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Mr Warren McCann
Chair
Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal
Suite 1, Ground Floor
1 Treasury Place
MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Mr McCann

Review of the Tribunal's Members of Parliament Guidelines

I write to make a submission to the Tribunal's review of its Members of Parliament (MP) Guidelines for the use of certain parliamentary allowances and the Electorate Office and Communication Budget (EO&C Budget).

Specifically, I wish to address the following question cited in the Issues Paper on the Tribunal's website:

Are there areas of ambiguity in the Guidelines that should be clarified or require further detail to assist with interpretation?

On 27 March 2020, I published a Statement of Findings in relation to Appeal 2020/01 on my [website](#).

The appeal concerned a claim made under the EO&C Budget, which was rejected on the basis it did not comply with rule 4.10 of the MP Guidelines for being party political communication. In dismissing the appeal, I noted that the Guidelines do not provide clarity in relation to the meaning of "party political" or "party name" and recommended that these terms be clarified.

I note that the Issues Paper included this as a known issue that will be examined as part of the review. I welcome the Tribunal's consideration of this matter.

Yours sincerely



Stefanie Wilkinson
Compliance Officer

1 July 2020