

From: media
Sent: Tue, 13 Apr 2021 12:14:10 +1000
To: Andrew Johnson; Louise Parrott
Cc: media
Subject: FW: Courier-Mail: Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Louise,

We've received some detailed questions (below) about the status of the investigation into Mr Laming's Facebook activity.

On the assumption that the investigation is still ongoing, my preference would be a short statement along the lines of:

As the investigation is ongoing, the AEC is not in a position to provide a running commentary. We can confirm that we are working with Facebook, as representatives from the company informed the Senate's Environment and Communications References Committee yesterday.

While we cannot comment on specific cases, the penalty for a breach of the authorisation requirements by an individual is a fine of up to 120 penalty units, or approximately up to \$26,640.

Kind regards,

Alex Morris | Digital and Social Media Manager
 Communications Section | Digital Technology & Communications Branch
 Australian Electoral Commission
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AEC

Australian Electoral Commission

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From: § 47F @news.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2021 11:58 AM
To: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Subject: Courier-Mail: Laming

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Good afternoon.

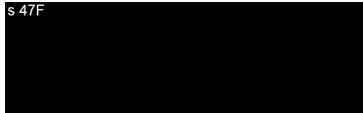
The AEC last week revealed it would investigate LNP Bowman MP Andrew Laming for potential breaches of electoral laws over more than 30 Facebook pages he allegedly operated with electoral authorization.

- 1) Could the AEC provide an update on the investigation?

- 2) Particularly its findings if the investigation has concluded?
- 3) Or if it is ongoing, when the AEC expects the investigation to conclude?
- 4) In order to look into this issue, who will or has the AEC approached?
- 5) Generally, what are the consequences of breaching electoral law in this way?

Thank you. Hoping for a response by 3.30pm please.

Cheers,



Journalist

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