**Online supplementary file 1: Limitations of state and territory registers of lobbyists**

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| **Lobbyist register** | **Limitations and considerations** |
| Federal | * The current online data only dates back to May 2020 and does not show lobbyists’ past clients disclosed before this date. * Responsibility for the Federal Lobbyist Register was transferred in 2018 to the Attorney-General’s office from the Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C). An unpublished archive dataset of the full register 2010 – 2018 was provided to the researchers and included in the data collection for this study, however no data was available for the 2018 - 2020 period because of past technical issues during the transfer from PM&C. |
| Western Australia (WA) | * The WA) Register of Lobbyists only discloses the names of lobbying firm’s current clients in the past three months and also removes clients as soon as the firm informs the WA Government that contracts have ended. It does not publish an online archive of past clients and former lobbyist employees or their past government roles or cessation dates. Would-be lobbyists who have left government jobs must wait 12 months before the WA allows them to register or conduct lobbying of government officials. |
| Victoria | * The Victorian Register of Lobbyists only publishes information on lobbyist clients from the past 12 months. While it is the only state to publish names of ex-senior government staff currently working in-house for companies in a ‘Government Affairs Directory’ this is only until their employment ends, making it difficult to monitor those individuals especially if they revolve back into government roles or lobbying firms |
| South Australia | * The South Australian Register of Lobbyists is available online from 2018 only. It does however disclose more detail than any other, matching up the lobbyist and their client and who they have had meetings with (if any), and the (brief) purpose of the meetings. |
| Australian Capital Territory (ACT) | * The ACT Register of Lobbyists only dates back 2016 but includes details on lobbyists' role and place of employment e.g. ‘Advisor Minister Morrison, Advisor Bill Shorten’. Historical data is only available by clicking each firm’s entry to annual pdf forms. |
| New South Wales (NSW) | * The NSW Register only dates back to 2014 and client information for inactive lobbying firms’ clients is only mandated to be held for 2 years. It does not publish ex-government records of lobbyists. |
| Queensland | * Queensland Register of Lobbyists provides only past 12 months detail for current clients. Although it does publish monthly meeting logs between government departments and lobbying firms/and or clients as far back as 2016, individual lobbyists are rarely named and details of subjects discussed extremely limited, for example ‘introductory or ‘commercial-in-confidence’. |
| Tasmania | * Tasmanian Register of Lobbyists only lists clients and lobbying firms’ employees, contractors and shareholders but no details on revolving door lobbyists. In 2022 a review into lobbying oversight by Integrity Commission Tasmania was underway to try to improve transparency. |
| Northern Territory | * The Northern Territory does not have a lobbyist Register. |