

Authorising electoral material

What is electoral material?

“Electoral matter” includes any material, in printed or electronic form, that is intended or likely to affect the voting in the election.

All types of printing and electronic publishing are included, including flyers, posters, websites, social media pages (such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube) that include ‘electoral matter’ and videos.

What needs to be included in an authorisation statement?

Electoral matter (whether in printed or electronic form) that is printed, published, distributed, produced or broadcast must include an authorisation statement. The authorisation consists of three elements:

1. It must contain the first and last name of the person who authorised the electoral matter, or its author; and
2. It must include a statement that the named person authorised, or is the author of, the material; and
3. If the matter is published for or on behalf of a candidate in an election or a person who has publicly indicated that he or she intends to be a candidate for election, the material must include a statement to the effect that the matter is published for the candidate or person.

Examples of appropriate authorisation statements may be:

- Authorised by Sam Green, candidate for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body
- Authorised by Jon Smith on behalf of Sam Green, candidate for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body
- Authorised by Tara Jones

Failure to include an authorisation statement when required to, could result in a fine of up to \$1,600 under the ACT’s *Electoral Act 1992* (ACT).

Scan the QR Code for more information

