

26 July 2022

Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election

The Board of the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (the Taskforce) has provided formal advice to the Australian Electoral Commissioner, Tom Rogers, following return of the writs for the 2022 federal election.

"The Board has advised Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference, that compromised the delivery of the 2022 federal election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election," Mr Rogers said.

Protecting the integrity of Australia's electoral processes is critical to maintaining public trust in Australia's democracy. "The work of the Taskforce plays a vital role in protecting and preserving Australia's electoral integrity and I am pleased to be able to share this advice with all Australians," Mr Rogers said.

Editor's notes:

For more information about the Taskforce, see: aec.gov.au/integrity-taskforce

Whole Of Government Talking Points

ELECTORAL INTEGRITY ASSURANCE TASKFORCE

26 July 2022

Headline Statement

Protecting the integrity of Australia's electoral processes is critical to maintaining public support and trust in Australia's democratic process.

The Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (the Taskforce) and the Taskforce Board (the Board) are constituted by relevant agencies across Federal Government, working together to provide information and advice to the Electoral Commissioner on matters that may compromise the real or perceived integrity of the federal election.

The Taskforce was stood up for the 2022 federal election and operated at an increased service level to respond to threats and to maintain and promote electoral integrity.

Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference, that compromised the delivery of the 2022 federal election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election.

SUMMARY

- Risks to electoral integrity can arise through multiple threats, including cyber or physical security incidents, disinformation, misinformation, and perceived or actual foreign interference in electoral processes.
- The Taskforce is responsible for assessing, understanding and mitigating these risks and, if required, providing relevant advice and information to the Electoral Commissioner.
- Public confidence in the integrity of elections can be undermined by the realisation or perceived realisation of these threats to electoral integrity. The Taskforce uses a referral process to ensure information is passed to the relevant agency to consider appropriate action.
- Taskforce agencies operate within their existing remits and resources to support the operation of the Taskforce.

Section 22

Section 22

2022 Federal Election

- The Taskforce was stood up by the Board ahead of the 2022 federal election. Members convened and prepared to respond to any threats to electoral integrity which could arise throughout the election period.
- In the lead up the 2022 federal election, the Taskforce engaged in several preparatory activities, including agreeing on collaborative incident management and governance documentation, and partaking in test scenarios to trial processes.
- Once the federal election was announced, the Taskforce co-located operations to enable effective cross-government engagement and collaboration on matters that may have compromised the real or perceived integrity of the federal election.
- The Board provided the following advice to the Electoral Commissioner on 26 July 2022 regarding the 2022 federal election:
 - *Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference, that compromised the delivery of the 2022 federal election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election.*

Section 22

OFFICIAL

Section 22

OFFICIAL

Section 22

Section 22

3. The purpose of the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (the Taskforce) is to provide consolidated and coordinated information and advice to the Australian Electoral Commissioner on matters that may compromise the real or perceived integrity of a federal election.

Section 22

Section 2

- [REDACTED]

- The Board will assist the Australian Electoral Commissioner, as appropriate, in coordinating and providing advice to government, the public and/or other entities where cyber or physical threats or acts of interference or disinformation are discovered during (and relating to) federal electoral events. This may include, but is not limited to briefing material, referrals and communication strategies.

Section 2

- [REDACTED]

Section 22

OFFICIAL

Section 22

From: EIAT
Sent: Tuesday, 26 July 2022 1:04 PM
To: Andrew Kefford; **Section 47F(1)** Anthony Coles; CFIC Support; CFISI Coord AFP;
Chris Teal; CICFI PMC; DDG ISD Office; Derek Bopping; EIAT; Electoral Policy DoF;
Gemma Smyth; Ian McCartney; **Section 47F(1)**; Jeff Pope; **Section 47F(1)**; **Section 47F(1)**
[REDACTED] Kathryn McMullan; Matthew Haigh; Nathan Williamson ; Pauline Sullivan;
Peter Rush; **Section 47F(1)** Sarah Chidgey; Scott Dilley; **Section 47F(1)** Sebastian Powney;
Simon Newnham
Cc: EIAT
Subject: AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election
[SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election
(A1815370).pdf; EIAT WoG Talking Points 2022 (A1323335).pdf

Good afternoon EIAT Board

Following the your agreement on a statement regarding the integrity of the 2022 federal election, Mr Pope, in his capacity as Board Co-Chair, wrote to the Electoral Commissioner to provide him with the Board's advice. Mr Rogers has today approved the recommendation to accept the advice and publish a media release to inform the public of this outcome.

Please see the attached advance copy of a media release from the Electoral Commissioner, which will be published to the [AEC website](#) at approximately 4pm today 26 July 2022.

Also included for your reference, are whole of government talking points, updated to reflect this statement and the return of the writs for the 2022 federal election.

Thank you for all of your contributions in reaching this milestone.

Kind regards

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: **Section 47F(1)** **X:** **Section 47F(1)** **M:** **Section 47F(1)**



Make sure you're **enrolled to vote**.
Visit www.aec.gov.au

From: EIAT
Sent: Tuesday, 26 July 2022 1:05 PM
To: Section 47F(1) | Section 47F(1) | Section 47F(1); Section 47F(1) | Section 47F(1)
Section 47F(1) | Section 47F(1); Section 47F(1); David Belgrove; Section 47F(1); DoF
Electoral Policy Mailbox; EIAT AGD Mailbox; Section 47F(1); Section 47F(1); Section 47F(1)
Section 47F(1); Section 47F(1); Section 47F(1); Section 47F(1); Section 47F(1);
Matthew Haigh; Section 47F(1); Section 47F(1);
Sebastian Powney; Section 47F(1); Section 47F(1)
[REDACTED]
Cc: EIAT
Subject: AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election (A1815370).pdf; EIAT WoG Talking Points 2022 (A1323335).pdf

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Kind regards

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F(1) M: Section 47F(1)



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From: EIAT
Sent: Tuesday, 26 July 2022 1:03 PM
To: AFP Media; AGs Media; ASD Media; ASIO Media; **Section 47F(1)**; Comms Media; **Section 47F(1)**; Finance Media; HA Media; media; **Section 33(a)(i)** [REDACTED] PMC Media; **Section 47F(1)**
Cc: EIAT
Subject: AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election (A1815370).pdf; EIAT WoG Talking Points 2022 (A1323335).pdf

Good afternoon EIAT media teams

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Kind regards

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: **Section 47F(1)** **X:** **Section 47F(1)** **M:** **Section 47F(1)**



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From: EIAT
Sent: Tuesday, 26 July 2022 2:36 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election (A1815370).pdf; EIAT WoG Talking Points 2022 (A1323335).pdf

Hi [REDACTED]

Passing this one on to you in acknowledgement that you have not been included in the distribution following previous affirmation to include you! Apologies for the mix up on our end.

This update is now confirmed and you should be included in future communications.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Section 47F(1) | Senior Project Officer
Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) X [REDACTED]



Make sure you're **enrolled to vote**.
Visit www.aec.gov.au

From: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 26 July 2022 1:05 PM
To: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)
[REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)
[REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)
[REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)
<David.Belgrave@pmc.gov.au>; Section 47F(1) [REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)
<ElectoralPolicy@finance.gov.au>; EIAT AGD Mailbox <EIAT@agd.gov.au>; Section 47F(1)
Section 47F(1) | Section 47F(1)
Section 47F(1) | Section 47F(1)
[REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)
[REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)
<Matthew.Haigh@aec.gov.au>; Section 47F(1) [REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)
[REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)
[REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)
<sebastian.powney@finance.gov.au>; Section 47F(1) [REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)
[REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)
[REDACTED]; Section 47F(1) [REDACTED] | Section 47F(1)

Cc: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>

Subject: AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good afternoon EIAT

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Thank you for all of your contributions in reaching this milestone.

Kind regards

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F | Section 47F M: Section 47F(1)



Make sure you're **enrolled to vote**.
Visit www.aec.gov.au

From: EIAT
To: Andrew Kefford; Section 47F(1); Anthony Coles; CFIC Support; CFISI Coord AFP; Chris Teal; CICFI PMC; DDG ISD Office; Derek Bopping; EIAT; Electoral Policy DoF; Gemma Smyth; Ian McCartney; Section 47F(1); Jeff Pope; Section 47F(1); Kathryn McMullan; Matthew Haigh; Nathan Williamson; Pauline Sullivan; Peter Rush; Section 47F(1); Sarah Chidgey; Scott Dilley; Section 47F(1) Sebastian Powney
CC:
Subject: 2022 Federal Election commentary [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Friday, 3 June 2022 4:23:19 PM
Attachments: image001.gif
image002.gif

Good afternoon all,

As discussed in our meetings over the last two weeks, AEC election operations are ongoing. We are pleased to have declared the first of 151 House of Representatives seats yesterday (Eden-Monaro) and have more scheduled for this afternoon and early next week. Our staff around the country are otherwise working hard to progress Senate counts and return the Writs by 28 June 2022.

The Secretariat is preparing to table a draft EIAT Statement for the 2022 Federal Election to our meeting on Tuesday, however the wording, timing and placement of which needs our careful consideration. No statement from or on behalf of the EIAT will be signed off on until an appropriate point in the election cycle.

We ask that you remind your staff to refrain from providing public comments on or assessment of the integrity of the event outside of this process. Should individual circumstances require, we're happy to discuss what might be suitable for your intended audience.

Regards

JP

Jeff Pope | Deputy Electoral Commissioner
Executive Leadership Team
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) Section 47F M Section 47F(1)

From: [EIAT](#)
To: [media](#)
Cc: [EIAT](#)
Subject: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 8 July 2022 3:48:49 PM
Attachments: [DRAFT EC media release on EIAT Board statement - 2022FE.docx](#)
[image001.gif](#)
[image002.gif](#)

Hi team

We have been asked to draft a media release with a statement from the Electoral Commissioner regarding advice from the EIAT Board – please see attached.

Seeking consultation and your input on the draft. Proposed publication date is early in the w/c 18 July and it requires approval from Matt, Michael Lynch, Jeff Pope and Tom, so we have a short turnaround – sorry!

Can this be returned by **COB Monday 11 July**? Happy to discuss and apologies.

Kind regards

Section 47F

Section 47F(1) | Senior Project Officer

Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

T: [Section 47F\(1\)](#) X: [Section 47F](#)

Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce advice to Electoral Commissioner on 2022 Federal Election

The Board of the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (the Taskforce) has provided formal advice to the Australian Electoral Commissioner, Tom Rogers, following return of the writs for the 2022 federal election.

Mr Rogers said, “the Board has advised Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference, that compromised the delivery of the 2022 Federal Election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election.”

Protecting the integrity of Australia’s electoral processes is critical to maintaining public trust in Australia’s democracy. “The work of the Taskforce plays a vital role in protecting and preserving Australia’s electoral integrity and I am pleased to be able to share this advice with all Australians”, Mr Rogers said.

Background

For more information about the Taskforce, see: aec.gov.au/integrity-taskforce

AGENDA



Date: 7 June 2022 Time: 2:30pm

Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce Board

Location: Microsoft Teams

Chair: Mr Jeff Pope

Attendees: Mr Nathan Williamson, Mr Andrew Kefford, **Section 47F(1)**, Ms Kathryn McMullan, Ms Pauline Sullivan, Mr Peter Rush, Ms Gemma Smyth, Ms Sarah Chidgey, **Section 47F(1)**, **Section 47F(1)** Mr Scott Dilley, **Section 47F(1)**

Apologies: Mr Chris Teal, Mr Ian McCartney, Dr Derek Bopping, Mr Anthony Coles

Action officers: Mr Matthew Haigh, **Section 47F(1)**

Section 22

6 Other business

Paper Chair

- Draft EIAT Statement and Report Outline

Section 22

MINUTES



Date: 23 June 2022 **Time:** 2:30pm

Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce Board

Location: Microsoft Teams

Chair: Mr Jeff Pope

Attendees: Mr Sebastian Powney, Mr Anthony Coles, Ms Pauline Sullivan, **Section 47F(1)**,
Section 47F(1), **Section 47F(1)**, **Section 47F(1)**, **Section 47F(1)**, **Section 47F(1)**
Section 47F **Section 47F(1)**, **Section 47F(1)**

Apologies: Mr Nathan Williamson, Mr Scott Dilley, Mr Andrew Kefford, Mr Chris Teal,
Ms Sarah Chidgey, Dr Derek Bopping, Ms Kathryn McMullan, Ms Gemma Smyth, Mr
Ian McCartney, Mr Peter Rush, Mr Matthew Haigh

Action officers: **Section 47F(1)**

Section 22

The text "Section 22" is displayed in large, white, sans-serif font against a solid black rectangular background.

NO. DESCRIPTION

Section 22

5 Other business

EIAT 2022 Federal Election Statement

After some discussion, and noting reasoning for chosen wording remains as documented in Board meeting of 7 June 2022, the statement was endorsed by the Board as follows:

“Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference, that compromised the delivery of the 2022 Federal Election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election.”

NO. DESCRIPTION

Mr Pope noted that the statement may be published in the week of 18 July 2022. The Taskforce and Board will be updated regarding the confirmed timing and publication of the statement.

Section 22

D15-230622 The Board endorsed the EIAT 2022 Federal Election Statement.

Action items

Nil.

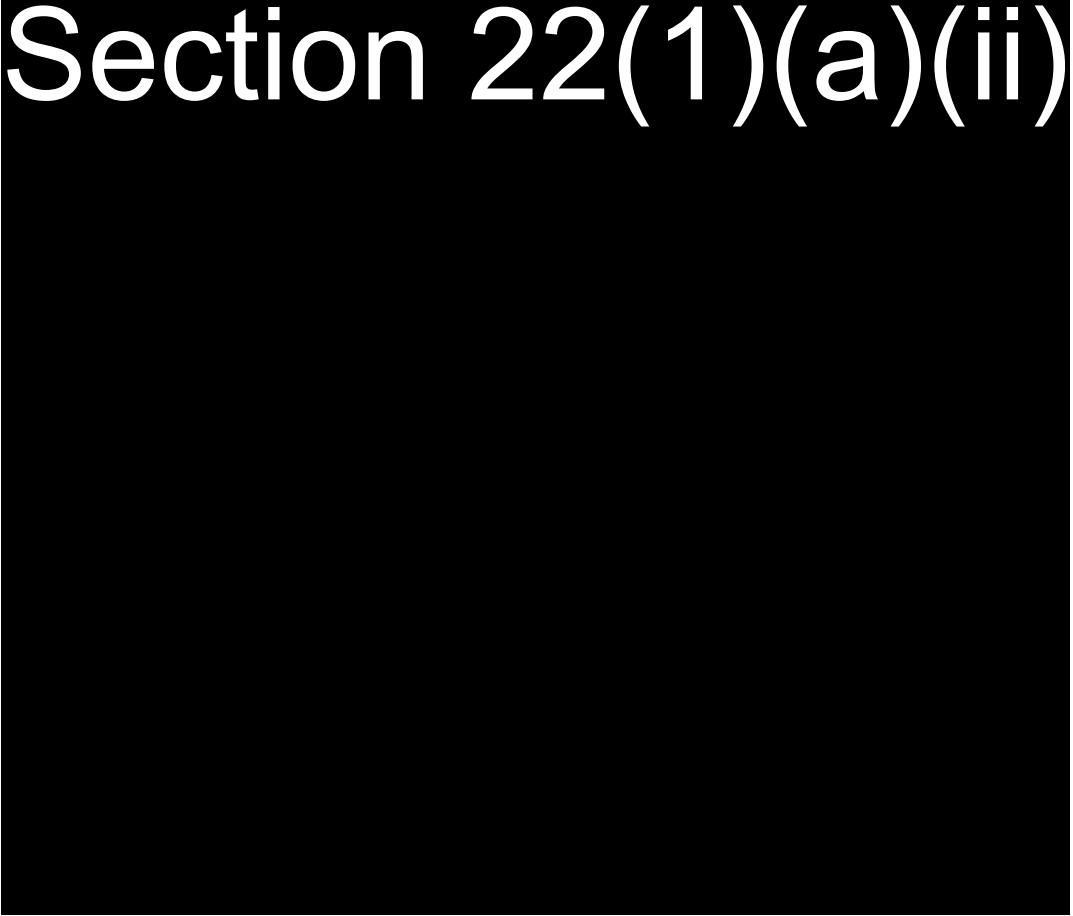
Decisions

NO. DESCRIPTION

Section 22(1)(a)(ii)

NO. DESCRIPTION

Section 22(1)(a)(ii)



D15-230622 The Board endorsed the EIAT 2022 Federal Election Statement.

Next Meeting: August 2022, TBC

MINUTES



Date: 17 May 2022 **Time:** 3.30pm – 4:30pm

Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce Board

Location: Teleconference

Chair: Mr Jeff Pope

Attendees: Mr Scott Dilley, Mr Andrew Kefford, Dr Derek Bopping, Mr Chris Teal, Ms Kathryn McMullan, Ms Pauline Sullivan, Mr Peter Rush, Ms Gemma Smyth, Ms Sarah Chidgey, Mr **Section 47F(1)**, **Section 47F(1)**

Apologies: Mr Ian McCartney, Mr Nathan Williamson, Mr Anthony Coles

Action officers: Mr Matthew Haigh, **Section 47F(1)**

Agenda items

Section 22

Section 22

Section 22

5

Section 22

Members discussed the language that should be used in any EIAT statement. Section 47E(d)
This statement

NO. DESCRIPTION

should follow the timing precedent set out in 2019 and may run separately to any report process.

Section 22

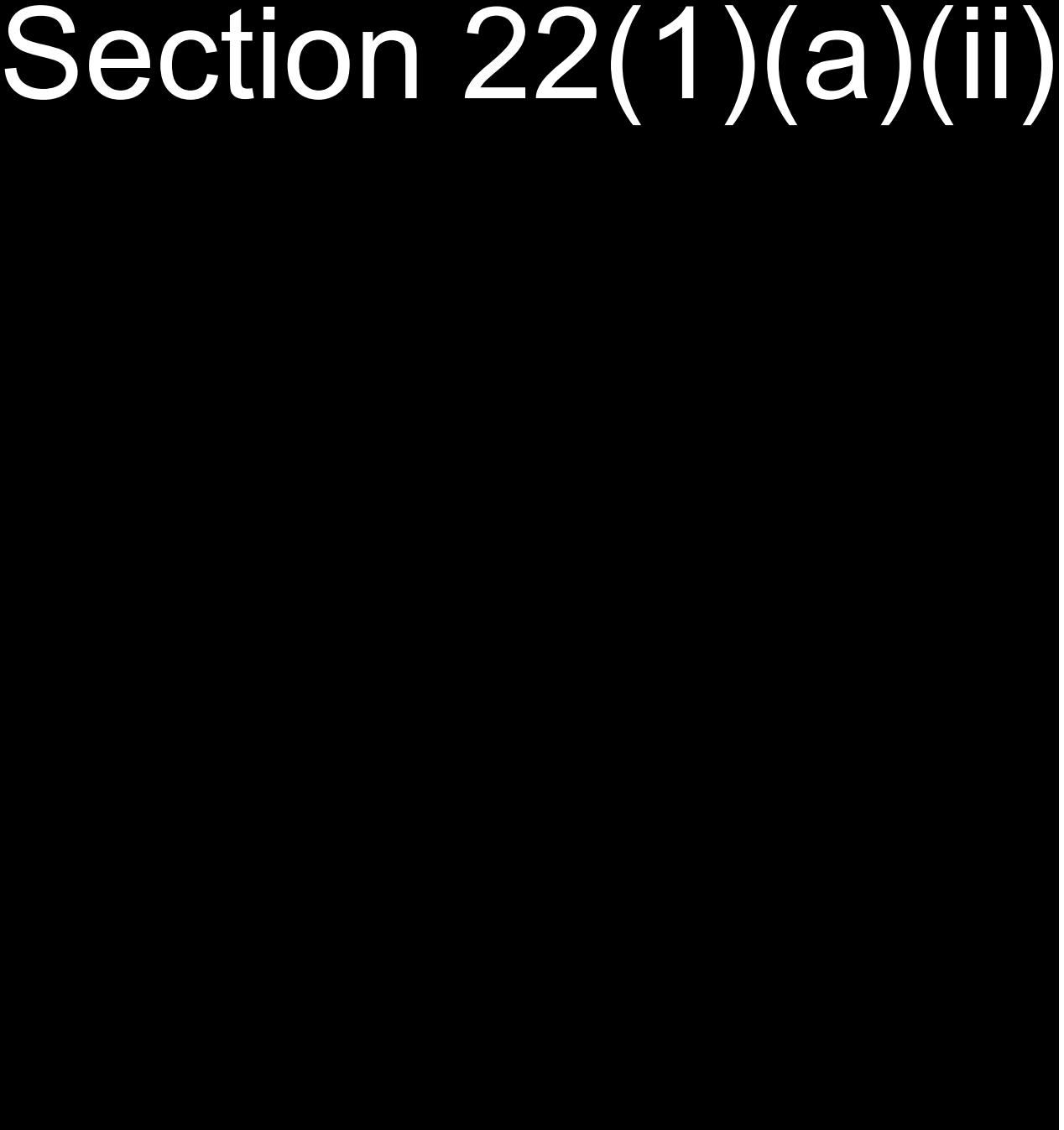
6

Action items

NO.	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE
N/A			

Decisions

Section 22(1)(a)(ii)



Next Meeting: 24 May 2022

MINUTES



Date: 7 June 2022 **Time:** 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce Board

Location: AEC Rapid Response Room, 10-12 Mort St, Canberra and Teams

Chair: Mr Jeff Pope

Attendees: Mr Andrew Kefford, Mr Stephen Nutt, Ms Kathryn McMullan, Ms Pauline Sullivan, Ms Gemma Smyth, ^{Section 47F(1)} [REDACTED] Mr Sebastian Powney, ^{Section 47F} [REDACTED], ^{Section 47F} [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Apologies: Dr Derek Bopping, Mr Ian McCartney, Mr Chris Teal, Mr Anthony Coles.

Action officers: Mr Matthew Haigh, ^{Section 47F(1)} [REDACTED]

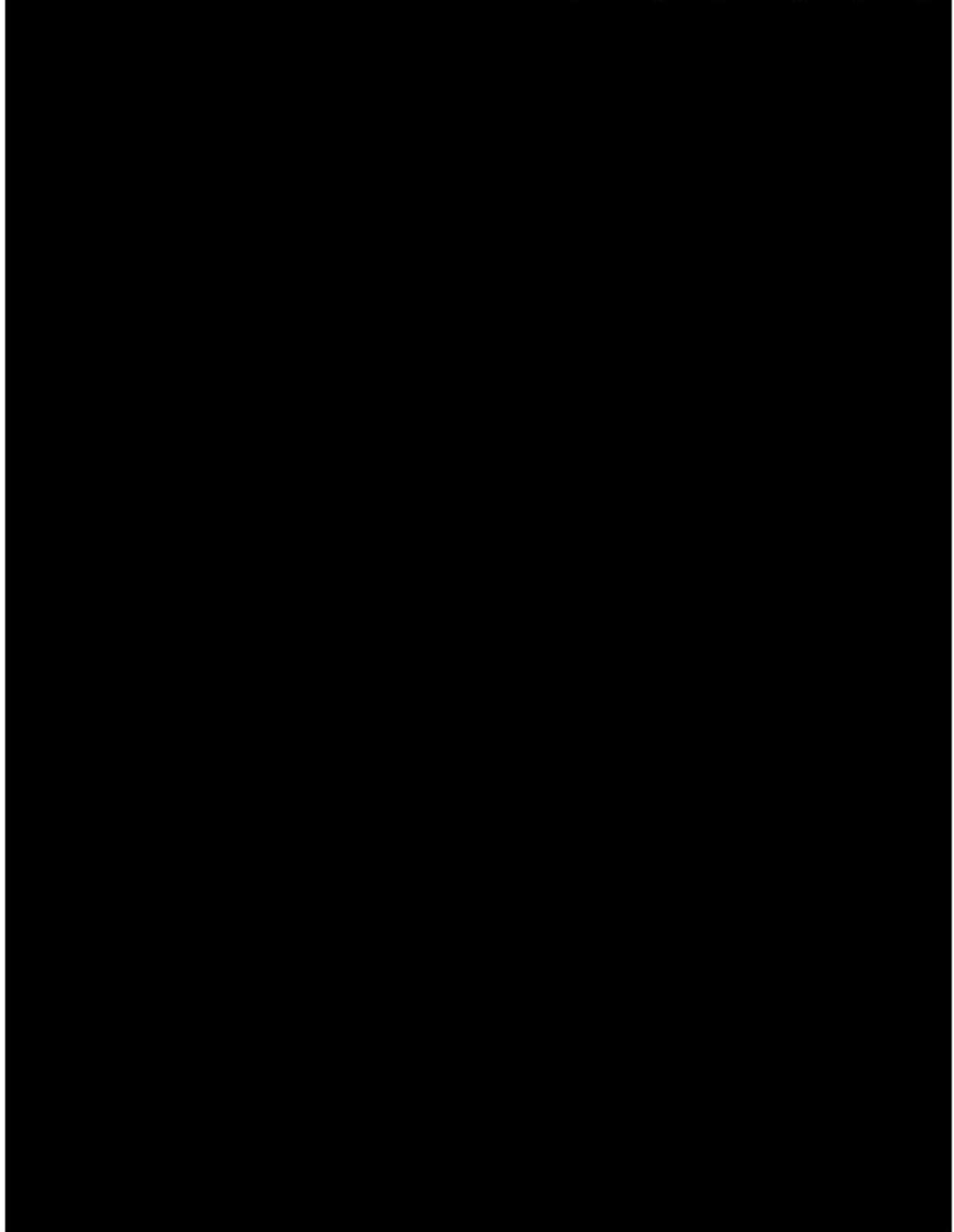
Agenda items

Section 22

OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

NO. DESCRIPTION

Section 22(1)(a)(ii)

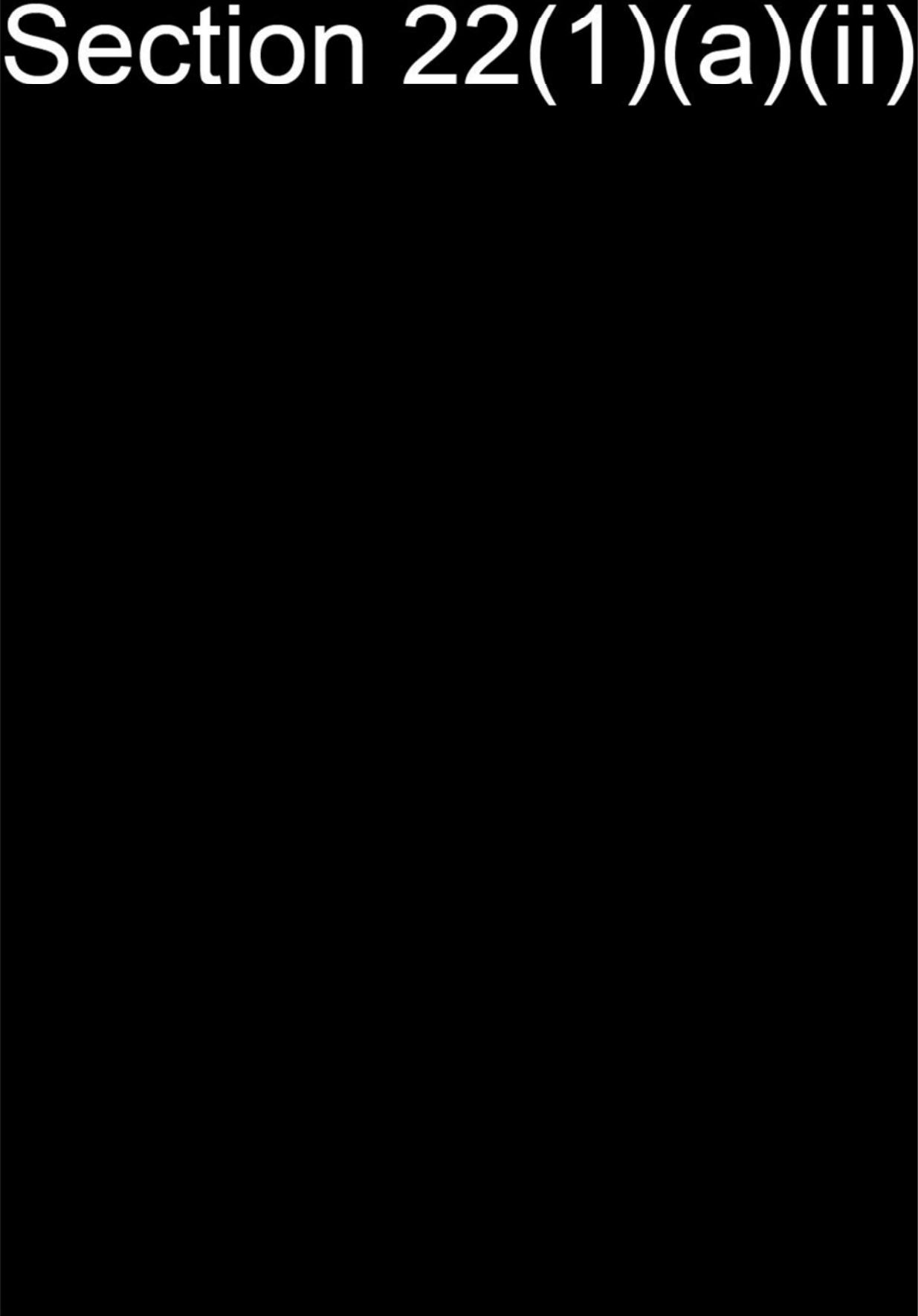


OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

NO. DESCRIPTION

Section 22(1)(a)(ii)



OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

NO. DESCRIPTION

Section 22(1)(a)(ii)

6 Other Business

EIAT 2022 Federal Election Statement and Report

Mr Pope opened discussion on the tabled paper regarding the draft EIAT 2022 Federal Election Statement and report outline.

The Board took the tabled paper as read.

- The proposed public EIAT post-election statement:
 - Mr Pope noted that given our current context, the language of the draft statement was modelled on those made at recent federal electoral events.
 - He noted the distinction in choice of words 'no interference in the results of the election' vs 'the process of the election' and stated that his preference is to use the former.
 - Mr Kefford agreed with Mr Pope and the use of the word 'results', noting that this is a clearer and stronger statement.
 - Mr Pope stated that there is an intention to use similar wording for statements for future by-elections and other electoral events.
 - The Secretariat will take comments on the statement and a final version will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Section 22

NO. DESCRIPTION

A1-07062022 Members to provide feedback on wording of EIAT post-election statement.

Section 22

Action items

NO.	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE	DUUE DATE
A1-07062022	Members to provide feedback on wording of EIAT post-election statement.	All Secretariat	COB 20 June 2022

Decisions

Section 22(1)(a)(ii)

OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

NO. DESCRIPTION

Section 22(1)(a)(ii)

Next Meeting: 23 June 2022

OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE



EIAT Board

DRAFT STATEMENT AND FINAL REPORT OUTLINE

3 June 2022

VERSION 1.0

Purpose

To provide the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (EIAT) Board an update on:

- The proposed Federal Election 2022 Draft Statement on Electoral Integrity; and
- The Draft Final Report outline.

Background and Issues

Draft Statement

After each federal electoral event it has had a role in, the EIAT has released a statement commenting on the matters observed through the course of the engagement. Previous statements made by the EIAT are listed below:

2019 Federal Election

The Taskforce agencies did not identify foreign interference, or any other interference that compromised the delivery of the 2019 Federal election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the process

July 2020 Eden-Monaro by-election

Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign, or any other interference that compromised the delivery the Eden-Monaro by-election and would undermine confidence of the Australian people in the result.

November 2020 Groom by-election

Taskforce agencies did not identify foreign interference, or any other interference that compromised the delivery of the Groom by-election that would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the process.

The Draft Statement on Electoral Integrity has been prepared for the 2022 Federal Election and is as follows:

Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference that compromised the delivery of the 2022 Federal Election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election.

Section 22

OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

Section 22

Section 22

MINUTE



To: Tom Rogers, Electoral Commissioner

Cc: Michal Lynch, A/g First Assistant Commissioner Enabling and Regulation Division

Cc: Brian Foo, A/g Assistant Commissioner Electoral Integrity and Communication and A/g Chair of the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (EIAT)

Cc: **Section 47F(1)**, A/g Director Defending Democracy Unit and EIAT Secretariat

Subject: For information – EIAT advice on the 2022 federal election

Purpose

To outline the process undertaken by the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (EIAT) Board to determine appropriate advice to provide the Electoral Commissioner on the integrity of the 2022 federal election.

Background

The EIAT is responsible for providing information and advice to the Australian Electoral Commissioner on matters that may compromise the real or perceived integrity of a federal electoral event.

The EIAT worked together throughout the 2022 federal election to detect and respond to potential threats to electoral integrity. Taskforce agencies met daily during the election period, and contributed, within their respective remits, topical information and advice relating to potential threats to electoral integrity.

By sharing and discussing this relevant information and collaborating on approaches to evolving environmental and electoral integrity concerns, Taskforce agencies were well placed to provide assurance to the Board of the sustained integrity of the 2022 federal election.

Key Issues

Following the return of writs for the 2022 federal election, the EIAT Board has curated advice regarding the integrity of the election for the information of the Electoral Commissioner:

Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference, that compromised the delivery of the 2022 federal election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election.

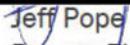
Consultation

The EIAT Board was pleased to endorse this advice in their meeting of 23 June 2022 and provide the Electoral Commissioner with assurance on the integrity of the 2022 federal election.

Recommendations

It is recommended the Electoral Commissioner accept the advice and publish the attached media release on the AEC website to inform the public of this positive outcome.

Section 47F

 Jeff Pope

Deputy Electoral Commissioner and Co-Chair of the EIAT Board
25/07/2022

Attachments

AEC Media Release – Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election

Noted Approved Not approved

Tom Rogers
Electoral Commissioner

Signature

Date _____ / _____ / _____

From: [REDACTED] Section 47F(1)
To: [REDACTED] Section 47F(1) Section 47F
Cc: [REDACTED] Section 47F(1); EIAT
Subject: RE: For Clearance Notification [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Monday, 25 July 2022 4:11:00 PM
Attachments: [image003.gif](#)
[REDACTED] [image004.gif](#)

Confirming I can now access, thank you so much Anna

Section 47F(1) | Chief of Staff
National Executive | Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) X: [REDACTED] M: Section 47F(1)

From: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 25 July 2022 2:32 PM
To: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED] Section 47F [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: For Clearance Notification [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [REDACTED]
No problem – the original workflow has been completed as it ended with Jeff, pending preference for submission on your end.

I can raise a new workflow and reference the clearance levels and Jeff's note below if that's suitable.
Can you access these links now? –

Minute from DEC to EC: <https://objective.prod.aec.gov.au/documents/A1822998/details>

Draft media release: <https://objective.prod.aec.gov.au/documents/A1815370/details>

Kind regards

Section 47F(1) Senior Project Officer
Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]

From: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 25 July 2022 1:17 PM
To: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED] Section 47F [REDACTED]
Cc: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]; EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: For Clearance Notification [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [REDACTED]
I think the Objective workflow is fine - I do note that [REDACTED] I a cannot access the objective link.
Grateful if you could please update the permissions to ensure that Tom, [REDACTED] and I can access.
Kind regards,

Section 47F(1) | Chief of Staff
National Executive | Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED] Section 47F(1)

From: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 25 July 2022 12:16 PM
To: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED] Section 47F [REDACTED]
Cc: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: For Clearance Notification [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good afternoon [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Please see a note to Mr Rogers from Mr Pope below, regarding the attached documents.
Seeking advice on preferred avenue for submission - would you like these work-flowed via Objective or will they be printed off for review and action by Mr Rogers?
Kind regards

Section 47F

Section 47F(1) | Senior Project Officer
Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

Section 47F(1)

Section 47F

From: objective <objectiveIM@aec.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 25 July 2022 12:12 PM

To: Section 47F(1)

Cc: Section 47F(1)

Section 47F

Section 47F(1)

Subject: For Clearance Notification

AECObjective^{IM}

Clearance Notification

Jeff Pope has approved [Minute - EIAT Board Co-Chair to Electoral Commissioner - Advice on 2022FE \(A1822998\)](#). A task has now been assigned to Section 47F for document publication.

Comments from previous task:

Tom, this Minute is approved as my advice to you on behalf of the EIAT about the statement to be made by you regarding the integrity of the result of the 2022 federal election. Should you accept this advice a draft media release is attached for your consideration. Before we publish the media release we will need to give the EIAT Board agencies some prior notice to ensure everyone is aware. I would recommend we publish the media release before cob Wed 27 July. Regards JP

For assistance, please contact the Information and Knowledge Management team through ObjectiveIM@aec.gov.au or by phone at x11046.

This email has been automatically generated, please do not reply.

From: media
To: EIAT
Subject: RE: AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Tuesday, 26 July 2022 2:13:44 PM
Attachments: [image003.gif](#)
[image004.gif](#)

Thanks Section 47 – will send out / publish at 4pm today.

Thanks,

Section 4

Section 47F(1) | Media Officer
Media & Digital Engagement
Australian Electoral Commission
Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F
www.aec.gov.au/media

From: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 26 July 2022 1:03 PM
To: AFP Media <media@afp.gov.au>; AGs Media <media@ag.gov.au>; ASD Media <media.asd@defence.gov.au>; **Section 33(a)(i)** Section 47F(1) Comms Media <media@communications.gov.au>; Section 47 Finance Media <mediaenquiries@finance.gov.au>; HA Media <media@homeaffairs.gov.au>; media <media@aec.gov.au> **Section 33(a)(i)** Section 47F(1) PMC Media <media@pmc.gov.au>; **Section 47F(1)**

Cc: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>

Subject: AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good afternoon EIAT media teams

Following the EIAT Board's agreement on a statement regarding the integrity of the 2022 federal election, Mr Pope, in his capacity as Board Co-Chair, wrote to the Electoral Commissioner to provide him with the Board's advice. Mr Rogers has today approved the recommendation to accept the advice and publish a media release to inform the public of this outcome.

Please see the attached advance copy of a media release from the Electoral Commissioner, which will be published to the [AEC website](#) at approximately 4pm today 26 July 2022.

Also included for your reference, are whole of government talking points, updated to reflect this statement and the return of the writs for the 2022 federal election.

Thank you for all of your contributions in reaching this milestone.

Kind regards

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F M: Section 47F(1)

From: media
To: EIAT
Cc: media
Subject: RE: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Monday, 11 July 2022 11:48:13 AM
Attachments: AEC Media Release - 2022 federal election free from interference.docx
image001.gif
image002.gif

Typo in the heading – attached correct version

Section 47F(1) | **Media Officer**
Media & Digital Engagement
Australian Electoral Commission
Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F
www.aec.gov.au/media

From: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 11 July 2022 11:45 AM
To: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Cc: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [REDACTED]

Please see attached the media release – we've changed up the heading to make it more attractive for journalists.

As for the movement of the final sentence, I've changed it back to how you originally had it written as agreed, makes more sense as a precursor.

Also confirming when uploaded to the website, it will reflect the title of the release.

Would be great to be kept in the loop on this one so we know when we need to send it out and liaise with the web team etc.

Thanks,

Section 4
[REDACTED]
Section 47F(1) | **Media Officer**
Media & Digital Engagement
Australian Electoral Commission
Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F
www.aec.gov.au/media

From: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 8 July 2022 4:12 PM
To: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Cc: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thank you so much, [REDACTED]

Re movement of now final sentence from being a precursor to the second quote, is this due to quote best practice / media release writing style specifically? Just think the context of that sentence better places the second quote, however happy to be guided by your judgement of course – just thought I'd ask!

Can I please confirm that the link on the Media release page will reflect the title (as opposed to document name)?

Thanks again!

Kind regards

Section 47F

[REDACTED]
Section 47F(1) | Senior Project Officer
Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F

From: media <media@aec.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 8 July 2022 4:00 PM

To: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>

Cc: media <media@aec.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks Section 47F(1) I've made some minor tweaks and put it in our media release template.

Section 47F is back from leave on Monday so will get him to look as well before COB.

Thanks,

Section 4

Section 47F | Media Officer

Media & Digital Engagement

Australian Electoral Commission

T: Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F

www.aec.gov.au/media

From: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 8 July 2022 3:49 PM

To: media <media@aec.gov.au>

Cc: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>

Subject: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi team

We have been asked to draft a media release with a statement from the Electoral Commissioner regarding advice from the EIAT Board – please see attached.

Seeking consultation and your input on the draft. Proposed publication date is early in the w/c 18 July and it requires approval from Matt, Michael Lynch, Jeff Pope and Tom, so we have a short turnaround – sorry!

Can this be returned by **COB Monday 11 July**? Happy to discuss and apologies.

Kind regards

Section 47F

Section 47F(1) | Senior Project Officer

Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch

Australian Electoral Commission

T: Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F

Media release



18 July 2022

2022 Federal Election free from interference

The Board of the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (the Taskforce) has provided formal advice to the Australian Electoral Commissioner, Tom Rogers, following return of the writs for the 2022 federal election.

“The Board has advised Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference, that compromised the delivery of the 2022 Federal Election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election.” Mr Rogers said.

Protecting the integrity of Australia’s electoral processes is critical to maintaining public trust in Australia’s democracy.

“The work of the Taskforce plays a vital role in protecting and preserving Australia’s electoral integrity and I am pleased to be able to share this advice with all Australians”, Mr Rogers said.

Editor’s notes:

For more information about the Taskforce, see: aec.gov.au/integrity-taskforce

From: Section 47F(1)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: EIAT
Subject: RE: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Tuesday, 12 July 2022 10:33:46 AM
Attachments: AEC Media Release - 2022 federal election free from interference.docx
image001.gif
image002.gif

Now with my comments.

Section 47F

Section 47F(1) | A/g Assistant Director
Defending Democracy Unit
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F

From: Section 47F(1) On Behalf Of EIAT
Sent: Tuesday, 12 July 2022 9:42 AM
To: Section 47F(1)
Subject: FW: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hello

Did you see this? And are you happy for me to progress through the approval chains?

Section 47F

Section 47F(1) | A/g Assistant Director
Defending Democracy Unit
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F

From: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 11 July 2022 11:48 AM
To: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Cc: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Typo in the heading – attached correct version

Section 47F(1) | Media Officer
Media & Digital Engagement
Australian Electoral Commission
Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F
www.aec.gov.au/media

From: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 11 July 2022 11:45 AM
To: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Cc: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi [REDACTED]

Please see attached the media release – we've changed up the heading to make it more attractive for journalists.

As for the movement of the final sentence, I've changed it back to how you originally had it written as agreed, makes more sense as a precursor.

Also confirming when uploaded to the website, it will reflect the title of the release.

Would be great to be kept in the loop on this one so we know when we need to send it out and liaise with the web team etc.

Thanks,

Section 4

Section 47F(1) | Media Officer
Media & Digital Engagement
Australian Electoral Commission
Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F
www.aec.gov.au/media

From: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 8 July 2022 4:12 PM
To: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Cc: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thank you so much, Section 47

Re movement of now final sentence from being a precursor to the second quote, is this due to quote best practice / media release writing style specifically? Just think the context of that sentence better places the second quote, however happy to be guided by your judgement of course – just thought I'd ask!

Can I please confirm that the link on the Media release page will reflect the title (as opposed to document name)?

Thanks again!

Kind regards

Section 47F(1) | Senior Project Officer
Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F

From: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 8 July 2022 4:00 PM
To: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Cc: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks Section 47F(1) I've made some minor tweaks and put it in our media release template.

Section 47F(1) is back from leave on Monday so will get him to look as well before COB.

Thanks,

Section 47F(1) | Media Officer
Media & Digital Engagement
Australian Electoral Commission
Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F
www.aec.gov.au/media

From: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 8 July 2022 3:49 PM
To: media <media@aec.gov.au>
Cc: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Subject: Draft media release [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi team

We have been asked to draft a media release with a statement from the Electoral Commissioner regarding advice from the EIAT Board – please see attached.

Seeking consultation and your input on the draft. Proposed publication date is early in the w/c 18 July and it requires approval from Matt, Michael Lynch, Jeff Pope and Tom, so we have a short turnaround – sorry!

Can this be returned by **COB Monday 11 July**? Happy to discuss and apologies.

Kind regards

Section 47F

Section 47F(1) | Senior Project Officer

Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

Section 47F(1)

X

Section 47F

Media release



18 July 2022

2022 Federal Election free from interference

The Board of the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (the Taskforce) has provided formal advice to the Australian Electoral Commissioner, Tom Rogers, following return of the writs for the 2022 federal election.

"The Board has advised Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference, that compromised the delivery of the 2022 Federal Election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election," Mr Rogers said.

Protecting the integrity of Australia's electoral processes is critical to maintaining public trust in Australia's democracy.

"The work of the Taskforce plays a vital role in protecting and preserving Australia's electoral integrity and I am pleased to be able to share this advice with all Australians," Mr Rogers said.

Editor's notes:

For more information about the Taskforce, see: aec.gov.au/integrity-taskforce

Commented [A1]: Review ... is the below more our style but better than the previous?
Electoral Taskforce provides advice to the Commissioner on the 2022 federal election

Section 47C [REDACTED]

Commented [A3]: Is this supposed to be a fullstop?
Comma in the quote below...

Commented [A4]: No space between sentences?
Currently floating...

Commented [A5]: A/A
Change one or the other for consistency?

From: [Jeff Pope](#)
To: [Section 47F\(1\)](#)
Cc: [Section 47F\(1\) EIAT](#)
Subject: RE: draft email to EIAT [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Tuesday, 26 July 2022 2:52:54 PM
Attachments: [image001.gif](#)
 [image002.gif](#)

Minister's advisor has been advised

Thanks

Jeff Pope | Deputy Electoral Commissioner
Executive Leadership Team
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) Section 47F M: Section 47F(1)

From: [Section 47F\(1\)](#)

Sent: Tuesday, 26 July 2022 12:13 PM

To: Jeff Pope <Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au>

Cc: [Section 47F\(1\)](#) EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>

Subject: draft email to EIAT [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Jeff, as discussed.

Good afternoon [\[EIAT\]/\[Board\]/\[media teams\]](#)

Following the EIAT Board's agreement on a statement regarding the integrity of the 2022 federal election, Mr Pope, in his capacity as Board Co-Chair, wrote to the Electoral Commissioner to provide him with the Board's advice. Mr Rogers has today approved the recommendation to accept the advice and publish a media release to inform the public of this outcome.

Please see the attached advance copy of a media release from the Electoral Commissioner, which will be published to the [AEC website](#) at approximately 4pm today 26 July 2022.

Also included for your reference, are whole of government talking points, updated to reflect this statement and the return of the writs for the 2022 federal election.

Thank you for all of your contributions in reaching this milestone.

Kind regards

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) Section 47F M: Section 47F(1)

From: Section 47F(1)
To: Section 47F(1)
Cc: EIAT
Subject: RE: EIAT [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Tuesday, 26 July 2022 9:41:15 AM
Attachments: [image001.gif](#)
[image002.gif](#)

Hi ^{Section 47F}

Something to the below effect?

Good morning / afternoon [EIAT]/[Board]/[media teams]

Following the EIAT Board's consultation and agreement on a statement regarding the integrity of the 2022 federal election, My Pope, in his capacity as Board Co-Chair, wrote to the Electoral Commissioner to provide him with the Board's advice.

Please see the attached advance copy of a media release from the Electoral Commissioner referencing the advice he has received, which will be published to the [AEC website](#) today 26 July 2022.

Thank you for all of your contributions in reaching this milestone.

Kind regards

Kind regards

Section 47F

Section 47F(1) | Senior Project Officer
Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) ^{Section 47F}

From: Section 47F(1)

Sent: Monday, 25 July 2022 5:42 PM

To: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>; Section 47F(1)

Subject: FW: EIAT [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

FYI – can you please prep the emails to go out to EIAT, Board and ?media teams asap in the morning.

Thanks!

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director

Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

T: Section 47F(1) ^{Section 47F(1)} M: ^{Section 47F(1)}

From: Tom Rogers <Tom.Rogers@aec.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 25 July 2022 5:40 PM

To: Section 47F(1) ^{Section 47F(1)}

Cc: Jeff Pope <Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au>; Section 47F(1) ^{Section 47F(1)}

Subject: EIAT [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Hey ^{Section 47F} – could we chat in the morning please about the release of a statement regarding the formal EIAT advice regarding foreign interference (ie; there wasn't any etc) at the recent federal election. I have a minute on my desk from the EIAT regarding advice, with an attached media statement. It would be great to get that out at some stage tomorrow.

Cheers,

Tom

Tom Rogers | Electoral Commissioner

Australian Electoral Commission

Section 47F

AGENDA



Date: 23 June 2022 Time: 2:30pm – 4:00pm

Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce Board

Location: Microsoft Teams

Chair: Mr Jeff Pope

Attendees: Mr Anthony Coles, Mr Ian McCartney, Ms Kathryn McMullan, **Section 47F**
Ms Pauline Sullivan, Ms Gemma Smyth, Mr Simon Newnham, **Section 47F(1)**
Mr David Belgrove, **Section 47F(1)**

Apologies: Mr Nathan Williamson, Mr Scott Dilley, Mr Andrew Kefford, Mr Chris Teal,
Dr Derek Bopping, Ms Sarah Chidgey, Mr Peter Rush

Action officers: Mr Matthew Haigh, **Section 47F(1)**

Agenda items

Section 22

NO. DESCRIPTION

Section 22(1)(a)(ii)

5 Other business

EIAT 2022 Federal Election Statement

We are now seeking endorsement of the drafted public EIAT post-election statement.

"Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference, that compromised the delivery of the 2022 Federal Election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election."

- [If req.] note suggested addition of comma [to provide clarity]

NO. DESCRIPTION

- *Any final comments?*
- *The statement will be included in the final report, and the Secretariat will re-circulate the WoG Talking Points updated to reflect the end of this election.*
- *Mr Rogers would like to be the first to make such a statement, further details of which are up for consideration.*
- *Given the return of the writ, timing is proposed to be a couple of weeks from now.*

Section 22

From: Section 47F
To: Section 47F(1)
Cc: EIAT
Subject: RE: EIAT [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Monday, 25 July 2022 6:29:40 PM
Attachments: [image001.gif](#)
[image002.gif](#)

Understood Section 47

Section 47F | Chief of Staff
National Executive | Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F **M:** Section 47F(1)

From: Section 47F(1)
Sent: Monday, 25 July 2022 5:43 PM
To: Section 47F(1) >; Section 47F
Cc: EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Subject: FW: EIAT [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Hello – quick note to say, prior to this release, we have to sling a quick FYI to EIAT and Board members. We will have the email prepped for first thing tomorrow, but can we please ensure we time appropriately.

Thank you!

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F **M:** Section 47F(1)

From: Tom Rogers <Tom.Rogers@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 25 July 2022 5:40 PM
To: Section 47F(1) X: Section 47F(1)
Cc: Jeff Pope <Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au>; Section 47F X: Section 47F(1)
Section 47F(1)
Subject: EIAT [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Hey Section 47 – could we chat in the morning please about the release of a statement regarding the formal EIAT advice regarding foreign interference (ie; there wasn't any etc) at the recent federal election. I have a minute on my desk from the EIAT regarding advice, with an attached media statement. It would be great to get that out at some stage tomorrow.

Cheers,

Tom

Tom Rogers | Electoral Commissioner
Australian Electoral Commission
Section 47F

OFFICIAL

AGENDA



Date: 7 June 2022 Time: 2:30pm – 4:00pm

Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce Board

Location: Microsoft Teams

Chair: Mr Jeff Pope

Attendees: Mr Nathan Williamson, Mr Andrew Kefford, Mr Stephen Nutt, Ms Kathryn McMullan, Ms Pauline Sullivan, Mr Peter Rush, Ms Gemma Smyth, Ms Sarah Chidgey, Section 47F(1), Section 47F(1) Mr Scott Dilley, Section 47F(1)

Apologies: Mr Chris Teal, Mr Ian McCartney, Dr Derek Bopping, Mr Anthony Coles

Action officers: Mr Matthew Haigh, Section 47F(1)

Section 22

OFFICIAL

NO. DESCRIPTION

Section 22(1)(a)(ii)

NO.	DESCRIPTION
-----	-------------

6 Other business

EIAT 2022 Federal Election Statement and Report

Take the tabled paper as read, however at a high level, the paper outlines:

- *The proposed public EIAT post-election **statement***
 - *Very similar to the statement drafted following the 2020 Eden-Monaro by-election and included in Whole of Government talking points.*
 - *Indicating no interference in the **results of the election**.*
 - *Any comments now?*
 - *Happy to take comments up until COB Monday 13 June 2022 via the Secretariat.*

Section 22

Close

From: [Jeff Pope](#)
To: [Section 47F\(1\)](#)
Cc: [Matthew Haigh; EIAT](#)
Subject: RE: draft report structure [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Wednesday, 1 June 2022 10:49:06 AM
Attachments: [image001.gif](#)
[image002.gif](#)

Great, thank you

Jeff Pope | Deputy Electoral Commissioner
Executive Leadership Team
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) S: Section 47F(1) M: Section 47F(1)

From: Section 47F(1)

Sent: Wednesday, 1 June 2022 10:38 AM
To: Jeff Pope <Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au>
Cc: Matthew Haigh <Matthew.Haigh@aec.gov.au>; EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: draft report structure [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Section 22

[REDACTED] will do us a quick cover paper where we can include the draft statement **Section 22**
[REDACTED] Will provide to Matt/yourself prior to circulating.

Kind Regards

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director
Defending Democracy Unit
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) S: Section 47F(1) M: Section 47F(1)

From: Jeff Pope <Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 1 June 2022 9:51 AM
To: **Section 47F(1)**
Cc: Matthew Haigh <Matthew.Haigh@aec.gov.au>; EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: draft report structure [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Section 22

Re the draft statement:

Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference that compromised the delivery of the 2022 Federal Election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election.

A minor adjustment in red. I am happy to stick with results at the end as the deal with process in reference to 'the delivery of the 2022 Federal Election".

Happy to discuss if needed.

Thanks

JP

Jeff Pope | Deputy Electoral Commissioner
Executive Leadership Team
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) S: Section 47F(1) M: Section 47F(1)

From: Section 47F(1)

Sent: Tuesday, 31 May 2022 6:59 PM

To: Jeff Pope <Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au>

Cc: Matthew Haigh <Matthew.Haigh@aec.gov.au>; EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>

Subject: draft report structure [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Section 22

You may also wish to put forward a draft EIAT statement for members to consider across the next fortnight. We would recommend beginning with

Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference that compromised the delivery of the 2022 Federal Election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the result.

I note previous suggestions for this statement substituted 'result' for 'process.'

Happy to discuss,

Section 47F(1)

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director

Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch

Australian Electoral Commission

T: Section 47F(1) S: Section 47F(1) M: Section 47F(1)

From: Section 47F(1)
To: [Jeff Pope](#); [Matthew Haigh](#)
Cc: Section 47F(1); [EIAT](#)
Subject: EIAT | Board Meeting 7 June 2022 | Draft Statement and Outline for tabling [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Friday, 3 June 2022 11:00:03 AM
Attachments: [Draft Statement and Outline for tabling \(A1653589\).docx](#)
[image001.gif](#)
[image002.gif](#)

Good morning Jeff and Matt,

Please see attached to this email a document we would like to table at the next EIAT Board meeting containing the Draft Statement on Electoral Integrity and the Draft final report outline.

Let us know if you're happy with this document or if you would like any changes.

Kind regards,

Section 47F(1) | Advisor

Defending Democracy Unit
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

T: Section 47F(1)

From: Section 47F(1)
To: Jeff Pope
Cc: Section 47F(1)
Subject: RE: 2022 Federal Election commentary [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 3 June 2022 2:10:52 PM
Attachments: [image001.gif](#)
[image002.gif](#)

Hi Jeff,

Of course, no problem. Confirming Matt has spoken with his eq. **Section 47F(1)**, she was pragmatic. Yet to talk with AFP media team as **Section 47F(1)** is also in the middle of consulting them on our related media release this afternoon (currently with Andrew for review) and want to keep that separate.

Cheers

Section 47F(1)

Section 47F(1) A/g Director
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
Section 47F(1) M: Section 47F(1)

From: Jeff Pope <Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 3 June 2022 2:05 PM
To: **Section 47F(1)**
Cc: Matthew Haigh <Matthew.Haigh@aec.gov.au>; Michael Lynch <Michael.Lynch@aec.gov.au>;
Section 47F(1) Section 47F(1) Section 47F(1)

Subject: RE: 2022 Federal Election commentary [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Thanks **Section 47F(1)** all good but I would like to chat to Ian McCartney first which I will try to do this afternoon after I land in Melbourne. Will come back to you.

JP

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: **Section 47F(1)**
Date: Friday, 03 Jun 2022, 1:22 pm
To: Jeff Pope <Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au>
Cc: Matthew Haigh <Matthew.Haigh@aec.gov.au>, Michael Lynch <Michael.Lynch@aec.gov.au>, **Section 47F(1)**

Subject: 2022 Federal Election commentary [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Jeff,

As requested by **Section 47F(1)** and I have drafted the below email to the EIAT Board for your consideration.

Distribution was requested for this afternoon from yourself, but of course happy to discuss.

Kind regards

Section 47F(1)

To: EIAT Board (distro list attached)

Subject: 2022 Federal Election commentary

Good afternoon all

As discussed in our meetings over the last two weeks, AEC election operations are ongoing. We are pleased to have declared the first of 151 House of Representatives seats yesterday (Eden-Monaro) and have more scheduled for this afternoon and early next week. Our staff around the country are otherwise working hard to progress Senate counts and return the Writs by 28 June 2022.

The Secretariat is preparing to table a draft EIAT Statement for the 2022 Federal Election to our meeting on Tuesday, however the wording, timing and placement of which needs our careful

consideration. No statement from or on behalf of the EIAT will be signed off on until an appropriate point in the election cycle.

We ask that you remind your staff to refrain from providing public comments on or assessment of the integrity of the event outside of this process. Should individual circumstances require, we're happy to discuss what might be suitable for your intended audience.

Regards

JP

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director

Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

Section 47F(1)

X: 21309 **Section 47F(1)**

OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE



EIAT Board Meeting

DRAFT STATEMENT AND OUTLINE OF FINAL REPORT

7 June 2022

VERSION 1.0

Purpose:

To provide the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (EIAT) Board an update on:

- The proposed Federal Election 2022 Draft Statement on Electoral Integrity; and
- The Draft Final Report outline.

Background and Issues:

Draft Statement

After each federal electoral event it has had a role in, the EIAT has released a statement commenting on the matters observed through the course of the engagement. Previous statements made by the EIAT are listed below:

2019 Federal Election

The Taskforce agencies did not identify foreign interference, or any other interference that compromised the delivery of the 2019 Federal election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the process

July 2020 Eden-Monaro by-election

Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign, or any other interference that compromised the delivery the Eden-Monaro by-election and would undermine confidence of the Australian people in the result.

November 2020 Groom by-election

Taskforce agencies did not identify foreign interference, or any other interference that compromised the delivery of the Groom by-election that would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the process.

The Draft Statement on Electoral Integrity has been prepared for the 2022 Federal Election and is as follows:

Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference that compromised the delivery of the 2022 Federal Election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election.

Section 22

For Decision and Recommendations:

The EIAT requests that:

1. The Board consider the Federal Election 2022 Draft Statement on Electoral Interference contained within this document, with a view to approving this statement at the Board's next meeting, and

Section 22

OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

Section 22

OFFICIAL: SENSITIVE

Section 22

From: [Jeff Pope](#)
To: [Section 47F\(1\)](#); [Matthew Haigh](#)
Cc: [Section 47F\(1\)](#); [EIAT](#)
Subject: RE: EIAT | Board Meeting 7 June 2022 | Draft Statement and Outline for tabling [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Friday, 3 June 2022 2:10:14 PM
Attachments: [image001.gif](#)
[image002.gif](#)

Thanks [Section 47F\(1\)](#) I am comfortable with the paper, thank you. At the meeting after next we will need to also consider the timing of publishing the statement.

JP

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: [Section 47F\(1\)](#)
Date: Friday, 03 Jun 2022, 10:30 am
To: Jeff Pope <Jeff.Pope@aec.gov.au>, Matthew Haigh <Matthew.Haigh@aec.gov.au>
Cc: [Section 47F\(1\)](#) EIAT <EIAT@aec.gov.au>
Subject: EIAT | Board Meeting 7 June 2022 | Draft Statement and Outline for tabling [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Good morning Jeff and Matt,

Please see attached to this email a document we would like to table at the next EIAT Board meeting containing the Draft Statement on Electoral Integrity and the Draft final report outline.

Let us know if you're happy with this document or If you would like any changes.

Kind regards,

[Section 47F\(1\) | Advisor](#)

Defending Democracy Unit
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

T:[Section 47F\(1\)](#)

Australian Electoral Commission logo



Australian Electoral Commission



From: Section 47F(1)
To: Section 47F(1)
Cc: Matthew Haigh
Subject: RE: JP Board email re Statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 3 June 2022 1:21:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.gif](#)
 [image002.gif](#)

Looks great.

Happy sticking with the Board (making assumption advice will make it to Media teams)?

Section 47F(1)

Section 47F(1) | A/g Assistant Director
Defending Democracy Unit
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) Section 47F

From: Section 47F(1)
Sent: Friday, 3 June 2022 1:19 PM
To: Section 47F(1)
Cc: Matthew Haigh <Matthew.Haigh@aec.gov.au>
Subject: RE: JP Board email re Statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Hello - what do you think of the additions below.
Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Section 47F(1)
Date: Friday, Jun 03, 2022, 1:03 PM
To: Section 47F(1)
Subject: JP Board email re Statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Section 47

Brief words below -

To: EIAT Board (attached)
Subject: 2022 Federal Election commentary

Good afternoon all

As discussed in our meetings over the last two weeks, AEC election operations are ongoing. We are pleased to have declared the first of 151 House of Representatives seats yesterday (Eden-Monaro) and have more scheduled for this afternoon and early next week. Our staff around the country are otherwise working hard to progress Senate counts and return the Writs by 28 June 2022.

The Secretariat is preparing to table a draft EIAT Statement for the 2022 Federal Election to our meeting on Tuesday, however the wording, timing and placement of which needs our careful consideration.

No statement from or on behalf of the EIAT will be signed off on until an appropriate point in the election cycle.

We ask that you remind your staff to refrain from providing public comments on or assessment of the integrity of the event outside of this process. Should individual circumstances require, we're happy to discuss what might be suitable for your intended audience.

Regards

JP

Kind regards

Section 47F

Section 47F(1) | A/g Assistant Director
Defending Democracy Unit
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) | Section 47F

From: Section 47F(1)
To: Section 47F(1)
Subject: Draft EC media release on EIAT Board statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 8 July 2022 2:50:00 PM
Attachments: [DRAFT EC media release on EIAT Board statement - 2022FE.docx](#)
[image001.gif](#)
[image002.gif](#)

Hi Section 47F(1)

Attached for your review, please.

Thank you!

Kind regards

Section 47F(1)

Section 47F(1)n | Senior Project Officer
Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) | Section 47F(1)

Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce advice to Electoral Commissioner on 2022 Federal Election

The Board of the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (the Taskforce) has provided formal advice to the Australian Electoral Commissioner, Tom Rogers, following return of the writs.

Mr Rogers said, "the Board has advised that Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference, that compromised the delivery of the 2022 Federal Election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election."

Protecting the integrity of Australia's electoral processes is critical to maintaining public trust in Australia's democracy. "The work of the Taskforce plays an important role in protecting and preserving Australia's electoral integrity – and this advice is a great outcome for the operation of the Taskforce and for all Australians", Mr Rogers said.

For more information about the Taskforce, see: aec.gov.au/integrity-taskforce

Commented [AB1]:Section 47C [REDACTED]

Commented [AB2]:Section 47C [REDACTED]

Commented [AB3]:Section 47C [REDACTED]

Commented [AB4]:Section 47C [REDACTED]

Commented [AB5]: Do you want a closing sentence above this or is it short/sharp and sufficient enough?

From: Section 47F(1)
To: Section 47F(1)
Subject: DRAFT EC media release on EIAT Board statement - 2022FE.docx [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 8 July 2022 3:39:06 PM
Attachments: [DRAFT EC media release on EIAT Board statement - 2022FE.docx](#)

One suggestion – see what you think.

Thank you!

Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce advice to Electoral Commissioner on 2022 Federal Election

The Board of the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (the Taskforce) has provided formal advice to the Australian Electoral Commissioner, Tom Rogers, following return of the writs.

Mr Rogers said, "the Board has advised that Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference, that compromised the delivery of the 2022 Federal Election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election."

Protecting the integrity of Australia's electoral processes is critical to maintaining public trust in Australia's democracy. "The work of the Taskforce plays an **important vital** role in protecting and preserving Australia's electoral integrity **- and I am pleased to be able to share this advice is a great outcome for the operation of the Taskforce and for with all Australians**", Mr Rogers said.

Background

For more information about the Taskforce, see: aec.gov.au/integrity-taskforce

Section 47C

Formatted: Font: Bold

Commented [AB6]: Do you want a closing sentence above this or is it short/sharp and sufficient enough?

From: [REDACTED] Section 47F(1)
To: [REDACTED] Section 47F(1)
Subject: RE: Media release re. EIAT statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Monday, 18 July 2022 5:06:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.gif](#)
[image002.gif](#)

Sorry forgot to cc at the time.

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) **S:** Section 47F(1) **M:** Section 47F(1)

From: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 18 July 2022 4:35 PM
To: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Media release re. EIAT statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Cool.

Do you have a copy of the version you sent to [REDACTED] I can update / upload to Objective and start a clearance workflow (or other approval process?).

Kind regards

Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
Section 47F(1) | Senior Project Officer
Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) **S:** Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]

From: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 18 July 2022 4:31 PM
To: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Media release re. EIAT statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

I like the highlighted one!

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director
Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) **S:** Section 47F(1) **M:** Section 47F(1)

From: Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 18 July 2022 4:23 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Media release re. EIAT statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Okay so we originally went with:

Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce advice to Electoral Commissioner on 2022 Federal Election
Something between that and [REDACTED] suggestion:

Taskforce advice reaffirms integrity of 2022 federal election
or

Taskforce advice provides assurance on 2022 federal election

Section 47C [REDACTED]

Happy to workshop further, just want to check if I am on the right track.

Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]
Section 47F(1) | Senior Project Officer
Defending Democracy Unit | Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission
T: Section 47F(1) **S:** Section 47F(1) [REDACTED]

From: Section 47F(1)
Sent: Monday, 18 July 2022 4:15 PM

To: Section 47F(1)
Subject: FW: Media release re. EIAT statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hello – could we twist what EES title suggests a little.. ? what do you think?

Section 47F(1) | A/g Director

Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch
Australian Electoral Commission

T: ^{Section 47F(1)} Section 47F M: Section 47F(1)

From: Section 47F(1)
Sent: Monday, 18 July 2022 4:12 PM

To: Section 47F(1)
Cc: Section 47F(1)

Subject: RE: Media release re. EIAT statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Heya

Looks good to me. Title looks good as well but understand that **Section 47C**

Maybe something like 'Taskforce advice reaffirms Australia's electoral confidence'. Best I can think of...

Anyway, no suggested changes to the body of the release from me. Succinct and matter of fact the go.

Cheers

^{Section 47F}

Section 47F(1) | Principal Media Advisor

Director, Media & Digital Engagement
Australian Electoral Commission

T: Section 47F(1) Section 47F M: ^{Section 47F(1)}

www.aec.gov.au/media

From: Section 47F(1)
Sent: Monday, 18 July 2022 3:56 PM

To: Section 47F(1)
Subject: Media release re. EIAT statement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hello welcome back!

Looking for any advice/suggestions you have on the attached please:

^{Section 47F} and ^{Section 4} went back and fwds a couple of times last week – the release aims to satisfy Tom's request to be the first one to 'say' the EIAT post-election statement. We've ended up with something short and sweet which I am ok with, except for the title.

It is for approval and publishing this week.

Cheers

^{Section 47}

Section 47F

From: ObjectiveIM
Sent: Tuesday, 19 July 2022 7:15 PM
To: Section 47F
Cc: Section 47F
Subject: For Clearance Notification

AECObjective™

Clearance Notification

Jeff Pope has sent back [AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election \(A1815370\)](#) to Michael Lynch for action.

Comments from previous task:

Hi Michael and [REDACTED], can we please have a covering Minute that I sign that outlines to the Commissioner the process the EIAT has undertaken (at a high level) to arrive at this advice and for me, as the Chair of the EIAT, to recommend that he accepts the statement and also publishes the media release (which will be an attachment). This will provide an appropriate audit trail and proper and full advice to the Commissioner, as per the intent of the EAIT. Thanks JP

For assistance, please contact the Information and Knowledge Management team through ObjectiveIM@aec.gov.au or by phone at x11046.

This email has been automatically generated, please do not reply.

Section 47F

From: ObjectiveIM
Sent: Tuesday, 19 July 2022 8:10 AM
To: Section 47F
Cc: Section 47F
Subject: For Clearance Notification



Clearance Notification

Section 47F has assigned [AEC Media Release - Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election \(A1815370\)](#) to Brian Foo for action.

Comments from previous task:

Hi Brian, this is for your review and clearance to Michael (then to DEC & EC). It's a statement (via media release) from the Electoral Commissioner on behalf of the EIAT Board. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you!

For assistance, please contact the Information and Knowledge Management team through ObjectiveIM@aec.gov.au or by phone at x11046.

This email has been automatically generated, please do not reply.

Section 47F

From: ObjectiveIM
Sent: Monday, 25 July 2022 12:12 PM
To: Section 47F
Cc: Section 47F
Subject: For Clearance Notification



Clearance Notification

Jeff Pope has approved [Minute - EIAT Board Co-Chair to Electoral Commissioner - Advice on 2022FE \(A1822998\)](#). A task has now been assigned to [Section 47F](#) for document publication.

Comments from previous task:

Tom, this Minute is approved as my advice to you on behalf of the EIAT about the statement to be made by you regarding the integrity of the result of the 2022 federal election. Should you accept this advice a draft media release is attached for your consideration. Before we publish the media release we will need to give the EIAT Board agencies some prior notice to ensure everyone is aware. I would recommend we publish the media release before cob Wed 27 July. Regards JP

For assistance, please contact the Information and Knowledge Management team through ObjectiveIM@aec.gov.au or by phone at x11046.

This email has been automatically generated, please do not reply.

Section 47F

From: ObjectiveIM
Sent: Monday, 25 July 2022 4:20 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: For Clearance Notification

AECObjective™

Clearance Notification

Section 47F has assigned [Minute - EIAT Board Co-Chair to Electoral Commissioner - Advice on 2022FE \(A1822998\)](#) to Tom Rogers for action.

Comments from previous task:

Good afternoon Mr Rogers, this minute and attachment have been cleared to you for review and action by Section 47F Mr Foo, Mr Lynch and Mr Pope. Mr Pope's clearance provided the following comments for your information: Tom, this Minute is approved as my advice to you on behalf of the EIAT about the statement to be made by you regarding the integrity of the result of the 2022 federal election. Should you accept this advice a draft media release is attached for your consideration. Before we publish the media release we will need to give the EIAT Board agencies some prior notice to ensure everyone is aware. I would recommend we publish the media release before cob Wed 27 July. Regards JP. - Please let me know if you require further information or assistance. Thank you,

Section 47F

For assistance, please contact the Information and Knowledge Management team through ObjectiveIM@aec.gov.au or by phone at x11046.

This email has been automatically generated, please do not reply.

26 July 2022

Taskforce Advice Provides Assurance on 2022 Federal Election

The Board of the Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (the Taskforce) has provided formal advice to the Australian Electoral Commissioner, Tom Rogers, following return of the writs for the 2022 federal election.

"The Board has advised Taskforce agencies did not identify any foreign interference, or any other interference, that compromised the delivery of the 2022 federal election and would undermine the confidence of the Australian people in the results of the election," Mr Rogers said.

Protecting the integrity of Australia's electoral processes is critical to maintaining public trust in Australia's democracy. "The work of the Taskforce plays a vital role in protecting and preserving Australia's electoral integrity and I am pleased to be able to share this advice with all Australians," Mr Rogers said.

Editor's notes:

For more information about the Taskforce, see: aec.gov.au/integrity-taskforce