

## **Review of IPSA's Publication Scheme - consultation**

As part of our regular cycle of reviews and consultations, we have today launched a consultation on IPSA's publication scheme – considering the information we publish about MPs' costs and the information we publishes about IPSA itself. Transparency is at the core of our operations, which is why we have published details of every claim made by every MP since IPSA was created in 2010, and proactively publishes a range of information around our own policies and activities. We last consulted on our publication scheme in 2010 and, after nearly four years of operation, it is timely to take a step back and consider what, if any, changes might be necessary.

In relations to MPs' business costs and expenses, the proposals within the consultation are to publish MPs' landlords' names and addresses, details of contingency applications made by MPs and details of any contributions MPs receive towards the cost of apprenticeships. We welcome your views on the information we publish. The consultation, which runs until 25 April, is available [here](#).

## **Upgrade of the online expenses system**

A reminder that the online expenses system (Expense@Work) will be upgraded on 1 April. While this work is being carried out, **the online expenses system will not be available from Friday 28 March to Monday 31 March inclusive.** It will be available again on Tuesday 1 April. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. The functions will remain largely the same but the overall look and feel will be updated with some enhancements to make the system easier to use. It is important that we update the system to offer you the latest features available and to ensure compatibility with new versions of web browsers. We will also make any system changes required to reflect the new Scheme rules.

## **Model Volunteer Arrangement**

We have updated the Model Volunteer Arrangement to clarify its scope and purpose, in line with the new edition of the Scheme. A copy is available [here](#). MPs who engage volunteers must submit to IPSA a signed arrangement with the volunteer before claims can be made for incidental expenses. For the avoidance of doubt, references to 'unpaid intern' have been replaced by 'volunteer' and we've clarified that there is no obligation on the part of the MP or volunteer to provide or deliver specified work. It is the MP's responsibility to ensure that any volunteers are not in fact workers and therefore entitled to payment of a salary. For further advice, please see the advice from the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), which is available on IPSA's website [here](#).

## MPs' pay

Pay for MPs will increase by 1% from 1 April 2014. This is in line with our determination in January 2013 and the wider public sector pay policy. Basic pay will increase to £67,060. The additional payments for Chairs of Select Committees and Members of the Panel of Chairs are set out below.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Pay from 1 April 2014</b>
<b>Chair of a Select Committee</b>	£14,876
<b>Member of the Panel of Chairs - for less than one year</b>	£2,970
<b>Member of the Panel of Chairs - for 1-3 years</b>	£8,331
<b>Member of the Panel of Chairs - for 3-5 years</b>	£11,305
<b>Member of the Panel of Chairs - for 5 years or more</b>	£14,876

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