

## PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY SPOKEN QUESTION ON NOTICE

### Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee ADMINISTRATION OF THE REFERENDUM INTO AN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER VOICE

#### RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON NOTICE Electoral Integrity Assurance Taskforce (EIAT)

**Subject:** Meetings with online platforms

**Question date:** 4 May 2023

**Question Type:** Hearing Proof Hansard, page 39

**Response due date:** 18 May 2023

#### Question:

Mr Haigh: I did attend those meetings with each of those platforms. The meetings were more for us to build on our relationships that we developed for the federal election for 2022 and to inform each of the social media companies of the differences in what a referendum would bring, as opposed to a federal electoral event.

Senator PATERSON: Do you have the dates of that, Mr Haigh?

Mr Haigh: Not in front of me, but—

Mr Rogers: We could provide those for you.

Mr Haigh: we can provide those, and we can provide the frequency of the meetings. We did meet with some more than once.

Senator PATERSON: Great. Do you have the names of those who attended those meetings from the government side?

Mr Rogers: We can provide that detail as well.

....

Senator PATERSON: In that case, I'll return to our witnesses in Canberra. Did any of the witnesses in Canberra attend those meetings?

....

Ms Sullivan: There was a meeting with Tencent. I didn't attend, but my deputy did. I was on sick leave at the time. My understanding is that it was attended by my deputy secretary, a member of the AEC and someone from Home Affairs, but not Mr Coles, who is with us today. But I'm happy to take that on notice and work with my AEC colleagues to come back with the date on that.

Senator PATERSON: Okay. Thank you. That information on notice would be helpful—the dates of the meetings, who attended them from both sides and whether there were multiple instances of the meetings. Please provide all the information about that.

**18 May 2023**

**Response:**

**Note: all meetings occurred bilaterally unless otherwise stated.**

<b>Platform</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Attendees:</b> <i>Format: Organisation – area/s represented</i>
<b>Meta</b>	03 February 2023	<b>Australian Electoral Commission (AEC)</b> – Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch, Legal Services Branch <b>Meta</b> – Public Policy Australia, Legal
<b>Twitter</b>	03 February 2023	<b>AEC</b> – Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch <b>Twitter</b> – Public Policy and Philanthropy Asia Pacific
	01 March 2023	<b>AEC</b> – Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch, Legal Services Branch <b>Twitter</b> – Global Government Affairs, Public Policy and Philanthropy Asia Pacific
	06 April 2023	<b>AEC</b> – Electoral Commissioner, Deputy Electoral Commissioner, Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch <b>Twitter</b> – Global Government Affairs, Public Policy and Philanthropy Asia Pacific
<b>Snap</b>	06 February 2023	<b>AEC</b> – Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch, Legal Services Branch <b>Snap</b> – Public Policy Asia Pacific
<b>Microsoft</b>	15 February 2023	<b>AEC</b> – Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch <b>Microsoft</b> – Corporate Affairs Australia, Information Integrity, Public Policy Australia and New Zealand (LinkedIn)
<b>Google</b>	15 February 2023	<b>AEC</b> – Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch, Legal Services Branch <b>Google</b> – Government Affairs and Public Policy, Government & Education
<b>TikTok</b>	16 February 2023	<b>AEC</b> – Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch, Legal Services Branch <b>TikTok</b> – Public Policy, Trust and Safety, Legal
<b>Reddit</b>	22 February 2023	<b>AEC</b> – Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch, Legal Services Branch <b>Reddit</b> – Policy, Australia and New Zealand Policy
<b>Tencent</b>	31 March 2023	<b>AEC</b> – Deputy Electoral Commissioner and Electoral Integrity and Communications Branch representatives <b>Department of Home Affairs</b> – Deputy Secretary Social Cohesion and Citizenship Group <b>Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts</b> – Deputy Secretary Communications and Media <b>Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</b> – Australian Consulate-General, Guangzhou (Facilitated the call) <b>Tencent</b> – Global Public Policy, Corporate and Regulatory Legal