



Agenda Paper



Date: 20 May 2021

Electoral Integrity Committee

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Purpose

To provide an update on the AEC's authorisations framework and its required operations under the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (Electoral Act).

Recommendations

It is recommended the Committee note the:

- (a) Note the current state of the AEC's authorisations framework and matters arising under it.

☐ Noted ☐ Discuss

Key issues/risks

Authorisation Determination Review

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Recent authorisation matters / social media

6. On 6 April 2021, the Guardian reported that [Liberal MP Andrew Laming created dozens of Facebook pages to promote LNP and attack opponents](#). The article alleged that approximately 30 Facebook pages run by Andrew Laming MP contained electoral matter that was not properly authorised.
7. On 7 April 2021, the Guardian reported the [AEC to investigate Liberal MP Andrew Laming over network of Facebook pages that promote LNP](#). Following the allegation of unauthorised electoral matter on Facebook pages, a number of those pages were removed.

s 37(1)(a)

10. At the next general election, the AEC is aware that Facebook and Twitter will be operating ad transparency centres which should provide a repository of all electoral advertising on those platforms.

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13 May 2021

Cleared by: Andrew Johnson, Chief Legal Officer
14 May 2021

Cleared by (ELT): First name Last name, ELT Title
Select date

Attachments:

Name of attachments

Summary of changes to Fraud Control Plan (Attachment B)