

## **Bulletin, 10 January 2019**

Happy New Year from everyone at IPSA.

In this week's bulletin there is information about two important ways to feedback to IPSA: the MPs' staffing budget review, which launches today and includes a survey and call for evidence; and the annual survey of MPs and their staff which closes on 11 January.

It is easy to participate in the surveys and details are set out below. We value your feedback and use it to develop the support we offer MPs and thank you in advance for participating.

This bulletin also provides information on:

- The next publication of MPs' business costs and expenses
- Security costs
- How to donate directly to charity via the Give As You Earn Scheme

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us on 020 7811 6400. Please remember to press 1 for MP Support Services or 2 for Payroll.

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### **Staffing Budget Review**

Today we are launching a survey and call for evidence for MPs and staff as part of a review of MPs' staffing budgets. We are asking for your views on the staffing arrangements of your office, the work done by the team, and how the staffing budget is used. We will use the information you provide to assess whether the budget currently meets MPs' needs.

The survey and call for evidence will run until 14 February 2019. We will report back later in 2019. [Click here](#) for details of how to take part.

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## Annual Survey

Our 2018 Annual Survey of MPs and Staff remains live until tomorrow, Friday 11 January. We have carried out a survey each year since 2011 to gain your feedback to help us to understand your needs and improve our support. The survey covers your interactions with IPSA's Account Managers and Payroll Officers, as well as the communications you receive.

The survey will take five minutes to complete and is anonymous. Thank you in advance for all your feedback.

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

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## Business Costs and Expenses Publication

The next publication of MPs' business costs and expenses claims processed in August and September 2018 will be Thursday 17 January 2019. The data is currently available to you on the IPSA Online Homepage. A guide to accessing publication data through the IPSA Online homepage is available [here](#).

We recommend that you check your data before we publish and if you think we have missed anything, please contact us by close of play today, Thursday 10 January 2019.

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## Security Costs

IPSA takes the security of MPs and their staff very seriously. IPSA redacts all personal information, including addresses, before we publish any information about MPs' business costs. The security assistance budget is uncapped and is available for two types of costs:

1. physical security measures installed at MPs' offices and residences which are part of the agreed recommended measures; and

2. further security measures which are recommended by the police on the basis of a specific threat/security need for a particular MP.

Within the rules of [The Scheme of MPs' Business Costs and Expenses](#), MPs can also claim for routine security costs from their office costs budget.

For further advice, please contact the Parliamentary Security Department on **020 7219 2244**.

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## **Give As You Earn**

The Charities Aid Foundation made the decision to go paperless and designed a new online portal where you can donate to charity directly from your salary via the Give As You Earn scheme.

The scheme enables you to; schedule regular donations to one or multiple charities from a range of over 160,000 organisations, respond quickly to campaigns or appeals, make one-off donations at any time and sponsor friends and family. You can donate as much as you like each month, subject to a minimum of £4 and whole pound increments. Donations made will be added to your online account on or around payday.

If you wish to take part in the scheme, [click here](#) to use the unique sign up link.

You will be sent a welcome email with instructions on how to set up and manage your account. If you have any issues accessing your online account, or have any queries about the scheme, please contact the Charities Aid Foundation on 03000 123 000 or [giveasyouearn@cafonline.org](mailto:giveasyouearn@cafonline.org).