



**ANZ Responses to Questions from the
Senate Select Committee into the
Political Influence of Donations**

November 2017

ANZ RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS FROM THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE INTO THE POLITICAL INFLUENCE OF DONATIONS

BACKGROUND - ANZ POLITICAL DONATIONS

1. ANZ makes a single, annual donation to each of the two major Federal parties to support the democratic process in Australia. The donation is determined by the Board each year.
2. Our policy is published on the ANZ website.¹ ANZ publicly discloses donations each year in our corporate reporting² and we report our donations to the Australian Electoral Commission.
3. The ANZ policy:
 - applies to all employees and contractors of ANZ and its controlled entities
 - prohibits any employee or contractor from making a donation or providing a benefit to a political party or candidate on behalf of ANZ unless approval has been obtained from the ANZ Board and CEO
 - prohibits employees from acting as representatives of ANZ at political fundraising activities unless approval is obtained from the CEO
 - prohibits political donations to a political party or candidate outside Australia
 - prohibits employees from attending events as a guest of a third party who has paid for an ANZ employee to attend, or at events hosted by party affiliated organisation
 - states that a breach of the policy by an employee is dealt with under the ANZ Global Performance Improvement and Unacceptable Behaviour Policy.

RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS: *COULD YOU OUTLINE THE REASONS WHY YOU MAKE POLITICAL DONATIONS? WHY DO YOU DONATE TO POLITICAL PARTIES?*

4. ANZ considers that it has a role to play in supporting democracy by providing funding. Our donations are aimed at promoting the development of social and economic policies to benefit Australia.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION: *WHAT IMPROVED OUTCOMES FOR YOUR SHAREHOLDERS DO YOU EXPECT FROM DONATIONS AND ANY OTHER SIMILAR ACTIVITIES?*

5. ANZ does not undertake any activity associated with its political donations and does not expect, and has not received, any benefit, other than generally benefiting from a robust democratic political process.

¹ https://www.anz.com/documents/au/policies/publicpolicyadvocacy_politicaldonations.pdf

² http://shareholder.anz.com/sites/default/files/anz_corporate_governance_171105.pdf. Differences between ANZ and AEC reports may arise because the ANZ financial year ends on September 30 and the AEC reporting period ends on June 30.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION: WHAT, IF ANY, OTHER ACTIVITIES YOU UNDERTAKE AS WELL AS MAKING POLITICAL DONATIONS?

6. ANZ seeks to make a constructive contribution to policy debate and understand the perspectives of our community's elected representatives, policy makers and regulators. We also represent the views of our company, shareholders, customers and employees on policy matters related to banking. We consider that as a major Australian company we have an obligation to contribute to policy development.³
7. Our engagement includes:
 - discussing policy issues in detail with governments and agencies, other businesses and interested stakeholders
 - making submissions on and engage in policy processes which are generally published by the recipient bodies or ourselves on anz.com⁴
 - our senior management team meeting regularly with political, policy making and regulatory leaders
 - membership of associations related to banking or affecting banking.
8. Examples of ANZ policy advocacy include:
 - Submissions to Parliamentary inquiries such as the Senate Select Committee Inquiry into Lending to Primary Production Customers and the Senate Inquiry into Consumer Protection in the Banking, Insurance and Financial Services Sector
 - Submissions and consultation with Government inquiries such as the Productivity Commission Inquiry Into Competition In The Australian Financial System and the Treasury consultation on the Design and Distribution Obligations and Product Intervention Power
 - Meetings with Members of Parliament, Ministers and shadow Ministers in relation to banking policy, the economic outlook, constituent matters and other areas of policy affecting banks
 - Association membership including the Australian Bankers' Association, New Zealand Bankers' Association, the Business Council of Australia, the Financial Services Council and United Nations Environment Program Finance Initiative and various banking and financial services associations throughout the region.

³ <http://www.anz.com/about-us/corporate-sustainability/our-approach/stakeholder-engagement/public-policy/>

⁴ In some cases, ANZ makes submissions, for example to Parliamentary inquiries, that contain commercially sensitive information or customer related responses to Committees that may not be published.