

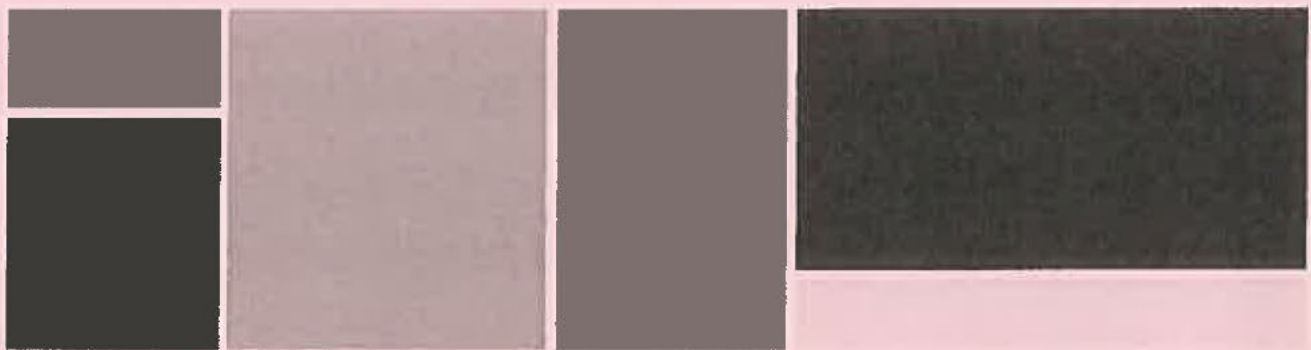
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Compliance Review Report

National Party of Australia – N.S.W.

March 2014



AEC
Australian Electoral Commission

Review details

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

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

Party staff involved: Carron Elvin

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 this limited scope review was to assess whether the disclosure of all individual receipts above the threshold were disclosed in the return for the 2012-13 financial year lodged on behalf of the National Party of Australia – N.S.W. (the Party).

Compliance and cooperation

The compliance review was conducted under the provisions of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*. In accordance with s316(2A)(c), the party agent of a political party is required to produce the documents requested in the notice within the period and in the manner specified in the notice.

State Office

During the review, AEC staff examined the financial records of the State Office for the 2012-13 financial year.

Party Units

No party units were included in this limited scope review.

The Party fully complied with the only s316(2A) notice in delivering the requested records to the AEC in advance of the due date.

Review findings requiring amendment

Detailed examination of the specific section of the Party's records identified a discrepancy that in our opinion requires correction on the 2012-13 disclosure return.

Receipts above the disclosure threshold

Section 314AC of the Act requires disclosure of the particulars of the sum of individual amounts received by, or on behalf of, a party from a person or organisation during the 2012-13 financial year of more than \$12 100.

Examination of the party's produced reports listing all transactions recorded in the Party's general ledger revealed one amount above the threshold that was not individually disclosed. This amount was provided from a solicitors trust account representing an agreed settlement paid for by The Crown Solicitor. The required amendment is listed below.

Required amendment (Amended Entry)

Name	Address	New amount
The Crown Solicitor	P.O. Box 25 SYDNEY NSW 2001	\$18 000

In view of the above, it is our opinion that an amended amount should be reported in Part 2 of the amended annual return.

Conclusion

Except for the matter raised above and based on the records provided, nothing has come to our attention in the course of this limited scope review that causes us to believe that the Party has not complied with its disclosure obligation under the Act.

Please electronically amend your annual disclosure return by **Friday, 18 April 2014**.

If it is your contention that our finding is incorrect or you wish to request amendments that are different or additional to those we have listed above, please also provide an explanation along with any supporting working papers and documents by this due date.

Enquiries and Assistance

Should the party 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.