

From: [Assurance](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Assurance](#)
Subject: HPE CM: Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 6 February 2025 8:27:41 AM
Attachments: [Correspondence Assurance Review Family reunion travel Senator Roberts.pdf](#)
[Attachment A Parliamentary Business Resources Determination 2017.pdf](#)

OFFICIAL

Senator Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland

Dear Senator Roberts

Attached please find correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

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



Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

5 February 2025

Senator Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland
PO Box 228
Brisbane, QLD, 4001

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

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.*

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

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 assurance@ipea.gov.au, 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 [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
A/g Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

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
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Brisbane	13 July 2022	11:55am	Melbourne	13 July 2022	2:20pm	\$215.99
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Brisbane	13 July 2022	11:55am	Melbourne	13 July 2022	2:20pm	\$215.99
Travel expenses - CabCharge	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Melbourne	13 July 2022		St Kilda	13 July 2022	3:39pm	\$75.63
Travel Allowance – Commercial (1 night)	Senator Malcolm Roberts				[REDACTED] St Kilda, Melbourne	13 July 2022		\$392.00
Travel Expenses - Parking	Senator Malcolm Roberts				Brisbane Airport	13 July 2022		\$69.00
Travel expenses - CabCharge	Senator Malcolm Roberts	St Kilda	14 July 2022		Melbourne Airport	14 July 2022	10:12am	\$73.21
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Melbourne	14 July 2022	1:10pm	Brisbane	14 July 2022	3:20pm	\$215.99
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Melbourne	14 July 2022	1:10pm	Brisbane	14 July 2022	3:20pm	\$215.99

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Melbourne between 13-14 July 2022?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Melbourne between 13-14 July 2022?
3. Please advise whether your family members' 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 members were travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family members' travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

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	Amount (GST excl.)
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Malcolm Roberts	Brisbane	15 July 2022	5:35pm	Sydney	15 July 2022	7:10pm	\$176.80
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Brisbane	15 July 2022	5:35pm	Sydney	15 July 2022	7:10pm	\$176.80
Travel expenses- CabCharge	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Mascot	15 July 2022		Ultimo	15 July 2022	8:42pm	\$35.60
Travel Allowance – Commercial (2 nights)	Senator Malcolm Roberts				Sydney	15 July 2022		\$830.00
Travel Expenses - Parking	Senator Malcolm Roberts				Brisbane Airport	15 July 2022		\$45.00
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Sydney	17 July 2022	3:00pm	Brisbane	17 July 2022	4:30pm	\$176.80
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Sydney	17 July 2022	3:00pm	Brisbane	17 July 2022	4:30pm	\$176.80

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney between 15-17 July 2022?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney between 15-17 July 2022?
3. Please advise whether your family members' 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 members were travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family members' travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.



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

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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 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">a) Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of the whole or otherwise;b) Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed 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. <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
Member (or class)	Electorate duties
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
Member (or class)	Party political duties
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): <ol style="list-style-type: none">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;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.

From: [REDACTED] (Sen M. Roberts)
To: Assurance
Cc: Roberts, Malcolm (Private)
Subject: HPE CM: FW: Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Monday, 10 March 2025 11:23:31 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[Correspondence_Assurance_Review_Family_reunion_travel_Senator_Roberts.pdf](#)
[Friedman_Conference_Program.pdf](#)

Hi [REDACTED]

Regarding your request from 6 February 2025, here is the requested information:

13 to 14 July 2022

Senator Roberts and his wife, [REDACTED], travelled to Melbourne to participate in the Freedom Summit Conference, where Senator Roberts was a speaker. Please see the attached flyer for this event.

Note: Although this event took place outside Queensland, it was highly relevant to many of the Queensland constituents he represents and with parliamentary business.

15 to 17 July 2022

Senator Roberts and his wife, [REDACTED], travelled to Sydney to participate in the Friedman Conference. Please see the attached program for this event.

Note: Although this event took place outside Queensland, it was highly relevant to many of the Queensland constituents he represents and with parliamentary business.

Senator Roberts is confident that both events meet the three-part test outlined in Section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017.



[REDACTED]
Office Manager for Senator Malcolm Roberts

Tel: 07 3221 9099

One Eagle - Waterfront Brisbane, 1 Eagle Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

GPO Box 228, Brisbane QLD 4300

Suite S1.30, Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 | **Tel:** 02 6277 3694



Are you wondering if Senator Roberts has said something on a particular subject? Try using the search on his website to check every speech and interview he's done: <https://senroberts.com/searchwhatsaid>

By emailing Senator Roberts' office you have automatically been added to our mailing list to receive newsletters and updates. Simply unsubscribe if you do not wish to receive them in the future.

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

Sent: Thursday, 6 February 2025 7:28 AM

To: Roberts, Malcolm (Senator) [REDACTED]

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

Subject: Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Senator Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland

Dear Senator Roberts

Attached please find correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

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

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.



Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

5 February 2025

Senator Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland
PO Box 228
Brisbane, QLD, 4001

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

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*
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OFFICIAL: Sensitive

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 assurance@ipea.gov.au, 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 [REDACTED] on [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
A/g Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

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
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1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Melbourne between 13-14 July 2022?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Melbourne between 13-14 July 2022?
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 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
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Attachment B

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

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1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney between 15-17 July 2022?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney between 15-17 July 2022?
3. Please advise whether your family members' 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
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PRESENTS

'FREEDOM SUMMIT DOWNUNDER 2022'

How to live peacefully and prosper, even in chaos

This event will focus on tools and strategies we can all use to live our best lives, no matter what is happening around us.

- How to live in our society without supporting corporations, industries and systems that are working against us.
- How to build and connect to a local community that will support each other, both emotionally and physically.
- How to look after our well-being and health no matter what challenges we face.

WHEN: Wednesday 13th July 2022. 7pm

VENUE: Melbourne CBD. Exact address will be sent via email privately

TICKETS: \$110/per person

includes – 4 drinks each and canapés

Accommodation available for \$160 per night

Friday, July 15

TIME

SESSION

2:00 PM-3:00 PM

Registration

Location: Aerial UTS Foyer

3:00 PM-5:00 PM

Student Seminar

Speakers: [REDACTED]

It can be hard to easily communicate Libertarian ideals to the wider public. In this student seminar, leading libertarian activists will educate students on the best ways to effectively propagate classical liberal ideas and communicate complex issues in an effective manner.

The Australian ...

[Read More](#)

7:00 PM-11:59 PM

Friday Night Drinks

Location: Cabana Bar - 25 Martin Place Sydney

Speaker: [REDACTED]

Saturday, July 16

TIME

SESSION

8:00 AM-9:00 AM

Registration and Coffee

Location: Aerial UTS Foyer

Say g'day to our wonderful volunteers as you collect your conference pack and catch up with old and new friends over a coffee before taking a weekend-long dive into freedom, Friedman style.

8:00 AM-9:00 AM

VIP breakfast

Location: VIP room

9:00 AM-10:00 AM

Welcome and Keynote Address

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speaker: [REDACTED]

10:00 AM-11:00 AM

Keynote Panel - What's Next for the Liberal Party

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speakers: [REDACTED]

11:20 AM-12:30 PM

Breakout Session 1A Debate: should the west

be involved in the Ukraine conflict

Location: Session Hall A

Speakers: [REDACTED]

11:20 AM-12:30 PM

Breakout Session 1B Microeconomic Reform

Location: Session Hall B

Speakers: [REDACTED]

12:30 PM-1:30 PM

VIP lunch

Location: VIP room

Speaker: [REDACTED]

1:30 PM-2:40 PM

Breakout Session 2A - Harm Reduction

Location: Session Hall A

Speakers: [REDACTED]

1:30 PM-2:30 PM

Breakout Session 2B - Future of the West

Location: Session Hall B

Speakers: [REDACTED]

2:40 PM-3:50 PM

Breakout Session 3A - Minor Party Politics

Location: Session Hall A

Speakers: Malcolm Roberts, [REDACTED]

2:40 PM-3:50 PM

Breakout Session 3B - Crypto Economics

Location: Session Hall B

Speakers: [REDACTED]

4:10 PM-5:00 PM

Keynote Presentation & Group Photo

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speaker: [REDACTED]

6:00 PM-7:00 PM

VIP Meet & Greet Cocktails

Location: Aerial UTS Foyer

Speaker: [REDACTED]

7:00 PM-11:00 PM

Friedman Conference Gala Dinner

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speaker: [REDACTED]

Includes presentation of the annual liberty awards for:

1. Libertarian of the Year

2. Young Libertarian of the Year
3. Libertarian Activist of the Year
4. Libertarian Lifetime Achievement

11:00 PM-11:59 PM

Gala Dinner After Party

Location: Molly Malone's Irish Tavern

64 Devonshire St,
Surry Hills
NSW 2010

<https://mollymalonestavern.com.au/>

Sunday, July 17

TIME

SESSION

8:00 AM-9:00 AM

Registration and Coffee

Location: Aerial UTS Foyer

8:00 AM-10:00 AM

Documentary Screening "Battleground Melbourne" and Director Q&A

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speaker: [REDACTED]

8:00 AM-9:00 AM

VIP breakfast

Location: VIP room

10:00 AM-11:00 AM

Keynote Panel - Future of Freedom

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speakers: [REDACTED]

11:20 AM-12:30 PM

Breakout Session 4A - Australia's Alternative Media

Location: Session Hall A

Speakers: [REDACTED]

11:20 AM-12:30 PM

Breakout Session 4B - Interest, Debt & Inflation

Location: Session Hall B

Speakers: [REDACTED]

12:30 PM-1:30 PM

VIP lunch

Speaker: [REDACTED]

1:30 PM-2:40 PM

Breakout Session 5A - On Being Cancelled

Location: Session Hall A

Speakers: [REDACTED]

1:30 PM-2:30 PM

Breakout Session 5B - Covid crazy

Location: Session Hall B

Speakers: [REDACTED]

2:40 PM-3:40 PM

Breakout Session 6A - Philosophy of Markets

Location: Session Hall A

Speakers: [REDACTED]

2:40 PM-3:50 PM

Breakout Session 6B - Energy Markets

Location: Session Hall B

Speakers: [REDACTED]

4:10 PM-5:00 PM

Closing keynote address

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speaker: [REDACTED]

From: [Assurance](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Assurance](#)
Subject: Correspondence - Assurance Review - Family Reunion Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 14 November 2025 3:48:59 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[Correspondence Assurance Review of Family Reunion Travel Senator Malcolm Roberts.pdf](#)
[Attachment A Correspondence Assurance Review Family reunion travel Senator Roberts.pdf](#)
[Attachment B Correspondence from Senator Roberts' office.pdf](#)
[Attachment C Parliamentary Business Resources Determination 2017.pdf](#)

OFFICIAL

Senator Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland

Good afternoon Senator

Attached please find correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

A/g Chief, Transparency, Integrity and Legal
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





Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

14 November 2025

Senator Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland
PO Box 228
Brisbane, QLD, 4001

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

Assurance Review of Members of Parliament work resources - Family Reunion Travel

I refer to IPEA's Assurance Review of your use of family reunion travel between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023. Thank you for your engagement so far in this review.

IPEA first wrote to you on 5 February 2025 raising some questions in relation to this review (**Attachment A**). On 10 March 2025, your office manager, [REDACTED] responded with details of your parliamentary business in Melbourne between 13 and 14 July 2022, and Sydney between 15 and 17 July 2022, advising that you participated in the Freedom Summit Conference and Friedman Conferences respectively and that you were accompanied by your spouse, [REDACTED] on both occasions, for the purpose of family reunion. [REDACTED] provided the information at **Attachment B**, including the conference program listing you as a guest speaker at the Friedman Conference.

Further information in response to the questions below will be required in order to progress this review.

1) Personal confirmation of information already provided by your office

Section 25 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* outlines the obligations of parliamentarians in relation to the use of public resources, in particular that Members are *personally* responsible and accountable for their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business, and that Members must be prepared to justify publicly their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business. Accordingly, it would be appreciated if you could personally respond via email to assurance@ipea.gov.au by **3 December 2025** to confirm the information previously provided by your office regarding your attendance at both the Freedom Summit Conference and the Friedman Conference.

2) Nature of your parliamentary business and use of family reunion travel

IPEA is seeking clarification of the nature of your parliamentary business in attending the Freedom Summit Conference and the Friedman Conference and clarification of the use of family reunion travel for [REDACTED] to accompany you.

- a) Please confirm whether you attended all days of the Conferences and advise how the use of parliamentary work resources to attend these Conferences is consistent with the requirements of the Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 (**Attachment C**).
- b) Please advise how the use of parliamentary work resources for family reunion travel with your spouse was consistent with the three-part test 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.*

3) Additional family reunion travel

In addition to the family reunion travel which I raised in my letter of 5 February 2025, I am now also seeking your response to an additional instance of family reunion travel undertaken between 25 and 26 August 2022, which is detailed in **Attachment D**.

Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please reference the definition of Parliamentary Business as outlined in the Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 (**Attachment C**) and provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting. This response should also be provided by you personally, or if provided by your office, then I ask that you confirm that response personally.

If you have any queries or comments in relation to this matter or require more time to respond, please email assurance@ipea.gov.au or contact [REDACTED] Assistant Director, Assurance and Audit, on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
A/g Chief of Transparency, Integrity and Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

Attachment D

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
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Brisbane	25 August 2022	4:05pm	Sydney	25 August 2022	5:40pm	\$176.80
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Brisbane	25 August 2022	4:05pm	Sydney	25 August 2022	5:40pm	\$176.80
Travel expenses - CabCharge	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Mascot	25 August 2022		Belmore	25 August 2022	6:29pm	\$66.23
Travel Allowance – Commercial (1 night)	Senator Malcolm Roberts				Sydney	25 August 2022		\$415.00
Travel Expenses - Parking	Senator Malcolm Roberts				Brisbane Airport	25 August 2022		\$45.00
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Sydney	26 August 2022	10:00am	Brisbane	26 August 2022	11:30am	\$176.80
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Sydney	26 August 2022	10:00am	Brisbane	26 August 2022	11:30am	\$176.80

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney between 25 - 26 August 2022?
2. With reference to the Determination, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney between 25 - 26 August 2022?
3. Please advise whether your family members' 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 members were travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family members' travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.



Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

5 February 2025

Senator Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland
PO Box 228
Brisbane, QLD, 4001

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

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.*

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

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 assurance@ipea.gov.au, 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 [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
A/g Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

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
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Brisbane	13 July 2022	11:55am	Melbourne	13 July 2022	2:20pm	\$215.99
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Brisbane	13 July 2022	11:55am	Melbourne	13 July 2022	2:20pm	\$215.99
Travel expenses - CabCharge	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Melbourne	13 July 2022		St Kilda	13 July 2022	3:39pm	\$75.63
Travel Allowance – Commercial (1 night)	Senator Malcolm Roberts				[REDACTED] St Kilda, Melbourne	13 July 2022		\$392.00
Travel Expenses - Parking	Senator Malcolm Roberts				Brisbane Airport	13 July 2022		\$69.00
Travel expenses - CabCharge	Senator Malcolm Roberts	St Kilda	14 July 2022		Melbourne Airport	14 July 2022	10:12am	\$73.21
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Melbourne	14 July 2022	1:10pm	Brisbane	14 July 2022	3:20pm	\$215.99
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Melbourne	14 July 2022	1:10pm	Brisbane	14 July 2022	3:20pm	\$215.99

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Melbourne between 13-14 July 2022?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Melbourne between 13-14 July 2022?
3. Please advise whether your family members' 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 members were travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family members' travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

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	Amount (GST excl.)
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Malcolm Roberts	Brisbane	15 July 2022	5:35pm	Sydney	15 July 2022	7:10pm	\$176.80
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Brisbane	15 July 2022	5:35pm	Sydney	15 July 2022	7:10pm	\$176.80
Travel expenses- CabCharge	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Mascot	15 July 2022		Ultimo	15 July 2022	8:42pm	\$35.60
Travel Allowance – Commercial (2 nights)	Senator Malcolm Roberts				Sydney	15 July 2022		\$830.00
Travel Expenses - Parking	Senator Malcolm Roberts				Brisbane Airport	15 July 2022		\$45.00
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Sydney	17 July 2022	3:00pm	Brisbane	17 July 2022	4:30pm	\$176.80
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Sydney	17 July 2022	3:00pm	Brisbane	17 July 2022	4:30pm	\$176.80

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney between 15-17 July 2022?
2. With reference to the Determination at **Attachment A**, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney between 15-17 July 2022?
3. Please advise whether your family members' 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 members were travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family members' travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

From: [REDACTED] (Sen M. Roberts)
To: Assurance
Cc: Roberts, Malcolm (Private)
Subject: HPE CM: FW: Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Monday, 10 March 2025 11:23:31 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[Correspondence_Assurance_Review_Family_reunion_travel_Senator_Roberts.pdf](#)
[Friedman_Conference_Program.pdf](#)

Hi [REDACTED],

Regarding your request from 6 February 2025, here is the requested information:

13 to 14 July 2022

Senator Roberts and his wife, [REDACTED], travelled to Melbourne to participate in the Freedom Summit Conference, where Senator Roberts was a speaker. Please see the attached flyer for this event.

Note: Although this event took place outside Queensland, it was highly relevant to many of the Queensland constituents he represents and with parliamentary business.

15 to 17 July 2022

Senator Roberts and his wife, [REDACTED], travelled to Sydney to participate in the Friedman Conference. Please see the attached program for this event.

Note: Although this event took place outside Queensland, it was highly relevant to many of the Queensland constituents he represents and with parliamentary business.

Senator Roberts is confident that both events meet the three-part test outlined in Section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017.



[REDACTED]
Office Manager for Senator Malcolm Roberts

Tel: 07 3221 9099

One Eagle - Waterfront Brisbane, 1 Eagle Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

GPO Box 228, Brisbane QLD 4300

Suite S1.30, Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 | **Tel:** 02 6277 3694



Are you wondering if Senator Roberts has said something on a particular subject? Try using the search on his website to check every speech and interview he's done: <https://senroberts.com/searchwhatsaid>

By emailing Senator Roberts' office you have automatically been added to our mailing list to receive newsletters and updates. Simply unsubscribe if you do not wish to receive them in the future.

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

Sent: Thursday, 6 February 2025 7:28 AM

To: Roberts, Malcolm (Senator) <[REDACTED]>

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

Subject: Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Senator Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland

Dear Senator Roberts

Attached please find correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

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

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.



PRESENTS

'FREEDOM SUMMIT DOWNUNDER 2022'

How to live peacefully and prosper, even in chaos

This event will focus on tools and strategies we can all use to live our best lives, no matter what is happening around us.

- How to live in our society without supporting corporations, industries and systems that are working against us.
- How to build and connect to a local community that will support each other, both emotionally and physically.
- How to look after our well-being and health no matter what challenges we face.

WHEN: Wednesday 13th July 2022. 7pm

VENUE: Melbourne CBD. Exact address will be sent via email privately

TICKETS: \$110/per person

includes – 4 drinks each and canapés

Accommodation available for \$160 per night

Friday, July 15

TIME

SESSION

2:00 PM-3:00 PM

Registration

Location: Aerial UTS Foyer

3:00 PM-5:00 PM

Student Seminar

Speakers: [REDACTED]

It can be hard to easily communicate Libertarian ideals to the wider public. In this student seminar, leading libertarian activists will educate students on the best ways to effectively propagate classical liberal ideas and communicate complex issues in an effective manner.

The Australian ...

[Read More](#)

7:00 PM-11:59 PM

Friday Night Drinks

Location: Cabana Bar - 25 Martin Place Sydney

Speaker: [REDACTED]

Saturday, July 16

TIME

SESSION

8:00 AM-9:00 AM

Registration and Coffee

Location: Aerial UTS Foyer

Say g'day to our wonderful volunteers as you collect your conference pack and catch up with old and new friends over a coffee before taking a weekend-long dive into freedom, Friedman style.

8:00 AM-9:00 AM

VIP breakfast

Location: VIP room

9:00 AM-10:00 AM

Welcome and Keynote Address

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speaker: [REDACTED]

10:00 AM-11:00 AM

Keynote Panel - What's Next for the Liberal Party

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speakers: [REDACTED]

11:20 AM-12:30 PM

Breakout Session 1A Debate: should the west

be involved in the Ukraine conflict

Location: Session Hall A

Speakers:

Cooper,

11:20 AM-12:30 PM

Breakout Session 1B Microeconomic Reform

Location: Session Hall B

Speakers:

12:30 PM-1:30 PM

VIP lunch

Location: VIP room

Speaker:

1:30 PM-2:40 PM

Breakout Session 2A - Harm Reduction

Location: Session Hall A

Speakers:

1:30 PM-2:30 PM

Breakout Session 2B - Future of the West

Location: Session Hall B

Speakers:

2:40 PM-3:50 PM

Breakout Session 3A - Minor Party Politics

Location: Session Hall A

Speakers: Malcolm Roberts,

2:40 PM-3:50 PM

Breakout Session 3B - Crypto Economics

Location: Session Hall B

Speakers:

4:10 PM-5:00 PM

Keynote Presentation & Group Photo

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speaker:

6:00 PM-7:00 PM

VIP Meet & Greet Cocktails

Location: Aerial UTS Foyer

Speaker:

7:00 PM-11:00 PM

Friedman Conference Gala Dinner

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speaker:

Includes presentation of the annual liberty awards for:

1. Libertarian of the Year

2. Young Libertarian of the Year
3. Libertarian Activist of the Year
4. Libertarian Lifetime Achievement

11:00 PM-11:59 PM

Gala Dinner After Party

Location: Molly Malone's Irish Tavern

64 Devonshire St,
Surry Hills
NSW 2010

<https://mollymalonestavern.com.au/>

Sunday, July 17

TIME

SESSION

8:00 AM-9:00 AM

Registration and Coffee

Location: Aerial UTS Foyer

8:00 AM-10:00 AM

Documentary Screening "Battleground Melbourne" and Director Q&A

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speaker: [REDACTED]

8:00 AM-9:00 AM

VIP breakfast

Location: VIP room

10:00 AM-11:00 AM

Keynote Panel - Future of Freedom

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speakers: [REDACTED]

11:20 AM-12:30 PM

Breakout Session 4A - Australia's Alternative Media

Location: Session Hall A

Speakers: [REDACTED]

11:20 AM-12:30 PM

Breakout Session 4B - Interest, Debt & Inflation

Location: Session Hall B

Speakers: [REDACTED]

12:30 PM-1:30 PM

VIP lunch

Speaker: [REDACTED]

1:30 PM-2:40 PM

Breakout Session 5A - On Being Cancelled

Location: Session Hall A

Speakers: [REDACTED]

1:30 PM-2:30 PM

Breakout Session 5B - Covid crazy

Location: Session Hall B

Speakers: [REDACTED]

2:40 PM-3:40 PM

Breakout Session 6A - Philosophy of Markets

Location: Session Hall A

Speakers: [REDACTED]

2:40 PM-3:50 PM

Breakout Session 6B - Energy Markets

Location: Session Hall B

Speakers: [REDACTED]

4:10 PM-5:00 PM

Closing keynote address

Location: Combined Session Hall

Speaker: [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

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))

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">a) Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of the whole or otherwise;b) Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed 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. <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
Member (or class)	Electorate duties
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
Member (or class)	Party political duties
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): <ol style="list-style-type: none">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;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.

From: [Assurance](#)
To: [REDACTED] [Roberts, Malcolm \(Private\)](#)
Cc: [Assurance](#)
Subject: Reminder - Assurance Review of Family Reunion Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 7 January 2026 3:10:48 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[Correspondence Assurance Review of Family Reunion Travel Senator Malcolm Roberts.pdf](#)

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Senator Roberts

I am writing in relation to IPEA's correspondence of 14 November 2025 (attached for your reference) regarding an Assurance Review of your use of parliamentary work resources for family reunion purposes. A response was requested by close of business 3 December 2025.

Our records show that IPEA has not received a response from you.

It would be appreciated if you could reply by 28 January 2026 or indicate if you require more time to respond.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Director, Assurance and Audit
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





Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

14 November 2025

Senator Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland
PO Box 228
Brisbane, QLD, 4001

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

Assurance Review of Members of Parliament work resources - Family Reunion Travel

I refer to IPEA's Assurance Review of your use of family reunion travel between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023. Thank you for your engagement so far in this review.

IPEA first wrote to you on 5 February 2025 raising some questions in relation to this review (**Attachment A**). On 10 March 2025, your office manager, [REDACTED] responded with details of your parliamentary business in Melbourne between 13 and 14 July 2022, and Sydney between 15 and 17 July 2022, advising that you participated in the Freedom Summit Conference and Friedman Conferences respectively and that you were accompanied by your spouse, [REDACTED] on both occasions, for the purpose of family reunion. [REDACTED] provided the information at **Attachment B**, including the conference program listing you as a guest speaker at the Friedman Conference.

Further information in response to the questions below will be required in order to progress this review.

1) Personal confirmation of information already provided by your office

Section 25 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* outlines the obligations of parliamentarians in relation to the use of public resources, in particular that Members are *personally* responsible and accountable for their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business, and that Members must be prepared to justify publicly their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business. Accordingly, it would be appreciated if you could personally respond via email to assurance@ipea.gov.au by **3 December 2025** to confirm the information previously provided by your office regarding your attendance at both the Freedom Summit Conference and the Friedman Conference.

2) Nature of your parliamentary business and use of family reunion travel

IPEA is seeking clarification of the nature of your parliamentary business in attending the Freedom Summit Conference and the Friedman Conference and clarification of the use of family reunion travel for [REDACTED] to accompany you.

- a) Please confirm whether you attended all days of the Conferences and advise how the use of parliamentary work resources to attend these Conferences is consistent with the requirements of the Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 (**Attachment C**).
- b) Please advise how the use of parliamentary work resources for family reunion travel with your spouse was consistent with the three-part test 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.*

3) Additional family reunion travel

In addition to the family reunion travel which I raised in my letter of 5 February 2025, I am now also seeking your response to an additional instance of family reunion travel undertaken between 25 and 26 August 2022, which is detailed in **Attachment D**.

Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please reference the definition of Parliamentary Business as outlined in the Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 (**Attachment C**) and provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting. This response should also be provided by you personally, or if provided by your office, then I ask that you confirm that response personally.

If you have any queries or comments in relation to this matter or require more time to respond, please email assurance@ipea.gov.au or contact [REDACTED] Assistant Director, Assurance and Audit, on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
A/g Chief of Transparency, Integrity and Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

Attachment D

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
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Brisbane	25 August 2022	4:05pm	Sydney	25 August 2022	5:40pm	\$176.80
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Brisbane	25 August 2022	4:05pm	Sydney	25 August 2022	5:40pm	\$176.80
Travel expenses - CabCharge	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Mascot	25 August 2022		Belmore	25 August 2022	6:29pm	\$66.23
Travel Allowance – Commercial (1 night)	Senator Malcolm Roberts				Sydney	25 August 2022		\$415.00
Travel Expenses - Parking	Senator Malcolm Roberts				Brisbane Airport	25 August 2022		\$45.00
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Sydney	26 August 2022	10:00am	Brisbane	26 August 2022	11:30am	\$176.80
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Sydney	26 August 2022	10:00am	Brisbane	26 August 2022	11:30am	\$176.80

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney between 25 - 26 August 2022?
2. With reference to the Determination, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney between 25 - 26 August 2022?
3. Please advise whether your family members' 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 members were travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family members' travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

From: [Assurance](#)
To: [REDACTED]; [Roberts, Malcolm \(Private\)](#)
Cc: [Assurance](#)
Subject: Second Reminder - IPEA Correspondence regarding an Assurance Review of Family Reunion Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 6 February 2026 5:27:18 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[Correspondence_Assurance_Review_of_Family_Reunion_Travel_Senator_Malcolm_Roberts.pdf](#)

OFFICIAL

Senator Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland

Dear Senator

I refer to IPEA's email of 7 January 2026 (below) and our letter of 14 November 2025 (attached) regard an Assurance Review of your use of family reunion travel resources. Our most recent correspondence requested a response by 28 January 2026.

IPEA does not appear to have received a reply to our correspondence, nor has an extension been requested.

Please respond to this request by **20 February 2026** to assurance@ipea.gov.au

Thank you in advance for your prompt response.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Director, Assurance and Audit
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

Sent: Wednesday, 7 January 2026 3:11 PM

To: [REDACTED] Roberts, Malcolm (Private)

Cc: Assurance

Subject: Reminder - Assurance Review of Family Reunion Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Senator Roberts

I am writing in relation to IPEA's correspondence of 14 November 2025 (attached for your reference) regarding an Assurance Review of your use of parliamentary work resources for family reunion purposes. A response was requested by close of business 3 December 2025.

Our records show that IPEA has not received a response from you.
It would be appreciated if you could reply by 28 January 2026 or indicate if you require more time to respond.

Sincerely

[Redacted Signature]

Director, Assurance and Audit
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





Australian Government
Independent Parliamentary
Expenses Authority

14 November 2025

Senator Malcolm Roberts
Senator for Queensland
PO Box 228
Brisbane, QLD, 4001

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator

Assurance Review of Members of Parliament work resources - Family Reunion Travel

I refer to IPEA's Assurance Review of your use of family reunion travel between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023. Thank you for your engagement so far in this review.

IPEA first wrote to you on 5 February 2025 raising some questions in relation to this review (**Attachment A**). On 10 March 2025, your office manager, [REDACTED] responded with details of your parliamentary business in Melbourne between 13 and 14 July 2022, and Sydney between 15 and 17 July 2022, advising that you participated in the Freedom Summit Conference and Friedman Conferences respectively and that you were accompanied by your spouse, [REDACTED] on both occasions, for the purpose of family reunion. [REDACTED] provided the information at **Attachment B**, including the conference program listing you as a guest speaker at the Friedman Conference.

Further information in response to the questions below will be required in order to progress this review.

1) Personal confirmation of information already provided by your office

Section 25 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* outlines the obligations of parliamentarians in relation to the use of public resources, in particular that Members are *personally* responsible and accountable for their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business, and that Members must be prepared to justify publicly their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business. Accordingly, it would be appreciated if you could personally respond via email to assurance@ipea.gov.au by **3 December 2025** to confirm the information previously provided by your office regarding your attendance at both the Freedom Summit Conference and the Friedman Conference.

2) Nature of your parliamentary business and use of family reunion travel

IPEA is seeking clarification of the nature of your parliamentary business in attending the Freedom Summit Conference and the Friedman Conference and clarification of the use of family reunion travel for [REDACTED] to accompany you.

- a) Please confirm whether you attended all days of the Conferences and advise how the use of parliamentary work resources to attend these Conferences is consistent with the requirements of the Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 (**Attachment C**).
- b) Please advise how the use of parliamentary work resources for family reunion travel with your spouse was consistent with the three-part test 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.*

3) Additional family reunion travel

In addition to the family reunion travel which I raised in my letter of 5 February 2025, I am now also seeking your response to an additional instance of family reunion travel undertaken between 25 and 26 August 2022, which is detailed in **Attachment D**.

Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please reference the definition of Parliamentary Business as outlined in the Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 (**Attachment C**) and provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting. This response should also be provided by you personally, or if provided by your office, then I ask that you confirm that response personally.

If you have any queries or comments in relation to this matter or require more time to respond, please email assurance@ipea.gov.au or contact [REDACTED] Assistant Director, Assurance and Audit, on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
A/g Chief of Transparency, Integrity and Legal
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

Attachment D

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
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Brisbane	25 August 2022	4:05pm	Sydney	25 August 2022	5:40pm	\$176.80
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Brisbane	25 August 2022	4:05pm	Sydney	25 August 2022	5:40pm	\$176.80
Travel expenses - CabCharge	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Mascot	25 August 2022		Belmore	25 August 2022	6:29pm	\$66.23
Travel Allowance – Commercial (1 night)	Senator Malcolm Roberts				Sydney	25 August 2022		\$415.00
Travel Expenses - Parking	Senator Malcolm Roberts				Brisbane Airport	25 August 2022		\$45.00
Travel fares – Virgin Australia Airlines - Spouse	[REDACTED]	Sydney	26 August 2022	10:00am	Brisbane	26 August 2022	11:30am	\$176.80
Travel fares- Virgin Australia Airlines - Self	Senator Malcolm Roberts	Sydney	26 August 2022	10:00am	Brisbane	26 August 2022	11:30am	\$176.80

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Sydney between 25 - 26 August 2022?
2. With reference to the Determination, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Sydney between 25 - 26 August 2022?
3. Please advise whether your family members' 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 members were travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family members' travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

From: [Roberts, Malcolm \(Private\)](#)
To: [Assurance](#)
Cc: [REDACTED] ([Sen M. Roberts](#))
Subject: RE: Second Reminder - IPEA Correspondence regarding an Assurance Review of Family Reunion Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 18 February 2026 3:03:24 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[Freedom Summit.pdf](#)

G'day [REDACTED]

My apologies for the delay in responding. It has been exceptionally busy and your request for further information slipped through the cracks.

In relation to your email of 14 November, please find the information below:

Personal confirmation of information previously provided by your office:

The details that [REDACTED] (Office Manager) supplied earlier are correct.

Nature of my parliamentary business and use of family reunion travel:

I attended all days of the conferences — the second conference ran for two days.

These events were particularly relevant to many of my Queensland constituents, and attending allowed me to speak on issues of importance at the time. Listening to attendees and other speakers also informed and strengthened my representation in the Senate.

As an active member of parliament in a party with only two senators during this period, I was frequently invited to speak at conferences both in Queensland and interstate. Spending so much time away from home put pressure on my family life, and travelling with [REDACTED] helped alleviate this. I also had no staff travelling with me on these trips.

In these circumstances, my occasional travel with my wife was reasonable and meets the three-part test outlined in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017.

I've attached diary notes for the travel dates relating to the Freedom Summit in Belmore, Sydney, where [REDACTED] accompanied me for the reasons mentioned in section 2(b). I was once again a keynote speaker at this event.

Please let me know if this information is sufficient or if you need anything further.

Thank you.

Senator Malcolm Roberts

Senator for Queensland

This email address and mobile number are private

Level 36, Waterfront Place

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

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

M: [REDACTED]

Canberra Office

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



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

Sent: Friday, 6 February 2026 4:27 PM

To: Roberts, Malcolm (Senator) <[REDACTED]>; Roberts, Malcolm (Private) <[REDACTED]>

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

Subject: Second Reminder - IPEA Correspondence regarding an Assurance Review of Family Reunion Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Senator Malcolm Roberts

Senator for Queensland

Dear Senator

I refer to IPEA's email of 7 January 2026 (below) and our letter of 14 November 2025 (attached) regard an Assurance Review of your use of family reunion travel resources. Our most recent correspondence requested a response by 28 January 2026.

IPEA does not appear to have received a reply to our correspondence, nor has an extension been requested.

Please respond to this request by **20 February 2026** to assurance@ipea.gov.au

Thank you in advance for your prompt response.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]
Director, Assurance and Audit

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

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.



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

Sent: Wednesday, 7 January 2026 3:11 PM

To: [REDACTED] Roberts, Malcolm (Private) <[REDACTED]>

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

Subject: Reminder - Assurance Review of Family Reunion Travel [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Senator Roberts

I am writing in relation to IPEA's correspondence of 14 November 2025 (attached for your reference) regarding an Assurance Review of your use of parliamentary work resources for family reunion purposes. A response was requested by close of business 3 December 2025.

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It would be appreciated if you could reply by 28 January 2026 or indicate if you require more time to respond.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

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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.

(Sen M. Roberts)

Subject: 6pm Freedom Summit | Reignite Democracy
Location: Clarence House - The Lemnos | 44 Albert St, Belmore

Start: Thu 25/08/2022 6:00 PM
End: Thu 25/08/2022 9:30 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Meeting organizer

Organizer: Roberts, Malcolm (Private)
Required Attendees: Roberts, Malcolm (Senator); [REDACTED]
Optional Attendees: [REDACTED] (Sen M. Roberts); [REDACTED] (Sen M. Roberts)

Categories: Business, MIR Speaking Events

Dear [REDACTED],

I hope this finds you well.

Nice speaking to you this afternoon in regard to our Sydney event on the Thursday 25th of August. Please see below information for the event.

Location-

Clarence House -The Lemnos – 44 Albert Street, Belmore ,2192 NSW
<https://www.clarencehouse.com.au/our-venues/the-lemnos/>

Please find below the form for what Malcolm will be speaking about at the Sydney event.
<https://form.jotform.com/222048547009858>

Please see the suggested accommodation links below –

Travel lodge

https://www.travelodge.com.au/book-accommodation/sydney/hotel-sydney-airport/?&utm_source=googleplaces&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=&utm_content=travelodge-sydney-airport

Rydges Sydney airport

https://www.rydges.com/accommodation/sydney-nsw/sydney-airport/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=gmb

[REDACTED] please let me know if Malcolm's wife will be attending the event and how many tickets you may require for you staff.
Many thanks

Apologies [REDACTED] has corrected the date it's the 25th of August not 26th thanks so much.



[Redacted]

Reignite Democracy Australia

PR | Marketing Manager

P [Redacted]

E [Redacted]@reignitedemocracyaustralia.com.au