

Assurance Review 2025/027
Mr Andrew Willcox MP
Member for Dawson

Family reunion travel
1 July 2021 to 30 June 2023

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Executive summary

1. The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) conducted an Assurance Review of Mr Andrew Willcox MP's use of parliamentary business work resources for family reunion purposes (family reunion travel resources) between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023 (the period in scope). The Assurance Review forms part of IPEA's 3 Year Assurance Plan.

Scope and Purpose

- 2. The scope of this Assurance Review is family reunion travel by Mr Willcox and his family between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023.
- 3. The purpose of the Assurance Review was to determine whether the family reunion travel resources were used in accordance with the legislative framework.

Engagement with Mr Willcox

4. IPEA engaged with Mr Willcox on two occasions to understand the nature of the travel undertaken by him and his family during the relevant period. These interactions are detailed in the Assessment section below and can also be found at **Attachments 1 to 4**.

Assurance Review Findings

5. Having regard to the information made available from Mr Willcox, IPEA found that the use of family reunion travel resources was consistent with the legislative framework.

Audit and Assurance function

IPEA's statutory audit function

- 6. IPEA audits parliamentarians' use of their parliamentary business work resources and the use of travel resources by their staff under section 12 of the *Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority Act 2017* (IPEA Act). IPEA conducts Assurance Reviews to assess the use of resources against the legislative framework to determine if there has been misuse.
- 7. Potential outcomes of an Assurance Review include:
 - a. no further action in circumstances where the review has concluded the use of parliamentary business resources was not inconsistent with the legislative framework, or
 - b. administrative remedial action, including penalty where the review has concluded there is evidence the use of parliamentary business resources was not consistent with the legislative framework, or
 - c. referral to the National Anti-Corruption Commission, where there is clear evidence of serious or systemic corrupt conduct.

Legislative framework

- 8. IPEA applied the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (PBR Act) and its associated instruments as the relevant legislation for this Assurance Review. The PBR Act is a principles-based framework (legislative framework) that requires parliamentarians to ensure expenditure is incurred for the 'dominant purpose' of conducting parliamentary business and in a manner that represents 'value for money'.
- 9. The legislation relevant to this Assurance Review is:
 - a. Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017 (the PBR Act)
 - b. Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017 (the PBR Regulations)
 - c. Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017
 - d. Parliamentary Business Resources (Commonwealth Transport) Determination 2017
- 10. The principles-based legislative framework imposes a number of obligations upon parliamentarians in relation to their use of work resources. In summary, parliamentarians are personally responsible and accountable for their use of work resources. They must be prepared to publicly justify their use of work resources for conducting their parliamentary business, and must act ethically and in good faith in using, and accounting for the use of, those resources.
- 11. Parliamentarians are not able to claim work resources unless their travel:
 - is for the dominant purpose of conducting their parliamentary business;
 - represents value for money; and
 - meets the relevant conditions connected to the travel claim or expense.
- 12. Section 6 of the PBR Act provides the following meaning of *parliamentary business*:
 - (1) The parliamentary business of a member means any of the following:
 - (a) the *parliamentary duties* of a member, being activities of the member that:
 - i. relate directly to the member's role as a member; and
 - ii. are determined for the purposes of paragraph (4)(a);
 - (b) the *electorate duties* of the member, being activities of the member that:
 - i. support or serve the member's constituents; and
 - ii. are determined for the purposes of paragraph (4)(b);
 - (c) the *party political duties* of the member, being activities determined for the purposes of paragraph (4)(c);
 - (d) for a member who is an office holder or a Minister of State the *official duties* of the member being activities that:
 - i. relate to the member's role as an office holder or Minister of State; and
 - ii. are determined for the purposes of paragraph (4)(d)
- 13. Subsection 6(4) of the PBR Act provides that the Minister must determine activities of a member that are parliamentary duties of the member, or electorate duties of the member, or party political duties of the member, or official duties of the member. The Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 determines the activities which fall within the four duty streams set out in section 6 of the PBR Act.

14. Section 6 of the PBR Regulations provides the meaning of family reunion purposes as:

A family member of a member travels for **family reunion purposes** if:

- (a) the member is travelling within Australia for the dominant purpose of conducting the member's parliamentary business; and
- (b) the family member travels to accompany or join the member; and
- (c) the travel by the family member is for the dominant purpose of facilitating the family life of the member's family.
- 15. Section 4 of the PBR Regulations provides the following meaning of *family member*:
 - (a) the member's spouse or nominee;
 - (b) a dependent child of the member;
 - (c) a designated person in relation to the member.

Assurance Review methodology

Background

- 16. Under IPEA's Assurance program, IPEA conducts ongoing, systematic analysis of the parliamentary business resources accessed by parliamentarians and their staff through a combination of regular transaction sampling and review of publicly available information.
- 17. In 2024, IPEA commenced a Preliminary Assessment into travel by Mr Willcox and his family members during the period in scope.
- 18. After excluding family travel to and from Canberra, the Preliminary Assessment found that parliamentary business resources were used by Mr Willcox during the period in scope.
- 19. On 5 February 2025, IPEA commenced an Assurance Review of Mr Willcox's family reunion travel.

Scope of Assurance Review

20. The scope of this Assurance review is family reunion travel undertaken by Mr Willcox and his family members between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023. Family travel to and from Canberra to reunite family with the parliamentarian is excluded.

Method

- 21. IPEA considered the legislative framework and applied the following questions:
 - a. What was the dominant purpose of the travel?
 - b. What was the nature of the parliamentary business?
 - c. Did the travel by the family members meet the three-part test under section 6 of the PBR Regulations?
- 22. In assessing whether the dominant purpose of the travel was parliamentary business, IPEA considered:
 - a. the parliamentarian's role; and
 - b. any supporting evidence relating to their travel.

- 23. IPEA conducted the Assurance Review by examining and assessing:
 - a. information held by IPEA, including in the Parliamentary Expenses Management System
 - b. the legislative framework and supporting guidelines
 - c. information provided by the parliamentarian
 - d. the parliamentary sitting timetables from the APH website (www.aph.gov.au).

Assessment of work expenses

Summary of findings

Analysis

24. Mr Willcox and his spouse undertook two trips using parliamentary work resources for which IPEA required additional information to assess whether their use of family reunion travel was consistent with the legislative framework.

Trip 1: Brisbane

- 25. Mr Willcox and his spouse flew from Mackay to Brisbane on 7 July 2022. Parliamentary work resources were used for flights, ground transport and four nights of travel allowance in Brisbane.
- 26. Mr Willcox and his spouse then flew from Brisbane to Mackay on 11 July 2022. Parliamentary work resources were used for flights and ground transport.

Trip 2: Sunshine Coast

- 27. Mr Willcox and his spouse flew from Canberra to Sunshine Coast via Sydney on 25 November 2022. Parliamentary work resources were used for flights, ground transport and two nights of travel allowance in Maroochydore.
- 28. Mr Willcox and his spouse flew from Brisbane to Canberra on 27 November 2022 using parliamentary work resources for flights and ground transport.
- 29. On 5 February 2025, IPEA wrote to Mr Willcox detailing the requirements of the legislative framework and identifying the travel using parliamentary work resources for the period in scope (Attachment 1). Mr Willcox was asked about the dominant purpose of his travel and the nature of his parliamentary business, with reference to the Determination. Mr Willcox was also asked to advise whether his spouse's travel met the three-part test in Section 6 of the PBR Regulations. A response was requested by 28 February 2025.
- 30. On 10 February 2025, Mr Willcox's office responded to IPEA (Attachment 2).
- 31. In the response, Mr Willcox's staff member responded to IPEA's questions as follows:
 - 1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022? To attend the State LNP Conference in Brisbane (8-10 July 2022)
 - With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?
 Party Political Duties

- 3. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in Section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

Yes, [spouse]'s travel meets the three-part test

- 4. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022? *To attend the LNP State Council (25-26 November 2022)*
- 5. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022 Party Political Duties
- 6. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in Section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

Yes, [spouse]'s travel meets the three-part test

- 32. The response did not include evidence in support of the travel.
- 33. On 11 April 2025, IPEA replied to Mr Willcox (Attachment 3). IPEA requested copies of documentation in support of the original response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting. A response was requested by 28 April 2025.
- 34. On 17 April 2025, Mr Willcox's office responded (Attachment 4).
- 35. In the response, Mr Willcox's staff member provided links to social media coverage of the events, as well as agendas for the two events.
- 36. IPEA notes Mr Willcox's advice that the dominant purpose of his travel to Brisbane in July 2022, as well as to the Sunshine Coast in November 2022, was parliamentary business, and that his spouse accompanied him for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

Conclusion

37. Having regard to the information made available from Mr Willcox, IPEA found that the use of family reunion travel resources was consistent with the legislative framework.

From: Assurance

Sent: Thursday, 6 February 2025 11:10 AM

To:

Cc: Assurance

Subject: HPE CM: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL] **Attachments:**

Attachment A - Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business)

Determination.pdf; Letter - IPEA to Mr Andrew Willcox MP - 5 February 2025.pdf;

Attachment B - Mr Andrew Willcox MP Travel Data.pdf

OFFICIAL

Mr Andrew Willcox MP **Member for Dawson**

Dear Mr Willcox

Attached please find correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

Branch Manager (A/g), Transparency, Assurance and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au

W: www.ipea.gov.au & www.ipea.gov.au/ed



Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017

I, Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, make the following determination.

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann Minister for Finance

Contents 1 Name 1 2 Commencement 1 3 Authority 1 4 Interpretation 1 5 Parliamentary business of members 2 Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties 3 Schedule 2—Electorate duties 4 Schedule 3—Party political duties 4 Schedule 4—Official duties 5

1 Name

This instrument is the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017.*

2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the same time as the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

Act means the Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017.

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the definitions

- section of the Act, including the following:
 (a) constituent;
 - (b) member;
 - (c) office holder, and
 - (d) vice regal function.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, an activity specified in a Schedule to this determination is specified whether it takes place within Australia or overseas.

5 Parliamentary business of members

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(a) of the Act, the *parliamentary duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 1 for that member.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(b) of the Act, the *electorate duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 2 for that member.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(c) of the Act, the *party political duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 3 for that member.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(d) of the Act, the *official duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 4 for that member.

Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

Member (or		
•	Parlia	mentary duties
class)		
All members	In the r	member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:
who are a	a)	Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising
senator or		from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of
member of the		the whole or otherwise;
House of	b)	Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed
Representatives		legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;
	c)	Undertaking research, communication (including with
		stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of
		the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a
		member;
	d)	Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising
		from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal
		meeting, event or function;
	e)	Preparing for, participating in and attending to matters arising
		from a meeting (including with stakeholders), event or function
		for the purposes of their role as a member, including in relation
	_	to the member's policy portfolio;
	f)	Preparing for, participating in, or attending to business arising
		from a non-Parliamentary committee, taskforce or other formal
		group in which the member participates;
	g)	Representing the Parliament, in accordance with an approval of
		the Parliament or a House of the Parliament, and engaging in
		associated activities for that purpose;
	h)	Representing a Minister or office holder in their official
		capacity, at the request of that Minister or office holder, at a
	• `	meeting, event or function;
	i)	Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of
		the Prime Minister.
		Note: For Ministers representing the Government or
		Australia in their capacity as a Minister, this would be part of
		the member's official duties (see Schedule 4).

Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Electorate duties
class)	
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In the member's capacity as their constituent's elected representative: a) Facilitating and participating in debate, discussion, a meeting, event or function, or undertaking research or administrative functions relating to matters of importance or interest to constituents (including matters that do not relate exclusively to constituents, such as matters of national importance);
Representatives	b) Otherwise communicating with constituents;c) Representing the views and interests of constituents.

Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Party political duties
class)	
All members	In respect of the political party to which the member belongs,
who are a	participating in any of the following in their capacity as an elected
senator or	Senator or member of the House of Representatives:
member of the	a) a formal meeting of the political party (including a meeting of
House of	the party executive, a committee or a subcommittee);
Representatives	b) a national, state or territory conference.

Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Official duties
class)	
All office	In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or
holders and	office holder, as the case may be):
Ministers of	a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the
State	member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing
	so;
	b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their
	official capacity;
	c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes
	of, performing the member's official role.



Expenses Authority

5 February 2025

Mr Andrew Willcox MP Member for Dawson PO Box 1697 Mackay, QLD, 4740

Email:

Dear Mr Willcox

Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) has responsibility under the *Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority Act 2017* to undertake assurance activities in relation to the work expenses of members of parliament.

Please note that IPEA publishes completed assurance reviews on the website at www.ipea.gov.au/assurance-audit/published-assurance-reviews.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources accessed in relation to your family reunion travel between 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2023.

Legislative framework

The use of travel expenses for family reunion must meet the three-part test below, set out in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:

A family member of a member travels for family reunion purposes if:

- (a) the member is travelling within Australia for the dominant purpose of conducting the member's parliamentary business; and
- (b) the family member travels to accompany or join the member; and
- (c) the travel by the family member is for the dominant purpose of facilitating the family life of the member's family.

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Internet www.ipea.gov.au

Section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) and the Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 (the Determination – **Attachment A**) define the four streams of parliamentary business. These are parliamentary duties, electorate duties, party political duties and official duties.

The principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources are set out in part 3 - division 2 of the PBR Act.

Action Required

Attachment B details your Commonwealth-funded family reunion travel within the period that is relevant to this Assurance Review, and we have set out questions for your response. Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please reference the definition of Parliamentary Business as outlined in the Determination and provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

Please provide a written response via email to <u>assurance@ipea.gov.au</u>, by close of business on **28 February 2025**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact

Yours sincerely

A/g Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

Attachment B
Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

Work Resource	Traveller	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Total Amount
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Mackay	7/07/2022	12:00 PM	Brisbane	7/07/2022	01:20 PM	\$857.98
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Mackay	7/07/2022	12:00 PM	Brisbane	7/07/2022	01:20 PM	\$857.98
Taxi	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Brisbane A/P	7/07/2022		Hamilton	7/07/2022		\$47.88
Travel Allowance – 4 nights – commercial	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Mackay	7/07/2022		Brisbane	7/07/2022	01:20 PM	\$1,684.00
Taxi	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Hamilton	11/07/2022		Brisbane A/P	11/07/2022		\$56.49
Airfare – Virgin Australia Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Brisbane	11/07/2022	11:50 AM	Mackay	11/07/2022	01:30 PM	\$369.57
Airfare – Virgin Australia		Disbuile	11/0//2022	11.00 AT	Huckuy	11/0//2022	01.00114	ψουσ.57
Spouse		Brisbane	11/07/2022	11:50 AM	Mackay	11/07/2022	01:30 PM	\$369.57

- 1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?
- 2. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?

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Attachment B

Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

- 3. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

Attachment B
Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

Work Resource	Traveller	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Total Amount
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Canberra	25/11/2022	05:40 PM	Sydney	25/11/2022	06:35 PM	\$750.98
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Sydney	25/11/2022	07:25 PM	Sunshine Coast	25/11/2022	08:05 PM	\$750.99
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Canberra	25/11/2022	05:40 PM	Sydney	25/11/2022	06:35 PM	\$750.98
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Sydney	25/11/2022	07:25 PM	Sunshine Coast	25/11/2022	08:05 PM	\$750.99
Travel Allowance – 2 nights – commercial	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Capital Hill	25/11/2022		Maroochydore	25/11/2022	08:00 PM	\$592.00
Taxi	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Marcoola	25/11/2022		Maroochydore	25/11/2022	09:18 PM	\$42.84
Taxi	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Maroochydore	26/11/2022		Twin Waters	26/11/2022	09:00 AM	\$35.91
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Brisbane	27/11/2022	11:05 AM	Canberra	27/11/2022	01:50 PM	\$1,187.75
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Brisbane	27/11/2022	11:05 AM	Canberra	27/11/2022	01:50 PM	\$1,187.75

- 4. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022?
- 5. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022?

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Attachment B

Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

- 6. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

From: Willcox, Andrew (MP Office)

Sent: Monday, 10 February 2025 11:55 AM

To: Assurance

Cc: Willcox, Andrew (MP Office); Willcox, Andrew (MP)

Subject: HPE CM: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL] **Attachments:** Attachment A - Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business)

Determination.pdf; Letter - IPEA to Mr Andrew Willcox MP - 5 February 2025.pdf;

Attachment B - Mr Andrew Willcox MP Travel Data.pdf

Please find below responses regarding Family Reunion Travel.

- 1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022? To attend the State LNP Conference in Brisbane (8-10 July 2022)
- 2. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?

 Party Political Duties
- 3. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in Section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
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Yes, Raylene's travel meets the three-part test

- 4. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022? To attend the LNP State Council (25-26 November 2022)
- With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022 Party Political Duties
- 6. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in Section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
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 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

Yes, Raylene's travel meets the three-part test

Regards

Office of Andrew Willcox MP | Federal Member for Dawson



To have your say click here

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From: Assurance <<u>Assurance@ipea.gov.au</u>>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 10:09:53 AM

To: Willcox, Andrew (MP Office)

Cc: Assurance < Assurance@ipea.gov.au >

Subject: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Mr Andrew Willcox MP Member for Dawson

Dear Mr Willcox

Attached please find correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

Branch Manager (A/g), Transparency, Assurance and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au

W: www.ipea.gov.au & www.ipea.gov.au/ed

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Expenses Authority

5 February 2025

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Email:

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Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

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Action Required

Attachment B details your Commonwealth-funded family reunion travel within the period that is relevant to this Assurance Review, and we have set out questions for your response. Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please reference the definition of Parliamentary Business as outlined in the Determination and provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

Please provide a written response via email to <u>assurance@ipea.gov.au</u>, by close of business on **28 February 2025**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact

Yours sincerely

A/g Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603



Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017

I, Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, make the following determination.

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann Minister for Finance

Contents 1 Name 1 2 Commencement 1 3 Authority 1 4 Interpretation 1 5 Parliamentary business of members 2 Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties 3 Schedule 2—Electorate duties 4 Schedule 3—Party political duties 4 Schedule 4—Official duties 5

1 Name

This instrument is the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017.*

2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the same time as the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

Act means the Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017.

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the definitions

section of the Act, including the following:

(a) constituent;

- (b) *member*;
- (c) office holder, and
- (d) vice regal function.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, an activity specified in a Schedule to this determination is specified whether it takes place within Australia or overseas.

5 Parliamentary business of members

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(a) of the Act, the *parliamentary duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 1 for that member.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(b) of the Act, the *electorate duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 2 for that member.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(c) of the Act, the *party political duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 3 for that member.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(d) of the Act, the *official duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 4 for that member.

Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

Member (or		
•	Parlia	mentary duties
class)		
All members	In the r	member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:
who are a	a)	Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising
senator or		from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of
member of the		the whole or otherwise;
House of	b)	Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed
Representatives		legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;
	c)	Undertaking research, communication (including with
		stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of
		the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a
		member;
	d)	Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising
		from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal
		meeting, event or function;
	e)	Preparing for, participating in and attending to matters arising
		from a meeting (including with stakeholders), event or function
		for the purposes of their role as a member, including in relation
	_	to the member's policy portfolio;
	f)	Preparing for, participating in, or attending to business arising
		from a non-Parliamentary committee, taskforce or other formal
		group in which the member participates;
	g)	Representing the Parliament, in accordance with an approval of
		the Parliament or a House of the Parliament, and engaging in
		associated activities for that purpose;
	h)	Representing a Minister or office holder in their official
		capacity, at the request of that Minister or office holder, at a
	• `	meeting, event or function;
	i)	Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of
		the Prime Minister.
		Note: For Ministers representing the Government or
		Australia in their capacity as a Minister, this would be part of
		the member's official duties (see Schedule 4).

Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Electorate duties
class)	
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In the member's capacity as their constituent's elected representative: a) Facilitating and participating in debate, discussion, a meeting, event or function, or undertaking research or administrative functions relating to matters of importance or interest to constituents (including matters that do not relate exclusively to constituents, such as matters of national importance);
Representatives	b) Otherwise communicating with constituents;c) Representing the views and interests of constituents.

Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Party political duties
class)	
All members	In respect of the political party to which the member belongs,
who are a	participating in any of the following in their capacity as an elected
senator or	Senator or member of the House of Representatives:
member of the	a) a formal meeting of the political party (including a meeting of
House of	the party executive, a committee or a subcommittee);
Representatives	b) a national, state or territory conference.

Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Official duties
class)	
All office	In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or
holders and	office holder, as the case may be):
Ministers of	a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the
State	member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing
	so;
	b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their
	official capacity;
	c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes
	of, performing the member's official role.

Attachment B
Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

Work Resource	Traveller	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Total Amount
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Mackay	7/07/2022	12:00 PM	Brisbane	7/07/2022	01:20 PM	\$857.98
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Mackay	7/07/2022	12:00 PM	Brisbane	7/07/2022	01:20 PM	\$857.98
Taxi	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Brisbane A/P	7/07/2022		Hamilton	7/07/2022		\$47.88
Travel Allowance – 4 nights – commercial	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Mackay	7/07/2022		Brisbane	7/07/2022	01:20 PM	\$1,684.00
Taxi	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Hamilton	11/07/2022		Brisbane A/P	11/07/2022		\$56.49
Airfare – Virgin Australia Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Brisbane	11/07/2022	11:50 AM	Mackay	11/07/2022	01:30 PM	\$369.57
Airfare – Virgin Australia		Disbuile	11/0//2022	11.00 AT	Huckuy	11/0//2022	01.00114	ψουσ.57
Spouse		Brisbane	11/07/2022	11:50 AM	Mackay	11/07/2022	01:30 PM	\$369.57

- 1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?
- 2. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?

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Attachment B

Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

- 3. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

Attachment B
Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

Work Resource	Traveller	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Total Amount
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Canberra	25/11/2022	05:40 PM	Sydney	25/11/2022	06:35 PM	\$750.98
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Sydney	25/11/2022	07:25 PM	Sunshine Coast	25/11/2022	08:05 PM	\$750.99
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Canberra	25/11/2022	05:40 PM	Sydney	25/11/2022	06:35 PM	\$750.98
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Sydney	25/11/2022	07:25 PM	Sunshine Coast	25/11/2022	08:05 PM	\$750.99
Travel Allowance – 2 nights – commercial	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Capital Hill	25/11/2022		Maroochydore	25/11/2022	08:00 PM	\$592.00
Taxi	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Marcoola	25/11/2022		Maroochydore	25/11/2022	09:18 PM	\$42.84
Taxi	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Maroochydore	26/11/2022		Twin Waters	26/11/2022	09:00 AM	\$35.91
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Brisbane	27/11/2022	11:05 AM	Canberra	27/11/2022	01:50 PM	\$1,187.75
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Brisbane	27/11/2022	11:05 AM	Canberra	27/11/2022	01:50 PM	\$1,187.75

- 4. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022?
- 5. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022?

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Internet www.ipea.gov.au

Attachment B

Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

- 6. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

From: Assurance

Sent: Friday, 11 April 2025 3:00 PM

To: 'Willcox, Andrew (MP Office)'; Assurance

Cc: Willcox, Andrew (MP)

Subject: CM: RE: HPE CM: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Attachments: Mr Andrew Willcox MP - Second Correspondence.pdf; Mr Andrew Willcox MP - First

Correspondence.pdf

OFFICIAL

Mr Andrew Willcox MP Member for Dawson

Dear Mr Willcox

Attached please find further correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

Nicole Pearson

Chief of Transparency, Integrity and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au

W: www.ipea.gov.au & www.ipea.gov.au/ed

From: Willcox, Andrew (MP Office) <Andrew.Willcox.MP@aph.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 10 February 2025 11:55 AM **To:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>

Cc: Willcox, Andrew (MP Office)

; Willcox, Andrew (MP)

Subject: HPE CM: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Please find below responses regarding Family Reunion Travel.

- What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?
 To attend the State LNP Conference in Brisbane (8-10 July 2022)
- 2. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?

 Party Political Duties
- 3. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in Section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and

c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

Yes, 's travel meets the three-part test

- 4. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022? To attend the LNP State Council (25-26 November 2022)
- With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022 Party Political Duties
- 6. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in Section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

Yes, 's travel meets the three-part test

Regards

Office of Andrew Willcox MP | Federal Member for Dawson

E: Mardi.Mathieson@aph.gov.au | P: 07 4944 0662 | M: 0419 652 269



To have your say <u>click here</u>

Follow Andrew on Socials: Facebook <u>Andrewwillcoxmp</u> | Instagram <u>Andrewwillcoxmp</u> | LinkedIn <u>Andrewwillcoxmp</u>

From: Assurance < Assurance@ipea.gov.au > Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 10:09:53 AM

To: Willcox, Andrew (MP Office)

Cc: Assurance < Assurance@ipea.gov.au >

Subject: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Mr Andrew Willcox MP Member for Dawson

Dear Mr Willcox

Attached please find correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

Branch Manager (A/g), Transparency, Assurance and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au

W: www.ipea.gov.au & www.ipea.gov.au/ed

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Australian Government

Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

ii April 2025

Mr Andrew Willcox MP Member for Dawson PO Box 1697 Mackay, QLD, 4740

Email:

Dear Mr Willcox

Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

Thank you for the response to IPEA's letter of 5 February 2025. As advised in our original correspondence, IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources accessed in relation to your family reunion travel between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023.

In our original correspondence (attached), IPEA requested that you provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting, however no documentation was included with your response.

Please provide this documentation via email to <u>assurance@ipea.gov.au</u>, by close of business on **Monday 28 April 2025**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact

Please note that IPEA publishes completed assurance reviews on the website at www.ipea.gov.au/assurance-audit/published-assurance-reviews.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Pearson Chief of Transparency, Integrity and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

One Canberra Avenue, Forrest ACT 2603 • Telephone 02 6215 3000
Internet www.ipea.gov.au



Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

5 February 2025

Mr Andrew Willcox MP Member for Dawson PO Box 1697 Mackay, QLD, 4740

Email:

Dear Mr Willcox

Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) has responsibility under the *Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority Act 2017* to undertake assurance activities in relation to the work expenses of members of parliament.

Please note that IPEA publishes completed assurance reviews on the website at www.ipea.gov.au/assurance-audit/published-assurance-reviews.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources accessed in relation to your family reunion travel between 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2023.

Legislative framework

The use of travel expenses for family reunion must meet the three-part test below, set out in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:

A family member of a member travels for family reunion purposes if:

- (a) the member is travelling within Australia for the dominant purpose of conducting the member's parliamentary business; and
- (b) the family member travels to accompany or join the member; and
- (c) the travel by the family member is for the dominant purpose of facilitating the family life of the member's family.

Section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) and the Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 (the Determination – **Attachment A**) define the four streams of parliamentary business. These are parliamentary duties, electorate duties, party political duties and official duties.

The principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources are set out in part 3 - division 2 of the PBR Act.

Action Required

Attachment B details your Commonwealth-funded family reunion travel within the period that is relevant to this Assurance Review, and we have set out questions for your response. Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please reference the definition of Parliamentary Business as outlined in the Determination and provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

Please provide a written response via email to <u>assurance@ipea.gov.au</u>, by close of business on **28 February 2025**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact

Yours sincerely



A/g Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority
One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603



Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017

I, Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, make the following determination.

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann Minister for Finance

Contents 1 Name 1 2 Commencement 1 3 Authority 1 4 Interpretation 1 5 Parliamentary business of members 2 Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties 3 Schedule 2—Electorate duties 4 Schedule 3—Party political duties 4 Schedule 4—Official duties 5

1 Name

This instrument is the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017.*

2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the same time as the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

Act means the Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017.

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the definitions

- section of the Act, including the following:
 (a) constituent;
 - (b) member;
 - (c) office holder, and
 - (d) vice regal function.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, an activity specified in a Schedule to this determination is specified whether it takes place within Australia or overseas.

5 Parliamentary business of members

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(a) of the Act, the *parliamentary duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 1 for that member.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(b) of the Act, the *electorate duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 2 for that member.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(c) of the Act, the *party political duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 3 for that member.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(d) of the Act, the *official duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 4 for that member.

Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Parliamentary duties
class)	
All members	In the member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:
who are a	a) Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising
senator or	from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of
member of the	the whole or otherwise;
House of	b) Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed
Representatives	legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;
	c) Undertaking research, communication (including with
	stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of
	the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a
	member;
	d) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising
	from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal
	meeting, event or function;
	e) Preparing for, participating in and attending to matters arising
	from a meeting (including with stakeholders), event or function
	for the purposes of their role as a member, including in relation
	to the member's policy portfolio; f) Preparing for, participating in, or attending to business arising
	from a non-Parliamentary committee, taskforce or other formal
	group in which the member participates;
	g) Representing the Parliament, in accordance with an approval of
	the Parliament or a House of the Parliament, and engaging in
	associated activities for that purpose;
	h) Representing a Minister or office holder in their official
	capacity, at the request of that Minister or office holder, at a
	meeting, event or function;
	i) Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of
	the Prime Minister.
	Note: For Ministers representing the Government or
	Australia in their capacity as a Minister, this would be part of
	the member's official duties (see Schedule 4).

Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Electorate duties
class)	
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In the member's capacity as their constituent's elected representative: a) Facilitating and participating in debate, discussion, a meeting, event or function, or undertaking research or administrative functions relating to matters of importance or interest to constituents (including matters that do not relate exclusively to constituents, such as matters of national importance);
Representatives	b) Otherwise communicating with constituents;c) Representing the views and interests of constituents.

Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Party political duties
class)	
All members	In respect of the political party to which the member belongs,
who are a	participating in any of the following in their capacity as an elected
senator or	Senator or member of the House of Representatives:
member of the	a) a formal meeting of the political party (including a meeting of
House of	the party executive, a committee or a subcommittee);
Representatives	b) a national, state or territory conference.

Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Official duties
class)	
All office	In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or
holders and	office holder, as the case may be):
Ministers of	a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the
State	member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing
	so;
	b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their
	official capacity;
	c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes
	of, performing the member's official role.

Attachment B
Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

Work Resource	Traveller	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Total Amount
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Mackay	7/07/2022	12:00 PM	Brisbane	7/07/2022	01:20 PM	\$857.98
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Mackay	7/07/2022	12:00 PM	Brisbane	7/07/2022	01:20 PM	\$857.98
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- 1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?
- 2. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?

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Attachment B

Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

- 3. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

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Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

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Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Brisbane	27/11/2022	11:05 AM	Canberra	27/11/2022	01:50 PM	\$1,187.75
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Brisbane	27/11/2022	11:05 AM	Canberra	27/11/2022	01:50 PM	\$1,187.75

- 4. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022?
- 5. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022?

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Internet <u>www.ipea.gov.au</u>

Attachment B

Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

- 6. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

From: Willcox, Andrew (MP Office)

Sent: Thursday, 17 April 2025 10:48 AM

To: Assurance

Cc: Willcox, Andrew (MP)

Subject: HPE CM: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL] **Attachments:** Mr Andrew Willcox MP - Second Correspondence.pdf; Mr Andrew Willcox MP - First

Correspondence.pdf; LNP State Conference.pdf; LNP State Council 2022.pdf

Good morning

Apologies firstly, I missed reading the section where you were requiring records.

As discussed with from your office, Andrew had not long been sworn in as a Member of Parliament which meant he was still sorting his electorate office/staff organised when he attended both events.

I will attach links to information on both events as I don't have any other correspondence due the office manager at that time is no longer working for Andrew.

LNP State Convention – 8 July 2022 https://www.facebook.com/share/1FPyzXUzKp/ LNP State Convention – 9 July 2022 https://www.facebook.com/share/18gjRQQxvU/

LNP State Council - 27 November 2022 https://www.facebook.com/share/18bNisCzEe/

Regards

Office of Andrew Willcox MP | Federal Member for Dawson



To have your say click here

Follow Andrew on Socials: Facebook <u>Andrewwillcoxmp</u> | Instagram <u>Andrewwillcoxmp</u> | LinkedIn <u>Andrewwillcoxmp</u>

From: Assurance < Assurance@ipea.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 11 April 2025 3:00 PM

To: Willcox, Andrew (MP Office) ; Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>

Cc: Willcox, Andrew (MP)

Subject: RE: HPE CM: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Mr Andrew Willcox MP Member for Dawson

Dear Mr Willcox

Attached please find further correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

Nicole Pearson

Chief of Transparency, Integrity and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au

W: www.ipea.gov.au & www.ipea.gov.au/ed

From: Willcox, Andrew (MP Office)

Sent: Monday, 10 February 2025 11:55 AM **To:** Assurance <Assurance@ipea.gov.au>

Cc: Willcox, Andrew (MP Office)

Subject: HPE CM: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Please find below responses regarding Family Reunion Travel.

- What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?
 To attend the State LNP Conference in Brisbane (8-10 July 2022)
- 2. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?

 Party Political Duties
- 3. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in Section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and

; Willcox, Andrew (MP)

- b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
- c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

Yes, 's travel meets the three-part test

- 4. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022? To attend the LNP State Council (25-26 November 2022)
- 5. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022 Party Political Duties
- 6. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in Section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and

- b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
- c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

Yes, 's travel meets the three-part test

Regards

Office of Andrew Willcox MP | Federal Member for Dawson



To have your say click here

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From: Assurance <<u>Assurance@ipea.gov.au</u>>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 10:09:53 AM

To: Willcox, Andrew (MP Office)

Cc: Assurance < Assurance@ipea.gov.au >

Subject: Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Mr Andrew Willcox MP Member for Dawson

Dear Mr Willcox

Attached please find correspondence from the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.

Sincerely

Branch Manager (A/g), Transparency, Assurance and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

E: assurance@ipea.gov.au

W: www.ipea.gov.au & www.ipea.gov.au/ed

Be careful with this messageExternal email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.



Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

ii April 2025

Mr Andrew Willcox MP Member for Dawson PO Box 1697 Mackay, QLD, 4740

Email:

Dear Mr Willcox

Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

Thank you for the response to IPEA's letter of 5 February 2025. As advised in our original correspondence, IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources accessed in relation to your family reunion travel between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2023.

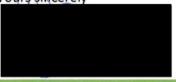
In our original correspondence (attached), IPEA requested that you provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting, however no documentation was included with your response.

Please provide this documentation via email to <u>assurance@ipea.gov.au</u>, by close of business on **Monday 28 April 2025**, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact

Please note that IPEA publishes completed assurance reviews on the website at www.ipea.gov.au/assurance-audit/published-assurance-reviews.

Yours sincerely



Nicole Pearson Chief of Transparency, Integrity and Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603



5 February 2025

Mr Andrew Willcox MP Member for Dawson PO Box 1697 Mackay, QLD, 4740

Email:

Dear Mr Willcox

Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

The Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (IPEA) has responsibility under the *Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority Act 2017* to undertake assurance activities in relation to the work expenses of members of parliament.

Please note that IPEA publishes completed assurance reviews on the website at www.ipea.gov.au/assurance-audit/published-assurance-reviews.

IPEA is undertaking an Assurance Review of travel and travel-related resources accessed in relation to your family reunion travel between 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2023.

Legislative framework

The use of travel expenses for family reunion must meet the three-part test below, set out in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:

A family member of a member travels for family reunion purposes if:

- (a) the member is travelling within Australia for the dominant purpose of conducting the member's parliamentary business; and
- (b) the family member travels to accompany or join the member; and
- (c) the travel by the family member is for the dominant purpose of facilitating the family life of the member's family.

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Internet www.ipea.gov.au

Section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) and the Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017 (the Determination – **Attachment A**) define the four streams of parliamentary business. These are parliamentary duties, electorate duties, party political duties and official duties.

The principles parliamentarians are to apply when utilising public resources are set out in part 3 - division 2 of the PBR Act.

Action Required

Attachment B details your Commonwealth-funded family reunion travel within the period that is relevant to this Assurance Review, and we have set out questions for your response. Where we have asked about the nature of your parliamentary business, please reference the definition of Parliamentary Business as outlined in the Determination and provide copies of documentation to support your response, such as diary notes, invitations or media reporting.

Please provide a written response via email to assurance@ipea.gov.au, by close of business on 28 February 2025, or advise us prior to the date if you need more time.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact

Yours sincerely



A/g Branch Manager, Transparency, Assurance & Legal Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603



Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017

I, Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance, make the following determination.

Dated 14 December 2017

Mathias Cormann Minister for Finance

Contents 1 Name 1 2 Commencement 1 3 Authority 1 4 Interpretation 1 5 Parliamentary business of members 2 Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties 3 Schedule 2—Electorate duties 4 Schedule 3—Party political duties 4 Schedule 4—Official duties 5

1 Name

This instrument is the *Parliamentary Business Resources (Parliamentary Business) Determination 2017.*

2 Commencement

This instrument commences at the same time as the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 6 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017*.

4 Interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

Act means the Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017.

Note: A number of expressions used in this instrument are defined in the definitions

section of the Act, including the following:

(a) constituent;

- (b) *member*;
- (c) office holder, and
- (d) vice regal function.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, an activity specified in a Schedule to this determination is specified whether it takes place within Australia or overseas.

5 Parliamentary business of members

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(a) of the Act, the *parliamentary duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 1 for that member.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(b) of the Act, the *electorate duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 2 for that member.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(c) of the Act, the *party political duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 3 for that member.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph 6(4)(d) of the Act, the *official duties* of a member are the activities specified in Schedule 4 for that member.

Schedule 1—Parliamentary duties

(Act s 6(4)(a))

Member (or		
•	Parlia	mentary duties
class)		
All members	In the r	member's capacity as a member of the Parliament:
who are a	a)	Preparing for, participating in and attending to business arising
senator or		from proceedings of the Parliament, whether by committee of
member of the		the whole or otherwise;
House of	b)	Developing, reviewing or amending legislation or proposed
Representatives		legislation, and activities engaged in for that purpose;
	c)	Undertaking research, communication (including with
		stakeholders) or administration connected with the business of
		the Parliament, the member's policy portfolio, or their role as a
		member;
	d)	Preparing for, participating in, or attending to matters arising
		from an official government, parliamentary or vice regal
		meeting, event or function;
	e)	Preparing for, participating in and attending to matters arising
		from a meeting (including with stakeholders), event or function
		for the purposes of their role as a member, including in relation
	_	to the member's policy portfolio;
	f)	Preparing for, participating in, or attending to business arising
		from a non-Parliamentary committee, taskforce or other formal
		group in which the member participates;
	g)	Representing the Parliament, in accordance with an approval of
		the Parliament or a House of the Parliament, and engaging in
		associated activities for that purpose;
	h)	Representing a Minister or office holder in their official
		capacity, at the request of that Minister or office holder, at a
	• `	meeting, event or function;
	i)	Representing the Government or Australia, with the approval of
		the Prime Minister.
		Note: For Ministers representing the Government or
		Australia in their capacity as a Minister, this would be part of
		the member's official duties (see Schedule 4).

Schedule 2—Electorate duties

(Act s 6(4)(b))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Electorate duties
class)	
All members who are a senator or member of the House of Representatives	In the member's capacity as their constituent's elected representative: a) Facilitating and participating in debate, discussion, a meeting, event or function, or undertaking research or administrative functions relating to matters of importance or interest to constituents (including matters that do not relate exclusively to constituents, such as matters of national importance);
Representatives	b) Otherwise communicating with constituents;c) Representing the views and interests of constituents.

Schedule 3—Party political duties

(Act s 6(4)(c))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Party political duties
class)	
All members	In respect of the political party to which the member belongs,
who are a	participating in any of the following in their capacity as an elected
senator or	Senator or member of the House of Representatives:
member of the	a) a formal meeting of the political party (including a meeting of
House of	the party executive, a committee or a subcommittee);
Representatives	b) a national, state or territory conference.

Schedule 4—Official duties

(Act s 6(4)(d))

Column 1	Column 2
Member (or	Official duties
class)	
All office	In the member's official capacity (being their capacity as a Minister or
holders and	office holder, as the case may be):
Ministers of	a) Exercising the powers or functions, or performing the duties, of the
State	member's office, or activities engaged in for the purposes of doing
	so;
	b) Attending an event to which the member has been invited in their
	official capacity;
	c) Other activities directly related to, and engaged in for the purposes
	of, performing the member's official role.

Attachment B
Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

Work Resource	Traveller	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Total Amount
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Mackay	7/07/2022	12:00 PM	Brisbane	7/07/2022	01:20 PM	\$857.98
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse	Ç. , ,20	Mackay	7/07/2022	12:00 PM	Brisbane	7/07/2022	01:20 PM	\$857.98
Taxi	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Brisbane A/P	7/07/2022		Hamilton	7/07/2022		\$47.88
Travel Allowance – 4 nights – commercial	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Mackay	7/07/2022		Brisbane	7/07/2022	01:20 PM	\$1,684.00
Taxi	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Hamilton	11/07/20 22		Brisbane A/P	11/07/2022		\$56.49
Airfare – Virgin Australia Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Brisbane	11/07/2022	11:50 AM	Mackay	11/07/2022	01:30 PM	\$369.57
Airfare – Virgin Australia Spouse		Brisbane	11/07/2022	11:50 AM	Mackay	11/07/2022	01:30 PM	\$369.57

- 1. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?
- 2. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in Brisbane from 7 to 11 July 2022?

Attachment B

Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

- 3. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

Attachment B
Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources – Family Reunion Travel

Work Resource	Traveller	Departure Location	Departure Date	Departure Time	Arrival Location	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Total Amount
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Canberra	25/11/2022	05:40 PM	Sydney	25/11/2022	06:35 PM	\$750.98
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Sydney	25/11/2022	07:25 PM	Sunshine Coast	25/11/2022	08:05 PM	\$750.99
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Canberra	25/11/2022	05:40 PM	Sydney	25/11/2022	06:35 PM	\$750.98
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Sydney	25/11/2022	07:25 PM	Sunshine Coast	25/11/2022	08:05 PM	\$750.99
Travel Allowance – 2 nights – commercial	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Capital Hill	25/11/2022		Maroochydore	25/11/2022	08:00 PM	\$592.00
Taxi	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Marcoola	25/11/2022		Maroochydore	25/11/2022	09:18 PM	\$42.84
Taxi	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Maroochydore	26/11/2022		Twin Waters	26/11/2022	09:00 AM	\$35.91
Airfare – QANTAS Self	Mr Andrew Willcox MP	Brisbane	27/11/2022	11:05 AM	Canberra	27/11/2022	01:50 PM	\$1,187.75
Airfare – QANTAS Spouse		Brisbane	27/11/2022	11:05 AM	Canberra	27/11/2022	01:50 PM	\$1,187.75

- 4. What was the dominant purpose of your travel to the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022?
- 5. With reference to the Determination at Attachment A, what was the nature of your parliamentary business in the Sunshine Coast from 25 to 27 November 2022?

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Attachment B

Assurance review of travel and travel-related resources - Family Reunion Travel

- 6. Please advise whether your spouse's travel expenses meet the three-part test in section 6 of the Parliamentary Business Resources Regulations 2017:
 - a. You were travelling for the dominant purpose of conducting your parliamentary business; and
 - b. Your family member was travelling to accompany or join you; and
 - c. Your family member's travel was for the dominant purpose of facilitating family life.

AGENDA

FRIDAY 8 JULY, 2022

DAY ONE / SESSION ONE : OPEN SESSION					
7:00am	Registration Opens				
8:15am	State Council Commences	Registration Continues for Convention Delegates and Observers			
8:45am	Introduction of Nominees for LNP Policy Committee Chairs				
9:00am	State Council Meeting Suspends				
9:05am	State Convention Commences President's Welcome				
9:10am	Prayer National Anthem				
9:20am	Agenda Committee Report				
URGENCY RESOLUTIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO					

GENCY RESOLUTIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO CHAIR AGENDA COMMITTEE, NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON SATURDAY, 9 JULY 2022

9:25am	President's Report			
9:40am	Open Session Resolutions			
10.30am	Morning Tea			
DAY ONE / SESSION TWO : OPEN SESSION				
11:00am	Open Session Resolutions			
12:30pm	Lunch			
DAY ONE / SESSION THREE: OPEN SESSION				

1:15pm Open Session Resolutions

DAY ONE / SESSION FOUR: CLOSED SESSION

2:00pm Break Out Sessions

Main Plenary Room		Meeting Room 1	Meeting Room 2	Meeting Room 3		
New State Donation and Expenditure Caps		"Take the Lead" - Leadership Development	Membership and Party Development	"Policy Development" - What does a Policy Chair do?		
3:00pm Afternoon Tea						

AGENDA

DAY ONE / SESSION FIVE : OPEN SESSION					
3:30pm	Open Session Resolutions				
5:00pm	Covention Business and Closing Remarks, Adjourn Day 1	d			
5:30pm - 7:30pm	Welcome Function		Ticketed Event - "Welcome to Bowen Hills" (Venue across the road from Convention)		
SATURDAY 9 JULY, 2022					
DAY TWO / SESSION SIX : OPEN SESSION					
8:00am	Registration Opens				
8:30am	Open Session Resolutions				
10:15am	Morning Tea				
DAY TWO / SESSION SEVEN: OPEN SESSION					
10:45am	Federal Leader's Report Hon David Littleproud MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the National Party				
11:15am	Election of Office Bearers				
12noon	Open Session Resolutions				
12:30pm	Lunch boxes available				
DAY TWO / SESSI	ION EIGHT : CLOSED SES	SSION			
12:45pm	Policy Break Out Sessions				
Hall B: Dining Room	Meeting Room 1 and 2	Meeting Room 3	Meeting Room 4 and 5	Meeting Room 6 and 7	
"Health" - How to Fix Queensland Health in Three Easy Steps!	"Public Safety" - Youth Crime and Justice Policy Forum	"MyLNP" - A User's Session	"Environment" - Making the Public Case: Environment, Parks and Energy	"Small Business" - Single Responsibility Principle and Regulatory Requirement	
2:00pm	Closed Session Q&A and Closed Session Resolutions				
3:15pm	Afternoon Tea				

AGENDA

DAY TWO / SESSION NINE : CLOSED SESSION				
3:45pm	State Director's Report and Federal Campaign Report			
4:00pm	Honorary Treasurer's Report			
4:05pm	Honorary Legal Adviser's Report			
4:10pm	LNP Women President's Report			
4:15pm	Young LNP President's Report			
4:20pm	Policy Standing Committee Chair Report			
4:25pm	Scarr/McArdle Implementation Committee Report			
4:35pm	Closed Session and Closed Urgency Resolutions			
5:30pm	Closing Remarks, Adjourn Day 2			
6:30pm	"City Meets Country" Dinner	Ticketed Event		

SUNDAY 10 JULY, 2022

DAY THREE / SESSION TEN: OPEN SESSION					
8:00am	Registration Opens				
9:00am	Open Session Resolutions				
9:30am	Local Government Report				
9:45am	State Leader's Report				
10:15am	Morning Tea				
DAY THREE / SESSION ELEVEN : OPEN SESSION					
10:30am	LNP Awards Presentation				
11:30am	Open Urgency and Open Session Resolutions				
12noon	President's Closing Remarks				
12:15pm	State Council Resumes	Election of Policy Committee Chairs and General Business			
1:00pm	State Council Concludes	Ballot Count Commences			

1. RELOCATION OF STRATEGIC OIL RESERVES

FOREIGN AFFAIRS - POLICY STANDING COMMITTEE

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Federal Opposition to implore the Australian Government to relocate its strategic oil reserves, currently held in the United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve (US SPR), to home soil in Australia.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

2. RURAL MATERNITY FACILITIES

NOOSA SEC/BRANCH

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to reopen rural and regional maternity facilities in hospitals that have been closed since the 1990s, using the Rural Birthing Index to access suitability and viability.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team notes that 34 birthing facilities have been closed by Labor, while the last LNP government opened three.

3. CHILD MENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES POLICY STANDING COMMITTEE

That this State Council of the LNP calls on a future LNP State Government to prioritise early intervention and prevention of Child and Adolescent mental illness and reduce the need for Child Safety intervention through adopting a proactive Perinatal and Infant Mental Health policy.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team supports better service delivery, including in the area of mental health.

4. FIRST HOME BUYER CAPITAL GAINS TAX EXEMPTION

YLNP

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Federal Coalition to urge the Australian Government to remove Capital Gains Tax from house sales by first home buyers.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

5. REGIONAL HECS FEES WARREGO SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Federal Coalition to urge the Australian Government to extend the 20% tax reduction to HECS fees for all university graduates who move to regional Australia, regardless of income earned and for this incentive to be available from start to completion of degree.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

Federal Opposition Response:

The Federal Coalition recognises the workforce challenges regional Australia can face. That is why earlier this year we introduced a Bill that reduced the outstanding Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) debt for eligible doctors and nurse practitioners living and working in rural, remote and very remote areas of Australia. While this lapsed due to the dissolution of Parliament in April, Labor reintroduced an identical Bill in November. We are always working on new ideas to support communities in regional and remote Australia and are supportive of initiatives that achieve this.

6. RENEWABLE ENERGY INCENTIVES

TOOWOOMBA SOUTH SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to support and financially incentivise the establishment and growth of solar panel, wind turbine, and battery recycling industries, to position Queensland as the Australian leader in this sphere.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team understands the need for a plan to deal with renewable energy generators such as solar panels and wind turbines at the end of their economic life.

7. LNP CLOSED SESSION MOTIONS

LYTTON SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the LNP State Executive and Agenda Chair to stop categorizing members' policy resolutions submitted for debate at annual Convention to closed session.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

8. FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS AND SECURITY PACTS FOREIGN AFFAIRS - POLICY STANDING COMMITTEE

That this State Council of the LNP commends the former Coalition Government for the Australia-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA), the interim Australia-India FTA, the AUKUS trilateral security pact and participation in the first Quad Leaders' Summit with the United States, India and Japan.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

Federal Opposition Response:

One in five Australian jobs is trade-related and while in government, the Federal Coalition had an ambitious trade agenda. Our track record ensured that exporting businesses grew by almost 28% to over 56,000 - including more than 49,000 small and medium enterprises.

We implemented nine trade agreements – lifting Australia's share of trade covered by Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) from 27% in 2013 to over 70% in 2022. This figure will rise to almost 80% when India and the UK FTAs are included, and 90% when the when the EU FTA is completed.

AUKUS and the Quad reaffirmed the Federal Coalition's commitment to put Australia's interests first, by working with partners to support a secure, stable and peaceful Indo-Pacific.

9. NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY

BUDERIM SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next Federal Coalition Government to develop a National Security Strategy within 18 months of the commencement of its first term.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

10. DAYLIGHT SAVING NOOSA SEC/BRANCH

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to consult with the 11 Councils in South-East Queensland on daylight saving, and if there is a majority in favour, legislate to allow daylight saving in South-East Queensland.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team will not be dividing Queensland over daylight saving.

11. PRIME MINISTER SOCIAL MEDIA

TOOWOOMBA SOUTH SEC

That this State Council of the LNP Calls on the Federal Coalition to urge the Office of the Prime Minister to establish a non-partisan social media account for the purpose of governing.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

12. CONDEMNATION OF VLADIMIR PUTIN

YLNP

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Federal Coalition to condemn Vladimir Putin for the inhumane war crimes he has committed in the course of his unjust invasion of Ukraine.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

13. AGENDA 2030 PARIS ACCORD

NOOSA SEC/BRANCH

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to advise the Federal Government that the State of Queensland can no longer afford to comply with the requirements of Agenda 2030 of the UNFCCC Paris Accord, and requests that the Federal Government gives notice to the UNFCCC of Australia's intention to withdraw from the Agreement permitted under Article 28 of the Agreement.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

This is a Federal Government matter.

14. CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

YLNP

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the LNP State Parliamentary Team and the Federal Coalition to recognise the need for substantive action to combat climate change and to adopt a policy position that prioritises a market-based mechanism to expedite emissions reductions by 2030.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team aims to develop policies that protect our environment while ensuring communities across Queensland are not left behind.

15. SKILLS SHORTAGE MIGRATION PROGRAMS

TOOWOOMBA SOUTH SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Federal Coalition to urge the Australian Government to prioritise workforce migration, over family reunion migration, to address skills shortages.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

Federal Opposition Response:

The Federal Coalition acknowledges that Australia is facing chronic workforce shortages – especially in regional, rural and remote communities.

According the Food Supply Chain Alliance, Australia is 172,000 workers short from paddock to plate. That's why in Government, the Federal Coalition introduced the dedicated Agricultural Visa – to bring in the next generation of migrant workers to help build regional Australia.

In Opposition, The Nationals are considering the merits of expanding this existing reform to establish a new Regional Visa, which would include semi-skilled and low-skilled workers in the bush, to help alleviate severe worker shortages.

16. VETERAN AFFAIRS HEALTH

KAWANA SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Federal Coalition to adopt a policy to include Australian Defence Force Reserve members and veterans in the Department of Veteran Affairs non-liability health care program, and to introduce legislation accordingly.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

Federal Opposition Response:

To assist with policy consideration, the Shadow Minister for Veteran's Affairs, the Hon Barnaby Joyce MP, would welcome further discussion with policy committee on the purpose, intent and ramification of the proposed amendment. Such consideration would need to be done jointly with the Shadow Minister for Defence.

17. AFGHANISTAN GIRLS' EDUCATION

FOREIGN AFFAIRS - POLICY STANDING COMMITTEE

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Federal Coalition to request that the Australian Government reiterate to the Taliban Government of Afghanistan the importance to the international community of the government fulfilling its commitment to girls' education, while also outlining the economic benefits to the country of increased rates of female education.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

18. PUBLIC TRANSPORT PAYMENT OPTIONS

LYTTON SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the LNP State Parliamentary Team and Brisbane City Council to develop policies for integrating, reducing the cost, and having more convenient payment options available on public transport in and around Brisbane and other major centers in Queensland.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

Federal Opposition Response:

Under Australia's federated system of governance, state and territory governments are responsible for the management of public transport systems in each jurisdiction, and for setting policies regarding public transport prices as well as payment options.

The public transport system in Queensland is managed by Translink which is a division of the Government of Queensland's Department of Transport and Main Roads. Queensland Translink has responsibility for buses, trains, trams and ferries across South East Queensland and buses in various regional cities.

To support the Queensland community and provide enhanced public transport options, the former Coalition Government invested in projects to enhance the passenger rail network in South East Queensland, providing funding in the March 2022-23 Budget:

- \$1.6 billion for the proposed 37 km Beerwah Maroochydore Rail Extension on the Sunshine Coast Line; and
- \$1.1 billion for the Kuraby-Beenleigh faster rail upgrade on the Gold Coast Line (taking the Commonwealth's total investment to \$1.3 billion).

These projects are being delivered by the Government of Queensland.

State Opposition Response:

Labor has overseen higher ticket prices and declining patronage. The State LNP Team will evaluate the impact of the Smart Ticketing system that will allow tap-and-go payment using credit and debit cards.

19. AUSTRALIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION 7 POINT PLAN

NOOSA SEC/BRANCH

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next Coalition Federal Government to implement the Australian Medical Association 7 Point Plan to improve access to primary care, and offer specific allowances to attract health providers in regional, rural and remote areas.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

Federal Opposition Response:

General practitioners see 85% of patients who access medical assistance each year, yet only 1 in 7 medical students are choosing to become a general practitioner upon graduation. The peak professional body for doctors in Australia, the Australian Medical Association (AMA), introduced a 7 point plan in October immediately before the GP crisis summit in Canberra. This plan calls for:

- The introduction of voluntary patient enrolment so patients can register with their trusted general practice or "medical home", to bolster coordinated, multidisciplinary, and patient[1]centred care
- Supporting general practice to deliver more care after hours
- Expanding the number of nurses and allied health services available in general practices
- Supporting GPs to provide care to aged-care residents
- Supporting GPs to provide evidence-based wound care to those patients with chronic wounds
- Changing the GP training program to make general practice more appealing to the next generation of doctors
- Supporting GPs to spend more time with patients and improve the indexation of Medicare to reflect the rising costs of providing high-quality medical care and running a medical practice

The Federal Coalition recognises the challenges of seeing a GP around Australia, especially in regional areas, and we will consider these AMA proposals in detail.

20. QUEENSLAND PUBLIC SERVICE DECENTRALISATION

NOOSA SEC/BRANCH

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to develop a 'remote first' work policy for the Queensland Public Service and implement it in its first term in office.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team will not be implementing policies that forcibly relocate public servants. We will have a Customer Service Minister who will put a focus on Government Services in the regions.

21. CANDIDATE SUPPORT PINE RIVERS SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on party units to provide peer support and debriefings to candidates postelection campaign, with the support of the LNP Secretariat.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

22. AUSTRALIAN VETERANS' RECOGNITION

BUDERIM SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Federal Coalition to support the amendment of the *Australian Veterans' Recognition (Putting Veterans and their Families First) Act, 2019,* by the inclusion of the following words: "Serving and ex-serving veterans and their families will not be disadvantaged relative to any other Australians".

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

Federal Opposition Response:

To assist with election policy consideration, the Shadow Minister would welcome further discussion with the policy committee on the purpose, intent and ramification of the proposed amendment. The Australian Veterans' Recognition (Putting Veterans and their Families First) Act was an initiative of the former Coalition government and commenced on 31 October 2019. The Act included an Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant that recognises the unique nature of military service, along with the service and sacrifice made by veterans and their families. The Act also includes timeframes for considering compensation claims as well as a veterans recognition package that includes a veteran card, lapel pin and oath.

23. NORDIC PROSTITUTION MODEL

LYTTON SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the LNP State Opposition to investigate as its prostitution policy the Nordic prostitution model which:

- a) decriminalises the actions of prostituted persons, but criminalises the actions of buyers, pimps, brothel owners, sex traffickers and escort agencies;
- b) includes public health education campaigns discouraging the purchase of sexual services; and
- c) provides comprehensive industry exit programmes inclusive of social, legal and economic support to assist prostituted persons leave.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team will note the content of this debate.

24. PUBLIC TRANSPORT USAGE INCENTIVES

YLNP

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to incentivise public transport usage, including the previous (scrapped under the Palaszczuk Labor Government) '9th trip then free' Translink program.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team acknowledges that many families are under cost-of-living pressure at the moment and will consider measures to address the issue. The LNP Opposition also understand the sizeable impact of public transport bills on the family budget.

25. COAL TO LIQUID FUEL CONVERSION PLANT

NOOSA SEC/BRANCH

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to legislate to facilitate the urgent establishment of a coal to liquid fuel conversion plant in Queensland to ensure the fuel security of Queensland.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team believes fuel security should be economically and environmentally sustainable.

26. SUPPORT FOR COAL-FIRED POWER STATIONS

TOOWOOMBA NORTH SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the LNP State and Federal Oppositions to support all coal-fired power stations in Queensland, whether State owned or privately owned, to be kept in efficient working order, enabling them to generate their original specified power outputs at all times.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP team supports an energy system that is sustainable, but also reliable and affordable.

27. FERAL DEER THREAT MCPHERSON FDC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Federal Coalition to urge the Australian Government to list feral deer species as a Key Threatening Process to help combat the rising threat of feral deer on Australian native species and ecological communities.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team supports greater efforts to manage feral animals due to the impacts on agriculture and the environment.

28. POLITICISATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE OPERATIONS

NOOSA SEC/BRANCH

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to legislate to ban politicisation of the operation of all government funded public services, particularly in all levels of education.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team will focus on delivering better services for Queenslanders, including in education.

29. TRADITIONAL LNP POLICIES

LYTTON SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls upon the State Parliamentary Team and Federal Coalition to re-adopt its traditional policies, such as low debt, smaller government, family values, lower taxes and limited immigration that does not strain hard and soft infrastructure, tougher crime policies, water and energy security.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team are guided by the founding principles of the LNP.

30. ELECTRIC AND HYBRID VEHICLE USER PAY SYSTEM

NOOSA SEC/BRANCH

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next Federal Coalition Government to legislate the implementation of a user pays system for users of electric and hybrid vehicles to contribute to road maintenance, to capture loss of fuel excise tax, not exceeding what other states are charging.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

Broader tax reform that includes the current fuel excise must be undertaken to ensure states aren't disadvantaged by Federal Government decisions

31. TAXATION INCENTIVES FOR HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL

TOOWOOMBA SOUTH SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next Federal Coalition Government to encourage local authorities to approve higher-density residential developments supported by federal financial/taxation incentives for the investor.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

32. DRINK SPIKING REDUCTION

YLNP

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to reduce the incidence of drink spiking cases by

- i) amending 316A of the Criminal Code,
- ii) commissioning research to identify numbers affected,
- iii) encouraging agencies such as hospitals and police to keep a central database of cases, and
- iv) working with industry to promote drink safety education.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST.

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team recognise the harm to society of drink spiking and will use this debate to inform policy development.

33. USE OF LNP BRANDING

TOOWOOMBA NORTH SEC

That this State Council of the LNP resolves that no party member or party unit can use LNP branding at events run by other organisations, or use LNP digital or print media to promote such events, without the prior approval of the State Director.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

34. LNP POLICY COMMITTEES

LYTTON SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Policy Standing Committee Chair to direct all Policy Chairs, at the start of their tenure, to actively seek nominations from regions, and to actively seek submissions and feedback from regions for potential policies in their area of concern. The aim is to achieve more grass roots involvement in policy development.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

35. FREE ADF TERTIARY EDUCATION

BUDERIM SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls upon the Federal Coalition to develop a policy which provides free tertiary education to Australian Defence Force Members and Veterans who have served, in most instances, for a minimum qualifying period.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

Federal Opposition Response:

On 1 November 2018, the former Coalition Government commenced a \$10.8 million four- year trial of a program titled "Maintaining Incapacity Payments for Veterans Studying". The initiative provided incapacity payments, based on 100% of normal pre-injury weekly earnings, for veterans engaged in approved full-time study under a Department of Veterans' Affairs funded return to work rehabilitation program. The current government has extended the program by one year consistent with the Coalition's Bill which had not passed prior to the 2022 General Election.

In terms of extending the provision to include all veterans and all forms of tertiary education, the LNP's State Council, or relevant policy committee, should consider what would be a minimum period of service in the ADF for eligibility; whether such a policy be retrospective; the parameters of what is defined as tertiary education; the quantum of additional veterans likely to engage in tertiary studies; and the resourcing of state and federal tertiary education providers to meet any additional uptake. With clarity of this information the Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP, could assist in ascertaining an estimated cost.

36. REAL ESTATE TRAINING IN DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

TOOWOOMBA SOUTH SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to work with the peak training bodies to implement domestic and family violence awareness and reporting programs as part of real estate training.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP team supports a comprehensive plan to address domestic violence in our society. We will note the content of this debate.

37. NURSE TRAINING TOOWOOMBA SOUTH SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to introduce nurse training from Year 10 in high schools with a particular focus on regional centres.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team supports a greater focus on skills development and making sure our hospitals, particularly in regional Queensland, are adequately staffed.

38. STATE MINISTER FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORT AND ROADS

TOOWOOMBA SOUTH SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to include the appointment of a Minister for Regional Transport and Roads.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team does not support polices that divide Queensland. However, the next LNP Minister for Main Roads will have a particular focus on regional roads across Queensland.

39. MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOLS

TOOWOOMBA NORTH SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the LNP State Parliamentary Team to develop policy for the use of mobile phones in schools in Queensland as follows:

- that for all Primary Schools, no mobile phones will be allowed to be brought on to the school premises for use by students: and
- that for all Secondary Schools, all student mobile phones must be locked away on arrival and only retrieved when leaving the school grounds.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team supports local decision making by schools to deliver the best outcomes possible for the local community.

40. SUPPORT FOR QUEENSLAND POLICE SERVICE

PINE RIVERS SEC

That this State Council of the LNP encourages the LNP State Parliamentary team to investigate ways to provide better support for the Queensland Police Service to return to traditional police duties.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team notes the fall in frontline police staffing, the increase in crime, and supports a well staffed and resourced Queensland Police Service – particularly frontline operational police.

41. IMPLEMENTATION OF HEYDON ROYAL COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

NOOSA SEC/BRANCH

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to legislate to implement all of the recommendations of the Heydon Royal Commission to facilitate effective control over militant, illegal and productivity-reducing trade union behaviour.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team notes the control of the union movement over the current Labor Government and commits that a future LNP government will work for all Queenslanders.

42. SRI LANKAN VISA APPLICATIONS

FOREIGN AFFAIRS - POLICY STANDING COMMITTEE

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Federal Coalition to urge the Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Immigration to review allegations of financial mismanagement, maladministration and corruption in assessing applications from former government officials for visas and refuge in Australia from Sri Lankan nationals.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

43. POLITICAL PARTY DEFINITION

YLNP

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Federal Coalition to legislate for a definition of what constitutes a political party, specifically including a definition of "Independents".

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

44. CORPORATIONS (ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER) ACT

LYTTON SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the Federal Coalition to support an amendment to the *Corporations* (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (CATSI Act) to require Prescribed Indigenous Body Corporates (PBCs) to conduct open forums no less than twice yearly to allow engagement from the general public.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

45. NEW SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT

ALGESTER SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to build a State School including a combined Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Academy, Sports Excellence Academy and a new Primary to year 12 State College, to meet the demands of intense and rapid growth in the suburbs of Pallara and Heathwood.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team supports better school facilities and adaption to meet changing needs.

46. INTERNATIONAL MENS' DAY

LYTTON SEC

That this LNP State Council calls on the LNP Secretariat to acknowledge International Mens' Day on November 19 each year and to support this special day via appropriate communications, including social media.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

47. TIMBER HARVESTING

MIRANI SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the LNP State Parliamentary Team to support timber harvesting that needs to commence as soon as possible where proposed dam storages are due to be built in the higher watermarks areas.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

These measures would be considered as part of environmental approvals for any dam projects.

48. SUNSHINE COAST ROAD UPGRADES

NINDERRY SEC/BRANCH

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to support prompt upgrades to the transport infrastructure linking the Coolum Industrial Area to the Sunshine Coast Airport and the Bruce Highway, consistent with current and proposed industrial development.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The Member for Ninderry has secured \$1.75m for design and consultation. We will continue to advocate for more investment in this project.

49. SOLAR PANEL RECYCLING FACILITY IN NOOSA REGION

NOOSA SEC/BRANCH

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to support the establishment of a Solar-Panel Recycling Facility in the Noosa Region.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team notes the need for future planning when it comes to solar panel recycling.

50. OLYMPIC GAMES INFRASTRUCTURE

LYTTON SEC

That this State Council of the LNP calls on the next LNP State Government to implement an extensive infrastructure development program for the Brisbane South Metropolitan region in cooperation with the 2032 Olympic Games committee. The development program to include, but not be limited to the following major projects:

- a. Extend the dedicated bus lane from Coorparoo to Capalaba with a major bus station adjacent to the Belmont Shooting Complex and Chandler Sports Centre. These two centres would be redeveloped to be the host centres for the Olympic sports of shooting, archery, swimming, and cycling;
- b. Develop the Birkdale Community Precinct for the Olympic Games linked by a pedestrian access from a redeveloped bus station at Capalaba;
- c. Upgrade the Cleveland railway line to dual carriageway with a redevelopment of the Manly and Cleveland stations to accommodate Olympic sailing and triathlon events at these locations;
- d. Extend the railway line by tunnel from Acacia Ridge to the Port of Brisbane.

MOVED SECONDED CARRIED / LOST

State Opposition Response:

The State LNP Team has criticised the Labor government for its lack of an infrastructure plan for the 2032 Olympic Games and commits to an independent infrastructure plan for the event.