

I Stand for the Environment

Accelerated Climate Change driven by Global Warming needs to be front and centre of environmental and development policy in NSW. Urgent and sustained local, national and international action is required now to ensure a safer climate in the future.

Speedy Transition to Renewables I will:

- Support the research, development and growth of renewable energy industries such as wind, solar, small-scale hydro, sustainable biofuels, wave and geothermal energy.
- Promote a fair feed-in tariff for solar owners and rebates for battery storage systems.
- Investigate mechanisms for getting solar power onto rental properties, so that renters also have access to clean and affordable energy.
- Ensure that workers in the fossil fuel industry can retrain for employment opportunities created by the transition to renewables.

Sustainable Agriculture I will:

- Support investment in research to measure the impact of agricultural practices on environmental sustainability – many end consumers now demand, and pay extra, for sustainably sourced products.
- Encourage non-chemical methods of pest and weed control, including – planting sacrificial crops, predator pests, crop rotation and physical traps.
- Educate consumers in the long-term benefits of consuming locally grown, seasonal food.
- Protect genetic diversity by opposing Genetically Modified crops and encouraging mixed farming practices, including forest farming.

Forests I will:

- End wood supply agreements pertaining to Native Forests between Forestry Corp and Multi-National logging companies and reverse the new Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals system.
- Develop a plan for an environmentally sustainable and profitable forest farming industry to replace the logging of native timber forests for timber production and jobs – local mills using selective logging practices and value adding timber products.
- Oppose the use of native forests for biomass energy production.
- Help private land holders to protect threatened species habitat, wilderness, rainforest and high conservation value or ‘old growth’ forests.

National Parks I will:

- Reverse the recent “restructuring” attacks on NSW NPWS, ensuring that they are sufficiently resourced to manage the current estate.
- Have input into the planning process for developing a Great Koala National Park in the North Coast Region.
- Expand the recruitment of Indigenous Park Rangers for cultural education of park visitors and for the increased use of indigenous land management practices (cultural burning).
- Ensure that all National Parks have an identified and maintained buffer zone.

I Stand for Social Justice

Social disadvantage impacts all of us. We all have the right to feel safe, respected and valued in our community.

Health I will:

- Increase funding to Mental Health Services in Regional Hospitals, decreasing the pressure on overloaded Emergency Departments.
- Improve the working conditions, training, supervision and career structures for nurses and allied health professionals, including those in Aged Care Facilities.
- Ensure that people who are drug and alcohol dependent are primarily regarded as clients of the health system rather than the criminal justice system.
- Support legislation for Voluntary Assisted Dying, so that terminally ill patients can make the choice to die with dignity and respect.

Housing I will:

- Invest in the repair and maintenance of current social housing stock, and design new social housing in consultation with the communities who will live there.
- Promote innovative options for affordable smaller housing, which is environmentally sustainable and energy efficient.
- Explore the issuing of government housing bonds to raise capital for investment in social and affordable housing.
- Legislatively strengthen tenants' rights to ensure there are safeguards, and that long-term rental is seen as a genuine alternative to home ownership.

Criminal Justice I will:

- Invest in health, education and work skills opportunities in Corrections Facilities, recognising the link between low literacy and high incarceration rates.
- Re-establish public ownership and control of all NSW correctional facilities.
- Promote Justice Reinvestment programs that reallocate taxpayer dollars from Corrections Facilities and invests them back into communities where it's needed most.
- Increase investment in Alcohol and Drug rehabilitation services, including more residential programs and increased access to drug substitution programs.
- Investigate options for Drug Law Reform, the regulation and taxation of cannabis.

Education I will:

- Restore a publicly funded TAFE system to be the dominant provider of vocational and further education and training, with no student fees or charges.
- Ensure adequate funding for Public Schools so the number of school counsellor, support staff and specialist teachers for students with learning difficulties are increased to meet student needs
- Abolish all state government funding of non-government schools. These funds will be committed instead to ensure that all public schools meet the School Resourcing Standard.
- Support all children having access to two years of universal, free public pre-school education.