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Equality impact assessment of IPSA's rules

[...]

The ninth edition of the Scheme, which came into effect in April 2017, includes some new provisions which are aimed at providing financial support to MPs with family responsibilities.

- MPs can claim for travel for their spouse/partner and their dependants between London and the constituency. From April 2017, we removed the caps and restrictions that previously applied, so that MPs have the flexibility to arrange their family lives and responsibilities in the way that works best for them.
- In addition, MPs who are eligible for rental accommodation can claim an increased amount if they have caring responsibilities for dependants. From April 2017 the additional amounts claimable for each dependant have increased significantly, from £2,425 to £5,435 per dependant per year, based on the difference in average rental prices between one and two-bedroom properties in Lambeth and Westminster, the areas of London that most MPs choose to live in. We also removed the rule that dependants needed to 'reside routinely' with the MP in order to be allocated this additional amount.

[...]

Yours sincerely,

JOHN SILLS
Director of Regulation

CC: [two names redacted]