

Compliance Review Report

CLP Gifts and Legacies Pty Ltd

July 2013



AEC

Australian Electoral Commission

Review details

Location of review: Australian Electoral Commission
West Block, Queen Victoria Terrace
PARKES ACT 2600

Date of visit: June 2013

AEC review officers: Brad Edgman
Alan Page
Mary-Ann Waters

Entity staff involved: Graeme Lewis

Background

Registered Political Parties and Associated Entities are required under the provisions of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (the Act) to lodge annual disclosure returns. The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) has powers under the Act to review records and gather relevant information to assess whether disclosure obligations have been met.

The purpose of the review was to assess whether the disclosure return for the 2011-12 financial year lodged on behalf of the CLP Gifts and Legacies Pty Ltd (the Entity) complies with disclosure obligations as set out in the Act.

Compliance and co-operation

The compliance review of the Entity was conducted under the authority of s.316(2A) of the Act by a notice served on the Entity's financial controller. In accordance with s.316(2A)(c), the financial controller of an associated entity is required to produce the documents requested in the notice within the period and in the manner specified in the notice.

As is standard practice, the AEC provided four weeks for the delivery of records, this deliberately generous timeframe being designed to allow easy accommodation of this task in the normal course of the Entity's operations. The entity had no explanation as to why the requested records which were due on 4 March 2013 were not provided until 2 April 2013.

It should be noted that it is an offence under the Act to not comply to the fullest extent possible with a notice issued under s.316(2A), including delivering the requested information by the due date. The AEC should be notified immediately of any genuine impediment to being unable to comply with any further notice to prevent prosecution action being commenced.

Review findings requiring amendment

Detailed examination of the Entity's records did not identified any discrepancies, that in our opinion require an amendment to the 2011-12 disclosure return

Conclusion

Except for the matters noted above, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the Entity has not complied, in all material respects, with its disclosure obligations under the Act. To ensure full compliance with the Act, the matter noted above should be remedied.

Enquiries and Assistance

Should the Entity require any assistance regarding its disclosure obligations under the Act, please contact the AEC's Funding and Disclosure Section either on telephone number (02) 6271 4552 or by email at fad@aec.gov.au.