

Richard Younger-Ross MP

**Sir Malcolm Rifkind MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA**

Ref: JF/RYR.PER
Please quote reference when replying.
Date: 30 March 2010

Dear Sir Malcolm

Following the publication of the Standards and Privileges Committee's eleventh report of the session 2009-10 which dealt with 6 self referrals relating to compensatory payments for giving up leases to 2034 in Dolphin Square.

The Commissioner concluded that accepting the offer "had the effect of putting their personal interest above the public interest" and that he "had no evidence that any member did this deliberately". The Committee concluded that this was a serious error of judgement.

I wholly accept the report and its conclusions and unreservedly apologise.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Younger-Ross MP

As required by the Committee, I will make the recommended repayment of half the payment.

cc. Steve Priestly

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