SPONSORSHIP ARRANGEMENTS (GIFTS)

This fact sheet applies to registered political parties and any individuals or entities who enter into a sponsorship arrangement with a political party.

Under section 201 of the Electoral Act 1992, the meaning of ‘gift’ includes an amount paid, or service provided, by a person to a registered political party under a sponsorship arrangement.

**Meaning of sponsorship arrangement**

Under s 200A, a sponsorship arrangement, between a person (the sponsor) and a registered political party, means an arrangement:
- that establishes a relationship of sponsorship, approval or association between the sponsor and the party, whether or not for commercial gain; or
- that confers a right on the sponsor to associate the sponsor, or the sponsor's goods or services, with the party; or a fundraising or other venture or event; or a program or event associated with a venture or event.

It does not matter whether or not the sponsor is entitled, under the arrangement:
- to be acknowledged as a sponsor; or
- to advertising or marketing rights; or
- to supply the sponsor’s goods or services; or
- to another benefit, e.g. entry to a particular event or function.

**Disclosure obligations for sponsorship arrangements**

A sponsorship arrangement is considered a ‘gift’ and must be disclosed as such to the ECQ (refer to Fact Sheet 3 – Disclosure of gifts and loans).

As with all gifts, the details of sponsorship arrangements must be disclosed in the Electronic Disclosure System (EDS) within 7 business days of the date the gift was made.

Under s 201B(7), the value of a gift provided by a person to a registered political party under a sponsorship arrangement is worked out as the amount paid, or value of the service provided, under the arrangement; regardless of the value of the goods, services or other benefits provided to the person under the arrangement.

**Transitional arrangement for the 2020 State general election:**

Under amended section 437(2) of the Electoral Act 1992, an amount or service is included in the definition of a gift if the amount was paid, or service was provided, under a sponsorship arrangement after the commencement of the amendments on 1 August 2020, even if the sponsorship arrangement was entered into before the commencement.

More information

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