



11 November 2021

Over the last two years we have seen evidence that many of you have experienced a sustained increase in casework volumes dealing with a number of difficult issues ranging from the pandemic to Afghanistan. We are very aware of the toll taken on staff wellbeing by dealing with these issues, and the difficult circumstances in which they work. At IPSA our commitment is to support Members of Parliament to deliver a high quality service to constituents.

We wrote to you in [June 2020](#) and again in [December 2020](#) to temporarily increase the available staffing budget. Following discussions with the Speaker's Committee for IPSA, and subject to formal approval by SCIPSA of IPSA's funding estimate early in 2022, and the will of Parliament, we are now able to announce that we plan to make the current temporary uplift to the staffing budget ongoing for the remainder of this Parliament. This will be at the level of the annual cost of a full-time caseworker from April 2022. We are giving you this information now in order to help you plan for next year. Details of your other budgets will be announced once the formal budget-setting processes have been concluded in the New Year.

We understand how hard it can be to recruit and retain staff when there is uncertainty about long term budgets, so we hope that by giving you this information now it will help you to make longer term plans. We appreciate the support of the Speaker and SCIPSA in being able to make this announcement now ahead of the conclusion of the formal approval of IPSA's funding. We also

value greatly the constructive engagement we have with your Office Managers who are providing us with valuable insights into workloads.

Please get in touch with your IPSA account manager if you need any further information.

Richard Lloyd
Chair

Ian Todd
Chief Executive
