



20 May 2015

Today, in response to a Freedom of Information request submitted to IPSA in December 2010, we have released images of three receipts for individual MPs' expenses.

IPSA has contested the release of this information for four years through the courts on the grounds that we already publish all the information contained on MPs' receipts. In March this year, our case was heard by the Court of Appeal, and they handed down their judgement on 28 April. They found against us and in favour of the Information Commissioner. Having carefully considered the judgement, IPSA's Board has decided that we will not pursue this matter any further through the courts, and we will now publish the images of the three receipts in question. They are on our [website](#)

You will appreciate that this establishes a precedent. We are likely to receive more requests for MPs' receipts and we will be obliged to release them within statutory FOI timescales. Some of these will generate media interest. We will redact each receipt we publish to hide information which could compromise your security (such as bank details, home addresses etc.), and we will make copies of the receipts available to you in advance of publication.

You need to take no further action for the moment. **Please do not redact your receipts before you send them to us;** they may contain information which we need to validate your claim. We will not process any claims supported by redacted evidence.

We will soon provide further guidance about the implications of our having to publish receipts. In the meantime, you can call or email us with specific questions.

In its judgement, the Court of Appeal made clear that this was an important test case with implications not just for IPSA but for all other public bodies. We remain completely committed to openness and transparency and, as you know, we already publish a detailed breakdown of every claim made by every MP. In our appeal we sought to test in law whether images add anything to all the information about MPs' expenditure that we already release.

#### **IPSA Contact Details**

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