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Australian Government  
Independent Parliamentary  
Expenses Authority

## PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT – [2021/10]

The Hon Peter Dutton MP, Minister for Home Affairs: Flight to Maroochydore.

Date: 24 March 2021

To: s 47F

A/g Director, Transparency, Assurance & Legal

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that you:

1. Accept the matter as:

NOTED & PROCEED WITH ASSURANCE REVIEW / PLEASE DISCUSS

s 47F

Date: 27 March 2021

s 47F

A/g Director, Audit & Assurance  
Transparency, Assurance & Legal Branch

Prepared by:

s 47F

Date: 24 March 2021

s 47F

Assurance Support Officer, Audit & Assurance  
Transparency, Assurance & Legal Branch

### PURPOSE

1. This preliminary assessment aims to assess whether Minister Peter Dutton MP accessed parliamentary business resources to travel to Maroochydore, QLD from Sydney, NSW on 19 July 2019.

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## BACKGROUND

2. On 21 March 2021, the Guardian published an article *[Peter Dutton charged taxpayers \\$465 for flight on day he was special guest at private event](#)*.
3. The article focused on a flight undertaken by Minister Dutton on 19 July 2019 from Sydney, NSW to Maroochydore, QLD. Minister Dutton was a special guest at what was described an exclusive event (Long Lunch on Makepeace Island) on that day.
4. In accordance with the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) protocol on dealing with misuse of parliamentary work expenses, this preliminary assessment commenced on 22 March 2021.

## LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

5. Relevant legislation includes:
  - *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*
  - *Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017*
  - *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017.*

## ANALYSIS

6. Upon investigation it was found that parliamentary business resources were used for travel by a scheduled commercial services on 19 July 2019 to travel from Sydney, NSW to Maroochydore, QLD.

## CONCLUSION

7. On the basis of the preliminary assessment conducted, it is recommended IPEA proceed with an Assurance Review into the matter.