

Summary

5 I began an inquiry on my own initiative after the Registrar of Financial Interests drew to my attention her concerns about Dr Allin-Khan's lack of engagement with the Registration team's enquiries, and her late registration of seven payments for shifts Dr Allin-Khan had worked as a doctor in her local hospital and one payment received in connection with her work as a local councillor.

I found that Dr Allin-Khan had acted in breach of paragraph 14 of the House of Commons' Code of Conduct for Members, by failing to register remuneration received within the 28-day deadline the House has set.

10 Dr Allin-Khan acknowledged and apologised for her breach of the rules. She told me that she has taken steps to avoid a recurrence. She also assured me that her Register entry had been brought up to date and that she had not, on any occasion, omitted to make a necessary declaration of interest in respect of these interests.

15 I considered this to be a suitable outcome and concluded the matter by way of the rectification procedure.

Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP: resolution letter

Letter from the Commissioner to Dr Rosena-Allin-Khan MP, 6 February 2019

Thank you for your email of 5 February 2019. I am writing now to bring this inquiry formally to an end, using the rectification procedure.

- 5 The reasons for my decision are set out in my letter of 29 January 2019, reproduced at item 9 below.

A copy of the final evidence pack, including your most recent email, is enclosed. I have incorporated the two minor changes you requested.

- 10 Thank you for your co-operation with my inquiry, for your acknowledgement of, and apology for, your breach of the rules and for the action you have now taken to avoid a recurrence.

6 February 2019

Written evidence

1. Letter from the Commissioner to Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP, 24 October 2018

I would welcome your help with an inquiry I have begun on my own initiative concerning your compliance with the House of Commons' Code of Conduct for
5 Members. I decided to begin an inquiry because the Registrar of Members' Financial Interests has drawn to my attention email correspondence her team has exchanged with you and your office over the last six months. I enclose a copy of that correspondence for ease of reference.

10 My Inquiry

My inquiry will focus on whether you have complied with paragraph 13 of the 2015 Code of Conduct for Members (paragraph 14 of the revised Code, introduced
15 on 19 July 2018).

The Code of Conduct for Members

Paragraph 13 of the 2015 Code of Conduct for Members stated:

20 *"Members shall fulfil conscientiously the requirements of the House in respect of the registration of interests in the Register of Members' Financial Interests. They shall always be open and frank in drawing attention to any relevant interest in any proceeding of the House or its Committees, and in any communications with Ministers, Members, public officials or public office holders."*¹

25 The same paragraph appears as paragraph 14 in the current Code.²

The Guide to the Rules relating to the conduct of Members

30 The main purpose of the Register of Members' Financial Interests (the Register) is *"to provide information of any pecuniary interest or other material benefit which a Member receives which might reasonably be thought by others to influence his or her action, speeches or votes in Parliament, or actions taken in his or her capacity as a Member of Parliament"*.

35 After the publication of the first Register of a Parliament, it is the responsibility of Members to notify changes in their registrable interests within 28 days of each change occurring.

40 The detailed rules on the registration of financial interests are found in chapter 1 of the Guide to the Rules relating to the conduct of Members (copy enclosed).

¹ <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmcode/1076/107601.htm>

² <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmcode/1474/147401.htm>

Employment and earnings are registered in Category 1 of the Register. The relevant rules are found in paragraphs 6-14 of chapter 1 of the Guide to the Rules (copy enclosed.)

5 Enclosures

For ease of reference, I enclose a copy of your current entry in the Register of Members' Financial Interests.³ The Registrar's most recent email (below) includes a draft of the entry which she proposes to include in the next Register, which will
10 be dated 29 October 2018. This lists seven payments in respect of your earnings as a doctor at St George's Hospital NHS Trust and one payment in respect of your role as a councillor.

I also enclose a copy of your entry in the Register of 19 March 2018.⁴ This
15 recorded one payment, made on 11 May 2017 for two shifts you had worked in April 2017, and a continuing monthly payment for your work as a local councillor.

On the basis of this material, it appears that you received no earnings as a doctor
20 between 11 May 2017 and 11 January 2018; and that you have received no earnings as a doctor since 8 August 2018.

Next steps

In the first instance, I would welcome your general comments on your compliance
25 with the House's rules on registration of financial interests.

It would also be helpful if you would answer the following questions.

30 Whether you consider you should have registered sooner the eight payments already listed for your work as a doctor and your most recent payment as a councillor?

If you do, please specify which of those payments you believe should have been registered sooner and provide any comments you wish to make about why you did not do so.

35 Whether you have received any registrable earnings since June 2017 other than those already identified in this correspondence?

If so, please provide the gross amounts of each payment; the date of receipt and the hours worked in connection with each payment

Please describe the steps you have taken to ensure that all your registrable earnings have now been identified and notified to my office

³https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmregmem/181015/allin-khan_rosena.htm

⁴https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmregmem/180319/allin-khan_rosena.htm

Whether you are satisfied that your current entry in the Register of Members' Financial Interests is complete in all other respects?

If it is not, please contact the Registrar now to bring it up to date.

If it is, please describe the steps you have taken to satisfy yourself of this.

- 5 Any other points you may wish to make to help me with this inquiry would be most welcome.

Important information

- 10 As you will be aware, my inquiries are conducted in private. Following the decision taken by the House on 19 July 2018, I will not publish the fact that I am conducting an inquiry into this matter. My office will not comment on any aspect of the inquiry to third parties. They answer direct factual questions about the processes I follow and the standards system more generally but will neither
15 confirm nor deny that I have begun an inquiry.

Procedure

- 20 I enclose a copy of the *Commissioner's Information Note*,⁵ which sets out the procedure for inquiries. Please note that this has not yet been updated to reflect the changes flowing from the decision of 19 July 2018.

- 25 This letter and any subsequent correspondence between us in connection with this inquiry is protected by parliamentary privilege. It should be kept confidential until the outcome of my inquiry is published. All the relevant evidence, including our correspondence, will be published when I have concluded my work.

- 30 While I do not, at this stage, know whether it will be necessary to interview you about this matter, it would be open to you to be accompanied at any such interview. I am, of course, very happy to meet with you at any stage if you would find that helpful.

- 35 I should say now, as a matter of courtesy, that I expect to seek the advice of the Registrar of Financial Interests during this inquiry.

Action

- 40 I would be grateful to have your full response to this letter by 7 November 2018. If you need more time to answer my questions, please let me know ahead of 7 November so that we may agree a new date.

24 October 2018

⁵ <https://www.parliament.uk/documents/pcfs/New%20Website%20Documents/PCS-Information-Note.pdf>

Enclosures: Emails between March and October 2018

Email from the Registrar to the Commissioner, 23 October 2018

5 Dear Commissioner

I am emailing with my concerns about late registration by Dr Rosena Allin-Khan. My office has been in contact with her since March 2018 about registering payments for her work as a doctor. She registered 7 payments on 18 October 2018, all late. Before that she had registered no payments since the one she received on 11 April 2017.

If Dr Allin-Khan has continued to work as a doctor she may have received other payments not yet registered, in the periods between 11 May 2017 and 11 January 2018, and also since 8 August 2018. I have asked her for details of these.

I can supply the exchanges relating to this if you wish. In the meantime I have set out below her updated draft Register entry, as it will be published next week.

20 Registrar of Members' Financial Interests

Allin-Khan, Dr Rosena (Tooting)

1. Employment and earnings

25 Councillor for Wandsworth Council, The Town Hall, Wandsworth High Street, London SW18 2PU. From July 2017 until May 2018 I received £883.08 (gross) a month. Hours: approx. 10 hrs a week. (Registered 17 July 2017; updated 13 November 2017 and 01 October 2018)

30 1 August 2018, received £420. Hours: 7 hrs. (Registered 23 October 2018)
Payments received from St George's Hospital NHS Trust, Blackshaw Road, London SW17 0QT, for my work as a doctor:

11 January 2018, received £650. Hours: 10 hrs. (Registered 18 October 2018)

17 January 2018, received £630. Hours: 9.5 hrs. (Registered 18 October 2018)

12 April 2018, received £570. Hours: 9.5 hrs. (Registered 18 October 2018)

35 18 April 2018, received £570. Hours: 9.5 hrs. (Registered 18 October 2018)

25 April 2018, received £390. Hours: 6 hrs. (Registered 18 October 2018)

1 August 2018, received £420. Hours: 7 hrs. (Registered 18 October 2018)

8 August 2018, received £570. Hours: 9.5 hrs. (Registered 18 October 2018)

40 2. (b) Any other support not included in Category 2(a)

Name of donor: Stop The Tory Landslide Fund

Address of donor: c/o Crowdpack, 68-80 Hanbury Street, London E1 5JL

Amount of donation, or nature and value if donation in kind: £5,000

Date received: 2 May 2017

45 Date accepted: 3 May 2017

Donor status: unincorporated association

(Registered 17 July 2017; updated 03 October 2017)

4. Visits outside the UK

Name of donor: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Qatar

Address of donor: Qatar Embassy, 1 South Audley St, London W1K 1NB

Estimate of the probable value (or amount of any donation): Air travel, food and accommodation to a value of £4,200

5 Destination of visit: Qatar

Dates of visit: 13-17 February 2018

Purpose of visit: British-Qatar APPG visit to meet Ministers and officials, discussing workers' rights while working on the construction of World Cup stadia in preparation for Qatar 2022, in line with my Shadow Minister for Sport duties.

10 (Registered 22 February 2018)

Email from the Assistant Registrar to Dr Allin-Khan's office, 19 March 2018

15 We're just about to start preparing this week's version of the Register of the Register for publication. I've come across Dr Allin-Khan's entry and was wondering if she has received any further payments from St George's Hospital NHS Trust for her work as a doctor.

20 If you would check and let me know, I'd be grateful. The most recent payment was received in May 2017 and registered in the following July.

Email from the Assistant Register to Dr Allin-Khan's office, 21 March 2018

25 Further to my last email about Dr Allin-Khan's NHS payments, the Register runs seminars on registration and we don't appear to have a record of anyone from your office attending one. The next session is on Tuesday at 1pm in [details redacted]. If this would be useful to you or a colleague, please let me know and I will add you to the list of attendees.

30 **Email from Dr Allin-Khan's office to the Assistant Registrar, 21 March 2018**

Thank you for your email.

35 Rosena worked two shifts at St George's just before the new year but isn't sure how much she got paid as the system has turned paperless. We'll find out and let you know. Can you add in that Rosena worked two shifts in December 2017 – the exact pay will be confirmed.

40 **Email from the Assistant Registrar to the Dr Allin-Khan's office, 22 March 2018**

45 Thank you for getting back to me. We will need the dates of receipt, amounts and number of hours attached to each payment before we can update Dr Allin-Khan's entry. So, we will need to wait until she can pass on this information.

Please can I double-check if Dr Allin-Khan has done any other shifts since the ones she was paid for in May 2017?

And would you or one of your colleagues like a place on next week's registration seminar?

Email from Dr Allin-Khan's office to the Assistant Registrar, 16 April 2018

5

I have the following information for you:

"July 27th and August 3rd 2017: The gross payments you would have received for these shifts are £337.50 and £427.50"

10

Does that help?

Email from Assistant Registrar to Dr Allin-Khan's office, 16 April 2018

15

Thanks. Can you also tell me how many hours of work are attached to each payment?

Email from Dr Allin-Khan's office to Assistant Registrar, 16 April 2018

20

12 hours' work each time

Email from Assistant Registrar to Dr Allin-Khan's office, 17 April 2018

25

Thanks.

I've just gone to update Dr Allin-Khan's entry but before I do so, can I just check if 27 July and 3 August 2017 are the dates of the shifts or the dates on which she received the payments?

30

In an earlier email, I mentioned that it's the date of receipt we need but thought it best to double-check this with you before making any changes to Dr Allin-Khan's entry.

35

Also, have the payments for the shifts in December been received? If so, please could you pass on the same details as well?

Email from Assistant Registrar to Dr Allin-Khan's office, 18 April 2018

40

I'm getting the Register for publication this afternoon. Please could you let me know if these dates are those of the shifts or receipt of payment?

If they are receipt, they can be included in this week's version of the Register. If not, once we have the required information, we can add them in time for the next version in a couple of weeks' time.

45

Email from Dr Allin-Khan's office to the Assistant Registrar, 18 April 2018

They are for the dates stated.

I'm not sure on December pay but am chasing, will come to you as soon as I know more.

Email from Assistant Registrar to Dr Allin-Khan's office, 18 April 2018

5 Thanks for getting back to me so quickly.

Sorry for begin a bit dim but do you mean the dates on which Dr Allin-Khan received the payment or the dates on which she did the work, i.e. the shifts?

10 **Email from Dr Allin-Khan's office to the Assistant Registrar 18 April 2018**

They are the dates of the shift.

Email from Assistant Registrar to Dr Allin-Khan's office, 18 April 2018

15

Okay, thanks. In that case, we need the dates of the payments. You mentioned that the system is now paperless. If there is no easier way, I would suggest asking Dr Allin-Khan to check the statements for the account they were paid into. This will give the dates of payments but it is still the gross amounts that we need, not the amounts paid into her account after tax, etc.

20

I will wait to hear from you about these and the December payments. I appreciate you confirming this morning so that I can make a start on preparing the Register.

25 **Email from Assistant Registrar to Dr Allin-Khan's office, 27 April 2018**

We're about to start preparing next week's version of the Register.

30 Please could you send me the dates of the July and August payments, and the details of the December payments if you have them now too?

Email from Assistant Registrar to Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP, 2 August 2018

35 I have been removing time-expired entries from the Register and have deleted [payment received on 11 May 2017].

This means that there are no NHS payments showing on your current Register entry. However, I am aware from speaking to [your office manager] that you still have some payments from last year that need to be registered. For each outstanding payment, please send us:

40

Date of receipt
Gross amount; and
Number of hours worked.

45

Many thanks

Email from the Registrar to Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP, 7 September 2018

I am writing to you because I am concerned that your Register entry (below)⁶ may not be up to date. Specifically, it does not show any payments for your work as a doctor. If any such payments have been received, each should have been registered within 28 days.

The rules of the House require you to register any change in your interests within 28 days. If you are uncertain about the rules we are always happy to meet to run through them with you. And we offer workshops for Members' staff, because we recognise that while individual Members are always responsible for the accuracy of their own Register entries, often their staff assist. If [your Office Manager] would like to attend please let us know.

In the meantime, please let us know as quickly as possible about any payments, benefits or donations received or other interests which need to be included in your Register entry.

Email from Dr Allin-Khan's office to the Registrar, 17 September 2018

Thank you for your email.

We are looking into this and hope to get you an answer as soon as possible.

Email from the Registrar to Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP, 28 September 2018

We are concerned that your Register entry may not be accurate. Please would you confirm whether you have registered all the payments you have received for your work as a doctor since you joined Parliament.

Email from Dr Allin-Khan's office to the Registrar, 28 September 2018

Thank you for chasing.

It is incredibly difficult to access information about how much Rosena receives when she works for the NHS, they don't get payslips so this information isn't easily available.

Here are the details of payments she has receive, the days she worked and how many hours (these are before tax).

22 July, 9.5 hours, £570
 24 July, 7 hours, £420
 9 April, 6 hours, £390
 4 April, 9.5 hours, £570
 30 March, 9.5 hours, £570

⁶ Not reproduced

Please note she is no longer a councillor, she stopped receiving that money after May this year.

Email from Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP to the Registrar, 28 September 2018

5

And two more:

7 January, 9.5 hours, £630

31 December, 10 hours, £650

10 **Email from the Registrar to Dr Allin-Khan's office, 1 October 2018**

Thanks.

15 The dates needed are the dates of payment. It would be really helpful if you could get those to us today so that they can be included in the 1 October Register. These Register entries are already late.

Many thanks again.

Email from the Registrar to Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP, 15 October 2018

20

The rules of the House require you to supply the dates when you received payments for your work as a doctor. Unless we have misunderstood your email, you have not given us the dates when you were paid. We await these before we can update the published Register.

25

Please supply the missing information as soon as possible.

Email from Dr Allin-Khan's office to the Registrar, 15 October 2018

30 Thanks for your email.

We hope to get this information to you tomorrow.

Email from the Registrar to Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP, 16 October 2018

35

I have sent you a meeting request. I think it is best for us to talk this through and record the information needed for the Register of Interests, since you are currently in breach of the registration rules.

40 **Email from Dr Allin-Khan's office to the Registrar, 16 October 2018**

Thanks for your email.

45 Rosena is unable to meet on Thursday at 11am but is happy to call you (or meet you) tomorrow. Would sometime in the afternoon suit you?

Thanks.

Email from the Registrar to Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP, 17 October 2018

Thanks, I could manage 3 or 4pm, which is best?

5 Email from Dr Allin-Khan's office to the Registrar, 17 October 2018

Thanks. Can we do 4pm after votes? Would you prefer a call or to meet?

10 Email from Dr Allin-Khan's office to the Registrar, 17 October 2018

The universal credit debate is now going on for an extra hour and Rosena is waiting to speak, so unfortunately she cannot meet at 4pm.

15 I am around if you would like to speak on the phone – alternatively, I can get Rosena to give you a call in the next few days?

Email from the Registrar to Dr Allin-Khan's office, 17 October 2018

20 Please suggest an alternative time for a meeting in the next few days. (I am not in the office this Friday.)

25 We need a meeting, and we still await confirmation of the dates when Dr Allin-Khan was paid. We have been asking since March 2018 for information about payments for Dr Allin-Khan's work as a doctor. If we do not receive the full and accurate information that is needed, then I will escalate this to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards.

Email from the Registrar to Dr Allin-Khan, 18 October 2018

30 I am forwarding these exchanges to an email address which you used earlier. You have not registered any payment for your role as a doctor since the one you received on 11 May 2017, and we have been corresponding with you and your office about this since March this year. You are breach of the rules on registering interests.

35 We have received some of the information needed (see below)⁷ but not all. Please supply the (gross) amounts and dates of each payment received for your work as a doctor since May 2017, together with the number of hours worked on each occasion.

40 Please also arrange a time to see me so that I can explain again your responsibilities. I have diarised two meetings with you this week but neither meeting has happened. We were first due to meet at 11am today and then your office changed this to 4pm yesterday. Your office then emailed me at 4.05pm yesterday to say you were in the Chamber and unable to attend.

45 Unless this is resolved very quickly I shall escalate it to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards.

⁷ Details not reproduced

Email from Dr Allin-Khan's office to the Registrar, 18 October 2018

Thank you for your email. I am sure you will understand that if a Member is stuck in a debate, waiting to speak – there is little they can do. We are trying our best to
5 get this information to you. I believe the information below will help.

It appears you've copied the wrong email address for Dr Rosena, I have copied in her personal email address [details redacted].

10 All of the following payments were received in 2018. Below is the number of hours worked, the amount paid and the date of payment.

9.5 hours, £570, paid 8 Aug
7 hours, £570, paid 1 Aug
15 6 hours, £390, paid 25 Apr
9.5 hours, £570, paid 18 Apr
9.5 hours, £570, paid 12 Apr
9.5 hours, £630, paid 17 Jan
10 10 hours, £650 paid, 11 Jan

20 Let me know if you need anything else. I can also be contacted on the phone [number].

Email from Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP to the Registrar, 18 October 2018

25 Thank you for your email.

I am so very sorry for the diary this week. [A close relative] is very ill in hospital and that's why the first change occurred.

30 I was advised I needed to speak in the second debate and the vote time was changed from 4pm to 4.45pm. I asked the Speaker permission to leave but was refused as it was close to wind-up time.

35 It's not that I don't very much value your time. It's just all been a bit of a nightmare for me recently and I'm so sorry.

40 As for the St George's payments. There has been a number of reasons for the delays. [Detail concerning third parties redacted...] and finally, a bit of miscommunication in our office.

I can promise that the same mistakes will not be repeated.

45 Please accept my sincere apologies. I would be very pleased to sit down and have a chat with you again with some of my team present too.

2. Email from Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP to the Commissioner, 5 November 2018

Thank you for your letter dated 24th October.

5 I would like to take up your offer to meet in person to discuss the matters you raise in your letter. Are you please able to suggest some suitable dates and times that work over the next few weeks. [name redacted] from my office can help find a suitable time – his email is [redacted].

10 In answer to some of your points though, I would have liked to register the payments made to me in my capacity as a Doctor, sooner - for that I take full responsibility. I am sure you will understand there is nothing underhand, it's simply an issue with the way payments are made. St George's changed the way they way they confirm payment. They would no longer give me computer access as
15 my working status changed and all their payslips went online.

I have not received any earnings since 8th August this year, and there are two payments between May 2017 and January 2018 which I missed (while trying to chase payroll) for which I have now given those details to the Registrar.

20 I don't believe I missed declaring any payments as a Councillor, as this was an ongoing payment from the moment I was elected, which did not change until I stepped down in May this year.

25 I don't profess to have been the best person at sending through this information in light of the awkwardness getting the details and I must apologise to the team for the hassle caused. I am so sorry. I did not hide the fact I was working as a doctor, it's something which I've raised in Parliament many times and it's well documented, especially in the press where I have openly recorded a diary of one of
30 the shifts. For those reasons you will understand there was no malice or anything underhand.

Thank you for reading this, I look forward to meeting you in due course.
5 November 2018

35 3. Letter from the Commissioner to Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP, 22 November 2018

Thank you for coming to see me last week. I said I would write to you to summarise our discussion and to explain the next steps in the inquiry process.

Our discussion

40 We met at your request. You explained that you wanted to explain some of your personal and domestic circumstances, which had contributed to your failure to register your outside earnings as a doctor within the time-limit set by the House of Commons.

In addition to explaining your caring responsibilities, you said that your election had coincided with the murder of Jo Cox MP. New MPs routinely report feeling overwhelmed by information during their first few weeks in the House and, for you, that had been exacerbated by the deeply distressing events in West Yorkshire. The whole House was shocked by Jo Cox's death. Your new colleagues were so deeply affected that you had not known who to ask for help as a new Member.

You acknowledged that you had been briefed personally by the Registrar about your responsibilities under the Code and apologised profusely for being as "bad" as you had been in registering your financial interests. You said you had not fully absorbed her advice. You emphasised that you were not trying to hide your outside employment; you have spoken freely about your work as an NHS doctor and on health-related topics. Immediately before coming to see me, you had met with the Registrar and she had talked you through your responsibilities again - both to register, and to declare, your interests.

I echoed the Registrar's advice that, you should contact the Registration team if you have any problems in collating the information the House requires to be registered.

You asked about next steps. I said that it was a fact that you had acted in breach of the rules: you had not registered the details the House requires within 28 days of receipt of remuneration for outside employment. However, you have given me an assurance that you have no other earnings which should have been registered and have not. On the basis of all the information I have, I consider the breach to be at the less serious end of the spectrum and I am willing to conclude my inquiry using the rectification procedure.

Action

Standing Order No. 150 makes available the rectification procedure where a Member's breach of the registration rules is in respect of an interest which might be regarded as minor or where the breach is inadvertent. I do not regard your breach of the rules as inadvertent; the Registrar and her team attempted to engage you about what was required for a period of over six months and, if you had engaged with them, I think it is unlikely I would have considered it necessary to begin an own initiative inquiry. Your failure to give the matter sufficient attention resulted in eight late registrations being made in October 2018.

However, the amounts involved amount to a total of just over £4,000 - approximately 5% of a parliamentary salary. They represent seven shifts worked and seven hours spent on council duties. Having registered these late payments in one batch and based on the information provided, your omissions have been corrected.

The Committee on Standards would generally expect a Member to have acknowledged their breach, apologised and taken any steps I consider necessary to

rectify the matter. You have already acknowledged and apologised for your breach of the House's rules in respect of registration.

5 Before I conclude this matter, I must ask you to review chapter 2 of the Guide to the Rules relating to the conduct of Members, which sets out the detailed rules on the declaration of a Member's financial interests and to consider carefully whether there are any occasions on which you failed to make a declaration of interest which those rules would have required.

10 14. [...] Members "shall always be open and frank in drawing attention to any relevant interest in any proceeding of the House or its Committees, and in any communications with Ministers, Members, public officials or public office holders."

Paragraph 7 of chapter 2 of the Guide to the Rules sets out, in detail, the occasions on which declarations are required.

15 It would be helpful if, when responding to my question, you would set out clearly the steps you have taken which lead you to your conclusions.

It would also be helpful if you would describe for the record, the steps you have taken to avoid making any further late registrations.

Conclusion

20 Subject to your reply, instead of submitting a full and formal memorandum to the Committee on Standards. I would inform the Committee of the outcome and my decision letter and the relevant evidence would, in due course, be published on my webpages. That would bring this matter to an end.

Please reply to this letter as soon as possible and no later than 3 December 2018.

22 November 2018

25 **4. Letter from Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP, 5 December 2018**

Thank you for your letter dated 22 November and for meeting me to discuss this in person.

As we discussed, there was nothing malicious in the delay in notifying the Registrar about my NHS work - I am proud to work as a doctor in my local hospital.

30 Moving on from this, I have met with someone from the Registrar's team and had a full briefing on the procedures - my office now has a system in place where we will be reminded to update the Register of interests on a monthly basis.

I am confident that my Register of Interests is now fully up to date, and will endeavour to update it as and when is necessary, in good time.

Many thanks for your assistance throughout this process. Please do get in touch if there is anything else I can help with.

5 5 December 2018

5. Letter from the Commissioner to Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP, 10 December 2018

Thank you for your email of 5 December 2018. Given the circumstances that led to my inquiry I am disappointed that you did not reply by 3 December, as I had asked.
10 I am also disappointed by the content of your email.

In my letter of 22 November 2018, I said that before I conclude my inquiry, "*I must ask you to review chapter 2 of the Guide to the rules relating to the conduct of Members which sets out the rules on the declaration of a Member's interests and to consider carefully whether there are any occasions on which you failed to make a declaration of interest which those rules would have required.*" Your email of 5 December does
15 not address that question.

You will, I hope, recall the explanations I and the Registrar gave you and [your office manager] about the difference between registration and declaration. If you do not, please call the Registrar, who can talk you through the rules again. When you reply
20 to this letter please:

- Set out clearly the steps you have taken to establish whether or not there are any occasions on which you should have made a declaration of interest and did not, bearing in mind that declarations may be required "*in any proceeding of the House or its Committees, and in any communications with Ministers, Members, public officials and public office-holders.*"
25
- Set out clearly the "*system*" you have in place now to ensure that your Register entry is updated in accordance with the rules of the House. Please note that the House's deadline for registration is within 28 days of a registrable change, rather than "a month".

30 I should draw to your attention paragraph 20 of the Code of Conduct, which after explaining my remit says that "*Members shall cooperate, at all stages, with any such investigation by or under the authority of the House*".

Please provide a full response to this letter by 19 December 2018.

10 December 2018

6. Email from Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP to the Commissioner, 19 December 2018

Thank you for your letter dated 10 December.

5 Apologies, I misunderstood the request in your original letter, thank you for asking for clarification. I do not believe there has been any instances where a declaration should have been required (and was not) – this was discussed in my meeting with [the Registrar]. There was a single instance where I declared in a debate that I was being paid by my local hospital, but that is because the debate was specifically relating to staffing pay.

10 You asked for clarification on the current system. I can confirm that I now have a meeting with my office manager on a monthly basis, where we discuss any instances where a declaration needs to be made, these will then be sent to the Registrar. An example of this was where I sent the Registrar an addition yesterday (which was in time).

15 Do let me know if you have any other questions.

19 December 2018

7. Extract from the Register of Members' Financial Interests

"Allin-Khan, Dr Rosena (Tooting)

1. Employment and earnings

20 Payments received from St George's Hospital NHS Trust, Blackshaw Road, London SW17 0QT, for my work as a doctor:

....

16 August 2017, received £950. Hours: 17 hrs. (Registered 07 January 2019)

...."

25 8. Email from Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP to the Commissioner, 16 January 2019

I called to speak to you on Monday, [your Complaints Manager] said you were unavailable and was kind enough to give me her time over the phone.

30 As I explained at length [to her], the [late registration of 7 January] was related to the previous issue, which we had discussed in your office and [one of my staff has] apologised to you in an email.

I am very sorry if further frustration was caused. All registrations since we met, have been submitted on time. In addition to what I outlined before, what I have to do to even further safeguard against oversight are the following.

5 I have tasked a new member of staff who has started to deal with the [registration] process and I will send them to [the Registrar] for training and make you aware of the date this happens.

I have arranged for a monthly sit down, to go through any upcoming shifts. The shifts are so seldom it doesn't need to be any more frequent than this.

10 I will make a diary of when I am due to do shifts and the expected payday available for my office to see on our shared system.

The team member tasked with taking responsibility will remind me to check bank statements to confirm payment.

I will keep a copy of all my time-sheets from my hospital work and make them available in a folder for my team.

15 I learned that with regard to declarations of interest, it is to include letters and correspondence with the Secretary of State for Health as well as public debates and speeches. I will ensure this happens going forward.

Once again thank you for your time and understanding.

16 January 2019

20 **9. Letter from the Commissioner to Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP, 29 January 2019**

Thank you for your email of 16 January 2019.

25 On 7 January 2019 you registered a payment made by St George's Hospital Trust on 16 August 2018. [My complaints manager] had passed on your telephone message of 14 January 2019 apologising for this additional late registration. I understand that you said then that you recognised that the failure to identify this sooner undermined the assurances you had given me on 5 December 2018 about having checked your entry in the Register of Members' Financial Interests.

30 I recognise that this late registration was part of the broader failure to register your shift payments within the time-frame set by the House which had led me to begin an inquiry on my own initiative. I accept that it does not represent a failure in the operation of the new arrangements you put in place after I began my inquiry. However, as you have identified yourself, it does undermine the assurance you gave me in December that your register entry had been brought up-to-date.

Thank you for including in your email to me details of the additional measures you have now decided to implement to improve the accuracy and timeliness of your registrations. While those steps appear sensible, I must draw to your attention the following:

- 5 • The deadline for registration is measured in days not calendar months, i.e. registrations must be made within 28 days of receipt of a payment and monthly “sit downs” may not be sufficient
- 10 • The House requires you to register the gross amount payable, not the net payment – checking your bank statements will provide the date of receipt, but not the amount to be registered
- 15 • Paragraph 7 of chapter 2 of the Guide to the Rules relating to the conduct of Members describes the circumstances in which declarations are required - the summary in the final point of your email of 16 January is not comprehensive.

15 Additional measures

I have asked the Registrar to monitor the timeliness of your entries over the next twelve months and to bring any further late registrations to my attention.

I urge to read chapter 2 of the Guide to the rules in full as soon as possible to ensure that you understand the full extent of your obligations in respect of declaration.

20 Concluding this inquiry

I have reviewed your entry in the most recently published Register (cover date 21 January 2019) and note that the one new entry was made within the 28-day deadline. As you will appreciate by now, only you can be sure that you have registered all the registrable benefits you have received. The responsibility for compliance with the House’s rules on this, as in other matters, is yours personally.

As you will recall, I began this inquiry because the Registrar had drawn to my attention correspondence her team had exchanged with you and your office over a period of six months. That correspondence suggested a failure on your part to engage fully with your responsibilities in terms of registration of your financial interests. I am satisfied that you now understand the importance of fulfilling those responsibilities. On balance, I do not think there is anything to be gained by pursuing this inquiry any further. In my letter of 22 November 2018, I proposed - subject to your reply - to resolve this inquiry by way of the rectification procedure. I have considered very carefully whether that is still possible.

35 It has taken an unnecessarily long time to resolve this matter, and since I proposed to use the rectification procedure you have identified another payment which

should have been registered in 2017. I have considered very carefully whether I should submit a memorandum to the Committee on Standards on the basis that the assurance you gave me on 5 December proved to be misplaced. I have also taken into account the circumstances you described as mitigation when we met. I have
5 decided that the criteria for a rectification are still met, albeit by a narrower margin than when I proposed that course of action.

I enclose a copy of the written evidence pack, which I will publish on my webpages (here: <https://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/standards-and-financial-interests/parliamentary-commissioner-for-standards/complaints-and-investigations/allegations-the-commissioner-has-rectified/rectifications-2018-19/>) in due course.
10

As a matter of courtesy, I am sharing the material with you in advance of publication so that you may check its factual accuracy. Please reply to this letter by 5 February 2019, to confirm whether you are satisfied that the evidence pack is
15 factually accurate. I will publish the pack shortly after that and, until then, this matter remains protected by parliamentary privilege and you should not share any information about it with any third party.

29 January 2019

10. Email from Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP to the Commissioner, 5 February 2019

20 Thank you for your letter dated 16 January.

Can I pass on my thanks to you and your team for your assistance throughout this process and thank you for drawing my attention to the points in your letter.

To clarify, the point referring to checking my bank statement was for me to ensure I had been paid on the correct date. I understand that I must register the gross
25 amount, not the net amount.

I have ensured that the catch-up sessions with my new member of staff are on a fortnightly basis, not monthly as I originally stated.

Furthermore, I appreciate the full extent of the declaration process.

May thanks again for all your help.

30 *5 February 2019*