



Electoral Gifts

- Both candidates and donors are required to disclose any election related gift **with a value of \$300 or more (including a cumulative value)** that is given or promised within the disclosure period.
- The disclosure period for this election commenced on Friday, 21 April 2023. This will require retrospective disclosures from candidates.
- Gifts **must** be disclosed within three days of nominating as a candidate and once a candidate, within three days of receiving a gift.
- All gift disclosures are to be made on a 'Form 9A Disclosure of Gifts' form and sent to the Chief Executive Officer via admin@merredin.wa.gov.au
- A gift cannot be accepted from an anonymous donor under any circumstances. Candidates must have the donor's name and address.
- **Both** the donor and the candidate must disclose the gift. The disclosures must be made on separate forms. Failure to disclose a gift by either party may result in a penalty. Separate disclosure forms should be used by the candidate and nominee when making a declaration.
- The Chief Executive Officer is required to establish and maintain a public electoral gift register. Disclosures will be removed three days after Election Day for unsuccessful candidates and at the

completion of the term of office for successful candidates.

What is a gift?

A 'gift' means a disposition of property, or the conferral of any financial benefit, made by one person in favour of another.

It can include:

- a gift of money
- a gift which is non-monetary but of value
- a gift in kind or where there is inadequate financial consideration such as the receipt of a discount (where the difference or the discount is worth more than \$300)
- a financial or other contribution to travel
- the provision of a service for no consideration or for inadequate consideration
- a firm promise or agreement to give a gift at some future time.

A gift does not include: a gift by will; a gift from a relative; a gift that does not relate to the candidate's candidature; or the provision of volunteer labour.

Candidates are recommended to familiarise themselves with Part 5A of the *Local Government (Elections) Regulations 1997* and contact the City via admin@merredin.wa.gov.au if they have any questions.