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Agenda Paper



Date: 20 May 2021

Electoral Integrity Committee



Purpose

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



Key issues/risks

Recent authorisation matters / social media

- 1. In the previous quarter one authorisation matter required further investigation:
 - On 6 April 2021, the Guardian reported that <u>Liberal MP Andrew Laming created dozens of Facebook pages to promote LNP and attack opponents</u>. The article alleged that approximately 30 Facebook pages run by Andrew Laming MP contained electoral matter that was not properly authorised.
 - On 7 April 2021, the Guardian reported the <u>AEC to investigate Liberal MP Andrew Laming</u>
 over network of Facebook pages that promote <u>LNP</u>. Following the allegation of unauthorised electoral matter on Facebook pages, a number of those pages were removed.

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