

19 October 2021

On behalf of the Board and staff team of IPSA we are writing to offer our most sincere condolences following the shocking murder of Sir David Amess MP. In recent years, Sir David generously gave new IPSA staff members a tour of the Palace as part of their induction and his warmth, humour and deep commitment to democracy has made a lasting impression on us all. IPSA will of course do everything we can to support bereaved families and staff.

We want to assure you that we are working closely and collaboratively with the House, police and others to support the rapid reconsideration of how to further enhance you and your staff's security, and we will do whatever we can. Similarly, we are working closely with our colleagues at the House to ensure the smooth transfer of the physical security contract from Chubb to ADT on 1 November to ensure greater responsiveness and overall quality of service.

We have heard from some Members since last Friday that there are concerns about some of the information we publish, including data on travel and constituency surgery venue hire. Our publication policy is already informed by police advice on security, and regularly updated based on that advice. In light of the terrible events last Friday we are seeking fresh expert advice on what and how we publish your business and staffing costs. This will include consideration of how freedom of information requests will be assessed.

Whilst this review is underway, we are postponing the publication of expenditure information due in November and temporarily removing descriptive detail from previously published claims on our website whilst the review is underway.

Please be assured that IPSA's priority is to work with you and the House to make it as safe as possible for you to continue to engage with and represent your constituents, which plays such a vital role in our democracy.

Richard Lloyd
Chair

Ian Todd
Chief Executive

