

Independent Communications Committee

Mr Philip Gaetjens
Secretary
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
Parkes ACT 2600

Dear Mr Gaetjens

COMPLIANCE ADVICE ON THE PROPOSED TAX AND THE ECONOMY CAMPAIGN

The Independent Communications Committee (the Committee) considers proposed advertising campaigns with expenditure expected to be \$250,000 or more, and provides independent advice to the relevant Chief Executive.

On 17 October 2018, 6 December 2018 and 16 January 2019, the Committee considered the Tax and Economy campaign being developed by the Treasury. As part of its consideration of this campaign, the Committee met with your officers and reviewed the following supporting documentation:

1. communication strategy
2. developmental communications research
3. draft media strategy and indicative media plan overview
4. a statement against Principles 1 to 4 of the *Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by non-corporate Commonwealth entities* (Guidelines).

The Committee is satisfied that the campaign is relevant to government responsibilities (Principle 1), and that the campaign is being developed in line with Principles 2 to 4 of the Guidelines. The Committee's view has been formed at the communication strategy stage, and it has not considered the advertising materials which have yet to be developed. For this reason, the Committee has concluded that the proposed Tax and Economy campaign is capable of complying with Principles 1 to 4 of the Guidelines.

As legal and procurement matters relating to the campaign are not considered by this Committee, you will need to seek advice and assurance from your entity with respect to compliance with Principle 5 of the Guidelines.

This letter will be published on the Department of Finance website after the campaign is launched.

Any additional phases of the campaign will require separate consideration by the Committee.

Yours sincerely



Greg Williams
Chair
Independent Communications Committee
16 January 2019