



Finance Committee

Tuesday, 24 February 2026

**Tom Goldsmith,
Clerk of the House**

CBIP Business Case

Dear Tom

The Committee recently considered the business case for additional funding of £15.6m for the Commons Buildings and Infrastructure Portfolio (CBIP) project. **Overall, the Committee noted its concern with the size of some of the budget lines presented as well as the overall cost, and the lack of information available in the public domain on it.**

A particular issue is the funding allocated to legal and design fees related to the MoD car park. This covered legal costs, logistics and design work, as well as liaison with the MoD's PFI partner, Modus.

It is frustrating that negotiating between two public sector bodies could incur such high legal costs. The CBIP team offered to provide the Committee with more details on the negotiation position, and highlight any areas where assistance would be helpful, but we feel as Accounting Officer this requires your intervention.

Specifically, whether the costs presented offer value for money, particularly around the car park, and whether they are in line with Chapter 3 of Managing Public Money.

The Committee requested a more detailed breakdown of costs in line with recent correspondence with the Commission for this project and the overall CBIP programme. It is expected this will include details such as the number of consultants used, their rates and contract length, and that this should be prepared for publication. The Committee look forward to receiving this information.

Yours sincerely

**Rt Hon Steve Barclay MP
Chair of the Finance Committee**