

Lord Hanningfield faces police probe after expenses claims exposed in Mirror probe

 mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/lord-hanningfield-faces-police-probe-2937476

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[Leaching Lord Hanningfield](#) faces a police probe over his expenses.

It comes after the Mirror [revealed how he ducked in and out of Parliament just to claim his £300 daily allowance](#).

The disgraced peer yesterday denied any wrongdoing and arrogantly dismissed our exposé as “a storm in a teacup”.

He also claimed [at least 50 other peers were doing the same thing](#).

But MP John Mann, who is campaigning to clean up Parliament, has made a formal complaint to police, calling for an investigation under the 1968 Theft Act.

In a letter to Met Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, he said Hanningfield’s actions could amount to obtaining money by deception.

Lords can draw £300 in attendance allowance for every day that they turn up at Westminster.

The rules do not set a minimum time that the peers must spend there – but they do clearly state that Lords can claim a reduced allowance at a daily rate of £150.

Peers have to sign a declaration that the tax-free daily allowance is in return for “Parliamentary work”.

Hanningfield insisted he was putting in the hours away from Westminster.

But Mr Mann said: “No reasonable person could describe what he’s doing as Parliamentary work.”

Hanningfield, 73, returned to Parliament in April 2012 after a nine-month jail sentence for fiddling his expenses in the previous scandal.

He was also probed over his corporate credit card while leader of Essex County Council from 2005 and 2010.

He reimbursed some of the £286,000 he spent, but questions remained over a lack of receipts.

[Lord Hanningfield 'clocking in' expenses scandal exposed](#)