

Inquiry into the Impact of Social Media on Elections and Electoral Administration Survey

Ms Irene Chase

Phone number: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Organisation name:

Your position or role:

SURVEY

Q1. Encouraging social media platforms to take more action against inappropriate activities (such as bots, harassment, trolling, spreading fake news).

Response: Very good idea

I believe in free speech, but it needs to be the issue, not derogatory comments or threats to individuals or groups. Reading some recently I felt awful, can't imagine how the individuals targeted felt.

Q2. The government funding media literacy campaigns to help people know what they can trust online.

Response: Very good idea

I would appreciate that. Fact checking is great.

Q3. Requiring public disclosure of all online political advertising (for example, webpages created by social media platforms showing all of the political advertising on their platform and who paid for it, or webpages created by parties/candidates showing all of the online ads they have run).

Response: Very good idea

Transparency is very important. I want to know who they are and who supports them, and the groups promoting them.

Q4. Requiring online electoral advertising to state who paid for it.

Response: Very good idea

Again transparency, not much to ask really.

Q5. Government support for independent and trust-worthy organisations that can fact-check claims or identify misinformation.

Response: Very good idea

Definitely. Truth is important and helps me to decide on issues/policies put forward.

Q6. Using independent organisations (e.g. the Victorian Electoral Commission) as a source of reliable information about electoral candidates.

Response: Very good idea

Yes. Facts again, important.

Q7. New laws requiring truth in political advertising.

Response: Very good idea

Yes. Sadly, I would not have thought we needed to state that, but yes.

Q8. Are there other things you'd like to see the government do relating to social media or online advertising and elections?

Response: I am guessing these changes are to ensure what gets out there is right before we see it. If it is untrue apologies are needed and need to be seen and heard - not sure re the how? Re online abuse/ false accounts etc I am not sure how you tackle those, so clearly prevention is best. Thanks for looking into it though it is needed.