ALL ELECTION PARTICIPANTS

Conduct of campaign workers and media at polling places

Unless otherwise stated, all references to legislation are to the *Local Government Electoral Act 2011* (LGEA). The information in this fact sheet does not replace legislation. If you are concerned about your obligations, you should seek independent legal advice.

There are laws relating to the conduct of people at polling places for local government elections. Anyone campaigning near a polling place needs to be aware of the rules that apply to them.

A polling place includes a polling booth or another place at which voting takes place, such as a hospital or nursing home.

What rules apply to campaign workers at polling places?

Candidates, groups and registered political parties may have campaign workers who interact with voters at polling places. Campaign workers must **not:**

- prevent the entry and exit of voters from polling places
- canvass for votes inside a polling place or within 6 metres of its entrance
- wear or display and campaign material (e.g. t-shirts, hats, badges) inside a polling place or within 6 metres of its entrance.

Campaign workers, other than scrutineers, may only enter a polling place to cast their own vote. Any campaign material must be covered or removed before entering the polling place.

Scrutineers are formally appointed by candidates to observe aspects of the election process. They are allowed to enter a polling place only to perform their functions as scrutineer. For more information on the appointment and functions of scrutineers, please refer to Fact sheet 47 – Scrutineers.

Volunteers and workers must not campaign within 6 metres of the entrance to a polling place.

What are the rules for photographers or media?

Anyone arranging for photographers and/or media to visit a polling place should contact the ECQ in time for arrangements to be made with the relevant Supervisor.

The media and/or photographers must observe certain requirements as stipulated by the Returning Officer or Supervisor.

Photographers and members of the media or their equipment are not to hinder, inconvenience or delay any election staff or voters. The total secrecy of the vote must be maintained at all times. Only authorised persons may enter a polling place.

More information
If you need more information relating to Funding, Disclosure and Compliance, please contact ECQ on 1300 881 665 or by emailing fad@ecq.qld.gov.au.

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

For further information

This fact sheet mainly refers to part 9, division 4 of the LGEA. The Act is available in full at legislation.qld.gov.au. Participants in the electoral process should ensure they understand their obligations under the LGEA.

RELATED FACT SHEETS

Fact sheet 3 – Authorisation of election material
Fact sheet 47 – Scrutineers

Fact sheets can be found on the ECQ website.