



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Freedom of Information Publication Coversheet

The following information is provided pursuant to section 28 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.

FOI Reference: CMTEDDFOI 2019-0131

Information to be published	Status
1. Access application	Published
2. Decision notice	Published
3. Documents and schedule	Published
4. Additional information identified	No
5. Fees	N/A
6. Processing time (in working days)	31
7. Decision made by Ombudsman	N/A
8. Additional information identified by Ombudsman	N/A
9. Decision made by ACAT	N/A
10. Additional information identified by ACAT	N/A

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CMTEDD FOI](#); [FPSDFOI](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI Request - Federal election
Date: Tuesday, 18 June 2019 6:17:15 PM

Good afternoon

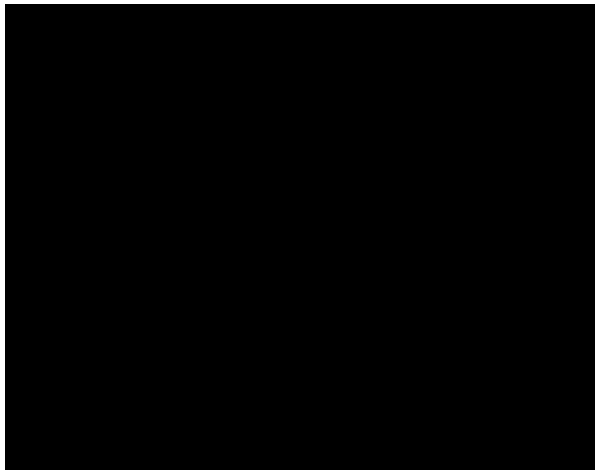
I write to request under the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* documents regarding the Federal election campaign material, political advertising, or political messaging, in particular:

- Internal documents regarding election campaign material, political advertising, or political messaging;
- Correspondence with the National Convention Centre Canberra;
- Correspondence with the Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC); and
- Any other advice provided to public servants or other entities regarding election campaign material political advertising, or political messaging.

Documents may include, but are not limited to, internal correspondence, call logs, notes, Ministerial correspondence, correspondence from or within Minister's offices, meeting notes, agendas, correspondence to external entities, internal documents, internal policies, requests for advice, advice provided, and any other types of documents.

I ask that searches be undertaken for documents from 11 April 2019 to 18 May 2019.

Kind regards,

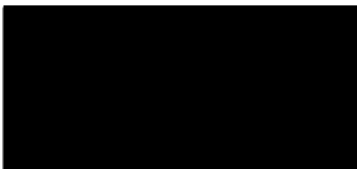




ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Our ref: CMTEDDFOI 2019-131



via email: 

Dear 

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the Act), received by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) on 18 June 2019.

Specifically, you are seeking: “documents regarding the Federal election campaign material, political advertising, or political messaging, in particular:

- Internal documents regarding election campaign material, political advertising, or political messaging;
- Correspondence with the National Convention Centre Canberra;
- Correspondence with the Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC); and
- Any other advice provided to public servants or other entities regarding election campaign material political advertising, or political messaging.”

Authority

I am an Information Officer appointed by the Director-General under section 18 of the Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the Act.

Timeframes

In accordance with section 40 of the Act, CMTEDD is required to provide a decision on your access application by 6 August 2019.

Decision on access

Searches were completed for relevant documents and 16 documents were identified that fall within the scope of your request. No correspondence was found with EPIC.

I have included as **Attachment A** to this decision the schedule of relevant documents. This provides a description of each document that falls within the scope of your request and the access decision for each of those documents.

I have decided to grant access in full to nine documents relevant to your request. I have decided to grant partial access to seven documents as I consider them to contain information that would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest to disclose under the test set out in section 17 of the Act.

My access decisions are detailed further in the following statement of reasons and the documents released to you are provided as **Attachment B** to this letter.

In accordance with section 54(2) of the Act a statement of reasons outlining my decisions is below.

Statement of Reasons

In reaching my access decisions, I have taken the following into account:

- the Act;
- the content of the documents that fall within the scope of your request;
- the views of the consulted third party; and
- the *Information Privacy Act 2014*.

Exemption claimed

My reasons for deciding not to grant access to the identified documents and components of these documents are as follows:

Public Interest

The Act has a presumption in favour of disclosure. As a decision maker I am required to decide where, on balance, public interests lies. As part of this process I must consider factors favouring disclosure and non-disclosure.

In *Hogan v Hinch* (2011) 243 CLR 506, [31] French CJ stated that when 'used in a statute, the term [public interest] derives its content from "the subject matter and the scope and purpose" of the enactment in which it appears'. Section 17(1) of the Act sets out the test, to be applied to determine whether disclosure of information would be contrary to the public interest. These factors are found in subsection 17(2) and Schedule 2 of the Act.

Taking into consideration the information contained in the documents found to be within the scope of your request, I have identified that the following public interest factors are relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the 'public interest'.

Factors favouring disclosure in the public interest:

- (a) *disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to do any of the following:*
- (iii) *inform the community of the government's operations, including the policies, guidelines and codes of conduct followed by the government in its dealings with members of the public.*

Factors favouring nondisclosure in the public interest:

- (a) *disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to do any of the following:*
- (ii) *prejudice the protection of an individual's right to privacy or any other right under the Human Rights Act 2004.*

The identified documents contain details of ACT Government policies and guidelines around election advertising and behaviour of ACT Government staff during election periods. Due to this I consider that the release of this information could inform the community of the governments operations, including policies, guidelines and codes of conduct.

In considering the documents and the factor in favour of non-disclosure, I have considered the impact of releasing the personal information contained in the documents, including the names and contact information of non-government persons. I am satisfied that the release of this information could prejudice the right to privacy of the relevant individuals and therefore consider this information to be contrary to the public interest.

Having applied the test outlined in section 17 of the Act and deciding that release of personal information contained in the documents is not in the public interest to release, I have chosen to redact this specific information in accordance with section 50(2). Noting the pro-disclosure intent of the Act, I am satisfied that redacting only the information that I believe is not in the public interest to release will ensure that the intent of the Act is met and will provide you with access to the majority of the information held by CMTEDD within the scope of your request.

Documents 9-10 and 12-16 of the identified documents contain information that I consider, on balance, to be contrary to the public interest to disclose under the test set out in section 17 of the Act or they contain information which is out of scope.

Charges

Pursuant to *Freedom of Information (Fees) Determination 2017 (No 2)* processing charges are not applicable for this request because the total number of pages to be released to you is below the charging threshold of 50 pages.

Online publishing – Disclosure Log

Under section 28 of the Act, CMTEDD maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. Your original access application, my decision and documents released to you in response to your access application will be published in the CMTEDD disclosure log three days after the date of my decision. Your personal contact details will not be published.

You may view CMTEDD disclosure log at
<https://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/functions/foi/disclosure-log>.

Ombudsman Review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published in CMTEDD disclosure log, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

If you wish to request a review of my decision you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman

GPO Box 442

CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) Review

Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision. Further information may be obtained from the ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal

Level 4, 1 Moore St

GPO Box 370


Canberra City ACT 2601

Telephone: (02) 6207 1740

<http://www.acat.act.gov.au/>

Should you have any queries in relation to your request please contact me by telephone on 6207 7754 or email CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,



Daniel Riley

Information Officer

Information Access Team

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

31 July 2019



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST SCHEDULE

NAME	WHAT ARE THE PARAMETERS OF THE REQUEST	Reference NO.
	<p>Documents regarding the Federal election campaign material, political advertising, or political messaging, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal documents regarding election campaign material, political advertising, or political messaging; • Correspondence with the National Convention Centre Canberra; • Correspondence with the Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC); and • Any other advice provided to public servants or other entities regarding election campaign material political advertising, or political messaging. 	CMTEDDFOI 2019-131

Ref No	Page number	Description	Date	Status	Reason for Exemption	Online Release Status
1	1-7	Email and attachments	11-Apr-2019	Full release	N/A	Yes
2	8-9	Email chain	11-Apr-2019	Full release	Duplicate attachments removed	Yes
3	10-14	Email chain	11-Apr-2019	Full release	Duplicate attachments removed	Yes
4	15	Email chain	11-Apr-2019	Full release	N/A	Yes
5	16	Email chain	11-Apr-2019	Full release	N/A	Yes
6	17-18	Email chain	11-Apr-2019	Full release	N/A	Yes
7	19	Email chain	11-Apr-2019	Full release	N/A	Yes
8	20-21	Email	12-Apr-2019	Full release	N/A	Yes
9	22-26	Email chain	24-Apr-2019	Partial release	Schedule 2 2.2(a)(ii) – Personal privacy	Yes
10	27-31	Email chain	24-Apr-2019	Partial release	Schedule 2 2.2(a)(ii) – Personal privacy	Yes
11	32-34	Email chain	26-Apr-2019	Full release	N/A	Yes

12	35-37	Email chain	29-Apr-2019	Partial release	Schedule 2 2.2(a)(ii) – Personal privacy	Yes
13	38-40	Email chain	28-Apr-2019	Partial release	Schedule 2 2.2(a)(ii) – Personal privacy	Yes
14	41-44	Email chain	29-Apr-2019	Partial release	Schedule 2 2.2(a)(ii) – Personal privacy	Yes
15	45-47	Email chain	30-Apr-2019	Partial release	Schedule 2 2.2(a)(ii) – Personal privacy	Yes
16	48-49	Email chain	30-Apr-2019	Partial release	Schedule 2 2.2(a)(ii) – Personal privacy	Yes
Total No of Docs						
16						

From:"Whitten, Meredith" <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>

Sent:11/04/2019 9:25 AM

To:"#WWhoG Directors General plus office" <#WWhoGDirectorsGeneralplusoffice@act.gov.au>;"Wright, Robert" <Robert.Wright@act.gov.au>;"Konti, Bettina" <Bettina.Konti@act.gov.au>;"Engele, Sam" <Sam.Engele@act.gov.au>;"Croke, Leesa" <Leesa.Croke@act.gov.au>;"Arthy, Kareena" <Kareena.Arthy@act.gov.au>;"Perkins, Anita" <Anita.Perkins@act.gov.au>;"Peffer, Dave" <Dave.Peffer@act.gov.au>

Cc:"Callen, Michelle" <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>;"Gstrein, Kylie" <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au>

Subject:ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message: for comment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Attachments:Draft Email_V0.2 (002).docx, Advice to ACT Public Servants_2019 Federal Government Election _AP.docx

Dear Directors-General

As discussed at the DG Hook-up this morning, please find attached the updated ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message for comment.

We would welcome your feedback before 1.00pm today so this message may be finalised and circulated to staff this afternoon.

Please forward any amendment to Michelle Callen Executive Branch Manager Public Sector Management, CMTEDD at the following address michelle.callen@act.gov.au

Many thanks

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |

Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308

Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | **ACT Government**

Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>



[insert signature]

Guidelines for ACT Public Service Employee Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period

The Caretaker period for the Federal election commenced on (X). While ACT public servants are not directly affected by Australian Public Service Caretaker Conventions, there are clear expectations of their impartial conduct during this time.

It is important that the ACT Public Service (ACTPS) maintains the confidence of the Government, members of the Legislative Assembly and the wider community at all times. Actions of ACT public servants during a Federal election caretaker period could create the perception of a lack of impartiality or be taken to indicate official support.

To avoid this, it is important to be aware of your behavioural obligations as an ACT public servant.

A guide has been prepared on the expected behaviour of ACT public sector officers, employees, members of the Senior Executive Service (SES), and members of government boards and committees (collectively referred to as ACT public servants) during a Federal election and its associated Caretaker period.

The guidance can be found on the ACTPS Employment Portal along with other information relating to employment in the ACTPS.

For further information, please contact Public Sector Management Group, on PSM@act.gov.au

Regards,

Meredith Whitten

Deputy Director-General, Workforce Capability and Governance Division

ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period

Purpose

This guide outlines the expected behaviour of ACT public sector officers, employees, members of the Senior Executive Service (SES), and members of government boards and committees (collectively referred to as ACT public servants) during a Federal election and its associated Caretaker period.

How do ACT Public Servants maintain public confidence during election periods?

It is important that the ACT Public Service maintains the confidence of the Government, members of the Legislative Assembly and the wider community at all times. Actions of ACT public servants during a Federal election caretaker period could create the perception of a lack of impartiality or be taken to indicate official support.

To avoid this, it is important to be aware of your behavioural obligations as an ACT public servant.

Division 2.1 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* (PSM Act) sets out the values, principles and conduct requirements that apply to an ACT public servant. The best practice principle requires an ACT Public Servant to work efficiently, collaboratively and in an accountable way and make fair and reasonable decisions. Expected conduct includes:

- > taking all reasonable steps to avoid conflicts of interest;
- > complying with laws and reasonable directions given by a person with the authority to do so;
- > treating all people courteously and making all reasonable efforts to help members of the public understand their rights and meet their obligations under the law;
- > doing your job with reasonable care, diligence, impartiality and honesty;
- > behaving in a way that upholds the integrity and reputation of the service including not engaging in intimidating behaviour or applying improper influence, favouritism or patronage;
- > not using your job, information you gain in the course of doing your job or territory resources inappropriately; and
- > not disclosing any confidential information or making a comment that might reasonably be taken as official comment without the correct authority to do so.

In addition, the ACT Public Service Code of Conduct (2012) specifically requires that you are aware of any perceived or real conflicts of interest including in relation to party-political activities.

How can ACT public servants exercise their rights to political expression and participation during federal election periods?

As members of the community, ACT public servants have the right to political expression and participation. In your role as an ACT public servant, you must maintain a standpoint of neutrality and political impartiality.

To get this balance right, you must be alert to whether any political activity that you engage in will adversely impact your ability to perform your official duties, give rise to a real or perceived conflict of interest or breach any other conduct requirements of the PSM Act.

For example, the types of political activities that ACT public servants may choose to do in their own time are:

- > participating in political campaigns or canvassing including doorknocking, letterboxing, phone polling and other volunteer campaign activities;
- > engaging in political debate and making comment in a private capacity including on social media platforms; and
- > participating in rallies and events.

In undertaking these types of activities, you must avoid creating the impression that you are acting in your role as an ACT public servant. Accordingly, you should not engage in a political activity while:

- > identifying yourself as a an ACT public servant, including by placing that information on social media profiles;
- > wearing any kind of work uniform/lanyard;
- > giving the impression that you are speaking on behalf of the government and/or the Directorate for which you work.

Under section 9 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, a public employee must not disclose information obtained during the course of their duties unless they:

- > do so in the course of duties and have the proper authority to do so;
- > are required to do so by law; or
- > are giving evidence in court.

Unlawful disclosure of official information may constitute a breach of the PSM Act, and may amount to a criminal offence under the *Crimes Act 1900*.

What is expected workplace conduct during the Federal election period?

Expectations of workplace conduct during Federal election periods are the same as at other times.

Where your duties involve public contact, ACT public servants should take care to avoid creating the impression of official endorsement of a political stance or party, such as by displaying party political material or badges.

ACT public servants must not participate in political activities during working hours unless they are on approved leave.

Can ACT public servants use work resources for election activities?

Section 9 of the PSM Act, prohibits ACT public servants from improperly using a Territory resource. In practice, this means that you must not use work resources to pursue your own private interests, including election related activities.

For example, it is not appropriate to use a work photocopier, Territory vehicle, work telephones, meeting rooms, email accounts, mailing lists or uniforms for political activities.

Use of Official Premises, Facilities and Equipment

ACT Government premises such as schools, hospitals and bus depots may be used as the backdrop for political advertising or policy material by local and federal government and non-government parties (e.g. photography or filming) provided that no official resources are utilised, the operations of the site are not unreasonably impacted and it is undertaken on a case by case basis. It is important that the impartiality of ACT public servants is not compromised through their appearance in party political material of this sort. With this in mind it may be more appropriate for actors to be used in place of officials.

The appropriate channel for consideration of requests by political parties to use ACT Government premises will vary across directorates, and your Communications team will facilitate the necessary approvals if a request for an event is made. The Communications team will ensure your directorate's protocols are met. In the event that a request is received, please make contact with your Communications team.

It is not appropriate that the use of agency premises extend to such activities as engaging public servants in political dialogue, or using public servants for logistical support for political functions. Nor should the use of premises unreasonably disrupt the normal operations of the offices concerned.

Standing for election: Can an ACT public servant contest a Federal government election?

Any ACTPS employee who is standing for a seat in the House of Representatives or the Senate should follow the procedures set out below.

Please note that the procedures outlined below are intended to be a guide, and that candidates should seek their own independent advice in relation to candidature and point of any resignation from the ACTPS.

In addition, the Australian Electoral Commission provides a [Candidate's Handbook](#) which contains essential information for candidates standing for election for the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Leave Without Pay to Campaign for Election

Under ACT Public Sector Enterprise Agreements (F25.2 of the Administrative and Related Classifications Enterprise Agreement), an ACTPS employee may be granted leave to enable the employee to campaign for election.

To access this form of leave, the employee must be “standing for election to the ACT Legislative Assembly, Commonwealth or State House of Parliament or other legislative or advisory body”.

The leave can be granted for a maximum period of three months and is to be taken without pay. Periods of leave to campaign for election will not count as service for the calculation of other entitlements including recognition of prior service.

ACT public servants wishing to access leave without pay to campaign for their election to the Commonwealth Parliament must do so prior to their nomination as a candidate because they will need to resign in order to be eligible to nominate. Leave entitlements, including LWOP under the campaign for election provision, are no longer accessible upon an employee's resignation. All accrued and unpaid eligible entitlements will be paid out at the next available pay day following resignation.

Candidates for Federal Elections may not lodge nominations until after the writ for the election has been issued. The date fixed for the close of nominations must be at least 10 days, but not more than 27 days after the issue of the writ.

Do ACT public servants need to resign from the ACTPS if they wish to contest a Federal Election?

Yes. Under Section 44 of the Australian Constitution, a person cannot nominate for the Senate or the House of Representatives if they are a public servant. This means that an ACT public servant must first resign before nominating as a candidate in the Federal election.

If you are unsure as to whether you are an ACT public servant, you should seek independent legal advice to clarify your status.

What Do ACT Public Servants need to know before resigning?

ACT public servants should be aware that resigning will result in a termination of their employment and employment relationship with the ACT Public Service. This means that in your final payment you will receive entitlements such as base pay; unused annual leave; long service leave entitlements where applicable; and leave loading. If you do not want your leave entitlements paid out at the time of your resignation, please discuss this with your HR team who will liaise with the Workforce Capability and Governance Division within the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.

Re-appointment of unsuccessful election candidates

Sections 131, 136 and 139 of the PSM Act allow a former SES member, officer or employee who is an unsuccessful election candidate to apply to the Head of Service to be re-employed, re-appointed or re-engaged. Such requests must be made within 2 months after the declaration of the result of the election.

Division 7.2 of the *Public Sector Management Standards 2016* outlines eligible employment for the purposes of calculating entitlements. Previous employment can be recognised for Long Service Leave (LSL) purposes provided any break in employment between ceasing duty with the ACT Public Service (or other eligible employment) and recommencing duty is *no more than twelve months*.

Previous employment can be recognised for Personal Leave purposes provided any break in employment between ceasing duty with the ACT Public Service (or other eligible employment) and recommencing duty is *no more than two months*.

ACT public servants considering standing as a candidate in a federal election should seek independent legal advice *before they resign* on how to re-join the ACT Public Service in the event that their candidature is unsuccessful.

Other legislative requirements

The Australian Electoral Commission provides *guidance* on the qualification and eligibility requirements under Section 44 of the Australian Constitution for candidates for the Senate or the House of Representatives.

ACT public servants are encouraged to obtain independent legal advice if they are in any doubt whether the provisions of the above Acts apply to them.

Further information

For further information, please contact Public Sector Management Group, on PSM@act.gov.au

From:"Corrigan, Amie" <Amie.Corrigan@act.gov.au> on behalf of "Howson, Natalie" <Natalie.Howson@act.gov.au>
Sent:11/04/2019 12:47 AM
To:"Whitten, Meredith" <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Cc:"Gstrein, Kylie" <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au>
Subject:FW: ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message: for comment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments:Draft Email_V0.2 (002).docx, Advice to ACT Public Servants_2019 Federal Government Election_AP.docx

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi Meredith

Natalie is happy with the attached messages.
She has suggested that appropriate usage and expression on social media be mentioned.
We will also send out a similar message to teachers and school staff.
Thanks

Kind Regards,

Amie Corrigan | Executive Assistant to
Natalie Howson, Director-General
Education Directorate | ACT Government
T: +61 2 6205 9156 | E: amie.corrigan@act.gov.au
Level 6, 220 Northbourne Ave Braddon | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.education.act.gov.au

From: Whitten, Meredith
Sent: Thursday, 11 April 2019 9:26 AM
To: #WWhoG Directors General plus office <#WWhoGDirectorsGeneralplusoffice@act.gov.au>; Wright, Robert <Robert.Wright@act.gov.au>; Konti, Bettina <Bettina.Konti@act.gov.au>; Engele, Sam <Sam.Engele@act.gov.au>; Croke, Leesa <Leesa.Croke@act.gov.au>; Arthy, Kareena <Kareena.Arthy@act.gov.au>; Perkins, Anita <Anita.Perkins@act.gov.au>; Peffer, Dave <Dave.Peffer@act.gov.au>
Cc: Callen, Michelle <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>; Gstrein, Kylie <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au>
Subject: ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message: for comment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

FORWARDED TO DAVID FOR COMMENT - AMIE

Dear Directors-General

As discussed at the DG Hook-up this morning, please find attached the updated ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message for comment.

We would welcome your feedback before 1.00pm today so this message may be finalised and circulated to staff this afternoon.

Please forward any amendment to Michelle Callen Executive Branch Manager Public Sector Management, CMTEDD at the following address michelle.callen@act.gov.au

Many thanks

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |
Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308

Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | **ACT Government**

Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>



[insert signature]

From: "Whitten, Meredith" <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Sent: 11/04/2019 8:37 AM
To: "Leigh, Kathy" <Kathy.Leigh@act.gov.au>
Cc: "Power, Leanne" <Leanne.Power@act.gov.au>; "Callen, Michelle" <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: HPRM Notification - Action Made Current. Matter Finalised - CMTEDD2019/1705 - Guidance on ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: Advice to ACT Public Servants_2019 Federal Government Election _AP.docx, Draft Email_V0.2.docx

Hi Kathy

This is the updated election guidelines.

For your consideration

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |
Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308
Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>



From: Callen, Michelle
Sent: Wednesday, 10 April 2019 5:25 PM
To: Whitten, Meredith <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>; Gstrein, Kylie <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: HPRM Notification - Action Made Current. Matter Finalised - CMTEDD2019/1705 - Guidance on ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hello Kylie – can you please see this updated version to TRIM, I can then discuss with Leanne Power. Thank you Michelle

From: Grice, Lowri
Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 3:35 PM
To: Callen, Michelle <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>; Ernst, Denise <Denise.Ernst@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: HPRM Notification - Action Made Current. Matter Finalised - CMTEDD2019/1705 - Guidance on ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Michelle,

Please find the amended version attached with Anita's text included as a separate section. I left out the second to last paragraph because I think its covered sufficiently in the previous section (Can ACT Public Servants use work resources...).

I also took Anita's message to mean we should cut the following paragraph from the guidance, so I've done that.

'If you are the delegate making a decision about the use of Territory premises for political activities, and you identify that you may have a potential, perceived, or actual conflict of interest, it is important that you seek advice from your

directorate Human Resources team or appropriate Senior Executive as early as possible in your decision making process."

Apologies- I think the draft email message was an old version – I have shortened and updated this one. please let me know if you would like anything added/changed. They are also stored in the [folder here](#)

Thanks

Lowri

Lowri Grice
A/g Director Workforce Strategy
Public Sector Management | Workforce Capability and Governance Division
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government
T: (02) 6205 7258 | E: lowri.grice@act.gov.au
Level 4, Canberra Nara Centre 2601 | GPO Box 158, Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au



From: Callen, Michelle
Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 1:46 PM
To: Ernst, Denise <Denise.Ernst@act.gov.au>; Grice, Lowri <Lowri.Grice@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: HPRM Notification - Action Made Current. Matter Finalised - CMTEDD2019/1705 - Guidance on ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hello Denise and Lowri

Can you please update the advice and email for Meredith today, thank you Michelle

From: Whitten, Meredith
Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 1:20 PM
To: Perkins, Anita <Anita.Perkins@act.gov.au>; Callen, Michelle <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>
Cc: Gstrein, Kylie <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: HPRM Notification - Action Made Current. Matter Finalised - CMTEDD2019/1705 - Guidance on ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Anita – thank you for this advice which is very much appreciated.

Hi Michelle and Kylie – would you please update the guide with the suggested text below from Anita. Then please send me the revised copy and I will seek agreement from the Head of Service to the revised text.
Many thanks

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |
Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308
Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>

From: Perkins, Anita

Sent: Tuesday, 9 April 2019 9:41 AM

To: Whitten, Meredith <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>

Cc: Callen, Michelle <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>

Subject: RE: HPRM Notification - Action Made Current. Matter Finalised - CMTEDD2019/1705 - Guidance on ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi Meredith

I think the comms teams would really benefit from a clear section in the guidelines and the email like what was in the one back in 2016. It is a bit lost in the section 'can the act public servants use work resources for election activities' as that seems to be aimed at those participating in political events rather than those receiving requests for political events to occur.

Can I suggest it is broken out like it was in 2016 as a clear separate section, and a merge between this years draft and the 2019 draft as follows, taking away the bit about ministers approvals and just referring to directorate protocols – the comms teams know what they are:

Use of Official Premises, Facilities and Equipment

ACT Government premises such as schools, hospitals and bus depots may be used as the backdrop for political advertising or policy material by local and federal government and non-government parties (e.g. photography or filming) provided that no official resources are utilised, the operations of the site are not unreasonably impacted and it is undertaken on a case by case basis. It is important that the impartiality of ACT public servants is not compromised through their appearance in party political material of this sort. With this in mind it may be more appropriate for actors to be used in place of officials.

The appropriate channel for consideration of requests by political parties to use ACT Government premises will vary across directorates, and your Communications team will facilitate the necessary approvals if a request for an event is made. The Communications team will ensure your directorate's protocols are met. In the event that a request is received, please make contact with your Communications team.

Public employees must not use official facilities for promotion of any political party. The use of official facilities includes use of meeting rooms, the use of government telephones, facsimile machines, e-mail, computers and photocopiers. Electioneering activity or other political activity that involves expense to the Territory is likely to constitute a breach of section 9 of the PSM Act.

It is not appropriate that the use of agency premises extend to such activities as engaging public servants in political dialogue, or using public servants for logistical support for political functions. Nor should the use of premises unreasonably disrupt the normal operations of the offices concerned.

Regards
Anita

-----Original Message-----

From: Whitten, Meredith

Sent: Monday, 8 April 2019 9:20 PM

To: Perkins, Anita <Anita.Perkins@act.gov.au>

Cc: Callen, Michelle <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: HPRM Notification - Action Made Current. Matter Finalised - CMTEDD2019/1705 - Guidance on ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Anita

Kathy has reviewed the attached advice and I have sent it to D-Gs for any comments. I would appreciate your advice about the draft email message to all staff and any suggestions you may have about its content.

Kathy has also asked the question whether the two paragraphs below and taking a consistent approach across Directorates about the request by political parties to use ACT Government premises. Is there another way to present this information? In 2016 - the approach (attached) was to contact the Communications team in each Directorate (which the PSM originally provided).

"The appropriate channel for consideration of requests by political parties to use ACT Government premises will vary across directorates. Certain directorates require all requests of this nature to be referred to the relevant Minister's office. In the event that a request is received, ACT public servants should familiarise themselves with the correct protocol for their work area.

If you are the delegate making a decision about the use of Territory premises for political activities, and you identify that you may have a potential, perceived, or actual conflict of interest, it is important that you seek advice from your directorate Human Resources team or appropriate Senior Executive as early as possible in your decision making process."

For your advice please

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General | Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308 Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | ACT Government Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>

-----Original Message-----

From: Callen, Michelle

Sent: Monday, 8 April 2019 2:39 PM

To: Whitten, Meredith <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>

Cc: Grice, Lowri <Lowri.Grice@act.gov.au>; Ernst, Denise <Denise.Ernst@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: HPRM Notification - Action Made Current. Matter Finalised - CMTEDD2019/1705 - Guidance on ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hello Meredith - please see attached amended guidance, with regards Michelle

-----Original Message-----

From: Grice, Lowri

Sent: Monday, 8 April 2019 12:10 PM

To: Callen, Michelle <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>

Cc: Ernst, Denise <Denise.Ernst@act.gov.au>

Subject: RE: HPRM Notification - Action Made Current. Matter Finalised - CMTEDD2019/1705 - Guidance on ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi both,

Please see amended guidance and email message attached

Thanks

Lowri

Lowri Grice

A/g Director Workforce Strategy

Public Sector Management | Workforce Capability and Governance Division Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

T: (02) 6205 7258 | E: lowri.grice@act.gov.au Level 4, Canberra Nara Centre 2601 | GPO Box 158, Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au

-----Original Message-----

From: Callen, Michelle

Sent: Monday, 8 April 2019 11:57 AM

To: Grice, Lowri <Lowri.Grice@act.gov.au>

Cc: Ernst, Denise <Denise.Ernst@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: HPRM Notification - Action Made Current. Matter Finalised - CMTEDD2019/1705 - Guidance on ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Lowri - please see trim with feedback on the guidance. I think it is one change 'to lack of impartiality', happy to receive your thoughts on this too, Michelle

-----Original Message-----

From: Content Manager [<mailto:ContentManager9.1@act.gov.au>]

Sent: Monday, 8 April 2019 11:50 AM

To: Callen, Michelle <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>

Subject: HPRM Notification - Action Made Current. Matter Finalised - CMTEDD2019/1705 - Guidance on ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period

CMTEDD2019/1705 - Guidance on ACT Public Servant Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period

Action: Matter Finalised

Responsible Location: Callen, Michelle

Due Date: 18/04/2019 at 11:52 AM

This Action is now ready to commence. Could you please ensure that it is completed by 18/04/2019 at 11:52 AM.

Action Notes:

--

This E-mail Message has been automatically generated by WhoGRM HP Records Manager.

From: "Callen, Michelle" <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>
Sent: 10/04/2019 11:39 PM
To: "Whitten, Meredith" <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Cc: "Gstrein, Kylie" <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message: for comment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Meredith yes we will update as part of change of header before it is issued, regards Michelle

From: Whitten, Meredith
Sent: Thursday, 11 April 2019 9:32 AM
To: Callen, Michelle <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>
Cc: Gstrein, Kylie <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message: for comment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Michelle

Thank you for updating these documents which I appreciate.
I know that you will complete the relevant dates or re-phrase the message before it is issued.
Many thanks

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |
Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308
Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>



From: Callen, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, 11 April 2019 9:21 AM
To: Whitten, Meredith <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Cc: Gstrein, Kylie <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au>
Subject: ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message: for comment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear Meredith – please find attached the updated Guidelines and draft message for review.

Dear Director-General

As discussed at the DG Hook-up this morning
Please find attached the updated ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message for comment. I welcome feedback before 1.00pm today so this message may be finalised and circulated to staff this afternoon. Please forward any amendment to Michelle Callen Executive Branch Manager Public Sector Management, CMTEDD at the following address michelle.callen@act.gov.au

From: "McDonald, Bernadette (Health)" <Bernadette.McDonald@act.gov.au>
Sent: 11/04/2019 12:01 AM
To: "Whitten, Meredith" <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Subject: Re: ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message: for comment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Meredith, thanks for the documents. I don't have any feedback.
Regards Bernadette

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Whitten, Meredith <meredith.whitten@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:25 am
To: #WHOg Directors General plus office; Wright, Robert; Konti, Bettina; Engele, Sam; Croke, Leesa; Arthy, Kareena; Perkins, Anita; Pepper, Dave
Cc: Callen, Michelle; Gstrein, Kylie
Subject: ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message: for comment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear Directors-General

As discussed at the DG Hook-up this morning, please find attached the updated ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message for comment.

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Many thanks

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |
Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308
Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>



[insert signature]

From: "Birkett, Joice" <Joice.Birkett@act.gov.au>
Sent: 11/04/2019 11:37 AM
To: "Whitten, Meredith" <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Cc: "Callen, Michelle" <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>; "Gstrein, Kylie" <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message: for comment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Good morning Meredith

David has reviewed the ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message with nil comments. Thank you

Regards
Joice

Joice Birkett

Executive Assistant to **David Nicol, Under Treasurer**

Phone: +61 2 6207 0261 | Email: joice.birkett@act.gov.au

Office of The Under Treasurer | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
Level 1 Canberra Nara Centre | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au

Please consider the environment before printing this email - or if printing is necessary, please print double-sided.

From: Whitten, Meredith
Sent: Thursday, 11 April 2019 9:26 AM
To: #WHoG Directors General plus office <#WHoGDirectorsGeneralplusoffice@act.gov.au>; Wright, Robert <Robert.Wright@act.gov.au>; Konti, Bettina <Bettina.Konti@act.gov.au>; Engele, Sam <Sam.Engele@act.gov.au>; Croke, Leesa <Leesa.Croke@act.gov.au>; Arthy, Kareena <Kareena.Arthy@act.gov.au>; Perkins, Anita <Anita.Perkins@act.gov.au>; Peffer, Dave <Dave.Peffer@act.gov.au>
Cc: Callen, Michelle <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>; Gstrein, Kylie <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au>
Subject: ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message: for comment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear Directors-General

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Many thanks

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |

Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308

Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | **ACT Government**

Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>

The logo features a large, stylized number '25' on the left, composed of multiple parallel lines. To its right, the text 'Years of the' is in a smaller font, followed by 'ACT Public Service' in a larger, bold font. Below the '25' is the text '1994-2019'. The entire logo is set against a dark blue background with a faint, circular pattern of lines.

25 Years of the
ACT Public Service
1994-2019

[insert signature]

From:"Whitten, Meredith" <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Sent:11/04/2019 9:31 AM
To:"Callen, Michelle" <Michelle.Callen@act.gov.au>
Cc:"Gstrein, Kylie" <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au>
Subject:RE: ACTPS Employee conduct guidelines and draft message: for comment [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Michelle

Thank you for updating these documents which I appreciate.
I know that you will complete the relevant dates or re-phrase the message before it is issued.
Many thanks

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |
Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308
Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>



From: Callen, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, 11 April 2019 9:21 AM
To: Whitten, Meredith <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Cc: Gstrein, Kylie <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au>
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[insert signature]

From: "Gstrein, Kylie" <Kylie.Gstrein@act.gov.au> on behalf of "Whitten, Meredith" <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Sent: 12/04/2019 10:32 AM
To: "###All Staff, ACT Public Service" <###AllStaffACTPublicService@act.gov.au>
Subject: All staff message - Guidelines for ACT Public Service Employee Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]



12 April 2019

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL WORKFORCE CAPABILITY & GOVERNANCE

Meredith Whitten

Colleagues,

Guidelines for ACT Public Service Employee Conduct during the 2019 Federal Government Election Period

The Caretaker period for the Federal election commenced on Thursday 11 April 2019. While ACT public servants are not directly affected by Australian Public Service Caretaker Conventions, there are clear expectations of their impartial conduct during this time.

It is important that the ACT Public Service (ACTPS) maintains the confidence of the Government, members of the Legislative Assembly and the wider community at all times. Actions of ACT public servants during a Federal election caretaker period could create the perception of a lack of impartiality or be taken to indicate official support.

To avoid this, it is important to be aware of your behavioural obligations as an ACT public servant.

A guide has been prepared on the expected behaviour of ACT public sector officers, employees, members of the Senior Executive Service (SES), and members of government boards and committees (collectively referred to as ACT public servants) during a Federal election and its associated Caretaker period.

The guidance can be found on the [ACTPS Employment Portal](#) along with other information relating to employment in the ACTPS.

For further information, please contact Public Sector Management Group, on PSM@act.gov.au

Regards,

Meredith Whitten

Deputy Director-General
Workforce Capability and Governance

Follow us on



From: "ACTPGExecutiveSupport" <ACTPGExecutiveSupport@act.gov.au>
Sent: 24/04/2019 9:48 AM
To: "Bradley, Kellie" <Kellie.Bradley@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

FYI

From: Dolan, Fiona
Sent: Wednesday, 24 April 2019 9:45 AM
To: Revill, Phil <Phil.Revill@act.gov.au>; CMTEDDMedia <CMTEDDMedia@act.gov.au>; Rhind, Michelle <Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>
Cc: Linnane, Amy <Amy.Linnane@act.gov.au>; ACTPGExecutiveSupport <ACTPGExecutiveSupport@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Phil

Thanks for your email advising us of this matter.

As you have flagged, the Guidance for activity during the 2019 Federal Government Period does provide advice that states that official resources should not be utilised for political advertising.

For this reason, the digital display should not be used for this purpose or any political purpose during this period.

Many thanks
Fiona

From: Revill, Phil
Sent: Wednesday, 24 April 2019 8:35 AM
To: CMTEDDMedia <CMTEDDMedia@act.gov.au>; Rhind, Michelle <Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>
Cc: Linnane, Amy <Amy.Linnane@act.gov.au>; Dolan, Fiona <Fiona.Dolan@act.gov.au>; ACTPGExecutiveSupport <ACTPGExecutiveSupport@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Good morning

ACTPG has been asked for advice by the Licensee of the National Convention Centre, Intercontinental Hotels Group, concerning the use of the large digital display screen placed on the exterior of the National Convention Centre that faces the intersection of Constitution Avenue and Coranderrk Street.

Below is the proposed advertisement that would be displayed. As advised in the attached email from the DDG Workforce Capability and Governance, actions by public servants could create a perception of a lack of impartiality.

The National Convention Centre is an ACT Government owned asset and the use of the infrastructure may breach this requirement.

In this regard, could you please advise if the digital display could be used for the purpose requested below.

Your timely advice to this request is appreciated.

Kind regards,

Phil Revill MAIPM | Senior Director, Portfolio Management

Phone +61 2 6207 6133 | Mobile 0402 970 837 | Fax +61 2 6213 0734

ACT Property Group | Chief Minister, Treasury & Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

1st Floor, 255 Canberra Avenue Fyshwick ACT 2609 | PO Box 777 Fyshwick ACT 2609 | www.economicdevelopment.act.gov.au | www.act.gov.au

For repairs and maintenance related matters, please contact the Response Centre, T: 6213 0700 E: actpg@act.gov.au

If you have any feedback for the ACT Property Group, please email actpgfeedback@act.gov.au

From: Schaidreiter, Robert

Sent: Wednesday, 24 April 2019 8:02 AM

To: Revill, Phil <Phil.Revill@act.gov.au>

Cc: Brown, Mike <Mike.Brown@act.gov.au>; Ozols, Peter <Peter.Ozols@act.gov.au>; Rhind, Michelle <Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>

Subject: FW: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Phil

Pete Ozols received the attached email from Michelle Rhind, National Convention Centre, advising that they had been contacted by an advertising agency to use their big screen out the front of the NCC to display some political advertising. Please see attached

The NCC initially refused the request however they have now been advised that this refusal may play out in the media. The attached all staff message notes that ACT Government buildings maybe used as a back drop for political messaging but that all requests should go through the Communications area for approval. See heading " Use of Official Premises, Facilities and Equipment"

As the NCC is an ACTPG asset it may be apt to forward the request to the CMTEDD Communications area for advice

Cheers

ROBERT SCHAIDREITER

A/g DIRECTOR PROPERTY AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES | ACT PROPERTY GROUP | CHIEF MINISTERS, TREASURY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE | ACT GOVERNMENT | www.act.gov.au | P: +61 2 621 30746 | M: 0466 517 595 | F: +61 2 621 30735 | E: robert.schaidreiter@act.gov.au

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If you have any feedback for the ACT Property Group, please email actpgfeedback@act.gov.au



From: Ozols, Peter

Sent: Wednesday, 24 April 2019 6:36 AM

To: Schaidreiter, Robert <Robert.Schaidreiter@act.gov.au>

Cc: Rhind, Michelle <Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>

Subject: FW: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Over to you Rob.

PETER OZOLS | PROJECT OFFICER | ACT PROPERTY GROUP-PROPERTY UPGRADES | CHIEF MINISTERS, TREASURY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE | ACT GOVERNMENT | P: +61 2 621 30727 | F: +61 2 621 30735 | M: 0438 652 192 | E: peter.ozols@act.gov.au

From: Rhind, Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, 23 April 2019 5:41 PM
To: Ozols, Peter <Peter.Ozols@act.gov.au>
Subject: Fw: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election

Hi Peter

I hear you are back from leave, I hope you had a nice time away.
I have just sent Mike Brown an email and got his out of office, to contact, Robert Schaidreiter and a number but it does not connect.

You will see in below email we need advice, are you able to forward to Robert for me??

Michelle

MICHELLE RHIND
Operations Manager



T [+61 2 6276 5257](tel:+61262765257) F [+61 2 6276 5276](tel:+61262765276) A 31 Constitution Ave, Canberra ACT 2601
E michelle.rhind@ihg.com nccc.com.au



The information in this email is private, confidential and proprietary and intended for the exclusive and internal use of the addressee only unless otherwise stated.

From: Rhind, Michelle
Sent: Tuesday, 23 April 2019 5:31 PM
To: Brown, Mike
Cc: Wood, Stephen
Subject: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election

Hi Mike

Last week we received the below advertisement from the advertising agency who wished us to place to this on the our Big screen at the front of our building.

We made the decision that this could not go on the big screen. We explained this to our advertising agency who manages the big screen and they said that they would place through their other screens around Canberra.

Late this afternoon our agency who manages this screen wanted to let us know that this decision may now be played out through the media. It is my understanding from the call this afternoon that if it does make the media they will use a tag line using is "people building" .

Happy to take further guidance from you on this matter. My mobile is [Sch 2 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

Thanks
Michelle

IF YOU THINK

RATES

ARE HIGH NOW.



From: "Revill, Phil" <Phil.Revill@act.gov.au>

Sent: 24/04/2019 9:48 AM

To: "Dolan, Fiona" <Fiona.Dolan@act.gov.au>; "CMTEDDMedia" <CMTEDDMedia@act.gov.au>; "Rhind, Michelle" <Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>

Cc: "Linnane, Amy" <Amy.Linnane@act.gov.au>; "ACTPGExecutiveSupport" <ACTPGExecutiveSupport@act.gov.au>

Subject: RE: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Fiona

Thank you for your prompt response. I will call the Intercontinental Hotels Group and provide this advice.

Kind regards,

Phil

From: Dolan, Fiona

Sent: Wednesday, 24 April 2019 9:45 AM

To: Revill, Phil <Phil.Revill@act.gov.au>; CMTEDDMedia <CMTEDDMedia@act.gov.au>; Rhind, Michelle <Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>

Cc: Linnane, Amy <Amy.Linnane@act.gov.au>; ACTPGExecutiveSupport <ACTPGExecutiveSupport@act.gov.au>

Subject: RE: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

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For this reason, the digital display should not be used for this purpose or any political purpose during this period.

Many thanks

Fiona

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Sent: Wednesday, 24 April 2019 8:35 AM

To: CMTEDDMedia <CMTEDDMedia@act.gov.au>; Rhind, Michelle <Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>

Cc: Linnane, Amy <Amy.Linnane@act.gov.au>; Dolan, Fiona <Fiona.Dolan@act.gov.au>; ACTPGExecutiveSupport <ACTPGExecutiveSupport@act.gov.au>

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The National Convention Centre is an ACT Government owned asset and the use of the infrastructure may breach this requirement.

In this regard, could you please advise if the digital display could be used for the purpose requested below.

Your timely advice to this request is appreciated.

Kind regards,

Phil Revill MAIPM | Senior Director, Portfolio Management
Phone +61 2 6207 6133 | Mobile 0402 970 837 | Fax +61 2 6213 0734
ACT Property Group | Chief Minister, Treasury & Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government
1st Floor, 255 Canberra Avenue Fyshwick ACT 2609 | PO Box 777 Fyshwick ACT 2609 | www.economicdevelopment.act.gov.au | www.act.gov.au

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Sent: Wednesday, 24 April 2019 8:02 AM
To: Revill, Phil <Phil.Revill@act.gov.au>
Cc: Brown, Mike <Mike.Brown@act.gov.au>; Ozols, Peter <Peter.Ozols@act.gov.au>; Rhind, Michelle <Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>
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As the NCC is an ACTPG asset it may be apt to forward the request to the CMTEDD Communications area for advice

Cheers

ROBERT SCHAIDREITER

A/g DIRECTOR PROPERTY AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES | ACT PROPERTY GROUP | CHIEF MINISTERS, TREASURY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE | ACT GOVERNMENT | www.act.gov.au | P: +61 2 621 30746 | M: 0466 517 595 | F: +61 2 621 30735 | E: robert.schaidreiter@act.gov.au

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Cc: Rhind, Michelle <Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>
Subject: FW: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Over to you Rob.

PETER OZOLS | PROJECT OFFICER | ACT PROPERTY GROUP-PROPERTY UPGRADES | CHIEF MINISTERS, TREASURY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE | ACT GOVERNMENT | P: +61 2 621 30727 | F: +61 2 621 30735 | M: 0438 652 192 | E: peter.ozols@act.gov.au

From: Rhind, Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, 23 April 2019 5:41 PM
To: Ozols, Peter <Peter.Ozols@act.gov.au>
Subject: Fw: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election

Hi Peter

I hear you are back from leave, I hope you had a nice time away.
I have just sent Mike Brown an email and got his out of office, to contact, Robert Schaidreiter and a number but it does not connect.

You will see in below email we need advice, are you able to forward to Robert for me??

Michelle

MICHELLE RHIND
Operations Manager



T [+61 2 6276 5257](tel:+61262765257) F [+61 2 6276 5276](tel:+61262765276) A 31 Constitution Ave, Canberra ACT 2601
E michelle.rhind@ihg.com nccc.com.au



The information in this email is private, confidential and proprietary and intended for the exclusive and internal use of the addressee only unless otherwise stated.

From: Rhind, Michelle
Sent: Tuesday, 23 April 2019 5:31 PM
To: Brown, Mike

Cc: Wood, Stephen

Subject: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election

Hi Mike

Last week we received the below advertisement from the advertising agency who wished us to place to this on the our Big screen at the front of our building.

We made the decision that this could not go on the big screen. We explained this to our advertising agency who manages the big screen and they said that they would place through their other screens around Canberra.

Late this afternoon our agency who manages this screen wanted to let us know that this decision may now be played out through the media. It is my understanding from the call this afternoon that if it does make the media they will use a tag line using is "people building" .

Happy to take further guidance from you on this matter. My mobile is [Sch 2 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

Thanks

Michelle

IF YOU THINK

RATES

ARE HIGH NOW.



From: "Whitten, Meredith" <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Sent: 26/04/2019 6:05 PM
To: "Leigh, Kathy" <Kathy.Leigh@act.gov.au>
Cc: "Power, Leanne" <Leanne.Power@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Twitter For Mobile Office [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Kathy
For your information.

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |
Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308
Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>



From: Edghill, Duncan
Sent: Friday, 26 April 2019 6:05 PM
To: Whitten, Meredith <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Twitter For Mobile Office [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Meredith,

Many thanks for the email and for your call a moment ago. I hope you have a good weekend.

Kind Regards
Duncan

From: Whitten, Meredith
Sent: Friday, 26 April 2019 6:02 PM
To: Edghill, Duncan <Duncan.Edghill@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Twitter For Mobile Office [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Duncan

I have looked at the information you have provided below and also looked at the Twitter feed from Mr Andrew Leigh MP. The images show Mr Leigh chatting to passengers.

The ACT Public Service *Advice to Public Servants – 2019 Federal Election* provide that the use of Official Premises, Facilities and Equipment during an election period may occur under specific conditions and on a case by case basis. The advice is available at <https://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/employment-framework/for-employees/a-z> .

ACT Government premises may be used as the backdrop for political advertising or policy material by local and federal government and non-government parties (eg photography or filming) provided that no official resources are utilised and the operations of the site are not unreasonably impacted.

The ACT Public Service Advice also provides that it is important that the impartiality of ACT public servants is not compromised through their appearance in party political material.

Importantly the operations of a site, such as a public transport vehicle, may not be unreasonably impacted by any political activity. The published images so far do not appear to show that this activity is impacting on service delivery. If you are advised otherwise, please let me know.

With thanks

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |

Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308

Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | ACT Government

Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>



From: Edghill, Duncan

Sent: Friday, 26 April 2019 4:58 PM

To: Whitten, Meredith <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Twitter For Mobile Office [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Meredith,

Please see below. I'll give you a call.

Kind Regards

Duncan

From: Murray, Gerry

Sent: Friday, 26 April 2019 4:24 PM

To: O'Daly, Edward <Edward.O'Daly@act.gov.au>; Dynon, Kaarin <Kaarin.Dynon@act.gov.au>

Cc: Edghill, Duncan <Duncan.Edghill@act.gov.au>; Cahif, Ashley <Ashley.Cahif@act.gov.au>; Randall Barry <rbarry@adam.com.au>; McGlinn, Ian <Ian.McGlinn@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Twitter For Mobile Office [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi Kaarin and Ed,

This has just come across our radar. It relates to a post that's up on Andrew Leigh's social account. In case you weren't already aware. Andrew Leigh's mobile office on the light rail begins at 4.30pm this afternoon.

Best,

Gerry Murray | Director

Phone: 02 6207 6356 | Mobile: +61 420 620 500

Communications and Engagement | Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate | ACT Government

496 Northbourne Avenue, Dickson | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.act.gov.au | www.tccs.act.gov.au | [@tccs_act](https://twitter.com/tccs_act)



Connected services for the people of Canberra

On Friday, I'll be holding our first truly mobile office: chatting with constituents aboard the new [#Canberra](#) light rail. It's free to ride, so long as you have a MyWay card. Jump aboard & join the conversation! [#auspol](#)



[#CBRLightRail](#) [#CBR](#) – at [Gungahlin Transport Interchange](#)



From:"Whitten, Meredith" <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Sent:29/04/2019 4:15 PM
To:"Van Aalst, Sally" <Sally.VanAalst@act.gov.au>;"Strachan, Shaun" <Shaun.Strachan@act.gov.au>
Subject:HPE CM: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Media Request - NCC billboard - Canberra Times [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

Hi Sally

The additional sentence is fine for me, as long as it is correct for others?
Many thanks

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |
Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308
Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>



From: Van Aalst, Sally
Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 4:06 PM
To: Whitten, Meredith <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>; Strachan, Shaun <Shaun.Strachan@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Media Request - NCC billboard - Canberra Times [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

UNOFFICIAL

Hi both – FYI. The CMO has asked we add in this line:

Official guidance for activity during the 2019 Federal Government Period states that official resources should not be utilised for political advertising.

As the National Convention Centre is an ACT Government owned asset, the use of the infrastructure for this purpose would be a breach of these requirements and the digital display should not be used for any political purpose during this period. This decision was made by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.

The Chief Minister, nor his office, was consulted as part of the decision.

Shaun. Do you have any concerns before I sent this across?

Thank you, Sally

From: Whitten, Meredith
Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 2:49 PM
To: Van Aalst, Sally <Sally.VanAalst@act.gov.au>; Strachan, Shaun <Shaun.Strachan@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Media Request - NCC billboard - Canberra Times [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

Hi Sally

Thank you – the proposed text is consistent with the advice found on the [ACTPS Employment Portal](#) along with other information relating to employment in the ACTPS.

*ACT Government premises such as schools, hospitals and bus depots may be used as the backdrop for political advertising or policy material by local and federal government and non-government parties (e.g. photography or filming) **provided that no official resources are utilised**, the operations of the site are not unreasonably impacted and it is undertaken on a case by case basis.*

With thanks

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |

Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308

Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | ACT Government

Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>



From: Van Aalst, Sally

Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 2:17 PM

To: Whitten, Meredith <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>; Strachan, Shaun <Shaun.Strachan@act.gov.au>

Subject: FOR APPROVAL: Media Request - NCC billboard - Canberra Times

UNOFFICIAL

Hi Meredith and Shaun

We received the below media enquiry from the Canberra Times in regards to a decision made last week to decline political advertising on the below billboard. Seeking approval from you both that you are comfortable with our proposed directorate response.

Many thanks, Sally

Official guidance for activity during the 2019 Federal Government Period states that official resources should not be utilised for political advertising.

As the National Convention Centre is an ACT Government owned asset, the use of the infrastructure for this purpose would be a breach of these requirements and the digital display should not be used for any political purpose during this period. This decision was made by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.

From: Sch 2 2.2(a)(ii)

Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 1:34 PM

To: CMTEDDMedia <CMTEDDMedia@act.gov.au>; Dynon, Kaarin <Kaarin.Dynon@act.gov.au>

Subject: Media Request - NCC billboard - Canberra Times

Hi Kaarin and CMTEDD media team,

Hope this email finds you all well, I'm directing it to both addresses as I am not sure who handles this one.

Advertising company Big Impact Advertising attempted to book the National Convention Centre billboard recently on behalf of their client the Canberra Liberals.

The NCC told Big Impact they were told by the ACT Government that the advertisement couldn't run.

Why was this decision made?

Who made the decision?

Was CM Andrew Barr aware of the decision?

What is the policy this decision was based on?

Was it rejected because it featured Mr Barr?

Does the ACT govt have veto over all ads on the billboard?

It would be good to hear back by 6pm today. I'm on **Sch 2 2.2(a)(ii)** if you want to talk to me about it.

Kind regards,

Sch 2 2.2(a)

Sch 2 2.2(a)(ii)

From: "Brown, Mike"
Sent: 28/04/2019 10:47 PM
To: "Rhind, Michelle" <Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>
Cc: "Wood, Stephen" <Stephen.Wood@ihg.com>
Subject: RE: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Michelle

Thank you for letting me know. Your decision is fully supported due to the political nature of this advertisement. The closest example I have to support this approach is the use of flags and banner poles which clearly indicates the promotion of a political cause or party is not permitted, see the link below for these guidelines.

https://apps.treasury.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/1235393/ACT-Property-Group-Flags-and-Banners-Guidelines.pdf

I will advise our senior management of this issue.

Cheers

Mike Brown, Senior Director

Phone 02 6207 6908

ACT Property Group | Chief Ministers Treasury & Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

255 Canberra Ave Fyshwick ACT 2609 | PO Box 777 Fyshwick ACT 2609 | www.act.gov.au

"If you have any feedback for the ACT Property Group, please email actpgfeedback@act.gov.au"



From: Rhind, Michelle [mailto:Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com]
Sent: Tuesday, 23 April 2019 5:32 PM
To: Brown, Mike <Mike.Brown@act.gov.au>
Cc: Wood, Stephen <Stephen.Wood@ihg.com>
Subject: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election

Hi Mike

Last week we received the below advertisement from the advertising agency who wished us to place to this on the our Big screen at the front of our building.

We made the decision that this could not go on the big screen. We explained this to our advertising agency who manages the big screen and they said that they would place through their other screens around Canberra.

Late this afternoon our agency who manages this screen wanted to let us know that this decision may now be played out through the media. It is my understanding from the call this afternoon that if it does make the media they will use a tag line using is "people building" .

Happy to take further guidance from you on this matter. My mobile is [Sch 2 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

Thanks
Michelle

IF YOU THINK

RATES

ARE HIGH NOW.



From: "Brown, Mike" <Mike.Brown@act.gov.au>
Sent: 29/04/2019 9:28 AM
To: "Clarke, Liz" <Liz.Clarke@act.gov.au>; "Peters, Clint" <Clint.Peters@act.gov.au>
Cc: "ACTPGExecutiveSupport" <ACTPGExecutiveSupport@act.gov.au>; "Bradley, Kellie" <Kellie.Bradley@act.gov.au>; "Bailey, Daniel" <Daniel.Bailey@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi

Sorry, found a later email.

Cheers

Mike Brown, Senior Director

Phone 02 6207 6908

ACT Property Group | Chief Ministers Treasury & Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

255 Canberra Ave Fyshwick ACT 2609 | PO Box 777 Fyshwick ACT 2609 | www.act.gov.au

"If you have any feedback for the ACT Property Group, please email actpgfeedback@act.gov.au"



From: Clarke, Liz
Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 9:13 AM
To: Brown, Mike <Mike.Brown@act.gov.au>; Peters, Clint <Clint.Peters@act.gov.au>
Cc: ACTPGExecutiveSupport <ACTPGExecutiveSupport@act.gov.au>; Bradley, Kellie <Kellie.Bradley@act.gov.au>; Bailey, Daniel <Daniel.Bailey@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Thanks Mike. Appreciate this.

Phil sought advice from CMTEDD Comms while you were away. They (also) advised this advertising should not take place.

Hope you had a good break.

Regards liz.

Liz Clarke FAICD | Executive Branch Manager - Venues Canberra
Phone +61 2 6207 2294 | Mobile 0414 944 107

Exhibition Park in Canberra | GIO Stadium Canberra | Manuka Oval | Stromlo Forest Park
Chief Minister, Treasury & Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government
www.exhibitionparkincanberra.com.au | www.giostadiumcanberra.com.au |

From: Brown, Mike
Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 8:56 AM
To: Clarke, Liz <Liz.Clarke@act.gov.au>; Peters, Clint <Clint.Peters@act.gov.au>
Cc: ACTPGExecutiveSupport <ACTPGExecutiveSupport@act.gov.au>; Bradley, Kellie <Kellie.Bradley@act.gov.au>; Bailey, Daniel <Daniel.Bailey@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Liz

Please see the potential issue below. The NCC received a request for a political advertisement below to be placed on their big screen, which they refused. This occurred while I was on leave and I am not aware of anything adverse media to date but it would appear that this has the potential to raise negative media.

If you need any further information let me know and I will contact the NCC.

Cheers

Mike Brown, Senior Director

Phone 02 6207 6908

ACT Property Group | Chief Ministers Treasury & Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

255 Canberra Ave Fyshwick ACT 2609 | PO Box 777 Fyshwick ACT 2609 | www.act.gov.au

"If you have any feedback for the ACT Property Group, please email actpgfeedback@act.gov.au"



From: Brown, Mike
Sent: Monday, 29 April 2019 8:48 AM
To: 'Rhind, Michelle' <Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>
Cc: Wood, Stephen <Stephen.Wood@ihg.com>
Subject: RE: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Michelle

Thank you for letting me know. Your decision is fully supported due to the political nature of this advertisement. The closest example I have to support this approach is the use of flags and banner poles which clearly indicates the promotion of a political cause or party is not permitted, see the link below for these guidelines.

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I will advise our senior management of this issue.

Cheers

Mike Brown, Senior Director

Phone 02 6207 6908

ACT Property Group | Chief Ministers Treasury & Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

255 Canberra Ave Fyshwick ACT 2609 | PO Box 777 Fyshwick ACT 2609 | www.act.gov.au

"If you have any feedback for the ACT Property Group, please email actpafeedback@act.gov.au"



From: Rhind, Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Rhind@ihg.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, 23 April 2019 5:32 PM

To: Brown, Mike <Mike.Brown@act.gov.au>

Cc: Wood, Stephen <Stephen.Wood@ihg.com>

Subject: National Convention Centre - Advert RE Federal Election

Hi Mike

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Happy to take further guidance from you on this matter. My mobile is [Sch 2 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

Thanks

Michelle

IF YOU THINK

RATES

ARE HIGH NOW.



From: "Van Aalst, Sally" <Sally.VanAalst@act.gov.au>
Sent: 30/04/2019 5:05 AM
To: "Whitten, Meredith" <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: ENQUIRY FOR REVIEW: Convention centre advertising policy [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

UNOFFICIAL

Thank you for reviewing so quickly. Sally

From: Whitten, Meredith
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 2:58 PM
To: Van Aalst, Sally <Sally.VanAalst@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: ENQUIRY FOR REVIEW: Convention centre advertising policy [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Importance: High

Hi Sally

Thank you for this further request. I am comfortable with the proposed response.
With thanks

Meredith Whitten | Deputy Director-General |
Phone 620 55147 | Mobile 0419 426 308
Workforce Capability and Governance | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic and Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
Level 4 Canberra Nara Centre 1 Constitution Avenue Canberra ACT 2601 | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
<http://www.cmd.act.gov.au/>



From: Van Aalst, Sally
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 2:37 PM
To: Whitten, Meredith <Meredith.Whitten@act.gov.au>
Subject: ENQUIRY FOR REVIEW: Convention centre advertising policy
Importance: High

UNOFFICIAL

Hi Meredith – we received follow up qtns below. For your review and approval please. thank you, Sally

Hi 

The ACT Public Service Code of Conduct (2012) specifically requires that ACT public servants are aware of any perceived or real conflicts of interest including in relation to party-political activities. ACT public servants should take care to avoid creating the impression of official endorsement of a political stance or party, such as by displaying party political material.

Please see attached guidance provided to all ACT Government public servants in regards to the 2019 Federal Government Election.

This advice covers all ACT government owned assets, including big screens at ACT Government-owned stadiums, promotion at major events or materials displayed in libraries, shopfronts or service centres.

The ACT government does not keep a record of any advertising rejected due as a result of this advice, however ACT Government digital displays should not be used for any political purpose.

From: Sch 2 2.2(a)(ii)

Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 1:37 PM

To: CMTEDDMedia <CMTEDDMedia@act.gov.au>; ncc.media@ihg.com

Subject: Convention centre advertising policy

G'day guys,

Can you please send me the official policy for the convention centre regarding billboard advertising?

We were fascinated to read yesterday that the convention centre billboard is considered an "official government resource" in this story: <https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6094787/liberal-billboard-vandalism-gets-stinky/>

A spokeswoman from the National Convention Centre said the decision was made after consulting with the ACT government.

The Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate said neither Mr Barr or his office were involved in the decision.

"Official guidance for activity during the 2019 Federal Government Period states that official resources should not be utilised for political advertising," the spokeswoman said.

Can you also please tell me what other sites are classified as official government resources for the purpose of advertising?

I'd also like a list of any other advertisements that have been rejected from the convention centre on political grounds.

Thanks so much!

Sch 2 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2 2.2(a)(ii)

From: "Dolan, Fiona"
Sent: 30/04/2019 4:25 AM
To: "Van Aalst, Sally" <Sally.VanAalst@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: ENQUIRY FOR REVIEW: Convention centre advertising policy

Thanks Sal, my changes below.

From: Van Aalst, Sally
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 2:09 PM
To: Dolan, Fiona <Fiona.Dolan@act.gov.au>
Subject: ENQUIRY FOR REVIEW: Convention centre advertising policy

UNOFFICIAL

Hi Fiona – please let me know your thoughts on the below to Katie before I liaise with Meredith. Thanks, Sal

Hi Sch 2 2.2(a)(i)

The ACT Public Service Code of Conduct (2012) specifically requires that ACT public servants are aware of any perceived or real conflicts of interest including in relation to party-political activities. ACT public servants should take care to avoid creating the impression of official endorsement of a political stance or party, such as by displaying party political material.

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From: Sch 2 2.2(a)(ii)
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 1:37 PM
To: CMTEDDMedia <CMTEDDMedia@act.gov.au>; ncc.media@ihg.com
Subject: Convention centre advertising policy

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Thanks so much!

Sch 2 2.2(a)(ii)

Sch 2 2.2(a)(ii)