

Research Briefing

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Members' pay and expenses and ministerial salaries 2021/22

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Summary

The Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority ([IPSA](#)) is responsible for determining and paying Members' salaries; for preparing and regularly reviewing and revising a scheme under which allowances are paid; and for paying those allowances.

It has no role in determining or paying ministerial salaries.

Members' salaries

From 1 April 2021, the annual salary of a Member of Parliament [remained at £81,932, the salary that applied from 1 April 2020](#). IPSA had concluded that given the impact of the Covid pandemic, “applying the forthcoming official statistic for public sector earnings growth would result in a salary increase for MPs that would be inconsistent with the wider economic data and would not reflect the reality that many constituents are facing this year”.

In July 2015, IPSA had [determined](#) that MPs' salaries should rise in line with public sector pay. IPSA's revised determination, confirming the 2021 pay freeze, was published in its March 2021 [Consultation report: periodic adjustments to MPs' salaries](#) (PDF).

Under section 4A of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009, IPSA is required to undertake a statutory review of Members' pay in the first year after a general election.

Following the December 2019 general election, IPSA [launched the statutory consultation, the Periodic Adjustment to MPs' Pay](#), on 8 October 2020. It proposed retaining the link between public sector earnings and Members' pay. The consultation closed on 6 October 2020. As noted above the consultation concluded that MPs' pay should be frozen in April 2021.

In July 2021, IPSA launched a further consultation about the mechanism that IPSA should use to update MPs' pay. It proposed that for the next three years it should have “some bounded discretion” to depart from the public sector pay figure. In September 2021, its report [Consultation report: mechanism for updating MPs' salaries](#) (PDF) confirmed this approach and included a further revised determination.

On 1 March 2022, IPSA announced that [MPs' pay will increase to £84,144 from 1 April 2022](#).

Members' expenses

Since the 2010 General Election, responsibility for devising a scheme for and paying Members' expenses has rested with IPSA.

IPSA undertook a comprehensive review of the Scheme, which began with a consultation issued in May 2016.

The review identified a number of changes that would be implemented following a general election, which at the time was scheduled for May 2020. The early General Election in June 2017 meant that some changes were implemented in the course of the 2017/18 financial year.

Following IPSA's [statutory review](#) (PDF) of MPs' pay at the beginning of the 2017 Parliament, it [made alterations](#) (PDF) to the arrangements for MPs who lost their seats at a general election. It introduced a new Winding-Up Payment for MPs – two months' net salary for MPs defeated at any general election and for MPs standing down at an early general election.

The 13th Edition of IPSA's [Scheme of MPs' Staffing Business Costs](#) (PDF) came into force on 1 April 2021. The main expense budgets provided in IPSA's scheme; additional funding made available in the light of the coronavirus pandemic; and the maximum amounts that Members can claim in 2021/22 are set out below:

(£ per annum)	Budget	Additional Budget#
Accommodation Costs		
London Area (rent)	23,290	
Outside London Area (rent)	16,320	
Own home	5,480	
Caring responsibility (per dependant)	5,500	
London Area Living Payment	4,140	
London Area Living Payment (addition)	1,470	
Staffing Costs		
London-Area MPs	190,750	27,680
Non London-Area MPs	179,330	24,970
Office Costs		
London-Area MPs	30,400	
Non London-Area MPs	27,470	
Start-up Supplement	6,000	
Winding-Up Costs		
London-Area MPs	57,150	
Non London-Area MPs	53,950	
Winding-Up Payment	Two months' salary*	

"in response to the exceptional circumstances created by the coronavirus pandemic"
* net of tax and National Insurance contributions

Ministerial salaries

Ministers who are Members of the House of Commons receive a Member's salary and a ministerial salary. Ministers who are Members of the House of Lords receive a ministerial salary but they cannot claim Lords Attendance Allowance.

At present ministers in both Houses do not receive their full ministerial salaries. Currently ministers in the House of Commons receive their MP's salary and the following additional amounts as ministers:

Prime Minister:	£75,440
Cabinet Minister	£67,505
Minister of State:	£31,680
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State:	£22,475

On assuming office in May 2010, the Coalition Government announced that ministers' total pay would be cut by 5% and then frozen for the duration of

that Parliament. The previous Labour administration had already frozen ministerial salaries through refusing increases in both ministerial and Members' salaries, so the actual earnings of ministers did not equate to their entitlements.

The Coalition Government made an Order in 2011 to set ministerial salaries in accordance with its May 2010 announcement. However, subsequent increases in Members' pay led to ministers in the House of Commons waiving part of their ministerial salary to prevent their total remuneration increasing and meant that the salaries drawn by ministers were different to those stated in the legislation.

The ministerial element of a minister's salary continued to be frozen following the May 2015 General Election. Since then, ministers' total earning have increased as they have received increases in the MP's salary.

In May 2019, the Leader of the House of Lords [announced](#) that Lords ministers' pay would increase. Reflecting the increases Commons ministers had received in their parliamentary salaries since May 2015, Lords ministerial salaries increased by 3.3% and in April 2019, they received their full entitlement.

In 2020/21 and 2021/22 [ministerial salaries were frozen](#). Although salary entitlements increased in line with the legislation, ministers in the Commons continued to receive the same level of ministerial salary as they had since 1 April 2014; and the salaries of ministers in the House of Lords were frozen at the rate payable since 1 April 2019.

A Library Briefing Paper on Members' pay, expenses and ministerial salaries in 2020/21 is available on the Commons Library website:

- [Members' pay and expenses and ministerial salaries 2020/21](#), CBP09148, 25 February 2021

1 Members' salaries

1.1 Setting MPs' pay

Since May 2011, the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA) has been responsible for determining Members' pay. Responsibility for determining Members' pay was transferred to IPSA by the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009, as amended by the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010. Previously Members' salaries were determined by resolution of the House of Commons.

Under section 4A of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009, IPSA is required to "review the current determination (and make a new determination as appropriate) – (a) in the first year of each Parliament; (b) at any other time it considers appropriate".¹

IPSA reviewed Members' pay in the 2010 Parliament, in order to put in place a new settlement for the 2015 Parliament. The review began in 2012. IPSA published its final recommendations in December 2013 and issued a determination setting salaries at £74,000 with effect from 8 May 2015.² Thereafter salaries would rise in line with the rate of annual change in average earnings. However, IPSA delayed the coming into force of the determination until 30 September 2015. It stated that the delay would allow it to conduct a review of this recommendation – this review would form the statutory review of Members' salaries that IPSA had to conduct at the beginning of the 2015 Parliament.

In July 2015, having conducted the statutory review, IPSA confirmed that Members' salaries would increase to £74,000 per annum with effect from 8 May 2015. However, it determined that subsequent annual increases should be in line with changes in public sector average earnings (not whole economy average earnings). Changes to Members' pensions and to rules on claiming some personal expenses were made to ensure that there was no additional cost to taxpayers.³

In May 2018, IPSA issued a consultation to fulfil the statutory obligation to review its determination in the first year of the 2017 Parliament. On 5 July 2018, IPSA announced that "the salaries of Members of Parliament will

¹ [Parliamentary Standards Act 2009](#), section 4A(6)

² Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [MPs' Pay and Pensions – Final Report](#) (PDF), December 2013, Annex A

³ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [MPs' Pay in the 2015 Parliament: Final Report](#) (PDF), July 2015, Annex A

continue to be linked to changes in average public sector pay” and that it would make no changes to the 2015 determination.⁴

Following the December 2019 general election, as part of its statutory review, IPSA proposed retaining the link between public sector earnings and Members' pay.⁵

However, on 11 December 2020, IPSA announced that Members' pay would be frozen (at £81,932) for 2021/22. It noted that its approach to setting Members' pay since 2015 was “intended to last a generation” but the impact of the Covid pandemic had prompted many respondents to the consultation to call on IPSA to take a different approach. It said that the IPSA Board would reflect on the consultation and publish its response in 2021.⁶

IPSA's revised determination, confirming the 2021 pay freeze, was published in March 2021. It amended the July 2015 determination, by adding that:

Notwithstanding the previous paragraph [describing the annual uprating mechanism], no adjustment will be made to the MP Salary on 1 April 2021.⁷

In July 2021, IPSA launched a further consultation about the mechanism that IPSA should use to update MPs' pay. It proposed that for the next three years it should have “some bounded discretion” to depart from the public sector pay figure. In September 2021, its report on this consultation confirmed this approach and included a further revised determination. The determination retained the existing uprating mechanism but included the following provision to allow IPSA discretion to adjust MPs' salaries by a different amount than that provided for by the usual uprating mechanism:

Notwithstanding paragraphs 3 and 5 [describing and defining the uprating mechanism], the adjustments to the MP Salary on 1 April 2022, 1 April 2023 and 1 April 2024 may be adjusted by an amount other than the rate of annual change in public sector average earnings where IPSA judges this is necessary to arrive at an adjustment which is fair to both MPs and to taxpayers, having regard to the experience of constituents and MPs' overall remuneration. In deciding whether such variation to the adjustment is necessary, IPSA will consider information, data and commentary on wage settlements, earnings statistics and trends and the outlook for the UK economy and wider public sector pay policy.⁸

⁴ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority news, [IPSA announces Outcome of MPs' Pay Consultation](#), 5 July 2018

⁵ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority news, [Periodic Adjustment to MPs' pay: consultation](#), 8 October 2020

⁶ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority news, [MPs' Pay Remains Unchanged for 2021-22](#), 11 December 2020

⁷ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Consultation report: periodic adjustments to MPs' salaries](#) (PDF), March 2021, Annex 1

⁸ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Consultation report: mechanism for updating MPs' salaries](#) (PDF), September 2021, Annex 3

The July 2015 determination and the amendments made to it in December 2020 and September 2021 are set out in Annex 2.

1.2

Members' salaries in the 2019 Parliament

From the beginning of the 2015 Parliament, MPs' salaries were set in accordance with IPSA's July 2015 determination. Accordingly, they increased in April each year, in line with public sector pay, from £74,000 in May 2015 to £81,932 in April 2020.

MPs' salaries from 1 April 2021

From 1 April 2021, MPs' salaries were frozen at £81,932. IPSA announced the freezing of MPs' salaries at the conclusion of its statutory review of MPs' salaries that it was required to undertake in the first year of the 2019 Parliament.⁹

As noted above, IPSA's revised determination (of 16 December 2020) confirmed the pay freeze.

MPs' salaries from 1 April 2022

On 1 March 2022, IPSA announced that MPs' pay will increase to £84,144 from 1 April 2022. In line with public sector pay, this is an increase of 2.7%.¹⁰

In January 2022, both the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, and the Leader of the Opposition, Keir Starmer, had called for a further pay freeze for MPs.¹¹

Despite having the discretion to adjust MPs' salaries "by an amount other than the rate of annual change in public sector average earnings",¹² IPSA decided that the annual adjustment to MPs' basic pay for 2022-23 would be "the same as the average increase in pay for public sector employees last year". Richard Lloyd, IPSA's Chair, noted that it was the first pay increase for MPs in two years.¹³

⁹ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority news, [MPs' Pay Remains Unchanged for 2021-22](#), 11 December 2020

¹⁰ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority news, [IPSA announces MPs' pay for 2022-23](#), 1 March 2022

¹¹ George Grylls, "Don't raise MPs' pay, Boris Johnson says as households feel pinch", Times, 10 January 2022

¹² Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Consultation report: mechanism for updating MPs' salaries](#) (PDF), September 2021, Annex 3. See Annex 2

¹³ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority news, [IPSA announces MPs' pay for 2022-23](#), 1 March 2022

1.3

Members' salaries, 1997-2021

Before IPSA was given responsibility for determining Members' pay, the House of Commons determined Members' salaries. Between 1997 and 2008, the House voted periodically on motions to give effect to changes in Members' pay, usually on the basis of reports commissioned by the Government from the Senior Salaries Review Body.

In 2008, it agreed a resolution that provided for an automatic increase in Members' salaries. The increase was determined by changes in the salaries of 15 groups of public service workers.

However, in 2011, the House agreed to a pay freeze instead of an increase under the 2008 resolution,

The table below sets out the changes in the levels of Members' salaries from 2010 to 2021.

Table 1: Members' pay, 2010-21

(£ per annum, nominal terms)

1 April 2010 (a)	65,738
1 April 2011 (b)	65,738
1 April 2012 (c)	65,738
1 April 2013 (d)	66,396
1 April 2014 (d)	67,060
1 April 2015 (e)	67,060
8 May 2015 (f) (g)	74,000
1 April 2016 (f)	74,962
1 April 2017 (f)	76,011
1 April 2018 (f)	77,379
1 April 2019 (f)	79,468
1 April 2020 (f)	81,932
1 April 2021 (h)	81,932

Notes:

(a) In accordance with the [resolution of the House of Commons](#), 3 July 2008

(b) In accordance with the [resolution of the House of Commons](#), 21 March 2011

(c) Decision of IPSA, February 2012¹⁴

(d) [IPSA Determination](#) (PDF), January 2013

(e) Decision of IPSA, December 2013¹⁵

(f) IPSA [Determination](#) (PDF), July 2015

¹⁴ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, MPs' Pension Scheme [letter to Members], 8 February 2012

¹⁵ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [MPs' Pay and Pensions Final Report](#) (PDF), December 2013. No provision was made for an increase in MPs' pay on 1 April 2015, rather the increase would take effect following the General Election expected in May 2015

(g) Determination came into force on 16 July 2015

(h) IPSA [Determination](#) (PDF), December 2020

Further details of changes in Members' pay before responsibilities transferred to IPSA can be found in the Library Research Paper, [Members' pay and expenses – current rates and a review of developments since 2009](#) (RP 12/29, 22 May 2012). And an extended version of Table 1 (Table 1A) can be found in a spreadsheet containing Appendices 1-3 (see spreadsheet on the Commons Library webpage for this briefing).

Details of developments in Members' pay since IPSA's establishment can be found in the Library Briefing Papers since 2013, listed in Appendix 5.

1.4 Additional salaries for select committee chairs and for members of the Panel of Chairs

Select committee chairs

From the introduction of additional salaries for select committee chairs, at the beginning of the 2003-04 Session, the level of additional salary has been set at a single rate for all qualifying chairs.

IPSA issued its first determination in January 2013, setting salaries for April 2013 and April 2014. It issued a further determination in December 2013, setting the salaries of members of the Panel of Chairs (and of select committees chairs) from April 2015. The final report of its review of pay for committee chairs included a determination which set the level of salary for June 2016 onwards and provided for it to be adjusted on an annual basis, in line with changes in average earnings (see Annex 2 for the determination).

From 1 April 2021, the additional salary is set at £16,422, unchanged from the previous year, in line with the decision to freeze basic pay. Amendments to the determination on additional salaries were made in December 2020, to freeze the salary; and in September 2021, to allow discretion in altering the additional salary in April 2022, April 2023 and April 2024.

The additional salaries of select committee chairs, determined by IPSA since 2013 are set out in Table 2, below.

Table 2: Select committee chairs additional salary
(£ per annum, nominal terms)

1 April 2013	14,728
1 April 2014	14,876
1 April 2015	15,025
1 June 2016	15,025
1 April 2017	15,235
1 April 2018	15,509
1 April 2019	15,928
1 April 2020	16,422
1 April 2021	16,422

Sources: Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA), [Reviewing MPs' Pay and Pensions: A First Report](#), January 2013, Annex A; Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [MPs' Pay and Pensions – Final Report](#), December 2013, Annex B; IPSA, [Pay for Chairs of Committees: Final Report](#), May 2016, Annex A; IPSA, [Consultation report: periodic adjustments to MPs' salaries](#) (PDF), March 2021, Annex 2; IPSA, [MPs' Pay and Pensions](#) (webpage)

Information on the background to the introduction of additional salaries for Members who chair select committees and the levels of additional salaries since their introduction can be found in the Library Briefing, [Select Committees – pay for chairs](#) (SN02725).

Members of the Panel of Chairs

From the introduction of additional salaries for members of the Panel of Chairs¹⁶ until the conclusion of IPSA's 2016 review of additional salaries for committee chairs, the level of additional salary depended on their length of service on the Panel. From June 2016 onwards, IPSA's determination provided for a flat rate for all members of the Panel of Chairs, at the same level as that of select committee chairs.

IPSA issued its first determination in January 2013, setting salaries for April 2013 and April 2014. It issued a further determination in December 2013, setting the salaries of members of the Panel of Chairs (and of select committees chairs) from April 2015. The final report of its review of pay for committee chairs included a determination which set the level of salary for June 2016 onwards and provided for it to be adjusted on an annual basis, in line with changes in public sector average earnings (see Annex 2 for the determination).

From 1 April 2021, the additional salary is set at £16,422, unchanged from the previous year, in line with the decision to freeze basic pay. Amendments to

¹⁶ MPs appointed by the Speaker to chair Public Bill Committees and other general committees. They may also chair debates in Westminster Hall and act as temporary chairs of Committees of the whole House. The Panel is chaired by the Chairman of Ways and Means

the determination on additional salaries were made in December 2020, to freeze the salary; and in September 2021, to allow discretion in altering the additional salary in April 2022, April 2023 and April 2024.

The additional salary rates for members of the Panel of Chairs, for 2013/14 to 2021/22, determined by IPSA, are set out in Table 3.

Table 3: Panel of chairs, additional salary (£ per annum, nominal terms)				
Pre 2016	Length of service			
	Less than	1-3 years	3-5 years	5 years or
01 April 2013	2,940	8,248	11,193	14,728
01 April 2014	2,970	8,331	11,305	14,876
01 April 2015	3,000	8,415	11,419	15,025
Post 2016	All chairs, regardless of length of service			
01 June 2016				15,025
01 April 2017				15,235
01 April 2018				15,509
01 April 2019				15,928
01 April 2020				16,422
01 April 2021				16,422

Sources: Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA), [Reviewing MPs' Pay and Pensions: A First Report](#), January 2013, Annex A; IPSA, [MPs' Pay and Pensions – Final Report](#), December 2013, Annex B; IPSA, [Pay for Chairs of Committees: Final Report](#), May 2016, Annex A; IPSA, [Consultation report: periodic adjustments to MPs' salaries](#) (PDF), March 2021, Annex 2; IPSA, [MPs' Pay and Pensions](#) (webpage)

Information on the background to the introduction of additional salaries for Members who serve on the Panel of Chairs and the levels of additional salaries since their introduction can be found in the Library Briefing, [Public bill and general committees: pay for chairs](#) (SN03718).

House of Commons specifies who qualifies for additional salaries and IPSA determines it

Additional salaries for select committee chairs were introduced from the beginning of the 2003-04 Session.¹⁷

¹⁷ For further details, see House of Commons Library Briefing, [Select committees – pay for chairs](#), SN02725

On 13 July 2005, the House of Commons agreed that additional salaries should be paid to members of the Panel of Chairs, from 1 November 2005.¹⁸

Until May 2010, the House of Commons was responsible for determining and paying these additional salaries. Now IPSA is responsible for determining the level of the additional salary, while the House of Commons specifies which roles qualify for an additional salary.

These salaries are paid to Members in accordance with sections 4 and 4A of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009, as amended. Subsection 4A(2) allows IPSA to pay additional salaries to “members while holding an office or position specified for the purposes of this subsection in a resolution of the House of Commons”.¹⁹

On 19 March 2013, the House of Commons agreed a resolution (for the purposes of subsection 4A(2)) which set out who was entitled to an additional salary and what should be done in cases where an individual appeared to qualify for more than one additional salary:

That—

(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the following offices of positions are specified for the purposes of section 4A(2) of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009, with effect from 1 April 2013—

(a) the Chair of a select committee appointed under Standing Order No. 152 (Select Committees related to government departments), the Administration Committee, the Backbench Business Committee, the Environmental Audit Committee, the European Scrutiny Committee, the Finance and Services Committee, the Liaison Committee, the Political and Constitutional Reform Committee [the Standing Order establishing this committee expired at the end of the 2010 Parliament], the Select Committee on Procedure, the Committee of Public Accounts, the Select Committee on Public Administration, the Regulatory Reform Committee [abolished on 20 May 2021²⁰], the Committee of Selection, the Committee on Standards, the Joint Committee on Human Rights or the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments; and

(b) a member of the Panel of Chairs appointed under Standing Order No. 4 (Panel of Chairs), other than a member who is the Chair of a committee specified in sub-paragraph (a) or a member who is entitled to an additional salary by virtue of any provision of the Ministerial and other Salaries Act 1975.

(2) If a Member already holds an office or position referred to in paragraph (1)(a), then any other office or position referred to in paragraph (1)(a) is not specified for the purposes of section 4A(2) of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 in respect of any period for which that other post or position is held by that Member.

¹⁸ For further details, see House of Commons Library Briefing, [Public bill and general committees: pay for chairs](#), SN03718

¹⁹ Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 (chapter 13), section 4A(2)

²⁰ [HC Deb 20 May 2021 cc963-964](#)

(3) Any office or position referred to in paragraph (1)(a) for the purposes of section 4A(2) of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 is not specified for the purposes of that section in respect of any period in which it is held by a Member who is also entitled to an additional salary by virtue of any provision of the Ministerial and other Salaries Act 1975.

(4) Any reference to any committee in paragraph (1)(a) shall, if the name of the committee is changed, be taken to be a reference to the committee by its new name.²¹

The resolution made provision for changes to names of committees. However, the House has also created new committees since March 2013. The chairs of those, such as the Women and Equalities Committee, that are included in Standing Order No 152 automatically qualify for the additional salary but other committees have been added to the list by the House:

- the High Speed Rail (London - West Midlands) Bill Select Committee (April 2014-February 2016);
- the Petitions Committee (March 2015);
- the Committee on Exiting the European Union (October 2016, July 2017 and January 2020) – the Committee on the Future Relationship with the European Union (from March 2020, until 15 January 2021);
- the High Speed Rail (West Midlands - Crewe) Bill Select Committee (January 2018-June 2019); and
- the European Statutory Instruments Committee (July 2018 and February 2020).²²

IPSA's March 2016 consultation on additional salaries for committee chairs

On 11 March 2016, IPSA issued a consultation document on the pay of chairs of committees.²³

IPSA published the conclusion of its consultation on 25 May 2016. It reviewed the responses to the consultation. It found the majority of responses supported its proposals to retain the existing salary and arrangements for select committee chairs. Most respondents supported streamlining the salary structure for members of the Panel of Chairs. There was also support for linking increases in additional salaries to increases in Members' salaries.²⁴

²¹ [HC Deb 19 March 2013 cc900-902](#)

²² [HC Deb 29 April 2014 c774](#); [HC Deb 26 March 2015 c1628](#); [HC Deb 11 October 2016 c256](#) and [c259](#); [HC Deb 4 July 2017 cc1077-1088](#); and [HC Deb 30 January 2018 c792](#); [HC Deb 16 July 2018 c192](#); [HC Deb 16 January 2020 c1267](#); [HC Deb 3 February 2020 c143](#)

²³ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Reviewing Pay for Chairs of Committees: A Consultation](#) (PDF), March 2016

²⁴ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Pay for Chairs of Committees: Final Report](#) (PDF), May 2016

IPSA confirmed that salaries in 2016/17 for select committee chairs would be frozen at 2015 levels and that, from 1 June 2016, a single rate of additional salary would be implemented for members of the Panel of Chairs, at the same level as select committee chairs. Thereafter, additional salaries would (like MPs' salaries), be adjusted by the rate of annual change in public sector average earnings.²⁵

An extract from the determination is provided in Annex 2.

²⁵ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority news, [Decision on pay for chairs of committees confirmed by the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority](#), 25 May 2016

2 Members' expenses

2.1 Summary

Table 4: IPSA Scheme Budgets 2021/22

(£)

	Budget	Additional Budget#
Accommodation Costs		
London Area (rent)	23,290	
Outside London Area (rent)	16,320	
Own home	5,480	
Caring responsibility (per dependant)	5,500	
London Area Living Payment	4,140	
London Area Living Payment (addition)	1,470	
Staffing Costs		
London-Area MPs	190,750	27,680
Non London-Area MPs	179,330	24,970
Office Costs		
London-Area MPs	30,400	
Non London-Area MPs	27,470	
Start-up Supplement	6,000	
Winding-Up Costs		
London-Area MPs	57,150	
Non London-Area MPs	53,950	
Winding-Up Payment	Two months' salary*	

"in response to the exceptional circumstances created by the coronavirus pandemic"
* net of tax and National Insurance contributions

Since the 2010 General Election, responsibility for devising a scheme for and paying Members' expenses has rested with IPSA.

The Scheme of MPs' Staffing and Business Costs (13th Edition) came into effect on 1 April 2021.²⁶ The main expense budgets provided in IPSA's scheme and the

²⁶ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [The Scheme of MPs' Staffing Business Costs and Expenses 2021-22 \(13th Edition\)](#) (PDF), 18 March 2021, HC 1262 2019-21

maximum amounts that Members can claim in 2021/22 are set in Table 4, above.

Following a consultation on the Scheme, IPSA introduced some changes to the 13th Edition of the Scheme. The main changes were:

- Additional funding for staffing “for coronavirus-related workload” will be automatically available until 22 March 2022. In 2020/21, MPs were able to request additional funding.
- An MP parental leave cover fund has been introduced.
- To allow MPs staff who are reservists leave for mandatory training, salary costs for up to 15 days can be allocated to the staff absence budget.

IPSA provided [Guidance on the Scheme of MPs' Staffing and Business Costs 2021-22](#) (PDF), which described changes to the Scheme, provided details of budget limits and set out staff salary ranges.

IPSA's Scheme for 2022/23 was published on 17 March 2022.²⁷

2.2 Preparing and reviewing the Scheme

Statutory duties

Under section 5 of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 IPSA has a statutory duty to prepare and regularly review and revise an allowances scheme for Members of Parliament. In fulfilling that statutory duty it is required to consult:

- (a) the Speaker of the House of Commons,
- (b) the Committee on Standards in Public Life,
- (c) the Leader of the House of Commons,
- (d) any committee of the House of Commons nominated by the Speaker,
- (e) members of the House of Commons,
- (f) the Review Body on Senior Salaries,
- (g) Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs,
- (h) the Treasury, and

²⁷ Independent Parliamentary Standards authority, [The Scheme of MPs' Staffing and Business Costs 2022-23](#) (PDF), 17 March 2022, HC 1111 2021-22

(i) any other person the IPSA considers appropriate.²⁸

IPSA is also responsible for paying expenses under the Scheme it prepares.²⁹

IPSA's first MPs' Expenses Scheme came into force on the day after the 2010 General Election. Previously, Members' expenses (known as allowances) were paid in accordance with resolutions of the House of Commons.³⁰

The first three editions of IPSA's expenses schemes were titled "MPs' Expenses Scheme"; the fourth to eighth editions (2012/13 to 2016/17) were the "MPs' Scheme of Business Costs and Expenses"; and from the ninth edition, in 2017/18, to the twelfth edition, in 2020/21, they were titled "The Scheme of MPs' Business Costs and Expenses". The 13th edition is "The Scheme of MPs' Staffing and Business Costs 2021-22".

Reviews of the MPs' Expenses Scheme

In the Foreword to the first edition of The MPs' Expenses Scheme (March 2010), IPSA confirmed that it would revise the MPs' Expenses Scheme annually.³¹

From the outset, IPSA has usually undertaken an annual review of its Expenses Scheme. In addition, its major review of pay and pensions in 2012 and 2013 recommended some changes to the Expenses Scheme with effect from the 2015 General Election. The Eighth Edition (2016/17) was not preceded by a review exercise. The IPSA Board noted that changes made had been agreed after previous consultations or removed redundant rules, meaning there was no need to consult.³²

Additionally, IPSA undertakes assurance reports and policy reports that can lead to changes in its Scheme.

Parental leave for MPs and staff reservists leave - consultation

MPs, as office holders, do not qualify for maternity or paternity leave. They continue to receive their parliamentary salary unless they are suspended from the service of the House.

²⁸ Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 (chapter 13), section 5(4)

²⁹ An overview of IPSA's duties and the background to its establishment can be found in the Annex

³⁰ Further information on the operation of the House of Commons Scheme is given in House of Commons Library Research Paper RP 12/29, [Members' pay and expenses – current rates and a review of developments since 2009](#), 22 May 2012, and earlier Research Papers on Members' pay and allowances. A list of previous research papers is given in Appendix 5

³¹ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [The MPs' Expenses Scheme](#), 29 March 2010, HC 501 2009-10, p3

³² Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [The MPs' Scheme of Business Costs and Expenses 2016-17](#) (Eighth Edition), 22 March 2016, HC 854 2015-16, p3

On 16 February 2021, IPSA issued a consultation entitled “Funding for MP parental leave cover and staff reservists leave”.

The consultation proposed changes to the Scheme for 2021/22 to provide funding for cover when MPs took a period of parental leave. In the consultation document, IPSA set out its proposals for changes:

We are proposing to create a specific MP Parental Leave Cover Fund and a new policy which will clearly set out MPs' eligibility for funding and how we will provide it.

9. The proposed policy would state:

- That funding for cover will normally be provided for a maximum period of seven months for the biological mother or primary adopter (with a maximum of six months after the birth), and two weeks for the biological father, partner or second adopter – although longer periods may be agreed on a case-by-case basis.
- That the use of IPSA funding for cover is otherwise subject to the normal rules on staffing costs, including in respect of the requirement for staff to be employed on a standard contract, job description and salary range.
- That MPs who request funding for cover during a period of parental leave should either provide IPSA with a MatB1 or an adoption matching certificate or have an agreed proxy voting arrangement in place.

10. This would formalise the provisions already in place for MPs who take a period of leave after the birth or adoption of a child and would make clear that MPs are entitled to this funding.

11. In addition to this change, we are undertaking a further phase of work to improve the practical support IPSA provides to MPs and their offices during a period of leave, such as tailored training and ‘keeping in touch’ days. We also want to explore whether changes to the online system could make it easier for designated proxies to continue to manage the office’s business costs while the MP is absent. We will be seeking views as we do this over the coming months.

Consultation questions:

- Do you agree that a new MP Parental Leave Cover Fund should be created?
- Do you have any comments about the proposed rules of eligibility for this funding?
- Is there anything else IPSA should take into account when deciding on its policy in this area?³³

On Armed Forces Reservists Training Leave for MPs staff, IPSA proposed that “the cost of this mandatory training leave taken by MP staff armed forces reservists should be allocated to the staff absence budget, a centrally

³³ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Consultation: Funding for MP parental leave cover and staff reservists leave](#) (PDF), February 2021, paras 8-11

provided fund, which means that an MP's ordinary staffing budget would not be impacted".³⁴ IPSA asked consultees whether they agreed with the proposals and whether there was anything else IPSA should take into account.

The outcome of the consultation exercise was set out in the [13th edition of the Scheme](#) (PDF) and in [Guidance on the Scheme of MPs' Staffing and Business Costs 2021-22](#) (PDF). Details are given in sections 2.8 and 2.12, for reservists and MPs, respectively.

2.3 MPs' Expenses Scheme 13th Edition

IPSA's [The Scheme of MPs' Staffing and Business Costs 2021-22 \(13th Edition\)](#) (PDF) was published on 18 March 2020. Its provisions came into force on 1 April 2021.³⁵

The Scheme "is intended to ensure that MPs' use of taxpayers' money is well-regulated and that MPs are resourced appropriately to carry out their parliamentary functions".³⁶

The Scheme sets out fundamental principles; the process for making claims, determining and reviewing claims; and the general conditions of the Scheme. The fundamental principles (see Box 1) were revised following the 2016 review of the Scheme, and have not been altered since then.³⁷

Box 1: Fundamental principles of IPSA's Scheme (April 2021)

For MPs

In claiming for public funds through the Scheme, MPs must adhere to the following principles.

- 1. Parliamentary:** MPs may only claim for expenditure for parliamentary purposes.
- 2. Value for Money:** MPs must have regard to value for money when making claims.

³⁴ As above, para 13

³⁵ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [The Scheme of MPs' Staffing and Business Costs 2021-22 \(13th Edition\)](#) (PDF), 18 March 2020, HC 1262 2019-21

³⁶ IPSA, 13th Edition, p7

³⁷ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Review of the Scheme of MPs' Business Costs and expenses and IPSA's publication policy – Consultation Report and Equality Impact Assessment](#) (PDF), March 2017, para 22

3. Accountability: MPs are legally responsible for all money claimed and for managing their budgets and their staff.

4. Probity: When making claims, MPs must adhere to the MPs' Code of Conduct, including the seven principles of public life.

For IPSA

IPSA's role as an independent regulator is to resource MPs appropriately to carry out their parliamentary functions and support them in making eligible claims. In administering the Scheme we will adhere to the following principles:

5. Diversity: IPSA will take account of MPs' diverse working arrangements and treat MPs fairly, so that they are not disadvantaged or advantaged financially because of the Scheme.

6. Transparency: IPSA will operate transparently, making information about MPs' expenditure accessible to the public.

7. Value for money: IPSA will administer the Scheme efficiently and cost-effectively.

8. Proportionality: IPSA will regulate proportionately and effectively.³⁸

The Scheme then provides details and conditions of the expenses and business costs that IPSA will reimburse, along with budgets for different elements within the Scheme. Some guidance is provided within the Scheme. The following sections of this Briefing Paper provide a brief overview of the budgets within the Scheme, including the current budget limits.

A summary of the maximum budgets for expenses under IPSA's Scheme since 2010, is given in Appendix 1 ((see spreadsheet on the Commons Library webpage for this briefing).

2.4

Accommodation Costs

Under the IPSA scheme, the Accommodation Costs budget "is designed to meet costs incurred by MPs as a result of working from two permanent locations". Accommodation Costs are not payable to London Area MPs – the Scheme defines the London Area in terms of constituencies³⁹ – or to those who occupy 'grace and favour' accommodation.⁴⁰

³⁸ IPSA, 13th Edition, p8

³⁹ It identifies 96 constituencies as being in the London Area (see Appendix 4). Thirty one constituencies that were defined as London Area seats in 2010/11 were re-defined as non-London Area in 2011/12 and a further seat was removed from the list in 2012/13 (see below)

⁴⁰ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 4.1-4.2

Accommodation Costs will only cover hotel accommodation;⁴¹ or rental payments and associated costs; or, for MPs who own their own property, associated costs.⁴² Associated costs include, for example, utility bills, council tax and the “purchase, installation and maintenance of routine security measures”. Associated costs exclude cleaning; gardening; the purchase or maintenance of furniture; home contents insurance; television services; and television licences.⁴³

The scheme sets budgets for non-London Area MPs renting in the London area and at another rate for those renting in non-London Area constituencies. Prior to the 2017/18 Scheme, budgets were set at five different rates for those renting in non-London Area constituencies. In its report on its 2016 consultation, IPSA explained that the consolidation into a single rate “helps simplify the Scheme and provides MPs who rent outside of London with more flexibility”.⁴⁴

For Members renting in the London area, the annual Accommodation Costs budget for 2021/22 is **£23,290**.⁴⁵

For Members renting outside London, the Accommodation Costs budget is lower: for 2021/22 it is **£16,320**.⁴⁶

The Scheme sets a separate budget for associated expenditure for those who own their own second home. The budget was retained but reduced as a result of IPSA's 2016 consultation.⁴⁷ After the 2017 election, the rate was reduced to £5,000 per annum,⁴⁸ from £8,850 per annum. For 2021/22, the budget limit is £5,480.⁴⁹

Accommodation budgets increased by 1.2% from 2020/21, “in line with forecast inflation over the coming [2021/22] year”.⁵⁰

The Scheme provides that MPs who share rental accommodation will be entitled to the full Accommodation Costs budget.⁵¹ Reduced limits applied to

⁴¹ “MPs may only claim for hotel costs from the accommodation costs budget if they have informed IPSA of their intention not to claim for rental property or associated costs” [IPSA, 13th Edition, para 4.9]

⁴² IPSA, 13th Edition, para 4.3

⁴³ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 4.4-4.5

⁴⁴ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Review of the Scheme of MPs' Business Costs and expenses and IPSA's publication policy – Consultation Report and Equality Impact Assessment](#), March 2017, para 207

⁴⁵ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 4.10

⁴⁶ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 4.11

⁴⁷ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Review of the Scheme of MPs' Business Costs and expenses and IPSA's publication policy – Consultation Report and Equality Impact Assessment](#), March 2017, para 216

⁴⁸ IPSA, Ninth Edition, March 2017, HC 1024 2016-17, para 4.15

⁴⁹ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 4.15

⁵⁰ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Guidance on the Scheme of MPs' Staffing and Business Costs 2021-22](#) (PDF), 18 March 2021, p5

⁵¹ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 4.26-4.27

Members who shared accommodation in 2010/11.⁵² But since April 2011, Members who share have been entitled to the full Accommodation Costs budget.⁵³

Financial support for MPs' families

Members with caring responsibilities can claim additional budgets: eligibility depends on circumstances. In 2021/22, the additional budget limit is **£5,500** per dependant,⁵⁴ an increase from £5,345 (which had been unchanged since 2017/18). A maximum limit of three “uplifts” has been in place since April 2017.⁵⁵

The 2017/18 change was the first increase since the budget was introduced at £2,425 per dependant, in 2010/11, when IPSA first assumed responsibility for Members' expenses. A brief review of the 2017/18 changes can be found on page 23 of a previous edition of this briefing paper ([Members' pay and expenses and ministerial salaries 2018/19](#), CBP 8535).

Under the Scheme in 2021/22 caring responsibilities are defined in the following way:

For the purposes of this Scheme, MPs will be deemed to have caring responsibilities where they:

- a. have parental responsibility for a dependent child of up to the age of 18.
- b. are the primary carers for a family member in receipt of one of the following benefits:
 - i. Attendance Allowance;
 - ii. Disability Living Allowance at the middle or highest rate for personal care;
 - iii. Personal Independence Payment at the standard or enhanced rate for daily living; or
 - iv. Constant Attendance Allowance at or above the maximum rate with an Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit, or basic (full day) rate with a War Disablement Pension.⁵⁶

⁵² Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, *The MPs' Expenses Scheme: Second Edition*, 26 July 2010, HC 405 2010-12, paras 5.14-5.15

⁵³ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, *Annual Review of MPs' Expenses Scheme 2011*, “Report on the Consultation of January-February 2011”, March 2011, paras 7.15-7.16

⁵⁴ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 4.16

⁵⁵ IPSA, Ninth Edition, para 4.16

⁵⁶ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 3.17

A list of London Area constituencies is given in Appendix 4. Appendix 4 also shows the constituencies that were removed in 2011 and 2012, and the constituencies which qualify for the additional payment.

2.6 Travel and Subsistence

In its 2016 review, IPSA sought to simplify rules on travel. From April 2017, it removed restrictions on staff travel, in the UK; removed the limit of three return trips by Members to European Parliaments or institutions; and amended the description of diverted journeys.

The 2021/22 Scheme provides that:

Travel and Subsistence claims may be made for the costs of travel, and travel-related subsistence incurred by MPs or others, which are in support of the MP's parliamentary functions.⁶⁴

The Scheme allows MPs to claim for journeys by public transport, private transport, taxis and hire cars; and provides that IPSA will pay claims for travel and subsistence for the following categories of journey:

- a. journeys between Westminster and anywhere in MPs' constituencies, except, in the case of London Area MPs, their residences;
- b. journeys anywhere in MPs' constituencies, except between their residences and constituency offices;
- c. extended UK travel;
- d. journeys to and from other states in Europe. (No other international travel may be claimed, except under the circumstances described in paragraph 10.16, when Parliament is recalled.)⁶⁵

The Scheme's provisions for extended travel cover travel outside the constituency and non-routine journeys between the constituency and Westminster or a London Area residence.⁶⁶

Motor mileage rates are set out in the Scheme.⁶⁷ The rates for 2021/22 are:

⁶⁴ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 9.1

⁶⁵ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 9.3

⁶⁶ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 9.4

⁶⁷ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 9.17. In 2010/11, they were included in guidance

Motor mileage rate	To cover business travel by private motor car	45p per mile for the first 10,000 miles 25p per mile thereafter
Motor Cycle mileage rate	To cover business travel by private motor cycle	24p per mile
Bicycle mileage rate	To cover business travel by private cycle	20p per mile

The IPSA Scheme makes provision for travel by Members' staff and family members.

Staff can "claim for the same travel costs as MPs, with the exception of journeys to and from other states in Europe".⁶⁸

Restrictions on travel by dependants and those who share caring responsibilities, applied until March 2017.⁶⁹ The 2021/22 Scheme makes the following provisions for travel by dependants and carers:

9.7 Where MPs have caring responsibilities as described in paragraph 3.17, they may claim for journeys by their dependants between their constituency and London.

9.8 MPs may also claim for journeys by their spouse or partner between their constituency and London.

9.9 Where a dependant needs assistance from a carer other than an MP's spouse or partner while travelling, the cost of the carer's journey may also be claimed.

9.10 MPs' dependants and spouses or partners, and other carers must be registered with IPSA before travel can be claimed for them.⁷⁰

The Scheme also provides for subsistence expenses in certain circumstances, for Members, for carers and for staff. When travelling and staying away from either home or the London Area as a result of parliamentary functions, expenses for meals (within limits) can be claimed.⁷¹

Specific provision was previously made for late sittings of the House of Commons.⁷² Now (since 2017/18) the Scheme provides for taxi travel or hotel accommodation as a result of "working late on parliamentary matters".⁷³

Limits for subsistence rates are set out in Appendix 1.

⁶⁸ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 9.11

⁶⁹ IPSA, Eighth Edition, HC 854 2015-16, paras 9.18-9.25

⁷⁰ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 9.7-9.10

⁷¹ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 9.22-9.32

⁷² IPSA, Eighth Edition, HC 854 2015-16, paras 9.37-9.39

⁷³ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 9.33-9.35

2.7

Staffing Costs

In April 2012, IPSA introduced separate limits on staffing costs budgets for London Area and non-London Area Members. It had concluded that this distinction was necessary in order to reflect that Member's staff on IPSA contracts who worked in London were paid according to higher salary ranges than those based outside London.⁷⁴

From April 2021, the budget limits were set at **£190,750** for London MPs and **£179,330** for non-London Area MPs.⁷⁵ These rates are 1% higher than in 2020/21.

From April 2021, in order to help reduce administrative burdens, "IPSA will automatically apply an increase to all staff members' salaries unless they have been opted out by their employing MP".⁷⁶ Background to the introduction of these new arrangements is given below.

Part way through 2020/21, "in order to respond to a rise in workload for their offices as a result of coronavirus", IPSA introduced an increase to staffing budgets that MPs could request.⁷⁷

IPSA extended the additional support for staffing into 2021/22. The previous year's amounts were increased by 50% and then the 1% increase (applied to the staffing budget) was applied, giving:

Staffing costs – coronavirus uplift	
London Area MPs	£27,680
Non-London Area MPs	£24,970 ⁷⁸

In November 2021, IPSA wrote to MPs to inform them that the temporary increase in the staffing budget would continue until the end of the current Parliament. From April 2022, the uplift would be the equivalent of the annual cost of a full-time caseworker.⁷⁹

⁷⁴ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Annual Review of the MPs' Scheme of Business Costs and Expenses](#), 5 March 2012, HC 1868 2010-12, "Report on the Consultation of November-January 2011-12", paras 2.29-2.31

⁷⁵ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 7.12-7.13

⁷⁶ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Guidance on the Scheme of MPs' Staffing and Business Costs 2021-22](#) (PDF), 18 March 2021, p3

⁷⁷ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Changes to the Scheme of MPs' business costs as a result of coronavirus](#), 25 June 2020, p2. Full details of all the alterations to the Scheme were set out in IPSA, [Addendum to the Scheme of MPs' Business Costs and Expenses 2020-21](#), 25 June 2020, HC 555 2019-21

⁷⁸ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 7.14

⁷⁹ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Letter to MPs and staff \(Staffing Budget Uplift\)](#), 11 November 2021

The maximum budget for Staffing Costs (original amount) is based on Members employing four full-time equivalent members of staff.⁸⁰ When the additional funding was provided in 2020/21 IPSA said it could be used “to take on new staff on a fixed-term basis, or to increase the contractual hours or overtime payments in respect of existing staff”.⁸¹

The 2021/22 Scheme provides that the Staffing Expenditure budget is available to meet the following costs relating to staffing:

- a. staff salaries, employers' contributions to National Insurance and employers' contributions to pension schemes;
- b. payments for pooled staffing services, which provide research, briefing and drafting services to groups of MPs, and have an arrangement with IPSA in place;
- c. payments for bought-in services, where staffing services are provided by companies, self-employed individuals and others not on the MP's payroll;
- d. overtime payments, to the extent that these are specified in staff terms and conditions;
- e. payments for childcare vouchers for staff, cycle-to-work schemes, or other payments by way of salary sacrifice;
- f. reward and recognition payments, except where the employee is a connected party;
- g. one-off health and welfare costs associated with provision of staffing support, such as eyesight tests and occupational health assessments;
- h. costs associated with apprenticeships that meet the standards of the National Apprenticeship Service;
- i. the incidental expenses of volunteers;
- j. staff training costs (which may also be claimed from where the office costs budget).⁸²

IPSA has made provision to allow Members to employ interns “provided that the employment conditions comply with the requirements of National Minimum Wage legislation”.⁸³

⁸⁰ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Annual Review of the MPs' Scheme of Business Costs and Expenses](#), 5 March 2012, HC 1868 2010-12, “Report on the Consultation of November-January 2011-12”, para 2.45

⁸¹ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Changes to the Scheme of MPs' business costs as a result of coronavirus](#), 25 June 2020, p2

⁸² IPSA, 13th Edition, para 7.4

⁸³ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 7.10

Staff absence

IPSA's Scheme has had an identified staff absence budget since 2017/18.⁸⁴ It covers:

- a. costs of staff who are on maternity, paternity or adoption leave;
- b. costs of staff who are on long-term sick leave (i.e. longer than two weeks); and
- c. costs of staff who are United Kingdom armed forces reservists and have been granted special paid leave in order to participate in mandatory training in connection with their role in the reserve forces, up to 15 days per staff member per year.⁸⁵

These costs are not deducted from MPs' staffing budgets. The provision for reservists was added for the first time in 2021/22, following the consultation exercise described in section 2.2.

Consultation on automatic pay increases for MPs' staff

IPSA set out a proposal for pay increases to be paid automatically to MPs' staff in a consultation document in November 2020. IPSA said that:

In the below sections, we set out our proposal for a new arrangement which would provide automatic pay increases for MPs' staff members. These increases would match any increase applied to the overall staffing budget each financial year. We believe this would encourage MPs to pass on these increases to their staff; provide for a more consistent approach to pay across offices; and reduce the administrative burden on both MPs and IPSA. The proposals do not guarantee annual budgetary increases; the IPSA Board would determine whether an increase is appropriate each year.⁸⁶

IPSA noted that its review of funding for MPs' staff in March 2020⁸⁷ had led to automatic pay increases for staff whose pay had fallen below market rates and that it moves people to the minimum on a pay scale if they are receiving less than that minimum.⁸⁸

It noted that money it had previously provided for pay increases for staff had not been applied across the board.⁸⁹ It said that introducing automatic pay rises for MPs' staff would make their experience more like staff working in

⁸⁴ Between 2011/12 and 2016/17, costs a) and b) were "met centrally", ie not from an individual MP's Staffing Budget

⁸⁵ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 7.15

⁸⁶ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Consultation: Automatic salary increases for MPs' staff](#) (PDF), November 2020, para 8

⁸⁷ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Policy Review: Funding for MPs' Staff](#) (PDF), March 2020. A brief description of the policy review can be found on pp25-26 of the Library briefing [Members pay and expenses and ministerial salaries 2020/21](#) (CBP09148)

⁸⁸ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Consultation: Automatic salary increases for MPs' staff](#) (PDF), November 2020, para 11

⁸⁹ As above, para 15

public bodies or other similar roles but would allow MPs to retain their role as employer. IPSA considered

... an arrangement of automatic annual increases in MPs' staff pay, with an opt-out provided for MPs [for all an MPs' staff or an individual], as striking the right balance between respecting MPs' role as the employer and good overall practice.⁹⁰

It asked the following questions on its consultation:

- 1) Should IPSA implement a new arrangement to provide automatic pay increases for MPs' staff as outlined above?
- 2) Do you agree that MPs should be able to opt out of the annual pay increase, whether for all their staff members or for individuals?
- 3) Are there any further issues or concerns that IPSA should consider in making its decision about whether to implement the proposed arrangements?⁹¹

When the Scheme for 2021/22 was published, IPSA also published guidance. This confirmed that:

Following a consultation in late 2020, where additional funding is provided for staff pay via the staffing budget, IPSA will automatically apply an increase to all staff members' salaries unless they have been opted out by their employing MP. These arrangements, which are intended to help reduce administrative burdens, take effect from the 2021-22 financial year.⁹²

Pay increases were implemented in May 2021 (backdated to April) to allow MPs to opt-out. Notification of opting out was required by 30 April 2021. IPSA explained why MPs might choose opt out of the arrangements:

... there are some circumstances where awarding a pay increase may not be appropriate. For example, where there is a live disciplinary issue. If MPs wish to exercise an opt-out, they should ensure they are adhering to good employment practice and are treating their staff fairly. MPs are strongly encouraged to seek advice from the House of Commons Members' HR team on when opting out might be appropriate.⁹³

Employment of family members

Since the general election of 2017, IPSA has no longer paid the salaries and other costs of any new employees who are connected parties.

During the course of 2017/18 changes were applied to the rules on employing family members. From the outset of the Scheme, in 2010, MPs were able to employ one "connected party", unless arrangements to employ more than

⁹⁰ As above, para 18 and para 23

⁹¹ As above, para 26

⁹² Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Guidance on the Scheme of MPs' Staffing and Business Costs 2021-22](#) (PDF), 18 March 2021, p3

⁹³ As above

one such person were in place when the Scheme came into effect.⁹⁴ Since 2017, IPSA has defined a connected party as:

- a. a spouse, civil partner or cohabiting partner of the MP;
- b. parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, uncle, aunt, nephew or niece of the MP or of a spouse, civil partner or cohabiting partner of the MP; or
- c. a body corporate, a firm or a trust with which the MP is connected, as defined in section 252 of the Companies Act 2006.⁹⁵

This definition is included in the 2021/22 edition of IPSA's Scheme.⁹⁶

Following its May 2016 consultation exercise, IPSA confirmed that if an individual became a connected party after the 2017 general election, "either by becoming a spouse, civil or cohabiting partner or a close business partner of the MP", it would continue to honour their contracts for a period of two years.⁹⁷

2.8 Office Costs

In 2011/12 a single budget for Office Costs Expenditure (OCE) replaced separate budgets for Constituency Office Rental Expenditure and General Administrative Expenditure. The Office Costs budget is described in the Scheme:

6.1 The office costs budget is provided to meet the costs of renting, equipping and running MPs' constituency offices, surgeries, and other activities which support their parliamentary functions, where these costs are not covered by other budgets under the Scheme.

[...]

6.4 MPs are entitled to exercise reasonable discretion over claims for items that meet the purposes of the office costs budget, provided that the claims adhere to the fundamental principles and general conditions of the Scheme. They must also observe the conditions set out in paragraph 6.5.

6.5 IPSA will not pay claims for any of the following:

- a. alcoholic drinks;

⁹⁴ For a discussion of the changes, see the Library briefing [Members' pay and expense and ministerial salaries 2017/18](#), CBP08276, 29 March 2018, pp33-35

⁹⁵ IPSA, Ninth Edition, March 2017, HC 1024 2016-17, para 3.19

⁹⁶ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 3.20

⁹⁷ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Review of the Scheme of MPs' Business Costs and expenses and IPSA's publication policy - Consultation Report and Equality Impact Assessment](#), March 2017, para 138; see also IPSA, 13th Edition, para 3.24. For background to the changes, see p27 of [Members' pay and expenses and ministerial salaries 2018/19](#), CBP08535, 27 March 2019

- b. stationery provided by the House of Commons;
- c. newsletters;
- d. funding of any material, other than websites, that contains a party political logo or emblem; or
- e. personal accountancy or tax advice.⁹⁸

Under the Scheme, MPs can claim office costs whether or not they rent an office; and they can claim for more than one office, as long as they stay within budget.⁹⁹ In 2021/22, a budget limit of **£30,400** applies for London MPs and **£27,470** for non-London Area MPs.¹⁰⁰ The budget limits of £28,800 and £25,910, in 2020/21 were increased by 1.2%, “in line with forecast inflation over the coming year”. A further £1,250 was added to the budget “to help cover the cost of homeworking allowance payments to staff”.¹⁰¹

Homeworking allowance

On 25 June 2020, “in order to respond to a rise in workload for their offices as a result of coronavirus”, IPSA announced that a homeworking allowance, would be introduced. It was payable to MPs’ staff who were working from home, “to cover homeworking expenses such as telephone, internet, electricity and gas usage”. The allowance would be paid from the office costs budget. It was set at £26 per month.¹⁰²

The allowance for homeworking costs has continued to be available in 2021/22, remaining at £26 per month. Rules for the allowance for 2021/22 have been incorporated in the Scheme. For MPs’ staff who are working at home because of coronavirus, it covers “homeworking costs such as telephone, internet, electricity and gas usage”. It is paid through the payroll and allocated to the office costs budget.¹⁰³

Guidance confirms that “The homeworking allowance is an alternative to making individual claims under paragraph 6.6 and 6.16 of the Scheme. Staff members must be working from home to be eligible for the allowance but do not have to register their home as an office”.¹⁰⁴ Paragraphs 6.6 and 6.16 already allowed claims for working from home, as long as home offices were registered with IPSA and claims did not relate to the normal costs of living in the home.¹⁰⁵

⁹⁸ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 6.1 and 6.4-6.5

⁹⁹ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 6.2-6.3

¹⁰⁰ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 6.10-6.11

¹⁰¹ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Guidance on the Scheme of MPs' Staffing and Business Costs 2021-22](#) (PDF), 18 March 2021, p5

¹⁰² Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Changes to the Scheme of MPs' business costs as a result of coronavirus](#), 25 June 2020, paras 3.5-3.6

¹⁰³ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 6.31

¹⁰⁴ IPSA, 13th Edition, after para 6.33

¹⁰⁵ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 6.6 and 6.16

Start-up supplement

A new expenditure heading, Start-up Expenditure, was introduced in 2011/12. Initially it was introduced as a stand-alone budget of £6,000 and was available for 365 days after the new MP was elected.¹⁰⁶

From the 2017/18 edition of the Scheme, it became a supplement of £6,000 to the office costs budget. It is available “to new MPs for the duration of the financial year in which they were elected”. If an MP is elected in the last three months of a financial year, IPSA “will consider rolling forward all or part” of the supplement to the following financial year.¹⁰⁷

2.9 Winding-up costs

IPSA state that “the winding-up budget is designed to meet the costs of completing the outstanding parliamentary functions of former MP”:

8.2 The winding-up budget is available to former MPs following a general election either because they have not stood for election, or because they have lost their seat at the election. It is also available to those who cease to be MPs during a Parliament.

8.3 Former MPs may claim for winding-up costs incurred for a maximum of two months after they cease to be MPs.¹⁰⁸

The costs of staff redundancy payments are met from the contingency fund.¹⁰⁹

The limit for Winding-Up Expenses in 2010/11 was based on “three months’ worth of office-related budgets (Constituency Office Rental Expenditure, General Administrative Expenditure and Staffing Expenditure)”.¹¹⁰ (In 2010/11, the limit did not discriminate between London and non-London MPs.¹¹¹) IPSA concluded that this level appeared to be appropriate. However, in its report on the consultation (published in March 2011), IPSA noted that this could cause difficulties in some cases and agreed that from April 2011, a higher budget would be available to London Area MPs.¹¹²

Since the Fourth Edition of the Scheme (from April 2012), MPs have been able to “continue to claim for rental payments and/or associated expenditure for

¹⁰⁶ See, for example, IPSA, Eighth Edition, HC 854 2015-16, paras 8.1-8.4

¹⁰⁷ IPSA, Ninth Edition, March 2017, HC 1024 2016-17, paras 6.12-6.14 and IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 6.12-6.14

¹⁰⁸ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 8.1-8.3

¹⁰⁹ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 8.7

¹¹⁰ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, Annual Review of MPs’ Expenses Scheme 2011, “Report on the Consultation of January-February 2011”, March 2011, para 9.3

¹¹¹ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, The MPs’ Expenses Scheme: Second Edition, 26 July 2010, HC 405 2010-12, paras 11.1-11.3 and 11.5

¹¹² Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, Annual Review of MPs’ Expenses Scheme 2011, “Report on the Consultation of January-February 2011”, March 2011, paras 9.4-9.5

two months after leaving Parliament. These costs will be met from the contingency fund”.¹¹³ (This provision was not included in the Third Edition of the Scheme.)

The budgets of £57,150 (London Area MPs) and £53,950 (non-London Area MPs)¹¹⁴ have been unchanged since 2014/15.

Following its consultation on the Scheme in January and February 2019, IPSA amended the rules relating to winding-up costs, to take account of the effect of an MP losing their seat following a recall petition. The following paragraph was added to the Scheme:

IPSA may make provision to extend the winding-up period beyond two months in exceptional circumstances or in the event an MP has been recalled and is contesting a by-election to return to Parliament.¹¹⁵

2.10 Winding-up payment

From April 2019, a new winding-up payment was introduced by IPSA. The Scheme states that:

8.12 MPs will be eligible to receive a winding-up payment if one of the following conditions apply:

- a. they lose their seat at a general election, meaning that they were an MP on the day before the dissolution of Parliament and a candidate for re-election for the same seat, but not re-elected; or
- b. they stand down at a general election which occurs before the end of a fixed parliamentary term, as set out in the Fixed Term Parliaments Act 2011.

8.13 A winding-up payment is based on the sum of two months' salary, net of tax and National Insurance contributions. This is a single amount applicable to all eligible MPs, calculated using the MPs' basic salary during the financial year in which the election occurs and standard tax and National Insurance deductions. It will be paid at the beginning of the two-month winding-up period.¹¹⁶

Background

In its Review of MPs' remuneration, following the 2017 general election, IPSA considered that there was “a case for increasing the financial support available for former MPs who have lost their seats at an election, while they

¹¹³ IPSA, Fourth Edition, HC 1868 2010-12, para 8.9; IPSA, 13th Edition, para 8.8. Before the transitional arrangements for MPs who had mortgages ended in August 2012, mortgage interest payments were also covered

¹¹⁴ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 8.10-8.11

¹¹⁵ IPSA, Eleventh Edition, para 8.4; IPSA, 13th Edition, para 8.4

¹¹⁶ IPSA, Eleventh Edition, paras 8.12.-8.13. IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 8.12.-8.13

are winding up their parliamentary affairs". It sought views on introducing a payment equivalent to two months' net salary.¹¹⁷

In its review of the consultation, IPSA said that it had decided to implement a winding-up payment. It commented that:

We believe it is fair to recognise that these former MPs are required to work for up to two months after the election to wind up their offices. This new payment will also be introduced for MPs who stand down at a snap General Election.¹¹⁸

2.11

Loss of Office Payment

IPSA initially made no provision for payments to Members who left Parliament, in the First Edition of its MPs' Expenses Scheme. The House of Commons had previously provided a Resettlement Grant (determined by age and length of service) to all Members who left the House at a general election.

An interim resettlement payment for Members who lost their seat at the General Election, scheduled for 7 May 2015, was introduced by the Fourth Edition (covering the financial year 2012/13) of IPSA's Scheme. It was retained for the rest of the 2010 Parliament. It provided "one calendar month's salary (at the rate payable to MPs immediately before polling day) for each completed year of service subject to a maximum payment equal to six months' salary".¹¹⁹

From the beginning of the 2015 Parliament, the interim arrangement has been replaced by a permanent Loss of Office Payment. The 2021/22 Scheme provides that:

8.14 MPs will be eligible to receive a loss-of-office payment if they lose their seat at a general election, meaning that they were an MP on the day before the dissolution of Parliament and a candidate for re-election for the same seat, but not re-elected.

8.15 The amount of the loss-of-office payment will be equal to double the prevailing statutory redundancy entitlement.¹²⁰

The guidance within the Scheme interprets these provisions:

¹¹⁷ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Review of MPs' remuneration: A consultation](#), May 2018

¹¹⁸ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Review of MPs' remuneration: Consultation report](#), October 2018 (updated June 2019), para 27

¹¹⁹ IPSA, Seventh Edition, HC 1078 2014-15, paras 8.13-8.14

¹²⁰ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 8.14-8.15

The effect of paragraphs 8.14 and 8.15 is that MPs will only be eligible for a loss-of-office payment if they have held office for a continuous period of at least two years at the point they lose their seats.¹²¹

Members are also required to have made arrangements for their staff redundancy notices; for repaying any outstanding debts to IPSA; for submitting expense claims; and carrying out necessary administrative tasks before they receive the Loss of Office Payment.¹²²

2.12

Miscellaneous Expenses

Security assistance

In its consultation on the Scheme in October 2019, IPSA made some proposals to clarify the rules on security assistance. In the 2019/20 Scheme, security measures applied to MPs' registered constituency offices, IPSA-funded accommodation or MPs' private residences could be funded. IPSA proposed broadening "the wording of the rules in order to allow IPSA the flexibility to fund recommended or further measures at other properties in specific situations".

IPSA also noted that it had "funded a range of other types of measures on police advice, including for MPs moving between properties, and may continue to do so in future as police recommendations evolve". It proposed to clarify that measures could be funded to protect a person or persons, rather than a property.

It also proposed that further security measures should be provided for MPs' staff, when they had been recommended by the police.¹²³

From the Twelfth Edition, IPSA's Scheme has reflected these proposals.¹²⁴

In 2021/22, IPSA will fund "the cost of security measures as recommended by the National Police Chiefs' Council from the security assistance budget", for MPs' offices, IPSA-funded accommodation, private residence and those measures "unrelated to specific properties".¹²⁵ The Scheme also provides that:

10.7 IPSA will also fund further security measures as recommended by the police or the Parliamentary Liaison and Investigation Team on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with agreed processes, for individual MPs who have additional security requirements....

¹²¹ IPSA, 13th Edition, after para 8.15

¹²² IPSA, 13th Edition, para 8.16

¹²³ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Consultation on changes to the Scheme of Business Costs and Expenses for 2020-21](#), 31 October 2019

¹²⁴ IPSA, Twelfth Edition, paras 10.5-10.8

¹²⁵ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 10.5-10.6

10.8 Further security measures may be funded for individuals other than the MP, such as family members or staff members, based on police advice.¹²⁶

MP parental leave cover fund

Following a consultation exercise in February 2021 (see section 2.2), IPSA introduced a new MP parental leave cover fund, from 1 April 2021. The Scheme provides:

MPs who wish to take time off after the birth or adoption of a child are eligible for funding to provide cover for their office during their absence. This will be paid from the MP parental leave cover fund.¹²⁷

Funding for cover is provided for a maximum period of seven months for the biological mother or primary adopter, and two weeks for the biological father, partner or second adopter.¹²⁸ This is in line with the arrangements for proxy voting for parental absence that allow new mothers or the primary adopter a proxy vote for seven months; and two weeks for the biological father, partner or second adopter.¹²⁹

MPs can choose how to arrange cover but staff engaged have to be employed on a standard IPSA contract and job description, and be paid according to the pay scale for that job.¹³⁰

Recall of Parliament

Following the two recalls of Parliament during the 2011 summer recess, IPSA made explicit provision for recall expenses in the 2012/13 Scheme. Provision is made in the 2021/22 Scheme:

In the event of a recall of Parliament during recess, IPSA will pay claims for any reasonable travel by MPs and their spouses, partners or dependants to Westminster or their London Area residence. This includes international travel back to the UK and, if necessary, return travel to the foreign location, from which they were recalled. MPs will be expected to claim for standard class or equivalent fares unless they have no alternative, or there is a more cost-effective option available.¹³¹

Until 2013/14, there was a budgetary limit of £3,750 per Member but this was removed following the November 2013 consultation. Although the limit could be breached (and funded through the contingency fund), IPSA removed it “to deal with the risk that the apparent limit may deter some MPs from returning during a recall or result in MPs incurring costs personally”. IPSA specified that

¹²⁶ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 10.7-10.8

¹²⁷ IPSA, 13th edition, para 10.12

¹²⁸ IPSA, 13th edition, para 10.13. This paragraph also notes that “Longer periods and/or alternative arrangements may be agreed on a case-by-case basis”

¹²⁹ House of Commons, [Proxy Voting Scheme](#)

¹³⁰ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 10.15

¹³¹ IPSA, 13th Edition, para 10.16

travel should be by standard class or another more cost-effective alternative.¹³²

In the summer of 2011, before provision was made in the Scheme, IPSA confirmed that Members would be able to claim for the cost of “necessary travel to enable them to return to Parliament” as a result of the recall of Parliament.¹³³

Expenditure during a general election

The Scheme sets out the rules that would apply to claims for expenses in the period when Parliament is dissolved. MPs can continue to claim accommodation costs. Office costs can also be claimed but equipment and supplies “may not be used for any party political or campaigning activities”, unless a fee has been paid.¹³⁴

The introduction of a fee to use IPSA-funded equipment was added following the January/February 2019 consultation on the Scheme.¹³⁵

In its consultation, IPSA had noted that its position was that any IPSA-funded IT equipment should only be used for parliamentary purposes, not for campaigning. However, the House of Commons “offered MPs the option of making a flat-rate £100 payment to ‘hire’ the House-loaned equipment for campaigning during the five-week dissolution period”.¹³⁶

IPSA believed that the change would “improve compliance, both with the Scheme and with election rules, in providing a simple way for MPs to account for use of their IPSA-funded equipment for campaigning purposes”.¹³⁷

In its review, IPSA had noted that there were risks associated with this approach. Members would need to confirm that a flat fee constituted a reasonable commercial rate and they would need to ensure that they remained within campaign spending limits. IPSA said that it would ask MPs to sign a declaration “that they understand and accept the terms of hire”.¹³⁸

Other Miscellaneous Expenses

Additional expenses to cover the following circumstances are payable subject to various conditions: Disability assistance; Insurance; Contingency payments; Other financial assistance.

¹³² IPSA, [Sixth Edition](#), “Report on the Consultation of 2013-14”, paras 65-72

¹³³ IPSA, “Recall of Parliament”, MP Bulletin 46, 9 August 2011

¹³⁴ IPSA, 13th Edition, paras 10.17-10.23

¹³⁵ IPSA, Eleventh Edition, para 10.16; IPSA, 13th Edition, para 10.23

¹³⁶ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Minor change to the Scheme of MPs' Business Costs and Expenses, Consultation Report](#), May 2019, para 8

¹³⁷ As above, para 12

¹³⁸ As above, paras 14-15

2.13

2022/23 Scheme

On 17 March 2022, IPSA published the 14th Edition of its Scheme, for 2022/23:

- [The Scheme of MPs' Staffing and Business Costs 2022-23](#) (PDF), 17 March 2022, HC 1111 2021-22

3 Ministers' salaries

3.1 Summary

Ministers who are Members of the House of Commons receive their Members' salary and a ministerial salary. Ministers who are Members of the House of Lords receive a ministerial salary but they cannot claim Lords Attendance Allowance.¹³⁹

At present ministers in both Houses do not receive their full ministerial salaries. Currently ministers in the House of Commons receive their MP's salary and the following additional amounts as ministers:

Prime Minister:	£75,440
Cabinet Minister	£67,505
Minister of State:	£31,680
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State:	£22,375

On assuming office in May 2010, the Coalition Government announced that ministers' total pay would be cut by 5% and then frozen for the duration of that Parliament. The previous Labour administration had already frozen ministerial salaries through post holders refusing increases in both ministerial and Members' salaries, so the actual earnings of ministers did not equate to their entitlements.

The Coalition Government made an Order in 2011 to set ministerial salaries in accordance with its May 2010 announcement. However, subsequent increases in Members' pay meant that once again, the salaries drawn by ministers and their entitlements were different.

Following the May 2015 general election, David Cameron announced that he had decided to freeze the pay of ministers in government. The ministerial element of pay that ministers have drawn remained unchanged in 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19.

But in May 2019, the Leader of the House of Lords announced that the freeze on ministerial salaries, for members of the Government in the House of Lords,

¹³⁹ Lords ministers who are unpaid are entitled to claim parliamentary allowances in the House of Lords

would end. The freeze on the ministerial element of Commons ministers' pay continued in 2019/20.

Ministerial pay for ministers in both Houses was frozen again in 2020/21 and 2021/22.

3.2 Background

Before 1996, ministerial salaries had been uprated by Order in line with Members' salaries but this had not been enshrined in legislation or parliamentary resolution.¹⁴⁰ However the 1996 Senior Salaries Review Body (SSRB) report,¹⁴¹ which was accepted by the Commons, recommended that the uprating formula and 1 April implementation date (for increases in Members' salaries) should also apply to ministers and other paid office holders. The Ministerial and other Salaries Act 1997 amended the 1975 Act of the same title to give effect to the SSRB recommendations, the formula is set out in Box 2.

A full list of entitlements to ministerial salary is provided in tables in Appendix 2 (see spreadsheet on the Commons Library webpage for this briefing).

Box 2: Uprating formula (1997-2011 and from the end of the 2015 Parliament)

Pay increases for ministers were linked automatically to the increase in pay bands for the Senior Civil Service, under a formula set out in section 1 of the Ministerial and other Salaries Act 1997:

- (1) For each year starting with 1st April, from 1998 onwards, the annual amount, or maximum or minimum annual amount, of any salary payable under section 1(1) or (3) of this Act shall be increased by the relevant percentage.
- (2) The relevant percentage is the average percentage by which the mid-points of the Senior Civil Service pay bands having effect from 1st April of the year concerned have increased compared with the previous 1st April.
- (3) The mid-point of a Senior Civil Service pay band is the point half way between the maximum and the minimum.

¹⁴⁰ Such an Order would have been required for an 'uprating' increase from 1 April 1997, but there was no such Order, and therefore no uprating for the year beginning 1 April 1997

¹⁴¹ Review Body on Senior Salaries, Review of Parliamentary pay and allowances, Report No. 38, Cm 3330-I, 1996

3.3

Ministerial pay freezes and salary cuts since 2007

In its Review of parliamentary pay, pensions and allowances 2007, the SSRB recommended that ministerial salaries should be increased.¹⁴² However, the Government rejected this proposal and announced that ministerial salaries would continue to increase in line with Members' salaries. Despite changes to the way in which Members' salaries were determined, in 2008 and 2011 (when IPSA was given responsibility for determining Members' salaries) no changes were made to the uprating formula for ministerial salaries.

Ministerial pay freezes, 2007-2010

Whilst Gordon Brown was Prime Minister (2007-10), ministerial salary entitlements continued to increase in line with the formula in the Ministerial and other Salaries Act 1997. However, ministers accepted pay freezes in 2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11.¹⁴³

In addition to the announcements made, Gordon Brown had reduced his salary. Although entitled to £198,661 (ministerial and Member's pay together), he received £150,000 at the time of the 2010 general election. It is not clear when he took the salary cut as it was not made public until after Parliament had been dissolved for the 2010 general election.¹⁴⁴

For further details on ministerial pay freezes in the 2005 Parliament, see the Library Research Paper [Members' pay and expenses – current rates and a review of developments since 2009](#) of May 2012.¹⁴⁵

Ministerial pay cut and freeze in the 2010 Parliament

In May 2010, the incoming Coalition Government announced that new Ministers would “be paid five per cent less than Ministers received in the previous administration”; and that it would impose a ministerial pay freeze for the lifetime of the 2010 Parliament.¹⁴⁶

In notes to the press release, the Government outlined how the pay reduction and subsequent freeze would be implemented:

¹⁴² Review Body on Senior Salaries, Review of parliamentary pay, pensions and allowances 2007, Report No 64, Cm 7270, January 2008, paras 4.7-4.17

¹⁴³ HC Deb 17 June 2008 cc47WS-48WS; HC Deb 31 March 2009 c62WS; and HC Deb 10 March 2010 cc18WS-19WS

¹⁴⁴ “[Gordon Brown reveals his massive pay cut](#)”, Daily Mirror, 21 April 2010

¹⁴⁵ House of Commons Library Research Paper, [Members' pay and expenses – current rates and a review of developments since 2009](#), RP 12/29, 22 May 2012

¹⁴⁶ 10 Downing Street press release, A new politics: cutting Ministerial pay, Thursday 13 May 2010

- Total remuneration – the Parliamentary and Ministerial salaries combined – of all Ministers was reduced by five per cent relative to that received under the previous administration.
- Parliamentary salaries were received in full.
- The entire salary reduction fell upon the ministerial element of the combined total.¹⁴⁷

In 2011, following parliamentary approval, the Government made the Ministerial and other Salaries Act 1975 (Amendment) Order 2011. It set ministerial salaries at the level that implemented the commitment to reduce salaries.

The Order did not make any provision for ministerial salaries to be reduced in order to maintain the same remuneration overall for ministers, when the Member's salary increased. However, as Members' salaries increased in 2013 and 2014, ministers waived part of their ministerial salary to keep their overall remuneration at the same level. For example, the Treasury's annual report shows that, in the case of Treasury ministers, ministerial salaries received in 2013/14 were lower than in 2012/13.¹⁴⁸

Ministerial pay freeze in the 2015 Parliament

The 2011 Order set ministerial salaries throughout the 2010 Parliament. It provided that they should increase in line with the existing formula with effect from the day after Parliament was dissolved. Accordingly, ministerial salaries increased by 0.62% with effect from 31 March 2015. The Order provided for them to remain at that level until 31 March 2016.¹⁴⁹

After the 2015 general election, on 24 May 2015, David Cameron, the then Prime Minister, wrote, in the *Sunday Times*, "I've decided to freeze the pay of the ministers in the government".¹⁵⁰ The BBC reported that the Prime Minister had extended the ministerial pay freeze and indicated that ministers would continue to receive the same amount of money as they received at the beginning of the 2010 Parliament.¹⁵¹

Following the implementation of the increase in Members' salaries, in September 2015 (backdated to 8 May 2015), it was widely reported at the end of 2015 that ministers had accepted the increase. The aggregate amount of

¹⁴⁷ 10 Downing Street press release, A new politics: cutting Ministerial pay, Thursday 13 May 2010

¹⁴⁸ HM Treasury, [Annual Report and Accounts 2013-14](#), July 2014, HC 20 2014-15, p71

¹⁴⁹ [Ministerial and other Salaries Act 1975 \(Amendment\) Order 2011](#), SI 2011/1689, Article 4

¹⁵⁰ David Cameron, "The two-speed society stops right here: this is one nation", *Sunday Times*, 24 May 2015

¹⁵¹ BBC News, [David Cameron announces freeze in ministers' pay](#), 24 May 2015

salary that Prime Minister received then stood at £149,440.¹⁵² Since then the ministerial element of ministers' total pay has remained frozen.

Ministerial pay freeze in the 2017 Parliament

Following the June 2017 general election, ministerial pay remained unchanged. The 2015 Parliament's freeze applied until 31 March 2018.

When details of ministerial salaries from April 2018 were announced, notes confirmed that "The Government has committed to continue to freeze Ministerial salaries" and that "There were no changes to Ministerial Salaries following the [2017] General Election".¹⁵³

However, in May 2019, an increase in the salaries of ministers in the House of Lords was announced (see below).

Ministerial pay freeze in the 2019 Parliament

When data was released on ministerial salaries from 1 April 2020, it was confirmed that the amounts received by Commons and Lords ministers were unchanged from the previous year.

Salaries for ministers in both Houses remained frozen from 1 April 2021. Because Senior Civil Service (SCS) pay was frozen in 2021/22, there was no increase in entitlements on 1 April 2021.

On 1 April 2021, the ministerial element of salary of MPs was unchanged from April 2014. Lords ministers' salaries were unchanged from April 2019.

3.4

Ministerial salaries since 2015

Ministers in the House of Commons

Following the ministerial pay freeze in the 2015 Parliament, ministerial pay (entitlement) increased by 0.62%, with effect from 31 March 2015 (the day after the dissolution of the 2010 Parliament). Then, in accordance with the *Ministerial and other Salaries Act 1997*, those entitlements increased by 0.43% on 1 April 2016; by 0.42% on both 1 April 2017 and 1 April 2018; by 1.36% on 1 April 2019; and by 0.82% on 1 April 2020. Entitlements did not increase on 1 April 2021 as SCS pay was frozen in 2021/22.¹⁵⁴ Reductions in the amount of salary ministers received, to account for increases in Members' salaries in the 2010 Parliament, and the continuing freeze in ministerial pay in the 2015 and

¹⁵² BBC News, [Speaker John Bercow earns more than PM after pay rise](#), 28 December 2015; "[Bercow to be paid more than Cameron after extra rise for Speaker](#)", Guardian, 27 December 2015. In fact, the Speaker's salary overtook that of the PM in April 2014

¹⁵³ Cabinet Office, [Ministerial salary data](#), December 2018

¹⁵⁴ Cabinet Office, [Ministerial salary data](#) (PDF), October 2021, Note 3

2017 Parliaments, mean that the amounts Commons ministers receive are lower (see Table 5).

Table 5: Ministerial salaries – entitlements and amounts received: Commons ministers (since March 2015)

In addition to the full MP's salary
(£ per annum, nominal terms)

	Prime Minister	Cabinet Minister	Minister of State	Parly Under-Sec
Entitlement				
31 March 2015	77,238	69,254	33,207	23,844
01 April 2016	77,570	69,552	33,350	23,947
01 April 2017	77,896	69,844	33,490	24,048
01 April 2018	78,223	70,137	33,360	24,149
01 April 2019	79,286	71,090	34,087	24,477
01 April 2020	79,936	71,673	34,367	24,678
01 April 2021	79,936	71,673	34,367	24,678
Amount received				
Whole period	75,440	67,505	31,680	22,375

Source: Cabinet Office, [Ministerial salary data](#), October 2021

Appendix 3 reports the changes to the entitlements and amounts received by the Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State, and Parliamentary Under Secretaries since 2008.

Ministers in the House of Lords Ministers

Ministerial salaries in the House of Lords were reduced after the general election in 2010 and then remained frozen at that level until 31 March 2019, despite increases in entitlement since 31 March 2015.

In May 2019, the Leader of the House of Lords announced that Lords ministers' pay would increase. She noted that there had been a "disparity between the treatment of Lords Ministers and Commons Ministers". Commons ministers had received increases in their parliamentary salaries since May 2015, whilst Lords Ministers had received no increase at all. She explained how the change would be implemented:

From this year, they [Lords ministers] will no longer be asked to waive the increases which have been applied, but not claimed, since 2015 and instead will be entitled to claim their full entitled salaries. This amounts to an increase of 1.4 per cent this year, and just under 3.3 per cent, after including the entitled increases, since 2015. Again, this broadly reflects the changes in the Commons since 2015.¹⁵⁵

¹⁵⁵ [HLWS1514](#), 9 May 2019

Lords Ministers' salaries were not increased in April 2020 or in April 2021.¹⁵⁶ The effect is shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Ministerial salaries – entitlements and amounts received: Lords ministers (since March 2015)
(£ per annum, nominal terms)

<u>Cabinet Minister</u>	<u>Entitlement Amount received</u>	
31 March 2015	101,664	101,038
01 April 2016	102,101	101,038
01 April 2017	102,530	101,038
01 April 2018	102,960	101,038
01 April 2019	104,360	104,360
01 April 2020	105,216	104,360
01 April 2021	105,216	104,360
<u>Minister of State</u>		
31 March 2015	79,380	78,891
01 April 2016	79,721	78,891
01 April 2017	80,056	78,891
01 April 2018	80,392	78,891
01 April 2019	81,485	81,485
01 April 2020	82,153	81,485
01 April 2021	82,153	81,485

Source: Cabinet Office, [Ministerial salary data](#), October 2021

¹⁵⁶ Note there was no increase in entitlement in April 2021 as SCS pay was frozen in 2021/22.

Annex 1: Background - The establishment, duties and structure of the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA)

The establishment of IPSA

In the wake of the expenses scandal in 2009, the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA) was established by the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009.

A widespread sense of public anger followed the Daily Telegraph's publication of extensive details of "how MPs had utilised the expenses scheme over recent years". It led to police investigations, the imprisonment of four Members, the resignation of the Speaker and a new statutory expenses regime, under the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009.¹⁵⁷ In introducing the legislation, Jack Straw, the Leader of the House of Commons, acknowledged that the expenses scandal had "profoundly affected the public's trust" in Members and the House. He said that it had damaged Members' confidence in themselves; undermined those whose conduct was beyond reproach; and "revealed a collective failure by this place effectively to regulate itself".¹⁵⁸

IPSA was initially created to pay Members' salaries in accordance with resolutions of the House of Commons; to determine a scheme for Members' allowances and to pay allowances; and to regulate the allowances regime.

Its functions were amended following the Committee on Standards in Public Life (CSPL) inquiry on Members' allowances, which had been launched before the expenses scandal broke. The CSPL recommended that IPSA should take responsibility for determining Members' pay and also recommended changes to IPSA's regulatory powers.¹⁵⁹

The (Labour) Government and the other political parties accepted the recommendations from the CSPL, and the Government brought forward

¹⁵⁷ Matthew Flinders summarised the scandal and its impact in "Bagehot smiling: Gordon Brown's 'new constitution' and the revolution that did not happen", *Political Quarterly*, 2010, Volume 81, Issue 1, p59. See also Ian Kennedy, *Cleaning up the Mess – After the MPs' Expenses Scandal*, (Sir Ian was the first chair of IPSA and the book gave his account of the establishment of IPSA)

¹⁵⁸ HC Deb 29 June 2009 c44

¹⁵⁹ Committee on Standards in Public Life, *MPs' expenses and allowances: Supporting parliament, safeguarding the taxpayer*, November 2009 Cm 7724

amendments to the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 in the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010. IPSA was given the responsibility for determining, as well as paying, Members' salaries.

IPSA's duties

The Parliamentary Standards Act 2009, as amended by the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010, established the IPSA and gave it the responsibility for:

- determining and paying Members' salaries;
- preparing and regularly reviewing and revising a scheme under which allowances are paid; and
- paying those allowances.

IPSA is required to review the existing determination on Members' salaries in the first year of each Parliament and at any other time it considers appropriate. The legislation states that IPSA must "review the current determination (and make a new determination as appropriate)" in the first year of each Parliament (beginning after April 2012) and "at any other time it considers appropriate". But IPSA's first determination of Members' salaries did not have to come into effect before 1 April 2012.¹⁶⁰ These provisions were brought into force on 24 May 2011.¹⁶¹

The legislation also established the role of the Compliance Officer who:

- reviews decisions on the payment of expenses if requested to by Members; and
- conducts investigations if he believes payments have been made that should not have been.

The role and duties of the Compliance Officer are outlined in the Library Briefing Paper [The Compliance Officer](#) (SN05987).

The Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010 added the following provision concerning the general duties of IPSA:

(1) In carrying out its functions the IPSA must have regard to the principle that it should act in a way which is efficient, cost-effective and transparent.

¹⁶⁰ [Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010](#) (chapter 25), section 29

¹⁶¹ [Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010 \(Commencement No. 5\) Order 2011](#), SI 2011/1274

(2) In carrying out its functions the IPSA must have regard to the principle that members of the House of Commons should be supported in efficiently, cost-effectively and transparently carrying out their Parliamentary functions.¹⁶²

Additionally, the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010 transferred the administration of the Parliamentary Contributory Pension Fund to IPSA.¹⁶³ Further details on Members' pensions can be found in the Library Briefing Papers:

- [MPs' Pension Scheme – background](#) (SN01844), for background; and
- [MPs' Pension Scheme](#) (SN06283)

IPSA's structure

IPSA is a body corporate. It has one member who is its chair and four other members.

Schedule 1 of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 specifies that:

- at least one of the members (including the chair) “must be a person who has held (but no longer holds) high judicial office”;
- at least one must be “a person who is eligible for appointment as a statutory auditor”; and
- one must be “a person who has been (but is no longer) a member of the House of Commons”. Otherwise, no-one who has been a Member of Parliament within the last five years may be a member of IPSA.

All are appointed by Her Majesty on an Address of the House, “made only with the agreement of the Speaker”. Furthermore, the Speaker “must not select a candidate without the agreement of the Speaker's Committee for the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority”.

IPSA must appoint a chief executive and may appoint staff. The chief executive carries out IPSA's administrative functions on behalf of IPSA and in accordance with its general directions.¹⁶⁴

For more information on the membership of and appointment process to the IPSA Board, see the Library Briefing Paper, [Appointment of the IPSA Board](#) (SN06489).

¹⁶² Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 (chapter 13) as amended, section 3A

¹⁶³ Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010 (chapter 25), section 40 and Schedule 6

¹⁶⁴ Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 (chapter 13), Schedule 1

Annex 2: IPSA's determinations on Members' salaries

3.5 Determinations on basic salaries (July 2015, December 2020 and September 2021)

IPSA's July 2015 report, [MPs' Pay in the 2015 Parliament: Final Report](#), which was published following its statutory review of Members' salaries at the beginning of the 2015 Parliament, included a determination on Members' salaries in the 2015 Parliament. That determination has been amended twice – to provide for a pay freeze in 2021 and to give IPSA discretion to adjust salaries by a different amount, in April 2022, April 2023 and April 2024. IPSA's full determinations on MPs' salaries, since 2015, are set out below.

July 2015

1. This determination was made by IPSA under Section 4 of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 on 16 July 2015 and comes into effect immediately. It supersedes the determination on the MP Salary which was made on 5 December 2013.
2. With effect from 8 May 2015, the salary for service as a member of the House of Commons will be £74,000 per annum (referred to as the "MP Salary").
3. With effect from 1 April each year, starting with 1 April 2016, the MP Salary will be adjusted by the rate of annual change in public sector average earnings.
4. For the purposes of this determination 'annual change in public sector average earnings' means the seasonally adjusted three month average change in public sector average weekly earnings ending in the previous October, compared with the same period a year earlier. These data are published by the Office for National Statistics monthly as the AWE-KAC9 series.
5. This determination will be reviewed in the first year of each Parliament, as required by Section 4 of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009.¹⁶⁵

¹⁶⁵ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [MPs' Pay in the 2015 Parliament: Final Report](#) (PDF), July 2015, Annex A

December 2020

(changes from the July 2015 Determination are shown in **bold**)

1. This determination was made by IPSA under Section 4 of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 on **16 December 2020**. It **amends the determination made on 16 July 2015 with immediate effect** and supersedes the determination on the MP Salary which was made on 5 December 2013.
2. With effect from 8 May 2015, the salary for service as a member of the House of Commons will be £74,000 per annum (referred to as the "MP Salary").
3. With effect from 1 April each year, starting with 1 April 2016, the MP Salary will be adjusted by the rate of annual change in public sector average earnings.
4. **Notwithstanding the previous paragraph, no adjustment will be made to the MP Salary on 1 April 2021.**
5. For the purposes of this determination 'annual change in public sector average earnings' means the seasonally adjusted three-month average change in public sector average weekly earnings ending in the previous October, compared with the same period a year earlier. These data are published by the Office for National Statistics monthly as the AWE KAC9 series.
6. This determination will be reviewed in the first year of each Parliament, as required by Section 4 of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009.¹⁶⁶

September 2021

(changes from the previous Determinations are shown in **bold**)

1. This determination was made by IPSA under Section 4 of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 on **2 September 2021**. It amends the determination made on 16 July 2015 **and amended on 16 December 2020** with immediate effect and supersedes the determination on the MP Salary which was made on 5 December 2013.
2. With effect from 8 May 2015, the salary for service as a member of the House of Commons will be £74,000 per annum (referred to as the "MP Salary").
3. With effect from 1 April each year, starting with 1 April 2016, the MP Salary will be adjusted by the rate of annual change in public sector average earnings.
4. **Notwithstanding the previous paragraph, no adjustment will be made to the MP Salary on 1 April 2021.**
5. For the purposes of this determination 'annual change in public sector average earnings' means the seasonally adjusted three-month average change in public sector average weekly earnings ending in the previous

¹⁶⁶ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Consultation report: periodic adjustments to MPs' salaries](#) (PDF), March 2021, Annex 1

October, compared with the same period a year earlier. These data are published by the Office for National Statistics monthly as the AWE KAC9 series.

6. Notwithstanding paragraphs 3 and 5, the adjustments to the MP Salary on 1 April 2022, 1 April 2023 and 1 April 2024 may be adjusted by an amount other than the rate of annual change in public sector average earnings where IPSA judges this is necessary to arrive at an adjustment which is fair to both MPs and to taxpayers, having regard to the experience of constituents and MPs' overall remuneration. In deciding whether such variation to the adjustment is necessary, IPSA will consider information, data and commentary on wage settlements, earnings statistics and trends and the outlook for the UK economy and wider public sector pay policy.

7. This determination will be reviewed in the first year of each Parliament, as required by Section 4 of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009.¹⁶⁷

Additional salaries for committee chairs (May 2016)

1. This determination was made by IPSA under Section 4 of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 on 25 May 2016 and comes into effect on that date. It supersedes the determination on the Additional Salary for Specified Committee Chairs which was made by IPSA on 5 December 2013.

2. The holder of an office or position specified by the House of Commons in a resolution under Section 4A(2) of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 (collectively called "specified Committee Chairs") shall be paid a salary per annum (referred to as an "Additional Salary") by IPSA in accordance with this determination in addition to the MP Salary he or she shall be entitled to receive as a Member of Parliament.

3. For the avoidance of doubt, the term "specified Committee Chairs" covers Chairs of Select Committees and Members of the Panel of Chairs.

4. With effect from 1 June 2016, the Additional Salary per annum for specified Committee Chairs will be £15,025.

5. With effect from 1 April each year, starting with 1 April 2017, the Additional Salary per annum for specified Committee Chairs will be adjusted by the rate of annual change in public sector average earnings.

6. For the purposes of this determination 'annual change in public sector average earnings' means the seasonally-adjusted, three-month average change in public sector average weekly earnings ending in the previous October, compared with the same period a year earlier. These data are published by the Office for National Statistics monthly as the AWE-KAC9 series.

7. This determination will be reviewed in the first year of each Parliament, as required by Section 4 of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009.

[...]¹⁶⁸

¹⁶⁷ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Consultation report: mechanism for updating MPs' salaries](#) (PDF), September 2021, Annex 3

¹⁶⁸ Source: Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Pay for Chairs of Committees: Final Report](#) (PDF), May 2016, Annex A

The amendments made to the determination relating to basic salaries on 16 December 2020 and 2 September 2021 were also made to the determination on additional salaries but are not set out here.¹⁶⁹

¹⁶⁹ Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Consultation report: periodic adjustments to MPs' salaries](#) (PDF), March 2021, Annex 2; Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, [Consultation report: mechanism for updating MPs' salaries](#) (PDF), September 2021, Annex 4

Appendices 1 to 3

Appendices 1 to 3 are available in an Excel Spreadsheet attached to the [landing page](#) for this Briefing Paper. This section details what can be found in each of the spreadsheets

Appendix 1: IPSA's MPs' Expenses Scheme - summary of rates 2010/11 to 2020/21

- (a) Accommodation expenses for London
- (b) Bandings for Accommodation expenses outside London
- (c) London Area Living Payment
- (d) Staffing, Office and Administrative Expenses
- (e) Start-up and Winding-up Expenses
- (f) Travel and subsistence

Appendix 2: Ministerial salary entitlements, since 1997/98

- (a) Ministers and office-holders in Commons
- (b) Ministers and office-holders in Lords
- (c) Notes to Appendix 2

Appendix 3: Ministerial salaries - a comparison of entitlements and amounts received since 2008

Appendix 4: London Area constituencies

1. Barking
2. Battersea
3. **Beaconsfield**
4. Beckenham
5. Bermondsey & Old Southwark
6. Bethnal Green & Bow
7. Bexleyheath & Crayford
8. Brent Central
9. Brent North
10. Brentford & Isleworth
11. **Brentwood & Ongar**
12. Bromley & Chislehurst
13. **Broxbourne**
14. Camberwell & Peckham
15. Carshalton & Wallington
16. Chelsea & Fulham
17. Chingford & Woodford Green
18. Chipping Barnet
19. Cities of London & Westminster
20. Croydon Central
21. Croydon North
22. Croydon South
23. Dagenham & Rainham
24. **Dartford**
25. Dulwich & West Norwood
26. Ealing Central & Acton
27. Ealing North
28. Ealing, Southall
29. East Ham
30. **East Surrey**
31. Edmonton
32. Eltham
33. Enfield North
34. Enfield, Southgate
35. **Epping Forest**
36. **Epsom & Ewell**
37. Erith & Thamesmead
38. **Esher & Walton**
39. Feltham & Heston
40. Finchley & Golders Green
41. Greenwich & Woolwich
42. Hackney North & Stoke
43. Hackney South & Shoreditch
44. Hammersmith
45. Hampstead & Kilburn
46. **Harlow**
47. Harrow East
48. Harrow West
49. Hayes & Harlington
50. Hendon
51. **Hertford & Stortford**
52. **Hertsmere**
53. Holborn & St Pancras
54. Hornchurch & Upminster
55. Hornsey & Wood Green
56. Ilford North
57. Ilford South
58. Islington North
59. Islington South & Finsbury
60. Kensington
61. Kingston & Surbiton
62. Lewisham East
63. Lewisham West & Penge
64. Lewisham, Deptford
65. Leyton & Wanstead
66. Mitcham & Morden
67. **Mole Valley**
68. Old Bexley & Sidcup
69. Orpington
70. Poplar & Limehouse
71. Putney
72. **Reigate**
73. Richmond Park
74. Romford
75. Ruislip, Northwood & Pinner
76. **Runnymede & Weybridge**
77. **Sevenoaks**
78. **Slough**
79. **South West Hertfordshire**
80. **Spelthorne**
81. **St Albans**
82. Streatham
83. Sutton & Cheam
84. **Thurrock**
85. Tooting
86. Tottenham
87. Twickenham
88. Uxbridge & South Ruislip
89. Vauxhall
90. Walthamstow
91. **Watford**
92. **Welwyn Hatfield**
93. West Ham
94. Westminster North
95. Wimbledon
96. **Windsor**

Accommodation Expenditure is payable only to non-London Area MPs.

The 96 seats currently in the London-Area are listed above.

The 96 seats have been defined as London-Area constituencies since the introduction of IPSA's first Scheme. Those in **bold text** are eligible for the addition to the London Area Living Payment.

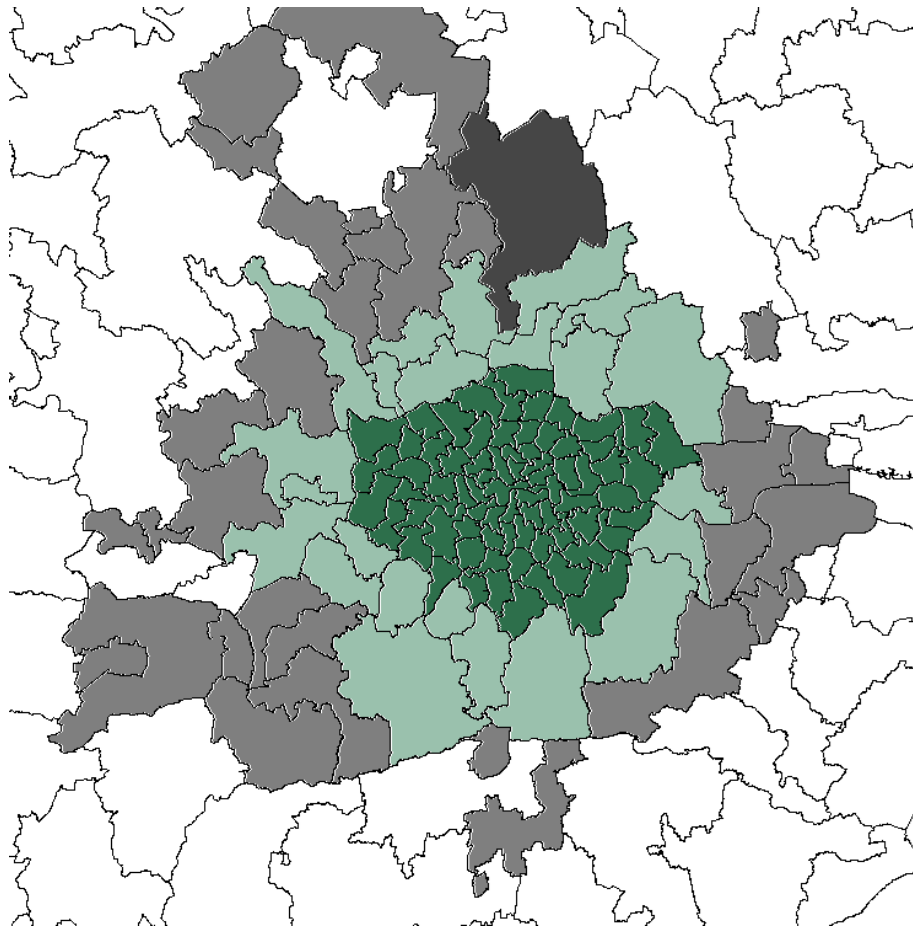
In April 2010, there were 128 London Area constituencies. In April 2011, this was reduced to 97; and in April 2012, one further seat (North East Hertfordshire) was removed from the list of London Area constituencies.

The seats removed from the London Area in April 2011 and April 2012 (in **bold text**) are listed below





Aldershot	Milton Keynes North
Basildon & Billericay	Milton Keynes South
Basingstoke	North East Bedfordshire
Castle Point	North East Hampshire
Chatham & Aylesford	North East Hertfordshire
Chelmsford	Reading East
Chesham & Amersham	Reading West
Crawley	Rochester & Strood
Gravesham	South Basildon & East Thurrock
Guildford	South West Bedfordshire
Hemel Hempstead	South West Surrey
Hitchin & Harpenden	Stevenage
Luton North	Surrey Heath
Luton South	Tonbridge & Malling
Maidenhead	Woking
Mid Sussex	Wycombe

Source: IPSA, The Members' Expenses Scheme, Schedule 2, 29 March 2010, HC 501 2009-10; Annual Review of MPS' Expenses Scheme 2011, "The MPs' Expenses Scheme: Third Edition", Schedule 2 and Schedule 3

London Area Constituencies since May 2010



In 2010/11 all the seats identified in the map were London area constituencies.

-  From April 2011, no longer defined as London area constituencies
-  From April 2012, North East Hertfordshire was no longer defined as a London area constituency
-  London area seats since May 2010 qualifying for a supplement to the London living payment from April 2011
-  London area seats since May 2010

Appendix 5: Library Briefing Papers on Members' pay and allowances since 2001

[Parliamentary Pay and Allowances: The Current Rates](#), RP 01/43, 3 April 2001

[Parliamentary pay, allowances and pensions: the reviews of 2001](#), RP 01/86, 8 November 2001

[Parliamentary pay and allowances: current rates](#), RP 01/87, 8 November 2001

[Members' office costs: the new system](#), RP 01/88, 8 November 2001

[Parliamentary pay and allowances](#), RP 03/64, 16 July 2003

[Parliamentary pay and allowances](#), RP 04/40, 18 May 2004

[Parliamentary pay and allowances](#), RP 05/42, 9 June 2005

[Parliamentary pay and allowances](#), RP 06/47, 9 October 2006

[Parliamentary pay, allowances and pensions](#), RP 08/31, 31 March 2008

[Members' pay and the independent review process](#), RP 09/29, 31 March 2009

[Members' allowances](#), RP 09/60 25 June 2009

[Members' pay and expenses – current rates and a review of developments since 2009](#), RP 12/29, 22 May 2012

[Members' pay and expenses – current rates from 1 April 2013](#), RP 13/33, 31 May 2013

[Members' pay and expenses 2015/16](#), CBP07546, 31 March 2016

[Members' pay and expenses and ministerial salaries 2016/17](#), CBP07762, 10 November 2016

[Members' pay and expenses and ministerial salaries 2017/18](#), CBP08276, 29 March 2018

[Members' pay and expenses and ministerial salaries 2018/19](#), CBP08535, 27 March 2019

[Members' pay and expenses and ministerial salaries 2019/20](#), CBP08839, 2 March 2020

[Members' pay and expenses and ministerial salaries 2020/21](#), CBP09148, 25 February 2021

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