

25 April 2017

This bulletin contains information on:

- [UK General Election 2017 – IPSA guidance now available](#)
- [IPSA drop-in sessions](#)
- [Adjustment to the Office Costs budget](#)
- [New payroll guidance](#)
- [Publication of MP Costs](#)

UK General Election 2017 – IPSA guidance now available

Last week we emailed all MPs and their staff to let you know that IPSA would be providing advice and guidance for the period leading up to and during dissolution and the General Election. This guidance is [now available here on our website](#) and will help you to understand the rules that apply during the dissolution period and beyond. It will also explain what rules and entitlements will apply in the event that an MP loses office, is newly elected, or is returned to Parliament. Please refer to this document for correct budget information.

Please do make sure to check the [dedicated General Election section on our website](#) regularly for updates, FAQs, and other useful information. You can also call our existing information line on **020 7811 6400**.

Make sure **you have downloaded the RSA software token** onto a device that you will still be able to use during dissolution to access the online expenses system or a mobile device.

We will be contacting all MPs who have announced that they will be standing down from Parliament to start working with them on winding up their parliamentary affairs.

IPSA drop-in sessions

IPSA staff will be present with House of Commons staff during drop-in sessions in the **PCH Atrium this week from Tuesday 25 April to Friday 28 April at 12-2pm**. Please do come along and ask any questions you may have.

Adjustment to the Office Costs budget

In March we published our new Scheme of MPs' Business Costs and Expenses which included budgets for the current financial year (2017-18). This included an Office Costs budget of £27,550 for London Area MPs and £24,850 for non-London Area MPs.

We pointed out at the time that these figures included £1,000 in case the House of Commons decided not to renew its broadband contract for MPs, and MPs would thus need to fund broadband costs in their constituencies themselves. But the House has now decided to continue its broadband contract for all MPs, so this sum is not needed from IPSA.

As a result, we have reduced the Office Costs budget by £700, such that the revised **2017-18 Office Costs budgets are £26,850 for London area MPs and £24,150 for non-London area MPs**. These figures are reflected in the pro-rated budgets for departing and new MPs in the dissolution and election guidance on our website. We have retained £300 in the budgets to help with the costs of scanners and other equipment as part of our system improvements.

We have updated these figures [on our website](#). An updated copy of the current Scheme with the correct figures for this financial year [can be found here](#).

New payroll guidance

We have published new payroll guidance on a new section of our website. The [new payroll guidance section](#) is a single, easy to use, online resource within 'IPSA for MPs' which provides useful information including guidance on employment contracts, annual, family, and sick leave, timesheets, pensions, and useful contact details.

We welcome any feedback you may have on this new website section as well as on the guidance itself.

Publication of MPs' Business Costs

Due to the General Election, IPSA will not publish details of MPs' business costs and expenses on 11 May 2017, as originally planned. This is in line with IPSA's publication policy that we do not publish information about MPs during the dissolution period.

The next publication of MPs' business costs will be on 13 July 2017. This will cover MPs' business costs and expenses from December 2016, January, February and March 2017.

This year's annual publication of data will be in November 2017.

Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA)

4th Floor
30 Millbank
London
SW1P 4DU

General Enquiries: 020 7811 6400

info@theipsa.org.uk
www.theipsa.org.uk

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