

7 July 2015

### MPs' staff pensions - important information

Legal and General is the new provider of MPs' staff pensions for all staff on new contracts and all staff working for an MP re-elected at the Election.

All applicable staff should now have received their welcome letter from Legal and General, the new pension provider. Staff should contact Legal and General directly with any queries they may have. Unfortunately they quoted the incorrect phone number on their letter, for which they sincerely apologise – the correct phone number for Legal and General is **0345 070 8686** and their **email address is** wptadmin@landg.com.

Legal and General's website can also be accessed by clicking here: <u>Legal & General - Your Pension</u> <u>Plan</u>, and this link is also on our website. Staff should refer to this website which gives them useful documents, including their member booklet and also covers some frequently asked questions. We will also be writing to all affected staff with further details as a reminder of the changes.

Staff should also be made aware that their old pension providers will also be contacting them to confirm their old pension accounts have now been frozen. Your fund will remain invested there, and information on the options open to you will follow in September

The change in provider has been communicated previously to MPs and MPs' staff in November 2014 and March 2015. These letters are available on <u>our website</u>.

#### Reminder - IPSA regional and Westminster training

We are running open days across the country throughout July and August. This is to help MPs and MPs' staff in understanding the MPs' Scheme of Business Costs and Expenses and to provide additional support with using our systems.

If you would like to book onto a course, <u>visit our website</u> and fill in the online pdf form and return via email. You can also find this at <u>www.parliamentarystandards.org.uk</u> then visit IPSA for MPs, Staff Training section.

Travel to and from the course can be claimed for. For MPs, it needs to be submitted under 'extended travel'. For MPs' staff, it can be submitted under 'training' and will not count towards the standard 96 journeys allowed per year.

#### **Publication of expense claims**

Our regular bi-monthly publication of expense claims will go live on Thursday 9 July. This relates to all claims from February and March 2015, so this will not include any information on claims for new

MPs. We sent information to every affected MP at the beginning of last week to remind everyone that this will be taking place.

# Phone lines opening hours

Our MP support phone line (020 7811 6400) has now returned to our normal opening hours of 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

## **IPSA Contact Details**

Phone: IPSA Information Line: 020 7811 6400 (open from 10am – 5pm)

Email: info@parliamentarystandards.org.uk

**Post:** IPSA, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, 30 Millbank, London, SW1P 4DU

Website: www.parliamentarystandards.org.uk