



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

# **Assurance Review 2024/005**

Senator Ralph Babet

Travel to Adelaide 7 to 10 July 2023

Independent Parliamentary  
Expenses Authority

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# Senator Ralph Babet

## Executive summary

1. The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) conducted an assurance review of Senator Ralph Babet’s use of work resources for travel to Adelaide from 7 to 10 July 2023 (the relevant period).

## Scope

2. The scope of this assurance review is Senator Ralph Babet’s use of work resources for travel to Adelaide from 7 to 10 July 2023.
3. The purpose of the assurance review was to determine whether the work resources were used in accordance with the legislative framework.

## Reason for review

4. Under IPEA’s assurance program, IPEA conducts ongoing, systematic analysis of the work resources accessed by parliamentarians and their staff through a combination of regular transaction sampling and review of publicly available information.
5. In 2024, IPEA commenced a preliminary assessment into travel by Senator Babet, which found that parliamentary business resources were used by the senator during the period in scope.
6. On 9 May 2024, IPEA commenced an assurance review of Senator Babet’s travel for the relevant period.

## Outcome\*

7. IPEA found that Senator Babet’s use of work resources was not inconsistent with the legislative framework.

### **\*Potential outcomes**

There are three potential outcomes of an assurance review:

#### **1. Consistent with the framework (rules)**

IPEA finds that the use of the relevant travel resource complied with the law.

This means the available evidence, including information provided by the member, clearly shows that all obligations under the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* were met.

#### **2. Not inconsistent with the framework (rules)**

IPEA finds that the use of the relevant travel resource was not shown to be against the law.

This means IPEA has accepted the member’s explanation that they met their obligations under the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*, and IPEA has not found any evidence to the contrary.

#### **3. Not consistent with the framework (rules)**

IPEA finds that the use of the relevant travel resource did not comply with the law.

This means there has been a misuse of a parliamentary work resource under the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*. Where misuse is found, the value of the resource will be recovered, including any applicable penalty.

## IPEA’s statutory audit function

8. IPEA audits parliamentarians’ use of 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 conducts assurance reviews to assess the use of resources against the legislative framework to determine if there has been misuse.

## Legislative framework

9. Section 6 of the PBR Act provides the following meaning of **parliamentary business**:

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).

10. 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 (the Determination) determines the activities which fall within the four duty streams set out in section 6 of the PBR Act.

## Review process

11. Senator Babet flew from Melbourne to Adelaide on 7 July 2023 using travel resources for his flight, COMCAR travel and 3 nights of travel allowance in Adelaide. He then flew from Adelaide to Melbourne on 10 July 2023 using travel resources.
12. On 20 August 2024, IPEA wrote to Senator Babet (**Attachment 1**) detailing the requirements of the legislative framework and identifying the travel for the period in scope. Senator Babet was asked the dominant purpose of his travel and the nature of any parliamentary business in Adelaide for the relevant period, and to provide copies of any supporting documentation.
13. IPEA engaged with Senator Babet on a number of occasions to establish his parliamentary business for the relevant period (**Attachments 2 to 11**).
14. Senator Babet advised IPEA that he attended meetings with a number of stakeholders on 7 and 8 July 2023, providing correspondence and itineraries in support of this. Senator Babet further advised that he attended the Love Adelaide Ball on 8 July 2023, where he was a keynote speaker, and provided the invitation in support of this. Senator Babet advised that on 9 July 2023, he remained in Adelaide on standby for a live interview with

Sky News in the evening. Although IPEA requested documentation to support this on several occasions, no evidence was provided.

15. IPEA notes Senator Babet’s advice that the dominant purpose of the travel undertaken to Adelaide in July 2023 was parliamentary business.
16. IPEA notes that the evidence provided by Senator Babet demonstrates that the overall dominant purpose of his travel to Adelaide in July 2023 was parliamentary business, notwithstanding that he has yet to provide evidence for activities on Sunday 9 July 2023.

## Conclusion

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17. Based on IPEA’s records, publicly available information and the information provided by Senator Babet, IPEA found that the use of work resources was not inconsistent with the legislative framework.

**From:** Assurance  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 August 2024 2:40 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@APH.GOV.AU'  
**Cc:** Assurance  
**Subject:** Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Letter - IPEA to Senator Ralph Babet - 20 August 2024.pdf; Attachment A - Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination.pdf; Attachment B - Travel Data and Questions.pdf

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator Ralph Babet**  
**Senator for Victoria**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

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

Yours sincerely

---

**Nicole Pearson**

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

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

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

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

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20 August 2024

**Senator Ralph Babet**

Suite 2, 77 Victor Cres  
Narre Warren, VIC, 3805

Email: [REDACTED]@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator Babet

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

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

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of Commonwealth-funded travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you during the period 7 to 10 July 2023. Please note that IPEA publishes its Assurance Reviews on its website at [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

The principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources are set out in Part 3 - Division 2 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act). In summary, parliamentarians are personally responsible and accountable for their use of public resources. They must be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business and must act ethically and in good faith in using, and accounting for the use of, those resources. Further, parliamentarians are only able to claim public resources, including the work expenses prescribed in the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations, if their travel is for the dominant purpose of conducting their parliamentary business.

Section 6 of 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 Determination also provides examples of what constitutes parliamentary business within the four streams.

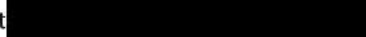
**Attachment B** details your Commonwealth funded travel for the relevant period, and we have set out questions for your response to assist in our review. In your response, we ask you to consider the principles that apply when utilising public resources.

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**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please reference the definition and consider the examples 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](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Friday 30 August 2024**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact 

Yours sincerely



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**Nicole Pearson**

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

T: 02 6215 3000



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

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

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann  
Minister for Finance

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## 1 Name

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

## 2 Commencement

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

## 3 Authority

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

## 4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

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

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

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

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

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## 5 Parliamentary business of members

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

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## Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

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

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## Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

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

## Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

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

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## Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

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

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**Attachment B**  
Senator Ralph Babet  
Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Domestic Travel Expenses – Parking	Melbourne	7/7/2023		Melbourne Airport	10/7/2023		\$134.97
Travel Fares – Virgin	Melbourne	7/7/2023	1:00 PM	Adelaide	7/7/2023	1:55 PM	\$324.58
COMCAR	Adelaide Airport	7/7/2023	1:55 PM	North Adelaide	7/7/2023	3:42 PM	\$154.20
COMCAR	North Adelaide	7/7/2023	5:30 PM	Adelaide	7/7/2023	5:57 PM	\$63.00
Travel Allowance – Commercial (3 nights)		7/7/2023		Adelaide	10/7/2023		\$1,146.00
Travel Fares – Virgin	Adelaide	10/7/2023	8:10 AM	Melbourne	10/7/2023	10:00 AM	\$420.03

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Adelaide from 7 to 10 July 2023?
2. With reference to the Determination (at **Attachment A**), what was the nature of any parliamentary business in Adelaide from 7 to 10 July 2023? Please provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

**From:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) <[REDACTED]@aph.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 29 August 2024 12:48 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Subject:** FW: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Letter - IPEA to Senator Ralph Babet - 20 August 2024.pdf; Attachment A - Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination.pdf; Attachment B - Travel Data and Questions.pdf; Dear Senator Babet and your guest.docx; SEO19034P0424082812360.pdf

**Categories:** [REDACTED]

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear IPEA,  
Please find attached Evidence of Senator Babet's travel which was Parliamentary business on 7 – 10 July 2023.  
Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Office of Senator Ralph Babet  
United Australia Party Senator for Victoria

[REDACTED]  
PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600  
Suite 2/77 Victor Cresent, Narre Warren ,VIC, 3805



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**From:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:40 PM  
**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator Ralph Babet**  
**Senator for Victoria**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

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

Yours sincerely

---

**Nicole Pearson**

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

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

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

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

---

20 August 2024

**Senator Ralph Babet**

Suite 2, 77 Victor Cres  
Narre Warren, VIC, 3805

Email: [REDACTED]@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator Babet

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

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

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of Commonwealth-funded travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you during the period 7 to 10 July 2023. Please note that IPEA publishes its Assurance Reviews on its website at [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

The principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources are set out in Part 3 - Division 2 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act). In summary, parliamentarians are personally responsible and accountable for their use of public resources. They must be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business and must act ethically and in good faith in using, and accounting for the use of, those resources. Further, parliamentarians are only able to claim public resources, including the work expenses prescribed in the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations, if their travel is for the dominant purpose of conducting their parliamentary business.

Section 6 of 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 Determination also provides examples of what constitutes parliamentary business within the four streams.

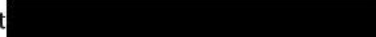
**Attachment B** details your Commonwealth funded travel for the relevant period, and we have set out questions for your response to assist in our review. In your response, we ask you to consider the principles that apply when utilising public resources.

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Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please reference the definition and consider the examples 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](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Friday 30 August 2024**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact 

Yours sincerely



---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
T: 02 6215 3000



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

---

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

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann  
Minister for Finance

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---

## 1 Name

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

## 2 Commencement

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

## 3 Authority

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

## 4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

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

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

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

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

---

## 5 Parliamentary business of members

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

---

## Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

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

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## Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

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

## Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

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

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## Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

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

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**Attachment B**  
Senator Ralph Babet  
Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Domestic Travel Expenses – Parking	Melbourne	7/7/2023		Melbourne Airport	10/7/2023		\$134.97
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COMCAR	Adelaide Airport	7/7/2023	1:55 PM	North Adelaide	7/7/2023	3:42 PM	\$154.20
COMCAR	North Adelaide	7/7/2023	5:30 PM	Adelaide	7/7/2023	5:57 PM	\$63.00
Travel Allowance – Commercial (3 nights)		7/7/2023		Adelaide	10/7/2023		\$1,146.00
Travel Fares – Virgin	Adelaide	10/7/2023	8:10 AM	Melbourne	10/7/2023	10:00 AM	\$420.03

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Adelaide from 7 to 10 July 2023?
2. With reference to the Determination (at **Attachment A**), what was the nature of any parliamentary business in Adelaide from 7 to 10 July 2023? Please provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.



**Dear Senator Babet and your guest,**

**You are cordially invited to the Inaugural Love Adelaide Winter Ball!  
It would be our honor for you to join us as our distinguished guests.**

**Please RSVP by May 8th including your reply of any dietary requirements.**

Saturday, 8th July 2023 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM Playford Hotel, North Tce Adelaide

Please join us for an evening of glamour and grace at the Love Adelaide Winter Ball! The event will take place in the exquisite Grand Ballroom of the Playford Hotel, located in the heart of North Terrace, Adelaide's cultural precinct.

Dress to impress in your finest black tie attire and ballgowns, and prepare to be swept away by the romance and sophistication of the night. As part of our special event, we will be hosting the premiere of a thought-provoking short film that explores the impact of abortion on families. This film sheds light on the real consequences of abortion and aims to provide education and support to women who may be facing difficult decisions.

Love Adelaide stands for life and we believe in promoting a life-giving stance in the face of many in our culture devaluing human life. We support both the mother and the unborn child and are proud to be a Christian organization that upholds the sanctity of human life. We also believe that abortion is the greatest moral issue of our generation and aim to raise awareness and funds for this important cause.

We invite you to join us in this celebration of life and love, and to support our efforts to make a positive impact in our community. Come along and enjoy an unforgettable night of music, dancing, and fellowship at the Playford Hotel. By attending this ball, you will not only have an unforgettable night but also support a most worthy cause. We encourage business support, so please bring along your colleagues and friends.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Love Adelaide Winter Ball!

Sincerely, Love Adelaide Winter Ball Committee

YOU ARE INVITED TO



LOVE ADELAIDE'S



*Winter*

**BALL**

*Saturday*

8TH JULY 2023



*The Playford Grand Ballroom*

*North Terrace*



6.00 PM - 11.00 PM

LIFE AWARDS, 3 COURSE MEAL,  
MOVIE PREMIERE & SILENT AUCTION  
DRESS CODE: BLACK TIE, BALLGOWN

TICKETS: HUMANITIX

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**Attachment B**  
Senator Ralph Babet  
Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Domestic Travel Expenses – Parking	Melbourne	7/7/2023		Melbourne Airport	10/7/2023		\$134.97
Travel Fares – Virgin	Melbourne	7/7/2023	1:00 PM	Adelaide	7/7/2023	1:55 PM	\$324.58
COMCAR	Adelaide Airport	7/7/2023	1:55 PM	North Adelaide	7/7/2023	3:42 PM	\$154.20
COMCAR	North Adelaide	7/7/2023	5:30 PM	Adelaide	7/7/2023	5:57 PM	\$63.00
Travel Allowance – Commercial (3 nights)		7/7/2023		Adelaide	10/7/2023		\$1,146.00
Travel Fares – Virgin	Adelaide	10/7/2023	8:10 AM	Melbourne	10/7/2023	10:00 AM	\$420.03

1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Adelaide from 7 to 10 July 2023? *Parliamentary Duties*
2. With reference to the Determination (at **Attachment A**), what was the nature of any parliamentary business in Adelaide from 7 to 10 July 2023? Please provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Assurance  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 December 2024 11:08 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@APH.GOV.AU'  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)'; Assurance  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Second Letter - IPEA to Senator Babet - 18 December 2024.pdf; First Letter - IPEA to Senator Babet - 20 August 2024.pdf

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator Ralph Babet**  
**Senator for Victoria**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

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

Yours sincerely

---

**Nicole Pearson**

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

---

**From:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Sent:** Thursday, 29 August 2024 12:48 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Subject:** HPE CM: FW: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear IPEA,  
Please find attached Evidence of Senator Babet's travel which was Parliamentary business on 7 – 10 July 2023.  
Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Office of Senator Ralph Babet  
United Australia Party Senator for Victoria

[REDACTED]

PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600  
Suite 2/77 Victor Cresnet, Narre Warren ,VIC, 3805



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---

**From:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:40 PM  
**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator Ralph Babet**  
**Senator for Victoria**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

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

Yours sincerely

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**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
**E:** [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)  
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**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

---

18 December 2024

**Senator Ralph Babet**

Senator for Victoria

Suite 2, 77 Victor Cres

Narre Warren, VIC, 3805

Email: [REDACTED]@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator Babet

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

As you are aware, the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) has responsibility under the *Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority Act 2017* to review the use of parliamentary business resources for parliamentarians' travel and work expenses.

I refer to my letter of 20 August 2024 about an Assurance Review of travel expenses incurred by you for travel to Adelaide between 7 and 10 July 2023.

On 29 August 2024, your staff member responded to IPEA and provided information on the purpose of your travel, as well as supporting documentation.

After consideration of this response, IPEA has further questions in relation to your use of parliamentary business resources to undertake this travel.

Parliamentarians are only able to claim public resources, including the work expenses prescribed in the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations, if their travel is for the dominant purpose of conducting their parliamentary business.

**Questions for your response**

1. Please advise that the dominant purpose of this travel was parliamentary business.
2. In the response of 29 August 2024, evidence was provided of your attendance at the Love Adelaide Winter Ball on the evening of 8 July 2023. IPEA notes that your trip included three nights of travel allowance in Adelaide, between 7 and 10 July 2023. Please advise IPEA of any other parliamentary business you had which might have required you to arrive in Adelaide on 7 July 2023 and remain for three nights in Adelaide until 10 July 2023.

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**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Please provide a personal written response via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Friday 17 January 2024**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

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

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
T: 02 6215 3000

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**Attachment B**  
Senator Ralph Babet  
Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
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**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**



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

---

20 August 2024

**Senator Ralph Babet**

Suite 2, 77 Victor Cres  
Narre Warren, VIC, 3805

Email: [REDACTED]@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator Babet

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

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

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of Commonwealth-funded travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you during the period 7 to 10 July 2023. Please note that IPEA publishes its Assurance Reviews on its website at [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au).

The principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources are set out in Part 3 - Division 2 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act). In summary, parliamentarians are personally responsible and accountable for their use of public resources. They must be prepared to publicly justify their use of public resources for conducting their parliamentary business and must act ethically and in good faith in using, and accounting for the use of, those resources. Further, parliamentarians are only able to claim public resources, including the work expenses prescribed in the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations, if their travel is for the dominant purpose of conducting their parliamentary business.

Section 6 of 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 Determination also provides examples of what constitutes parliamentary business within the four streams.

**Attachment B** details your Commonwealth funded travel for the relevant period, and we have set out questions for your response to assist in our review. In your response, we ask you to consider the principles that apply when utilising public resources.

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**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please reference the definition and consider the examples 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](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Friday 30 August 2024**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

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

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**

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

T: 02 6215 3000



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

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

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann  
Minister for Finance

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## Contents

1 Name.....	1
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3 Authority.....	1
4 Interpretation.....	1
5 Parliamentary business of members.....	2
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<b>Schedule 2—Electorate duties</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Schedule 3—Party political duties</b>	<b>4</b>
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## 1 Name

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

## 2 Commencement

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

## 3 Authority

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

## 4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

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

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

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

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

---

## 5 Parliamentary business of members

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

---

## Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

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

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## Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

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

## Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

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

---

## Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

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

---

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**Attachment B**  
Senator Ralph Babet  
Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
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1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Adelaide from 7 to 10 July 2023?
2. With reference to the Determination (at **Attachment A**), what was the nature of any parliamentary business in Adelaide from 7 to 10 July 2023? Please provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

**From:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) <[REDACTED]@aph.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 December 2024 2:00 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hello,

1. Yes parliamentary business.
2. **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July** – meetings in relation to my role as a member of the parliament. **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July** – Love Adeliade winter ball. **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July** – Opportunity to be interviewed in studio on Sky News Sunday night.

Thank you

**Senator Babet**  
Senator for Victoria

---

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**Sent:** Thursday, 19 December 2024 11:08 AM  
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**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) ; Assurance  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator Ralph Babet**  
Senator for Victoria

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

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

Yours sincerely

---

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

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**From:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 29 August 2024 12:48 PM

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

Subject: HPE CM: FW: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Dear IPEA,

Please find attached Evidence of Senator Babet's travel which was Parliamentary business on 7 – 10 July 2023.  
Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Office of Senator Ralph Babet  
United Australia Party Senator for Victoria

[REDACTED]  
PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600  
Suite 2/77 Victor Cresnet, Narre Warren ,VIC, 3805



UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY  
SENATOR FOR VICTORIA

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Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:40 PM

To: Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]

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

Subject: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Yours sincerely

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Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

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

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**From:** Assurance  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 18 June 2025 9:40 AM  
**To:** 'Babet, Ralph (Senator)'; Assurance  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** RE: RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Third Letter - IPEA to Senator Babet - 18 June 2025.pdf; Attachment A - Travel Data.pdf

**OFFICIAL**

Dear Senator,

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

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Senator for Victoria

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

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**Sent:** Thursday, 29 August 2024 12:48 PM

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

**Subject:** HPE CM: FW: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Office of Senator Ralph Babet  
United Australia Party Senator for Victoria

[REDACTED]  
PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600  
Suite 2/77 Victor Cresnet, Narre Warren ,VIC, 3805



UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY  
SENATOR FOR VICTORIA

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**Sent:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:40 PM  
**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator Ralph Babet**  
**Senator for Victoria**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

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

Yours sincerely

---

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

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

---

18 June 2025

**Senator Ralph Babet**

Senator for Victoria

Suite 2, 77 Victor Cres

Narre Warren, VIC, 3805

Email: [REDACTED]@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator Babet

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

As you are aware, 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](http://www.ipea.gov.au/assurance-audit/published-assurance-reviews).

On 20 August 2024, IPEA wrote to you about an Assurance Review of travel resources accessed by you for travel to Adelaide between 7 and 10 July 2023. On 29 August 2024, your staff member responded providing information on the purpose of your travel for 8 July 2023, as well as supporting documentation.

On 19 December 2024, IPEA wrote to you with additional questions, asking you to confirm that the dominant purpose of the travel was parliamentary business and requesting that you provide details of any other parliamentary business, in addition to your attendance at the Love Adelaide Winter Ball, that required you to be in Adelaide over three nights.

In a brief email response on 19 December 2024, you advised that on Friday 7 July 2023 you attended "meetings in relation to my role as a member of the parliament", and that on Sunday 9 July 2023 you had the "opportunity to be interviewed in studio on Sky News Sunday night".

To support your statements in this regard, could you please provide additional details and copies of supporting documentation such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting as evidence of the meetings you attended on Friday 7 July 2023 and your media interview on Sunday 9 July 2023.

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Please provide a personal written response via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Friday 4 July 2025**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

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

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal

Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

T: 02 6215 3000

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**Attachment A**  
Senator Ralph Babet  
Assurance Review of travel and travel-related expenses

Work Expense	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Amount (GST excl.)
Domestic Travel Expenses – Parking	Melbourne	7/7/2023		Melbourne Airport	10/7/2023		\$134.97
Travel Fares – Virgin	Melbourne	7/7/2023	1:00 PM	Adelaide	7/7/2023	1:55 PM	\$324.58
COMCAR	Adelaide Airport	7/7/2023	1:55 PM	North Adelaide	7/7/2023	3:42 PM	\$154.20
COMCAR	North Adelaide	7/7/2023	5:30 PM	Adelaide	7/7/2023	5:57 PM	\$63.00
Travel Allowance – Commercial (3 nights)		7/7/2023		Adelaide	10/7/2023		\$1,146.00
Travel Fares – Virgin	Adelaide	10/7/2023	8:10 AM	Melbourne	10/7/2023	10:00 AM	\$420.03

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 24 June 2025 1:11 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Subject:** RE: RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear Nicole,

I can confirm that Senator Babet met with his advisor [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on Friday 7/7/2023 . I have attached the email confirming this.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 7:24:57 pm  
**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] stuff - Senator Babet

Hi Ralph & [REDACTED]

Wonderful to catch up with you both just now.

Attached are:

- my systemic change 'placemat' outlining my strategy to reverse Australia's type 2 diabetes tsunami.
- a transcript of my NPC Address (with images from the presentation that were not visible in the ABC version).

Here's a few links that I recommended:

- to my recent presentation to the public on type 2 diabetes - [https://youtu.be/\\_oz6tNaMxTQ](https://youtu.be/_oz6tNaMxTQ)
- to my op ed for independent journal [REDACTED] discussing the devious tactics of the food and drink industry - [https://\[REDACTED\].com.au/sugar-shovellers-are-making-us-sick-fat-and-poor-and-check-out-what-they-pay-in-tax/](https://[REDACTED].com.au/sugar-shovellers-are-making-us-sick-fat-and-poor-and-check-out-what-they-pay-in-tax/)
- to [REDACTED]'s presentation on the intersect between Seventh Day Adventism and the ultra-processed food industry - [REDACTED]

Cheers

[REDACTED]

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Office of Senator Ralph Babet

United Australia Party Senator for Victoria



P.O Box 1250  
Narre Warren, VIC, 3805



UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY  
**SENATOR FOR VICTORIA**

---

**From:** Assurance  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 18 June 2025 9:40 AM  
**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) ; Assurance  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** RE: RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

Yours sincerely

---

**Nicole Pearson**

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

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

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

---

**From:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 December 2024 2:00 PM  
**To:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** CM: RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hello,

1. Yes parliamentary business.
2. **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July** – meetings in relation to my role as a member of the parliament. **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July** – Love Adelaide winter ball. **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July** – Opportunity to be interviewed in studio on Sky News Sunday night.

Thank you

**Senator Babet**  
Senator for Victoria

---

**From:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 December 2024 11:08 AM  
**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] yn (Sen R. Babet) [REDACTED]; Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator Ralph Babet**  
**Senator for Victoria**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

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

Yours sincerely

---

**Nicole Pearson**

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

---

**From:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 29 August 2024 12:48 PM  
**To:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** HPE CM: FW: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear IPEA,

Please find attached Evidence of Senator Babet's travel which was Parliamentary business on 7 – 10 July 2023.  
Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Office of Senator Ralph Babet  
United Australia Party Senator for Victoria

[REDACTED]  
PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600  
Suite 2/77 Victor Cresnet, Narre Warren ,VIC, 3805



UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY  
**SENATOR FOR VICTORIA**

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:40 PM

**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]

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

**Subject:** Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator Ralph Babet**  
**Senator for Victoria**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

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

Yours sincerely

---

**Nicole Pearson**

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

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

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

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**From:** Assurance  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 July 2025 11:59 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@APH.GOV.AU'  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)'; Assurance  
**Subject:** RE: RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Fourth Letter - Senator Ralph Babet.pdf

**OFFICIAL**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

Yours sincerely

**Nicole Pearson**

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

---

**From:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 24 June 2025 1:11 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Subject:** RE: RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Dear Nicole,

I can confirm that Senator Babet met with his advisor [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on Friday 7/7/2023 . I have attached the email confirming this.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 7:24:57 pm  
**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] stuff - Senator Babet

Hi Ralph & [REDACTED]

Wonderful to catch up with you both just now.

Attached are:

- my systemic change 'placemat' outlining my strategy to reverse Australia's type 2 diabetes tsunami.

- a transcript of my NPC Address (with images from the presentation that were not visible in the ABC version).

Here's a few links that I recommended:

- to my recent presentation to the public on type 2 diabetes - [https://youtu.be/\\_oz6tNaMxTQ](https://youtu.be/_oz6tNaMxTQ)

- to my op ed for independent journo [REDACTED] discussing the devious tactics of the food and drink industry - [https://\[REDACTED\].com.au/sugar-shovellers-are-making-us-sick-fat-and-poor-and-check-out-what-they-pay-in-tax/](https://[REDACTED].com.au/sugar-shovellers-are-making-us-sick-fat-and-poor-and-check-out-what-they-pay-in-tax/)

- to [REDACTED]'s presentation on the intersect between Seventh Day Adventism and the ultra-processed food industry - [REDACTED]

Cheers

[REDACTED]

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of Senator Ralph Babet  
United Australia Party Senator for Victoria

[REDACTED]

P.O Box 1250  
Narre Warren, VIC, 3805



UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY  
SENATOR FOR VICTORIA

---

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

Sent: Wednesday, 18 June 2025 9:40 AM

To: Babet, Ralph (Senator [REDACTED]); Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>

Cc: [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

Yours sincerely

---

**Nicole Pearson**

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

One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
E: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)  
W: [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

---

**From:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 December 2024 2:00 PM  
**To:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** CM: RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hello,

1. Yes parliamentary business.
2. **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July** – meetings in relation to my role as a member of the parliament. **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July** – Love Adeliade winter ball. **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July** – Opportunity to be interviewed in studio on Sky News Sunday night.

Thank you

Senator Babet  
Senator for Victoria

---

**From:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 December 2024 11:08 AM  
**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) [REDACTED] Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator Ralph Babet**  
**Senator for Victoria**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

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

Yours sincerely

---

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

---

**From:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 29 August 2024 12:48 PM

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

Subject: HPE CM: FW: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear IPEA,

Please find attached Evidence of Senator Babet's travel which was Parliamentary business on 7 – 10 July 2023.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Office of Senator Ralph Babet  
United Australia Party Senator for Victoria

[REDACTED]  
PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600  
Suite 2/77 Victor Crescent, Narre Warren ,VIC, 3805



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

Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:40 PM

To: Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]

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

Subject: Assurance Review - travel and travel-related expenses [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**Senator Ralph Babet**  
**Senator for Victoria**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

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

Yours sincerely

---

**Nicole Pearson**

Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
E: [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)  
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**Australian Government**  
**Independent Parliamentary**  
**Expenses Authority**

24 July 2025

**Senator Ralph Babet**

Senator for Victoria

Suite 2, 77 Victor Cres

Narre Warren, VIC, 3805

Email: [REDACTED]@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator Babet

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

As you are aware, 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 resources of members of parliament.

On 20 August 2024, IPEA wrote to you about an Assurance Review of travel resources accessed by you for travel to Adelaide between 7 and 10 July 2023. Since then, IPEA has engaged with your office on a number of occasions in relation to this matter, but a satisfactory response to specific requests for supporting information has not yet been received.

Most recently, on 18 June 2025, IPEA wrote to you to request additional information, including copies of supporting documentation such as diary notes, invitations and media reporting as evidence of the meetings you attended in Adelaide on Friday 7 July 2023 and your media interview on Sunday 9 July 2023.

On 24 June 2025, your staff member responded, advising that "Senator Babet met with his advisor [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on Friday 7/7/2023. I have attached the email confirming this."

The response provided does not sufficiently address IPEA's request for supporting documentation.

In order to progress this matter, please provide:

1. Evidence in support of the meetings you attended on Friday 7 July 2023, for each activity that was parliamentary business. This may include diary notes, invitations or media reporting.
2. Evidence in support of your media interview on Sunday 9 July 2023.

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

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 to this request for information.

Please provide a written response via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au), by close of business on **Friday 1 August 2025**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

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

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Branch Manager, Transparency, Integrity and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
T: 02 6215 3000

**From:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, 1 August 2025 2:17 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet); [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet); [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** Assurance review  
**Attachments:** Fw: Adelaide Trip

Dear IPEA,

Thank you for your communication dated 24 July 2025, signed by Nicole Pearson, Branch Manager, Transparency, Integrity and Legal, IPEA.

Please find attached a copy of internal correspondence that confirms parliamentary business was undertaken with multiple meetings and events between Friday 7th July 2023 and Saturday 8th July 2023.

1. Planned travel itinerary email from assistant adviser [REDACTED] to office manager [REDACTED] dated 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023
2. Email from [REDACTED] – great to meet you email
3. Media articles photographs of the event – I was a keynote speaker at the Love Adelaide event

I remained in Adelaide on Sunday 9th July on standby for a live studio interview with Sky News host Cory Bernardi based in Adelaide. The show was an evening timeslot that did not allow sufficient time for me to catch a flight back to Melbourne the same date. I am willing to provide a statutory declaration in this regard stating that parliamentary business was undertaken by me on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2023, 8<sup>th</sup> of July 2023 and 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2023.

Thank you,

**Senator Babet**

Senator for Victoria



PO Box 6100  
Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600



**RALPH  
BABET**

**UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY  
SENATOR FOR VICTORIA**

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[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 July 2025 12:06 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet); Babet, Ralph (Senator)  
**Subject:** Fw: Adelaide Trip

---

**From:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 6, 2023 1:43:26 pm  
**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) ; [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** Adelaide Trip

[REDACTED] (same as Love Adelaide event): [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Draft Itinerary:

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023

2pm Ralph lands in Adelaide

3:00pm - 4:15pm [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]  
Australian of the year 2020. Wants to discuss the diabetes epidemic.

4:30pm - 5:30pm [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]

Re: Born Alive Bill etc.

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023

12:30pm [REDACTED] (plus 1 or 2 other former candidates) at the [REDACTED]  
Former candidates for lunch with Ralph

2:00pm - 3:30pm **UAP Member Drinks** at [REDACTED]  
Email to be sent out by head office to SA members

6:00pm- 11:00pm **Love Adelaide Winter Ball** (The Playford Grand Ballroom, 120 North Terrace, Adelaide)

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Senator Ralph Babet  
United Australia Party Senator for Victoria

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
PO Box 6100



RALPH  
**BABET**

**UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY**  
**SENATOR FOR VICTORIA**

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**From:** Assurance  
**Sent:** Friday, 19 September 2025 5:25 PM  
**To:** 'Babet, Ralph (Senator)'; Assurance  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet); [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet); [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** RE: CM: Assurance review [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Fifth Letter - IPEA to Senator Ralph Babet.pdf

**OFFICIAL**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

Yours sincerely

**Nicole Pearson**

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

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

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

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**From:** Babet, Ralph (Senator)  
**Sent:** Friday, 1 August 2025 2:17 PM  
**To:** Assurance  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet); [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet); [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** CM: Assurance review

Dear IPEA,

Thank you for your communication dated 24 July 2025, signed by Nicole Pearson, Branch Manager, Transparency, Integrity and Legal, IPEA.

Please find attached a copy of internal correspondence that confirms parliamentary business was undertaken with multiple meetings and events between Friday 7th July 2023 and Saturday 8th July 2023.

1. Planned travel itinerary email from assistant adviser [REDACTED] to office manager [REDACTED] [REDACTED] dated 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023
2. Email from [REDACTED] – great to meet you email
3. Media articles photographs of the event – I was a keynote speaker at the Love Adelaide event

I remained in Adelaide on Sunday 9th July on standby for a live studio interview with Sky News host Cory Bernardi based in Adelaide. The show was an evening timeslot that did not allow sufficient time for me to catch a flight back to Melbourne the same date. I am willing to provide a statutory declaration in this regard stating that parliamentary business was undertaken by me on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2023, 8<sup>th</sup> of July 2023 and 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2023.

Thank you,

**Senator Babet**

Senator for Victoria



PO Box 6100  
Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600



**RALPH  
BABET**

**UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY  
SENATOR FOR VICTORIA**

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

19 September 2025

**Senator Ralph Babet**  
Senator for Victoria  
Suite 2, 77 Victor Cres  
Narre Warren, VIC, 3805

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Senator Babet

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

Thank you for your email of 1 August 2025 in relation to an Assurance Review on your travel to Adelaide in July 2023.

In your response, you have outlined your parliamentary business for the relevant period, and attached an internal email from a staff member outlining your draft itinerary for your trip.


You have also offered to provide a statutory declaration in support of your response.

The response provided does not sufficiently address IPEA's request for supporting documentation. Where meetings and media interviews have been arranged prior to travel, it would be reasonable to expect that there would be email exchanges, invitations or diary entries to demonstrate this.

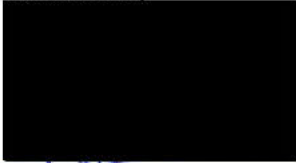
Please provide any supporting documentation available in regard to the meetings you attended on Friday 7 July 2023, and the media interview on Sunday 9 July 2023. Please send via email to [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au) by close of business on **Friday 10 October 2025**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

If you are not able to provide any additional supporting documentation, IPEA will proceed to consider this matter on the basis of what has been provided so far. Please note that IPEA does not consider a statutory declaration a valid form of evidence where it is expected that material evidence exists.

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact 

Yours sincerely



---

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

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 22 September 2025 11:47 AM  
**To:** Assurance; Babet, Ralph (Senator)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet); [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** RE: CM: Assurance review [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Attachments:** Attachment.jpeg; Attachment.jpeg; Attachment.jpeg

Good morning,

Here are screenshots of meeting arrangements for Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July in Adelaide. Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Office of Senator Ralph Babet  
United Australia Party Senator for Victoria

[REDACTED]  
P.O Box 1250  
Narre Warren, VIC, 3805



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**From:** Assurance  
**Sent:** Friday, 19 September 2025 5:25 PM  
**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) ; Assurance  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) ; [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) ; [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** RE: CM: Assurance review [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Dear Senator,

Please find attached correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) in relation to an Assurance Review into travel and travel-related expenses incurred by you from 7 to 10 July 2023.

Yours sincerely

---

**Nicole Pearson**  
Chief of Transparency, Integrity and Legal  
Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority  
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603  
**E:** [assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:assurance@ipea.gov.au)  
**W:** [www.ipea.gov.au](http://www.ipea.gov.au) & [www.ipea.gov.au/ed](http://www.ipea.gov.au/ed)

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**From:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 1 August 2025 2:17 PM  
**To:** Assurance <[Assurance@ipea.gov.au](mailto:Assurance@ipea.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet); [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
[REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** CM: Assurance review

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Thank you,

**Senator Babet**

Senator for Victoria



PO Box 6100  
Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600



**RALPH  
BABET**

**UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY  
SENATOR FOR VICTORIA**

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Friday, 7 July 2023 • 2:33 pm

Shall we make it 330?

That'd be great. Thank you



Friday, 7 July 2023 • 4:48 pm

What's both your emails please

Friday, 7 July 2023 • 7:08 pm

Thanks again for the chat today,  
[Redacted] We learnt so much.

Our emails are:



Text message





Thursday, 6 July 2023 • 5:42 pm

Hi [REDACTED]

Confirming our meeting with Senator Babet at 3pm tomorrow at the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in North Adelaide.

Kind regards, [REDACTED]



Friday, 7 July 2023 • 12:55 pm

Hi [REDACTED] Ralph's flight has been slightly delayed, but I'll still see you at 3pm. Senator Babet may be a little late.

Friday, 7 July 2023 • 2:33 pm

Shall we make it 330?



Text message



10:52

04:57

56%

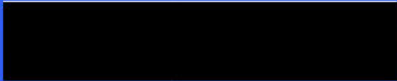


Outgoing voice call · 10:55 am

Hi



Confirming our meeting with Senator Babet at 430pm today at the [redacted] in North Adelaide.

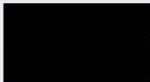


North Adelaide

11:10 am



Incoming voice call · 11:12 am



says: "Go for it Ralph!!"

11:16 am

Hey Legend, it'll definitely be 430, not earlier for the meeting. Ralph had a small flight delay

3:02 pm

You set the disappearing message timer to 1 week.



10 July 2022



Signal message



**From:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 22 September 2025 1:49 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet); Assurance  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet); [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** Re: CM: Assurance review [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks all, evidence attached from [REDACTED]. Please call me if any issues.

**Senator Babet**  
Senator for Victoria

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
PO Box 6100  
Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600



UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY  
**SENATOR FOR VICTORIA**

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**From:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 22, 2025 11:47:03 AM  
**To:** Assurance ; Babet, Ralph (Senator)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) ; [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** RE: CM: Assurance review [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good morning,  
Here are screenshots of meeting arrangements for Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July in Adelaide. Thank you.  
Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Office of Senator Ralph Babet  
United Australia Party Senator for Victoria  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
P.O Box 1250  
Narre Warren, VIC, 3805



UNITED AUSTRALIA PARTY  
**SENATOR FOR VICTORIA**

---

**From:** Assurance  
**Sent:** Friday, 19 September 2025 5:25 PM  
**To:** Babet, Ralph (Senator) ; Assurance  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) ; [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet) ; [REDACTED] (Sen R. Babet)  
**Subject:** RE: CM: Assurance review [SEC=OFFICIAL]

