ADDENDUM
TO THE
STANDING ORDERS
OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
RELATING TO PUBLIC BUSINESS

10 February 2009

Amendment to Standing Order No. 152D (House of Commons Members Estimate Committee).

New Standing Order (Committee on Members’ Allowances).

Reprinted from the
Votes and Proceedings of the House of Commons
of 22 January 2009
The text of the amended Standing Order No. 152D (House of Commons Members Estimate Committee) is as follows.

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 the 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 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.

(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.

The text of the new Standing Order (Committee on Members’ Allowances) is as follows.

Committee on Members’ Allowances

152G. (1) There shall be a select committee, called the Committee on Members’ Allowances.

(a) to advise the House of Commons Members Estimate Committee on the discharge of its functions; and

(b) to advise the Speaker, the Members Estimate Committee and the Leader of the House on the
potential development of the arrangements made by or under the Resolutions in force from time to time regarding Members’ allowances &c;

(2) The committee shall consist of eight members;

(3) Unless the House otherwise orders, each Member nominated to the committee shall continue to be a member of it for the remainder of the Parliament;

(4) The committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, to sit notwithstanding any adjournment of the House, to appoint specialist advisers and to report from time to time.