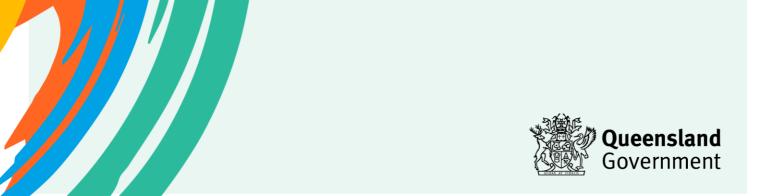


# About the new Queensland Lobbying Register

FACT SHEET | May 2023





## The new Queensland Lobbying register – what's changed?

The Office of the Queensland Integrity Commissioner (OQIC) has developed a new Lobbying register to improve the way our stakeholders search and report on lobbying activities with government and opposition representatives in this state.

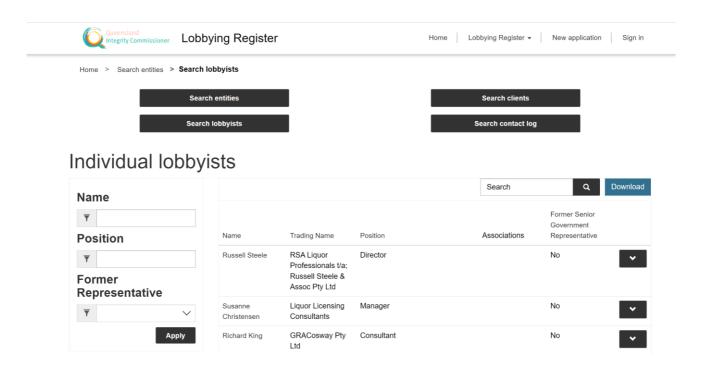
The new register has a number of key enhancements, making it easier to navigate and use, including improved searchability, security, password access and options for recording the purpose of contacts. The new register can be accessed by clicking <a href="here">here</a>.

#### Improved searchability

The new register has a landing page which provides better navigation via four buttons at the top of the page providing access to information on lobbyists and the entities who employ them, their clients and a single contact log (which records contacts for 10 years after lobbying ceases).

#### Searching for lobbyists

Instead of clicking through all records to find specific information, users can now filter their searches by name, position or whether the person is a former government representative.



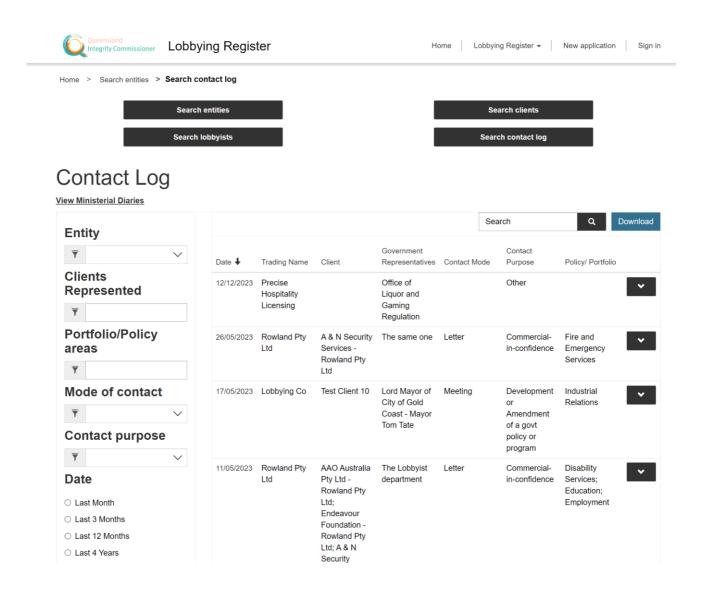


#### Searching the Contact log

With a single contact log that contains all contact information, finding information is now easier. Previously, users would need to go through multiple month-by-month contact logs to find the information they needed. Now users can use filters to sort all contacts by particular search criteria, and can export the records to Excel for checking and compliance purposes.

As information can now be downloaded into a single report, it will reduce the amount of searching and manual handling previously required to interrogate the register or check data for compliance purposes.

The Contact log is now the central source of information. It can be searched by entity, client, portfolio area, mode of contact and/or contact purpose. Users can refine their searches by looking for all records in the last month, three months, 12 months or four years (see below).





#### Ease of signing in and forgotten passwords

In the past, some users had problems with the previous register's password reset system, which required them to remember a secret question and answer to change their password. This caused problems if contact officers changed or couldn't remember the question and answer, requiring a change in username and assistance from an OQIC staff member to reset their password.

The new register has an easy and intuitive sign in system.

Once a user has registered and signed in, if they later forget or lose their password there is no secret question – you simply click on 'Forgot your password?' to make the change. The system uses multi-factor authentication to reset your password.

#### Additional security authentication

The use of multi-factor authentication adds a layer of security to the sign in process. Once users enter their email address as their username, a verification code is sent to the email address they have entered. They must enter this to proceed, then complete signing in by entering their password.

The use of a verification code ensures that only those with access to the email used to sign in can log in to the register.

#### Easier to update the contact log

The new register is also more streamlined and easier to enter information into. Previously, users may have had difficulty entering contact dates, but this has been resolved with better functionality.

### More detail about contacts between lobbyists and representatives

The new register requires more information about contacts between lobbyists and government or opposition representatives.

It requires lobbyists to indicate the mode of contact between themselves and representatives, for example by letter, meeting, email, text, teleconference or instant messaging.

Lobbyists will need to indicate the portfolio or policy area the contact concerns (for example, Education, Investment or Planning). They will still be able to select the purpose of the meeting from a drop-down menu but will also have to complete a mandatory free text field requiring more detail about the contact.

If a lobbyist uses the 'Other' category for the purpose of contact, this will open a further mandatory field where the lobbyist will have to state what the 'other' purpose was.

#### For more information

If you have any questions about using the register, please see the new Lobbying register's <u>User Manual</u>, or if you can't find the answer, please email the OQIC at <u>lobbyist@integrity.qld.gov.au</u> or call 07 3003 2888.