

IPSA Implementation Programme

# IPSA PANEL

Presentation at the first IPSA Panel meeting  
26 October 2009

## Role of the Panel

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### Aim

1. To inform the IPSA Implementation Programme through the provision of subject expertise and advice on public opinion
2. To assist in designing the policies and processes of the new organisation, including contributing to the design of a new allowances scheme and code of conduct for MPs
1. To share ideas and offer a range of different viewpoints to stimulate debate

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## Role of the Panel

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### Approach

- Panel meetings will be approximately every 6 weeks
- To be convened, chaired and staffed by members of the IPSA Implementation Team (secretariat: Sam Reed)
- To be conducted under Chatham House rules – in line with IPSA's transparent ethos, we will publish an agenda and unattributable minutes shortly after each meeting. Names of organisations attending will be published.
- [We would ask that if you publish any information from the meetings, it is also under these conditions]

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## Role of the Panel

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### Any views?

- Terms of reference for the panel will be sent round in time for the next meeting

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# Principles for IPSA

James Gerard  
26 October 2009

## The IPSA customer

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As a programme we have taken a clear view:

- The IPSA provides a service to MPs but it works on behalf of the public.
- The primary customer of the IPSA is the public.
- The primary user of the services IPSA must provide are MPs.

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## The IPSA Vision

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- IPSA is a new, independent public authority. It was created in response to the controversy over MPs' expenses but its focus is on the future, not the past. Working on behalf of the public it will set standards for financial propriety and deliver services to MPs by setting, administering and ensuring compliance with a new allowances scheme and paying them their salaries. All of its services will be characterised by its core values: transparency, accountability, fairness and independence.

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## We have 9 principles informing our design ...

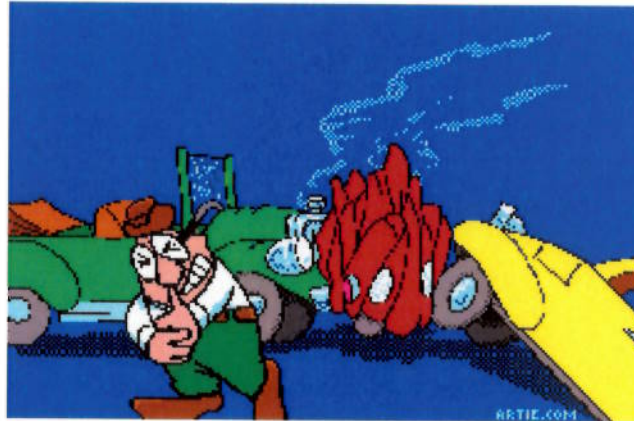
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1. MPs' allowance claims will be dealt with transparently.
2. IPSA must be capable of developing as an organisation.
3. MPs allowance claims will be dealt with effectively
4. IPSA must be efficient and have regard to Value For Money
5. IPSA must be independent
6. IPSA must ensure compliance with the rules in a fair and consistent fashion.
7. IPSA must command the confidence of MPs and the public  
(or must it ...?)
8. IPSA must support MPs in their work for the House and their constituencies through payment of salaries and allowances
9. IPSA must have a strong management culture

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But what happens when these principles collide?

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Efficiency vs commanding public confidence

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- We want complete audits – but they're expensive ...



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## Transparency vs data security

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### **The Daily Telegraph** **MPs' expenses leaked** **over failure to equip** **troops on front line**



- We want to be open and transparent, but we need to maintain some confidential information as well
- Solution: a robust whistleblowing policy

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## Independent vs Supporting MPs

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How much advice do we give?



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And not very long to get the answers ...

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**Provisional timeline:**

- November: IPSA senior appointments
- December - February: consultation on new allowances scheme
- April: IPSA up and running ...

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# Principles for IPSA

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