

13 September 2016

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Boundary Changes

Following [today's publication of the initial boundary proposals](#) for Northern Ireland, England and Wales (and the forthcoming publication for Scotland), we want to give an outline of the work that IPSA is carrying out in response. Our primary objective is to ensure that, post-2020, the MPs' Scheme of Business Costs and Expenses provides the full financial support necessary for you to carry out your parliamentary duties. As well as the reduction in the number of constituencies, there are implications to consider about constituency geography, population size and the regional distribution of MPs.

We will carefully assess the rules of the Scheme to make sure they provide the right level of support and balance this with the Government's intention for the review to reduce the overall cost of politics.

As the initial boundaries are subject to changes through the consultation process, we are unable to provide guidance specific to your constituency or particular situation at this early stage. However we do want to signpost some of the areas we are examining. We are considering the current criteria for Loss of Office Payments to ensure the provision is fair and consistent in light of the upcoming reduction in the total number of constituencies. We will consider whether the Staffing budget is set at the right level to allow MPs to serve these revised constituencies. We will review the provisions made for travel and offices within larger constituencies and will need to consider the definition of the London Area. The rules and eligibility surrounding the additional budgets for MPs who leave or take up office are also going to be assessed.

We will consult with you ahead of any decisions on possible amendments to the Scheme. We will also engage with any relevant work being carried out by the House, such as the

inquiry recently announced by the Women and Equalities Select Committee covering the impact of the boundary review on female representation. We will provide you with further information as soon as we are able, in line with the timescales dictated by the work of the Boundary Commissions.

IPSA's Scheme consultation

On Wednesday 11 May 2016 IPSA [launched the public consultation on the MPs' Scheme of Business Costs and Expenses](#) (the Scheme). The aim is to make the Scheme simpler and clearer, whilst retaining a robust approach to regulating MPs' business costs and expenses and a commitment to supporting MPs in their parliamentary duties. A copy of the full consultation document is available on IPSA's website: www.parliamentarystandards.org.uk.

As part of the consultation, IPSA's Board are keen to engage with MPs directly and hear their views on particular themes. The Board will be holding two evidence gathering sessions towards the end of October on staffing and accommodation. We would like to invite a few MPs to join us for a small roundtable discussion with IPSA's Board. If you would be interested in participating in one of these sessions please contact Naomi Stauber, IPSA's Chief of Staff by email: Naomi.Stauber@theipsa.org.uk. Offers will be accepted on a first come first served basis.

Trainline kiosk in Portcullis House

The Trainline ticket machine is currently out of order and cannot print tickets at this time. You will be able to print and collect tickets from any other mainline train station. Once the machine is working again, we will let you know.

IPSA Contact Details

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