

[REDACTED]

From: R.Fox [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 October 2009 14:47
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority seminar

[REDACTED]

Thanks for this.

Both those dates are OK for me at the moment so I'll hold them in my diary until I hear more.

Thanks

Ruth

Dr Ruth Fox
Director, Parliament & Government Programme
Hansard Society, 40-43 Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1JA

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]@ipsa.gsi.gov.uk]
Sent: 15 October 2009 14:42
To: Fox,R
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority seminar

Ruth,

Thanks for getting back to me. I take your point about arranging a room!

So far I have approached yourself, Unlock Democracy, Campaign for Freedom of Information, Taxpayers Alliance, and the Constitution Unit. There may well be a few more added by the time of the event though.

It might be worth noting that we now have two provisional dates for this. I am trying to arrange a date that is suitable for everyone but inevitably there will be some diary clashes. The dates we have are 26th October 10-12, and 28th October 10-12. Would you have a preference for either of these? I obviously cannot promise your preference will be the final date but I will do my best.

Regards,
[REDACTED]

From: R.Fox [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 October 2009 12:06
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority seminar

Many thanks for your e-mail.

Subject to diary availability I'd be happy to attend the initial seminar. Just let me know the date and I'll try and attend if at all possible. It would also be useful to know what other organizations you plan to invite.

With regard to the room booking, we can't book rooms ourselves – we have to ask an MP, peer or official at the House to book them in their name on our behalf. I don't think it would be very appropriate for us to ask a member to do that for IPSA given all the issues re independence etc! However, someone like [redacted] who I gather is the new Change Director for IPSA implementation at the House, would probably be able to do it for you. If you haven't already got it, his contact number is [redacted]

I hope this helps and look forward to hearing from you in the near future re the seminar.

Best wishes

Ruth

Dr Ruth Fox
Director, Parliament & Government Programme
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From: [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]@ipsa.gsi.gov.uk]
Sent: 13 October 2009 14:14
To: Fox,R
Subject: Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority seminar

Dear Ruth,

I have just had a quick chat with your colleague [redacted] who suggested I drop you an email.

I am working in the programme team that is tasked with setting up the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority. As you will know, IPSA is the Authority that Parliament set up in July to, amongst other things, provide a new allowances scheme for MPs. We are currently researching and starting to design the new organisation and processes for administering MPs expenses. We want to listen to as many interested bodies as possible at the beginning of this process to help us in shaping IPSA and the new allowances scheme from the start.

As part of this, I am looking to set up an initial seminar, and later an advisory panel, for key interested bodies to discuss the topical issues regarding expenses and also generate ideas on how IPSA could carry out its functions. We hope to hold this seminar shortly so we can capture various suggestions in this early design stage and to discuss the current topical issues.

Ideally, we would want the initial seminar to take place at the end of October (which I appreciate is not much notice). I envisage the initial seminar being a meet-and-greet session and having a roundtable discussion on the expenses issue more widely rather than getting into specific detail of a new scheme.

[redacted] mentioned that the Hansard Society would be interested in taking part in this but suggested it was best to obtain your views. I am also currently looking for a location for the initial seminar which, subject to your views, [redacted] mentioned she could help with.

More than happy to discuss if helpful.

Many Thanks,

Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority

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