



The Rt Hon Sir Alan Campbell MP
Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Cat Smith MP
Chair of the Procedure Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Our Ref: AC/NMP1184
13th January 2026

Dear Cat,

Estimates Day Debates Pilot

Thank you for your letter regarding the pilot scheme for the allocation of debates on estimates days.

I am pleased that the pilot running from 2018 has been considered a success, both in ensuring that these debates relate more closely to departmental spending and increased Member participation. Therefore, I am happy to support the Committee's recommendation to move these arrangements onto a permanent footing and will bring forward the recommended changes to the Standing Orders in due course for the consideration of the House.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Liaison Committee, Dame Meg Hillier MP, and the Chair of the Backbench Business Committee, Bob Blackman MP.

Yours,

Alan