Political contributions and engagement
Political contributions and engagement

Macquarie believes we need to be engaged and understand the evolving policy, political and regulatory environments in Australia and other jurisdictions in which we operate, as these factors impact our business as well as our clients’ businesses.

As a listed financial institution operating in highly regulated sectors, we have a responsibility to our shareholders, clients, counterparties and employees to understand and contribute to public policy and to ensure that our organisation and operating environments are well understood by parliamentarians and policy makers. Additionally, our clients, many of whom also operate in regulated sectors, expect us to have detailed current knowledge of public policy issues and drivers when we provide advice and services to them.

Macquarie contributes to public policy in the markets in which we operate in the following ways:

• making submissions to industry consultation processes and inquiries, where appropriate. These may be processes established by parliaments, government departments or government agencies such as regulators. Submissions may be made by Macquarie directly or as part of a broader industry group
• participating in government and other policy advisory panels when invited to do so, and where we can make a differentiated contribution based on our expertise
• engaging with parliamentarians and policy-makers through avenues such as formal meetings, attending events, speaking in public forums and appearing before parliamentary inquiries where appropriate
• contributing to the advocacy work done by industry groups in key markets around the world. Given the diversity of Macquarie’s business activities, we are members of industry groups representing sectors such as financial services and markets, infrastructure, energy as well as general business peak bodies.

In Australia, political parties are funded by a mix of public and private monies. As part of its engagement with the Australian political process, Macquarie provides financial support to the major political parties, primarily through paid attendance at events.

Macquarie has a full disclosure policy and declares all monies paid to political parties to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) regardless of any thresholds or other provisions that may otherwise limit the need to disclose. This disclosure is made by way of an annual AEC return on a 1 July to 30 June basis and is published by the AEC in the February following the end of the disclosure year.