

**From:** Tom Rogers  
**Sent:** Tue, 13 Apr 2021 12:21:23 +1000  
**To:** media;Jeff Pope;Executive Leadership Team;Louise Parrott  
**Cc:** David Lang;Evan Ekin-Smyth  
**Subject:** RE: Courier-Mail: Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Great

T.J. Rogers  
 Australian Electoral Commission  
 +61262714400  
[www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au)

---

**From:** media <[media@aec.gov.au](mailto:media@aec.gov.au)>  
**Date:** Tuesday, 13 Apr 2021, 12:20  
**To:** Jeff Pope <[Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au](mailto:Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au)>, media <[media@aec.gov.au](mailto:media@aec.gov.au)>, Executive Leadership Team <[ExecutiveLeadershipTeam@aec.gov.au](mailto:ExecutiveLeadershipTeam@aec.gov.au)>, Louise Parrott <[Louise.Parrott@aec.gov.au](mailto:Louise.Parrott@aec.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** David Lang <[David.Lang@aec.gov.au](mailto:David.Lang@aec.gov.au)>, Evan Ekin-Smyth <[Evan.Ekin-Smyth@aec.gov.au](mailto:Evan.Ekin-Smyth@aec.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Courier-Mail: Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Thanks Jeff. This pretty closely matches the draft I just discussed with Louise – though I might also suggest at least linking to our Backgrounder on auth requirements, which lays out the potential penalties and was provided to other journalists last week.

Kind regards,

**Alex Morris | Digital and Social Media Manager**  
 Communications Section | Digital Technology & Communications Branch  
 Australian Electoral Commission  
 T: (02) 6271 4644 X: 21303 M: s 47F



**AEC**

Australian Electoral Commission

Make sure you're **enrolled to vote**.  
 Visit [www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au)

---

**From:** Jeff Pope <[Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au](mailto:Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 April 2021 12:19 PM  
**To:** media <[media@aec.gov.au](mailto:media@aec.gov.au)>; Executive Leadership Team <[ExecutiveLeadershipTeam@aec.gov.au](mailto:ExecutiveLeadershipTeam@aec.gov.au)>; Louise Parrott <[Louise.Parrott@aec.gov.au](mailto:Louise.Parrott@aec.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** David Lang <[David.Lang@aec.gov.au](mailto:David.Lang@aec.gov.au)>; Evan Ekin-Smyth <[Evan.Ekin-Smyth@aec.gov.au](mailto:Evan.Ekin-Smyth@aec.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Courier-Mail: Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Thanks Alex – the following is an early draft response that we may look at sending back at 3.30pm today:

“Other than confirming the AEC has engaged with Facebook, which is public knowledge, the AEC does not publicly comment on the progress of active investigations.”

Will discuss with my ELT colleagues and confirm in due course.

JP

**Jeff Pope | Deputy Electoral Commissioner**  
Executive Leadership Team  
Australian Electoral Commission  
T: (02) 6271 4619 X: 21001 M: § 47F



**AEC**

Australian Electoral Commission

Make sure you're **enrolled to vote**.  
Visit [www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au)

---

**From:** media <[media@aec.gov.au](mailto:media@aec.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 April 2021 12:03 PM  
**To:** Executive Leadership Team <[ExecutiveLeadershipTeam@aec.gov.au](mailto:ExecutiveLeadershipTeam@aec.gov.au)>; Louise Parrott <[Louise.Parrott@aec.gov.au](mailto:Louise.Parrott@aec.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** media <[media@aec.gov.au](mailto:media@aec.gov.au)>; David Lang <[David.Lang@aec.gov.au](mailto:David.Lang@aec.gov.au)>; Evan Ekin-Smyth <[Evan.Ekin-Smyth@aec.gov.au](mailto:Evan.Ekin-Smyth@aec.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Courier-Mail: Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Good afternoon all,

We have received the below media query from News Corp's § 47F Will liaise with Legal Services on a response now but flagging early as this is a sensitive matter.

Kind regards,

**Alex Morris | Digital and Social Media Manager**  
Communications Section | Digital Technology & Communications Branch  
Australian Electoral Commission  
T: (02) 6271 4644 X: 21303 M: § 47F



**AEC**

Australian Electoral Commission

Make sure you're **enrolled to vote**.  
Visit [www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au)

---

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

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the Australian Federal Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

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.

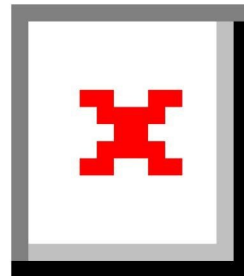
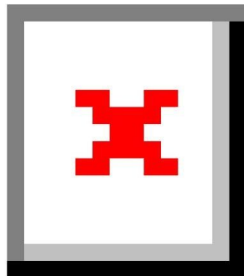
- 1) Could the AEC provide an update on the investigation?
- 2) Particularly its findings if the investigation has concluded?
- 3) Or if it is ongoing, when the AEC expects the investigation to conclude?
- 4) In order to look into this issue, who will or has the AEC approached?
- 5) Generally, what are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

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

Cheers,

§ 47F

Journalist

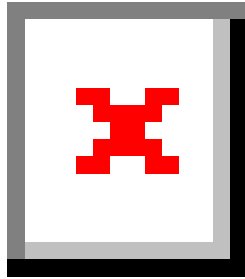


Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

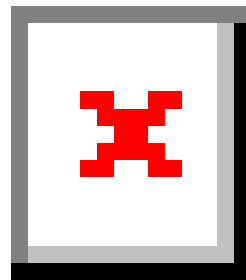
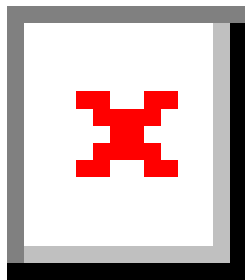
§ 47F

§ 47F

[§ 47F@news.com.au](mailto:§ 47F@news.com.au) [W www.couriermail.com.au](http://www.couriermail.com.au)

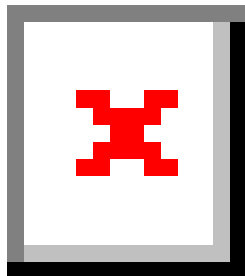


Follow us online



---

Proudly supporting [1 degree](#), A News Corp Australia initiative.



This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee, you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments which does not relate to the official business of the sending company must be taken not to have been sent or endorsed by that company or any of its related entities. No warranty is made that the e-mail or attachments are free from computer virus or other defect.