

From: Louise Parrott
Sent: Tue, 13 Apr 2021 12:27:40 +1000
To: Tom Rogers;media;Jeff Pope;Executive Leadership Team
Cc: David Lang;Evan Ekin-Smyth
Subject: RE: Courier-Mail: Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Thanks all.

From a legal perspective I am also comfortable with this proposed response.

Louise

Louise Parrott | Principal Government Lawyer
Electoral Authorisation Section | Legal & Procurement Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: (02) 6271 4759 X: 21418



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From: Tom Rogers <Tom.Rogers@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2021 12:21 PM
To: media <media@aec.gov.au>; Jeff Pope <Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au>; Executive Leadership Team <ExecutiveLeadershipTeam@aec.gov.au>; Louise Parrott <Louise.Parrott@aec.gov.au>
Cc: David Lang <David.Lang@aec.gov.au>; Evan Ekin-Smyth <Evan.Ekin-Smyth@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Courier-Mail: Laming [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Great

T.J. Rogers
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From: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Date: Tuesday, 13 Apr 2021, 12:20
To: Jeff Pope <Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au>, media <media@aec.gov.au>, Executive Leadership Team <ExecutiveLeadershipTeam@aec.gov.au>, Louise Parrott <Louise.Parrott@aec.gov.au>
Cc: David Lang <David.Lang@aec.gov.au>, Evan Ekin-Smyth <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: [REDACTED]



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From: Jeff Pope <Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2021 12:19 PM
To: media <media@aec.gov.au>; Executive Leadership Team
 <ExecutiveLeadershipTeam@aec.gov.au>; Louise Parrott <Louise.Parrott@aec.gov.au>
Cc: David Lang <David.Lang@aec.gov.au>; Evan Ekin-Smyth <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: [REDACTED]



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From: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2021 12:03 PM
To: Executive Leadership Team <ExecutiveLeadershipTeam@aec.gov.au>; Louise Parrott
 <Louise.Parrott@aec.gov.au>
Cc: media <media@aec.gov.au>; David Lang <David.Lang@aec.gov.au>; Evan Ekin-Smyth <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 [REDACTED] 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: ^{s 47F}

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From: ^{s 47F} <news@news.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 April 2021 11:58 AM
To: media <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?

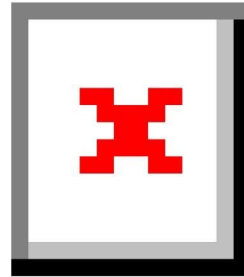
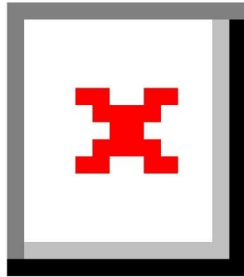
Thank you. Hoping for a response by 3.30pm please.

Cheers,

^{s 47F}



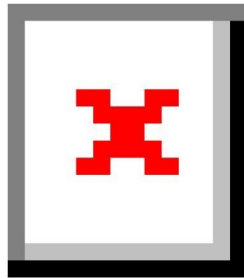
Journalist



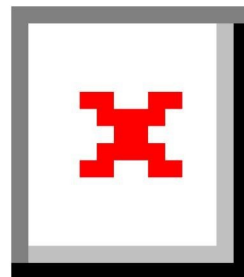
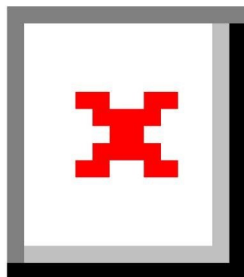
Cnr Mayne Road & Campbell Street Bowen Hills QLD 4006

M s 47F

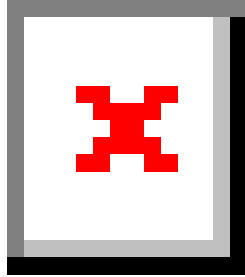
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