

From: [Scott, Iain](#)
To: [Walsh, Clare](#)
Cc: [BES Executive](#); [CSD-EO](#); [Hoffmeister, Kelly](#); s 22
Subject: FW: Unsolicited Chairman's Lounge membership [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 10 March 2022 10:29:21 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

SEC=OFFICIAL

Hi Clare

Here is our advice on the reporting of Chairman's Lounge membership

Declaring club memberships – Finance approach

LAB have reviewed the APSC advice on this matter, which confirms lounge memberships should be declared as they are likely to be over the \$100 threshold. We can confirm that Finance along with other agencies (including APSC) have and continue to declare lounge memberships.

Declaring this benefit – gifted as a spouse

We understand that Cath has further clarified that she received this gift as a spouse and not in the course of her official duties. This scenario is not covered by the APSC guidance and if we strictly applied the guidelines then Cath would not need to declare it, and we would not need to publish it. However, on balance, we consider that declaring this benefit is in keeping with the intent of the guidelines and would provide for greater transparency for Finance.

Declaring the benefit – an ongoing requirement

We do not consider the Chairman's Lounge membership as something that would need to be declared annually (or any subsequent renewal). The APSC advice requires us to publish a gift or benefit received within 31 days and does not mention a need to declare an ongoing benefit. Club and airline memberships are mentioned within the guidance FAQs and these only state that they should be declared as they are usually over the \$100 threshold.

Please let us know if you need anything further.

Regards

Iain

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From: Scott, Iain <Iain.Scott@finance.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 March 2022 11:37 AM
To: Hoffmeister, Kelly <Kelly.Hoffmeister@finance.gov.au>; s 22
s 22 <[@finance.gov.au](#)>
Cc: CSD-EO <CSDEO@finance.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Unsolicited Chairman's Lounge membership [SEC=OFFICIAL]

SEC=OFFICIAL

Hi Kelly and Megan

Further to the earlier follow up on the Chairman's lounge reporting issue, here is a further aspect to consider and provide advice on.

Happy to chat.

Regards

Iain

From: Walsh, Clare <Clare.Walsh@finance.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 2 March 2022 10:20 AM
To: Scott, Iain <Iain.Scott@finance.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Unsolicited Chairman's Lounge membership [SEC=OFFICIAL]

SEC=OFFICIAL

Iain

I don't think this changes anything, but can you check for me? ta

SEC=OFFICIAL
SEC=OFFICIAL

From: Patterson, Cath <Cath.Patterson@finance.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 2 March 2022 10:18 AM

To: Walsh, Clare <Clare.Walsh@finance.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Unsolicited Chairman's Lounge membership [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Clare

We were advised yesterday that my membership was only provided in my capacity as a spouse and not as a Dep Sec. Happy to still fill in the paperwork once Iain has provided advice.

Cath



Cath Patterson | Deputy Secretary

Budget and Financial Reporting

Department of Finance

T: 02 6215 2566 | M: s 22 | E cath.patterson@finance.gov.au

A: One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

SEC=OFFICIAL

From: Walsh, Clare <Clare.Walsh@finance.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 28 February 2022 9:15 AM

To: Patterson, Cath <Cath.Patterson@finance.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Unsolicited Chairman's Lounge membership [SEC=OFFICIAL]

SEC=OFFICIAL

Hi Cath

I haven't forgotten about this. You will need to declare, I'm just checking a couple of other details with Iain before finalising advice to you.

Clare

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From: Patterson, Cath <Cath.Patterson@finance.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 21 February 2022 12:35 PM

To: Walsh, Clare <Clare.Walsh@finance.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Unsolicited Chairmans Lounge membership [SEC=OFFICIAL]

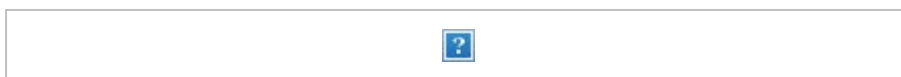
SEC=OFFICIAL

Clare

For advice please re my recently acquired (unsolicited) Chairman's Lounge Membership. I am fine to fill in the gift registry but Rosemary asked me to check whether we have treated this membership as a gift for other Exec.

Thanks

Cath



Cath Patterson | Deputy Secretary

Budget and Financial Reporting

Department of Finance

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From: Huxtable, Rosemary <Rosemary.Huxtable@finance.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 21 February 2022 12:33 PM

To: Patterson, Cath <Cath.Patterson@finance.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Unsolicited Chairmans Lounge membership [SEC=OFFICIAL]

SEC=OFFICIAL

If you could talk to Clare before that gets too far as we have considered previously whether this is a gift and I can't recall the outcome.

SEC=OFFICIAL

From: Patterson, Cath <Cath.Patterson@finance.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 21 February 2022 12:31 PM

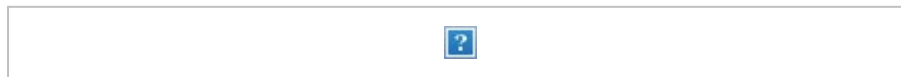
To: Huxtable, Rosemary <Rosemary.Huxtable@finance.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Unsolicited Chairmans Lounge membership [SEC=OFFICIAL]

SEC=OFFICIAL

Thanks (didn't even have business class membership at HA). There is a gift register form – which I will now complete.

Cath



Cath Patterson | Deputy Secretary

Budget and Financial Reporting

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T: 02 6215 2566 | M: s 22 | E cath.patterson@finance.gov.au

A: One Canberra Avenue, FORREST ACT 2603

SEC=OFFICIAL

From: Huxtable, Rosemary <Rosemary.Huxtable@finance.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 21 February 2022 12:27 PM

To: Patterson, Cath <Cath.Patterson@finance.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Unsolicited Chairmans Lounge membership [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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I thought you would already have one of these through Home Affairs. If you could liaise with Clare on how we report. Thanks.

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From: Patterson, Cath <Cath.Patterson@finance.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 21 February 2022 10:44 AM

To: Huxtable, Rosemary <Rosemary.Huxtable@finance.gov.au>

Subject: Unsolicited Chairmans Lounge membership [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Rosemary

I have been sent (unsolicited) a membership card for the Qantas Chairmans Lounge. As this constitutes a gift, I am seeking your approval for me to accept this membership which I will then declare on the Gifts register.

Thanks

Cath



Cath Patterson | Deputy Secretary

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