



Investigation Closure Report

Mr Simon Danczuk MP
Member of Parliament for Rochdale
COM-1066

6 May 2016

Peter Davis
Compliance Officer for IPSA
4th Floor
30 Millbank
London
SW1P 4DU

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On 18 March 2016, the Compliance Officer for the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA) published a Statement of Provisional Findings as part of the investigation into expense claims made by Simon Danczuk MP. The claims were submitted under the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Editions of the *MPs' Scheme of Business Costs and Expenses* ('the Scheme'). The investigation followed a complaint relating to claims made for Accommodation Expenditure and Travel and Subsistence Expenditure.

The Statement of Provisional Findings concluded that Mr Danczuk had obtained an increase to his Accommodation Expenditure budget by registering dependant uplifts for his two eldest children. The claims covered a period of over three years when, at no point, were either of the children routinely resident. He was ordered to repay £11,583.20.

In addition, Mr Danczuk submitted a Travel Expenditure claim for car parking charges between 26 July 2015 and 1 August 2015, while on holiday in Spain. He was ordered to repay £96.50.

The Compliance Officer stipulated that, due to the substantial sum to be repaid, Mr Danczuk should enter into immediate dialogue with IPSA in order to devise a repayment plan. This process began and a draft repayment plan was prepared; however, on Friday 22 April 2016, Mr Danczuk repaid the amount of £11,679.70 in full.

The Statement of Provisional Findings offered IPSA and Mr Danczuk the opportunity to submit further representations with a deadline of 12 April 2016. None have been received from either party.

Section 9(5) of the Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 ('the Act') requires that the Compliance Officer should, at this point, publish a Statement of Findings. However, if the following conditions are met, he may determine not to do so¹:

- a. *The member accepts a provisional finding that the member was paid an amount under the MPs' allowances scheme that should not have been allowed;*
- b. *Such other conditions as may be specified by the IPSA are, in the Compliance Officer's view, met in relation to the case, and*
- c. *The member agrees to repay to the IPSA, in such manner and within such period as the Compliance Officer considers reasonable, such amount as the Compliance Officer considers reasonable (and makes the repayment accordingly)*².

As the above criteria have been met, the Compliance Officer does not intend to publish as a Statement of Findings.

¹ *Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 s.9(7)*

² *Parliamentary Standards Act 2009 s.9(8)*. See the Act @ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/13>

No further action is required by Mr Danczuk or the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority and the investigation is now closed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Davis', is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Peter Davis

Compliance Officer for IPSA

compliance@theipsa.org.uk