

Form 40 (version 2)
UCPR 35.1

STATEMENT OF NICOLE PEARSON

COURT DETAILS

Court

List

Registry

Case number

TITLE OF PROCEEDINGS

Plaintiff INDEPENDENT PARLIAMENTARY EXPENSES
AUTHORITY

Defendant ANDREW LAMING

FILING DETAILS

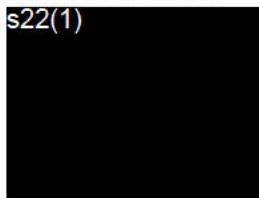
Filed for Plaintiff

Filed in relation to Plaintiff's Claim

Legal representative s22(1)

Legal representative reference

Contact name and telephone



STATEMENT

Name	Nicole Pearson
Address	One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603
Occupation	Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal
Date	21 December 2022

1. I am the Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal, for the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority ("IPEA"), the Plaintiff in these proceedings.
2. I have access to all the records of the Plaintiff pertaining to these proceedings.
3. The Plaintiff is constituted under both the *Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority Act 2017* (IPEA Act) and the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (PBR Act).
4. The establishment and functions of IPEA are documented on IPEA's website: <https://www.ipea.gov.au/>.
5. Prior to an election, IPEA regularly reviews the use of work expenses by parliamentarians in marginal seats, as well as those that have not been preselected or that have indicated their intention to leave parliament.
6. A review of Mr Laming's travel data for April 2022, indicated that he had used parliamentary resources to travel from Melbourne to Brisbane on 10 April 2022, including flights for his spouse and two children.
7. On 18 May 2022, in accordance with IPEA's protocol on dealing with misuse of parliamentary work expenses, an Assurance Review into Andrew Laming's travel commenced. This protocol is attached and marked with the letter 'A'.
8. On 18 May 2022, IPEA sent a letter via email to the Defendant. The purpose of this letter was to request information, regarding the nature of his parliamentary business for travel to Melbourne and Sydney, and from Melbourne to Brisbane between the dates of 5 and 10 of April 2022. This letter is attached and marked with the letter 'B'.
9. On 19 May 2022, IPEA received an email response from the Defendant which outlined the details of the travel, but no supporting evidence was provided to support the Defendant's claims. This letter is attached and marked with the letter 'C'.
10. On 20 May 2022, IPEA sent a second letter via email to the Defendant which requested that he provide evidence to support his claims. This letter is attached and marked with the letter 'D'.
11. On 20 May 2022, the defendant responded via email and advised that his previous correspondence to IPEA was his final response to this matter. This letter is attached and marked with the letter 'E'.
12. On 1 July 2022, IPEA sent a third letter via email to the Defendant which advised him of his obligations as a former parliamentarian to provide IPEA with information under section 98 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017* (the Regulations). The Defendant, as a former parliamentarian is required to provide compliance information in relation to the use of public

resources to IPEA under section 98 of the Regulations. Further, subsection 98(8)(a) provides that the Commonwealth (IPEA) is not liable to provide public resources where there is a failure to provide compliance information. This letter is attached and marked with the letter 'F'.

13. On 1 July 2022, the Defendant responded to IPEA via email and referred to details of a previous audit matter that had concluded earlier in the year of 2022, unrelated to the current assurance matter. He did not acknowledge and failed to address IPEA's ongoing requests to provide information regarding the current assurance matter. This email is attached and marked with the letter 'G'.
14. On 7 July 2022, IPEA sent a fourth letter to the Defendant via email to advise that the previous concluded audit had been concluded and that he was still required to answer IPEA's questions and provide information in relation to the current assurance matter. He was also advised that he would be liable for the travel costs from 5-10 April 2022, if he did not respond. This letter is attached and marked with the letter 'H'.
15. Subsection 38(1) of the PBR Act provides that if the Commonwealth provides public resources to a member and the member contravenes section 26, the member is liable to pay the Commonwealth a penalty for the contravention, an amount equal to 25% of the amount to which the section applies.
16. In August 2022 invoices were raised for the parliamentary resources used to travel from Melbourne to Brisbane on 10 April 2022, including the costs of flights for his spouse and two children. The invoice also included the resources used to travel within Sydney from 5-6 April 2022, within Melbourne on 6 April 2022 and from Brisbane Airport to his home on 10 April 2022. This is because IPEA did not receive a response to its letter of 7 July 2022, from the Defendant.
17. The invoices totalled \$6,502.41. The 25% loading of \$1,625.61 was applied, a total of \$8,128.02. These invoices are attached and marked with the letter "I".
18. On 24 August 2022, IPEA sent a fifth letter to the Defendant via email with the relevant invoices attached. This letter is attached and marked with the letter "J".
19. On 24 August 2022, the Defendant sent two further email responses in relation to the previous concluded audit and again did not relate to the current assurance matter. These emails are attached and marked with the letters "K" and "L". To date the Defendant has provided no further information regarding this assurance matter.
20. Subsection 38(5) of the PBR Act provides, in summary, that any penalty imposed by IPEA is a debt due to the Commonwealth by the member and may be recovered on behalf of the Commonwealth by action in a relevant court.
21. Subsection 57(3) of the PBR Act provides, in summary, that any payment of amounts made under the Act is (i) a debt due to the Commonwealth by the recipient; and (ii) may be recovered, on behalf of the Commonwealth by action in a relevant court, and in this instance, applicable to the amount required to be repaid.
22. Section 5 of the PBR Act defines a "Relevant court" as including a court of a State or Territory that has jurisdiction in relation to the matter.
23. Under section 11 of the *Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2009* (Queensland Tribunal Act) the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal has jurisdiction to hear and decide a minor civil dispute. Under the Queensland Tribunal Act a minor civil dispute is defined in Schedule 3 as a claim to recover a

debt or liquidated demand of money of up to the prescribed amount. Prescribed amount means up to \$25,000.

24. In this instance, the total amount that the Defendant needs to pay the Plaintiff is the outstanding amount of \$6,502.41 and the loading penalty of \$1,625.61, a total of \$8,128.02.
25. The Plaintiff claims the total debt amount of \$8,128.02 and is also seeking reimbursement for all of its costs and disbursements associated with the proceedings.

s22(1)



Nicole Pearson



Australian Government
**Independent Parliamentary
 Expenses Authority**

Protocol—Dealing with Allegations of Misuse of Parliamentary Work Expenses

The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) was established to provide greater accountability and transparency of the Parliamentary Work Expenses Framework (the Framework). IPEA provides assurance that parliamentarians' work resources and *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (MOP(S) Act) employees' travel resources are spent in compliance with the Framework.

IPEA deals with possible misuse of work or travel resources at arm's length from Government. The *Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority Act 2017* (IPEA Act) provides legislative powers for the auditing and reporting of parliamentarians' work and travel resources and MOP(S) Act travel resources.

When IPEA becomes aware of information that indicates possible non-compliance with the Framework, IPEA may conduct a preliminary assessment. The assessment scrutinises the use of the work or travel resource and determines if a parliamentary business resource has been used.

Possible misuse

In the event of possible misuse, IPEA decides whether to undertake an assurance review or audit of the matter. IPEA does not undertake assurance reviews or audits at the request of parliamentarians or MOP(S) Act employees.

- Under the IPEA Act, IPEA may audit any parliamentarian's work or travel resource or MOP(S) Act travel resource as it considers appropriate.
- IPEA may conduct an assurance review where a preliminary assessment indicates that a Commonwealth resource was used for a parliamentarian's work expense or MOP(S) Act employee's travel expense.
- IPEA may conduct an audit where there are allegations of systemic or substantial misuse of work expenses or where there is an educative benefit.
- An audit may also be a systematic and comprehensive examination of the use by all parliamentarians and/or MOP(S) Act employees of a specific category of work expense.
- The Members of the Authority or the Chief Executive Officer may issue a notice requiring a person to provide information that is relevant to an audit by IPEA, as provided for under Part 5 of the IPEA Act. Criminal penalties apply for failure to comply with a notice, or for providing false or misleading information.
- In the event of an audit, the parliamentarian or MOP(S) Act employee is accorded procedural fairness to provide comment on any findings.

Members of the Authority decide whether a matter is referred to the Australian Federal Police (AFP)

- The Minister responsible for the AFP and the Minister responsible for the Framework are notified of a referral to the AFP.

Publication of audits

- Members of the Authority decide whether, or not, to publish their decision(s).

As approved by the Members of the Authority: October 2020



Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

18 May 2022

Mr Andrew Laming

s22(1)

Email: s22(1)

Dear Mr Laming

Assurance Review of travel expenses

The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) has responsibility under the *Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority Act 2017* to review work expenses accessed by parliamentarians.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of Commonwealth-funded travel expenses incurred by you in relation to travel:

- within Sydney on 5 and 6 April 2022;
- within Melbourne on 6 April 2022;
- from Melbourne to Brisbane on 10 April 2022 for yourself, your spouse and your children; and
- within Brisbane on 10 April 2022.

Attachment A details your Commonwealth-funded travel within the relevant periods. We have set out questions for your response to assist in our review. Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

Division 2 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) sets out the principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources.

'Parliamentary business' has the meaning given by section 6 of the PBR Act. Activities that fall within the four duty streams of parliamentary business are set out in the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017*.

Please provide a written response via email to assurance@ipea.gov.au, by close of business on 25 May 2022, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me on 02 6215 3000.

Yours sincerely

s22(1)

Nicole Pearson
Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

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Attachment A

Andrew Laming

Assurance Review of travel expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
COMCAR	Mascot	05/04/2022	11:15 AM	Sydney CBD	05/04/2022	12:30 PM	\$162.15
Cabcharge	Sydney CBD	05/04/2022		Redfern	05/04/2022	1:49 PM	\$24.91
Cabcharge	Surry Hills	05/04/2022		Sydney CBD	05/04/2022	3:05 PM	\$26.09
Cabcharge	Sydney CBD	05/04/2022		Chippendale	05/04/2022	10:45 PM	\$17.91
COMCAR	Chippendale	06/04/2022	7:55 AM	Mascot	06/04/2022	8:19 AM	\$60.30

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Cabcharge	Melbourne Airport	06/04/2022		St Kilda	06/04/2022	1:00 PM	\$83.39
Travel Provider – QANTAS Andrew Laming	Melbourne	10/04/2022	2:20 PM	Brisbane	10/04/2022	4:30 PM	\$1,361.59
Travel Provider – QANTAS Mrs Laming	Melbourne	10/04/2022	2:20 PM	Brisbane	10/04/2022	4:30 PM	\$1,361.59
Travel Provider – QANTAS Dependent child	Melbourne	10/04/2022	2:20 PM	Brisbane	10/04/2022	4:30 PM	\$1,361.59
Travel Provider – QANTAS Dependent child	Melbourne	10/04/2022	2:20 PM	Brisbane	10/04/2022	4:30 PM	\$1,361.59
Cabcharge	Brisbane Airport	10/04/2022		Ormiston	10/04/2022	7:00 PM	\$78.62

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Attachment A

Andrew Laming

Assurance Review of travel expenses

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney on 5 and 6 April 2022?
2. With reference to the definition given by section 6 of the PBR Act, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney on 5 and 6 April 2022?
3. What was your dominant purpose of your travel to Melbourne from 6 to 10 April 2022?
4. With reference to the definition given by section 6 of the PBR Act, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Melbourne from 6 to 10 April 2022?
5. Please advise whether your family's travel expenses meet the three part test in section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017*:
 - You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business;
 - Your family was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - Your family's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

From: [Andrew Laming](#)
To: [Assurance](#)
Subject: Re: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 19 May 2022 2:15:47 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear IPEA,

The Sydney leg (5,6/4/2022) comprised meetings in a Parliamentary capacity with the Australian Society of Ophthalmologists. The Melbourne leg encompassed vehicle travel to a two-day event (8,9/4/2022) in regional Victoria in my electorate capacity, given my involvement through Stronger Communities funding in re-establishing post-COVID, a successful model for a similar regional community event in Bowman. The dependents' return travel was accompaniment/facilitation of family life. Additional incidental meetings were held in both locations and I am prepared to publicly justify the benefits and value for money of the journey.

My current priority remains obtaining independent assessment of the 2019 IPEA travel assurance/audit decision.

From: Assurance
Sent: 18 May 2022 10:44
To: s22(1)
Cc: Assurance
Subject: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]
SEC=OFFICIAL

Dear Mr Laming,

Please find **attached** correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to travel you have undertaken.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 6215 3000 or assurance@ipea.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal

Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

T: 02 6215 3000 | E: s22(1)

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Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

20 May 2022

Mr Andrew Laming
s22(1)

Email: s22(1)

Dear Mr Laming

Assurance Review of travel expenses

Thank you for your email response of 19 May 2022 in relation to travel expenses incurred by you in April 2022.

In our original correspondence of 18 May 2022 we requested that where asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, you provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

In order for IPEA to conduct its review of your use of expenses, please provide this supporting documentation, via email to assurance@ipea.gov.au by close of business on 25 May 2022, or advise me prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me on 02 6215 3000.

Yours sincerely
s22(1)

Nicole Pearson
Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

From: [Andrew Laming](#)
To: [Assurance](#)
Cc: [Assurance](#)
Subject: Re: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 20 May 2022 10:03:35 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)

Thank you.

Please accept yesterday's response as my final correspondence regarding this matter.

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From: Assurance
Sent: Friday, May 20, 2022 9:54:14 AM
To: Andrew Laming
Cc: Assurance
Subject: RE: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]

SEC=OFFICIAL

Dear Mr Laming

Thank you for your response. Please find **attached** further correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to this matter.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 6215 3000 or at assurance@ipea.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal

Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

T: 02 6215 3000 | E: [s22\(1\)](#)

SEC=OFFICIAL

From: Andrew Laming
Sent: Thursday, 19 May 2022 2:16 PM
To: Assurance
Subject: Re: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear IPEA,

The Sydney leg (5,6/4/2022) comprised meetings in a Parliamentary capacity with the Australian Society of Ophthalmologists. The Melbourne leg encompassed vehicle travel to a two-day event (8,9/4/2022) in regional Victoria in my electorate capacity, given my involvement through Stronger Communities funding in re-establishing post-COVID, a successful model for a similar regional community event in Bowman. The dependents' return travel was accompaniment/facilitation of family life. Additional incidental meetings were held in both locations and I am prepared to publicly justify the benefits and value for money of the journey.

My current priority remains obtaining independent assessment of the 2019 IPEA travel assurance/audit decision.

From: Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>
Sent: 18 May 2022 10:44
To: [s22\(1\)](#)
Cc: Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>
Subject: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]

SEC=OFFICIAL

Dear Mr Laming,

Please find **attached** correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to travel you have undertaken.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 6215 3000 or assurance@ipea.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal

Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

T: 02 6215 3000 | E: **s22(1)**

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Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

30 June 2022

Mr Andrew Laming

s22(1)

Email s22(1)

Dear Mr Laming

Outstanding Assurance Matter

On 18 May 2022, I wrote to you to advise IPEA was undertaking an Assurance Review of Commonwealth-funded travel expenses incurred by you in relation to travel:

- within Sydney on 5 and 6 April 2022
- within Melbourne on 6 April 2022
- from Melbourne to Brisbane on 10 April 2022 for yourself, your spouse and your children
- within Brisbane on 10 April 2022.

In that correspondence, I set out questions for your response to assist in our review. I requested that where asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, you provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

On 19 May 2022, you responded to our questions with the information about your parliamentary business, but you did not provide any supporting documentation.

On 20 May 2022, I wrote to you again requesting that you provide supporting documentation, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting, to assist IPEA in conducting its review of the travel expenses.

On 20 May 2022, you advised that your previous response, of 19 May 2022, was your final correspondence regarding this matter.

Under section 98 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017*, you are obliged to provide compliance information in relation to the use of public resources as required by IPEA. If this

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information is not supplied, the Commonwealth is not liable for resources accessed, and an invoice may be raised.

If the requested supporting documentation is not provided via email to assurance@ipea.gov.au by **Thursday 7 July 2022**, IPEA will raise an invoice for the relevant travel expenses. A factsheet about IPEA's Statutory Audit Function is attached (**Attachment A**) and further information is available on IPEA's website, at ipea.gov.au/assurance-audit.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me on **s22(1)**

Yours sincerely,

s22(1)

Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager, Transparency Audit & Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

s22(1)

From: [Andrew Laming](#)
To: [Assurance](#)
Cc: [Assurance](#)
Subject: Re: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 1 July 2022 1:28:28 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

The previous Audit was a fabricated conclusion, arrived at by omitting hard copy evidence in IPEA's possession from the final report.

This was pointed out in the draft stage and IPEA bizarrely elected to evade those constructive queries. The entirety of the Audit turned on the omissions.

It is also clear that the process was activated two years later for political purposes, just 48 hours after adverse media; all of which has been found to be baseless.

I won't be bullied into dropping concerns regarding IPEA conduct by the immediate opening a new process.

The March 2022 Audit is now subject to appeal and I again ask IPEA to account for why the following evidence of Parliamentary travel to the Hobart conference address as early as June 11 2019 was excluded from Audit:

- conference registration, evening event booking, flight bookings, non-refundable accommodation bookings and hard copy invitation to attend, available from the convenor upon request.

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From: Assurance
Sent: Friday, July 1, 2022 12:51:36 PM
To: s22(1)
Cc: Assurance
Subject: RE: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]

SEC=OFFICIAL

Dear Mr Laming

Thank you for your response.

Please find **attached** further correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to this matter.

It is important that you read the correspondence and respond.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on s22(1) or at assurance@ipea.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal
 Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

s22(1)

SEC=OFFICIAL

From: Andrew Laming
Sent: Friday, 20 May 2022 10:03 AM
To: Assurance
Cc: Assurance
Subject: HPE CM: Re: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thank you.

Please accept yesterday's response as my final correspondence regarding this matter.

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From: Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, May 20, 2022 9:54:14 AM
To: Andrew Laming §22(1)
Cc: Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]
SEC=OFFICIAL

Dear Mr Laming

Thank you for your response. Please find **attached** further correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to this matter.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 6215 3000 or at assurance@ipea.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

T: 02 6215 3000 | E: §22(1)

SEC=OFFICIAL

From: Andrew Laming §22(1)
Sent: Thursday, 19 May 2022 2:16 PM
To: Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear IPEA,

The Sydney leg (5,6/4/2022) comprised meetings in a Parliamentary capacity with the Australian Society of Ophthalmologists. The Melbourne leg encompassed vehicle travel to a two-day event (8,9/4/2022) in regional Victoria in my electorate capacity, given my involvement through Stronger Communities funding in re-establishing post-COVID, a successful model for a similar regional community event in Bowman. The dependents' return travel was accompaniment/facilitation of family life. Additional incidental meetings were held in both locations and I am prepared to publicly justify the benefits and value for money of the journey.

My current priority remains obtaining independent assessment of the 2019 IPEA travel assurance/audit decision.

From: Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>
Sent: 18 May 2022 10:44
To: §22(1)
Cc: Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>
Subject: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]
SEC=OFFICIAL

Dear Mr Laming,

Please find **attached** correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to travel you have undertaken.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 6215 3000 or assurance@ipea.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

T: 02 6215 3000 | E: §22(1)

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Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

7 July 2022

Mr Andrew Laming

Email: s22(1)

Dear Mr Laming

Outstanding Assurance Matter

I wrote to you on 30 June 2022 in relation to an Assurance Review of your use of travel expenses between 5 and 10 April 2022. My letter noted that in your earlier correspondence on this Review you had not provided IPEA with the supporting documentation necessary for the conduct of the Review. I advised you of the obligations imposed upon parliamentarians by section 98 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

Your response of 1 July 2022 did not address the Assurance Review but raised matters pertaining to the earlier Audit of your use of business expenses between 21 and 27 June 2019. I will deal with those matters first.

On 3 March 2022, IPEA's acting Chief Executive Officer wrote to you enclosing a copy of the Draft Audit Report. You were invited to correct any factual errors and provide any further relevant evidence for consideration in relation to the draft findings. You responded in emails dated 16 and 23 March 2022. IPEA gave consideration to the contents of that correspondence and concluded that you had not identified factual errors or provided further relevant and material information. The Chief Executive Officer wrote to you on 24 March 2022 enclosing a copy of the final Audit Report and the Ruling of the Members of IPEA.

In subsequent emails to IPEA, you have spoken of obtaining independent assessment of the Audit and have indicated that the Audit is now subject to appeal. While judicial review of an audit outcome and a ruling may be available under section 39B of the *Judiciary Act 1903* – a matter on which you would need to seek independent legal advice – IPEA has not been advised of any review. Accordingly, IPEA currently regards this matter as closed.

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In relation to the Assurance Review of your use of travel expenses between 5 and 10 April 2022, I again confirm that section 98 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017* requires that a parliamentarian is obliged to provide IPEA with such compliance information as is required to determine that an expense has been incurred in accordance within the legislated provisions. Where compliance information as sought is not provided, section 98 specifies that the Commonwealth is not liable for the cost of resources accessed.

Accordingly, if you do not by Friday 15 July 2022 provide IPEA with supporting documentation as specified in both my letters of 18 and 20 May 2022, I will raise an invoice for the relevant travel expenses.

Yours sincerely

s22(1)



Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

T: s22(1)



ABN 61 970 632 495

TAX INVOICE

Invoice To:
Mr. Andrew Laming
s22(1)

Document Date: 18.08.2022
Contact officer: Accounts Receivable

Phone number: 1800 680 103
Fax number: (02) 6123 5379
Payment Reference: 2800037240
Customer No: 10013660
Payment Due Date: 07.09.2022

On any correspondence,
please quote: 2800037240

Payment is required by the due date above, otherwise interest may be charged on any overdue amounts. If this invoice is not paid by the due date it may be referred to a debt collection agency.

Item Description	Net Amount	GST Amount	Total Amount
001 Recovery of COMCAR trip 131293 05/04/22	\$162.15	\$16.22	\$178.37
002 Recovery of COMCAR trip 131443 06/04/22	\$60.30	\$6.03	\$66.33
003 25% loading penalty	\$61.18		\$61.18

Total Supply: \$283.63 \$22.25 \$305.88

1. Payment by Direct Debit

Please send remittance to accountsreceivable@sdo.gov.au
M&PS ADMIN RECEIPTS A/C
s22(1)

2. Mailing your payment

All cheques and money orders should be made payable to the Department of Finance.
Mail payment together with this stub to:
Department of Finance
1 Canberra Avenue FORREST, ACT, 2603

3. Payment by Credit Card

Complete the following and return by mail or fax to (02) 6123 5379
Card Type: Mastercard Visa American Express

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Name of Card Holder: _____ Signature: _____

Pmnt Amt: _____ Date: _____ Cust Ref: 2800037240



TAX INVOICE

Invoice To:
Dr Andrew Laming MP
Parliament House
PO BOX 6022
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Document Date: 22.08.2022
Phone number: 1800 680 103
Email: finance@ipea.gov.au
Payment Reference: 3100001976
Customer No: 77252484
Payment Due Date: 21.09.2022

On any correspondence, please
quote: 3100001976

Item Description	Net Amount	GST Amount	Total Amount
015 *Recovery of Cabcharge 5 Apr 22	\$24.91	\$2.49	\$27.40

Total Supply: \$7,254.41 \$567.73 \$7,822.14



Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

24 August 2022

Mr Andrew Laming

s22(1)

Email: s22(1)

Dear Mr Laming

Outstanding Assurance Matter - Assurance Review of Travel and Travel-related Expenses

On 7 July 2022, I wrote to you regarding the outstanding Assurance Review of Commonwealth-funded travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you and your family. These expenses are associated with travel within Sydney and Melbourne, from Melbourne to Brisbane and within Brisbane from 5 to 10 April 2022 (the relevant period).

In that letter (**Attachment A**), you were informed that if the requested information in relation to those travel arrangements was not provided to IPEA by 15 July 2022, an invoice would be raised for the relevant expenses. This communication followed repeated requests for that same information in IPEA's letters of 18 May 2022, 20 May 2022 and 30 June 2022.

Under regulation 98 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017*, you are obliged to provide compliance information in relation to the use of public resources as required by IPEA. If this information is not supplied, the Commonwealth is not liable for the business resources accessed. As you have not provided a response to this Assurance Review with the requested information, invoices have been raised for the relevant expenses. A penalty of 25 per cent has also been applied under the provisions of section 38(1) of the Act.

The total amount owed in relation to this matter is \$8,128.02 and has been divided between two invoices:

- **Attachment B** is an invoice for \$305.88, representing COMCAR travel for the relevant period. Payment of this invoice is required by close of business on **7 September 2022**.
- **Attachment C** is an invoice for \$7,822.14, representing all other travel expenses for the relevant period. Payment of this invoice is required by close of business on **21 September 2022**.

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact me on s22(1).

Yours sincerely

s22(1)

Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

T: s22(1)

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

7 July 2022

Mr Andrew Laming

Email: s22(1)

Dear Mr Laming

Outstanding Assurance Matter

I wrote to you on 30 June 2022 in relation to an Assurance Review of your use of travel expenses between 5 and 10 April 2022. My letter noted that in your earlier correspondence on this Review you had not provided IPEA with the supporting documentation necessary for the conduct of the Review. I advised you of the obligations imposed upon parliamentarians by section 98 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

Your response of 1 July 2022 did not address the Assurance Review but raised matters pertaining to the earlier Audit of your use of business expenses between 21 and 27 June 2019. I will deal with those matters first.

On 3 March 2022, IPEA's acting Chief Executive Officer wrote to you enclosing a copy of the Draft Audit Report. You were invited to correct any factual errors and provide any further relevant evidence for consideration in relation to the draft findings. You responded in emails dated 16 and 23 March 2022. IPEA gave consideration to the contents of that correspondence and concluded that you had not identified factual errors or provided further relevant and material information. The Chief Executive Officer wrote to you on 24 March 2022 enclosing a copy of the final Audit Report and the Ruling of the Members of IPEA.

In subsequent emails to IPEA, you have spoken of obtaining independent assessment of the Audit and have indicated that the Audit is now subject to appeal. While judicial review of an audit outcome and a ruling may be available under section 39B of the *Judiciary Act 1903* – a matter on which you would need to seek independent legal advice – IPEA has not been advised of any review. Accordingly, IPEA currently regards this matter as closed.

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

In relation to the Assurance Review of your use of travel expenses between 5 and 10 April 2022, I again confirm that section 98 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017* requires that a parliamentarian is obliged to provide IPEA with such compliance information as is required to determine that an expense has been incurred in accordance within the legislated provisions. Where compliance information as sought is not provided, section 98 specifies that the Commonwealth is not liable for the cost of resources accessed.

Accordingly, if you do not by Friday 15 July 2022 provide IPEA with supporting documentation as specified in both my letters of 18 and 20 May 2022, I will raise an invoice for the relevant travel expenses.

Yours sincerely

s22(1)



Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

T: s22(1)



ABN 61 970 632 495

TAX INVOICE

Invoice To:

Mr. Andrew Laming

s22(1)

Document Date: 18.08.2022
Contact officer: Accounts Receivable

Phone number: 1800 680 103
Fax number: (02) 6123 5379
Payment Reference: 2800037240
Customer No: 10013660
Payment Due Date: 07.09.2022

On any correspondence,
 please quote: 2800037240

Payment is required by the due date above, otherwise interest may be charged on any overdue amounts. If this invoice is not paid by the due date it may be referred to a debt collection agency.

Item Description	Net Amount	GST Amount	Total Amount
001 Recovery of COMCAR trip 131293 05/04/22	\$162.15	\$16.22	\$178.37
002 Recovery of COMCAR trip 131443 06/04/22	\$60.30	\$6.03	\$66.33
003 25% loading penalty	\$61.18		\$61.18

Total Supply: \$283.63 \$22.25 \$305.88

Page: 1 of 1

1. Payment by Direct Debit

Please send remittance to accountsreceivable@sdo.gov.au

M&PS ADMIN RECEIPTS A/C

s22(1)

2. Mailing your payment

All cheques and money orders should be made payable to the Department of Finance.

Mail payment together with this stub to:

Department of Finance

1 Canberra Avenue FORREST, ACT, 2603

3. Payment by Credit Card

Complete the following and return by mail or fax to (02) 6123 5379

Card Type: Mastercard Visa American Express

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Name of Card Holder: _____ Signature: _____

Pmnt Amt: _____ Date: _____ Cust Ref: 2800037240



Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

ABN 26 424 781 530

TAX INVOICE

Invoice To:
Dr Andrew Laming MP
Parliament House
PO BOX 6022
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Invoice Date: 22.08.2022
Phone number: 1800 680 103
Email: finance@ipea.gov.au
Payment Reference: 3100001976
Customer No: 77252484
Payment Due Date: 21.09.2022

On any correspondence, please
quote: 3100001976

Payment is required by the due date above, otherwise interest may be charged on any overdue amounts. If this invoice is not paid by the due date it may be referred to a debt collection agency.

Item	Description	Net Amount	GST Amount	Total Amount
001	*Recovery of Airfare 10 Apr 22	\$1,361.59	\$136.16	\$1,497.75
002	*Recovery of Airfare 10 Apr 22	\$1,361.59	\$136.16	\$1,497.75
003	*Recovery of Cabcharge (service fee) 5 Apr 22	\$1.37		\$1.37
004	*Recovery of Cabcharge 5 Apr 22	\$26.09	\$2.61	\$28.70
005	*Recovery of Cabcharge 10 Apr 22	\$78.62	\$7.86	\$86.48
006	*Recovery of Cabcharge (service fee) 6 Apr 22	\$4.58		\$4.58
007	*Recovery of Cabcharge (service fee) 5 Apr 22	\$1.44		\$1.44
008	*Recovery of Cabcharge 5 Apr 22	\$17.91	\$1.79	\$19.70
009	*Recovery of Cabcharge 6 Apr 22	\$83.39	\$8.34	\$91.73
010	*Recovery of Airfare 10 Apr 22	\$1,361.59	\$136.16	\$1,497.75
011	*25 percent penalty loading between 5 Apr and 10 A	\$1,564.43		\$1,564.43
012	*Recovery of Cabcharge (service fee) 10 Apr 22	\$4.32		\$4.32
013	*Recovery of Airfare 10 Apr 22	\$1,361.59	\$136.16	\$1,497.75
014	*Recovery of Cabcharge (service fee) 5 Apr 22	\$0.99		\$0.99

Continued on next page

Page: 1 of 2

1. Payment by Direct Debit

Please send remittance to finance@ipea.gov.au

IPEA Administered Receipts A/C:

s22(1)

2. Mailing your payment

All cheques and money orders should be made payable to the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Mail payment together with this stub to:

IPEA

1 Canberra Avenue FORREST, ACT, 2603

3. Payment by Credit Card

Complete the following and return by email to finance@ipea.gov.au or contact the IPEA Help Desk on (02) 6215 3000

Card Type: Mastercard Visa

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____ CCV : _____

Name of Card Holder: _____ Signature: _____

Payment Amount: _____ Date: _____



TAX INVOICE

Invoice To:
Dr Andrew Laming MP
Parliament House
PO BOX 6022
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Document Date: 22.08.2022
Phone number: 1800 680 103
Email: finance@ipea.gov.au
Payment Reference: 3100001976
Customer No: 77252484
Payment Due Date: 21.09.2022

On any correspondence, please
quote: 3100001976

Item Description	Net Amount	GST Amount	Total Amount
015 *Recovery of Cabcharge 5 Apr 22	\$24.91	\$2.49	\$27.40

Total Supply: \$7,254.41 \$567.73 \$7,822.14

From: [Andrew Laming](#)
To: [Assurance](#)
Subject: Re: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 24 August 2022 11:03:10 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Lets just see if your first matter stands up first.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Assurance
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 10:58:14 AM
To: s22(1)
Subject: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]

SEC=OFFICIAL

Dear Mr Laming

Please find **attached** further correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to this matter.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on s22(1) or at assurance@ipea.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Pearson

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

s22(1)

SEC=OFFICIAL

Be careful with this message

External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

From: [Andrew Laming](#)
To: [Assurance](#)
Subject: Re: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 24 August 2022 11:07:06 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

I have repeatedly indicated that until your last assurance has survived external appeal, I will not be threatened or bullied by subsequent ones.

The 2019 process is before the Commonwealth Ombudsman and only when completely resolved will I provide comprehensive material I have at my disposal to justify the April 2022 travel.

This is not an invitation to further discuss the matter, but please can I remind you to crack on with my FOI request, relating to the so-called internal review.

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From: Andrew Laming
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:02:08 AM
To: Assurance
Subject: Re: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Lets just see if your first matter stands up first.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Assurance
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 10:58:14 AM
To: s22(1)
Subject: Assurance Review - Mr Andrew Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]
SEC=OFFICIAL

Dear Mr Laming

Please find **attached** further correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to this matter.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on s22(1) or at assurance@ipea.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Pearson
Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
s22(1)

SEC=OFFICIAL

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