

## DISCLOSURE OF POLITICAL DONATIONS

This fact sheet relates to candidates, groups of candidates, registered political parties, associated entities, third parties and donors who participate in local government elections and by-elections.

A candidate or agent for a group of candidates must provide the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) with a disclosure return for gifts and loans received during a disclosure period for the election if:

- one or more gifts from a particular entity is equal to, or exceeds, \$500, or
- one or more loans from a particular entity (other than a financial institution) is equal to, or exceeds, \$500.

Once the \$500 threshold has been reached, the candidate or agent for a group of candidates must disclose the **relevant details** for each additional gift or loan received from the same entity during the reporting period, regardless of the amount or value of the gift or loan.

### Relevant details

The relevant details that must be disclosed are:

- the value of the gift or loan;
- the date the gift or loan was made;
- for a loan, the terms of the loan;
- if the person making the gift or loan has an interest in a local government matter that is greater than that of other persons in the local government area:
  - the nature of that person's interest;
- for a gift or loan made by an individual:
  - the individual's name and residential or business address; and
  - the individual's occupation; and
  - if the individual is employed, carries on a business or is otherwise

engaged in an industry, the industry in which the individual is employed, carries on a business or is otherwise engaged;

- for a gift or loan made by a corporation:
  - the corporation's name; and
  - the names and residential or business addresses of the directors or members of the executive committee (however described) of the corporation; and
  - if the corporation has a holding company, the names and residential or business addresses of the directors or members of the executive committee (however described) of the holding company; and
  - a description of the type of business the corporation carries on;
- for a gift or loan made on behalf of the members of an unincorporated association:
  - the association's name; and
  - unless the organisation is a registered industrial organisation - the names and residential or business addresses of the members of the executive committee (however described) of the association;
- for a gift or loan made out of a trust fund or out of the funds of a foundation:
  - the names and residential or business addresses of the trustees of the fund or other persons responsible for the funds of the foundation; and
  - the name or other description of the trust fund or foundation; and
  - if the gift is given, or loan is made, out of a trust account of a lawyer or accountant under the instructions of

### 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](mailto:fad@ecq.qld.gov.au).

a person who is in substance the giver of the gift or lender, the name and residential or business address of the person; or

- for any other gift or loan:
  - the name and residential or business address of the person who made the gift or loan.

If a gift or loan is made by an entity that is not the **original source** of the gift or loan, the **relevant details must be provided for the entity that is the original source** of the gift or loan.

**Accepting gifts or loans where the relevant details are not known by the recipient is prohibited.** The gift recipient and the donor are both required to disclose this information in their own disclosure returns and the information will be published on the ECQ's [Electronic Disclosure System](#) in accordance with legislative requirements.

### **What is the disclosure period for the election?**

If a candidate has contested the previous local government quadrennial election or a by-election the disclosure period begins 30 days after election day for that election and ends 30 days after election day for the current election.

If a candidate has not contested a local government election within the past five years, their disclosure period begins either on the day the candidate announces their

intention to be a candidate for the election or nominates as a candidate for the election and ends 30 days after election day for the current election.

For groups of candidates, the disclosure period begins 30 days after the last quadrennial election and ends 30 days after the current election.

### **What is the disclosure due date?**

All candidates and agents for groups of candidates required to disclose gifts/loans, must give the ECQ a return in **real-time**, i.e. within seven business days of the gift or loan being received.

If a gift or loan is received during the last seven business days before an election day, the gift or loan must be disclosed within one day of receipt.

All candidates and agents for groups of candidates must also lodge an **election summary return** within 15 weeks after the election, regardless of whether they were successfully elected or not, on the value of gifts/loans received. This return must state the total value of gifts/loans received during the relevant disclosure period.

### **How to lodge a return**

Disclosures should be lodged in the ECQ's **Electronic Disclosure System** at <https://disclosures.ecq.qld.gov.au/>.