

BOARD PAPER	
Paper ref:	IPSA/161012/8
Agenda item:	8

**TO:** IPSA Board **DATE:** 10 September 2012

**FROM:** Paula Higson  
Acting Chief Executive

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**SUBJECT:** **Chief Executive's Report**

**ANNEXES:** A: Performance in September 2012 [to be tabled]  
B: Nomination of a trustee to the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund (PCPF) [RESTRICTED: STAFF]

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#### **Issue**

1. Chief Executive's regular report to the Board.

#### **Timing**

2. For consideration at the meeting of the Board on 16 October 2012.

#### **Recommendation**

3. That the Board notes this report.

#### **Report**

##### Operational performance

4. We will table a report on operational performance in September 2012 at the meeting of the Board on 16 October 2012.

## Accommodation

5. We have successfully moved across to our new office space on the east side of Portland House. Our new sub-tenants, Mfuse, will move into the west side of the building on schedule later this month. [REDACTED]
6. The project has entailed a significant amount of work by individuals across the organisation – not least our Facilities Manager [REDACTED], our Change Manager [REDACTED] and our Head of IT and Data Security [REDACTED] – to whom I would like to record my thanks.

## Freedom of Information requests

7. As previously reported to the Board, we have received four Freedom of Information (FOI) requests relating to MPs' rental accommodation: MPs' postcodes, landlords' names, rental agreements and correspondence relating to MPs' rental agreements. Taking each in turn:
  - we have, in line with IPSA's publication policy, released the first half of each individual's postcode and informed all relevant MPs;
  - we will next week (w/c 15 October 2012) be releasing the names of MPs' landlords where MPs have not provided us with reasons why doing so would identify their specific address to be identified in breach of our publication policy;
  - we are considering whether we should release MPs' rental agreements, or extracted information from rental agreements, having only recently received the relevant request. We will be consulting with Sir Scott Baker as IPSA's qualified person under the legislation; and
  - we have declined to release correspondence relating to IPSA's challenging proposed rental agreements because the cost of meeting this request exceeds the cost limits set out under the Act. However, it is possible that the requestor might make a further, more specific, request for correspondence that falls under the cost limit.
8. We have made MPs – and the whips – aware of the first of these two requests. To date, we have received around 50 responses from MPs out of the 320 whom we have contacted. The majority are content for us to proceed, having first notified their landlords. Where MPs have raised concerns, we will consider what action is appropriate on a case-by-case basis. Belinda Brown will provide a further, oral, report at the meeting of the Board on 16 October.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

13.

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14.

