

Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority

Newsletter, February 2021

I started as Chief Executive at IPSA in October last year and have spent my first few months getting to know the legislation, the rules of the <u>Scheme of MPs'</u> <u>Business Costs</u> and listening to feedback from our stakeholders.

My first career was with the NHS Ambulance Services, with 15 years ranging from being a frontline paramedic through to an NHS Trust Director. About 12 years ago I moved into regulation, starting in healthcare before moving into other sectors. I have held executive and non-executive roles regulating nurses, dentists, barristers, management accountants, the police and private security as well as spending time as a civil servant in the Department for Education and Cabinet Office. Every one of these roles has been about service improvement and I now focus on short-term appointments dedicated to service redesign.

We are currently developing a new strategy, vision and purpose for IPSA to enable MPs to focus on what really matters by providing an exemplary, seamless regulatory service. As the pandemic continues, our top priority is to provide MPs and their staff with the resources they need to support and represent their constituents at this difficult time.

This newsletter contains information on the following:

- Annual Publication
- MPs' Pay Review
- New IPSA Website
- Expenses data

With best wishes

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lan Todd Chief Executive, IPSA



Annual publication



On 21 January we published our figures for all business costs incurred by MPs in the 2019-20 financial year. You can view the 2019-20 annual publication data for individual MPs <u>here</u>.

We also published our Annual Review of Assurance for 2019-20, available <u>here</u>.

Lastly, we published our Annual Report and Accounts for 2019-20, available <u>here</u>.





MPs' Pay Review

We have a statutory obligation to review MPs' pay in the first year of every new parliament. To this end, we carried out a public consultation on periodic adjustments to MPs' salaries which closed in November last year.

This consultation included the proposal that the existing approach to determining MPs' pay could continue. This approach links MPs' pay to an official statistic on public sector pay that is first published each year in mid-December.

The unprecedented impact of the Covid pandemic has had an effect on public and private sector earnings and that applying the official statistic for public sector earnings growth would result in a salary increase for MPs that would be inconsistent with the wider economic data and would not reflect the reality that many constituents are facing this year.



The IPSA Board therefore decided that the salary for Members of Parliament will remain unchanged for the financial year 2021-22.

Further details can be found in our Interim Chair's letter to MPs, here.



New IPSA Website

We have redesigned our website to improve the way we provide information about what we do.

The new website is designed to be easy to navigate for you to be able to find the information you are interested in.

You can access the new website <u>here</u>.

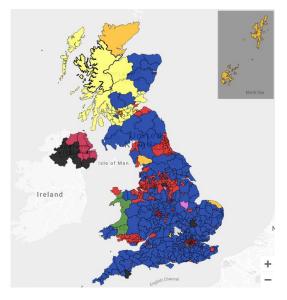
We welcome feedback on the website. Please send comments and suggestions to <u>communications@theipsa.org.uk</u>.



MP Business Costs Data

Since we were created in 2010, we have published data on MP spending every 2 months so that everyone can see how MPs spend public money.

We recently published data for August and September 2020.



You can access the data on IPSA's website <u>here</u>. You can view MPs data using the interactive map or by searching for an MP by name.

If you have any queries about the information in this newsletter, please contact <u>communications@theipsa.org.uk</u>