



Australian Government  
Independent Parliamentary  
Expenses Authority

Assurance Review 2023/006

Parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney  
during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022

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## Executive summary

1. The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) conducted an Assurance Review of travel by Parliamentarians to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. The Assurance Review forms part of IPEA's 3 Year Assurance Plan. The purpose of the Assurance Review was to determine whether the travel expenses used conformed to the legislative provisions.

## Assurance Review Findings

2. The Assurance Review assessed whether the use of parliamentary business resources was for the dominant purpose of parliamentary business. IPEA identified 12 parliamentarians' offices as having used parliamentary business resources during the period in scope. Having regard to the available information, including the responses provided by parliamentarians, IPEA concluded the use of parliamentary business resources was not inconsistent with the legislative framework.

## Scope and Purpose

3. The scope of the Assurance Review is travel to, from and within Sydney by Parliamentarians whose travel was assessed as part of Assurance Review 2022/013. The travel completed by these parliamentarians raised further assurance questions in relation to the dominant purpose of the travel and the parliamentary business undertaken.

## Engagement with parliamentarians

4. On 5 April 2023, IPEA wrote to eight parliamentarians in relation to their travel to, from and within Sydney during the period in scope. Each parliamentarian was asked to confirm the dominant purpose of their travel to Sydney and provide an explanation of the parliamentary business. IPEA also wrote to four parliamentarians in relation to their use of COMCAR within Sydney during the period in scope. Each parliamentarian was asked to explain why they used COMCAR instead of their private plated vehicle or vehicle allowance.

## Parliamentarians' Responses

5. IPEA received responses from seven parliamentarians on or before the due date. In each case the response detailed the parliamentary business undertaken by the parliamentarian while in Sydney or an explanation of the use of COMCAR within the electorate. For two parliamentarians, the response included advice provided by IPEA prior to travel.
6. Three parliamentarians sought and were granted an extension to respond and all three provided responses within the timeframe. In each case the responses detailed the parliamentary business undertaken by the parliamentarian while in Sydney or an explanation of the use of COMCAR within the electorate.
7. Two parliamentarians did not respond by the due date and were sent reminder letters on 1 May 2023. One parliamentarian responded explaining the parliamentary business undertaken in Sydney.
8. One parliamentarian did not respond to the reminder letter and was sent a final letter with advice that an invoice would be raised if a response was not received. A response was provided detailing the reasons for the use of COMCAR within the electorate.

## Audit and Assurance function

### IPEA's statutory audit function

10. IPEA audits parliamentarians' work expenses and the travel expenses of their staff under section 12 of the *Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority Act 2017* (IPEA Act). Assurance Reviews determine if there has been a misuse of a parliamentary business resources. IPEA assesses the use of parliamentary business resources against the legislative framework to determine whether there was misuse.
11. Potential outcomes of an Assurance Review include:
  - (a) no further action in circumstances where the review has concluded the use of parliamentary business resources was not inconsistent with the legislative framework, or
  - (b) administrative remedial action, including penalty where the review has concluded there is evidence the use of parliamentary business resources was not consistent with the legislative framework, or
  - (c) an IPEA initiated Ruling or Audit, where there is evidence of systemic or substantial misuse of parliamentary business resources, or
  - (d) referral to the Australian Federal Police where compelling prima facie evidence of fraud or other criminal conduct is identified.

## Legislative framework

12. The legislation relevant to this Assurance Review is:
  - (a) *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (PBR Act)
  - (b) *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017* (the PBR Regulations)
  - (c) *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017*
  - (d) *Parliamentary Business Resources (Commonwealth Transport) Determination 2017*
13. The PBR Act and the PBR Regulations establish a framework for providing resources to parliamentarians in respect of their parliamentary business. Parliamentarians are eligible to claim public resources under the framework in respect of their parliamentary business.
14. Section 6 of the PBR Act provides the meaning of **parliamentary business**:
  - (1) The **parliamentary business** of a member means any of the following:
    - (a) the **parliamentary duties** of the member, being activities of the member that:
      - (i) relate directly to the member's role as a member; and
      - (ii) are determined for the purposes of paragraph (4)(a);
    - (b) the **electorate duties** of the member, being activities of the member that:
      - (i) support or serve the member's constituents; and
      - (ii) are determined for the purposes of paragraph (4)(b);
    - (c) the **party political duties** of the member, being activities determined for the purposes of paragraph (4)(c);

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- (d) for a member who is an office holder or a Minister of State—the **official duties** of the member, being activities that:
- (i) relate to the member’s role as an office holder or Minister of State; and
  - (ii) are determined for the purposes of paragraph (4)(d).
15. Subsection 6(4) of the PBR Act provides the Minister must determine activities of a member that are **parliamentary duties** of the member, or **electorate duties** of the member, or **party political duties** of the member, or **official duties** of the member. The Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 determines the activities which fall within the four duty streams set out in section 6 of the PBR Act.
16. Subsection 6(2) of the PBR Act further provides in part:
- However, an activity is not the **parliamentary business** of a member if:
- (a) the member carries it out for the dominant purpose of either or both the following:
    - (i) providing a personal benefit to the member or another person;
    - (ii) pursuing commercial purposes of the member or another person;...
17. Section 9 of the PBR Act details expenses that may be incurred in connection with travel as:
- (1) For the purposes of this Act, the following are examples of expenses incurred in connection with travel:
    - (a) the cost of fares;
    - (b) the cost of taxis and other local transport in connection with travel;
    - (c) the cost of the provision of charter services;
    - (d) the cost of accommodation;
    - (e) the cost of meals;
    - (f) the cost of incidentals.
18. The Parliamentary Business Resources (Commonwealth Transport) Determination provides at section 8:
- COMCAR services are to be made available for the purposes of subsection 8(2) of the [PBR] Regulations, in accordance with this instrument.
19. There are limits and conditions on member’s use of COMCAR within Australia. Subsection 8(2) of the Commonwealth Transport Determination provides:
- COMCAR is not available for the purposes of subsection 8(2) of the Regulations if the member could reasonably use the member’s private plated vehicle in the circumstances, assuming the member had a private plated vehicle.
- Note: A member who chooses an allowance instead of a private plated vehicle could reasonably be expected to use the allowance instead of claiming COMCAR transport costs in circumstances where a private plated vehicle could otherwise reasonably be used.
20. The principles based legislative framework imposes a number of obligations on parliamentarians concerning their use of public resources. In summary, parliamentarians are personally responsible and accountable for their use of public resources (sections 25 to 28 of the PBR Act refer). Parliamentarians must be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business and must act ethically and in good faith in using, and accounting for the use of, those resources. Specifically, a parliamentarian must not claim public resources unless they are claimed for the dominant purpose of conducting their parliamentary business.

21. In accordance with sections 30 and 31 of the PBR Act, the Commonwealth must pay the travel expenses and travel allowances as prescribed by the Regulations. Division 1 of Part 2 of the Regulations prescribes travel expenses and travel allowances for the purposes of travel within Australia for the purposes of sections 30 and 31 of the PBR Act.

## Assurance Review methodology

### Background

22. Review of travel by parliamentarians' forms part of IPEA's 3 Year Assurance Plan. On 2 December 2022, in accordance with IPEA's Statutory Audit Factsheet, IPEA commenced a Preliminary Assessment in relation to parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 4 October 2022 to attend the NRL Grand Final which was held in Sydney on 2 October 2022.
23. On 7 December 2022, IPEA's Data and Reporting provided Audit and Assurance with data on all parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period in scope. The report included travel and travel-related expenses processed via the Parliamentary Expenses Management System and data provided by COMCAR.
24. The Preliminary Assessment found that parliamentary business resources were used by parliamentarians for travel to, from and within Sydney during the period in scope. The Assurance Review concluded that no further action was required in relation to the NRL Grand Final. However, IPEA found that travel to, from and within Sydney by 12 parliamentarians required additional investigation as part of a separate Assurance Review because their travel pattern raised further assurance questions.

### Scope of Assurance Review

25. The scope of this Assurance Review is travel to, from and within Sydney by 12 parliamentarians during the period 28 September to 4 October 2022.

### Method

26. The information confirmed 12 parliamentarians used parliamentary business resources for travel to, from or within Sydney during the period in scope. Travel expenses incurred include:
  - (a) domestic air travel
  - (b) taxis
  - (c) COMCAR
  - (d) domestic travel allowance

## Assessment of work expenses

### Summary of findings

#### **Analysis**

27. IPEA considered the legislative framework and applied the following questions to the travel to, from or within Sydney during the period in scope:
- (a) What was the dominant purpose of the travel to, from or within Sydney?
  - (b) What was nature of the Parliamentary Business in Sydney?
  - (c) What were the reasons for using COMCAR within the electorate instead of a private plated vehicle or vehicle allowance?
28. IPEA conducted the Assurance Review making enquiries and by examining and assessing:
- (a) information provided by IPEA Data and Reporting
  - (b) publicly available information
  - (c) travel bookings and other records contained in the Parliamentary Expenses Management System
  - (d) personal advice to parliamentarians by IPEA Travel, Education and Advice
  - (e) responses and additional information provided by parliamentarians.
29. Individual analysis of the data for travel to, from and within Sydney undertaken by each parliamentarian is detailed in the following paragraphs.

#### Senator Alex Antic, Senator for SA

30. The available information confirmed Senator Antic used parliamentary business resources for travel to Sydney between 30 September and 2 October 2022. On 5 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Senator Antic seeking confirmation of the dominant purpose of his travel to Sydney and an explanation of the parliamentary business undertaken.
31. On 5 April 2023 Senator Antic advised the dominant purpose of his travel was Parliamentary Business and provided details of various meetings and functions he attended while in Sydney. Senator Antic advised he sought travel advice from IPEA on 6 September 2022.
32. Having considered the available information, including previous advice provided by IPEA and the response from Senator Antic, IPEA is satisfied the dominant purpose of travel to Sydney between 30 September and 2 October 2022 was parliamentary business. Senator Antic's use of parliamentary business resources is consistent with the legislative framework. On 11 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Senator Antic advising the outcome of the Assurance Review.

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### Senator Ralph Babet, Senator for VIC

33. The available information confirmed Senator Babet used parliamentary business resources for travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 30 September to 2 October 2022. On 5 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Senator Babet seeking confirmation of the dominant purpose of his travel to Sydney and an explanation of the parliamentary business.
34. On 5 April 2023, Senator Babet responded advising his travel was to attend a conference and noted the travel was for the purpose of 'parliamentary duties'. Having considered the information available, including the response provided by Senator Babet, IPEA is satisfied the dominant purpose of travel to Sydney was parliamentary business. Senator Babet's use of parliamentary business resources is consistent with the legislative framework. On 11 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Senator Babet advising the outcome of the Assurance Review.

### Senator the Hon Matthew Canavan, Senator for QLD

35. The available information confirms Senator Canavan used parliamentary business resources to travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 30 September 2022 and 2 October 2022. On 5 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Senator Canavan seeking confirmation of the dominant purpose of his travel to Sydney and an explanation of the parliamentary business.
36. On 5 April 2023, Senator Canavan confirmed the dominant purpose of the travel to Sydney was Parliamentary Business. In addition to attending and speaking at a conference, Senator Canavan had several meetings with stakeholders. Having considered the information available, including the response provided by Senator Canavan, IPEA is satisfied the dominant purpose of the travel to Sydney was parliamentary business. Senator Canavan's use of parliamentary business resources is consistent with the legislative framework. On 11 April 2023, IPEA wrote to Senator Canavan advising the outcome of the Assurance Review.

### Senator Hollie Hughes, Senator for NSW

37. The available information confirms Senator Hughes used COMCAR for travel in Sydney on 2 October 2022. On 5 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Senator Hughes seeking advice on her reasons for using COMCAR in her electorate. On 18 April 2023, Senator Hughes requested an extension until 26 April 2023 to provide a response.
38. On 24 April 2024 Senator Hughes confirmed the use of COMCAR was to travel to an official event representing the Opposition Leader. Having considered the information available, including the response provided by Senator Hughes, IPEA is satisfied the dominant purpose of the use of COMCAR in Sydney was parliamentary business and was not unreasonable in the circumstances. Senator Hughes' use of parliamentary business resources is consistent with the legislative framework. On 1 May 2023, IPEA wrote to Senator Hughes advising the outcome of the Assurance Review.

### The Hon Ed Husic MP, Minister for Industry and Science

39. The available information confirms Minister Husic used COMCAR for travel within Sydney on 29 September 2023. On 5 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Minister Husic seeking advice on reasons for using COMCAR in his electorate. On 1 May 2023 IPEA sent a reminder letter to Minister Husic seeking a response to the original correspondence. On 17 May 2023, IPEA again wrote to Minister Husic seeking a response and advising if a response was not received, an invoice would be raised to recover these expenses. On 18 May 2023 Minister Husic confirmed the use of COMCAR was due to several commitments relating to his ministerial portfolio responsibilities. Due to short timeframes between commitments, it was not reasonable to use a private plated vehicle.



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40. Having considered the information available, including the response provided by Minister Husic, IPEA is satisfied the dominant purpose of the use of COMCAR in Sydney was parliamentary business and was not unreasonable in the circumstances. Minister Husic's use of parliamentary business resources is consistent with the legislative framework. On 22 May 2023, IPEA wrote to Minister Husic advising the outcome of the Assurance Review.

Ms Zoe McKenzie MP, Member for Flinders, VIC

41. The available information confirms Ms McKenzie used COMCAR for transport in Sydney on 29 and 30 September 2022. On 5 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Ms McKenzie seeking confirmation of the dominant purpose of her travel to Sydney and an explanation of the parliamentary business.
42. In response, Ms McKenzie advised she attended meetings in Sydney in relation to her House Standing Committees. Having considered the available information, including the response provided by Ms McKenzie, IPEA is satisfied the dominant purpose of Ms McKenzie's use of COMCAR in Sydney was parliamentary business was not unreasonable in the circumstances. Ms McKenzie's use of parliamentary business resources is consistent with the legislative framework. On 14 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Ms McKenzie advising the outcome of the Assurance Review.

Mr Ted O'Brien MP, Member for Fairfax

43. The available information confirms Mr O'Brien travelled to, from and within Sydney between 29 September and 1 October 2022. On 5 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Mr O'Brien seeking confirmation of the dominant purpose of his travel to Sydney and an explanation of the parliamentary business. On 1 May 2023 IPEA sent a reminder letter to Mr O'Brien seeking a response. On 3 May 2023, Mr O'Brien responded advising the travel was for the dominant purpose of parliamentary business as he held meetings at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Office in Sydney.
44. Having considered the available information, including the response provided by Mr O'Brien, IPEA is satisfied the travel was for the dominant purpose of parliamentary business. Mr O'Brien's use of parliamentary business resources is consistent with the legislative framework. On 9 May 2023, IPEA wrote to Mr O'Brien advising the outcome of the Assurance Review.

The Hon Keith Pitt MP, Member for Hinkler QLD

45. The available information confirms Mr Pitt travelled to, from and within Sydney between 30 September and 2 October 2022. On 5 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Mr Pitt seeking confirmation of the dominant purpose of his travel to Sydney and an explanation of the parliamentary business. Mr Pitt responded on 6 April 2023 providing a copy of the personal travel advice received from IPEA on 28 September 2022 in relation to the proposed travel. Mr Pitt travelled to Sydney to attend a conference which was considered to fall within the dominant purpose of conducting parliamentary business.
46. Having considered the available information, including the response provided by Mr Pitt and the previous advice provided, IPEA is satisfied the travel was for the dominant purpose of parliamentary business. Mr Pitt's use of parliamentary business resources is consistent with the legislative framework. On 11 April 2023, IPEA wrote to Mr Pitt advising the outcome of the Assurance Review.

Senator Malcolm Roberts, Senator for QLD

47. The available information confirms Senator Roberts travelled to, from and within Sydney between 30 September and 2 October 2022. The available information confirms Senator Roberts also travelled to, from and within Sydney on 4 and 5 October 2023.

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48. On 5 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Senator Roberts seeking confirmation of the dominant purpose of his travel to Sydney on these two occasions and an explanation of the parliamentary business. On 17 April 2023, Senator Roberts advised his travel between 30 September and 2 October 2022 was to meet with stakeholders regarding policy coming before the Senate and as an invited speaker at a conference. Senator Roberts advised his travel to Sydney on 4 and 5 October 2022 was to attend the Equal Pay Bill Public Hearing.
49. Having considered the available information, including the response provided by Senator Roberts, IPEA is satisfied the dominant purpose of his travel to Sydney was parliamentary business. Senator Roberts' use of parliamentary business resources is consistent with the legislative framework. On 19 April 2023, IPEA wrote to Senator Roberts advising the outcome of the Assurance Review.

The Hon Matt Thistlethwaite, Assistant Minister for Defence

50. The available information confirms Assistant Minister Thistlethwaite used COMCAR for travel within Sydney on 29 September, 1 and 4 October 2022. On 5 April 2023 IPEA wrote to the Assistant Minister requesting the reasons for his use of COMCAR in Sydney. On 19 April 2023 the Assistant Minister sought an extension to provide a response as he was seeking advice in relation to the use of COMCAR within the electorate. An extension was granted to 3 May 2023.
51. On 3 May 2023, Assistant Minister Thistlethwaite provided a detailed response regarding the use of COMCAR within Sydney, including to attend functions in his capacity as Assistant Minister for Defence on behalf of the Minister for Defence Personnel. Having considered the available information, including the response provided by the Assistant Minister, IPEA is satisfied the use of COMCAR within Sydney to attend events in a ministerial capacity was for the dominant purpose of parliamentary business and was not unreasonable in the circumstances. Assistant Minister Thistlethwaite's use of parliamentary business resources is consistent with the legislative framework. On 9 May 2023, IPEA wrote to the Assistant Minister advising the outcome of the Assurance Review.

Senator David Van, Senator for VIC

52. The available information confirms that on 28 and 29 September 2022, Senator Van travelled to, from and within Sydney. On 5 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Senator Van seeking confirmation of the dominant purpose of his travel to Sydney and an explanation of the parliamentary business.
53. On 18 April 2023, Senator Van advised his travel to Sydney was to attend and address attendees at a Workshop. Having regard to the available information, including the response provided by Senator Van, IPEA is satisfied the dominant purpose of travel to Sydney was parliamentary business. Senator Van's use of parliamentary business resources is consistent with the legislative framework. On 19 April 2023, IPEA wrote to Senator Van advising the outcome of the Assurance Review.

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson, Senator for Tasmania

54. The available information indicates Senator Whish-Wilson travelled to and within Sydney on 29 September 2022. On 5 April 2023 IPEA wrote to Senator Whish-Wilson seeking confirmation of the dominant purpose of his travel to Sydney and an explanation of the parliamentary business.
55. On 19 April 2023 Senator Whish-Wilson advised the response would be provided by 21 April 2023 as he was seeking information from the travel services provider. On 20 April 2023 Senator Whish-Wilson advised the dominant purpose of his travel to Sydney was to participate in an interview with The Project regarding shark nets as part of his portfolio responsibility for Health Oceans for the Australian Greens.

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56. Having regard to the available information, including the response provided by Senator Whish-Wilson, IPEA is satisfied the dominant purpose of the travel to Sydney was parliamentary business. Senator Whish-Wilson's use of parliamentary business resources is consistent with the legislative framework. On 1 May 2023 IPEA wrote to Senator Whish-Wilson advising the outcome of the Assurance Review.

### **Conclusion**

57. IPEA corroborated information and concluded that no travel by any parliamentarians fell outside of the legislative framework.

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## Attachments

- A. Correspondence between IPEA and Senator Antic
  - IPEA letter of 5 April 2023
  - Senator Antic email of 5 April 2023
  - IPEA Personal Advice email of 6 September 2022
  - IPEA letter of 11 April 2023
- B. Correspondence between IPEA and Senator Babet
  - IPEA letter of 5 April 2023
  - Senator Babet email of 5 April 2023
  - IPEA letter of 11 April 2023
- C. Correspondence between IPEA and Senator Canavan
  - IPEA letter of 5 April 2023
  - Senator Canavan email of 5 April 2023
  - IPEA letter of 11 April 2023
- D. Correspondence between IPEA and Senator Hughes
  - IPEA letter of 5 April 2023
  - Senator Hughes email of 19 April 2023
  - Senator Hughes email of 25 April 2023
  - IPEA letter of 1 May 2023
- E. Correspondence between IPEA and Minister Husic
  - IPEA letter of 5 April 2023
  - IPEA letter of 1 May 2023
  - IPEA letter of 18 May 2023
  - Minister Husic email of 18 May 2023
  - IPEA letter of 22 May 2023
- F. Correspondence between IPEA and Ms McKenzie
  - IPEA letter of 5 April 2023
  - Ms McKenzie email of 14 April 2023
  - IPEA letter of 14 April 2023
- G. Correspondence between IPEA and Mr O'Brien
  - IPEA letter of 5 April 2023
  - IPEA letter of 1 May 2023
  - Mr O'Brien of 3 May 2023
  - IPEA letter of 8 May 2023
- H. Correspondence between IPEA and Mr Pitt
  - IPEA letter of 5 April 2023
  - Mr Pitt email of 6 April 2023
  - IPEA letter of 11 April 2023
- I. Correspondence between IPEA and Senator Roberts
  - IPEA letter of 5 April 2023
  - Senator Roberts email of 5 April 2023
  - IPEA letter of 19 April 2023

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- J. Correspondence between IPEA and Assistant Minister Thistlethwaite
- IPEA letter of 5 April 2023
  - Assistant Minister Thistlethwaite email of 3 May 2023
  - IPEA letter of 8 May 2023
- K. Correspondence between IPEA and Senator Van
- IPEA letter of 5 April 2023
  - Senator Van email of 19 April 2023
  - IPEA letter of 19 April 2023
- L. Correspondence between IPEA and Senator Whish-Wilson
- IPEA letter of 5 April 2023
  - Senator Whish-Wilson email of 19 April 2023
  - Senator Whish-Wilson email of 20 April 2023
  - IPEA letter of 1 May 2023

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Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/217018

5 April 2023

Senator Alex Antic  
Senator for South Australia  
398 Main North Road  
BLAIR ATHOL SA 5084

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related 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's assurance activities include reviewing the use of work expenses to travel to desirable destinations (e.g. sporting events), family reunion travel and travel adjacent to public or school holidays.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. Please note IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Division 2 of Part 3 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) sets out the principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources.

As you would be aware, under the principles-based scheme parliamentarians have an obligation to be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business (subsection 25(3) of the PBR Act). Parliamentarians also have an obligation to ensure that expenses that are incurred, or allowances or other public resources that are claimed, in relation to the conduct of the member's parliamentary business provide value for money, taking into account the need to conduct the member's parliamentary business (section 27 of the PBR Act).

'Parliamentary business' has 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* (the Determination – Attachment A).

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Section 6 of the PBR Act also states:

*However, an activity is not the parliamentary business of a member if:*

- (a) the member carries it out for the dominant purpose of either or both of the following:
  - (i) providing a personal benefit to the member or another person;*
  - (ii) pursuing commercial purposes of the member or another person; or**
- (b) the activity is determined under subsection (3) for the purposes of this paragraph.*

**Attachment B** contains details of your Commonwealth-funded travel within the relevant period and questions for your response to assist with the Assurance review. Please examine the attached list of expenses and provide a written response to the questions via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 19 April 2023**, or advise us prior to the date if you require additional time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

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**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager  
Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]



## **Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017**

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I, Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, make the following determination.

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann  
Minister for Finance

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## 1 Name

This instrument is the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017*.

## 2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the same time as the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

*Act* means the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the definitions section of the Act, including the following:

- (a) *constituent*;
- (b) *member*;
- (c) *office holder*, and
- (d) *vice regal function*.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, an activity specified in a Schedule to this determination is specified whether it takes place within Australia or overseas.

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## 5 Parliamentary business of members

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(a) of the Act, the *parliamentary duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 1 for that member.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(b) of the Act, the *electorate duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 2 for that member.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(c) of the Act, the *party political duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 3 for that member.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(d) of the Act, the *official duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 4 for that member.

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## Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

Column 1 Member (or class)	Column 2 Parliamentary duties
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	<p>In the member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of the whole or otherwise;</li><li>b) Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;</li><li>c) Undertaking research, communication (including with stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a member;</li><li>d) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal meeting, event or function;</li><li>e) Preparing for, participating in and attending to matters arising from a meeting (including with stakeholders), event or function for the purposes of their role as a member, including in relation to the member's policy portfolio;</li><li>f) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to business arising from a non-Parliamentary committee, taskforce or other formal group in which the member participates;</li><li>g) Representing the Parliament, in accordance with an approval of the Parliament or a House of the Parliament, and engaging in associated activities for that purpose;</li><li>h) Representing a Minister or office holder in their official capacity, at the request of that Minister or office holder, at a meeting, event or function;</li><li>i) Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of the Prime Minister.</li></ol> <p><i>Note: For Ministers representing the Government or Australia in their capacity as a Minister, this would be part of the member's official duties (see Schedule 4).</i></p>

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## Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Electorate duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In the member's capacity as their constituent's elected representative: a) Facilitating and participating in debate, discussion, a meeting, event or function, or undertaking research or administrative functions relating to matters of importance or interest to constituents (including matters that do not relate exclusively to constituents, such as matters of national importance); b) Otherwise communicating with constituents; c) Representing the views and interests of constituents.

## Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Party political duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In respect of the political party to which the member belongs, participating in any of the following in their capacity as an elected Senator or member of the House of Representatives: a) a formal meeting of the political party (including a meeting of the party executive, a committee or a subcommittee); b) a national, state or territory conference.

---

## Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or class)	Official duties
All office holders and Ministers of State	<p>In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or office holder, as the case may be):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing so;</li><li>b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their official capacity;</li><li>c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes of, performing the member's official role.</li></ul>

---

**Attachment B**

Senator Alex Antic, Senator for South Australia  
Assurance Review of travel and travel related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	Adelaide	30/09/2022	9:30 AM	Sydney	30/09/2022	11:50 AM	\$363.13
Travel Allowance Official Duties				Sydney	30/09/2022		\$876.00
Travel Fares – Qantas Airways	Sydney	02/10/2022	10:40 AM	Adelaide	02/10/2022	12:15 PM	\$233.99

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney on 30 September 2019?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney from 30 September to 2 October 2022?

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Antic, Alex (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 3:28 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 oct 2022 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** [REDACTED]

Dear Nicole,

Thank you for your letter dated 5 April 2023.

In response to the matters raised therein I note as follows:

**1) What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney on 30 September 2019 (presume 2022)?**

Parliamentary Business.

**2) With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney from 30 September to 2 October 2022?**

- a) Friday 30 September 2022 – Parliamentary Duties – Meeting with Menzies Research Centre representatives in Sydney;  
Friday 30 September 2022 – Party Political Duties – Attending a Liberal Party Branch Meeting as an invited guest in my capacity as a Senator;  
Friday 30 September 2022 – Parliamentary Duties – Attending Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) dinner Sydney as an invited guest in my capacity as a Senator;
- b) Saturday 1 October 2022 – Parliamentary Duties - Attending CPAC Conference (including dinner) in Sydney as an invited guest speaker in my capacity as a Senator;

Please note that I sought a Travel Advice Certificate by way of email to IPEA Enquiries on 6 September 2022 and was advised I was able to claim flights and TA for the event (REF 1715061).

I trust that satisfies your enquiries.

Regards

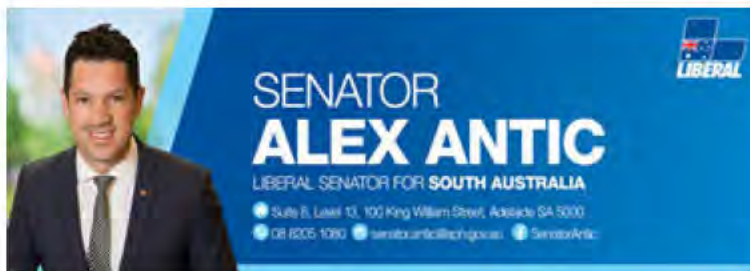
Alex

**Alex Antic**  
**Senator for South Australia**

**Electorate Office (Adelaide)**  
398 Main North Road, Blair Athol, SA 5084  
Phone (08) 8359 0303

**Canberra Office**  
Suite 24  
Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600  
Phone (02) 6277 3464





**From:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 12:57 PM  
**To:** Antic, Alex (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 oct 2022 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Senator Alex Antic  
Senator for South Australia

Good afternoon Senator

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to an Assurance Review of Parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

---

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

E: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)

W: [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

Classification: OFFICIAL

Classified by: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au) on: 5/04/2023 1:27:02 PM

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**From:** [IPEA Enquiries](#)  
**To:** [Antic, Alex \(Senator\)](#)  
**Subject:** REF 1715061 - Parliamentarian Personal Advice - Travel Advice [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Thursday, 8 September 2022 10:19:22 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.gif](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)

---

## SEC=OFFICIAL

Good morning Senator

Thank you for your email regarding your proposed travel to Sydney.

### **Situation**

You have advised that you have been invited to attend to speak at the “Conservative Political Action Network” on Friday, 30 September 2022 in your capacity as a Parliamentarian. You propose to fly to Sydney on Friday, 30 September, stay 2 nights and return on Sunday, 2 October 2022.

You are seeking advice on whether you are able to claim your flights and Travel Allowance for this trip.

### **Personal Advice**

Yes, as your attendance at the event is for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business, you are able to claim flights (booked through CTM) and TA for the travel that requires you to stay away from your home. As you will be engaging with an event that is likely to generate media coverage, and your travel costs are clearly identified in public expenditure reports, it is important that you are prepared to publicly justify your use of public resources for this travel.

### **Obligations**

In line with the Parliamentary Business Resources (PBR) Framework, Parliamentarians can only claim for expenses that are incurred for the dominant purpose of conducting parliamentary business. In all instances, the travelling Parliamentarian must be able to meet the five obligations provided under the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* which requires that Parliamentarians:

- use public resources for the dominant purpose of parliamentary business
- conduct their parliamentary business in a way that achieves value for money
- meet any conditions connected to expenses and allowances they claim
- are prepared to be personally responsible and accountable for their use of public resources in the conduct of their parliamentary business
- are prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources in conducting their parliamentary business, and
- act ethically and in good faith in using, and accounting for the use of, public resources in the conduct of their parliamentary business.

More information on the [Principles-Based Framework](#) is available on the IPEA website.

### **Legislation and background**

[Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017](#), Part 3 Division 2

[Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017](#), Part 2 Division 1

[Parliamentary Business Resources \(Parliamentary Business\) Determination 2017](#), Schedule 1

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact [enquiries@ipea.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@ipea.gov.au) or 02 6215 3000.

Kind regards

\_\_\_\_\_

Team Leader

Travel, Education & Advice  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

T: 02 6215 3000

E: [enquiries@ipea.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@ipea.gov.au)

[www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

cid:image002.jpg@01D82FCF.6B9FCC40



SEC=OFFICIAL

**From:** Antic, Alex (Senator)

**Sent:** Tuesday, 6 September 2022 11:53 AM

**To:** IPEA Enquiries

**Cc:**

**Subject:** Travel Advice

Dear Team,

I seek a Travel Advice Certificate (“TAC”) in relation to travel to Sydney on Friday 30 September 2022.

By way of factual background I note as follows:-

- 1) I have been invited to attend speak at CPAC Friday 30 September 2022 by “Conservative Political Action Network” in my capacity as a Federal Parliamentarian.
- 2) The link is here [CPAC Australia 2022 speakers](#)
- 3) I propose to fly to Friday on 30 September 2022 stay 2 nights and return Sunday 2 October 2022.
- 4) The invitation was extended to me in my role as a Federal Parliamentarian.

I seek a TAC regarding the eligibility to claim the flights and Travel Allowance related to my parliamentary duties under the MOP(S) Act

Kind regards

Alex

**Alex Antic**

**Senator for South Australia**

**Electorate Office (Adelaide)**

398 Main North Road, Blair Athol, SA 5084

Phone (08) 8359 0303

**Canberra Office**

Suite 24

Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

Phone (02) 6277 3464

Email [Signature\\_SA\\_AnticA\\_Contact](mailto:Signature_SA_AnticA_Contact)



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**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**



**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222654

W April 2023

Senator Alex Antic  
Senator for South Australia  
398 Main North Road  
BLAIR ATHOL SA 5084

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your email response of 5 April 2023 providing information in relation to the Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses for your travel to Sydney between 30 September and 3 October 2022 being conducted by the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA).

Having considered the information available, including your response, IPEA is satisfied your travel is not inconsistent with the legislative framework and considers this matter closed. Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Should you wish to discuss further, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

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

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/217022

5 April 2023

Senator Ralph Babet  
Senator for Victoria  
Level 14, 90 Collins Street  
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related 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's assurance activities include reviewing the use of work expenses to travel to desirable destinations (e.g. sporting events), family reunion travel and travel adjacent to public or school holidays.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to travel to and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. Please note IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Division 2 of Part 3 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) sets out the principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources.

As you would be aware, under the principles-based scheme parliamentarians have an obligation to be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business (subsection 25(3) of the PBR Act). Parliamentarians also have an obligation to ensure that expenses that are incurred, or allowances or other public resources that are claimed, in relation to the conduct of the member's parliamentary business provide value for money, taking into account the need to conduct the member's parliamentary business (section 27 of the PBR Act).

'Parliamentary business' has 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* (the Determination – **Attachment A**).

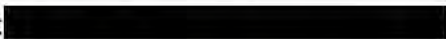
**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Section 6 of the PBR Act also states:

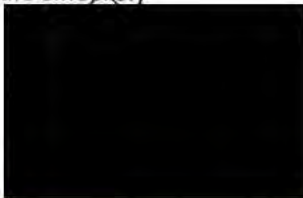
*However, an activity is not the parliamentary business of a member if:*

- (a) the member carries it out for the dominant purpose of either or both of the following:
  - (i) providing a personal benefit to the member or another person;*
  - (ii) pursuing commercial purposes of the member or another person; or**
- (b) the activity is determined under subsection (3) for the purposes of this paragraph.*

**Attachment B** contains details of your Commonwealth-funded travel within the relevant period and questions for your response to assist in our review. Please examine the attached list of expenses and provide a written response to the questions via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 19 April 2023**, or advise us prior to the date if you require additional time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact 

Yours sincerely



---

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




## **Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017**

---

I, Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, make the following determination.

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann  
Minister for Finance

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<b>Schedule 2—Electorate duties</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Schedule 3—Party political duties</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Schedule 4—Official duties</b>	<b>5</b>



---

## 1 Name

This instrument is the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017*.

## 2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the same time as the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

*Act* means the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the definitions section of the Act, including the following:

- (a) *constituent*;
- (b) *member*;
- (c) *office holder*, and
- (d) *vice regal function*.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, an activity specified in a Schedule to this determination is specified whether it takes place within Australia or overseas.

---

## 5 Parliamentary business of members

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(a) of the Act, the *parliamentary duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 1 for that member.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(b) of the Act, the *electorate duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 2 for that member.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(c) of the Act, the *party political duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 3 for that member.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(d) of the Act, the *official duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 4 for that member.

---

## Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or class)	Parliamentary duties
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	<p>In the member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of the whole or otherwise;</li><li>b) Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;</li><li>c) Undertaking research, communication (including with stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a member;</li><li>d) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal meeting, event or function;</li><li>e) Preparing for, participating in and attending to matters arising from a meeting (including with stakeholders), event or function for the purposes of their role as a member, including in relation to the member's policy portfolio;</li><li>f) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to business arising from a non-Parliamentary committee, taskforce or other formal group in which the member participates;</li><li>g) Representing the Parliament, in accordance with an approval of the Parliament or a House of the Parliament, and engaging in associated activities for that purpose;</li><li>h) Representing a Minister or office holder in their official capacity, at the request of that Minister or office holder, at a meeting, event or function;</li><li>i) Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of the Prime Minister.</li></ul> <p><i>Note: For Ministers representing the Government or Australia in their capacity as a Minister, this would be part of the member's official duties (see Schedule 4).</i></p>

---

---

## Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Electorate duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In the member's capacity as their constituent's elected representative: a) Facilitating and participating in debate, discussion, a meeting, event or function, or undertaking research or administrative functions relating to matters of importance or interest to constituents (including matters that do not relate exclusively to constituents, such as matters of national importance); b) Otherwise communicating with constituents; c) Representing the views and interests of constituents.

## Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Party political duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In respect of the political party to which the member belongs, participating in any of the following in their capacity as an elected Senator or member of the House of Representatives: a) a formal meeting of the political party (including a meeting of the party executive, a committee or a subcommittee); b) a national, state or territory conference.

---

## Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

Column 1 Member (or class)	Column 2 Official duties
All office holders and Ministers of State	In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or office holder, as the case may be): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing so;</li><li>b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their official capacity;</li><li>c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes of, performing the member's official role.</li></ul>

---

**Attachment B**  
 Senator Ralph Babet, Senator for Victoria  
 Assurance Review of travel and travel related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Travel Fares – Qantas Airways	Melbourne	01/10/2022	7:00 AM	Sydney	01/10/2022	8:25 AM	\$1,102.34
COMCAR	Mascot	01/10/2022	8:21 AM	Sydney	01/10/2022	9:14 AM	\$133.80
COMCAR	Sydney	01/10/2022	5:15 PM	Sydney	01/10/2022	5:36 PM	\$122.40
Travel Allowance Parliamentary Duties				Sydney	01/10/2022		\$876.00
COMCAR	Sydney	02/10/2022	8:30 AM	Sydney	02/10/2022	8:48 AM	\$122.40
COMCAR	Sydney	02/10/2022	5:15 PM	Sydney	02/10/2022	6:10 PM	\$122.40
COMCAR	Sydney	03/10/2022	6:45 AM	Mascot	03/10/2022	7:22 AM	\$122.40
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	Sydney	03/10/2022	8:50 AM	Canberra	03/10/2022	9:50 AM	\$230.90

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney on 1 October 2022?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney from 1 to 3 October 2022?

**From:** [Babet, Ralph \(Senator Office\)](#)  
**To:** [Assurance](#)  
**Cc:** [Babet, Ralph \(Senator\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 1:57:16 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Hi,  
This was for the Conservative Political Action Conference 2022 CPAC  
Parliamentary duties.  
Thank you,  
Senator Ralph Babet  
Senator for Victoria

---

**From:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 1:33 PM  
**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator Office) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023  
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator Ralph Babet**

Senator for Victoria

Good afternoon Senator

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to an Assurance Review of Parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

---

**Nicole Pearson**

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal

Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603



**E:** [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)

**W:** [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

**Classification:** OFFICIAL

**Classified by:** [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au) on: 5/04/2023 1:32:34 PM

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**Expenses Authority**

---

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222656

W April 2023

Senator Ralph Babet  
Senator for Victoria  
Level 14, 90 Collins Street  
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your email response of 5 April 2023 providing information in relation to the Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses for your travel to Sydney between 1 and 3 October 2022 being conducted by the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA).

Having considered the information available, including your response, IPEA is satisfied your travel is not inconsistent with the legislative framework and considers this matter closed. Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Should you wish to discuss further, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

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

[REDACTED]



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**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/217033

5 April 2023

Senator the Hon Matthew Canavan  
Senator for Queensland  
PO Box 737  
ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related 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's assurance activities include reviewing the use of work expenses to travel to desirable destinations (e.g. sporting events), family reunion travel and travel adjacent to public or school holidays.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to travel to and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. Please note IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Division 2 of Part 3 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) sets out the principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources.

As you would be aware, under the principles-based scheme parliamentarians have an obligation to be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business (subsection 25(3) of the PBR Act). Parliamentarians also have an obligation to ensure that expenses that are incurred, or allowances or other public resources that are claimed, in relation to the conduct of the member's parliamentary business provide value for money, taking into account the need to conduct the member's parliamentary business (section 27 of the PBR Act).

'Parliamentary business' has 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* (the Determination – Attachment A).

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Section 6 of the PBR Act also states:

*However, an activity is not the parliamentary business of a member if:*

- (a) the member carries it out for the dominant purpose of either or both of the following:
  - (i) providing a personal benefit to the member or another person;*
  - (ii) pursuing commercial purposes of the member or another person; or**
- (b) the activity is determined under subsection (3) for the purposes of this paragraph.*

**Attachment B** contains details of your Commonwealth-funded travel within the relevant period and questions for your response to assist in our review. Please examine the attached list of expenses and provide a written response to the questions via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 19 April 2023**, or advise us prior to the date if you require additional time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager  
Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]



## **Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017**

---

I, Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, make the following determination.

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann  
Minister for Finance

---

---

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<b>Schedule 3—Party political duties</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Schedule 4—Official duties</b>	<b>5</b>

---

## 1 Name

This instrument is the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017*.

## 2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the same time as the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

*Act* means the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the definitions section of the Act, including the following:

- (a) *constituent*;
- (b) *member*;
- (c) *office holder*, and
- (d) *vice regal function*.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, an activity specified in a Schedule to this determination is specified whether it takes place within Australia or overseas.

---

## 5 Parliamentary business of members

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(a) of the Act, the *parliamentary duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 1 for that member.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(b) of the Act, the *electorate duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 2 for that member.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(c) of the Act, the *party political duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 3 for that member.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(d) of the Act, the *official duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 4 for that member.

---

## Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or class)	Parliamentary duties
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	<p>In the member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of the whole or otherwise;</li><li>b) Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;</li><li>c) Undertaking research, communication (including with stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a member;</li><li>d) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal meeting, event or function;</li><li>e) Preparing for, participating in and attending to matters arising from a meeting (including with stakeholders), event or function for the purposes of their role as a member, including in relation to the member's policy portfolio;</li><li>f) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to business arising from a non-Parliamentary committee, taskforce or other formal group in which the member participates;</li><li>g) Representing the Parliament, in accordance with an approval of the Parliament or a House of the Parliament, and engaging in associated activities for that purpose;</li><li>h) Representing a Minister or office holder in their official capacity, at the request of that Minister or office holder, at a meeting, event or function;</li><li>i) Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of the Prime Minister.</li></ol> <p><i>Note: For Ministers representing the Government or Australia in their capacity as a Minister, this would be part of the member's official duties (see Schedule 4).</i></p>

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## Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Electorate duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In the member's capacity as their constituent's elected representative: a) Facilitating and participating in debate, discussion, a meeting, event or function, or undertaking research or administrative functions relating to matters of importance or interest to constituents (including matters that do not relate exclusively to constituents, such as matters of national importance); b) Otherwise communicating with constituents; c) Representing the views and interests of constituents.

## Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Party political duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In respect of the political party to which the member belongs, participating in any of the following in their capacity as an elected Senator or member of the House of Representatives: a) a formal meeting of the political party (including a meeting of the party executive, a committee or a subcommittee); b) a national, state or territory conference.



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## Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or class)	Official duties
All office holders and Ministers of State	In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or office holder, as the case may be): <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing so;</li><li>b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their official capacity;</li><li>c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes of, performing the member's official role.</li></ol>

---

**Attachment B**

Senator the Hon Matthew Canavan, Senator for Queensland  
Assurance Review of travel and travel related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	Canberra	30/09/2022	9:05 AM	Sydney	30/09/2022	10:05 AM	\$179.91
COMCAR	Mascot	30/09/2022	10:05 AM	Sydney	30/09/2022	11:13 AM	\$105.24
Cabcharge	Home	02/10/2022		Sydney CBD	02/10/2022	10:28 AM	16.40
COMCAR	Sydney	02/10/2022	11:00 AM	Mascot	02/10/2022	12:06 PM	\$133.82
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	Sydney	02/10/2022	1:00 PM	Brisbane	02/10/2022	1:30 PM	\$370.19

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney on 30 September 2019?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney from 30 September to 2 October 2022?

## de Costa, Josephine

---

**From:** [REDACTED] Canavan, Matthew (Senator)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 4:16 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2022 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** IPEA letter to Senator the Hon Matt Canavan 5 April 2023.pdf; Sen Canavan diary and supporting docs 30.9.22-2.10.22.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** [REDACTED]

Good Afternoon

Please find attached a copy of diary entries (which I have annotated) together with some supporting documentation which provides detail pertaining to the nature of the parliamentary business undertaken by Senator Canavan in Sydney from 30 September 2022 to 2 October 2022.

I note that the covering letter attached refers to the period 28 September 2022 to 5 October 2022 while the specific request for clarification relates only to the Senator's travel to Sydney from 30 September 2022 to 2 October 2022.

28 September - Senate sitting day

29 September - Senator Canavan remained in Canberra and worked out of his parliament house suite

30 September – 2 October – Sydney as per attached

2 October – Senator Canavan returned to Rockhampton

3 October – Public Holiday in Qld

4-5 October – Travelling in the Flynn electorate with local member Colin Boyce MP – Rockhampton to Mungabunda, Moura, Biloela (overnight), Woorabinda and return to Rockhampton (note that the Senator used a replacement hire car arranged and paid for via SGFleet for this trip as his PPV was off the road undergoing repairs)

If you require any additional information please do not hesitate to call or email.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Office of Senator The Hon Matthew Canavan

T: 07 4927 2003 | M: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Address: 34 East Street | PO Box 737, Rockhampton Qld 4700



**From:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 1:24 PM  
**To:** Canavan, Matthew (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2022 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator the Hon Matthew Canavan**  
Senator for Queensland

Good afternoon Senator

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to an Assurance Review of Parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Pearson  
Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]

E: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)

W: [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

**Classification:** OFFICIAL

**Classified by:** [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au) on: 5/04/2023 1:24:00 PM

**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.

# 30 September 2022

Friday

September 2022

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2022

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FRIDAY		Notes
30		
<p>← From 17 Sep School Holidays - Canavan, Matthew (Senator) To 3 Oct →</p> <p>Canberra/Sydney - Canavan, Matthew (Senator)</p> <p>FYI: Suite 5, Level 21 Bkd - CPO Sydney - Canavan, Matthew (Senator)</p>		
7 AM	7:05am MEDIA: Live to Air Interview with [REDACTED] They will call your m	
8	8:00am Comcar #: 159131 - changes call 131 847; [REDACTED]	
9	9:05am - 10:05am VA0637 Canberra to Booking Number: B11446647   Airline Ref Canavan, Matthew (Senator)	
10	10:05am Comcar #: 158819 - changes c Apology - 10:00am Joint Committee of Microsoft Teams Canavan, Matthew (Senator)	comcar Airport to hotel to CPO
11		[REDACTED]
12 PM	11:30am Coffee with [REDACTED] CPO Cafe, Ground Level, 1 Bligh Street, Sydney Canavan, Matthew (Senator)	[REDACTED] Retail Guild of Australia
1		
2		[REDACTED]
3	3:00pm Coffee with [REDACTED] CPO Cafe, Ground Level, 1 Bligh Street, Sydney; Can	[REDACTED] Chair of the India- Australia Strategic Alliance
4	3:30pm Coffee with [REDACTED] CPO Cafe, Ground Level, 1 Bligh Street, Sydney Canavan, Matthew (Senator)	[REDACTED] public policy economist + former adviser to the Hon Tony Abbott
5		
6	6:00pm Private Dinner with [REDACTED] former A/g Chief of Staff to the The Private Dining Room, Australian Club, 165 Macquarie Street, Sydney Canavan, Matthew (Senator)	President of USA
	9:00pm - 11:00pm 9:00pm After Dinner Drinks [REDACTED]	

# 1 October 2022

Saturday

October 2022

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2022

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SATURDAY	
1	
	<p>← From 17 Sep School Holidays - Canavan, Matthew (Senator) To 3 Oct →</p> <p>FYI: Apology - 3:30pm Mirani SEC General Meeting (QCWA Hall, Brewers Road, Sydney - Canavan, Matthew (Senator))</p>
7 AM	
8	<p>7:30am CPAC Conference (Lyndal Maloney, Director, [REDACTED]) Pymont Auditorium, ICC International Convention Centre, 14 Darling Drive Darling Harbour Canavan, Matthew (Senator)</p>
9	
10	
11	
12 PM	
1	
2	
3	<p>2:45pm SPEAKING: 20mins CPAC Netw Pymont Auditorium, ICC International C</p>
4	
5	
6	
	<p>6:30pm CPAC Gala Dinner; Sheraton Grand Sydney Hyde Park, Level 2, Sheraton Gra</p>

Notes
<p>Details of agenda and speaking role attached.</p> <p>* Cabcharge from hotel to conference facility (attached)</p> <p>Speech is available on Senators website</p>

(Sen M. Canavan)

**From:** ereceipts@cabcharge.com.au on behalf of Cabcharge  
<ereceipts@cabcharge.com.au>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 2 October 2022 9:29 AM  
**To:** Canavan, Matthew (Senator)  
**Subject:** Cabcharge receipt

# CABCHARGE

How was your experience today?



**MATTHEW CANAVAN**

Thank you for using Cabcharge

## \$23.10



### Trip details



HOME



DARLING HARBR



October 2nd 2022, 10:28 am



### Trip breakdown

NSW GOV LEVY	\$1.10
BOOKING	\$2.50
Fare	\$18.40
Fare inc GST	\$22.00
Service fee	\$1.10

**Total**

**\$23.10**



**Payment details**

FASTCARD  
Receipt no.



...9228  
69174



**Taxi information**

Taxi ID

T3910



[Lost Property](#)



[Customer Service](#)



[Unsubscribe](#)

ABN 99 001 958 390



(Sen M. Canavan)

**Subject:** 7:30am CPAC Conference [REDACTED]  
**Location:** Pyrmont Auditorium, ICC International Convention Centre, 14 Darling Drive Darling Harbour

**Start:** Sat 1/10/2022 7:30 AM  
**End:** Sat 1/10/2022 5:00 PM



**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Meeting organizer

**Organizer:** Canavan, Matthew (Senator)  
**Required Attendees:** [REDACTED]

**Categories:** Meetings

<b>EVENT TITLE</b> <i>(as per invitation)</i>	
<b>TIME &amp; DATE OF EVENT</b> <i>(include proposed duration; arrival time; start time; finish time)</i>	Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2022
<b>SENATOR'S ROLE – SPEECH TOPIC / DURATION</b> <i>(What exactly is required of the attending representative? i.e., give a speech – if so, how long for and on what topic; lay a wreath; present an award or trophy; pose for photos)</i>	<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2.45pm</b> <b>Energy theme</b> (the Senator will give a speech following Shellenberger and Zion Lights. <a href="https://www.cpac.network/agenda-2022">https://www.cpac.network/agenda-2022</a> The total time on stage is <b>20 minutes</b> , so talk to be about 15 minutes less, allowing for coming on and off stage.
<b>EVENT HOST</b> <i>(Master of Ceremonies)</i>	Voiceover and others see agenda
<b>EVENT VENUE NAME AND STREET ADDRESS</b>	Sydney ICC International Convention Centre 14 Darling Drive Darling Harbour
<b>EVENT AND VENUE FORMAT</b> <i>(Hall, Ballroom, Conference Room)</i>	
- Venue layout / set-up; entry / exit points & 1 briefing room clearly indicated	Please arrive at Registration desk to collect lanyard, the event held at the Pyrmont Theatre ICC You will be escorted from speaker room to backstage when Platinum Pass offers access to VIP Platinum Lounge, restrict those only with Platinum Passes.
- Seating (cabaret; theatre etc)	Theatre style
- Backdrop on stage / themes / branding / banners / flags	CPAC Set – Banner and stage set

<b>EVENT CONTACTS</b> <i>(including mobile numbers and email must be provided)</i>	
<b>EVENT BACKGROUND</b> <i>(a brief summary of the event, including background, information in relation to other speakers or host organisation etc)</i>	CPAC is a gathering of local and international speakers Hosts are Andrew Cooper, Warren Mundine AO and Lyndal Link to website: <a href="https://www.cpac.network/speakers-2022">https://www.cpac.network/speakers-2022</a>
<b>DRESS CODE</b> <i>(Business Suit; Smart Casual; Black Tie)</i>	Business Suit
<b>TO BE MET ON ARRIVAL BY</b> <i>(Organisation CEO/Chairman/Director)</i>	Please advise arrival time. Please arrive an hour prior to speaking spot
<b>PAX</b> <i>(Total number of attendees and VIPs attending – please clearly distinguish on guest list)</i>	Approximately 800+ attendees
<b>GUEST LIST</b> <i>(Name of attendees and VIPs; their official titles and organisation names)</i>	As per speaker list <a href="https://www.cpac.network/agenda-2022">https://www.cpac.network/agenda-2022</a> Other VIP's TBA
<b>RUN SHEET</b> <i>(please provide a complete run sheet with exact timings)</i>	Run Sheet is still being compiled
<b>MEDIA ARRANGEMENTS</b> <i>(if applicable)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Event media contact</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposed media involvement</li> </ul>	Media will be onsite conducting interviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Audio-visual set up (stage / riser, lectern, projection screens)</li> </ul>	Lectern with microphone (please be in Green Room 3C prior to your allocated speaking time) to be escorted to area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media Release (provide draft for approval)</li> </ul>	N/A
<b>TRANSPORT DETAILS</b> <i>(Street arrival and departure points; reserved parking spaces required out front of venue for up to 2 vehicles)</i>	Please advise if you require further details.
<b>OTHER</b> <i>(eg: dietary req; message for publication; signed item for auction etc)</i>	
<b>Agenda Day 1 – 1 October 2022</b> Saturday 1 October 7.30am - Registration (photo id) 9.00am - Opening Ceremony 9.10am - Senator Jacinta Price – My Voice	

9.30am - A CPAC Welcome, Nyunggai Warren Mundine AO, Chairman of CPAC Au, Matt Schlapp, Chairman of CPAC, Andrew Cooper, Founder of CPAC Aus

9.37am - Warren Mundine AO, Dr Anthony Dillon, Senator Jacinta Price

10.00am - Matt Schlapp, Chairman of CPAC USA, Matthew Whitaker former US Acting Attorney General and CPAC USA Member - CPAC USA America Uncancelled

10.30am - Short Break

10.45am - Outsiders Live, Rowan Dean, Rita Panahi & James Morrow

11.30am - Fred Pawle & Johannes Leak - Die Laughing

11.50am Hon Tony Abbott AC - Keynote Address from former Prime Minister

12.10pm - Hon Tony Abbott AC & Hon Amanda Stoker - The Future of Conservatism

12.30pm - Lunch

1.45pm - Zion Lights

2.10pm - Michael Shellenberger - Introduction by Keith Pitt

**2.45pm - Senator Matt Canavan**

3.05pm - Jay Aeba - Japanese Conservative Union

3.15pm - Short Break

3.30pm - Nigel Farage - The Farage Experience

4.00pm - Matthew Whitaker

4.15pm - Dan Wild - Saving the Australian Way of Life

4.30pm - Senator Alex Antic

4.45pm - Nick Cater - Returning lost freedoms post COVID

4.55pm - Day One Close - Nyunggai Warren Mundine AO, Chairman of CPAC Au, Matt Schlapp, Chairman of CPAC, Andrew Cooper, Founder of CPAC Aus

5.00pm - Freedom & Hope Award - Nyunggai Warren Mundine AO, Hon Amanda Stoker and Andrew Cooper

### **Agenda Day 2 - 2 October 2022**

9.00am - Together Again - Hon Mark Latham and Hon Ross Cameron

9.30am - Zubly

10.00am - Nyunggai Warren Mundine AO

10.15am - Prof James Allan

10.30am - Short Break

10.45am - Jason Miller - Free Speech & Social Media

10.55am - Nataliya Melnyk - Survival Ukraine

11.20am - Prof Ian Plimer - Green Murder

11.40am - Dr Kevin Donnelly AM - I identify as a tree

12.00pm - "Rule of Law" Under Attack - Matthew Whitaker and Hon Amanda Stoker

12.30pm - Lunch Break

1.45pm - Topher Field & Co - Battleground Melbourne Live

2.30pm - Daisy Cousins - Race against the Monarchy

2.45pm - Bella D'Abbrera - Saving your children from schools

3.00pm - Hon Alfred Ngaro - A Postcard from New Zealand

3.15pm - Short Break

3.30pm - Senator Malcolm Roberts

3.50pm - Panel - TBA - Teena McQueen, hon Nick Minchin AO and Senator Amanda Stoker

4.10pm The Future of CPAC - Matt Schlapp and Andrew Cooper

4.20pm - Alan Jones AO - If not now, when?

4.45pm - Conference Close - Warren Mundine AO, Matt Schlapp and Andrew Cooper

# 2 October 2022

Sunday

October 2022

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2022

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SUNDAY		Notes
2		
<p>← From 17 Sep School Holidays - Canavan, Matthew (Senator) To 3 Oct →</p> <p>Daylight Savings Starts - Canavan, Matthew (Senator)</p> <p>Fig Tree Markets - Canavan, Matthew (Senator)</p> <p>FYI: Apology - 2:45pm McPherson FDC General Meeting (Palm Beach Currumbin</p> <p>Sydney/Brisbane - Canavan, Matthew (Senator)</p>		
7 <sup>AM</sup>		
8		
9		
10	<p><b>11:00am Comcar #: - 159198 - changes call 131 847</b></p> <p>██████████ The Rocks to Sydney Airport</p> <p>Canavan, Matthew (Senator)</p>	<p><i>COMCAR hotel to airport</i></p>
11		
12 <sup>PM</sup>	<p><b>1:00pm - 1:30pm VA0943 Sydney to Brisbane</b></p> <p>Booking Number: B11446647   Airline Reference: YJFPBP</p> <p>Canavan, Matthew (Senator)</p>	
1		
2	<p><b>1:30pm Airport Wait Time</b></p> <p>Brisbane Airport</p> <p>Canavan, Matthew (Senator)</p>	
3	<p><b>2:30pm - 3:45pm VA1245 Brisbane to Rockhampton</b></p> <p>Booking Reference: B11446647   Airline Reference: YJFPBP</p> <p>Canavan, Matthew (Senator)</p>	
4		
5		
6		

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**



**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222658

11 April 2023

Senator the Hon Matthew Canavan  
Senator for Queensland  
PO Box 737  
ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your email response of 5 April 2023 providing information in relation to the Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses for your travel to Sydney between 30 September and 2 October 2022 being conducted by the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA).

Having considered the information available, including your response, IPEA is satisfied your travel is not inconsistent with the legislative framework and considers this matter closed. Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Should you wish to discuss further, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

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

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

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Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/217036

5 April 2023

Senator Hollie Hughes  
Senator for New South Wales  
PO Box 36  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related 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's assurance activities include reviewing the use of work expenses to travel to desirable destinations (e.g. sporting events), family reunion travel and travel adjacent to public or school holidays.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to travel to and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. Please note IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

In relation to the use of *Unscheduled Ground Transport* by a parliamentarian, section 13 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017* provides:

Transport costs are not prescribed for travel by unscheduled commercial ground transport within the member's electorate if the member could reasonably use the member's private plated vehicle in the circumstances, assuming the member had a private plated vehicle.

NOTE: A member's remuneration under section 14 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* may include one or more private plated vehicles or an allowance instead of a private plated vehicle. A member who chooses an allowance instead of a private plated vehicle could reasonably be expected to use the allowance instead of claiming taxi costs in circumstances where a private plated vehicle could otherwise reasonably be used.

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Similarly, section 9 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Commonwealth Transport) Determination 2017* (the Determination) imposes limits and conditions on a parliamentarian's use of COMCAR within Australia:

*When other car transport is reasonably available*

- (1) COMCAR is not available for the purposes of subsection 8(2) of the Regulations if the member could reasonably use the member's private plated vehicle in the circumstances, assuming the member had a private plated vehicle.

NOTE: A member who chooses an allowance instead of a private plated vehicle could reasonably be expected to use the allowance instead of claiming COMCAR transport costs in circumstances where a private plated vehicle could otherwise reasonably be used

As you would be aware, under the principles-based scheme parliamentarians have an obligation to be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business (subsection 25(3) of the PBR Act). Parliamentarians also have an obligation to ensure that expenses that are incurred, or allowances or other public resources that are claimed, in relation to the conduct of the member's parliamentary business provide value for money, taking into account the need to conduct the member's parliamentary business (section 27 of the PBR Act).

**Attachment A** contains details of your unscheduled commercial ground transport within the relevant period and questions for your response to assist in our review. Please review the attached list and provide a written response to the questions via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 19 April 2023**, or advise us prior to the date if you require additional time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager  
Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]

Attachment A

Senator Hollie Hughes, Senator for New South Wales  
Assurance Review of travel and travel related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
COMCAR	[REDACTED]	02/10/2022	10:15 AM	[REDACTED]	02/10/2022	11:03 AM	\$135.10
COMCAR	[REDACTED]	02/10/2022	1:30 PM	[REDACTED]	02/10/2022	2:18 PM	\$135.10

1. Please confirm why it was not reasonable for you to use your private plated vehicle for this travel.



**From:** Assurance  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 19 April 2023 8:35 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] (Sen H. Hughes)  
**Cc:** Assurance  
**Subject:** Assurance Review - Parliamentarian travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2022 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Categories:** [REDACTED]

**OFFICIAL**

Good morning [REDACTED]

IPEA is happy to extend the time for you to provide a response to Wednesday 26 April 2023.

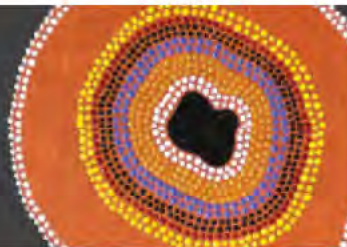
Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need further time or wish to discuss.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

T: [REDACTED]  
E: [REDACTED]  
[www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to Land, Waters and Community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the Elders past, present and emerging.



**Classification:** OFFICIAL  
**Classified by:** [REDACTED] **on:** 19/04/2023 8:32:40 AM

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 April 2023 4:43 PM  
**To:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2022 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Nicole,

Can we request an extension of time to respond to the attached correspondence to close of business on Wednesday 26 April 2023.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
**Office of Senator Hollie Hughes**  
Liberal Senator for New South Wales | Shadow Assistant Minister for Climate Change and Energy  
Ph: (02) 9159 9325 | Mob: [REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]  
A: GPO Box 36, Sydney NSW 2001 | W: [www.holliehughes.com.au](http://www.holliehughes.com.au)



From: Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
Sent: Wednesday, 5 April 2023 1:12 PM  
To: Hughes, Hollie (Senator) [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2022 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Senator Hollie Hughes  
Senator for New South Wales

Good afternoon Senator

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to an Assurance Review of Parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

---

Nicole Pearson  
Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]

E: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)  
W: [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

Classification: OFFICIAL  
Classified by: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au) on: 5/04/2023 1:11:29 PM

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[REDACTED]

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**From:** Hughes, Hollie (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 April 2023 3:04 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Subject:** FW: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2022 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** IPEA letter to Senator Hughes 5 April 2023.pdf

**Categories:** [REDACTED]

Dear Nicole,

I am writing with reference to your attached correspondence of 5 April 2023 requesting a written response to the question listed at Attachment A.

Please see the response below:

I utilised two COMCARs on Sunday 2 October 2022 for a return trip from [REDACTED] as I was attending the 32nd Grand Philippine Fiesta Kultura, as the representative for the Opposition Leader, the Hon Peter Dutton MP. I considered that it was not reasonable to use my private plated vehicle in this circumstance as I was not certain there would be a parking space available for my vehicle at the venue. The event organisers did not offer to reserve a parking space for me and, whilst they stated that a parking lot was available for all attendees, there was no certainty that a parking space would be available at the time of my arrival, potentially causing me to be late for my official duties.

If you require any further information in relation to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Hollie Hughes

**Liberal Senator for New South Wales**  
**Shadow Assistant Minister for Climate Change and Energy**  
**Ph:** (02) 9159 9325 | **E:** [REDACTED]  
**A:** GPO Box 36, Sydney NSW 2001 | **W:** [www.holliehughes.com.au](http://www.holliehughes.com.au)



---

**From:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 1:12 PM  
**To:** Hughes, Hollie (Senator) [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2022 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Senator Hollie Hughes  
Senator for New South Wales

Good afternoon Senator

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to an Assurance Review of Parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

---

Nicole Pearson  
Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
T: 02 6215 3991  
E: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)  
W: [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

Classification: OFFICIAL  
Classified by: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au) on: 5/04/2023 1:11:29 PM

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**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

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Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/225731

† May 2023

Senator Hollie Hughes  
Senator for New South Wales  
GPO Box 36  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your email response of 24 April 2023 providing information in relation to the Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses for your travel within Sydney on 2 October 2022 being conducted by the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA).

Having considered the information available, including your response, IPEA is satisfied your travel is not inconsistent with the legislative framework and considers this matter closed. Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Should you wish to discuss further, please contact [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

---

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

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222456

5 April 2023

The Hon Ed Husic MP  
Minister for Industry and Science  
PO Box 589  
PLUMPTON NSW 2761

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Minister

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related 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's assurance activities include reviewing the use of work expenses to travel to desirable destinations (e.g. sporting events), family reunion travel and travel adjacent to public or school holidays.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to travel to and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. Please note IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

In relation to the use of *Unscheduled Ground Transport* by a parliamentarian, section 13 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017* provides:

Transport costs are not prescribed for travel by unscheduled commercial ground transport within the member's electorate if the member could reasonably use the member's private plated vehicle in the circumstances, assuming the member had a private plated vehicle.

NOTE: A member's remuneration under section 14 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* may include one or more private plated vehicles or an allowance instead of a private plated vehicle. A member who chooses an allowance instead of a private plated vehicle could reasonably be expected to use the allowance instead of claiming taxi costs in circumstances where a private plated vehicle could otherwise reasonably be used.

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Similarly, section 9 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Commonwealth Transport) Determination 2017* (the Determination) imposes limits and conditions on a parliamentarian's use of COMCAR within Australia:

*When other car transport is reasonably available*

- (1) COMCAR is not available for the purposes of subsection 8(2) of the Regulations if the member could reasonably use the member's private plated vehicle in the circumstances, assuming the member had a private plated vehicle.

NOTE: A member who chooses an allowance instead of a private plated vehicle could reasonably be expected to use the allowance instead of claiming COMCAR transport costs in circumstances where a private plated vehicle could otherwise reasonably be used

As you would be aware, under the principles-based scheme parliamentarians have an obligation to be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business (subsection 25(3) of the PBR Act). Parliamentarians also have an obligation to ensure that expenses that are incurred, or allowances or other public resources that are claimed, in relation to the conduct of the member's parliamentary business provide value for money, taking into account the need to conduct the member's parliamentary business (section 27 of the PBR Act).

**Attachment A** contains details of your unscheduled commercial ground transport within the relevant period and questions for your response to assist in our review. Please review the attached list and provide a written response to the questions via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 19 April 2023**, or advise us prior to the date if you require additional time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager  
Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]

**Attachment A**

The Hon Ed Husic MP, Minister for Industry and Science  
Assurance Review of travel and travel related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
COMCAR	Sydney	29/09/2022	11:15 AM	The Rocks	29/09/2022	11:35 AM	\$61.20
COMCAR	The Rocks	29/09/2022	12:25 PM	Ultimo	29/09/2022	1:02 PM	\$75.48
COMCAR	Ultimo	29/09/2022	1:30 PM	Sydney	29/09/2022	2:01 PM	\$63.24
COMCAR	Colebee	29/09/2022	7:15 PM	Ultimo	29/09/2022	7:55 PM	\$94.20
COMCAR	Ultimo	29/09/2022	9:30 PM	Colebee	29/09/2022	10:40 PM	\$154.16

1. Please confirm why it was not reasonable for you to use your private plated vehicle (or allowance in lieu)



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**Expenses Authority**

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IPEA22/2/15 IDOC/225732

1 May 2023

Hon Ed Husic MP  
Minister for Industry and Science  
PO Box 589  
PLUMPTON NSW 2761

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Minister

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

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

On 5 April 2023, IPEA wrote to you about an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to your use of COMCAR in Sydney on 29 September 2022.

A response was requested from you by Wednesday 19 April 2023. There was a provision in the letter for you to request an extension if you required more time to prepare a written response. An extension has not been requested and your response to this matter is now overdue.

Please provide a written response via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Monday 15 May 2023**. If a response is not received by this date, IPEA may consider other options for progressing this matter.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager, Transparency Audit and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

OFFICIAL: Sensitive



**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

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IPEA22/2/01 IDOC/227508

May 2023

Hon Ed Husic MP  
Minister for Industry and Science  
PO Box 589  
PLUMPTON NSW 2761

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Minister

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

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

On 5 April 2023, IPEA wrote to you about an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to your use of COMCAR in Sydney on 29 September 2022.

A response was requested from you by Wednesday 19 April 2023. There was a provision in the letter for you to request an extension if you required more time to prepare a written response. An extension was not requested and your response became overdue.

On 1 May 2023, IPEA wrote to you requesting a written response by Monday 15 May 2023 and advising if a response was not received IPEA may consider other options for progressing this matter.

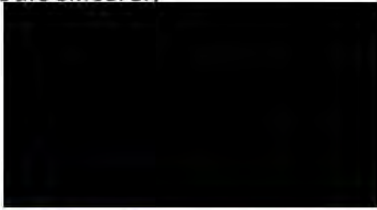
Please provide a written response via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 24 May 2023**. If a response is not received by this date, IPEA will raise an invoice to recover these expenses.

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**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).  
Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



---

**Nicole Pearson**

Branch Manager, Transparency Audit and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 18 May 2023 4:08 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Cc:** Ed Husic MP; Minister Husic; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Ref:IPEA22/2/25 IDOC222/456 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

**Categories:** [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Ref:IPEA22/2/25 IDOC222/456

**Response to Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses for the Hon Ed Husic MP, Minister for Industry and Science**

I respond on behalf of Minister Husic to IPEA Assurance Review ref number above.

On 29 September 2022, Minister Husic had multiple commitments directly relating to his ministerial portfolio responsibilities in Sydney. Please see a breakdown of the comcar trips below:

11:30am – Minister Husic travelled via Comcar from the Commonwealth Parliamentary Office to The Rocks to attend the Spanish- Australia Entrepreneurial Event with Spanish Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism, H E Ms Reyes Maroto Illera. Comcar reference no: 159001.

12.40pm – Minister Husic attended the UTS Start-up year launch in Ultimo. Comcar reference no: 159002.

2:15pm - Minister Husic attended a Net Zero Ministerial Steering Committee with the Prime Minister and multiple ministers in attendance. Comcar reference no:159003.

7:15pm - Minister Husic travelled from his home address to ABC Studios for a Q&A appearance. Comcar reference no: 158997, and the returned home.

Due to the short time-frames between meetings, lack of parking and the need to prepare for each meeting, it was not reasonable to use a private plated vehicle on this occasion.

Please accept our sincere apologies for not responding within the allocated timeframe, please contact my office should you wish to discuss further.

To ensure that requests of this nature are actioned promptly going forward, please cc [REDACTED] in future emails.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
Office of the Hon Ed Husic MP  
Minister for Industry and Science  
Mob [REDACTED] Ph 02 6277 7070  
E [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive



**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/227682

22 May 2023

Hon Ed Husic MP  
Minister for Industry and Science  
PO Box 589  
PLUMPTON NSW 2761

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Minister

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your email response of 18 May 2023 providing information in relation to the Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses of your use of COMCAR in Sydney on 29 September 2022.

Having considered the information available, including your response, IPEA is satisfied your use of COMCAR within your electorate is not inconsistent with the legislative framework and considers this matter closed. Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Should you wish to discuss further, please contact [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

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

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**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

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Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222457

5 April 2023

Ms Zoe McKenzie MP  
Member for Flinders  
PO Box 647  
SOMERVILLE VIC 3912

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms McKenzie

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related 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's assurance activities include reviewing the use of work expenses to travel to desirable destinations (e.g. sporting events), family reunion travel and travel adjacent to public or school holidays.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to travel to and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. Please note IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Division 2 of Part 3 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) sets out the principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources.

As you would be aware, under the principles-based scheme parliamentarians have an obligation to be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business (subsection 25(3) of the PBR Act). Parliamentarians also have an obligation to ensure that expenses that are incurred, or allowances or other public resources that are claimed, in relation to the conduct of the member's parliamentary business provide value for money, taking into account the need to conduct the member's parliamentary business (section 27 of the PBR Act).

'Parliamentary business' has 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* (the Determination – **Attachment A**).

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Section 6 of the PBR Act also states:

*However, an activity is not the parliamentary business of a member if:*

- (a) the member carries it out for the dominant purpose of either or both of the following:
  - (i) providing a personal benefit to the member or another person;*
  - (ii) pursuing commercial purposes of the member or another person; or**
- (b) the activity is determined under subsection (3) for the purposes of this paragraph.*

**Attachment B** contains details of your Commonwealth-funded travel within the relevant period and questions for your response to assist with this Assurance Review. Please examine the attached list of expenses and provide a written response to the questions via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 19 April 2023**, or advise us prior to the date if you require additional time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager  
Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]

Attachment A

Ms Zoe McKenzie, MP Member for Flinders  
Assurance Review of travel and travel related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
COMCAR	Mascot	29/09/2022	1:05 PM	Sydney	29/09/2022	1:32 PM	\$72.60
COMCAR	Sydney	29/09/2022	3:30 PM	Sydney	29/09/2022	4:01 PM	\$63.24
COMCAR	Sydney	29/09/2022	4:56 PM	Sydney	29/09/2022	5:11 PM	\$68.50
COMCAR	Sydney	30/09/2022	7:57 AM	Mascot	30/09/2022	8:18 AM	\$61.20

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel in Sydney on 29 September 2019?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney on 29 September 2022?



[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 12 April 2023 11:24 AM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Subject:** Ref IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/ 222457  
**Attachments:** 29th September 2022.pdf; 30th September 2022.pdf

**Categories:** [REDACTED]

Hi Nicole [REDACTED]

Ms McKenzie had meetings in Sydney on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 in relation to her House Standing Committees. Please see attached diary entries for confirmation as you discussed with Zoe today.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

**Office of Zoe McKenzie MP**

**Phone** (03) 5977 9082

**Mobile** [REDACTED]

**Email** [REDACTED]

**Address** Unit 1, 49 Eramosa Road West, (PO Box 647), Somerville VIC 3912



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# 29 September 2022

Thursday

September 2022

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2022

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
						31

THURSDAY	
29	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>From 1 Sep</span> <span>Childhood Cancer Awareness Month</span> <span>To 30 Sep</span> </div>	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>From 17 Sep</span> <span>School Holidays</span> <span>To 2 Oct</span> </div>	
National Police Remembrance Day	
7 <sup>AM</sup>	
8	
9	Mtg   ██████████ - the Voice Kingston - Canberra
10	
11	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="background-color: #f96; padding: 2px;"> ██████████ to attend on Zoe's behalf: National Police Remembrance  Rosebud RSL, 117 Eastbourne Rd, Rosebud  McKenzie, Zoe (MP Office) </div> <div style="background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 2px;"> Comcar   158922; Kingston to Airport </div> </div>
12 <sup>PM</sup>	Flight   QF1432- Airline Ref: 5XMVUJ Cbr - Syd
1	Comcar   158923; Sydney airport to ██████████
2	Meeting: ██████████ re local content obligations (SVOD) Angel Place; Sydney
3	Comcar   158924; Intercontinental Hotel to UNSW, School of Education
4	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="background-color: #c8e6c9; padding: 2px;"> Meet: ██████████ - Gonski Institute - ctc is ██████████ Pic  UNSW, School of Education, ground Floor, Room G45, Morven Bldg </div> <div style="background-color: #e8f5e9; padding: 2px;"> Meeting with Zoe McKenzie (Gonski Institute work on digital </div> </div>
5	Comcar   158925; UNSW, School of Education ██████████
6	Accommodation: ██████████

# 30 September 2022

Friday

September 2022

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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October 2022

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
						31

	FRIDAY
	30
	<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 2px;"> <span style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 0 5px;">■</span> From 1 Sep Childhood Cancer Awareness Month         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 2px; margin-top: 2px;"> <span style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 0 5px;">■</span> From 17 Sep School Holidays To 2 Oct <span style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 0 5px;">■</span> </div>
7 <sup>AM</sup>	<div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 5px;"> <b>Accommodation:</b> ██████████            117 Macquarie St, Sydney         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px; margin-left: 20px;"> <b>Mtg   the Hon Mathias Cormann re PISA / AI</b>            ██████████ - Sydney         </div>
8	Comcar   158926; ██████████ to Sydney airport <span style="float: right;">🗑</span>
9	
10	<b>Flight   VA 826 - Airline Ref: RWDOPG</b> Syd - Mel
11	Comcar   158927 ; Airport to ██████████ <span style="float: right;">🗑</span>
12 <sup>PM</sup>	
1	
2	
3	
4	<b>Volunteer Grants Committee Meeting</b> EO
5	
6	



**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

---

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222876

14 April 2023

Ms Zoe McKenzie  
Member for Flinders  
PO Box 647  
SOMERVILLE VIC 3912

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms McKenzie

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your email response of 12 April 2023 providing information in relation to the Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses for your travel in Sydney on 29 September 2022 being conducted by the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA).

Having considered the information available, including your response, IPEA is satisfied your travel is not inconsistent with the legislative framework and considers this matter closed. Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Should you wish to discuss further, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

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

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222466

5 April 2023

Mr Ted O'Brien  
Member for Fairfax  
PO Box 1978  
SUNSHINE PLAZA QLD 4558

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr O'Brien

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related 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's assurance activities include reviewing the use of work expenses to travel to desirable destinations (e.g. sporting events), family reunion travel and travel adjacent to public or school holidays.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. Please note IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Division 2 of Part 3 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) sets out the principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources.

As you would be aware, under the principles-based scheme parliamentarians have an obligation to be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business (subsection 25(3) of the PBR Act). Parliamentarians also have an obligation to ensure that expenses that are incurred, or allowances or other public resources that are claimed, in relation to the conduct of the member's parliamentary business provide value for money, taking into account the need to conduct the member's parliamentary business (section 27 of the PBR Act).

'Parliamentary business' has 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* (the Determination – **Attachment A**).

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Section 6 of the PBR Act also states:

*However, an activity is not the parliamentary business of a member if:*

- (a) the member carries it out for the dominant purpose of either or both of the following:
  - (i) providing a personal benefit to the member or another person;*
  - (ii) pursuing commercial purposes of the member or another person; or**
- (b) the activity is determined under subsection (3) for the purposes of this paragraph.*

**Attachment B** contains details of your Commonwealth-funded travel within the relevant period and questions for your response to assist with this Assurance Review. Please examine the attached list of expenses and provide a written response to the questions via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 19 April 2023**, or advise us prior to the date if you require additional time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**

Branch Manager

Transparency, Assurance and Legal

Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

[REDACTED]



## **Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017**

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I, Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, make the following determination.

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann  
Minister for Finance

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<b>Schedule 4—Official duties</b>	<b>5</b>



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## 1 Name

This instrument is the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017*.

## 2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the same time as the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

*Act* means the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the definitions section of the Act, including the following:

- (a) *constituent*;
- (b) *member*;
- (c) *office holder*, and
- (d) *vice regal function*.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, an activity specified in a Schedule to this determination is specified whether it takes place within Australia or overseas.

---

## 5 Parliamentary business of members

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(a) of the Act, the *parliamentary duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 1 for that member.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(b) of the Act, the *electorate duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 2 for that member.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(c) of the Act, the *party political duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 3 for that member.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(d) of the Act, the *official duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 4 for that member.

---

## Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or class)	Parliamentary duties
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	<p>In the member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of the whole or otherwise;</li><li>b) Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;</li><li>c) Undertaking research, communication (including with stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a member;</li><li>d) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal meeting, event or function;</li><li>e) Preparing for, participating in and attending to matters arising from a meeting (including with stakeholders), event or function for the purposes of their role as a member, including in relation to the member's policy portfolio;</li><li>f) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to business arising from a non-Parliamentary committee, taskforce or other formal group in which the member participates;</li><li>g) Representing the Parliament, in accordance with an approval of the Parliament or a House of the Parliament, and engaging in associated activities for that purpose;</li><li>h) Representing a Minister or office holder in their official capacity, at the request of that Minister or office holder, at a meeting, event or function;</li><li>i) Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of the Prime Minister.</li></ol> <p><i>Note: For Ministers representing the Government or Australia in their capacity as a Minister, this would be part of the member's official duties (see Schedule 4).</i></p>

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## Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Electorate duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In the member's capacity as their constituent's elected representative: a) Facilitating and participating in debate, discussion, a meeting, event or function, or undertaking research or administrative functions relating to matters of importance or interest to constituents (including matters that do not relate exclusively to constituents, such as matters of national importance); b) Otherwise communicating with constituents; c) Representing the views and interests of constituents.

## Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Party political duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In respect of the political party to which the member belongs, participating in any of the following in their capacity as an elected Senator or member of the House of Representatives: a) a formal meeting of the political party (including a meeting of the party executive, a committee or a subcommittee); b) a national, state or territory conference.

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## Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Official duties</b>
All office holders and Ministers of State	In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or office holder, as the case may be): <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing so;</li><li>b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their official capacity;</li><li>c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes of, performing the member's official role.</li></ol>

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Attachment B

Mr Ted O'Brien MP, Member for Fairfax  
Assurance Review of travel and travel related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Travel Fares Qantas Airways	Canberra	29/09/2022	8:40 AM	Sydney	29/09/2022	9:35 AM	\$506.11
COMCAR	Mascot	29/09/2022	9:35 AM	Sydney	29/09/2022	10:12 AM	\$93.00
COMCAR	Sydney	29/09/2022	2:45 PM	North Sydney	29/09/2022	3:03 PM	\$61.20
COMCAR	North Sydney	29/09/2022	3:45 PM	Sydney	29/09/2022	4:16 PM	\$66.84
Travel Allowance		29/09/2022		Sydney			\$876.00
COMCAR	Sydney	01/10/2022	11:00 AM	Mascot	01/10/2022	11:47 AM	\$122.40

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney on 29 September 2019?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney from 29 September to 1 October 2022?

OFFICIAL: Sensitive



**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

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IPEA22/2/15 IDOC/225733

| May 2023

Mr Ted O'Brien  
Member for Fairfax  
PO Box 1978  
SUNSHINE PLAZA QLD 4558

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr O'Brien

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

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

On 5 April 2023, IPEA wrote to you about an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to your travel to and within Sydney between 29 September and 1 October 2022.

A response was requested from you by Wednesday 19 April 2023. There was a provision in the letter for you to request an extension if you required more time to prepare a written response. An extension has not been requested and your response to this matter is now overdue.

Please provide a written response via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Monday 15 May 2023**. If a response is not received by this date, IPEA may consider other options for progressing this matter.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager, Transparency Audit and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive



# TED O'BRIEN MP

Federal Member for Fairfax  
Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Energy

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023

**Re: Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

To Whom it may concern,

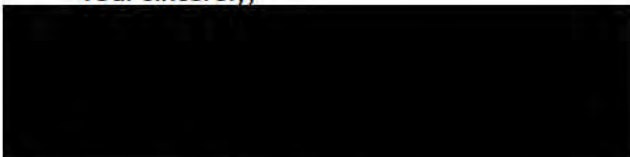
I refer to your letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> April querying travel undertaken during the period of 28<sup>th</sup> September to 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

During this period, I travelled to Sydney from Canberra on the 29<sup>th</sup> September and undertook meetings on this day and the next, 30<sup>th</sup> September, at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Office and also at a nearby location. I then travelled back home, flying into Brisbane, on the morning of Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

I can assure you that the dominant purpose for this trip was for 'Parliamentary duties' namely clause *c) Undertaking research, communication (including with stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a member;*

If you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to contact my office or myself.

Your sincerely,



**Member for Fairfax**  
Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Energy



**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**



**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

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IPEA22/2/15 IDOC/225861

9 May 2023

Mr Ted O'Brien  
Member for Fairfax  
PO Box 1978  
SUNSHINE PLAZA QLD 4558

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr O'Brien

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your email response of 3 May 2023 providing information in relation to the Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses for your travel to Sydney between 30 September and 1 October 2022 being conducted by the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA).

Having considered the information available, including your response, IPEA is satisfied your travel is not inconsistent with the legislative framework and considers this matter closed. Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Should you wish to discuss further, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager, Transparency Audit and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

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Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222491

6 April 2023

Hon Keith Pitt MP  
Member for Hinkler  
PO Box 535  
BUNDABERG QLD 4670

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Pitt

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related 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's assurance activities include reviewing the use of work expenses to travel to desirable destinations (e.g. sporting events), family reunion travel and travel adjacent to public or school holidays.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. Please note IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Division 2 of Part 3 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) sets out the principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources.

As you would be aware, under the principles-based scheme parliamentarians have an obligation to be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business (subsection 25(3) of the PBR Act). Parliamentarians also have an obligation to ensure that expenses that are incurred, or allowances or other public resources that are claimed, in relation to the conduct of the member's parliamentary business provide value for money, taking into account the need to conduct the member's parliamentary business (section 27 of the PBR Act).

'Parliamentary business' has 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* (the Determination – Attachment A).

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Section 6 of the PBR Act also states:

*However, an activity is not the parliamentary business of a member if:*

- (a) the member carries it out for the dominant purpose of either or both of the following:
  - (i) providing a personal benefit to the member or another person;*
  - (ii) pursuing commercial purposes of the member or another person; or**
- (b) the activity is determined under subsection (3) for the purposes of this paragraph.*

**Attachment B** contains details of your Commonwealth-funded travel within the relevant period and questions for your response to assist in our review. Please review the attached list of expenses and provide a written response to the questions via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 19 April 2023**, or advise us prior to the date if you require additional time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

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

[REDACTED]



## **Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017**

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I, Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, make the following determination.

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann  
Minister for Finance

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<b>Schedule 4—Official duties</b>	<b>5</b>

---

## 1 Name

This instrument is the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017*.

## 2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the same time as the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

*Act* means the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the definitions section of the Act, including the following:

- (a) *constituent*;
- (b) *member*;
- (c) *office holder*, and
- (d) *vice regal function*.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, an activity specified in a Schedule to this determination is specified whether it takes place within Australia or overseas.

---

## 5 Parliamentary business of members

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(a) of the Act, the *parliamentary duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 1 for that member.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(b) of the Act, the *electorate duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 2 for that member.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(c) of the Act, the *party political duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 3 for that member.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(d) of the Act, the *official duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 4 for that member.

---

## Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

Column 1 Member (or class)	Column 2 Parliamentary duties
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	<p>In the member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of the whole or otherwise;</li><li>b) Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;</li><li>c) Undertaking research, communication (including with stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a member;</li><li>d) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal meeting, event or function;</li><li>e) Preparing for, participating in and attending to matters arising from a meeting (including with stakeholders), event or function for the purposes of their role as a member, including in relation to the member's policy portfolio;</li><li>f) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to business arising from a non-Parliamentary committee, taskforce or other formal group in which the member participates;</li><li>g) Representing the Parliament, in accordance with an approval of the Parliament or a House of the Parliament, and engaging in associated activities for that purpose;</li><li>h) Representing a Minister or office holder in their official capacity, at the request of that Minister or office holder, at a meeting, event or function;</li><li>i) Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of the Prime Minister.</li></ol> <p><i>Note: For Ministers representing the Government or Australia in their capacity as a Minister, this would be part of the member's official duties (see Schedule 4).</i></p>

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## Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Electorate duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In the member's capacity as their constituent's elected representative: a) Facilitating and participating in debate, discussion, a meeting, event or function, or undertaking research or administrative functions relating to matters of importance or interest to constituents (including matters that do not relate exclusively to constituents, such as matters of national importance); b) Otherwise communicating with constituents; c) Representing the views and interests of constituents.

## Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Party political duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In respect of the political party to which the member belongs, participating in any of the following in their capacity as an elected Senator or member of the House of Representatives: a) a formal meeting of the political party (including a meeting of the party executive, a committee or a subcommittee); b) a national, state or territory conference.

---

## Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Official duties</b>
All office holders and Ministers of State	In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or office holder, as the case may be): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing so;</li><li>b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their official capacity;</li><li>c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes of, performing the member's official role.</li></ul>

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**Attachment B**

Hon Keith Pitt MP, Member for Hinkler  
Assurance Review of travel and travel related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Travel Fares - Qantas Airways	Canberra	30/09/2022	4:10 PM	Sydney	30/09/2022	5:05 PM	\$460.10
COMCAR	Mascot	30/09/2022	5:05 PM	Sydney	30/09/2022	5:46 PM	\$95.04
Travel Allowance – Parliamentary Duties				Sydney	30/09/2022		\$876.00
COMCAR	Sydney	01/10/2022	7:38 AM	Sydney	01/10/2022	7:49 AM	\$122.40
COMCAR	Sydney	01/10/2022	5:15 PM	Sydney	01/10/2022	5:25 PM	\$122.40
COMCAR	Sydney	02/10/2022	8:08 AM	Sydney	02/10/2022	8:18 AM	\$122.40
COMCAR	Sydney	02/10/2022	10:51 AM	Mascot	02/10/2022	11:10 AM	\$127.70
Travel Fares – Qantas Airways	Sydney	02/10/2022	1:00 PM	Brisbane	02/10/2022	1:30 PM	\$375.20

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney on 30 September 2019?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney from 30 September to 2 October 2022?

[Redacted]

**From:** [Redacted] >  
**Sent:** Thursday, 6 April 2023 10:39 AM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** IPEA Personal Advice.pdf

**Categories:** [Redacted]

Your Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222491

Good Morning

As per my telephone conversation with Nicole earlier today I have attached a copy of an email received from [Redacted], Travel, Education and Advice, IPEA in relation to Mr Pitt's travel over this period.

Please note that Mr Pitt's travel concluded on Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup> October and not the 5<sup>th</sup> October as you have indicated.

I trust this will be sufficient for your assurance review.

If you do require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact myself direct.

Kind Regards

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

**Bundaberg:** 41 Woongarra Street, Bundaberg, QLD 4670 | Ph: 07 4152 0744  
**Hervey Bay:** Shop 3/63 Torquay Road, Pialba, QLD 4655 | Ph: 07 4124 3451  
**Canberra:** PO Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600 | 02 6277 4243



**Be Green Read From the Screen** 

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**From:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 1:36 PM  
**To:** Pitt, Keith (MP) [Redacted]

Cc: Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>

Subject: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

The Hon Keith Pitt MP  
Member for Hinkler

Good afternoon Mr Pitt

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to an Assurance Review of Parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

---

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

E: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)

W: [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

Classification: OFFICIAL

Classified by: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au) on: 5/04/2023 1:35:46 PM

**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.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** IPEA Enquiries <Enquiries@ipea.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 28 September 2022 3:53 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] (K. Pitt, MP)  
**Cc:** Pitt, Keith (Private)  
**Subject:** REF: 1721352 - Parliamentarian Personal Advice - CPAC 2022 Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]

SEC=OFFICIAL

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email regarding Mr Pitt's upcoming travel to Sydney.

### Situation

You have advised that Mr Pitt will be attending the CPAC 2022 Conference in Sydney, and has been asked to introduce a speaker at the Conference and will attend events with domestic and international attendees on Friday and Saturday evening. Mr Pitt plans to fly from Canberra to Sydney on Friday 30 September, remain in Sydney for the two nights of the conference and fly from Sydney to Bundaberg via Brisbane on Sunday 2 October.

The Conference is covering issues relevant to his parliamentary duties and you are seeking advice on whether the travel, transfers and accommodation for his attendance at the CPAC 2022 Conference is eligible to be claimed under 'parliamentary duties'?

### Personal Advice

Yes, as Mr Pitt's attendance at the Conference is for the dominant purpose of his parliamentary business he may access travel resources and expenses in accordance with the Parliamentary Business Resources framework including flights (booked through CTM), car transport and travel allowance.

### Obligations

In line with the Parliamentary Business Resources (PBR) Framework, Parliamentarians can only claim for expenses that are incurred for the dominant purpose of conducting parliamentary business. In all instances, the travelling Parliamentarian must be able to meet the five obligations provided under the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* which requires that Parliamentarians:

- use public resources for the dominant purpose of parliamentary business
- conduct their parliamentary business in a way that achieves value for money
- meet any conditions connected to expenses and allowances they claim
- are prepared to be personally responsible and accountable for their use of public resources in the conduct of their parliamentary business
- are prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources in conducting their parliamentary business, and
- act ethically and in good faith in using, and accounting for the use of, public resources in the conduct of their parliamentary business.

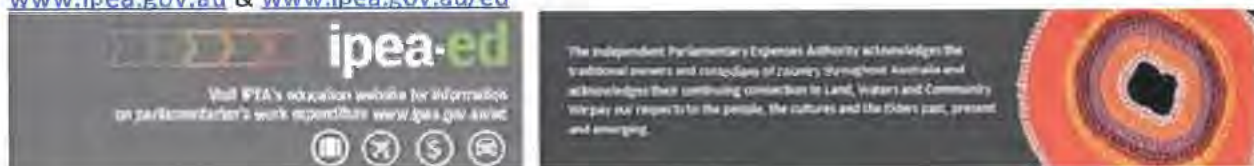
More information on the [\*Principles-Based Framework\*](#) is available on the IPEA website.

### Legislation and background

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact [enquiries@ipea.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@ipea.gov.au) or 02 6215 3000.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]  
Travel, Education & Advice  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
T: 02 6215 3000  
E: [enquiries@ipea.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@ipea.gov.au)  
[www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)



SEC=OFFICIAL

**From:** [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 27 September 2022 12:03 PM  
**To:** IPEA Enquiries <[Enquiries@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Enquiries@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** REF: 1721352 - DRAFT Parliamentarian Personal Advice - CPAC 2022 Travel  
**Importance:** High

Good Morning

Mr Pitt would like personal advice as to whether travel, transfers and accommodation for his attendance at the CPAC 2022 conference is eligible to be claimed under 'parliamentary duties'?

The conference coincides with the end of the sitting week so Mr Pitt is ultimately returning to his home base in Bundaberg, Queensland but would be flying to Sydney on Friday, staying for two nights and then returning to Bundaberg via Brisbane on Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

He is introducing a speaker at the conference as per the agenda <https://www.cpac.network/agenda-2022> and attending events Friday and Saturday nights with domestic and international attendees. The conference is covering subjects relevant to parliamentary duties including the proposal on 'The Voice', speakers on international policy trends and the Ukraine for example.

May I ask that when responding to this email you also please cc, [keith.pitt@aph.gov.au](mailto:keith.pitt@aph.gov.au) as I start leave tomorrow afternoon.

Kind Regards



**Bundaberg:** 41 Woongarra Street, Bundaberg, QLD 4670 | Ph: 07 4152 0744  
**Hervey Bay:** Shop 3/63 Torquay Road, Pialba, QLD 4655 | Ph: 07 4124 3451  
**Canberra:** PO Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600 | 02 6277 4243



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**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

---

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222662

11 April 2023

Hon Keith Pitt MP  
Member for Hinkler  
PO Box 535  
BUNDABERG QLD 4670

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Pitt

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your email response of 6 April 2023 providing information in relation to the Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses for your travel to Sydney between 30 September and 2 October 2022 being conducted by the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA).

Having considered the information available, including your response, IPEA is satisfied your travel is not inconsistent with the legislative framework and considers this matter closed. Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Should you wish to discuss further, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

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

OFFICIAL: Sensitive



**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

---

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222492

5 April 2023

Senator Malcolm Roberts  
Senator for Queensland  
PO Box 228  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related 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's assurance activities include reviewing the use of work expenses to travel to desirable destinations (e.g. sporting events), family reunion travel and travel adjacent to public or school holidays.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. Please note IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Division 2 of Part 3 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) sets out the principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources.

As you would be aware, under the principles-based scheme parliamentarians have an obligation to be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business (subsection 25(3) of the PBR Act). Parliamentarians also have an obligation to ensure that expenses that are incurred, or allowances or other public resources that are claimed, in relation to the conduct of the member's parliamentary business provide value for money, taking into account the need to conduct the member's parliamentary business (section 27 of the PBR Act).

'Parliamentary business' has 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* (the Determination – Attachment A).

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Section 6 of the PBR Act also states:

*However, an activity is not the parliamentary business of a member if:*

- (a) the member carries it out for the dominant purpose of either or both of the following:
  - (i) providing a personal benefit to the member or another person;*
  - (ii) pursuing commercial purposes of the member or another person; or**
- (b) the activity is determined under subsection (3) for the purposes of this paragraph.*

**Attachment B** contains details of your Commonwealth-funded travel within the relevant period and questions for your response to assist in our review. Please reexamine the attached list of expenses and provide a written response to the questions via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 19 April 2023**, or advise us prior to the date if you require additional time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager  
Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]



## **Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017**

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I, Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, make the following determination.

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann  
Minister for Finance

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1 Name.....	1
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---

## 1 Name

This instrument is the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017*.

## 2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the same time as the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

*Act* means the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the definitions section of the Act, including the following:

- (a) *constituent*;
- (b) *member*;
- (c) *office holder*, and
- (d) *vice regal function*.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, an activity specified in a Schedule to this determination is specified whether it takes place within Australia or overseas.

---

## 5 Parliamentary business of members

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(a) of the Act, the *parliamentary duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 1 for that member.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(b) of the Act, the *electorate duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 2 for that member.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(c) of the Act, the *party political duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 3 for that member.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(d) of the Act, the *official duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 4 for that member.

---

## Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or class)	Parliamentary duties
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	<p>In the member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of the whole or otherwise;</li><li>b) Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;</li><li>c) Undertaking research, communication (including with stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a member;</li><li>d) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal meeting, event or function;</li><li>e) Preparing for, participating in and attending to matters arising from a meeting (including with stakeholders), event or function for the purposes of their role as a member, including in relation to the member's policy portfolio;</li><li>f) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to business arising from a non-Parliamentary committee, taskforce or other formal group in which the member participates;</li><li>g) Representing the Parliament, in accordance with an approval of the Parliament or a House of the Parliament, and engaging in associated activities for that purpose;</li><li>h) Representing a Minister or office holder in their official capacity, at the request of that Minister or office holder, at a meeting, event or function;</li><li>i) Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of the Prime Minister.</li></ol> <p><i>Note: For Ministers representing the Government or Australia in their capacity as a Minister, this would be part of the member's official duties (see Schedule 4).</i></p>

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## Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Electorate duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In the member's capacity as their constituent's elected representative: a) Facilitating and participating in debate, discussion, a meeting, event or function, or undertaking research or administrative functions relating to matters of importance or interest to constituents (including matters that do not relate exclusively to constituents, such as matters of national importance); b) Otherwise communicating with constituents; c) Representing the views and interests of constituents.

## Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Party political duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In respect of the political party to which the member belongs, participating in any of the following in their capacity as an elected Senator or member of the House of Representatives: a) a formal meeting of the political party (including a meeting of the party executive, a committee or a subcommittee); b) a national, state or territory conference.

---

## Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or class)	Official duties
All office holders and Ministers of State	<p>In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or office holder, as the case may be):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing so;</li><li>b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their official capacity;</li><li>c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes of, performing the member's official role.</li></ul>

---

**Attachment B**

Senator Malcolm Roberts, Senator for Queensland  
Assurance Review of travel and travel related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Travel Fares - Virgin Australia	Brisbane	30/09/2022	2:05 PM	Sydney	30/09/2022	3:40 PM	\$185.73
Cabcharge	Airport	30/09/2022		Sydney CBD	30/09/2022	4:41 PM	\$56.55
Travel Allowance – Parliamentary Duties	Sydney	30/09/2022					\$876.00
Cabcharge	Sydney CBD	02/10/2022		Mascot	02/10/2022	7:34 PM	\$32.51
Travel Fares – Qantas Airways	Sydney	02/10/2022	8:50 PM	Brisbane	02/10/2022	9:15 PM	\$631.48
Travel Fares –Virgin Australia	Brisbane	04/10/2022	5:05 PM	Sydney	04/10/2022	7:40 PM	\$160.73
Cabcharge	Airport	04/10/2022		Sydney CBD	04/10/2022	8:19 PM	\$54.50
Travel Allowance – Parliamentary Duties	Sydney	04/10/2022					\$438.00
Cabcharge	Sydney	05/10/2022		Mascot	05/10/2022	6:02 PM	\$42.90
Travel Fares – Virgin Australia	Sydney	05/10/2022	7:00 PM	Brisbane	05/10/2022	7:30 PM	\$160.73

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1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney on 30 September 2019?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney from 30 September to 2 October 2022?
3. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney on 4 October 2019?
4. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney from 4 to 5 October 2022?

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Roberts, Malcolm [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 17 April 2023 9:13 AM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen M. Roberts)  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Categories:** [REDACTED]

### Travel to Sydney – 30 Sept 2022

30-Sept Brisbane to Sydney Meet up with stakeholders regarding policy coming before the Senate  
01-Oct CPAC Invited speaker at CPAC Conference | Speak with QLD constituents that attended event  
02-Oct Sydney to Brisbane Fly back to Brisbane

**Determination:** Electorate Duties outside Queensland

**Note:** Submitted as Parliamentary Duties

### Travel to Sydney – 4 Oct 2022

04-Oct Brisbane to Sydney Fly to Sydney to attend Public Hearing the next day  
05-Oct Public Hearing Equal Pay Bill Public Hearing | The Grace Hotel, York Street, Sydney  
05-Oct Sydney to Brisbane Fly back to Brisbane

**Determination:** Parliamentary Duties

Sincerely

**Senator Malcolm Roberts**

Senator for Queensland

**This email address is private**

---

Level 36, Waterfront Place

[1 Eagle Street, Brisbane QLD 4000](#)

T: [07 3221 9099](tel:0732219099)

**Canberra Office**

T: [02 6277 3694](tel:0262773694)



---

**From:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 2:02 PM

**To:** Roberts, Malcolm (Senator) [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Senator Malcolm Roberts  
Senator for Queensland

Good afternoon Senator

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to an Assurance Review of Parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

---

Nicole Pearson  
Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]

E: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)

W: [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

Classification: OFFICIAL

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**Expenses Authority**

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Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222455

19 April 2023

Senator Malcolm Roberts  
Senator for Queensland  
PO Box 228  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your email response of 17 April 2023 providing information in relation to the Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses for your travel to Sydney between 30 September and 2 October 2022 and between 4 and 5 October 2022 being conducted by the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA).

Having considered the information available, including your response, IPEA is satisfied your travel is not inconsistent with the legislative framework and considers this matter closed. Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Should you wish to discuss further, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

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

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222493

5 April 2023

The Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP  
Assistant Minister for Defence  
PO Box 895  
MAROUBRA NSW 2035

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Assistant Minister

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related 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's assurance activities include reviewing the use of work expenses to travel to desirable destinations (e.g. sporting events), family reunion travel and travel adjacent to public or school holidays.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to travel to and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. Please note IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

In relation to the use of *Unscheduled Ground Transport* by a parliamentarian, section 13 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017* provides:

Transport costs are not prescribed for travel by unscheduled commercial ground transport within the member's electorate if the member could reasonably use the member's private plated vehicle in the circumstances, assuming the member had a private plated vehicle.

NOTE: A member's remuneration under section 14 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* may include one or more private plated vehicles or an allowance instead of a private plated vehicle. A member who chooses an allowance instead of a private plated vehicle could reasonably be expected to use the allowance instead of claiming taxi costs in circumstances where a private plated vehicle could otherwise reasonably be used.

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**



Similarly, section 9 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Commonwealth Transport) Determination 2017* (the Determination) imposes limits and conditions on a parliamentarian's use of COMCAR within Australia:

*When other car transport is reasonably available*

- (1) COMCAR is not available for the purposes of subsection 8(2) of the Regulations if the member could reasonably use the member's private plated vehicle in the circumstances, assuming the member had a private plated vehicle.

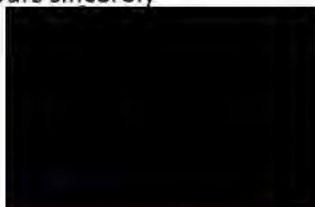
NOTE: A member who chooses an allowance instead of a private plated vehicle could reasonably be expected to use the allowance instead of claiming COMCAR transport costs in circumstances where a private plated vehicle could otherwise reasonably be used

As you would be aware, under the principles-based scheme parliamentarians have an obligation to be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business (subsection 25(3) of the PBR Act). Parliamentarians also have an obligation to ensure that expenses that are incurred, or allowances or other public resources that are claimed, in relation to the conduct of the member's parliamentary business provide value for money, taking into account the need to conduct the member's parliamentary business (section 27 of the PBR Act).

**Attachment A** contains details of your unscheduled commercial ground transport within the relevant period and questions for your response to assist with the Assurance Review. Please examine the attached list and provide a written response to the questions via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 19 April 2023**, or advise us prior to the date if you require additional time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager  
Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]

**Attachment A**

The Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP, Assistant Minister for Defence  
Assurance Review of travel and travel related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
COMCAR	Matrville	01/10/2022	5:45 PM	Barangaroo	01/10/2022	6:22 PM	\$129.70
COMCAR	Barangaroo	01/10/2022	9:15 PM	Matrville	01/10/2022	9:39 PM	\$122.40

1. Please confirm why it was not reasonable for you to use your private plated vehicle for this travel.

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 May 2023 12:38 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Cc:** Thistlethwaite, Matt (MP)  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** DEFGLIS - DOCUMENT - VIP Invitation MKeogh.pdf; Run sheet - for VIPs.pdf; IPEA letter to the Hon Matt Thistlethwaite - 5 April 2023.pdf

**Categories:** [REDACTED]

Good afternoon,

I am writing in response to the assurance review of travel and travel-related expenses Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222493.

I am able to provide the following advice regarding the COMCAR trips identified in Attachment A.

Assistant Minister Thistlethwaite was attending the Defence LGBTI Information Service (DEFGLIS) 2022 pride ball in his capacity as the Assistant Minister for Defence on behalf of the Minister for Defence Personnel. This was a black-tie dinner event and the Assistant Minister was delivering a speech on behalf of the Government.

This event was held at the Crown Sydney, Pearl Ballroom – 1 Barangaroo Avenue, Sydney on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022. No public parking is available at the Crown Sydney <https://www.crownsydney.com.au/general/getting-here#public-parking>

If parking the member would have had to travel by foot from the venue back to a car park late at night. The closest public car park is at least ten minutes away by foot.

Given his attendance in a ministerial capacity, there were heightened security implications. This was compounded further by the nature of the event itself (Defence LGBTIQ+ recognition) which had been the subject of controversy in the Defence portfolio under the previous Government, and had attracted polarising views from across the community, some very heated and extreme. This was a publicly promoted event and attendance of a high profile member of the Executive was communicated by the organisers to raise interest in the event.

Therefore, it was not reasonable for the member to use his private plated vehicle due to a lack of appropriate parking at the venue; alternative parking arrangements were unsuitable for practical and security reasons.

I have attached the following documents to this email:

1. The original invitation sent to the Minister for Defence Personnel
2. The VIP run sheet confirming the Assistant Ministers attendance.

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in IPEAs assurance review of travel expenses. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any further information regarding this matter.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Office of the Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP

---



**Matt Thistlethwaite MP**

(02) 9349 6007  
matthistlethwaite.com.au  
Shop 6/205 Maroubra Rd, Maroubra, NSW, 2035

Assistant Minister for Defence  
Assistant Minister for Veterans' Affairs  
Assistant Minister for the Republic  
Member for Kingsford Smith



**From:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 1:57 PM  
**To:** Thistlethwaite, Matt (MP) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**The Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP**  
Assistant Minister for Defence

Good afternoon Assistant Minister

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to an Assurance Review of Parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]

**E:** [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)

**W:** [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

**Classification:** OFFICIAL

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Military Pride Ball  
 Saturday 1 Oct 2022  
 Pearl Ballroom  
 Crown Sydney

## RUN SHEET

- 1730 - VIP Function – VIPs arrive - met by [REDACTED] and directed to VIP function
- 1815 - VIPs move to main ballroom
- 1830 - All seated - MC Opening Remarks
- 1835 - Welcome to Country – [REDACTED]
- 1845 - President Address – [REDACTED]
- 1850 - Video welcome [REDACTED]
- 1850 – Entrees served
- 1850 - Band Act 1
- 1900 - Spirits available for purchase at Spirit bar in Ballroom Foyer
- 1905 – Address - Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP
- 1915 – Pride Awards

Award	Presented by
Excellence in Inclusion Award	[REDACTED]
Excellence in Innovation Award	[REDACTED]
Excellence in Wellbeing Award	[REDACTED]
Presidents Award fir Excellence	[REDACTED]

- 1935 - [REDACTED]
- 1950 – Mains served
- 2035 - [REDACTED]
- 2050 - Dessert / tea / coffee
- 2115 - MC concludes formalities
- 2115 - Band 2
- 2230 - Last Drinks
- 2300 - Service will conclude
- 2330 - Exit all personnel



Defence LGBTI Information Service Incorporated  
ABN 44 664 824 312

---

PO Box 5182, Braddon, ACT 2612  
Admin@Defglis.com.au

**Hon Matt Keogh MP**  
PO BOX 465  
Kelmscott WA 6991

Dear Minister,

**INVITATION TO ATTEND THE DEFGLIS MILITARY PRIDE BALL 2022**

The Defence LGBTI Information Service (DEFGLIS) is celebrating its annual Military Pride Ball in October 2022. The pride ball provides an opportunity for the Defence LGBTI community and their allies to reflect on their important and enduring contribution to Defence capability and to celebrate the strength and diversity of all Defence people.

To help us mark this momentous occasion, I extend an invitation to you and your partner to join over three hundred service members, veterans, friends and families in a celebration of diversity and resilience at this year's Military Pride Ball. The evening is a wonderful gathering of our diverse community celebrating our collective achievements.

Proudly sponsored by PwC Australia, DEFGLIS has showcased the strength of Defence's diverse sex, sexuality and gender community at our Military Pride Ball since 2015. We are proud to celebrate the community's contribution to Defence capability and highlight the important role that inclusion plays in supporting our people. The DEFGLIS association champions the idea that Defence's ability to fight and win in all domains relies on harnessing the diverse perspectives and contributions of all our people through inclusion.

The visible presence of Defence senior leadership on this occasion demonstrates Defence's commitment to inclusion and recognises the contribution of the workforce who have diverse sexual orientation and gender identity. It also importantly provides the rare opportunity for face-to-face engagement with Defence senior leadership.

The event details are as follows:

**Venue:** Crown Sydney, Pearl Ballroom – 1 Barangaroo Avenue, Sydney NSW 2000

**Date:** Saturday 1st October 2022

**Timing:** 1730h for a pre-dinner function followed by dinner

**Dress:** Black Tie/evening dress

Could you please confirm if you are able to attend by responding to this email at [events@defglis.com.au](mailto:events@defglis.com.au). Further details to assist in your attendance will be provided in due course. If you wish to be involved in awarding presentations or addressing the Ball, please let us know. As for payment, an invoice may be raised for you; alternatively, you will be notified when the online ticketing is open.

For more information on enhancing inclusion, building community and creating capability and how DEFGLIS supports, strengthens and educates the Australian Defence Force through celebrating gender and sexuality diversity, visit [www.defglis.com.au](http://www.defglis.com.au) or email [admin@defglis.com.au](mailto:admin@defglis.com.au).

I look forward to seeing you in October.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Name]  
President – DEFGLIS Defence LGBTI Information Service

Email: [Redacted Email]  
16 Sep 2022

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**



**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

---

IPEA22/2/15 IDOC/225863

9 May 2023

The Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP  
Assistant Minister for Defence  
PO Box 895  
MAROUBRA NSW 2035

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Assistant Minister

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your email response of 3 May 2023 providing information in relation to the Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses for your travel within Sydney on 1 October 2022 being conducted by the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA).

Having considered the information available, including your response, IPEA is satisfied your travel is not inconsistent with the legislative framework and considers this matter closed. Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Should you wish to discuss further, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager, Transparency Audit and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222496

5 April 2023

Senator David Van  
Senator for Victoria  
18 Park Road  
CHELTENHAM VIC 3192

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related 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's assurance activities include reviewing the use of work expenses to travel to desirable destinations (e.g. sporting events), family reunion travel and travel adjacent to public or school holidays.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. Please note IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Division 2 of Part 3 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) sets out the principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources.

As you would be aware, under the principles-based scheme parliamentarians have an obligation to be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business (subsection 25(3) of the PBR Act). Parliamentarians also have an obligation to ensure that expenses that are incurred, or allowances or other public resources that are claimed, in relation to the conduct of the member's parliamentary business provide value for money, taking into account the need to conduct the member's parliamentary business (section 27 of the PBR Act).

'Parliamentary business' has 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* (the Determination – **Attachment A**).

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**



Section 6 of the PBR Act also states:

*However, an activity is not the parliamentary business of a member if:*

- (a) the member carries it out for the dominant purpose of either or both of the following:
  - (i) providing a personal benefit to the member or another person;*
  - (ii) pursuing commercial purposes of the member or another person; or**
- (b) the activity is determined under subsection (3) for the purposes of this paragraph.*

**Attachment B** contains details of your Commonwealth-funded travel within the relevant period and questions for your response to assist in our review. Please review the attached list of expenses and provide a written response to the questions via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 19 April 2023**, or advise us prior to the date if you require additional time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager  
Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]



## **Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017**

---

I, Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, make the following determination.

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann  
Minister for Finance

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1 Name.....	1
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<b>Schedule 3—Party political duties</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Schedule 4—Official duties</b>	<b>5</b>

---

## 1 Name

This instrument is the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017*.

## 2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the same time as the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

*Act* means the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the definitions section of the Act, including the following:

- (a) *constituent*;
- (b) *member*;
- (c) *office holder*, and
- (d) *vice regal function*.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, an activity specified in a Schedule to this determination is specified whether it takes place within Australia or overseas.

---

## 5 Parliamentary business of members

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(a) of the Act, the *parliamentary duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 1 for that member.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(b) of the Act, the *electorate duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 2 for that member.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(c) of the Act, the *party political duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 3 for that member.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(d) of the Act, the *official duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 4 for that member.

---

## Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or class)	Parliamentary duties
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	<p>In the member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of the whole or otherwise;</li><li>b) Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;</li><li>c) Undertaking research, communication (including with stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a member;</li><li>d) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal meeting, event or function;</li><li>e) Preparing for, participating in and attending to matters arising from a meeting (including with stakeholders), event or function for the purposes of their role as a member, including in relation to the member's policy portfolio;</li><li>f) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to business arising from a non-Parliamentary committee, taskforce or other formal group in which the member participates;</li><li>g) Representing the Parliament, in accordance with an approval of the Parliament or a House of the Parliament, and engaging in associated activities for that purpose;</li><li>h) Representing a Minister or office holder in their official capacity, at the request of that Minister or office holder, at a meeting, event or function;</li><li>i) Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of the Prime Minister.</li></ol> <p><i>Note: For Ministers representing the Government or Australia in their capacity as a Minister, this would be part of the member's official duties (see Schedule 4).</i></p>

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## Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Electorate duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In the member's capacity as their constituent's elected representative: a) Facilitating and participating in debate, discussion, a meeting, event or function, or undertaking research or administrative functions relating to matters of importance or interest to constituents (including matters that do not relate exclusively to constituents, such as matters of national importance); b) Otherwise communicating with constituents; c) Representing the views and interests of constituents.

## Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Party political duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In respect of the political party to which the member belongs, participating in any of the following in their capacity as an elected Senator or member of the House of Representatives: a) a formal meeting of the political party (including a meeting of the party executive, a committee or a subcommittee); b) a national, state or territory conference.

---

## Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or class)	Official duties
All office holders and Ministers of State	In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or office holder, as the case may be): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing so;</li><li>b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their official capacity;</li><li>c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes of, performing the member's official role.</li></ul>

---



Attachment B

Senator David Van, Senator for Victoria  
Assurance Review of travel and travel related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Travel Fares - Qantas Airways	Canberra	28/09/2022	7:05 PM	Sydney	28/09/2022	8:05 PM	\$179.91
COMCAR	Mascot	28/09/2022	8:05 PM	Sydney	28/09/2022	9:06 PM	\$105.24
Travel Allowance – Parliamentary Duties	Sydney	28/09/2022					\$438.00
COMCAR	Sydney	29/09/2022	1:30 PM	Mascot	29/09/2022	2:00 PM	\$61.20
Travel Fares –Virgin Australia	Sydney	29/09/2022	3:00 PM	Melbourne	29/09/2022	4:35 PM	\$958.37

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney on 28 and 29 September 2019?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney from 28 to 29 September 2022?

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Van, David (Senator)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 April 2023 11:28 AM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** RE Speaking Invitation 2022 YPL Civic Leadership Workshop  
**Categories:** [REDACTED]

Good afternoon Nicole,  
Senator Van flew to Sydney on 28<sup>th</sup> September as he was attending the Young Pacific Leaders Civic Leadership workshop. The Senator addressed the young leaders from 10:00 am and participated in the workshop until the lunch break.  
He departed at 1:30 pm to fly back to Melbourne.

Please see attached invitation from the YPL group.

Warm regards,

[REDACTED]

**Office of Senator David Van**  
**Senator for Victoria**  
18 Park Road, Cheltenham VIC 3912  
P: 03 9008 4688 | M: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 1:54 PM  
**To:** Van, David (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator David Van**  
Senator for Victoria

Good afternoon Senator

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to an Assurance Review of Parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

---

Nicole Pearson

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

E: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)

W: [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

Classification: OFFICIAL

Classified by: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au) on: 5/04/2023 1:53:56 PM

**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.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Van, David (Private) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 15 September 2022 2:42 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Speaking Invitation: 2022 YPL Civic Leadership Workshop

Dear [REDACTED]

I would be delighted to speak at your Workshop. Thank you for asking me.

Sincerely

David



**Senator David Van**

Senator for Victoria

Parliament House, CANBERRA ACT 2600

T: 02 6277 3760

E: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 15 September 2022 7:52 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Speaking Invitation: 2022 YPL Civic Leadership Workshop

Dear Senator David Van,

My name is [REDACTED], and I am reaching out on behalf of the [Young Pacific Leaders Initiative](#) sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. I work at Cultural Vistas - a Washington DC-based nonprofit focused on promoting global understanding and collaboration around the world through international education and professional experiences.

In partnership with the U.S. Embassy Canberra and U.S. Consulate Sydney, we are planning a Young Pacific Leaders Civic Leadership Workshop in Sydney, Australia on 26-29 September 2022. We would like to extend an invitation to you to speak on Thursday, 29 September 2022, during the final program keynote of the workshop focused on your work in connection to civic leadership and advocacy.

The YPL Civic Leadership Workshop will convene leaders, ages 25-35, to provide practical skill development and knowledge of regional issues related to the Civic Leadership pillar of the YPL Initiative. Those selected to attend will explore civic and political engagement through a local, national, regional, and global lens, gaining a new understanding of how each occurs in various contexts. Participants will also learn how to elevate their engagement and create inclusive advocacy strategies applicable to their work and communities. I received your contact information from [REDACTED], the Content Leader for this program. Given your expertise, we believe you would be a great fit as a speaker for the program.

If this speaking invitation is of interest, [REDACTED] (cc'd on this email) and I would be happy to provide further details on the upcoming Young Pacific Leaders Civic Leadership Workshop and agenda. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Thank you for your time, and we hope to connect with you or someone on your team soon about this opportunity.

All the best,

[REDACTED]

---

[REDACTED]  
Senior Program Development Officer ([REDACTED])  
Program Development | Cultural Vistas

+1-202-545-7043 | [REDACTED]  
Washington, DC USA

*Cultural Vistas is developing the next generation of global leaders. Learn more at [culturalvistas.org](https://culturalvistas.org).*



**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

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Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/224990

19 April 2023

Senator David Van  
Senator for Victoria  
19 Park Road  
CHELTENHAM VIC 3192

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your email response of 18 April 2023 providing information in relation to the Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses for your travel to Sydney between 1 and 3 October 2022 being conducted by the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA).

Having considered the information available, including your response, IPEA is satisfied your travel is not inconsistent with the legislative framework and considers this matter closed. Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Should you wish to discuss further, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

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

[REDACTED]

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/222495

5 April 2023

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson  
Senator for Tasmania  
PO Box 5194  
LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related 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's assurance activities include reviewing the use of work expenses to travel to desirable destinations (e.g. sporting events), family reunion travel and travel adjacent to public or school holidays.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses incurred in relation to travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022. Please note IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Division 2 of Part 3 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) sets out the principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources.

As you would be aware, under the principles-based scheme parliamentarians have an obligation to be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business (subsection 25(3) of the PBR Act). Parliamentarians also have an obligation to ensure that expenses that are incurred, or allowances or other public resources that are claimed, in relation to the conduct of the member's parliamentary business provide value for money, taking into account the need to conduct the member's parliamentary business (section 27 of the PBR Act).

'Parliamentary business' has 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* (the Determination – Attachment A).

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Section 6 of the PBR Act also states:

*However, an activity is not the parliamentary business of a member if:*

- (a) the member carries it out for the dominant purpose of either or both of the following:
  - (i) providing a personal benefit to the member or another person;*
  - (ii) pursuing commercial purposes of the member or another person; or**
- (b) the activity is determined under subsection (3) for the purposes of this paragraph.*

**Attachment B** contains details of your Commonwealth-funded travel within the relevant period and questions for your response to assist in our review. Please review the attached list of expenses and provide a written response to the questions via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Wednesday 19 April 2023**, or advise us prior to the date if you require additional time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager  
Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
[REDACTED]





## **Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017**

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I, Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, make the following determination.

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann  
Minister for Finance

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1 Name.....	1
2 Commencement .....	1
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<b>Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Schedule 2—Electorate duties</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Schedule 3—Party political duties</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Schedule 4—Official duties</b>	<b>5</b>

---

## 1 Name

This instrument is the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017*.

## 2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the same time as the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

## 4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

*Act* means the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the definitions section of the Act, including the following:

- (a) *constituent*;
- (b) *member*;
- (c) *office holder*, and
- (d) *vice regal function*.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, an activity specified in a Schedule to this determination is specified whether it takes place within Australia or overseas.

---

## 5 Parliamentary business of members

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(a) of the Act, the *parliamentary duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 1 for that member.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(b) of the Act, the *electorate duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 2 for that member.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(c) of the Act, the *party political duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 3 for that member.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(d) of the Act, the *official duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 4 for that member.

---

## Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

Column 1 Member (or class)	Column 2 Parliamentary duties
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	<p>In the member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of the whole or otherwise;</li><li>b) Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;</li><li>c) Undertaking research, communication (including with stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a member;</li><li>d) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal meeting, event or function;</li><li>e) Preparing for, participating in and attending to matters arising from a meeting (including with stakeholders), event or function for the purposes of their role as a member, including in relation to the member's policy portfolio;</li><li>f) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to business arising from a non-Parliamentary committee, taskforce or other formal group in which the member participates;</li><li>g) Representing the Parliament, in accordance with an approval of the Parliament or a House of the Parliament, and engaging in associated activities for that purpose;</li><li>h) Representing a Minister or office holder in their official capacity, at the request of that Minister or office holder, at a meeting, event or function;</li><li>i) Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of the Prime Minister.</li></ul> <p><i>Note: For Ministers representing the Government or Australia in their capacity as a Minister, this would be part of the member's official duties (see Schedule 4).</i></p>

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## Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Electorate duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In the member's capacity as their constituent's elected representative: a) Facilitating and participating in debate, discussion, a meeting, event or function, or undertaking research or administrative functions relating to matters of importance or interest to constituents (including matters that do not relate exclusively to constituents, such as matters of national importance); b) Otherwise communicating with constituents; c) Representing the views and interests of constituents.

## Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

Column 1	Column 2
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Party political duties</b>
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In respect of the political party to which the member belongs, participating in any of the following in their capacity as an elected Senator or member of the House of Representatives: a) a formal meeting of the political party (including a meeting of the party executive, a committee or a subcommittee); b) a national, state or territory conference.

---

## Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>
<b>Member (or class)</b>	<b>Official duties</b>
All office holders and Ministers of State	In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or office holder, as the case may be): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing so;</li><li>b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their official capacity;</li><li>c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes of, performing the member's official role.</li></ul>

---

Attachment B

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson, Senator for Tasmania  
Assurance Review of travel and travel related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Travel Fares – Qantas Airways	Canberra	28/09/2022	9:10 PM	Sydney	28/09/2022	10:20 PM	\$460.10
COMCAR	Mascot	28/09/2022	10:05 PM	Bondi Beach	28/09/2022	10:05 PM	\$61.20 <sup>1</sup>
COMCAR	Mascot	29/09/2022	6:55 AM	Bondi Beach	29/09/2022	7:58 AM	\$124.46
Travel Fares – Qantas Airways	Sydney	29/09/2022	1:25 PM	Hobart	29/09/2022	3:20 PM	\$863.69

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney on 28 and 29 September 2019?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney from 28 to 29 September 2022?

<sup>1</sup> COMCAR information confirms Cancelled/No Show



[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Assurance  
**Sent:** Thursday, 20 April 2023 8:47 AM  
**To:** Whish-Wilson, Peter (Senator)  
**Cc:** Assurance  
**Subject:** Assurance Review - Parliamentary Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** [REDACTED]

**OFFICIAL**

Good morning [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email and advice. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you need additional time to provide a response.

Kind regards

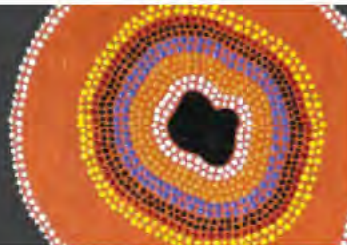
[REDACTED]

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Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

T: + [REDACTED]  
E: [REDACTED]  
[www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to Land, Waters and Community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the Elders past, present and emerging.



**Classification:** OFFICIAL

**Classified by:** [REDACTED] on: 20/04/2023 8:44:40 AM

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**From:** [REDACTED] On Behalf Of Whish-Wilson, Peter (Senator)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 19 April 2023 4:24 PM  
**To:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - Parliamentary Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hello

As we are awaiting information from the travel agent we will be unable to respond to this request by COB today.

The response will be sent by COB on Friday 21 April.

Apologies for the delay.

Kind regards

Office of Senator Peter Whish-Wilson | Australian Greens Senator for lutruwita/Tasmania

Phone 03 6331 0033

Email [REDACTED]

Website <http://peter-whish-wilson.greensmps.org.au/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/senatorsurfer/>

Instagram @senatorsurfer

Mail PO Box 5194, Launceston TAS 7250

**PETER WHISH-WILSON**  
**SENATOR FOR LUTRUWITA/TASMANIA**



*I acknowledge the palawa pakana people of lutruwita/Tasmania and all traditional owners and custodians of Country across Australia. I pay my respects to Indigenous Elders past, present and emerging. Sovereignty has never been ceded. It always was and always will be, Aboriginal land.*

---

From: Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>

Sent: Wednesday, 5 April 2023 1:49 PM

To: Whish-Wilson, Peter (Senator) [REDACTED]

Subject: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Senator Peter Whish-Wilson  
Senator for Tasmania

Good afternoon Senator

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to an Assurance Review of Parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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

E: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)

W: [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

Classification: OFFICIAL

Classified by: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au) on: 5/04/2023 1:40:35 PM

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED] on behalf of Whish-Wilson, Peter (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 20 April 2023 2:47 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** FW\_ Details for The Project interview.pdf  
**Categories:** [REDACTED]

Dear Nicole

Senator Whish-Wilson travelled from Canberra to Sydney on Thursday 29 September 2022 in order to be interviewed regarding shark nets for 'The Project' TV program as part of his portfolio responsibility for Healthy Oceans for the Australian Greens.

This activity falls under Parliamentary duties c) Undertaking research, communication (including with stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a member.

The specifics of his travel were as follows:

Wednesday 28 September

The flight Senator Whish-Wilson was booked on, QF1456 (due to depart at 9.10pm) was cancelled. As a result, Qantas re-booked him on a flight the following morning. The senator's Comcar was cancelled, but as the cancellation was too close to the pick-up time a fee was charged. The senator paid for a night's accommodation in Sydney even though he did not travel that day, as we were unable to provide the hotel with 24 hours' notice to cancel the booking.

Thursday 29 September

The senator flew from Canberra to Sydney on QF1500, which departed at 6am. The senator took a Comcar from Sydney airport to Bondi Beach for the interview to be filmed. The senator flew from Sydney to Hobart on QF1533 at 1.25pm.\*

\* The senator flew into Hobart rather than Launceston as he had to attend a local government candidate launch on Friday 30 September in Hobart.

The senator has had portfolio responsibility for Fisheries (which included shark management) from 2014 onwards. The portfolio was re-named Healthy Oceans in 2016. He chaired a Senate inquiry into [Shark mitigation and deterrent measures](#) in 2016-2017. He has done numerous media interviews regarding shark nets and continues to advocate for their removal. He works closely with stakeholders, including the Australian Marine Conservation Society, on this issue.

Please find an email outlining the details of the interview attached.

The link to 'The Project' segment on shark nets is here:  
<https://www.facebook.com/senatorsurfer/videos/382520634015921>

Please let me know if you require further information or have any questions.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Office of Senator Peter Whish-Wilson | Australian Greens Senator for lutruwita/Tasmania

Phone 03 6331 0033

Email [REDACTED]

Website <http://peter-whish-wilson.greensmps.org.au/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/senatorsurfer/>

Instagram @senatorsurfer

Mail PO Box 5194, Launceston TAS 7250

**PETER WHISH-WILSON**  
**SENATOR FOR LUTRUWITA/TASMANIA**



*I acknowledge the palawa pakana people of lutruwita/Tasmania and all traditional owners and custodians of Country across Australia. I pay my respects to Indigenous Elders past, present and emerging. Sovereignty has never been ceded. It always was and always will be, Aboriginal land.*

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**From:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>

**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 April 2023 1:49 PM

**To:** Whish-Wilson, Peter (Senator) [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Assurance Review - Parliamentarian Travel - Sydney - 28 Sep - 5 Oct 2023 [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator Peter Whish-Wilson**

Senator for Tasmania

Good afternoon Senator

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority in relation to an Assurance Review of Parliamentarian travel to, from and within Sydney during the period 28 September to 5 October 2022.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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**Nicole Pearson**

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal

Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

E: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)

W: [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

**Classification:** OFFICIAL

**Classified by:** [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au) on: 5/04/2023 1:40:35 PM

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Details for The Project interview  
**Date:** Friday, 14 April 2023 9:43:33 AM

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-----Original Message-----

**From:** [REDACTED] (Sen P. Whish-Wilson)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 27 September 2022 4:15 PM  
**To:** Whish-Wilson, Peter (Private) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Details for The Project interview

Hey Pete,

As mentioned, The Project are keen to interview and film on Thursday morning 9:45am, meeting at the Bondi Pavilion.

There is a surfboard and wetsuit hire place that opens at 9am, 5 min walk north of the Bondi Pavilion. Details are below.

Let's Go Surfing (board and wetsuit hire) Opens 9am  
128 Ramsgate Ave, North Bondi NSW 2026  
+61293651800

The surf looks messy and the weather isn't great – but in a La Nina I don't think it's worth holding out for anything else. The team may just get you walking the beach with a board or some such. The main game is the interview on shark nets.

I'll provide more info when I speak to [REDACTED] (videographer) later.

Cheers,

[REDACTED]



**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

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Ref: IPEA22/2/25 IDOC/225132

| May 2023

Senator Peter Wish-Wilson  
Senator for Tasmania  
PO Box 5194  
LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

**Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses**

Thank you for your email response of 20 April 2023 providing information in relation to the Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses for your travel to Sydney on 28 and 29 September 2022 being conducted by the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA).

Having considered the information available, including your response, IPEA is satisfied your travel is not inconsistent with the legislative framework and considers this matter closed. Please note that IPEA publishes completed Assurance Reviews on the website [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

Should you wish to discuss further, please contact [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

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