

15 October 2018

Today IPSA publishes its figures for all business costs and expenses incurred by MPs in 2017-18 financial year. You can find our press release <u>here</u> and all the annual publication data <u>here</u>.

Please find more details on this below, alongside information about our response to a recent Freedom of Information request concerning payment cards, contact information for the House of Commons HR helpline and guidance on submitting travel expense claims.

As always, if you have any queries about the annual publication data, or any of the information provided below, do not hesitate to contact us on 020 7811 6400

IPSA

Annual Publication and Assurance Report

Today IPSA publishes its figures for all business costs and expenses incurred by MP's in 2017-18 financial year. In total, spending across all budgets over this period was £117.4 million. This is up 6.8 per cent on the £109.9 million spent in 2016-17, due in part to the General Election that took place in June 2017. To learn more about spending during the 2017 General Election, you can read IPSA's Annual Review of Assurance for 2017-18, also published today and available <u>here</u>.

You can view the 2017-18 annual publication data for individual MPs here.

Today, IPSA has also published our routine, bi-monthly publication of MP's costs for all claims processed in June and July 2018. These will also be available on our website, under the '<u>MP Costs</u>' tab.



Payment Card FOI

Alongside these publications of expenses, IPSA has also released details on MP payment card suspensions in response to a Freedom of Information request. The full response can be found <u>here</u>.

Inquiry into Bullying and Harassment

Last week, Gemma White QC was appointed to conduct an independent inquiry into the nature and extent of bulling and harassment of past and present staff of Members of Parliament, of people engaged in Parliamentary work on their behalf, and of Members of Parliament themselves. You can find more information about the inquiry here.

HR Helpline

As highlighted in last week's bulletin, the House of Commons have launched a new service, in partnership with Croner, for all staff employed by Members of Parliament.

Calls or emails will be answered by trained HR professionals who can provide support on a range of HR matters, including annual leave, sickness absence management and disciplinary and grievance procedures.

If you have any HR queries you can call 0800 756 9814 or email <u>employeesupport@croner.co.uk</u>.

Monthly Mileage Forms



If you use the MP Monthly mileage spreadsheet to submit mileage claims to IPSA, please make sure that you are using the latest version downloaded from our website and not a template saved on your desktop. We occasionally amend the spreadsheet template available, meaning older versions may be refused by the automated system, delaying mileage reimbursement.

The most recent 'Monthly Mileage Spreadsheet' template can be found using this link.

Please contact IPSA and speak with an Account Manager if you have any queries.

Collecting Tickets from the Trainline Ticket Machines

If you book rail tickets via CTM or The Trainline.com and you opt to collect your tickets from the ticket machine in the House of Commons, please make sure that you collect all parts of the ticket. IPSA requires all parts of the train ticket in order to validate travel claims.