

ECQ's

STORY

Electoral Commission Queensland

Partners in the pursuit of transparency

The story of the Electronic Disclosure System

The Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) launched the Australian-first Electronic Disclosure System (EDS) in February 2017, providing unprecedented public access to information about political donations in Queensland.

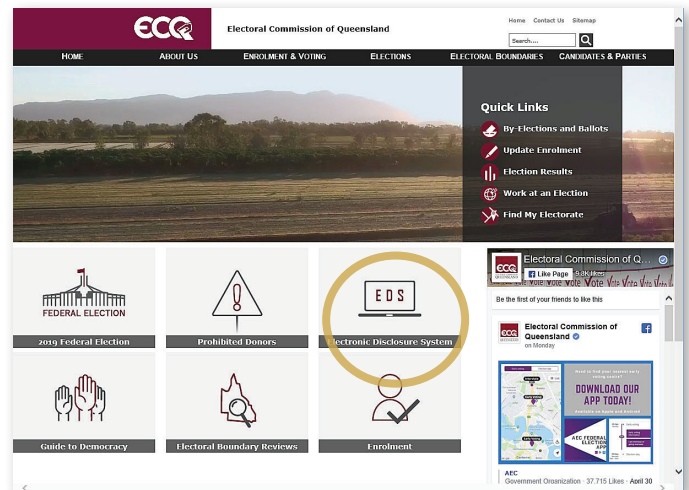
The ground-breaking system, coupled with new laws, requires political parties, candidates and donors to report any gifts and loans within seven business days of the transaction.

The public is able to view that information almost immediately after it is lodged in the EDS, which is hosted on the ECQ website.

At the 2017 Queensland state election more than 1,300 gifts were reported and made publicly available within 24 hours.

It was the first time Queenslanders were able to access information about the funding for political parties and candidates before casting their votes at a state election.

The move from paper-based disclosures to the EDS not only improves transparency around political donations, it also helps ECQ to monitor compliance with disclosure laws by making it easier to track data.



Searches in the EDS can be tailored to specific donors, recipients, electoral events and more.

The streamlined system has proven to be a useful tool for research and analysis by the media, which has welcomed the increased access and transparency.



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