



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

The Rt Hon Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP
Speaker of the House of Commons
Houses of Parliament
London

5 March 2024

Dear Lindsay,

THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION MAIN ESTIMATES

1. My officials have advised me on the Electoral Commission (EC) Mains Estimates request for 2024/25.
2. I am writing to you in my advisory role in the Estimates process for the Commission – of the following I am not advising on:
 - a. **Pay increase of 5%** - as neither Pay Review Processes nor the Civil Service Remit have been concluded/announced, prejudging these processes by commenting would be inappropriate. However, assumed pay rises for 24/25 of 2% at SR21 and I typically expect departments to absorb the cost of any pay increases above that.
3. Regarding the two other elements of the total rise – if EC were a central department then:
 - a. **UK Parliament General Election** – would be funded through multi-year allocations, given this is one of the primary functions for the EC.
 - b. **Increases to Cybersecurity and IT spend** - this spend would be expected to be absorbed into existing budgets, though noting that the EC does not own the levers to control new security guidelines.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laura Trott'.

THE RT HON LAURA TROTT MP