

Inquiry into the Final Report of the Expert Panel – Political Donations and the Government’s Response

Question on Notice from the NSW Electoral Commission

Also, Hon Robert Borsak asked whether the NSWEC should be responsible for vetting or approving officers of the party. This question relates to Rec 34(a) of the Expert Panel.

In response to this Rec, we note that the NSWEC stated in its submission that it should be considered as part of a comprehensive review of the legislation, along with Recs 33-36 dealing with the governance and accountability standards of parties.

It is the NSWEC’s view that parties should be required to maintain appropriate governance and accountability standards, and that senior office holders of the party should be held accountable for ensuring the party’s compliance with the EFED Act. The governance and accountability standards of a party should be linked to the party’s registration and public funding entitlements. Senior office holders of political parties should have sufficient seniority, control and decision-making authority.