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3 March 2011

Queensland Integrity Commissioner
PO Box 15290
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Dear Dr Solomon

Review of Integrity Act & Lobbyists Register

I refer to your letter of 3 February 2011 with regards your review of the lobbying provisions of the *Integrity Act 2009*.

The following difficulties have been identified regarding compliance with your letter of 18 November 2010 requesting supply of information:

- 1 As you would appreciate, the disclosure of dealings with lobbyists could be a sensitive issue. It is therefore imperative that Council's administration has the capacity to collate the information which you require to fulfil your reporting obligations. This appears to be compromised by the Act's definition of responsible person for a government representative in respect of councillors.
- 2 You have requested that Councils supply information in a standard format about contact with both registered and non-registered lobbyists. It is noted that S71 provides for ad hoc disclosure of contact with unregistered lobbyists and S72A provides for disclosure of contact with registered lobbyists. However the Act is silent about recording this information in a common Register and minimum recording requirements.
- 3 If the Act is amended to require Councils to keep a Register of Contact with Lobbyists, questions will arise as to whether that register is available for public inspection. This needs to be clarified in the legislation.

Your representation regarding these matters would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully

Doug Pennell
COORDINATOR GOVERNANCE & POLICY