by a total of £595.

Total repayment recommended: £1,427.74

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,694.34

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Stewart Jackson MP**Peterborough**

Mr Jackson was paid £304.10 for swimming pool maintenance in July 2006. This is not allowable under the ACA.

Total repayment recommended: £304.10

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,277.10

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Sian James MP**Swansea East**

Ms James was paid £1,150 for council tax in 2006-07. She moved her second home in the period, but the supporting evidence shows that the total annual charge was £869. In 2007-08, she was paid £2,100 against a charge for £1,180.94 for council tax and £294.42 for water rates. She was thus overpaid a total of £905.64.

She was overpaid by £200 for rent in November and December 2008.

Total repayment recommended: £1,105.64

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,105.64

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Hon Bernard Jenkin MP**North Essex**

Mr Jenkin was paid £63,250 over the review period to rent his second home from his sister-in-law. This was a conflicted transaction.

Total repayment recommended: £63,250.00

Reduced on appeal by: £27,000.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £36,909.17

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Brian Jenkins MP**Tamworth**

Mr Jenkins was overpaid £484.85 for mortgage interest in 2004-05.

Total repayment recommended: £484.85

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £484.85

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Alan Johnson MP**Hull West & Hessle**

Mr Johnson has no issues.

Ms Diana Johnson MP**Hull North**

Ms Johnson has no issues.

Mr David Jones MP**Clwyd West**

Mr Jones was paid twice for mortgage interest claims in November 2006 and September 2007, amounting to an overpayment of £2,056.62.

He was also paid for two items of furniture purchased in July 2005, namely a chair that exceeded the guideline price of £550 by £326, and a sofa bed that exceeded the guideline price of £1,210 by £241.38. The total excess was thus £567.38.

Total repayment recommended: £2,624.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,624.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Helen Jones MP**Warrington North**

Ms Jones was overpaid by £793.68 for mortgage interest in April 2005 (payment not reduced for dissolution).

She was also overpaid by £46.37 for mortgage interest in March 2008.

Total repayment recommended: £840.05

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £840.05

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Kevan Jones MP**North Durham**

Mr Jones has no issues.

Dr Lynne Jones MP**Birmingham Selly Oak**

Dr Jones was paid £815 twice for heating and radiator repair costs in July and August 2005.

Total repayment recommended: £815.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £815.00

Mr Martyn Jones MP**Clwyd South**

Mr Jones was over-paid by a total of £310.36 for rent (£77.02 in 2004-05 and £233.34 in 2007-08).

Total repayment recommended: £310.36

Reduced on appeal by: £310.36

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Eric Joyce MP**Falkirk**

Mr Joyce was over-paid by a total of £5,002.56 for mortgage interest (£1,645.77 in 2004-05, £1,037.59 in 2006-07 and £2,319.20 in 2007-08).

In addition Mr Joyce was paid twice for a claim of £3,000 for mortgage interest for the period November to December 2007.

He was also paid twice in the same period for council tax, cleaning and service/maintenance claims totalling £600.

Total repayment recommended: £8,602.56

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £8,602.56

Rt Hon Sir Gerald Kaufman MP**Manchester Gorton**

Sir Gerald was paid £240.95 in 2006-07 for two Waterford grapefruit bowls, purchased as replacements for breakage. This should have been claimed on household insurance, which was available under the ACA.

He was also paid £1,851.74 for a rug in 2007. This exceeded the guideline price of £330 by £1,521.74.

He was further paid £4,791.00 for cleaning and laundry for the year 2008-09. This exceeded £2,000 a year by £2,791.00.

Total repayment recommended: £4,533.69

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,533.69

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Daniel Kawczynski MP**Shrewsbury & Atcham**

Mr Kawczynski has no issues.

Ms Sally Keeble MP**Northampton North**

Ms Keeble was overpaid mortgage interest by a total of £451.45 for the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £451.45

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,189.19

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Barbara Keeley MP**Worsley**

Ms Keeley has no issues.

Mr Alan Keen MP**Feltham & Heston**

Mr Keen was paid £1,790 in 2006-07 for cleaning costs. In the same year his wife, Ann Keen MP, was paid £1,000 for cleaning costs for the same property. The total amount paid for cleaning this property in 2006-07 thus exceeded the allowable maximum by a total of £790. Mr Keen should repay half of the excess.

Total repayment recommended: £345.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £345.00

Mrs Ann Keen MP**Brentford & Isleworth**

Mrs Keen was paid £1,000 in 2006-07 for cleaning costs. In the same year her husband, Alan Keen MP, was paid £1,790 for cleaning costs for the same property. The total amount claimed for cleaning for this property in 2006-07 thus exceeded the allowable maximum by a total of £790. Mrs Keen should repay half of the excess.

Total repayment recommended: £345.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,643.71

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Paul Keetch MP**Hereford**

Mr Keetch has no issues.

Rt Hon Ruth Kelly MP**Bolton West**

Ms Kelly was overpaid by a net total of £441.47 for mortgage interest for the years 2004-05 to 2006-07 and 2008-09.

She was also paid £476.39 twice for her February 2008 claim.

She was further paid a total of £157.90 in 2008-09 for newspapers, which are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

She was also paid £631.58 in November 2008 for a mortgage arrears payment relating to 2003, which is also not allowable.

Total repayment recommended: £1,707.34

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £1,707.34

Mr Fraser Kemp MP**Houghton & Washington East**

Mr Kemp has no issues.

Rt Hon Charles Kennedy MP**Ross, Skye & Lochaber**

Mr Kennedy has no issues.

Rt Hon Jane Kennedy MP**Liverpool Wavertree**

Ms Kennedy was paid £281 for a mobile phone bill in 2004-05. Mobile phone costs are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

She was also overpaid by a total of £431.61 in 2008-09 (£151 for council tax, £90.71 for utilities; £89.90 for telephone bills; and £100 for service and maintenance).

She was also overpaid by £1,304.96 for mortgage interest in 2004-05 and by £552.26 in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £2,569.83
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,569.83
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Robert Key MP

Salisbury

Mr Key was paid for a replacement microwave and oven in March 2008. The total cost was £1,400, plus £250 for installation (including rewiring). The guideline price for a gas cooker is £770. £100 would seem a reasonable cost for a microwave. This leaves an excess of £530.

Total repayment recommended: £530.00
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £541.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Kidney MP

Stafford

Mr Kidney has no issues.

Mr Peter Kilfoyle MP

Liverpool Walton

Mr Kilfoyle was overpaid by a total of £324.16 for mortgage interest (£208.79 in 2005-06; £18.15 in 2006-07; and £97.22 in 2007-08).

Total repayment recommended: £324.16
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £324.16
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Miss Julie Kirkbride MP

Bromsgrove

Miss Kirkbride is married to another MP. She designated her constituency home as her second home, while her husband nominated it as his main home. She designated her husband's second home, a flat in London, as her main home. This meant that, between them, the couple had no main home which was not funded by the ACA. Throughout the five years of the review period, they both claimed at or close to the full allowance to support their two homes. These arrangements obtained a financial benefit for the couple which appears unintended under the Green Book rules, and as such contrary to the principles governing it. Had they made different designations, each MP might reasonably have claimed up to two-thirds of the full allowance on a shared second home. On this footing, each of them was overpaid by one-third of the maximum ACA for each year of the review period. This is £29,243.

In May 2008, Miss Kirkbride extended the mortgage on her designated second home to fund the construction of an additional bedroom, mainly for the use of her brother to provide childcare for her family. The total interest paid under the ACA to fund the additional loan was £2,584.26. As these payments were used to provide accommodation for a non-dependent family member, the transaction was conflicted.

Total repayment recommended: £31,827.26

Reduced on appeal by: £2,584.26

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £29,243.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Greg Knight MP

Yorkshire East

Mr Knight was overpaid by a total of £1,619.99 for mortgage interest (£264.09 in 2005-06; £975.89 in 2006-07; £281.56 in 2007-08; £98.45 in 2008-09).

He was also overpaid by a total of £640 for council tax for the years 2006-07 and 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £2,259.99

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,259.99

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Jim Knight MP

South Dorset

Mr Knight was overpaid by £223.50 in April 2005 (payment incorrectly reduced for dissolution).

He was also overpaid by a total of £2,657.11 for mortgage interest (£678.59 in 2007-08 and £1,755.02 in 2008-09).

Mr Knight was further paid £571.06 in August 2005 for a computer, which is not an allowable expense under the ACA, although it could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

Total repayment recommended: £3,451.67

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £3,451.67

Ms Susan Kramer MP

Richmond Park

Ms Kramer did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Dr Ashok Kumar MP**Middlesbrough South & East Cleveland**

Dr Kumar was paid for various items of furniture in July 2004, including a sofa at £1,700 and a chair at £950, which exceeded the guideline price by a total of £450.

Total repayment recommended: £450.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £450.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Dr Stephen Ladyman MP**South Thanet**

Dr Ladyman has no issues.

Mrs Eleanor Laing MP**Epping Forest**

Mrs Laing has no issues.

Ms Jacqui Lait MP**Beckenham**

Ms Lait was overpaid by a total of £622.94 for mortgage interest (£606.54 in January to March 2007, and £16.40 in 2007-08).

She has not provided sufficient evidence to support claims of £418.65 for the period January to March 2009, in default of which I must regard these payments as having been invalid. Accordingly my recommendation is that Mrs Lait should repay the whole of this sum.

Total repayment recommended: £1,041.59

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £87.67

Balance recommended to be repaid: £953.92

Mr Norman Lamb MP**North Norfolk**

Mr Lamb has no issues.

Rt Hon David Lammy MP**Tottenham**

Mr Lammy did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr Mark Lancaster MP**Milton Keynes North East**

Mr Lancaster has no issues.

Mr Andrew Lansley CBE MP**South Cambridgeshire**

Mr Lansley was paid £632.40 in August 2005 for fitted blinds and curtains shortly before he re-designated his second home. This appears unnecessary so close to the move.

He was also paid a total of £2,960 for internal and external decoration only a month before re-designating his second home, which also appears unnecessary.

He was further overpaid by a total of £607.56 for mortgage interest (£512.95 in 2005-06 and £94.61 in 2008-09).

He was also overpaid by £962.72 for mortgage interest in 2006-07, having claimed for repayments of mortgage interest on an increase in his loan for the second home to fund improvements on his main home.

Total repayment recommended: £5,162.68

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £5,301.48

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Laws MP**Yeovil**

Mr Laws has no issues.

Mr Bob Laxton MP**Derby North**

Mr Laxton has no issues.

Mr Mark Lazarowicz MP**Edinburgh North & Leith**

Mr Lazarowicz has no issues.

Mr John Leech MP**Manchester Withington**

Mr Leech has no issues.

Mr Edward Leigh MP

Gainsborough

In October 2005, Mr Leigh took out an additional mortgage for £100,000 for purposes not shown to be allowable under the ACA. As a result he was overpaid by a total of £5,025.94 for mortgage interest (£2,208.16 in 2005-06; £2,626.17 in 2006-07; and £191.61 in 2008-09).

He was also paid a total of £11,700 over the five years of the review period for cleaning costs, exceeding the allowable maximum by a total of £1,700.

Total repayment recommended: £6,725.94

Reduced on appeal by: £3,613.94

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,112.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Lepper MP

Brighton Pavilion

Mr Lepper has no issues.

Rt Hon Oliver Letwin MP

West Dorset

Mr Letwin was paid twice, in October and December 2004, for an annual charge of £155.00 for AGA maintenance.

He was paid £458.70 in March 2005 for repainting and decorating following a burst water tank. This should have been claimed on home insurance, which is available under the Green Book rules.

Total repayment recommended: £613.70

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,883.70

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Tom Levitt MP

High Peak

Mr Levitt was overpaid by a net total of £800.95 for mortgage interest between April 2004 and March 2006.

He was also paid £1,599 for a sofa bed in October 2004. This exceeded the nearest relevant guideline price of £1,210 by £389.

Total repayment recommended: £1,189.95

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £412.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £777.95

Mr Ivan Lewis MP

Bury South

Mr Lewis was paid £1,278.35 twice for mortgage interest in April 2006.

He was also paid £1,170.80 twice for internal decoration in May and June 2008.

Total repayment recommended: £2,449.15

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,449.15

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Dr Julian Lewis MP

New Forest East

Dr Lewis was overpaid by £829.85 in July 2006 for mortgage interest relating to the previous year.

He was paid £789 for a washer/drier in July 2006. This exceeded the guideline price of £550 by £239.

Total repayment recommended: £1,068.85

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,068.85

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger MP

Bridgwater

Mr Liddell-Grainger was paid £2,350 for cleaning costs in 2008-09, thus exceeding the allowable maximum by £350.

He was also over-paid by a total of £2,146.23 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £2,496.23

Reduced on appeal by: £2,146.23

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £350.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Lidington MP

Aylesbury

Mr Lidington has no issues.

Rt Hon Peter Lilley MP

Hitchin & Harpenden

Mr Lilley purchased his second home in 2003 using a loan from his wife, but since this happened before the review period I make no comment on this arrangement. In 2005, he replaced that loan with a mortgage held jointly with his wife, repaying her the original loan. Over the rest of the review period, he was paid a total of £41,057.36 for mortgage interest on this second loan. In substance, this loan appears to have released capital, which was not permitted under the ACA other than for the purpose of improving or repairing the home.

Total repayment recommended: £41,057.36

Reduced on appeal by: £41,057.36

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Tony Lloyd MP

Manchester Central

Mr Lloyd was overpaid by a total of £2,210 for rent in the years 2006-07 and 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £2,210.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,210.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Elfyn Llwyd MP

Meirionnydd Nant Conwy

Mr Llwyd was paid £279.99 twice for an air conditioning unit in 2005.

He was also paid £642.67 twice for ground rent and service charges in March and May 2007.

He was further overpaid a total of £271.94 for mortgage interest (£77.93 in 2004-05; £179.98 in 2005-06; and £14.03 in 2008-9).

Total repayment recommended: £1,194.60

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,194.60

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Sir Michael Lord MP

Central Suffolk & North Ipswich

Sir Michael was paid a total of £8,784.76 for gardening costs from March 2005 to January 2009, thus exceeding the allowable maximum by a total of £4,784.76.

He was also overpaid a total of £289.72 for mortgage interest (£173.87 in 2005-06, and £115.85 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £5,074.48
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £5,074.48

Mr Timothy Paul Loughton MP

East Worthing & Shoreham

Mr Loughton was overpaid £1,070.94 for mortgage interest in 2006-07.

He was also overpaid £107.94 for the servicing of his boiler in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £1,178.88
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,178.88
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Andrew Love MP

Edmonton

Mr Love was overpaid for mortgage interest by £736.70 in 2004-05 and 2005-06.

Total repayment recommended: £736.70
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £736.70
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Ian Lucas MP

Wrexham

Mr Lucas has no issues.

Mr Peter Luff MP

Mid Worcestershire

Mr Luff had a complex offset mortgage arrangement from April 2004 until March 2007, covering mortgages for his main and second home, offset by personal savings. In these circumstances, the amounts he received under the ACA have been compared with the amounts he actually paid to his mortgagee in respect of the second home. On this footing, he was overpaid by a total of £1,391.57 in two years of the review period (£424.54 in 2005-06, and £967.03 in 2006-07).

He was also overpaid by £255 for cleaning in 2004-05.

He was also overpaid by £523.77 for various kitchen accessories and china in January 2008.

Total repayment recommended: £2,170.34
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,868.23
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Andrew Mackay MP

Bracknell

Mr Mackay is married to another MP. He designated his London flat as his second home, while his wife nominated it as her main home. He designated his constituency home as his main home while his wife nominated it as her second home. This meant that, between them, the couple had no main home which was not funded by the ACA. Throughout the five years of the review period, they both claimed at or close to the full allowance to support their two homes. These arrangements obtained a financial benefit for the couple which appears unintended under the Green Book rules, and as such contrary to the principles governing it. Had they made different designations, each MP might reasonably have claimed up to two-thirds of the full allowance on a shared second home. On this footing, each of them was overpaid by one-third of the maximum ACA for each year of the review period. This is £29,243.

He was also paid £9,950 for cleaning over the four years 2004-05 to 2007-08, thus exceeding the allowable maximum by a total of £1,950.

Total repayment recommended: £31,193.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £31,193.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Andrew MacKinlay MP

Thurrock

Mr MacKinlay was overpaid by a total of £792.34 for rental between December 2004 and October 2005.

Total repayment recommended: £792.34

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £816.77

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon David MacLean MP

Penrith & The Border

Mr MacLean has no issues.

Mr Angus MacNeil MP

Na h-Eileanan An Iar

Mr MacNeil was overpaid by £133 for council tax in 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £133.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £133.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Denis MacShane MP

Rotherham

Dr MacShane was paid cleaning costs totalling £7,354.34 (£3,000.00 in 2004-05; £2,341.34 in 2005-06; and £2,013.00 in 2007-08). This exceeded £2,000 a year by £1,354.34.

In September and October 2008, he was paid £153.39 for gas without providing sufficient evidence to show that this was a cost incurred at his second home, since the only address on the bill related to his main home.

He should also provide mortgage interest statements to support payments totalling £6,001.34 for the period April 2004 to January 2006. I recommend that he should be allowed until 1 March 2010 to do this. If he does not do so, then in the absence of any special or exceptional reasons to the contrary, he should repay the whole amount of the allowance involved.

Total repayment recommended: £1,507.73

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,354.33

Balance recommended to be repaid: £153.40

Ms Fiona Mactaggart MP

Slough

Ms Mactaggart has no issues.

Mr Khalid Mahmood MP

Birmingham Perry Barr

Mr Mahmood was overpaid by £211.30 for mortgage interest in April - September 2004. During April - July 2005, he was also overpaid by a total of £332.91 for rent.

Total repayment recommended: £544.21

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £544.21

Ms Anne Main MP

St Albans

Ms Main was overpaid by a total £925.00 for rent from June 2005 to October 2006.

She was also paid £463.59 twice for service charges for the half year January - June 2007.

Total repayment recommended: £1,388.59

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,788.49

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Shahid Malik MP**Dewsbury**

Mr Malik was paid £1,050 for a television in February 2006. This exceeded the guideline price of £825 by £225.

He was overpaid by a total of £935.56 for council tax (£284.47 in 2005-06, £586.09 in 2006-07 and £65.00 in summons costs, which are not allowable under Green Book rules).

He was also paid £730 for an armchair in September 2007, exceeding the guideline price of £550 by a total of £180.

Total repayment recommended: £1,340.56

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,304.43

Balance recommended to be repaid: £36.14

Mr Humfrey Malins CBE MP**Woking**

Mr Malins was overpaid by a total of £1,039.46 for mortgage interest (£17.70 in 2004-05; £369.83 in 2005-06; £22.94 in 2006-07; £138.79 in 2007-08; and £490.20 in 2008-09).

He was also overpaid by £289.76 for council tax in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £1,329.22

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £9,954.39

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Judy Mallaber MP**Amber Valley**

Ms Mallaber has no issues.

Mr John Mann MP**Bassetlaw**

Mr Mann has no issues.

Mr John Maples MP**Stratford-on-Avon**

Mr Maples has no issues.

Mr Rob Marris MP**Wolverhampton South West**

Mr Marris was overpaid by a total of £1,153.98 for mortgage interest (£253.06 in 2004-05; £287.47 in 2005-06; £253.06 in 2006-07; £170.41 in 2007-08; £189.78 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £1,153.98

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,600.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Gordon Marsden MP**Blackpool South**

Mr Marsden was paid £1,135.40 in 2004-05 for mobile phone costs, which are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

Total repayment recommended: £1,135.40

Reduced on appeal by: £1,135.40

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Robert Marshall-Andrews QC MP**Medway**

Mr Marshall-Andrews was overpaid by £231 for council tax in 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £231.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £231.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Eric Martlew MP**Carlisle**

Mr Martlew has no issues.

Mr John Mason MP**Glasgow East**

Mr Mason has no issues.

Rt Hon Michael Mates MP**East Hampshire**

Mr Mates has no issues.

Rt Hon Francis Maude MP**Horsham**

Mr Maude has no issues.

Rt Hon Theresa May MP**Maidenhead**

Mrs May has no issues.

Rt Hon Thomas McAvoy MP**Rutherglen & Hamilton West**

Mr McAvoy has no issues.

Mr Steve McCabe MP**Birmingham Hall Green**

Mr McCabe has no issues.

Ms Christine McCafferty MP**Calder Valley**

Ms McCafferty was overpaid by a total of £818.81 for mortgage interest for 2004-05 and April - May 2005.

She was also paid £1,481.00 in February 2008 for a fitted wardrobe, which exceeded the guideline price of £770.00 by £711.00.

Total repayment recommended: £1,529.81

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,666.95

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Kerry McCarthy MP**Bristol East**

Ms McCarthy has no issues.

Ms Sarah McCarthy-Fry MP**Portsmouth North**

Ms McCarthy-Fry was overpaid by £134.01 for cleaning costs in 2007-08, being her share of the excess over the allowable maximum for a second home shared with two other MPs.

Total repayment recommended: £134.01

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £134.01

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Ian McCartney MP**Makerfield**

Mr McCartney has no issues.

Dr William McCrea MP**South Antrim**

Dr McCrea was overpaid by a total of £661.21 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

He was also paid £139.50 twice for a TV licence in 2008-09.

He was also paid £4,694.12 for bedroom furniture in 2006, exceeding the guideline price of £1,540 by £3,154.12.

He was further overpaid a total of £496.12 for service charges in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £4,450.95

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £5,329.74

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Siobhain McDonagh MP**Mitcham & Morden**

Ms McDonagh did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Dr Alasdair McDonnell MP**Belfast South**

Dr McDonnell has no issues.

Mr John McDonnell MP**Hayes & Harlington**

Mr McDonnell did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr Patrick McFadden MP**Wolverhampton South East**

Mr McFadden has no issues.

Rt Hon John McFall MP**West Dunbartonshire**

Mr McFall has no issues.

Mr James McGovern MP**Dundee West**

Mr McGovern was overpaid by £266.54 in December 2005 for various items of furnishings and hardware.

Total repayment recommended: £266.54

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £794.10

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Edward McGrady MP**South Down**

Mr McGrady stayed in hotels during the review period. During that time he was paid a total of £3,854.00 for sundry items and utility bills which were not allowable under the Green Book rules.

Total repayment recommended: £3,854.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,854.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Martin McGuinness MP**Mid Ulster**

Mr McGuinness was mistakenly paid £3,000 twice for rent covering the period July to August 2006.

Total repayment recommended: £3,000.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,000.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Anne McGuire MP**Stirling**

Mrs McGuire has no issues.

Miss Anne McIntosh MP**Vale of York**

Miss McIntosh was paid a total of £4,948 for gardening costs over four years of the review period. That exceeded the maximum allowable by £948.

Total repayment recommended: £948.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £948.00

Ms Shona McIsaac MP**Cleethorpes**

Ms McIsaac has no issues.

Miss Ann McKechin MP**Glasgow North**

Miss McKechin has no issues.

Mrs Rosemary McKenna CBE MP**Cumbernauld, Kilsyth & Kirkintilloch East**

Mrs McKenna was overpaid by a total of £3,008.93 for rent (2005-06 by £1,195.85 and 2007-08 by £1,813.08).

Total repayment recommended: £3,008.93

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,008.93

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP**West Derbyshire**

Mr McLoughlin was paid cleaning costs totalling £13,136.67 over the five-year review period, exceeding the allowable maximum of £2,000 a year by a total of £3,136.67.

He was also overpaid a total of £921.87 for mortgage interest over the review period (£168.79 in 2004-05; £126.70 in 2005-06; £245.74 in 2006-07; £180.00 in 2007-08 and £200.64 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £4,058.54

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,058.54

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Anthony McNulty MP**Harrow East**

Mr McNulty has no issues.

Rt Hon Michael Meacher OBE MP**Oldham West & Royton**

Mr Meacher was overpaid by a total of £447.62 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £447.62

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,034.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Alan Meale MP

Mansfield

Mr Meale was paid a total of £1,527.14 for mobile telephone charges (£212.87 in June 2004; £93.53 in July 2004; £144.29 in August 2004; £271.61 in October 2004; £166.24 in November 2004; £156.95 in December 2004; £85.99 in January 2005; £151.90 in February 2005; and £162.74 and £81.02 in March 2005). These were not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

He was also paid cleaning costs of £2,151.64 in 2004-05 and £2,096.82 in 2005-06. That exceeds the maximum allowable of £2,000 a year by a total of £248.46.

He was paid £390 twice, in October 2005 and March 2006, for a radiator cover.

He was paid £1,900 in March 2006 for furniture which does not appear to have been necessary.

He was paid £700 in March 2006 for garden furniture. This was not allowable under the Green Book rules.

He was paid twice, in October and December 2006, for intruder alarm annual service charges of £210.33.

He was also paid £1,367.76 for stairs and landing carpet in February 2009 at a cost of £56.99 per square metre. This exceeded the guideline price of £35 per square metre by a total of £527.76.

He was further paid gardening costs of £11,355.78 over the five year period, which exceeds the maximum allowable of £1,000 a year by a total of £6,355.78.

Total repayment recommended: £11,859.47

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £11,859.47

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Patrick Mercer OBE MP

Newark

Mr Mercer was paid £2,273.06 twice for mortgage interest in August and September 2004.

He was also overpaid by £1,099.51 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £3,372.57

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,273.06

Balance recommended to be repaid: £1,099.51

Ms Gillian Merron MP**Lincoln**

Ms Merron was overpaid by a total of £6,305.17 for mortgage interest (£3,400.13 in 2007-08, and £2,904.87 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £6,305.17

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £6,305.17

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Alun Michael MP**Cardiff South & Penarth**

Mr Michael was paid a total of £18,889.56 from 2005-06 to 2008-09 for mortgage interest on additional loans not shown to have been for an eligible purpose.

He was also overpaid by £280 for council tax in 2004-05 (payment for 12 instalments when only ten required).

Total repayment recommended: £19,169.56

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £19,169.56

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Alan Milburn MP**Darlington**

Mr Milburn was overpaid a total of £10,107.16 for mortgage interest (2004-05 by £3,480.29; 2005-06 by £3,829.18; 2006-07 by £2,713.63; and 2008-09 by £84.06).

He was also paid £133.34 twice for the service charge year-end adjustment in 2008-09.

He was further paid for council tax payments for 12-month periods (instead of 10) in each of the years 2004-05 to 2007-08. The February and March payments in those years total £1,360.

Total repayment recommended: £11,600.50

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £11,600.50

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon David Miliband MP**South Shields**

Mr Miliband was overpaid by £808.34 for mortgage interest in 2004-05.

Total repayment recommended: £808.34

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £808.24

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP**Doncaster North**

Mr Miliband has no issues.

Mr Andrew Miller MP**Ellesmere Port & Neston**

Mr Miller was overpaid by £316 for council tax costs in 2004-05.

Total repayment recommended: £316.00

Reduced on appeal by: £126.74

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £189.26

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mrs Maria Miller MP**Basingstoke**

Mrs Miller has no issues.

Ms Anne Milton MP**Guildford**

Ms Milton has no issues.

Mr Andrew Mitchell MP**Sutton Coldfield**

Mr Mitchell was overpaid by £371.17 for mortgage interest in 2007-08.

He was also overpaid by a total of £2,302.16 for council tax in 2005-06 and 2006-07.

Total repayment recommended: £2,673.33

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,673.33

Balance recommended to be repaid: 0.00

Mr Austin Mitchell MP**Great Grimsby**

Mr Mitchell was overpaid by a total of £10,627.07 for mortgage interest (£2,066.11 in 2005-06; £2,568.18 in 2007-08; and £5,992.78 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £10,627.07

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £10,627.07

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Anne Moffat MP**East Lothian**

Ms Moffat was overpaid by £1,617.09 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

She was also paid a total of £1,256.44 in 2008-09 for items that related to her main home (£152.16 for insurance, £476.09 for telephone bills and £628.19 for a Sky package).

Total repayment recommended: £2,873.53

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £2,873.53

Ms Laura Moffatt MP**Crawley**

Ms Moffatt has no issues.

Mr Christopher Mole MP**Ipswich**

Mr Mole has no issues.

Mrs Madeleine Moon MP**Bridgend**

Mrs Moon was paid £599.25 for the cost of removals from Wales to London of furniture and other effects, which had been purchased locally in 2005. The cost of these removals appears excessive.

Total repayment recommended: £599.25

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £88.96

Balance recommended to be repaid: £510.29

Mr Michael Moore MP**Berwickshire, Roxburgh & Selkirk**

Mr Moore has no issues.

Ms Margaret Moran MP**Luton South**

Ms Moran was over-paid by a total of £109.59 for mortgage interest in 2006-07.

She was also paid a net total of £527.20 twice in 2005-06 for a mattress.

She was paid a total of £3,140.42 in March and April 2007 for gardening costs. This exceeded the allowable maximum by a total of £1,140.42.

She was further paid £2,282.65 for repairs after a front room roof collapse in April 2007. Home insurance should have covered a substantial part of this cost, but the cover had run out two months previously.

Total repayment recommended: £4,059.86

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £6,000.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Jessica Morden MP

Newport East

Ms Morden was paid £380.55 twice for household goods in January 2006.

Total repayment recommended: £380.55

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £380.55

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Julie Morgan MP

Cardiff North

Ms Morgan was overpaid a total of £838.94 for mortgage interest (£645.47 in 2006-07 and £193.47 in 2007-08).

Total repayment recommended: £838.94

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £838.13

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Elliot Morley MP

Scunthorpe

Mr Morley has no issues.

Mr Malcolm Moss MP

North East Cambridgeshire

Mr Moss has no issues.

Ms Kali Mountford MP

Colne Valley

Ms Mountford received net payments amounting to £340.40 between April 2004 and May 2005 for taxis, which are not allowable under the ACA.

She was also overpaid by £832.97 for council tax in 2007-08.

She was overpaid by a total of £792.42 for rent (£758.69 in 2005-06, £33.73 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £1,965.79
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £1,965.79

Mr George Mudie MP

Leeds East

Mr Mudie was overpaid by £182.51 for mortgage interest in 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £182.51
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £182.51

Mr Greg Mulholland MP

Leeds North West

Mr Mulholland has no issues.

Mr Christopher Mullin MP

Sunderland South

Mr Mullin was paid £399.99 twice for the 2005-06 home contents insurance on his second home.

He was also paid £899 in August 2008 for a mortgage acceptance fee that was added to the mortgage capital balance. His claims for interest included an element for this fee so the payment was in effect duplicated.

Total repayment recommended: £1,298.99
Reduced on appeal by: £899.00
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £439.99
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr David Mundell MP

Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale & Tweeddale

Mr Mundell was paid for 13 months of rent in 2006-07. This included a payment for rent for March 2006, which was not identified as such and which had not been included in claims for 2005-06. The overpayment involved was £1,300.

Total repayment recommended: £1,300.00
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,300.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Ms Meg Munn MP

Sheffield Heeley

Ms Munn has no issues.

Mr Conor Murphy MP**Newry & Armagh**

Mr Murphy has no issues.

Mr Denis Murphy MP**Wansbeck**

Mr Murphy was over-paid by a total of £139.16 for mortgage interest (£31.23 in 2004-05, and £107.93 in 2005-06).

He was also paid £25 for a rejected direct debit fee in June 2007, and £25 for a collect fee in February 2008, neither of which was allowable under the ACA.

He was paid a total of £9,652.68 for cleaning costs over the four year period 2004-05 to 2007-08. That exceeded the allowable maximum of £2,000 a year by a total of £1,652.68.

Total repayment recommended: £1,841.84

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £1,841.84

Mr Jim Murphy MP**East Renfrewshire**

Mr Murphy was overpaid a total of £197.46 for mortgage interest over two years of the review period (£9.94 in 2004-05; £187.52 in 2006-07).

He was also paid £380 twice for food in May 2004.

Total repayment recommended: £577.46

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £577.46

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon Paul Murphy MP**Torfaen**

Mr Murphy was paid cleaning costs of £2,830 for 2004-05, exceeding the allowable maximum by a total of £830.

He was also paid £1,280 in July 2005 for a wardrobe, exceeding the guideline price of £770 by £510.

He was also overpaid by a total of £1,140.72 for mortgage interest (£333.12 in 2007-08, and £807.60 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £2,480.72

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £243.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £2,237.72

Dr Andrew Murrison MP

Westbury

Dr Murrison was overpaid by a total of £550.27 for mortgage interest (£300.69 in 2004-05; £202.51 in 2005-06; and £47.07 in 2007-08).

In addition, he was overpaid by a total of £1,563.26 for mortgage interest as a result of increasing his mortgage by £10,323 in September 2004 for a purpose not shown to be allowable under the Green Book rules.

He was paid £515.60 twice for service charge and ground rent in 2004-05.

He was also overpaid by a total of £299.20 in March 2006 for a sofa and two dining chairs which cost £191 and £108.20 respectively more than the guideline prices.

He was further paid £411.11, also in March 2006, for a carpet fitting service to take furniture from the second home to the main home, which was not an allowable expense.

He was paid £800 over the period May 2006 to March 2008 for a home office, which was also not allowable under the Green Book rules.

He was paid £135 twice for a TV licence in 2007-08.

He was also paid £408.78 twice for service charges in 2007-08.

He was paid £199 twice for water rates in May - June 2008.

He was paid £415.22 in May 2008 for service/maintenance charges without supporting evidence.

He was paid £228.20 twice in November 2008 - February 2009 for a gas bill.

Total repayment recommended: £5,525.64

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £5536.24

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Dr Doug Naysmith MP

Bristol North West

Dr Naysmith has no issues.

Mr Bob Neill MP

Bromley & Chislehurst

Mr Neill was paid £157.50 in March 2005 for title insurance during the purchase of his second home. Only building and contents insurance is allowed under the Green Book rules.

He was paid council tax costs of £1,389.15 in 2008-09 when the bill provided showed that the actual cost was £1,263.15 resulting in an excess of £126.00.

Total repayment recommended: £283.50

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £283.50

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Brooks Newmark MP

Braintree

Mr Newmark has no issues.

Mr Dan Norris MP

Wansdyke

Mr Norris was paid cleaning costs of £9,730.19 over a four year period (£2,544 in 2004-05; £2,653.85 in 2005-06; £2,424.17 in 2006-07; and £2,108.17 in 2007-08). That exceeded £2,000 a year by a total of £1,730.19.

Total repayment recommended: £1,730.19

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,730.19

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Mark Oaten MP

Winchester

Mr Oaten was overpaid a total of £2,826.94 for mortgage interest (an estimated £1,265.79 for 2004-05; £233.22 for 2005-06, £43.30 for 2006-07, and £1,284.62 for April to August 2008).

Total repayment recommended: £2,826.94

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,826.94

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Mike O'Brien MP

North Warwickshire

Mr O'Brien has no issues.

Mr Stephen O'Brien MP

Eddisbury

Mr O'Brien was paid cleaning costs of £2,115 in 2005-06. That exceeds the maximum allowable of £2,000 a year by a total of £115.

Total repayment recommended: £115.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £115.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Edward O'Hara MP**Knowsley South**

Mr O'Hara was overpaid by a total of £5,244.23 for mortgage interest (£180.53 for 2005-06, £670.63 for 2006-07, £2,026.48 for 2007-08 and £2,366.59 for 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £5,244.23

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £5,244.23

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Bill Olnier MP**Nuneaton**

Mr Olnier was paid a total of £10,660.43 for cleaning costs over the four years 2004-05 to 2007-08. That exceeds the allowable maximum of £2,000 a year by a total of £2,660.43.

Total repayment recommended: £2,660.43

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £3,321.40

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Lembit Opik MP**Montgomeryshire**

Mr Opik was paid £909.42 for mobile phone bills during the period November 2004 to March 2005. Mobile phone costs are not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

He was also paid £155 for court costs in relation to non-payment of council tax (£60 in March 2006 and £95 in October 2007).

Total repayment recommended: £1,064.42

Reduced on appeal by: £909.42

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £195.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr George Osborne MP**Tatton**

Mr Osborne was overpaid by a total of £284.26 for mortgage interest in 2005-06 and 2006-07.

Total repayment recommended: £284.26

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £976.97

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mrs Sandra Osborne MP**Ayr, Carrick & Cumnock**

Mrs Osborne was paid a total of £1,343.50 twice in April 2004 (£749 for furniture, £544.50 for council tax, and £50 for utilities).

She was also overpaid by £1,268.62 for rent in 2005-06.

Total repayment recommended: £2,612.12

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,612.12

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Richard Ottaway MP

Croydon South

Mr Ottaway was overpaid by £102.47 for mortgage interest in 2005-06.

He was also paid garden maintenance costs of a total of £5,382 for the three years 2004-05 to 2006-07, thus exceeding the allowable maximum of £1,000 a year by a total of £2,382.

Total repayment recommended: £2,484.47

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,484.47

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Albert Owen MP

Ynys Môn

Mr Owen was overpaid by a total of £400 for food in 2005-06.

He was also overpaid by a total of £583.57 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £983.57

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £983.57

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr James Paice MP

South East Cambridgeshire

Mr Paice has no issues.

Rt Hon Ian Paisley MLA MP

North Antrim

Dr Paisley's payments were not reduced for dissolution in 2005, as a result of which he was overpaid by £1,181.94.

Total repayment recommended: £1,181.94

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,181.94

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Dr Nicholas Palmer MP

Broxtowe

Dr Palmer has no issues.

Mr Owen Paterson MP

North Shropshire

Mr Paterson was overpaid by a total of £3,631 for the period April 2004 and June 2005, representing the capital element of the mortgage loan.

He was also overpaid by a net remaining total of £924.04 for mortgage interest in the four years 2005-06 to 2008-09.

He was also overpaid by a total of £402 for council tax in 2006-07 and 2007-08.

He was paid £272.11 twice for annual maintenance for intruder alarms for the period September 2008-September 2009.

Total repayment recommended: £5,229.15

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £5,229.15

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Ian Pearson MP

Dudley South

Mr Pearson was overpaid by a total of £311.72 for mortgage interest in 2008-09.

He was also paid cleaning costs of £2,153.86 in 2005-06. This exceeds the maximum allowable of £2,000 a year by a total of £153.86.

He was further paid £475.88 in April 2004 for computer repairs and wi-fi set up, which are not allowable costs under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

Total repayment recommended: £941.46

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £941.46

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Andrew Pelling MP

Croydon Central

Mr Pelling did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Mr Michael Penning MP

Hemel Hempstead

Mr Penning has no issues.

Mr John Penrose MP

Weston-Super-Mare

Mr Penrose has no issues.

Mr Eric Pickles MP**Brentwood & Ongar**

Mr Pickles was paid cleaning costs of £8,388 between 1 April 2004 and 31 March 2008, exceeding the maximum allowable of £2,000 a year by a total of £388.

Total repayment recommended: £388.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £388.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr James Plaskitt MP**Warwick & Leamington**

Mr Plaskitt was paid £112 twice, in September and November 2004, for a TV licence.

He was also overpaid for mortgage interest by a total of £2,846.09 during three years of the review period (£1,679.34 in 2004-05, £170.70 in 2005-06 and £996.05 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £2,958.09

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,958.09

Balance recommended to be repaid: 0.00

Mr Gregory Pope MP**Hyndburn**

Mr Pope was overpaid by a total of £166.79 for mortgage interest in 2007-08.

Total repayment recommended: £166.79

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £1,331.13

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Stephen Pound MP**Ealing North**

Mr Pound has no issues.

Mr Gordon Prentice MP**Pendle**

Mr Prentice was overpaid by a total of £2,620.95 for mortgage interest (£504.46 in 2006-07; £64.53 in 2007-08; and £2,051.96 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £2,620.95

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,620.95

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Rt Hon John Prescott MP**Hull East**

Mr Prescott has no issues.

Mr Adam Price MP**Carmarthen East & Dinefwr**

Mr Price has no issues.

Rt Hon Dawn Primarolo MP**Bristol South**

Ms Primarolo has no issues.

Mr Mark Prisk MP**Hertford & Stortford**

Mr Prisk was overpaid by £2,970.06 for mortgage interest in 2004-05, and by £1,155.02 in 2008-09.

Total repayment recommended: £4,125.08

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £4,125.08

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Mark Pritchard MP**The Wrekin**

Mr Pritchard was overpaid by £923.62 for rent in 2005-06.

Total repayment recommended: £923.62

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £923.62

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Gwyn Prosser MP**Dover**

Mr Prosser paid his brother £650 in 2006 for carpeting and flooring work on his second home. This was a conflicted transaction and the payment was accordingly invalid.

Total repayment recommended: £650.00

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £650.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Dr John Pugh MP**Southport**

Dr Pugh has no issues.

Mr Kenneth Purchase MP**Wolverhampton North East**

Mr Purchase was overpaid by a total of £1,000.12 for mortgage interest (£236.66 in 2004-05; £422.89 in 2005-06; £13.13 in 2006-07; and £327.44 in 2008-09).

Total repayment recommended: £1,000.12

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00

Balance recommended to be repaid: £1,000.12

Rt Hon James Purnell MP**Stalybridge & Hyde**

Mr Purnell has no issues.

Mr Bill Rammell MP**Harlow**

Mr Rammell was paid a total of £169.98 in July and August 2005 for two items not allowable under Green Book rules (garden table and suitcase).

He was further paid a total of £332.26 in 2005 for a printer and printing materials. These were not allowable items under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

He was also paid a total of £2,280 for newspapers (£580 in 2004-05; £550 in 2005-06; £600 in 2006-07; and £550 in 2007-08). These were not allowable under the ACA, although they could be claimed under the Incidental Expenses Provision.

Total repayment recommended: £2,782.24

Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £2,782.24

Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr John Randall MP**Uxbridge**

Mr Randall did not make any ACA claims during the period of the review.

Rt Hon John Redwood MP**Wokingham**

Mr Redwood was paid £112 in March 2005 for the cost of reseeded his lawn. This was not allowable under Green Book rules.

Total repayment recommended: £112.00
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £112.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr Andy Reed MP

Loughborough

Mr Reed was paid a total of £891.48 twice for quarterly service charge costs for the following periods and amounts: £310.61 in December 2004 to March 2005; £275.87 in December 2005 to March 2006; and £305 in June 2006 to September 2006.

Total repayment recommended: £891.48
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £0.00
Balance recommended to be repaid: £891.48

Mr Jamieson R Reed

Copeland

Mr Reed has no issues.

Mr Alan Reid MP

Argyll & Bute

Mr Reid has no issues.

Rt Hon John Reid MP

Airdrie & Shotts

Dr Reid was paid £1,410 twice in April 2007.

In July 2007, he was paid £1,179.63 for removal costs. £975.00 of this was used for the transfer of furniture to a residence in Ireland, which was not an allowable expense.

In April 2008, he was paid £346.88 for marketing the previous second home, which was also not allowable.

Total repayment recommended: £2,731.88
 Total repayments received since 1 April 2009: £7,336.51
Balance recommended to be repaid: £0.00

Mr William Rennie MP

Dunfermline & West Fife

Mr Rennie was overpaid a total of £123.10 through duplicate payments for electricity in 2006-07.

He was also overpaid a total of £2,450 through duplicated payments for rent (£1,250 in March 2006 and £1,200 in January 2007).

