

Fact Sheet – New laws prohibit lobbyists dual hatting in Queensland

April 2024

On **19 April 2024** the *Integrity Act 2009* (Qld) (**Integrity Act**) was amended to prohibit dual hatting by registered lobbyists in Queensland. The new laws mean:

- A person is disqualified from being a registered lobbyist if they perform a **substantial role** in the election campaign of a political party.
- A registered lobbyist who intends to perform a substantial role in an election campaign must, immediately after forming the intention, give the Queensland Integrity Commissioner a notice stating the individual's intention.
- A person who plays a substantial role in an election campaign for a political party that wins the election, and who was a registered lobbyist at any time in the term of government leading to the election, is disqualified from being a registered lobbyist at any time in the new term of government (i.e. for the following four years).

If, however, the political party did not win the election, the person who played a substantial role in the election campaign for that political party can register as a lobbyist in the new term of government.

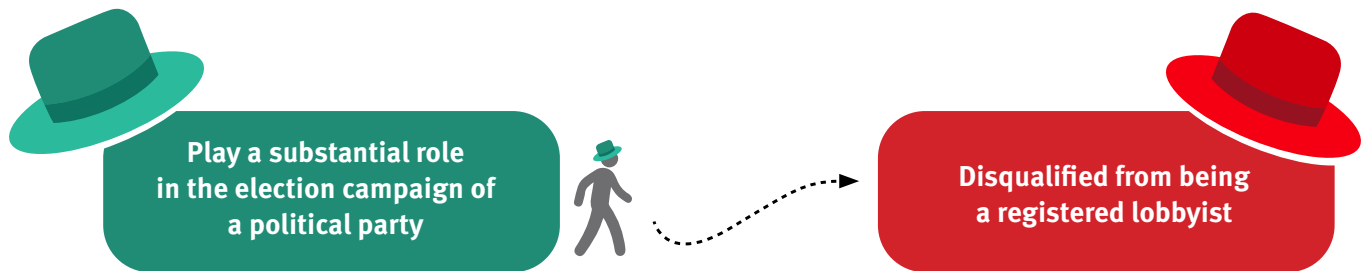
The new laws can be found in section 53A of the Integrity Act. Schedule 2 of the Integrity Act defines **substantial role** in an election campaign of a political party as follows:

- Means a role at a senior level, whether paid or unpaid, that:
 - involves employment or engagement by the party; and
 - incorporates significant involvement in the party's election strategy or policy development.
- 'Substantial role' does not include:
 - general membership of a political party
 - volunteering for, or advising, a particular candidate
 - door knocking, placing documents in letter boxes or other campaign communications
 - media liaison
 - handing out how to vote material.

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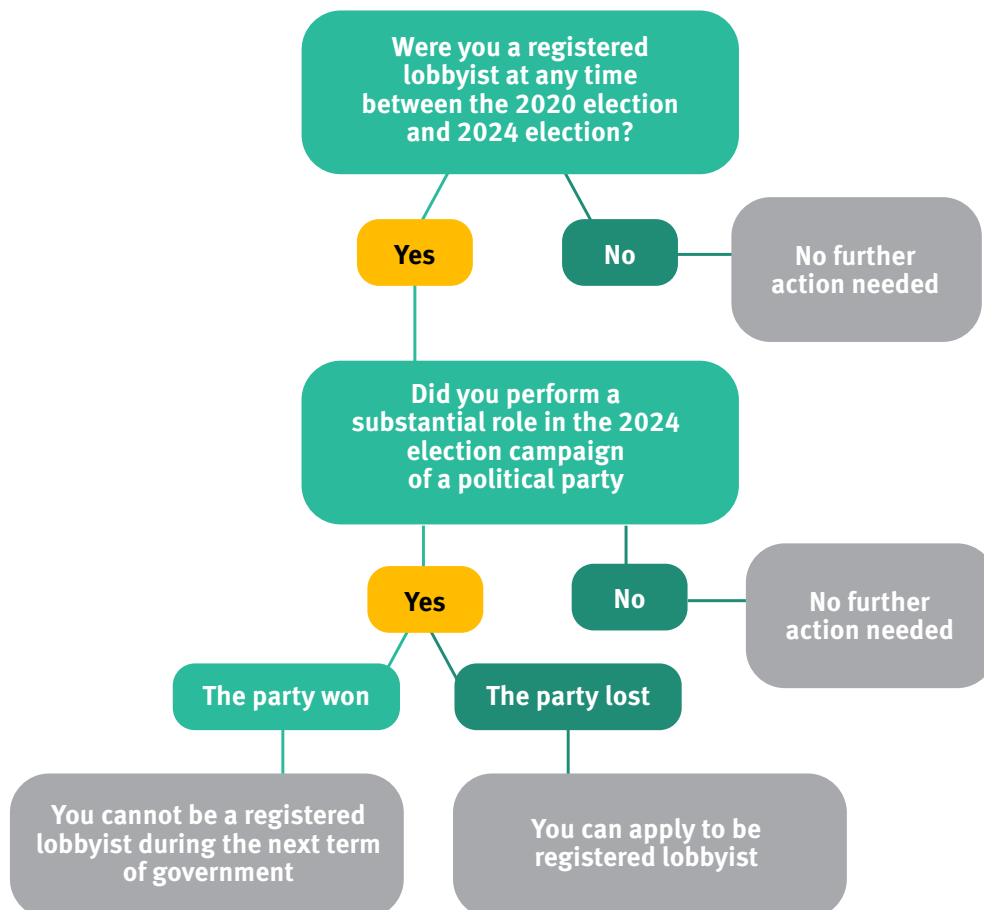
How do the new laws work and what is prohibited?

A registered lobbyist is disqualified from registration if they perform a substantial role in an election campaign of a political party.



The dual hatting laws also mean if a former registered lobbyist played a substantial role in the successful election of a political party, they cannot be a registered lobbyist for the next 4 years.

The following chart shows how these provisions work for the 2024 election.



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What action is required by current and former registered lobbyists?

All registered lobbyists, and all individuals who have previously been a registered lobbyist at any time during the current term of government (i.e. since 31 October 2020) must ensure they have read and understood this factsheet.

A registered lobbyist performing or intending to perform a substantial role in election campaign

You must immediately notify the Queensland Integrity Commissioner using the online [form](#) or by emailing us at lobbying@integrity.qld.gov.au if you:

- are currently a registered lobbyist in Queensland; and
- are already performing, or intend to perform, a ‘substantial role’ in the election campaign of a political party.

Former registered lobbyist who is performing or is intending to perform a substantial role in election campaign

If you are a person who has been registered as a lobbyist in this term of government (i.e. since 31 October 2020) and are performing a substantial role for a political party in the current election campaign, or intends to, please contact our Office on the details below.

Further information about dual hatting prohibitions

This fact sheet is the first of several which will be communicated and published on our website about the dual hatting prohibition and other changes to the Integrity Act which will come into effect over the coming weeks.

Please visit www.integrity.qld.gov.au to access new publications and announcements. You can also follow us at [in](#) [Queensland Integrity Commissioner](#) or [sign up](#) to our email subscription service to get the latest news and updates from the Office of the Queensland Integrity Commissioner.

If you have questions about the new dual hatting laws, you can get in touch by:

- calling us on **07 3003 2888**
- emailing us at lobbyist@integrity.qld.gov.au.