

Committee Secretariat Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 BY EMAIL: <u>fpa.sen@aph.gov.au</u>

17 April 2024

Dear Committee

Outcome of Political Donations Policy Review

We refer to the Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee's (the Committee) Inquiry into the management and assurance of integrity by consulting services (the Inquiry).

On 20 March 2024, KPMG Australia received a written question on notice from Senator Barbara Pocock in relation to the firm's review of its Political Donations Policy (Policy). In our response received by the Committee on 10 April 2024, KPMG advised that the outcome of our review was to be considered by our National Executive Committee in April 2024.

To support the ongoing work of the Committee, KPMG wishes to advise that the outcome of the review has now been considered by our National Executive Committee. Whilst we acknowledge the challenge to political donations presented by certain members of the Committee, we firmly believe that we have an important role to play in connecting the private sector and the government, as long as the contributions we make are appropriate in nature and amount.

Accordingly, KPMG confirms we will maintain our approach to political donations, and we will continue this activity in line with our Policy.

For the Committee's reference, KPMG reports all forms of political donations, including in-kind contributions, event sponsorships and membership fees for political party business forums. No cash political donations are made. KPMG makes balanced contributions to the major parties annually.

As previously advised, in FY24 we have spent \$15,278 on political donations, which represents activity prior to our decision to review our policy and pause all activity.

Transparency around political donations, our policy limiting the sorts of things we support and our balanced contributions will all be important elements of our ongoing approach.

KPMG looks forward to continuing to support the work of the Committee.

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Yours sincerely

James Copsey Partner