

Public Statement

LOBBYING AND INFLUENCE INITIATIVE

6 July 2023

Statement by the Hon. Michael David KC Acting Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption

On 30 March 2023 Commissioner Vanstone announced on ABC Radio that the Commission would be examining lobbying in South Australia. This work follows on from the *Yes Minister* report released by the Commission on 7 March 2023 examining the corruption risks associated with unsolicited proposals, and from papers published by interstate integrity agencies in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania considering the effectiveness of lobbying regulation in their jurisdictions.

To date, the Commission has conducted its own open source research, and has sought and considered information from the heads of South Australian Government agencies regarding steps taken by them to address corruption risks associated with lobbying activity.

The work we are undertaking is directed towards evaluating the regulatory landscape and corruption risks associated with lobbying, rather than to specific allegations of corruption or impropriety.

Based on the work done to now, the Commission has prepared a Discussion Paper for publication. This gives an overview of what appear to be the main issues arising in the context of lobbying regulation in South Australia.

The Discussion Paper invites submissions to be made to the Commission about lobbying. It includes a number of questions which may form the basis of a submission; but the Commission is interested to hear from members of the public, lobbyists, lobbied parties, public officials or other interested persons about any matter they consider important in this context.

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Following receipt of submissions, consideration will be given to what further work should be done.

More information about the project, including details of how to make a submission, will be published on the Commission's website.

<https://icac.sa.gov.au/evaluations-and-reviews/lobbying-initiative>

For media enquiries please contact 0428 389 493 or media@icac.sa.gov.au

The publication of this information has been authorised by the Hon. Michael David KC, Acting Commissioner, under section 54 *Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 2012* (SA).