

Compliance Officer for IPSA

Reference Number:	FOI2011-002
Date of disclosure:	07 December 2011
Request summary:	The cost of investigating the use of Andrew Griffiths MP's car
Exemptions used:	None

Request:

"Under the Freedom of Information Act I am writing to request details of the cost of conducting the investigation into the use of Andrew Griffiths MP's car for constituency travel, following the complaint received [by the Compliance Officer]."

Response:

The compliance office did not carry out a formal investigation into the complaint, but did carry out an assessment to establish the merits of the complaint. The costs resulting from this assessment are limited to the time spent by compliance office staff on conducting the assessment and drafting a letter to Mr Griffiths and to the Complainant, and the costs of printing and posting the letters.

Our records show that our Investigations Officer spent four hours carrying out the assessment. Based on her annual salary, this amount totals approximately £50.

In addition, I estimate that I spent no more than 45 minutes considering this case. Based on my annual salary, this amounts to approximately £22.

Adding the costs of printing and postage, the total cost of carrying out this assessment will have been in the region of £75.