

RESPONSE TO MEDIA REQUEST FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wayne Hawkins
[REDACTED]

11 October 2026

Subject: Re: Request for comment

Wayne,

I am Scott Challen, director of The Australian Lobby Group Pty Ltd. Your email is addressed to “Mr Sam” and claims he is the sole director, secretary and shareholder. That is factually wrong. ASIC records, the Australian Government Lobbyists Register (we registered on 7 December 2025) and our own public material show me as the director and stakeholder. Sam Bamford is a co-founder and public voice via the 2 Worlds Collide podcast. Lachlan Lade is our registered lobbyist.

The two companies exist for ordinary legal and operational reasons any serious advocacy organisation requires. The error is elementary; everything that follows from it is therefore compromised. These assertions are embarrassing. A five-minute check of the public ASIC extract or the Attorney-General’s Lobbyists Register beforehand would have avoided them entirely.

You noted \$49,850 raised toward the \$150,000 Australia Marches National Tour target, with a counter showing 10,435 kilometres funded. That is correct as of 11 October. The tour is a liveried rig and supporting logistics taking the end-mass-immigration message through capitals and regional centres, finishing in Canberra. Every \$10 buys a kilometre of roughly 15,000 km of road once local running, detours and outback stops are included. Any shortfall on the tour will be funded by me personally.

I invite you to perform the most basic calculation. Diesel is currently averaging around \$2.84 a litre nationally and regularly near or above \$3 a litre at the bowser, especially on regional and long-haul legs. A heavy rig covering that distance, plus airfares, meals and accommodation for the people moving with the tour, is not free. Every single person involved is volunteering their time and effort. There are no salaries being drawn from this pot, no corporate retainers, no foreign or party money.

The average revenue per member is under \$40 a month. That is the entire funding model: ordinary Australians chipping in small amounts so a volunteer operation can put a vehicle on the road and pressure politicians. If that strikes you as a scandal, your threshold for scandal is remarkably low.

Contrast this with the advocacy ecosystem that opposes us. An Institute of Public Affairs analysis found \$2.2 billion in taxpayer money flowed to 100 selected progressive advocacy NGOs between 2021 and 2025 alone, including more than \$1 billion into diversity and multiculturalism advocacy. Groups such as the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre report annual revenues in the \$24 million range, with millions in state government grants, substantial philanthropic support, and the advantages of charity/DGR or equivalent tax-favoured status.

The Australia Institute runs on roughly \$10–11 million a year as a registered charity. Settlement, multicultural and related peak bodies draw ongoing government contracts and grants measured in the tens of millions while enjoying DGR or tax-free privileges. We are a Pty Ltd. We receive none of that government money, none of those tax concessions, and none of the secret or institutional funding that keeps the other side permanently staffed and in the room. Our supporters know exactly what they are funding because it is them.

Answers to your numbered questions for the record:

1. The \$150,000 covers the rig, fuel, logistics, and the practical costs of moving the tour (airfares, meals, accommodation for volunteers). Ownership and leasing of the truck are operational details of keeping it on the road; the money raised is for the tour itself. Any shortfall will be funded by me personally.
2. No. Tour and membership money is not paid to businesses owned by me, Sam Bamford or Lachlan Lade.
3. Our average revenue per member is under \$40 a month. Supporters can see the public fundraising progress on the tour page in real time. We are a people-funded Pty Ltd, not a DGR charity living on grants, nor are we a Tax-Exempt entity.
4. I am the director. Lachlan Lade is the registered lobbyist. Sam Bamford is a co-founder. Neither Sam nor Lachlan holds the shareholding your email incorrectly attributes. Everyone is volunteering their time.
5. No money has been received from, or paid to, any political party or Australia Life Pty Ltd, nor do any of our founding group or The Australian Lobby Group have any relations, financial or otherwise to that entity.
6. Yes. We are registered on the federal Lobbyists Register. Lachlan Lade is listed as the lobbyist; I am the stakeholder; the membership entity is the client. That is the entire point of the structure. We are not a protest group or a political party; we are a registered lobby group for ordinary Australians.
7. "Remigration" means what the policy page states: cancellation and removal of visa abusers (student overstays, people who have ceased studying, expired or bridging-visa hoppers) and a full stop on new immigration from countries with dissimilar values, customs or democratic systems. It is enforcement of existing rules plus selection that prioritises cohesion and capacity. The broader policy is a gross cap of 80,000, a five-year freeze on non-essential visas, and net-negative migration. That is the policy.

The professional lobbying industry in Canberra is dominated by well-funded foreign, corporate and ideological interests that enjoy government money, DGR status or both. Ordinary Australians had no equivalent organised voice. We built one, registered it, and fund it from small monthly contributions and tour kilometres bought by supporters. If your article proceeds on the incorrect ASIC claim and ignores the basic arithmetic of diesel, airfares, meals, accommodation and volunteer labour against \$49,850, we will correct it publicly.

The facts are on the public record and above. Phone is fine if you prefer actual questions over premises that collapse on the first check of the Lobbyists Register.

Scott Challen

Director

The Australian Lobby Group Pty Ltd

auslobby.com.au

About the Australian Lobby Group: The Australian Lobby Group is a people-powered advocacy organisation built by Australians for Australians. We are not funded by foreign interests, billion-dollar industries or the big end of town. Our job is to make ignoring Australians politically expensive.

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