

Assurance Review 2025/002 Hon Dr Anne Aly MP Member for Cowan

Family reunion travel
1 July 2021 to 30 June 2023

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Executive summary

1. The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) conducted an Assurance Review of Hon Dr Anne Aly MP's use of parliamentary business work resources for family reunion purposes (family reunion travel resources) between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023 (the period in scope). The Assurance Review forms part of IPEA's 3 Year Assurance Plan.

Scope and Purpose

- 2. The scope of this Assurance Review is family reunion travel by Minister Aly and her family between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023.
- 3. The purpose of the Assurance Review was to determine whether the family reunion travel resources were used in accordance with the legislative framework.

Engagement with Minister Aly

4. IPEA engaged with Minister Aly on several occasions to understand the nature of the travel undertaken by her and her family during the relevant period. These interactions are detailed in the Assessment section below and can also be found at **Attachments 1 to 6**.

Assurance Review Findings

5. Having regard to the information made available from Minister Aly, IPEA found that the use of family reunion travel resources was consistent with the legislative framework.

Audit and Assurance function

IPEA's statutory audit function

- 6. IPEA audits parliamentarians' use of their parliamentary business work resources and the use of travel resources by their staff under section 12 of the *Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority Act 2017* (IPEA Act). IPEA conducts Assurance Reviews to assess the use of resources against the legislative framework to determine if there has been misuse.
- 7. 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. referral to the National Anti-Corruption Commission, where there is clear evidence of serious or systemic corrupt conduct.

Legislative framework

- 8. IPEA applied the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (PBR Act) and its associated instruments as the relevant legislation for this Assurance Review. The PBR Act is a principles-based framework (legislative framework) that requires parliamentarians to ensure expenditure is incurred for the 'dominant purpose' of conducting parliamentary business and in a manner that represents 'value for money'.
- 9. The legislation relevant to this Assurance Review is:
 - a. Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017 (the 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
- 10. The principles-based legislative framework imposes a number of obligations upon parliamentarians in relation to their use of work resources. In summary, parliamentarians are personally responsible and accountable for their use of work resources. They must be prepared to publicly justify their use of work resources for conducting their parliamentary business, and must act ethically and in good faith in using, and accounting for the use of, those resources.
- 11. Parliamentarians are not able to claim work resources unless their travel:
 - is for the dominant purpose of conducting their parliamentary business;
 - represents value for money; and
 - meets the relevant conditions connected to the travel claim or expense.
- 12. Section 6 of the PBR Act provides the following meaning of *parliamentary business*:
 - (1) The parliamentary business of a member means any of the following:
 - (a) the *parliamentary duties* of a 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);
 - (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)
- 13. Subsection 6(4) of the PBR Act provides that 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.

14. Section 6 of the PBR Regulations provides the meaning of family reunion purposes as:

A family member of a member travels for **family reunion purposes** if:

- (a) the member is travelling within Australia for the dominant purpose of conducting the member's parliamentary business; and
- (b) the family member travels to accompany or join the member; and
- (c) the travel by the family member is for the dominant purpose of facilitating the family life of the member's family.
- 15. Section 4 of the PBR Regulations provides the following meaning of *family member*:
 - (a) the member's spouse or nominee;
 - (b) a dependent child of the member;
 - (c) a designated person in relation to the member.

Assurance Review methodology

Background

- 16. Under IPEA's Assurance program, IPEA conducts ongoing, systematic analysis of the parliamentary business resources accessed by parliamentarians and their staff through a combination of regular transaction sampling and review of publicly available information.
- 17. In 2024, IPEA commenced a Preliminary Assessment into travel by Minister Aly and her family members during the period in scope.
- 18. After excluding family travel to and from Canberra, the Preliminary Assessment found that parliamentary business resources were used by Minister Aly during the period in scope.
- 19. On 5 February 2025, IPEA commenced an Assurance Review of Minister Aly's family reunion travel.

Scope of Assurance Review

20. The scope of this Assurance review is family reunion travel undertaken by Minister Aly and her family members between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023. Family travel to and from Canberra to reunite family with the parliamentarian is excluded.

Method

- 21. IPEA considered the legislative framework and applied the following questions:
 - a. What was the dominant purpose of the travel?
 - b. What was the nature of the parliamentary business?
 - c. Did the travel by the family members meet the three-part test under section 6 of the PBR Regulations?
- 22. In assessing whether the dominant purpose of the travel was parliamentary business, IPEA considered:
 - a. the parliamentarian's role; and
 - b. any supporting evidence relating to their travel.

- 23. IPEA conducted the Assurance Review by examining and assessing:
 - a. information held by IPEA, including in the Parliamentary Expenses Management System
 - b. the legislative framework and supporting guidelines
 - c. information provided by the parliamentarian
 - d. the parliamentary sitting timetables from the APH website (www.aph.gov.au).

Assessment of work expenses

Summary of findings

Analysis

- 24. Minister Aly and her spouse undertook one trip using parliamentary work resources for which IPEA required additional information to assess whether their use of family reunion travel was consistent with the legislative framework.
- 25. Minister Aly flew from Canberra to Sydney on 5 August 2022. Her spouse flew from Perth to Sydney on 5 August 2022 to join her. Parliamentary work resources were used for flights, ground transport and three nights of travel allowance in Sydney.
- 26. Minister Aly returned from Sydney to Canberra, while her spouse returned from Sydney to Perth, on 8 August 2022, using parliamentary work resources for flights and ground transport.
- 27. On 5 February 2025, IPEA wrote to Minister Aly detailing the requirements of the legislative framework and identifying the travel using parliamentary work resources for the period in scope (Attachment 1). Minister Aly was asked about the dominant purpose of her travel and the nature of her parliamentary business, with reference to the Determination. Minister Aly was also asked to advise whether her spouse's travel met the three-part test in Section 6 of the PBR Regulations. A response was requested by 28 February 2025. No response was received.
- 28. On 11 April 2025, IPEA wrote to Minister Aly a second time advising that a response had not yet been received and requesting a response by 28 April 2025 (Attachment 2).
- 29. On 28 April 2025, Minister Aly's office responded to IPEA (Attachment 3).
- 30. In the response, Minister Aly's staff member advised:
 - "I confirm that the travel on the dates detailed was for the purpose of significant portfolio stakeholder engagement and therefore with the predominant purpose of Official Duties. The meetings and activities including:
 - Meetings with stakeholders under the youth portfolio (Friday)
 - Attending an evening event which related to the education of young Muslim Australia's. The other speaker at the event was Peter Shergold (the chair of NESA) (Saturday)
 - Meeting with stakeholders under the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) portfolio, including meeting with the NSW Minister and hosting a roundtable with sector stakeholders on ECEC Workforce. (Monday)"
- 31. The staff member confirmed that Minister Aly's spouse travelled with the Minister to facilitate family life.

- 32. On 12 June 2025, IPEA replied to Minister Aly's office, requesting that they provide evidence in support of the response (**Attachment 4**). As no response was received, a further request was sent on 25 June 2025, with a request to provide the evidence by 4 July 2025 (**Attachment 5**).
- 33. On 1 July 2025, Minister Aly's office responded (Attachment 6).
- 34. In the response, Minister Aly's staff member provided diary extracts for the period, as well as links to event and media pages, in support of the Minister's travel.
- 35. IPEA notes Minister Aly's advice that the dominant purpose her travel to Sydney in August 2022 was parliamentary business, and that her spouse accompanied her for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

Conclusion

36. Having regard to the information made available from Minister Aly, IPEA found that the use of family reunion travel resources was consistent with the legislative framework.

From: Assurance

Sent: Thursday, 6 February 2025 10:58 AM

To:

Cc: Assurance

Subject: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL] **Attachments:** Attachment A - Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business)

Determination.pdf; Attachment B - Hon Dr Anne Aly MP Travel Data.pdf; Letter -

IPEA to Hon Dr Anne Aly MP - 5 February 2025.pdf

OFFICIAL

Hon Dr Anne Aly MP
Minister for Early Childhood Education
Minister for Youth
Member for Cowan

Dear Minister

Attached please find correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

Branch Manager (A/g), Transparency, Assurance and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au

W: www.ipea.gov.au & www.ipea.gov.au/ed



5 February 2025

Hon Dr Anne Aly MP Minister for Early Childhood Education Minister for Youth Member for Cowan PO Box 219 Kingsway, WA, 6065

Email:

Dear Minister

Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) has responsibility under the *Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority Act 2017* to undertake assurance activities in relation to the work expenses of members of parliament.

Please note that IPEA publishes completed assurance reviews on the website at www.ipea.gov.au/assurance-audit/published-assurance-reviews.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources accessed in relation to your family reunion travel between 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2023.

Legislative framework

The use of travel expenses for family reunion must meet the three-part test below, set out in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:

A family member of a member travels for family reunion purposes if:

- (a) the member is travelling within Australia for the dominant purpose of conducting the member's parliamentary business; and
- (b) the family member travels to accompany or join the member; and
- (c) the travel by the family member is for the dominant purpose of facilitating the family life of the member's family.

Section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) and the Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 (the Determination – **Attachment A**) define the four streams of parliamentary business. These are parliamentary duties, electorate duties, party political duties and official duties.

The principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources are set out in part 3 - division 2 of the PBR Act.

Action Required

Attachment B details your Commonwealth-funded family reunion travel within the period that is relevant to this Assurance Review, and we have set out questions for your response. Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please reference the definition of Parliamentary Business as outlined in the Determination and provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

Please provide a written response via email to <u>assurance@ipea.gov.au</u>, by close of business on **28 February 2025**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact

Yours sincerely

A/g Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & 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

Contents 1 Name 1 2 Commencement 1 3 Authority 1 4 Interpretation 1 5 Parliamentary business of members 2 Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties 3 Schedule 2—Electorate duties 4 Schedule 3—Party political duties 4 Schedule 4—Official duties 5

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))

Member (or		
•	Parlia	mentary duties
class)		
All members	In the r	member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:
who are a	a)	Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising
senator or		from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of
member of the		the whole or otherwise;
House of	b)	Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed
Representatives		legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;
	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;
	d)	Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising
		from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal
		meeting, event or function;
	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;
	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;
	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;
	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;
	i)	Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of
		the Prime Minister.
		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).

Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

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

Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Official duties
class)	
All office	In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or
holders and	office holder, as the case may be):
Ministers of	a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the
State	member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing
	so;
	b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their
	official capacity;
	c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes
	of, performing the member's official role.

Attachment B
Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

Work Resource	Traveller	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Total Amount
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Canberra	5/08/2022	09:10 AM	Sydney	5/08/2022	10:05 AM	\$824.67
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Perth	5/08/2022	11:05 AM	Sydney	5/08/2022	05:10 PM	\$420.77
Travel Allowance – 3 nights – commercial	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Capital Hill	5/08/2022		Sydney	5/08/2022	10:10 AM	\$1,359.00
COMCAR	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Mascot	5/08/2022	10:05 AM	Sydney	5/08/2022	10:43 AM	\$86.88
COMCAR	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Sydney	5/08/2022	05:00 PM	Sydney	5/08/2022	05:14 PM	\$61.20
COMCAR	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Sydney	6/08/2022	05:00 PM	Sydney Olympic Park	6/08/2022	06:05 PM	\$140.00
COMCAR	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Sydney Olympic Park	6/08/2022	09:45 PM	Sydney	6/08/2022	10:53 PM	\$138.72
COMCAR	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Sydney	8/08/2022	05:00 PM	Mascot	8/08/2022	05:49 PM	\$99.96
Airfare - Official - Spouse		Sydney	8/08/2022	10:25 AM	Perth	8/08/2022	01:20 PM	\$420.77
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Sydney	8/08/2022	06:35 PM	Canberra	8/08/2022	07:30 PM	\$429.20

One Canberra Avenue, Forrest ACT 2603 • Telephone 02 6215 3000
Internet www.ipea.gov.au

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Attachment B

Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

- 1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney from 5 to 8 August 2022?
- 2. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney from 5 to 8 August 2022?
- 3. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

One Canberra Avenue, Forrest ACT 2603 • Telephone 02 6215 3000
Internet www.ipea.gov.au

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

From: Assurance

Sent: Friday, 11 April 2025 2:52 PM

To:

Cc: Assurance

Subject: RE: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL] **Attachments:** Hon Dr Anne Aly MP - Second Correspondence.pdf; Hon Dr Anne Aly MP - First

Correspondence.pdf

OFFICIAL

Hon Dr Anne Aly MP
Minister for Early Childhood Education
Minister for Youth
Member for Cowan

Dear Minister

Attached please find further correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

Nicole Pearson

Chief of Transparency, Integrity and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au

W: www.ipea.gov.au & www.ipea.gov.au/ed

From: Assurance

Sent: Thursday, 6 February 2025 10:58 AM

To:

Cc: Assurance

Subject: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hon Dr Anne Aly MP
Minister for Early Childhood Education
Minister for Youth
Member for Cowan

Dear Minister

Attached please find correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

Branch Manager (A/g), Transparency, Assurance and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au

W: www.ipea.gov.au & www.ipea.gov.au/ed



11 April 2025

Hon Dr Anne Aly MP
Minister for Early Childhood Education
Minister for Youth
Member for Cowan
PO Box 219
Kingsway, WA, 6065

Email:

Dear Minister

Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

On 5 February 2025, IPEA wrote to you about an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources accessed in relation to your family reunion travel between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023.

A response was requested from you by 28 February 2025. 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 <u>assurance@ipea.gov.au</u>, by close of business on **Monday 28 April 2025**. 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

Yours sincerely

Nicole Pearson
Chief of Transparency, Integrity and Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603



5 February 2025

Hon Dr Anne Aly MP Minister for Early Childhood Education Minister for Youth Member for Cowan PO Box 219 Kingsway, WA, 6065

Email:

Dear Minister

Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

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Please note that IPEA publishes completed assurance reviews on the website at www.ipea.gov.au/assurance-audit/published-assurance-reviews.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources accessed in relation to your family reunion travel between 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2023.

Legislative framework

The use of travel expenses for family reunion must meet the three-part test below, set out in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:

A family member of a member travels for family reunion purposes if:

- (a) the member is travelling within Australia for the dominant purpose of conducting the member's parliamentary business; and
- (b) the family member travels to accompany or join the member; and
- (c) the travel by the family member is for the dominant purpose of facilitating the family life of the member's family.

Section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) and the Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 (the Determination – **Attachment A**) define the four streams of parliamentary business. These are parliamentary duties, electorate duties, party political duties and official duties.

The principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources are set out in part 3 - division 2 of the PBR Act.

Action Required

Attachment B details your Commonwealth-funded family reunion travel within the period that is relevant to this Assurance Review, and we have set out questions for your response. Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please reference the definition of Parliamentary Business as outlined in the Determination and provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

Please provide a written response via email to <u>assurance@ipea.gov.au</u>, by close of business on **28 February 2025**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact

Yours sincerely

A/g Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & 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

Contents 1 Name 1 2 Commencement 1 3 Authority 1 4 Interpretation 1 5 Parliamentary business of members 2 Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties 3 Schedule 2—Electorate duties 4 Schedule 3—Party political duties 4 Schedule 4—Official duties 5

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))

Member (or		
•	Parlia	mentary duties
class)		
All members	In the r	member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:
who are a	a)	Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising
senator or		from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of
member of the		the whole or otherwise;
House of	b)	Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed
Representatives		legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;
	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;
	d)	Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising
		from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal
		meeting, event or function;
	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;
	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;
	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;
	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;
	i)	Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of
		the Prime Minister.
		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).

Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

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

Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Official duties
class)	
All office	In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or
holders and	office holder, as the case may be):
Ministers of	a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the
State	member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing
	so;
	b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their
	official capacity;
	c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes
	of, performing the member's official role.

Attachment B
Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

Work Resource	Traveller	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Total Amount
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Canberra	5/08/2022	09:10 AM	Sydney	5/08/2022	10:05 AM	\$824.67
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Perth	5/08/2022	11:05 AM	Sydney	5/08/2022	05:10 PM	\$420.77
Travel Allowance – 3 nights – commercial	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Capital Hill	5/08/2022		Sydney	5/08/2022	10:10 AM	\$1,359.00
COMCAR	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Mascot	5/08/2022	10:05 AM	Sydney	5/08/2022	10:43 AM	\$86.88
COMCAR	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Sydney	5/08/2022	05:00 PM	Sydney	5/08/2022	05:14 PM	\$61.20
COMCAR	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Sydney	6/08/2022	05:00 PM	Sydney Olympic Park	6/08/2022	06:05 PM	\$140.00
COMCAR	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Sydney Olympic Park	6/08/2022	09:45 PM	Sydney	6/08/2022	10:53 PM	\$138.72
COMCAR	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Sydney	8/08/2022	05:00 PM	Mascot	8/08/2022	05:49 PM	\$99.96
Airfare - Official - Spouse		Sydney	8/08/2022	10:25 AM	Perth	8/08/2022	01:20 PM	\$420.77
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Hon Dr Anne Aly MP	Sydney	8/08/2022	06:35 PM	Canberra	8/08/2022	07:30 PM	\$429.20

One Canberra Avenue, Forrest ACT 2603 • Telephone 02 6215 3000
Internet www.ipea.gov.au

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Attachment B

Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

- 1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney from 5 to 8 August 2022?
- 2. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney from 5 to 8 August 2022?
- 3. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

One Canberra Avenue, Forrest ACT 2603 • Telephone 02 6215 3000
Internet www.ipea.gov.au

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Sent: Monday, 28 April 2025 5:35 PM

To: Assurance Cc: Aly, Anne (MP)

Subject: CM: RE: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good afternoon

On behalf of Dr Anne Aly MP, thank you for your email seeking Dr Aly's advice as required for the purpose of the Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources.

I confirm that the travel on the dates detailed was for the purpose of significant portfolio stakeholder engagement and therefore with the predominant purpose of Official Duties. The meetings and activities including:

- Meetings with stakeholders under the youth portfolio (Friday)
- Attending an evening event which related to the education of young Muslim Australia's. The other speaker at the event was (the chair of NESA) (Saturday)
- Meeting with stakeholders under the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) portfolio, including meeting with the NSW Minister and hosting a roundtable with sector stakeholders on ECEC Workforce. (Monday)

I confirm that Dr Aly's husband was with Dr Aly during the travel period with the purpose of this travel being to facilitate family life.

Please advise if any further information is required in this regard.

Thank you.

Office Manager to
Dr Anne Aly MP
Labor Member for Cowan

A Shop 6A, Stirling Central Shopping Centre, 478 Wanneroo Road, Westminster WA 6061; **P** PO Box 219, Kingsway, WA, 6065; **FB** facebook.com/anneazzaaly

W https://annealy.com/

FB https://www.facebook.com/anneazzaaly/

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

Sent: Friday, 11 April 2025 12:52 PM **To:** Aly, Anne (MP)

Cc: Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hon Dr Anne Aly MP
Minister for Early Childhood Education
Minister for Youth
Member for Cowan

Dear Minister

Attached please find further correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

Nicole Pearson

Chief of Transparency, Integrity and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au

W: www.ipea.gov.au & www.ipea.gov.au/ed

From: Assurance <<u>Assurance@ipea.gov.au</u>> Sent: Thursday, 6 February 2025 10:58 AM

To:

Cc: Assurance < <u>Assurance@ipea.gov.au</u>>

Subject: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hon Dr Anne Aly MP
Minister for Early Childhood Education
Minister for Youth
Member for Cowan

Dear Minister

Attached please find correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

Branch Manager (A/g), Transparency, Assurance and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au

W: www.ipea.gov.au & www.ipea.gov.au/ed

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From: Assurance

Sent: Thursday, 12 June 2025 12:03 PM

To: (A. Aly, MP)'; Assurance

Cc: Aly, Anne (MP)

Subject: CM: RE: RE: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Minister and

Thank you for your email, and I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

Could you please provide any evidence, such as diary entries, invitations or media articles, in support of the below response?

Sincerely

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

T: +61 2 6215 3000

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au
W: www.ipea.gov.au

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- Meeting with stakeholders under the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) portfolio, including meeting with the NSW Minister and hosting a roundtable with sector stakeholders on ECEC Workforce. (Monday)

I confirm that Dr Aly's husband Mr David Allen was with Dr Aly during the travel period with the purpose of this travel being to facilitate family life.

Please advise if any further information is required in this regard.

Thank you.

Office Manager to

Dr Anne Aly MP

Labor Member for Cowan

A Shop 6A, Stirling Central Shopping Centre, 478 Wanneroo Road, Westminster WA 6061;

P PO Box 219, Kingsway, WA, 6065; FB facebook.com/anneazzaaly

W https://annealy.com/

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Minister for Youth
Member for Cowan

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From: Assurance

Sent: Wednesday, 25 June 2025 1:35 PM

To: Assurance; (A. Aly, MP)'

Cc: Aly, Anne (MP)

Subject: CM: RE: RE: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Minister and

As per our previous correspondence, IPEA is waiting on evidence in support of your response in order to finalise this matter.

Could you please provide any evidence, such as diary entries, invitations or media articles, in support of the previous response?

Please provide to <u>assurance@ipea.gov.au</u> by COB on Friday 4 July 2025.

Sincerely

Director, Audit and Assurance

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

T: +61 2 6215 3000

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au
W: www.ipea.gov.au

From: Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au> Sent: Thursday, 12 June 2025 12:03 PM

To: ' (A. Aly, MP)' ; Assurance

<Assurance@ipea.gov.au>

Cc: Aly, Anne (MP)

Subject: CM: RE: RE: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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T: +61 2 6215 3000

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W: www.ipea.gov.au

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Dr Anne Aly MP

Labor Member for Cowan

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Minister for Youth
Member for Cowan

Dear Minister

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Cc: Assurance < Assurance@ipea.gov.au>

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OFFICIAL

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Minister for Early Childhood Education
Minister for Youth
Member for Cowan

Dear Minister

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Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

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W: www.ipea.gov.au & www.ipea.gov.au/ed

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From:

Sent: Tuesday, 1 July 2025 2:51 PM

To: Assurance

Subject: CM: FW: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Attachments: August 5.png; August 6.png; August 8.png

OFFICIAL

Good Afternoon,

Apologies for the delay in providing a response to your correspondence about Minister Aly's travel from 5-8 August 2022. We no longer have access to the IT system we operated on at the time which has delayed our access to supporting information.

Attached are extracted from Minister's diary for 5, 6, and 8 August. Minister did not have formal engagements on the 7 August. If further detail is required, I can seek to provide copies of redacted Departmental briefs for meetings. As noted in the diary, Minister Aly was accompanied by her then Youth Adviser,

Here are some articles covering the Minister's appearance at the 2022 Cresent Awards which recognise students and teachers at Australian Muslim Schools.

A night to remember – Crescent Awards FEATURE 16 - Issuu

Here is a media release that related to the roundtable event held on Monday 8 August 2022 Minister Anne Aly launches sector roundtable tour | Ministers' Media Centre

Further, here is a third parties account of the Roundtable National ECEC Workforce Roundtable—what was discussed with Minister Aly - CELA

Please let me know if anything further is needed for specific types of evidence would be of assistance.

Cheers
Chief of Staff
Office of Anne Aly

From: Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 6 February 2025 10:58 AM
To: Aly, Anne (MP)

Cc: Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>

Subject: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Minister for Youth
Member for Cowan

Dear Minister

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