

Room GC.05
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Email: public@public-standards.gov.uk

Committee on
Standards in
Public Life

Chief Whip's Office
9 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

9 June 2017

Dear PS/Chief Whip,

INDUCTION FOR NEW MPs

As you will be aware, the House authorities have organised a programme of induction for new MPs which will take place on 13 and 14 June. I was very pleased to be asked to take part in the *Standards and Reputation* session, and am looking forward to talking about the Nolan Principles as a guideline of public expectations in relation to standards.

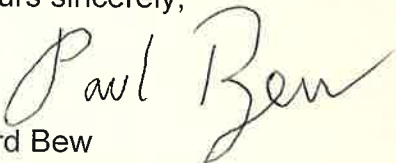
Arriving at Parliament as a new Member brings particular responsibilities, it can be a daunting challenge for many. I want to do all I can to encourage MPs to attend these induction sessions so that they are clear about what is expected of them as high-profile public office holders. The disproportionate damage that can be done to the reputation of the House as a result of one individual's action is well documented.

The Standards and Reputation aspect of the induction is voluntary. Similar induction programmes were held following the 2010 and 2015 General Election. In 2010, only 19% of the 227 new MPs attended; in 2015 93% of 177 new MPs attended the induction programmes.

I believe that this significant upturn in numbers was due to the support of the Whips and the then Prime Minister in encouraging MPs to attend. We would like to repeat the success of the 2015 induction programme. I would therefore be very grateful if you could encourage your new MPs to attend the sessions organised in the House for 13 June and 14 June.

I am sending a copy of this letter to both whips' offices and the leaders of all political parties with MPs in Parliament.

Yours sincerely,



Lord Bew
Chair, Committee on Standards in Public Life

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Opposition Chief Whip's Office
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

9 June 2017

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