

The image shows the interior of the House of Commons in London. The room is characterized by its extensive wood paneling and rows of green upholstered benches. A central aisle with a red carpet runs down the middle of the chamber. The benches are arranged in a semi-circular pattern, facing a central area where the Speaker's Chair is located. The lighting is warm, highlighting the intricate woodwork and the texture of the green fabric.

Should being an MP be a full-time job, where no extra work is undertaken?

- £81,932.
- Expenses.
- Registers of Members Financial Interest's.
- Member's Yearly Bespoke Stationary Budget .
- Accommodation Costs.
- Caring Responsibility.
- Staffing Costs.



Being an MP should be a full-time job, and no other work should be undertaken.

- Prevent and ultimately eliminate lobbying scandals and any conflicts of interests.
- Being a US Congressman is unquestionably a full-time job, surely the same should apply for an MP?
- A constituency deserves the full attention of their MP.
- -68%



Being an MP shouldn't be a full time job, and other work should be able to be undertaken.

- It is a benefit, not a failing, for MPs to continue outside activities in which they have specialized skills for.
- It is unfair on MPs to be restricted to just one job.
- Provides Parliament with more diversity and professional insight.
- MPs must declare any additional income from secondary jobs.



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-Dr. Rosena Allin-Khan.

-A&E Doctor.

“If MPs are banned from having second jobs, I’ll volunteer in hospital alongside my NHS colleagues”

-Is this fair?

-MP Laura Farris.

-An Oxford educated barrister, who since the controversy regarding MP’s secondary jobs has not been able to provide legal services.

-Is this fair?



What is the problem with MPs having secondary jobs?

- MPs can use their second jobs to lobby.
- Lobbying refers to influencing decisions made by government.

What is the problem with this in the 21st century?

- MPs are increasingly employed by firms to 'advise and consult' them and in return receive large sums of money.
- £54,404
- £50,000
- 200+
- £10m



This is Sir Jeffrey Cox, former Attorney General and now MP for Torrington and West Devon. He earns an additional £400,000 every year through work carried out in the Cayman Islands for legal firms.

MPs Register of Expenses:



- A brief insight into MPs expenses:

-Jackie Doyle-Price claimed expenses of £7,373 for a flight to Qatar.

-Michael Gove claimed expenses of £1,005 for a nights stay in a hotel.

- How are MPs expenses paid for?

-Ever since the 2010 General Election, MPs expenses are paid for by the IPSA. However, things aren't as perfect as they seem. The IPSA is funded by the HMRC, this essentially means we as a society are paying for Michael Gove's nights stay in the Ritz hotel.



To conclude:

Overall, the arguments and counter arguments for MPs secondary jobs both provide interesting viewpoints.

If we enable secondary jobs, society are risking some forms of government lobbying – but surely as many MPs do register additional income, we can monitor to what extent? And allowing MPs to have secondary jobs provides parliament with diversity and a greater professional insight.

However, If we removed the ability for MPs to have secondary jobs, it would prevent and ultimately eliminate lobbying scandals and any conflicts of interest individuals may have.