

Reported Incidents of behaviour of MPs towards IPSA staff

Incident one

Date: unrecorded

Member in lift – Asked how he was getting on with IPSA – the reply was ‘awful’, I offered help – he declined and said you’re all fucking idiots.

Incident two

Meeting with [REDACTED] MP

Date: Monday 26th July 2010

[REDACTED] greeted me very pleasantly. He had staff members in attendance at all times, which created an intimidating atmosphere at the points at which [REDACTED]’s behaviour was inappropriate.

After an initial discussion, I outlined the basic principles of the scheme. These were met with ridicule and derision by [REDACTED] and his staff.

I then endeavoured to take [REDACTED] through the basic processes of the system. At several times during the session, he exclaimed, “This system is a fucking abortion!” which I found deeply inappropriate and offensive. His staff laughed and agreed with this and other comments which [REDACTED] made.

Other comments included, “It [the system/scheme] will make the only people who want to be mps rich people and losers”; “That lawyer (Sir Ian Kennedy) is a stupid [unable to recall exact expletive as I was thrown off guard by the whole situation – but it was an offensive swear word], he has no idea what we do”; and “I don’t have a constituency office, but I might get one now to spend the budget because I am that pissed off”.

At one point an external visitor entered the office. [REDACTED] said to him, “I’m doing my fucking IPSA expenses; it’s fucking shit!”.

Incident three

[REDACTED] MP

Date: Monday 10 May

Came to say that he would not be doing an induction session, throwing his personal details form across the desk at the facilitator ([REDACTED]). When told that he would have to, became angry and patronising and would not accept the message. In addition to being angry and raising his voice, his body language and physical behaviour was unacceptable – he struck the laptop on the facilitator’s desk and loomed over the facilitator in an intimidating manner. Incident witnessed by: [REDACTED].

Incident four

██████████ MP

Date: unrecorded

Stormed out of induction session and came to reception to ask questions about the scheme. Was rude when staff (██████████ and ██████████) were unable to answer his questions; was loud and disruptive (blocking the reception desk from other MPs who wished to register – and taking a while to move when asked to do so). Walked off on a staff member (██████████) in the middle of her explanation, branding all the trainers and staff 'monkey'. Witnessed by: ██████████

Incident five

██████████ MP

Date: Tuesday 11 May

Very difficult and disruptive; angry, with anger directed towards volunteer (██████████) to a degree. It appeared that the volunteer had difficulties going through the induction with him. At the 10 minute mark the volunteer burst into tears and a staff member (██████████) attempted to intervene. When the staff member offered to help the MP dismissed him as 'condescending', at which point another staff member (██████████) pulled the volunteer (still in tears) out of the session. At this stage the MP immediately became contrite and apologised and the remainder of the session conducted by a staff member (██████████). The MP continued to be difficult, claiming that the system reduced him to a cipher, and that it "made him not want to represent his country as an MP". He later returned with a box of chocolates and a note addressed to the volunteer. Witnessed by: ██████████, ██████████ and other trainers.

Incident six

██████████ MP

Date: Wednesday 12 May

Complete unwillingness to engage with volunteer (██████████), system or induction session – rude, abrupt, disparaging ("I don't do administration") used the word 'f*ck' and other violent language (e.g. "I am going to murder someone today"). Very angry until she realised she could give it all to her proxy; refused to sign declaration as her stated intention was to share her log-in details with her member of staff. Witnessed by: ██████████ and ██████████ (volunteer).

Incident seven

██████████ MP

Date: Wednesday 12 May

Didn't come for an induction session but came to one of the doors of the IPSA rooms (with ██████████ and ██████████ at reception desk) purely to criticise IPSA in an aggressive fashion. His comments included: "I am going to attack you at every step"; "I will be sending in FOI requests!";

"Ian Kennedy is an idiot – his whole Board are idiots". (He didn't say who he was – we identified him from the photo book.) Witnessed by: [REDACTED].

Incident eight

[REDACTED] MP

Date: Thursday 20 May 2010

Was very aggressive with the trainer ([REDACTED]). Asked her how much she was being paid to provide the induction. When the trainer explained she was a volunteer, the MP asked what bonus she was getting. The trainer explained that she was not going a bonus, nor any other payment for providing the training. The MP said that she was going to submit an FOI request to find out what bonuses the trainer and her colleagues were getting. She asked for the name of the trainer and grabbed the trainer's name badge in doing so. Witnessed by: [REDACTED].

