

Electoral (Expenditure cap for 2026) Declaration 2025

Notifiable instrument NI2025 — 637

made under the

Electoral Act 1992, s205E (Working out indexation for expenditure cap)

1 Name of instrument

This instrument is the *Electoral (Expenditure cap for 2026) Declaration 2025*.

2 Commencement

This instrument commences on 1 January 2026.

3 Calculation

The yearly amount for the period 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2026 is worked out as follows:

EC + (EC x CPI* percentage increase)

where:

CPI means all groups consumer price index number, being the weighted average of the 8 capital cities, published by the Australian Statistician.

CPI percentage increase for the year, means the annual percentage increase in the CPI from the September quarter of the previous year to the September quarter of the year the calculation is made.

EC means the expenditure cap for the year the calculation is made, and for 2025 is \$51,545 according to section 205D(b).

The CPI number for the September 2025 quarter is 143.6.

The CPI number for the September 2024 quarter is 139.1.

The annual percentage increase is calculated by dividing the increase in the September quarter CPI index by the earlier index and multiplying by 100%. For the period September 2024 to September 2025, the percentage increase is calculated as follows:

$$\frac{(143.6 - 139.1)}{139.1} \times 100\% = 3.2351\%$$

The expenditure cap amount for 2026 is calculated as:

$$51,545 + (51,545 \times 3.2351\%) = \$ 53,212.53$$

In accordance with section 205E(4), if the calculation of the expenditure cap results in an expenditure cap that is not a multiple of \$5, the amount declared must be rounded up to the next whole dollar amount that is a multiple of 5.

Therefore, the expenditure cap for 2026 is \$53,215.

4 Declaration

I declare the amount for 2026 to be \$53,215.

5 Expiry

This instrument expires on 31 December 2026.

Damian Cantwell AM CSC
Electoral Commissioner

19 November 2025