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Sarah Connolly MP
Chair
Public Accounts and Estimates Committee
Parliament of Victoria
Spring Street
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Via email: PAEC@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Chair

Thank you for your letter dated 6 February 2024 regarding my response to a question taken on notice at the Financial and Performance Outcomes hearing. I note the Committee is seeking clarification on this matter:

 Can an MP's electorate office receive Australian flags, by either using MPs own EO&C Budget or by inclusion of the Australian flag in Protocols (DPC) annual distribution survey of MPs?

In response to this question, the Australian National Flag, the Australian Aboriginal Flag and the Torres Strait Islander Flag are available through the Commonwealth Government flag distribution program which can be accessed for free by members of the community and eligible organisations.

The Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) distributes Victorian State Flags to the electoral offices of Victorian MPs so they may then provide flags to organisations upon request.

DPC does not administer MPs' Electorate Office and Communications (EO&C) budgets. The Secretary, Department of Parliamentary Services is the relevant officer for the EO&C Budget (*Parliamentary Salaries, Allowances and Superannuation Act 1968*).

Thank you for the Committee's interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Jeremi Moule Secretary

13 / 2 / 2024

VICTORIA State Government