

Section 47F

From: EIAT
Sent: Wednesday, 19 April 2023 5:11 PM
To: Section 47F
Cc: Section 47F, EIAT, Section 47F
Subject: RE: AEC/EIAT contact details [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Section 47F

Hi Section 47F

Good to hear from you. Many thanks for sharing this announcement and confirming we can expect to see these ads in Google's political ads transparency report.

Our letter to platforms outlining the regulatory environment is being finalised and will be shared shortly. Following this, we'd welcome any questions you have and be glad to arrange a meeting to discuss the environment further. We may also invite other Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce agencies to attend as well.

Currently our information campaign is centred around 'early-education' and we have launched a referendum sub-site, <https://www.aec.gov.au/referendums/>, which includes several resources in addition to our [Referendum Disinformation Register](#). The hub will be updated with further resources in the lead up to the referendum, however, there are some relevant resources I expect to be available in the coming weeks. We'll be sure to share these with you.

In the interim, please let me know if your team has any questions and I'd be glad to assist.

Kind regards,

Section 47F | Project Officer
Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
Section 47F



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From: Section 47F
Sent: Tuesday, 18 April 2023 2:06 PM
To: Section 47F
Cc: Section 47F, EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au> Section 47F
Subject: Re: AEC/EIAT contact details [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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.

Hi team AEC,

Today Google has [announced](#) that referendum related advertising is being scoped into our political ads policy, meaning anyone running referendum related advertising will need to have their advertising account/s verified, and their ads will appear in our political ads transparency report.

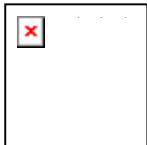
Also wanted to check in if any resources regarding the below might be available as yet? We did see the launch of the new disinfo register and have already passed it on to our Trust and Safety colleagues as one of the authoritative sources they should rely on for the purpose of applying our [election misinformation policy](#).

From our end, I can confirm that the AEC will;

- 1. Providing you with a letter outlining the regularly environment once legislation has passed Parliament. This letter will provide you with the most accurate information concerning the referendum process.*
- 2. Provide updates on our referendum education resources as they are made available. This will include a number of videos and a referendum specific Disinformation Register (please find a link to the 2022 Federal Election register [here](#)). Once live, the Register will be regularly updated with common pieces of disinformation we are encountering.*

Cheers,

Section 47F



Section 47F

Government Affairs and Public Policy Manager
Google Australia

Section 47F

Section 47F

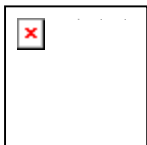
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See [what's trending](#) in Australia today

On Thu, Feb 16, 2023 at 1:32 PM **Section 47F** **Section 47F** wrote:

Apologies **Section 47F** please find escalation paths attached! We look forward to receiving the additional communications flagged below.

Kind regards

Section 47F



Section 47F

Government Affairs and Public Policy

Section 47F

On Thu, 16 Feb 2023 at 13:29, **Section 47F** wrote:

Hi Section 47F

Many thanks for sharing this information, the Advanced Protection Program will certainly be of interest to the broader AEC and our interactions with various stakeholders.

Section 47F has already reached out as well to provide us with further information on YouTube's Trusted Flagger program and we greatly appreciate both of your efforts to provide us with this information so promptly.

Apologies but I don't seem to have the escalation path attachment and the 2022 federal election escalation pathways I have on file don't appear to include Section 47F's emergency number. When you have an opportunity, if you could forward this through again that would be much appreciated.

From our end, I can confirm that the AEC will;

1. Providing you with a letter outlining the regularly environment once legislation has passed Parliament. This letter will provide you with the most accurate information concerning the referendum process.
2. Provide updates on our referendum education resources as they are made available. This will include a number of videos and a referendum specific Disinformation Register (please find a link to the 2022 Federal Election register [here](#)). Once live, the Register will be regularly updated with common pieces of disinformation we are encountering.

We appreciate your consideration of the referendum environment as you commence testing Bard on what I'm sure is a very exciting day for you and your colleagues!

Kind regards,

Section 47F

Section 47F | Project Officer

Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch

Australian Electoral Commission

Section 47F



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From: Section 47F
Sent: Thursday, 16 February 2023 11:03 AM
To: Section 47F
Cc: Section 47F
Subject: Re: AEC/EIAT contact details [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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.

Hi Section 47F

Great to see you yesterday and hear more from the AEC about plans for the upcoming referendum. Please see attached escalation paths (which applied to the election last year and will also apply to the referendum). You'll see that slide 2 includes both email addresses and Section 47F phone number for emergency / out of hours issues.

[Here is a website](#) with more information about the Advanced Protection Program, which is offered to individuals at high risk of being targeted by bad actors; please note that these tools can only be used across Google services (Gmail, Drive etc). So they are really only relevant for people who are using these services for sharing sensitive information (which would be worthy of being targeted). We talk about this program in our civics training, which is delivered to political parties as well as individual elected representatives who take us up on the offer of training.

Finally, I promised to send through more information about our [AI announcements](#) last week. The blog post links off to a number of other resources that should hopefully answer any questions you have. I will note that all Google employees have today been given access to Bard and therefore we will start testing it locally in the context of referendum questions and start providing feedback. We'll keep you posted when we have a clearer sense of when Bard might be made more widely available.

Kind regards

Section 47F



Section 47F
Government Affairs and Public Policy
Section 47F
Section 47F

On Thu, 16 Feb 2023 at 10:29, **Section 47F** wrote:

Hi **Section 47F**

Wonderful to meet you yesterday and very much looking forward to collaborating in the lead up to the referendum.

Shortly I'll be sending through a follow up email to the Google team confirming a few action items from yesterday's meeting – apologies for the slight delay on this!

Thanks for your offer to share your phone number, unfortunately I'm having a little trouble locating it so I'd be grateful if you could share it with me again? As I'll be your main point of contact for the AEC, I also wanted to pass on mine, **Section 47F**, please feel free to call or email with any questions or concerns, always very happy to help and get you the best information possible.

For emails that are of significance or urgent, I'd recommend either sending them to or CCing in EIAT@aec.gov.au so others in the Defending Democracy Unit (DDU) can assist if I'm unavailable.

Looking forward to speaking with you more over the coming months.

Kind regards,

Section 47F

Section 47F | Project Officer

Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch

Australian Electoral Commission

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