

21 January 2021

Today we published our figures for all business costs incurred by MPs in the 2019-20 financial year. You can find our press release <u>here</u> and the annual publication data <u>here</u>. You can find further details on this below.

This bulletin contains new information on the following:

- Annual Publication, Annual Review of Assurance and Annual Report and Accounts
- Publication of business costs for August and September 2020
- Travel to Westminster for MPs
- Claiming for electric car mileage

Important information you should still be aware of includes:

- Learning and Development
- Contacting us

With best wishes

The IPSA Team

Publication of Business Costs

Today we published figures for all business costs and expenses 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. The report covers the key activities undertaken by IPSA during the the financial year 2019-20. A copy has been laid in the House, and the full report can also be viewed on our website <u>here</u>.

Publication of Business Costs

The latest publication of MPs' business costs, for claims processed between August and September 2020, can now be viewed on the <u>IPSA website</u>.

Travel to Westminster for MPs

IPSA does not normally pay for journeys between an MP's London home and Westminster; this is considered to be a regular commute and a personal expense.

From 11 January 2021 until further notice, given the circumstances, MPs who need to attend Parliament may claim for additional costs beyond what would normally be expected if they needed to avoid using public transport – for example, congestion charges in order to drive into central London, parking (if none is available on the parliamentary estate) or taxi costs. This may may be taxable, please see our <u>Coronavirus FAQs</u>.

As normal, non-London Area MPs are able to claim for the cost of travel from their constituency to Westminster.

Where necessary, this can include the cost of congestion charges and taxi journeys. This is not considered a commute for tax purposes.

Claiming for Electric Car Mileage

HMRC treats privately owned electric cars in the same way as petrol or diesel cars for the purposes of business mileage allowances. This is reflected in the <u>Scheme</u>. MPs and staff who use an electric car to travel on official business can therefore claim the published rate (currently 45p/mile for the first 10,000 business miles per year and 25p thereafter) in the usual way through IPSA Online.

Learning and Development

Staffing Budget Report

If you would like to know more about the Staffing Budget Report, please join one of our monthly Staffing Budget Report webinars. A member of the Payroll team will talk through the report including:

- How to run and view the Staffing Budget Report
- How to understand the Staffing Budget Report
- How to make amendments to the Staffing Budget Report
- How year-end forms are incorporated
- How to view expenses made against the Staffing budget

In response to feedback, these webinars will run on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout the year. The next will take place on **Tuesday 2 February at 10.30am.** To sign up for any of these webinars, <u>click here</u>.

This session will not cover the COVID staffing budget. For queries related to the COVID staffing budget, please see our <u>Coronavirus FAQs</u> or <u>book a call</u> with a member of the Payroll team.

Property

An IPSA Account Manager will talk through the requirements for paying rent for MPs' offices and accommodation, including submitting forms and, importantly, the supporting documentation required so that your property amendment and property registration forms can be effectively processed. We're keen to help you register properties, make changes and arrange rent payments as quickly as we can.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the one-and-a-half hour webinar.

This webinar will take place on the second Tuesday of every month. The next will take place on **Tuesday 9 February at 10.30am.** To sign up for any of these webinars, <u>click here</u>.

IPSA Online Training

IPSA Online training takes place every Tuesday and Thursday at 2pm using a virtual platform.

Click here to sign up.

Contacting us

There is information available on the IPSA website for MPs and staff.

Queries or documents can be submitted to IPSA teams by emailing the MP Support (<u>info@theipsa.org.uk</u>) or Payroll teams (<u>payroll@theipsa.org.uk</u>). We accept scanned documents and forms on IPSA Online. Please do not mail documents to our office.

You can arrange to speak with a member of our MP Support or Payroll teams. Our call booking service can be found <u>here</u>. If you are submitting a New Starter form, please include their parliamentary email address so that we can set up their IPSA Online account with this email.

If you are repaying money to IPSA, please make a BACS payment and email a completed <u>repayment form</u> to <u>info@theipsa.org.uk</u>. Our bank details can be found on the repayment form.