AUTHORISATON STATEMENTS

TOGETHER UNITY (www.togetherunity.com.au

Authorisation Statement on election material should clearly identify the person or entity responsible for the material. It typically includes the following elements:

Name: The full name of the person or entity authorising the material should be clearly stated. This could be the candidate's name, the name of the campaign team, or the name of the organization supporting the candidate.

Address: The address of the person or entity authorising the material should be provided. This could be a physical address or a postal address. It <u>can not</u> be an email address.

<u>Contact Information</u>: It is common to include contact information such as a phone number or email address to allow voters to reach out for further information or clarification

Declaration: The statement should include a declaration that the material has been authorised by the named person or entity. For example, "Authorised by [Name], [Address], [Contact Information]."

Who can authorise: a candidate can authorise and print your own material

Placement: The authorisation statement should be prominently displayed on the election material, making it easily visible and legible to the audience.

When does an authorisation statement not apply: car stickers, items of clothing, lapel buttons and badges, fridge magnets, pens, pencils or balloons. If you are unsure if its electoral material or not, authorise it!

Here is an example of how an authorisation statement could be formatted:

Authorised by Kathleen Browne, 242 Sydney Road, Brunswick Vic 3056

It is important to ensure that the authorisation statement complies with the specific requirements of the relevant electoral laws and regulations in the jurisdiction where the election is taking place.

Significant change to authorisation published by the VEC June 2024.

Authorisation requirements always applies, not just during an election period. It applies to all people, not just candidates and registered political parties. [this now applies to <u>current councilors</u>]

The penalty for failing to authorise electoral material is 10 penalty units for a person, and 50 penalty units for corporations. [they have removed, "in the case of a natural person", this now broadens the scope for the ability to impose penalties]

CONTACTS

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