

Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority

Bulletin 20 June 2019

Dear reader,

Today we have published our annual survey of MPs and their staff. This year 291 people gave us their feedback, which is much appreciated.

Our current survey about the new IPSA Online system has had 250 responses in the first week. We do value your views and hope you can take the time to complete it [here](#).

Earlier this week, IPSA's Chair, Ruth Evans, commented on maternity pay and cover for MPs. [The full statement is here](#). MPs are advised to contact IPSA's Director of Regulation and Insight if they wish to discuss additional staffing to cover a period of parental leave.

This bulletin contains information on the following:

- Publication of business costs and expenses
- Deadline for 2018-19 claims
- Behaviour Code
- IPSA Online survey
- Annual Survey 2018 publication
- Assurance Review: Subletting
- Scheme changes 2019

Publication of Business Costs and Expenses

On Thursday 11 July 2019 we will publish your business costs and expenses that IPSA processed during February 2019 and March 2019.

We have redacted your personal information in line with our [Publication Scheme](#). We recommend that you check your data before we publish and if you think we have missed anything, please contact us by **Friday 5 July 2019** at the latest to let us know.

You can access your data directly on the IPSA Online Homepage from **Friday 21 June**. Go to www.ipsonline.org.uk and click on Publication Data. You will be able to view your claims online or download them. A guide to accessing publication data through the IPSA Online homepage is available [here](#).

Please note that data from an earlier period may also be included. If your data contains claims for a previous financial year, the aggregate figure published for that year will periodically be updated to reflect these additional claims. You should also be aware that we make amendments to the data already published on the website when necessary.

Deadline for 2018-19 Claims

Don't forget the deadline for submitting 2018-19 claims is the end of next week. Please check your queue in Expense@Work (the old system) for returned claims or claims that accrued as the documentation must be received by the end of June.

Behaviour Code

IPSA has adopted the [UK Parliament Behaviour Code](#). The code sets clear guidelines on how IPSA staff should be treated and how we should treat others. While the vast majority of communication between IPSA and

MPs and staff members is respectful and professional, unacceptable behavior will be dealt with seriously.

IPSA Online Survey

The IPSA Online survey is open until **Friday 5 July**, You can complete the survey by clicking the link below. We will listen carefully to your responses. For queries in need of an individual response, please email info@theipsa.org.uk.

[Take IPSA Online Survey](#)

Annual Survey 2019

IPSA has published its annual survey of MPs and their staff from 2018. Every year, IPSA asks MPs and staff to answer questions about the services that IPSA provides. Last year's survey was completed by 291 MPs or MPs' staff members. [The results of the survey, and the previous surveys starting in 2012, can be found here.](#)

Assurance Review: Subletting

IPSA regularly looks at various aspects of its work. A new report published today sets out the findings of IPSA's review into the arrangements that some MPs have in place to sublet their IPSA-funded offices to third parties. IPSA's Scheme of MPs' Business Costs and Expenses states

that, where an MP allows any other person to use their constituency office, they must charge a fee which reflects an appropriate proportion of the rent and other costs incurred, and that this fee must be paid to IPSA. [This report, and previous assurance reports, can be found here.](#)

Scheme Changes 2019

We consulted on a number of minor, mostly technical changes to the Scheme. We expect these to be helpful to MPs, as well as enable IPSA to regulate more proportionately and cost-effectively. The consultation ran from 28 January to 18 February 2019. These changes were agreed and came into effect 1 April 2019. [The Scheme change consultation report can be found here.](#)
