

Subject: IPSA Comms Catch up - Contact report

From: [REDACTED] (IPSA) [mailto:[REDACTED]@IPSA.gsi.gov.uk]
Sent: 22 October 2009 10:39
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Kett, Paul (IPSA)
Subject: RE: IPSA Comms Catch up - Contact report

[REDACTED]

Thanks very much for this very full and helpful note. We and others have spoken about much of the content since this was sent, but there are also a number of actions we took away, and I wanted to come back to you quickly on at least some of those.

[Irrelevant text extracted]

Part 3, **stakeholder panel**, we should discuss separately - perhaps I'm naive, but given what we've planned I'm not really worried by the risks you identify - I will ask [REDACTED] to follow up with the meeting papers. And I will be back in touch on parts 4 and 5, where we are working hard but have a lot still to do.

Thanks,
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 October 2009 19:41
To: [REDACTED] (IPSA); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Kett, Paul (IPSA)
Subject: IPSA Comms Catch up - Contact report

Dear [REDACTED]

A quick note of the meeting as promised.

[Irrelevant text extracted]

3. Stakeholder Panel

IPSA confirmed that it has convened a general stakeholder panel of key organisations such as Tax Payers Alliance, Unlock Democracy who represent public opinion/uphold public interest. The first meeting will take place on Monday 26 October.

Comms advised that one of the major risks with using such a panel in this way is that these organisations will use it to feed their own public campaigns on these issues.

Comms repeated the advice given on earlier occasions that the recommended approach was to sound these organisations out first so we could establish how exactly to engage them effectively. There are few precedents for how these organisations (possibly with the exception of Unlock Democracy who have run events attended by Ministers) have been engaged. Indeed, the likes of Tax Payers Alliance etc are very vocal critics and to that end very little proactive engagement has taken place in the way that IPSA are doing.

In particular, it would be useful to see the terms of reference to this panel. Some immediate questions/thoughts are:

- What information are you are going to provide to them? We would advise against sharing programme papers etc as hugely risky (likewise we've already advised against publishing them on the website for the same reasons) and again could give them powerful collateral to undermine IPSA which could damage your long term credibility.

- What are you telling them at this session? My strong advice would be to keep this as a general awareness raising session rather than presenting it/raising expectations that they are genuine policy partners. So, generally you could use it to update them on progress etc but I think you should steer clear from using it to share confidential information about the programme that isn't already in the public domain.
- We'd advise avoid raising expectation that this is going to be a regular forum and use it to suck it and see.
- We agreed that Comms should attend the session - I'd advise that should be myself, [REDACTED] and somebody from our press office should attend the session.
- It would be useful for Comms to be involved in any written or verbal briefing for Andrew so we can reflect the advice given here.

Actions

IPSA to provide all available information relating to the stakeholder panel so that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] can review/give swift advice about handling ahead of Monday.

[Irrelevant text extracted]

Ends.

The original of this email was scanned for viruses by the Government Secure Intranet virus scanning service supplied by Cable&Wireless Worldwide in partnership with MessageLabs. (CCTM Certificate Number 2009/09/0052.) On leaving the GSi this email was certified virus free.

Communications via the GSi may be automatically logged, monitored and/or recorded for legal purposes.

This email has been scanned by the MessageLabs Email Security System.
For more information please visit <http://www.messagelabs.com/email>
