

DETERMINATION

Claimable and non-claimable administrative expenditure for administrative expenditure funding

Electoral Act 2002, sections 9(3)

Determination 014/2026

Keywords

Administrative expenditure funding, annual return, claimable administrative expenditure, non-claimable administrative expenditure, personal purpose

Preamble

Administrative expenditure funding (AEF) is funding paid by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) for claimable administrative expenditure incurred by an eligible registered political party or independent elected member (funding recipient).

Section 206(1) of the *Electoral Act 2002* (Vic) (Electoral Act) specifies the categories of expenditure that are claimable and not claimable by funding recipients. It also permits the VEC to determine what is claimable administrative expenditure, subject to the specific categories outlined in that section.

This determination outlines the types of expenditure that are and are not claimable administrative expenditure. Expenditure incurred by a funding recipient in the everyday running of the funding recipient's office is claimable administrative expenditure. Expenditure incurred for personal purposes cannot be claimed.

The VEC cannot accept claims for expenditure that is not claimable administrative expenditure as defined in section 206(1) of the Electoral Act. It is the responsibility of funding recipients to limit spending of AEF to uses that are claimable administrative expenditure.

Audience

The main audiences for this determination include:

- independent and registered company auditors engaged by funding recipients
- independent elected members
- registered agents of independent elected members
- registered officers of registered political parties
- other office-bearers of registered political parties.

Determination

I, Sven Bluemmel, Electoral Commissioner for the State of Victoria, make the following determination in accordance with sections 9(3) and 206(1) of the Electoral Act.

1. Claimable administrative expenditure

- 1.1. Subject to the definition of claimable administrative expenditure under section 206(1) of the Electoral Act, the VEC considers expenditure associated with the general running of the eligible registered political party or the office of the eligible independent elected member to be claimable administrative expenditure.

This may include:

- 1.1.1. office accommodation for standard operations
 - 1.1.2. staff employed for standard operations
 - 1.1.3. equipment for standard operations (e.g. IT systems, vehicles, office stationery)
 - 1.1.4. interest charges on loans for standard operations
 - 1.1.5. utilities for standard operations
 - 1.1.6. travel related to standard operations
 - 1.1.7. advertising related to standard operations
 - 1.1.8. staff employed to set-up/manage obligations in respect of the audit of financial accounts, claims for payment, and production and submission of statements, returns and disclosures required under the Electoral Act.
 - 1.1.9. costs incurred to set up/manage obligations in respect of the audit of financial accounts, claims for payment, and production and submission of statements, returns and disclosures required under the Electoral Act.
- 1.2. Standard operations may occur during an election period and are removed from election campaigning.

2. Non-claimable administrative expenditure

- 2.1. In accordance with the definition of claimable administrative expenditure under section 206(1) of the Electoral Act, the VEC considers these are not claimable administrative expenditure:

- 2.1.1. expenditure used for personal purposes
- 2.1.2. expenditure for which a registered political party or an independent elected member is entitled to any credit, rebate, refund, reimbursement or other kind of reduction in tax liability under any law.

Revocation of previous instrument

Determination No. 7 of 2018 ('Claimable Administrative Expenditure') made by the Electoral Commissioner on 23 November 2018 is revoked and replaced by this determination.

Commencement of this determination

This determination commences on 21 August 2026 and remains in effect until such time as it is amended, revoked, superseded, or otherwise replaced.

Sven Bluemmel
Electoral Commissioner
Victorian Electoral Commission

21 August 2026

Document details

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