



## Procedure Committee

Thursday, 7 November 2024

**Rt Hon Lucy Powell MP**  
**Leader of the House of Commons**  
*via email only*

### **Proxy Voting Arrangements**

Dear Lucy,

Thank you for your letter of 8 October relating to the reinstating eligibility for proxy votes to Members with serious long-term illness or injury.

The committee has noted that the House agreed on 23 October to approve the reinstatement of proxy voting in such circumstances, and that the current arrangements are time limited for the remainder of the present Session of Parliament.

The committee is due to consider its future programme in detail in the coming weeks, and will discuss how best to undertake a review of the existing arrangements and make recommendations as to its operation. Any work will be undertaken with the firm intention of presenting the committee's views to the Government in good time ahead of the end of the current Session, so that a final decision can be taken on whether to make the arrangements permanent.

In the meantime, we understand that there may be additional situations not currently covered by the scope of the existing arrangements where a similar temporary extension may be warranted. Should the Government bring forward a motion or motions to introduce temporary arrangements for proxy voting for any additional situations, the committee would of course be willing to consider widening the scope of any such review to include those arrangements as well.

I look forward to working closely with you on this matter, as do the other members of my committee.

Yours ever,

**Cat Smith MP**  
**Chair, Procedure Committee**