

Have your say in the IPSA Annual Survey...



19 November 2020

Today we are launching our Annual Survey of MPs and Staff for 2020. We have carried out a survey each year since 2011 to gain your feedback to help us understand your needs, improve our support and plan effectively for the coming year. The survey is aimed at individuals who regularly work with IPSA and use IPSA Online.

Following the feedback in last year's survey and the outbreak of the coronavirus, we have introduced a number of changes including: the Call Booking System in response to working remotely, moved IPSA Online training sessions online, running twice a week; a series of webinars on specific topics such as property, payment cards, and the Staffing Budget Report; and a series of measures to help you adapt to remote working and the increase in workloads, which included increases to the Office Costs and Staffing budgets as well as a homeworking allowance for staff. We introduced a new information website to provide better guidance for IPSA Online, Scheme rules and our processes, and continue to make improvements to IPSA Online such as new alerts and a property progress

tracker.

We are keen to hear what we have done well and where we can improve our support to provide the best possible service. The survey will take around five minutes to complete and will close on 18 December 2020. All responses are anonymous and the information will be held in compliance with our [surveys Privacy Notice](#). We will publish the anonymised results on our website when the survey has closed.

[Take the survey](#)

Consultation on Automatic MPs' Staff Pay Increases

Last week we launched a consultation on proposed new arrangements for MPs' staff pay. The proposal is that IPSA would apply, by default, a pay increase for all staff in line with any increase that is applied to the staffing budget in a given year. This would remove the need for MPs to request changes in salary for individual staff members each year.

MPs would still ultimately retain control over their budgets and their staff members' salaries. The proposal is that MPs would have the ability to opt out of the automatic arrangements, for example, where a pay increase may not be appropriate in a particular case.

Further details about the consultation can be found [here](#). If you would like to respond to the consultation, please use the online survey [here](#). Alternatively, please send your response to consultation@theipsa.org.uk. The consultation will close on 10 January 2021.

Learning and Development

Staffing Budget Report Webinar

If you would like to know more about the Staffing Budget Report, please join one of our new 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

This webinar will take place on the first Tuesday of each month. The next will take place on **Tuesday 1 December at 10.30am**. To sign up for any of these webinars, [click here](#).

This session will not cover the COVID staffing budget. For queries related to the COVID staffing budget, please see our [Coronavirus FAQs](#) or [book a call](#) with a member of the Payroll team.

Property Webinar

An IPSA Account Manager will talk through the requirements for paying rent for MPs' offices and accommodation, including submitting forms and, importantly, the required supporting documentation 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 8 December at 10.30am**. To sign up for any of these webinars, [click here](#).

IPSA Online Training

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

[Click here to sign up.](#)