



Procedure Committee

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From Rt Hon Karen Bradley MP, Chair

Caroline Lucas MP
House of Commons

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Dear Caroline

Thank you for your further email of 3 June on Members' ability to hold ministers to account. In my previous letter, I indicated the Committee's view which is that the procedures and practice of the House do provide adequate opportunities for Members to hold Ministers to account, criticise their conduct and challenge statements made from the Despatch Box or elsewhere.

In your email you argue that the impact of existing opportunities is limited. The Committee cannot possibly agree with this given the extent to which the procedural routes available to Members remain largely unused. If it were the case that the existing procedural mechanisms had been used extensively and found wanting, then there might be a case to look at this in more detail but this has not yet happened.

The Committee will examine the corrections process as part of other work already underway and may, at a later stage, seek oral evidence from Members once we have learned more about the Scottish Parliament model. If you wish to test and identify limitations in the current procedural routes, I would encourage you to do so and submit written evidence to the Committee. The Committee does not intend to hold meetings, either formally or informally, on this subject at this point. I will publish this letter and our earlier correspondence on the Committee's website.

Yours sincerely

Rt Hon Karen Bradley MP