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Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT – [2021/024]

The Hon Jason Wood MP – Member for La Trobe
Travel Claim Certification Forms.

Date: 27 October 2021

To: s 47F
Director, Audit & Assurance

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that you:

- i. Note the contents of this preliminary assessment and proceed with an Assurance Review.

PROCEED TO AN ASSURANCE REVIEW

PLEASE DISCUSS

s 47F

Date: 27 October 2021

s 47F
Director, Audit & Assurance
Transparency, Assurance & Legal Branch

Prepared by:
s 47F

Date: 27 October 2021

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Assistant Director, Audit & Assurance
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PURPOSE

This preliminary assessment aims to:

1. Assess the authenticity of various travel resource claim forms by the Hon Jason Wood MP.

BACKGROUND

2. On 27 October 2021, the Audit and Assurance Team received information from Travel Education and Advice Branch concerning Mr Jason Wood's use of travel resource claim forms. The form in question related to staff motor vehicle allowance.
3. In accordance with IPEA's protocol on dealing with misuse of parliamentary work expenses, on 27 October 2021 IPEA commenced a preliminary assessment into Mr Wood's use of travel resource claim forms.

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

4. Relevant legislation includes:
 - *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984.*
 - *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017.*
 - *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017.*

ANALYSIS

5. IPEA identified a number of forms upon which it appears a copy of Mr Wood's signature was appended by way of a sticker or similar method. Examples are at **Attachment A**.

CONCLUSION

6. On the basis of the findings of this preliminary assessment, it is recommended IPEA proceed with an assurance review into this matter.