



Code of conduct

These code of conduct requirements for campaign workers are to be read in conjunction with the electoral offences outlined in section 295 of the *Electoral Act 2004* (see electoral offences listed below).

The following additional conditions stipulate the behaviour expected at all voting centres and must be observed by all persons undertaking campaigning activities outside designated prohibition zones or within a designated campaign area.

Candidates, campaign workers and scrutineers must not:

- use language that provokes violence towards other candidate or political party campaign workers or members of the public
- intimidate candidates or voters
- enter the prohibition zone set by the officer-in-charge of the voting centre unless duly appointed
- publish or display false information about other candidates or political parties
- plagiarise any other candidate or political party name, acronym or symbol
- offer any inducement or reward to a person to vote for a candidate or party
- destroy, remove or deface posters belonging to other candidates or political parties

A person who does not comply with these conditions may be removed from the voting centre by the officer-in-charge or by the police.

Penalties may apply.

Electoral offences

Section 295 Control of behaviour at voting centres and scrutiny centres

(1) A person must not enter or remain in a voting centre or scrutiny centre except with the permission, express or implied, of the officer in charge of the place or centre.

Maximum penalty: 400 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years.

(2) An offence against subsection (1) is a regulatory offence.

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply to:

- (a) an officer; or
- (b) a scrutineer unless the scrutineer is, under section 47(5), no longer entitled to be at the voting centre or scrutiny centre; or
- (c) for a voting centre - a person voting or about to vote.

(4) A person must not disrupt an activity being carried out under the Act at a voting centre or scrutiny centre.

Maximum penalty: 400 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years.

(5) If an authorised officer at a voting centre or scrutiny centre reasonably believes a person's conduct is likely to disrupt an activity being carried out under the Act at the place or centre, the officer may direct the person to leave and stay away from the place or centre.

(6) The person must not, without reasonable excuse, disobey the direction.

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.

(7) A person who does not comply with the direction may be removed from the place by a police officer.

(8) A scrutineer must not, without reasonable excuse, communicate with any person in a voting centre other than in the exercise of the scrutineer's functions.

Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.

(9) A scrutineer must not, without reasonable excuse, interfere with or attempt to influence a voter at a voting centre.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units or imprisonment for 12 months.