

7 April 2017

Dear Member of Parliament

Last week, I informed you that on Thursday 30 March there was an accidental release of personal information on IPSA's old website. Documents published in error contained confidential information about your staff names, salaries, rewards, working patterns, budget sources and holiday entitlements. I am writing now to provide an update on action taken.

The information was not on our new website, but IPSA's old website largely used by MPs and their staff. It was available online for four hours and fifty minutes. During that time, it was accessed for under four hours and by around three dozen people, of whom some had logged on from the parliamentary estate. We removed the documents within an hour of becoming aware of the issue. We have contacted those whom we know to have accessed the data and asked them to destroy it. If you or anyone you know downloaded this information, please ensure that these files are permanently deleted or destroyed.

We have written individually to the 3,295 staff members affected to inform them of the specific information that was published about them, and have responded immediately to queries from MPs and their staff about this data breach. We have completed a full internal investigation, and are taking appropriate disciplinary action. There was no external breach of our IT systems, which remain robust and secure. An action plan has been put in place to strengthen our information management policies, training, governance and control. We will take any further action recommended by the Information Commissioner. I will personally oversee the implementation of these actions in order to safeguard the sensitive information we hold about you and your staff.

I apologise again for this serious error. Please contact us if you have further questions or concerns.

Yours sincerely,



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Chief Executive

Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority