



# A FUTURE FOR ALL OF US

THE GREENS' POLICY PLATFORM, ELECTION 2019



# RIGHT NOW, MORE THAN EVER, POLITICS NEEDS A SHAKE-UP

## **People are fed up with politics.**

Can you blame them? The gap between the rich and the poor grows wider, and both the Liberal and Labor governments have repeatedly failed to address it. We're staring down climate change, the biggest threat humanity has ever faced, and the major parties are pretending it doesn't exist.

The truth is, with so many vested interests, neither of the old parties are able to represent the values of our diverse and progressive community.

## **Australia is crying out for real leadership.**

I couldn't be more proud of our record in leading the way on some of Australia's biggest national issues - we introduced marriage equality to Parliament, and pressured the government into establishing the banking Royal Commission. We've led the campaign to evacuate of sick refugees from off-shore detention, and helped patients access medicinal cannabis.

We've given people a genuine alternative to the two old parties. We've shown the leadership that's been missing from the Liberal and Labor parties.

We know that Australians want a positive plan to tackle the big challenges we're facing as a community. One that looks after everyone - not just those who can buy influence. They want to know there's bold political vision with policies based in science, to fight for a fairer, more equal community, for world-class public education, health and social services.

## **That's what this is: our plan to create a better future for all of us.**

Richard Di Natale



# POWERED BY YOU

The Greens are proud to be powered by people, not big corporations. Our big wins, on the streets and in Parliament, have been led by our amazing volunteers around the country.

**If we've learnt one thing, it's that progress happens when people come together.** But for us to succeed at the next election, we're going to need everyone to get involved. We need people like you to help us.

Working together, we can create a future where everyone is treated equally, we protect our environment, take real action on climate change and we all have access to the services we need to live a good life.

**Volunteering is fun and it's easy. Are you ready to build a future for all of us?**

Sign up now at [greens.org.au/volunteer](https://greens.org.au/volunteer)





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# THE CASE FOR CHANGE

Over the last decade, selfish and power-hungry Labor and Liberal governments have knocked off four sitting Prime Ministers and have been more committed to fighting each other than planning for our future.

They've taken over \$100 million from big corporations since 2012<sup>1</sup> - including big polluters, mining giants and the big banks - and in the process, created an economy that works for their rich mates and donors, instead of doing what's best for all of us.

Big donations mean big influence. They mean inaction on the mining, burning and exporting of coal - the biggest contributor to climate change - and a failure to keep public services working for everyone. They mean less money for our schools and hospitals, increased cost of living and rising inequality.

We need to shake up politics because time is running out to avoid climate disaster and the major parties don't have a plan to deal with coal. **And if you don't have a plan to end coal, oil and gas, you don't have a plan to take action on climate change.**

<sup>1</sup> [democracyforsale.net](http://democracyforsale.net)



# A FUTURE FOR ALL OF US

Politics should give you something to believe in. That's why the Greens have bold plans to build a future for all of us, not just the wealthy few.

While the major parties are listening to their big donors and failing to address the major issues facing our society, the Greens are listening to the community.

Our plan would raise billions of dollars by making corporations pay more tax and ending the \$11 billion per year tax avoidance industry.

By making corporations pay their fair share, we can fund the things that benefit everyone: action on climate change, free TAFE and uni, dental care covered by Medicare and 500,000 affordable community homes.

These are some of the bold, evidence-based plans in our platform for this election - a platform that shows the Greens are leading the way on the big issues in the national debate.

Unlike the major parties, the Greens give you a voice in parliament, and we will work with the community, not big donors, to deliver a future for all of us.



# RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Creating a renewable economy that tackles climate change, creates jobs, makes bills cheaper and energy more reliable.

This is the climate election. We are in a global race against time on climate change. We're seeing its effects all around us: severe drought, more intense and longer bushfire seasons and rising sea levels.

**Australia has the capacity to be a world leader in climate action and renewable energy, phasing out coal, oil and gas and building a renewable energy economy that exports clean energy to the world.**

The mining, burning and exporting of coal is the world's biggest cause of climate change - and Australia is the world's biggest exporter of coal.

Instead of embracing renewable energy and tackling climate change, both the Liberal and Labor parties have propped up the coal, gas and oil industries while accepting millions of dollars in political donations. The fossil fuel lobby continues to do everything it can to undermine action on climate change and block the transition to renewable technology.

**By ending the influence of fossil fuel giants and their lobbyists, we can transform Australia's energy system from one of the oldest and dirtiest in the world to one of the cleanest and smartest.**

The Greens have a strong and evidence-based plan for a rapid, managed transition to a renewable energy economy - one that will replace coal, oil and gas with renewables, build a new clean-energy export industry and create 180,000 new jobs.

Right now, the future is in our hands. We can stop the damage being done to our climate, and we can hand over a better, safer future for generations to come.

## OUR PLAN FOR A RENEWABLE ECONOMY THAT TACKLES CLIMATE CHANGE:

- Phase out coal, no new oil or gas, move to 100% renewables and deliver cheap, clean and reliable energy for homes, businesses and industry
- Create 180,000 new jobs in renewables, including a renewable energy export industry to replace coal and gas exports
- Provide support for coal workers and communities as we phase out coal
- Create Power Australia, a not-for-profit, public energy retailer for renewables
- Prioritise and properly fund clean, safe, affordable public and active transport
- Kick start the electric vehicle revolution and reduce the cost of electric vehicles



## RENEW AUSTRALIA 2030: OUR PLAN FOR A RENEWABLE ECONOMY

Action on climate change has been held back by a decade of Liberal and Labor governments beholden to the donations and lobbying of big mining and resource corporations, and the climate change-denying politicians in their own ranks.

Instead of embracing the sunrise industries of clean, renewable technologies, the major parties are protecting the polluting coal and gas industry in its sunset years.

This obsession with digging up and shipping out dirty coal has doubled our emissions footprint at a time when we need to embrace renewable energy.

While opening up gas reserves in the Galilee and Beetaloo Basins will increase Australia's emissions by 6% a year.

The Greens have a comprehensive plan to rapidly transform Australia's energy system from one of the oldest and dirtiest in the world, to one of the cleanest and smartest.

**Renewables are already driving down power prices. Australia is at the forefront of technological innovation, and with the right plan we have everything we need to repower our economy with renewables.**

The Greens' plan to Renew Australia sets a clear and achievable plan to transform our economy by driving investment in new renewables projects and creating tens of thousands of jobs.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Cheaper energy bills, including support for renters and small business owners to access clean and reliable renewable energy
- A planned phase out of coal fired power stations, supporting workers as we transition to a 100% renewable energy economy
- Replacing the mining and exporting of coal with a clean energy export industry
- 180,000 new jobs across the clean energy economy
- Drive billions of dollars of investment in renewable energy

## CREATE POWER AUSTRALIA, A NOT-FOR-PROFIT, PUBLIC ENERGY RETAILER

Electricity is essential for modern life. It fuels our communication, our homes and our businesses, our schools, universities, hospitals and nursing homes.

But both Liberal and Labor governments have sold off the grid to private companies. And ever since, those companies have invested in sales managers and marketing gurus instead of efficiencies and renewables, and as a result we're paying more than twice what we were paying a decade ago.

It's time we took back control of the energy grid. The Greens have a plan to provide energy as an essential public service, putting public good before profit.

**We will establish a new, publicly owned competitor to the private power companies, dedicated solely to driving down your costs instead of driving up its profits.**

Under the Greens' plan, you will be able to buy renewable energy from a government provider, Power Australia, which supplies your household electricity to you without the unnecessary profit mark-ups.

Under our plan, energy bills will be reduced by an estimated \$200 a year for an average customer, we'll increase competition in the existing retail market and end the profit-at-all-costs business model. By purchasing energy only from renewable sources, this model will fast-track investment in renewable technology, create more public sector jobs and help tackle climate change. All Australians will have guaranteed access to cheap, clean and reliable electricity.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Make electricity cheaper
- Drive investment in renewables to tackle climate change
- Create more public sector jobs and disrupt the market dominance enjoyed by big energy companies
- Ensure you don't get ripped off





## SPARKING THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE REVOLUTION

If we're truly committed to meeting our Paris Agreement commitments and building towards net-zero emissions, we need to transform the way we transport people and goods.

Unlike the Liberal and Labor parties, whose decade of dysfunctional government has failed to deliver a plan to reduce emissions, the Greens are committed to re-powering our economy through clean energy. This includes our plan to immediately spark the transition from internal combustion engine cars to electric vehicles.

**Electric vehicles are better for our health, cheaper to refuel and maintain, and emit no pollution when powered by renewable energy. That's why the Greens will fast-track the roll-out of fast-charging electric vehicle infrastructure and legislate tougher vehicle pollution standards to drive down transport pollution.**

Under our plan, a set percentage of electric vehicle sales by car manufacturers will be mandated so that fossil fuel cars are transitioned off the road, and the cost of electric vehicles will be significantly reduced so more people can buy them sooner.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Electric vehicles will be cheaper to buy
- Charging electric vehicles will be easier and more convenient
- Our cities will be cleaner
- Action on climate change

## PUTTING PUBLIC TRANSPORT FIRST

For decades, dysfunctional Liberal and Labor governments have failed to plan ahead and meet the demands of our growing cities and regions.

Rather than building public transport infrastructure to meet community needs, our transport options are being decided by big toll road and oil companies, whose donations corrupt the policies of the major parties.

While the Labor and Liberal parties wine and dine with their big corporate donors, it's the rest of us who are left to pay the bill, in the form of huge tolls, fines and gridlocked roads.

**Unlike the other parties, the Greens don't take donations from big corporations who seek to influence us. That's why our plan prioritises clean, safe, affordable public and active transport.**

By ending toll road rorts, properly funding rail and bus services and giving walking and riding the legitimacy they deserve, we'll help people get where they're going quicker and make our towns and cities more liveable.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Easier and safer to cycle and walk in our cities
- Billions currently allocated to huge toll-road companies redirected to the public transport we all need
- More buses, trains and trams more often
- Investment in transport options that tackle climate change



# CLEAN UP POLITICS

## Strengthening our democracy so that it works for everyone.

Our democracy is the best tool we have to care for people, plan for the future and protect the environment, but it has to work for everyone. In a strong and well functioning democracy, we can all have our voices heard and the values of our community represented in Parliament.

Right now, corporate influence in politics is getting in the way of progress on everything, from tackling climate change to housing affordability.

**Instead of delivering a better future for all of us, the Liberal and Labor parties take millions of dollars in donations from big corporations, host secretive fundraising functions, and organise cushy lobbyist jobs for ex-politicians, with no transparency or accountability.**

Big corporations donate for a reason. In return for their money, property developers, big banks, gambling corporations and mining giants have received billions of dollars worth of favourable policy decisions from Liberal and Labor governments. While the major parties continue to take money from big corporate interests, they will never be completely focused on what is good for our communities.

**Unlike the major parties, the Greens refuse to take donations from corporations trying to buy influence. That means we are entirely focused on outcomes that are good for our community, not outcomes that suit big donors.**

We have a plan to return integrity and transparency to the political system and hold politicians and major parties to account. And we have a plan to properly fund and protect our publicly owned broadcasters, which are critical to the health of our democracy.

### OUR PLAN TO CLEAN UP POLITICS:

- Ban political donations from mining, property development, tobacco, alcohol and gambling industries. Cap all other donations and make sure every donation over \$1000 is disclosed publicly, in real time
- Ban MPs and senior staff from accepting lobbying jobs after they retire and require the publication of the subject of all meetings with lobbyists
- Root out corruption by establishing a federal anti-corruption commission that can undertake investigations of politicians
- Protect the rights of citizens and community groups to speak out
- Ensure all of us are represented and able to participate in our democracy
- Save the ABC and SBS because public broadcasters acting in the public interest are essential to a functioning democracy



## CLEAN UP POLITICS

Our democracy should work for everyone, not just those who can afford a seat at the table.

Australian politics needs a major shake-up. For too long, our parliament has played out behind closed mahogany doors, shutting out communities and making decisions about people, without their involvement.

### REFORM POLITICAL DONATIONS

Big corporations make donations to the major parties for a reason: to buy influence in political decisions and policy-making. Big mining, tobacco, alcohol, and gambling companies donate millions to political parties – and they get what they pay for. The fossil fuel industry is estimated to gain \$2,000 in subsidies for every \$1 they donate. The Greens are the only party that refuses donations from corporations trying to buy influence.

**We will ban political donations from the mining, property development, tobacco, alcohol, and gambling industries to all political parties and candidates. We will cap all other donations and make sure every donation over \$1000 is disclosed publicly, in close to real time.**

**Our plan will ensure that all politicians are accountable to everyone – not just their big donors.**

### SHINE A LIGHT ON SHADY LOBBYING

Professional lobbying can be a shady business. The public rarely knows who is meeting with politicians, for what purpose, and what outcomes are gained. And too often, politicians and senior staff members find themselves with cushy lobbyist jobs as soon as they leave parliament. That doesn't happen by accident.

Our plan will require the publication of information about meetings, such as the subject of the lobbying and we will enforce a five year 'cooling off' period during which Ministers and their senior staff cannot be engaged in private enterprise that raises a conflict of interest, or particular benefit, from their role and connections.

## ESTABLISH A FEDERAL ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

Confidence in politics is incredibly low, and that's not surprising. Scandal after scandal has demonstrated that politicians from the major parties are representing the big end of town and their big donors, rather than the rest of us. But we don't have a robust mechanism federally to ensure separation, or to prosecute politicians when they do the wrong thing. State and territory anti-corruption commissions have proven effective at investigating corruption and acting as a warning to potentially corrupt MPs and public servants that they will be caught.

**The Greens will create a Federal Anti-Corruption Commission to investigate corruption and prosecute politicians when they do the wrong thing, and to stop big corporations and the super rich from buying the political outcomes that favour them. Their time is up.**

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Decisions are made to benefit our community, not big donors
- Politicians held accountable for the decisions they make
- Better transparency and accountability of government





## PROTECT OUR DEMOCRACY

We should all be able to have our say and play a role in shaping our future.

Whether your political involvement includes signing a petition, having a chat with friends or campaigning with a local not-for-profit, your voice should always matter. Our ability as citizens to speak up for and speak out against government policies is one of the most important aspects of our democracy.

### PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS TO SPEAK OUT

The Greens were built on grassroots democracy. We believe that real progress is achieved when enough people believe it is possible to make a difference and then decide to do something about it.

Instead of addressing the influence of big money from corporations and powerful individuals, the Liberal government instead tried to stop charities, other non-government organisations and civil society more broadly from doing their jobs through new laws and regulations.

**The Greens will always defend charities, not-for-profit groups and the public so that they are free to undertake issues-based advocacy that advances critical issues that affect us all - from climate change to the impacts of poverty and the well-being of refugees.**

Our plan also ensures government funding can't be withdrawn from organisations that speak out against government policy.

## ENSURE MORE PEOPLE CAN PARTICIPATE IN OUR POLITICAL SYSTEM

The more people that participate in our political system, the healthier we make our democracy.

That's why we want to encourage greater public participation in our democracy, by using legislation to ensure that consumer groups and citizens are represented in government decision-making bodies, advisory bodies, and in oversight of community consultation processes.

**Thanks to tech developments, there are more ways than ever to get involved in our democracy.**

Many local councils have already implemented online budget allocation tools to complement community forums to help work out their budgets. The Greens will trial a variety of innovations and digital platforms to increase democratic participation, including:

- Citizen assemblies and juries to complement Parliamentary processes on big decisions
- Participatory budget making, where more people have the opportunity to have a meaningful say when governments determine how to invest and raise revenue
- Petitions which reach a threshold of support to trigger a real debate in parliament

We will also legislate stronger freedom of information laws to enable greater scrutiny of government processes and decisions.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- It's easier for people and organisations to get involved in decision making
- Charities can fight for what's right without fear of funding cuts
- Communities can take back our democracy from vested interests

## SAVE THE ABC AND SBS

Democracy requires a strong and diverse public media, but instead of protecting our ABC and SBS, they are under assault from the twin threats of funding cuts and political interference.

Changes to media ownership laws have further undermined the strength of our journalism, allowing power to concentrate in the hands of a few and weakening our democracy in the process.

### ENSURING ABC AND SBS FUNDING

The ABC has been cut by more than 1,000 jobs and more than \$300 million since Tony Abbott went to the 2013 election promising no cuts to the ABC. The Greens will restore every dollar cut from the ABC's budget by the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government since 2013, and we'll grow the ABC's funding year-on-year to account for those years of chronic underfunding. This represents an investment of \$1.2 billion over the decade.

#### **The Greens will make sure that funding for the ABC is done by hard law not handshakes.**

We will amend the ABC Act to create a standing appropriation - meaning that funding of the ABC is law, not subject to the whim of the government of the day. This will help recover the jobs lost and restore and protect the news-breaking ability of our nation's public media across the country.

Meanwhile, SBS is under attack from commercial stations trying to undermine its ability to serve its audience. The Coalition government has tried to expand the number of advertisements SBS can carry, as a pretext for cutting its funding. But every advertisement makes it harder for SBS to fulfil its charter obligations. It compromises the independence of the public broadcaster when it is forced to rely on commercial sponsorship to stay afloat.

We will commit \$130 million over the next three years to phase out in-program advertising on the SBS, and reduce program break advertising by 80 per cent. Public broadcasters shouldn't rely on private income to keep the lights on.

## DEFENDING THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE ABC

The politicisation of the ABC Board has never been more evident. We need a clear, non-partisan process for selecting the Board. Under our plan, we will secure the editorial independence of the ABC in legislation by:

- Establishing clear protocols for the nominating panel
- Requiring nominees to come before the Senate as well as being referred to the Minister
- Granting the Senate the power to recommend the Chair to the Minister
- Requiring the Minister to explain the rejection of any nominee recommended by the panel
- Introducing an audience-appointed board member, reflecting the role of ABC viewers as the critical stakeholder in our public broadcaster

**The new board processes will ensure that the board is independent and filled with the best candidates with relevant skills, experience and expertise.**

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Protect the ABC and SBS and keep them independent
- Fully fund our public broadcasters so they are better resourced to deliver news you can trust
- Hold the government to account





# WORLD-CLASS HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Ensuring all of us have the basics we need to live a good life.

**We should all have access to high quality, free health care and education, affordable housing and a strong social safety net that looks after us when we are out of work, as we age or if we have a disability.**

But for decades, Liberal and Labor governments have sold us out by giving massive tax handouts and subsidies to their big corporate donors, instead of investing in the public services that we all need. It's about choices and priorities – and time after time, they've let us down by cutting services and making us pay more and more for the things that used to be free.

So while big corporate profits are soaring and 1 in 3 of the largest corporations pay no tax, the rest of us are left paying more or waiting longer to get help. No wonder more and more people across our community are stressed and struggling to make ends meet.

It doesn't have to be this way.

**The Greens will make big corporations pay their fair share of tax and put that money directly into funding public services to ensure everyone has what they need to live a good life.**

## THE GREENS HAVE A PLAN TO CREATE WORLD-CLASS PUBLIC SERVICES:

- Introduce Medicare of the future: a truly universal health care system that includes dental and mental health
- Guarantee free or low-cost access to all essential community services such as disability services, childcare, mental health and aged care services
- Increase Newstart and Youth Allowance
- Fully fund public schools and provide free TAFE and Uni
- Guarantee access to aged care services and ensure there is an aged care workforce for the future
- Treat drug use as a health issue, not a criminal issue



## MEDICARE OF THE FUTURE

High quality, free public health care is a basic service that everyone needs to live a decent life.

But in the last six years in government, the Coalition has ripped money out of hospitals and Medicare and has done nothing to address looming health crises like obesity, diabetes and heart disease. As a result, many Australians are forced to pay enormous out-of-pocket costs for doctors, hospital visits, dental care and mental health services.

**The Greens will fund a truly universal, public health system designed to keep you well and provide the free, quality care you need when you need it, regardless of your postcode or bank balance.**

Under our plan, hospital waitlists will be significantly reduced and you'll be able to go to the dentist and use your Medicare card instead of paying huge fees.

**We will keep people healthier, and out of hospitals, by introducing an Independent Preventative Health Commission which delivers evidence-based programs that tackle the rising rates of obesity, diabetes and heart disease by putting prevention at the heart of health care.**

Our plan will ensure your mental health is considered as important as your physical health. We will reduce the stigma around mental health and ensure more people get help when they need it. We will increase funding to mental health services and train the mental health workforce of the future.

We could afford all of this, if our government stopped spending \$6 billion a year on propping up the private health insurance companies who are making mega-bucks selling us services that don't cover what we need. The Greens would redirect those funds towards the public health system.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- See the dentist without huge costs
- Get help with your mental health without delay
- Significantly reduced hospital waiting lists
- You will be healthier for longer

## CARING FOR PEOPLE: A NEW BLUEPRINT FOR SOCIAL SERVICES

One of the values that defines our Australian community is our willingness to give each other a hand when we need it – whether it's because someone has lost their job, had a relationship break down, got older or they are living with disability. Our contributions via the tax system ensure that this support will be there for each of us if we ever need it.

But rather than maintaining our strong social safety net, successive Labor and Coalition governments have cut services and frozen payments so they can afford to give big businesses tax breaks and subsidies instead.

**Unlike the major parties, and the Greens will always choose to look after everyone, rather than just the very wealthy few. We have a comprehensive plan to repair our social safety net.**

### SUPPORT PAYMENTS

We will immediately raise Newstart and Youth Allowance by \$75 per week and bring back Parenting Payment Single to help more than 90,000 single parents. We will abolish punitive measures like the cashless welfare card – because we should all be able to access income support with dignity, while being treated with respect.

### SERVICES GUARANTEE

We will guarantee free or low-cost access to all essential community services such as disability services, childcare, mental health and aged care services. Our plan includes establishing a Commonwealth taskforce to map need, identify which areas have unmet needs and to work across all levels of Government to ensure no-one is left behind.

### AGED CARE SERVICES

The Greens will ensure older Australians have safe, affordable aged care, and are able to choose whether to stay at home or to move to residential care. We will also improve quality of care through increased levels of care and improved staffing ratios, and ensure that we have the aged care workforce of the future by improving staffing levels, providing better training and increasing pay.



### **DISABILITY SERVICES**

The Greens support a fully funded and adequately staffed NDIS that is transparent, consultative and accountable.

### **CHILDCARE**

The Greens will ensure access to early childhood education and childcare services for families that need them. We will make childcare free for low-income families, and increase access for everyone else.

### **SOCIAL SERVICES WORKERS**

We value the commitment and contribution that people who work in caring and social services bring. We recognise the need for wage increases and better conditions as well as the importance of helping grow our caring workforce to meet rapidly increasing demand, particularly in aged care.

### **THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:**

- People get access to the services they need for a better life
- Easier navigation of the NDIS
- Higher wages for caring jobs
- Better care in-home or in residential care
- More income for single parents and better payment on Newstart and Youth Allowance so that people don't live in poverty

## **WORLD-CLASS PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Everyone has a right to accessible and affordable education, whether you are leaving school, changing careers or looking to gain new skills and knowledge. Education enriches all stages of our lives. The opportunity to learn unlocks our potential, reduces inequality and allows us to live a good life.

### **Guaranteeing universal access to education helps us build a just society and prepare for a brighter future.**

But under the Coalition Government, billions have been cut from school funding. Our childcare services are under pressure and our universities and TAFEs are being slowly deregulated and privatised, at the expense of both students and teachers.

If we don't improve our investment in public education, just 13% of public schools will have the funding to meet their minimum needs by 2023 while 65% of non-government schools will be overfunded. That means 2 million young people will miss out on the education they need. And our university and TAFE fees will also continue to rise out of reach of many young people.

It doesn't have to be this way.

The Greens have a plan to ensure everyone, regardless of their bank balance or postcode, is able to gain a world-class education and continue learning and upskilling as their life changes.

### **FULLY FUNDED PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

We're making an unprecedented investment in public schools of over \$24 billion in the next 10 years. Under our plan, by 2023, every public school in Australia will be fully funded to reach the nationally agreed standard and to meet the educational needs of all students. We will expand building and infrastructure funding so that the majority of funds go to public schools, remove the artificial cap on federal funding for public education and stop the special deals made by major parties with private schools.





## FREE TAFE AND UNI

Students leaving university or TAFE now face greater pressures than ever before, including high youth unemployment and record high housing and living costs. Being saddled with tens of thousands of dollars in student debt that takes decades to repay is unsustainable and unfair. Our plan will fund unlimited free TAFE and undergraduate university for everyone, increase Youth Allowance by \$75 a week, and boost uni funding by 10% to better support students, teachers and staff, so no one leaves uni with an enormous debt that will take a decade to pay off.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Public schools have everything they need
- No school is underfunded
- Free TAFE and undergraduate uni
- Better support for students, teachers and staff
- More funding for universities to improve learning and teaching conditions
- Everyone has access to world class education

## REFORM DRUG LAWS TO REDUCE HARM AND SAVE LIVES

The current approach to reducing the harm that illicit drugs cause in our community is not working. And right now, many of the things we are doing to address this issue are making it worse rather than better. It's high time for a complete re-think. By investing in harm reduction, we create better health outcomes for drug users and for our communities as a whole.

For more than half a century, governments have aggressively pursued the disastrous "war on drugs" policy that criminalises a health problem and has only succeeded in making things worse. The major parties' "tough on drugs" policies are causing enormous harm, ruining lives and killing young people.

**The Greens see drug use as a health issue, not a criminal issue. That's why our drug reform policy is based on the need to change our dysfunctional law and order approach and move towards a harm minimisation model.**

Under our plan to change Australia's drug laws for the better, we would legalise cannabis for adult use within a tightly regulated market and make pill testing accessible at music festivals and in local communities. To ensure vulnerable Australians are able to better access support, our plan will also double the amount of funding to alcohol and drug treatment services, expand safe injecting facilities to more locations and fully fund lifesaving opioid substitution therapy.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Help when you need it
- Pills tested to save lives
- Grow your own cannabis for personal use
- No criminal records for minor possession of cannabis
- Bust the business model of cannabis drug dealers
- Boost the economy by taxing and regulating cannabis





# PUBLIC OWNERSHIP, NOT PRIVATISATION

Ensuring everyone has affordable access to the services they need: energy, banking and the internet.

Privatisation has failed us. It's led to huge profits for big corporations but less reliable services and increased costs for the rest of us.

In the last decade alone, the Labor and Liberal parties have taken millions of dollars from the big banks, energy and telecommunications companies. These companies have stitched up the policy platforms of the major parties because they demand a return on their investment, and they usually get it. Political donations have corrupted our democracy.

**The Greens believe electricity, banking and the internet should be run as essential services, putting public good before corporate profit.**

Unlike the major parties, the Greens refuse to take donations from big corporations who seek to influence us. That means we are entirely focused on outcomes that are good for our community, not outcomes that suit donors and vested interests. We can't be bought and we won't sell you out.

**We are the party of public ownership. We will create publicly owned energy and banking providers and stop Labor and Liberal governments from further privatising our essential services, including the electricity grid and the NBN.**

Our plan will ensure everyone has access to the services they need, stop you getting ripped off by big corporations, immediately reduce your bills, make services more reliable and kick off a rapid, planned transition to renewable energy to tackle climate change.

## OUR PLAN FOR PUBLICLY OWNED ELECTRICITY, BANKING AND THE INTERNET:

- Create a not-for-profit energy retailer to kick off the transition to renewable energy
- Cap power prices and buy back essential electricity infrastructure
- Create a not-for-profit bank to end the rorts and bring down prices
- Break up the big banks and cap executive pay
- Oppose the sell-off of the NBN and upgrade it to the best technology for fast and reliable services



## RETURN ELECTRICITY TO PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

If you've experienced a blackout, you know how essential electricity is. It fuels our communications, our homes and our businesses, our schools, universities, hospitals and nursing homes. The Greens believe electricity should be run as an essential service, putting public good before profit.

But both Liberal and Labor governments have sold off the grid to private companies. And ever since, those companies have invested in sales managers and marketing gurus instead of efficiencies and renewables, and as a result we're paying more than twice what we were paying a decade ago.

**Privatisation has failed to deliver cheaper electricity. The price of energy in deregulated states is higher than in regulated ones.**

Privatisation has also been a barrier to the investment that is needed to shift our electricity system to clean energy. Right now, big power companies make monster profits while more and more of us are getting disconnected because we can't pay our power bills. It's time we took back control of the grid.

### POWER AUSTRALIA: A PUBLICLY OWNED NOT FOR PROFIT ENERGY PROVIDER

The Greens will establish a new, publicly owned competitor to the private power companies, dedicated to driving down your costs instead of driving up its profits.

Under the Greens plan, you will be able to buy renewable energy from a government provider, Power Australia, which supplies your household electricity to you without the unnecessary profit mark-ups.

Under our plan, energy bills will be reduced by an estimated \$200 a year for an average customer, we'll increase competition in the existing retail market and end the profit-at-all-costs business model.

By purchasing energy only from renewable sources, this model will fast-track investment in renewable technology, create more public sector jobs and help tackle climate change. All Australians will have guaranteed access to cheap, clean and reliable electricity.

Our plan would also force the government to regulate the price that corporations can charge you for energy. That means a better deal for all customers.

## BUY BACK ESSENTIAL ELECTRICITY INFRASTRUCTURE

If we want an electricity grid that can underpin the rapid transition to renewable energy and keep prices down we must return the grid to public hands. But a publicly owned energy retailer can't ensure the lowest cost if it's forced to pay private companies for wholesale electricity generated over state borders.

That's why the Greens will establish a Grid Transformation Fund - to restore public ownership to those critical interconnectors between states. We can't have a national electricity market without them. And under our plan, they won't be there to turn a profit - they'll be there to support a nation.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Make electricity cheaper
- Drive investment in renewables to tackle climate change
- Make sure you don't get ripped off



## BANKING FOR PEOPLE, NOT FOR PROFIT

Banking is an essential service and people should be able to access it at a fair price. Unfortunately, as the Royal Commission has proven, Australia's banking system is a rort.

Three decades of deregulation and privatisation has allowed the big four banks to write the rules to suit themselves (and their executives to rake in exorbitant salaries), while they gouge super profits out of the rest of us. This has to stop. The Government needs to step in. But, while both the Liberal and Labor parties take huge donations from the big banks, they will only ever tinker around the edges.

Under our comprehensive plan to bring banking back to basics, we will reform the system so that it operates in the best interests of people and protects us from being ripped off.

### A PEOPLE'S BANK

We will establish a People's Bank to provide basic banking at cost price. The Greens will use the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) to establish a People's Bank to provide basic low-risk banking services to the public. At the People's Bank, everyday Australians would be able to establish accounts directly with the RBA for day-to-day banking facilities. Customer service would be provided online, by telephone, or face-to-face through Australia Post and other partners. Everyday banking for public good, not profit margins.

**Imagine a bank whose real goal was to serve its customers, not line its shareholders' pockets.**

We would also overhaul the management of banks and cap executive pay, level the playing field for smaller banks and break-up the banks so that an institution is either a bank, superannuation fund, insurance company, or a provider of other financial products. Under our plan, big banks can no longer rip people off by cross-selling their own products.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Provide a cheaper alternative to the big banks
- Disrupt the big bank oligopoly
- Ensure you don't get ripped off
- Deliver banking as an essential service

## 21ST CENTURY INTERNET CONNECTION

Affordable, quality telecommunications are fundamental to the future of our jobs, education, essential services, and way of life.

The National Broadband Network (NBN) belongs to all of us, but only because the Greens secured safeguards making it as difficult as possible for future governments to privatise the NBN. Greens in the Senate have ensured that any move to sell it off is subject to a full public inquiry and vote in parliament. We are committed to retaining the NBN infrastructure as a public asset and will ensure it remains in public hands as Australia's sole universal-access, wholesale service provider.

### UPGRADE THE NBN

It isn't enough to keep the NBN as it is. The Abbott-Turnbull 'multi-technology mix' disaster has left many Australians without affordable or reliable services.

**The Greens are committed to a forward-looking NBN that uses Fibre to the Premises, Fibre to the Curb, and 5G Fixed Wireless to prepare us for the future and bring us in line with the capabilities of other countries.**

Under our plan, the NBN will be finished using the best long-term technology solutions and make it available to all Australians.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Stop any move to sell-off the NBN
- Upgrade the NBN to increase internet speed
- Ensure you're connected, wherever you are
- Prioritise the NBN as critical infrastructure



# PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

## Creating a future where our environment, our wildlife and future generations thrive.

We are fortunate to live in one of the most diverse and beautiful places in the world. But it's under threat like never before. Our Great Barrier Reef is dying and our farmers are suffering through intense drought as a result of climate change caused by the mining, burning and exporting of coal and gas.

For decades, Liberal and Labor governments have let corporations get away with trashing our planet for their own private profit. Both parties have stood by while their big donors have dug up our environment, destroyed our climate and sold off our green spaces, with little accountability. They're polluting the places we live – our farmland, our rivers and our oceans – and destroying the places we love. Hundreds of native Australian species have been pushed to the brink of extinction, while recovery plans for their survival gather dust.

### **The Greens recognise that good economic management means taking care of our planet.**

Our future will only be a prosperous one if we build our economy in line with the principles of long-term sustainability and science, rather than short-term self-interest and political point-scoring.

We will phase out support for industries that destroy our environment and support industries that protect our environment, creating the clean, green jobs and industries of the future.

The Labor and Liberal parties have taken millions from the big polluters in recent years, including \$13 million from energy and resources companies since 2012. Unlike the major parties, the Greens refuse to take donations from these corporations who are buying policy influence. That means we are entirely focused on outcomes that are good for our community, not outcomes that suit big corporate donors. We can't be bought and we won't sell you, or our environment, out.

### **OUR PLAN TO PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT:**

- Overhaul our environmental laws
- Tackle the waste crisis to make Australia a global leader in reusing and recycling products
- Look after our oceans, forests, rivers and reefs by introducing a network of marine parks, ending deforestation, saving the Great Barrier Reef, protecting the Murray-Darling basin and stopping oil and gas exploration in the Great Australian Bight
- Halt the animal extinction crisis by properly funding recovery plans for all threatened species and creating thousands of jobs to look after our environment
- Ban all new coal seam gas and fracking projects across Australia, including expansions to existing projects
- Protect animals from cruelty



## OVERHAUL OUR ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

We should all be able to enjoy the places we love in nature without them being threatened by big polluters and corporations who want to trash our environment for their own profit.

The Australian government has the power, authority and resources to look after Australia's natural heritage and better protect our wild places and threatened species. But we need to end the influence that corporations have over our parliament to make this happen.

The major parties have let big corporates dictate their environment policies and destroy our environment. Environmental funding has been slashed, while Liberal and Labor government efforts to demonstrate their 'enviro-creds' are nothing more than tinkering around the edges.

**Our planet needs a comprehensive plan rather than stop-gap measures at election time.**

### BETTER LAWS

To better protect our shared natural resources, our wild places and our threatened species, we have a plan to rewrite the outdated Howard-era federal environmental laws.

### BETTER PROTECTION

Under our plan, a new generation of environmental laws will be introduced and overseen by a federal regulatory body with expanded responsibility and with real power to enforce the law. Crucially, this national Environment Protection Agency will operate at arm's length from politicians and lobbyists.

Unlike the major parties, the Greens are committed to preserving, protecting and restoring nature. We are your voice inside parliament for the prevention of human-caused extinction of animals, plants and ecosystems, and will always hold governments to account when it comes to environmental regulation.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Environmental protection laws that actually work
- Independent advice, free from political or corporate influence
- Expanded regulatory responsibility to include regulation of land clearing, invasive species, air pollution and more
- Increased community access to justice

## WIN THE WAR ON WASTE

As Australians, we pride ourselves on being good recyclers and doing our bit. But we are being let down by corporations and governments who send our recycling overseas or to landfill instead of repurposing it.

Rather than relying on other countries to deal with our waste, we have an opportunity to build a recycling system that creates Australian jobs, establishes new industries, makes the best use of our recycled goods and helps us live more sustainably.

**Our recycling industry is in the midst of a major crisis. With the Liberal and Labor parties asleep at the wheel, tonnes and tonnes of low-quality recycling has been stockpiled and dumped into landfill.**

Much of this waste finds its way into our water, where it pollutes our beaches and destroys the health of everything that lives in our rivers and oceans.

### TACKLING WASTE

Unlike the Labor and Liberal parties, whose inaction has caused the waste crisis, the Greens have a comprehensive plan to create less waste, fix recycling and build a circular economy. This includes the establishment of a national container deposit scheme, to ensure a consistent nationwide approach, and to provide greater incentives for manufacturers to make recyclable products.

### ENDING THE RECYCLING CRISIS

Under our plan, we would also introduce stewardship schemes for problematic waste items, like mobile phones, tyres and mattresses, and phase out single-use plastics for take-away food, including straws, containers, lids and other plastic packaging. Our plan will also invest in waste avoidance and resource recovery initiatives, to encourage greater recycling uptake, and in research to clean up our oceans and to develop new uses for recovered plastic.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- A consistent national approach to recycling
- An incentive for people to recycle
- Manufacturers are encouraged to make recyclable products
- A solution for problematic waste streams, like e-waste, tyres and mattresses



## PROTECT THE PLACES WE LOVE

We can protect the places we live, and save the places we love, if we listen to the advice of experts and get big corporate interests, like mining and energy companies, out of politics.

Under the watch of negligent Labor and Liberal governments, Australia has become a deforestation world leader, our Great Barrier Reef has been dredged and bleached within an inch of its life, and the Murray-Darling basin is being run dry by big corporate irrigators.

**Our environment is under threat like never before, yet the major parties are just standing by and letting their big corporate donors get away with trashing it.**

It doesn't have to be this way.

The Greens have an extensive plan to protect our environment. Under our plan, a network of marine parks will be introduced based upon on scientific recommendations, Japanese whalers will be pursued for illegal hunting, and there will be no further oil and gas exploration in the Great Australian Bight.

The Greens will prevent the destruction of our precious forests by completing the transition to 100% plantation-sourced timber and fibre. We will decrease the pressure on the Great Barrier Reef by stopping the Adani mine and investing \$2 billion to improve its water quality. And we will stand up to corruption in the Murray Darling basin to stop water theft and return more water to the river.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Healthier oceans
- Better forest protection
- No Adani coal mine and a safer Great Barrier Reef
- Less water for corporate irrigators; more water in the Murray Darling



## NO FRACKING WAY

By investing in renewable technology we can harness all the energy we need to live a good life without drilling into the ground and risking our water supplies. Using the sun and wind we can power our country, while protecting our agricultural land, farmers and communities for years to come.

Fracking and coal seam gas (CSG) pose a serious threat to our climate, groundwater, agricultural land and community. These practices are fundamentally incompatible with farming. Drilling for gas has the potential to contaminate and lower the water table, while extracting coal seam gas, shale and tight gas requires dangerous and risky fracking.

Despite damning evidence against these practices, there has been rapid expansion of the CSG and fracking industry across Queensland and New South Wales thanks to the industry's cosy relationship with Labor and Liberal governments. And to make matters worse, if the Northern Territory is opened up for fracking then Australia's greenhouse gas emissions will rise by 6%.

Unlike the major parties, we will always fight for outcomes which are in the best interest of the community, not for political donors or big business mates.

**The Greens are committed to defending farmers and our environment against the big gas companies by banning all new CSG and fracking projects across Australia, including expansions to existing projects.**

Under our plan, we will extend the 'water trigger' in our national environmental protection laws to cover all forms of gas extraction and protect farmers and their water sources. And we will make gas companies clean up after themselves by requiring sufficient funds to be set aside for rehabilitation once existing projects end.

We'll work with unions and industry to ensure a just transition for workers, including retraining for the industries of the future.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Fracking is banned
- No new unconventional gas approvals or expansions on existing projects
- Landholders, including First Nations peoples, have the right to say no to gas mining on their land
- 'Water trigger' extension will protect water sources
- Gas companies will be made to clean up their own mess



## PROTECTING ANIMALS

The Greens believe in a world where all animals are treated with compassion and we are committed to ending animal cruelty.

The way we treat animals reflects how we treat all life. We have a duty of care to minimise physical and psychological suffering of animals resulting from human activity. That's why it is unacceptable that every day, animals across the country are made to suffer in order to maximise corporate profit in gambling, entertainment, cosmetics and agriculture.

**We are committed to fighting for better animal welfare laws and for an end to harmful practices in order to protect animals from cruelty and suffering.**

Our priorities at this election include ending live export of animals for slaughter overseas, banning the manufacture, sale and importation of animal-tested cosmetics, ending intensive factory farming across Australia, working at a state level to ban greyhound racing and banning the export of racing greyhounds.

The Greens will work with industry, farming and union stakeholders to include appropriate industry adjustment measures to ensure a best practice transition.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- An end to the live export industry and a smooth transition to local processing of boxed and chilled meat for export
- A ban on animal-tested cosmetics and cosmetics ingredients
- No cage egg production, sow stalls or other cruel industrial animal farming practices
- No greyhound racing and no exporting of racing greyhounds







# A HOME FOR ALL

In a wealthy country like Australia, no one should be without a home.

Housing is a basic necessity, like healthcare and education. Unfortunately, for years Liberal and Labor governments have treated housing like a commodity and created a system that works best for their big corporate donors.

**So while the rich get richer, it's become really hard for young people to buy their first home, rents are skyrocketing and more people, of all ages, are struggling to find an affordable, secure home.**

So while the rich get richer, it's become really hard for young people to buy their first home, rents are skyrocketing and more people, of all ages, are struggling to find an affordable, secure home.

The Labor and Liberal parties have taken over \$75 million from the big banks and the finance and property industry since 2012. Unlike the major parties, the Greens refuse to take donations from corporations who seek to buy influence. That means we are entirely focused on outcomes that are good for our community, not outcomes that suit corporate donors. We can't be bought and we won't sell you out.

**We'll invest in a vibrant social and community housing sector, give renters the dignity of an affordable and stable home and we'll make it easier for you to buy your first home than for an investor to buy their fifth.**

The Greens will ensure we have a housing system that puts people's needs before property developer greed.

## OUR PLAN TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE HAS AN AFFORDABLE HOME:

- Build 500,000 rent-controlled and well-designed public and community homes
- Give renters real rights including long term leases, a home for your pet, and no more unfair rent increases
- Provide \$30 million for tenancy advocacy services, to help renters defend their rights
- Support first home buyers by phasing out unfair tax rules, including reforming negative gearing and the capital gains tax discount
- Increase funding for temporary accommodation services so that no one has to sleep on the streets



## BUILD AFFORDABLE PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY HOMES

We believe housing should be a universal right. Just like Medicare and our public school system, everyone should be able to apply for public and community housing if they need it.

More than a million households in Australia pay more for housing than they can afford because the Liberal and Labor parties are happy to let the housing market remain a plaything for wealthy investors and property developers.

**While the major parties tinker around the edges, we have a comprehensive plan to solve the housing crisis and ensure everyone has a home.**

Our plan will establish a Federal Housing Trust that issues loans for states, territories and community housing providers to build new affordable homes over the next fifteen years.

This plan will transform Australia's housing system, by providing affordable rents based upon household income, secure long-term leases, and environmental, mobility and accessibility friendly home design.

The Greens' vision of a Federal Housing Trust will provide people with a home for life. It's been done successfully in many other countries, including Denmark, Sweden and The Netherlands, and it can be done here as well. We'll pay for this by winding back the unfair Capital Gains Tax handout and phasing out negative gearing over five years.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- More affordable homes in every city
- Everyone can apply
- Cheaper rent
- An end to homelessness

## BETTER RIGHTS FOR PEOPLE WHO RENT

Owning your own home should not be the only way to guarantee a roof over your head. The Greens believe that every renter deserves the dignity of an affordable, liveable and secure home for the long-term.

**One in three Australians are renters, yet we have one of the most expensive and unregulated rental markets in the world.**

We have no national rental standard for renters' protection, and years of mismanagement from Liberal and Labor governments have left many of us facing application discrimination, unfair rent increases, 'no grounds' evictions, poor living conditions and short-term leases.

Our plan will establish a national standard for residential tenancy agreements. It will create tenancy laws for long-term leases, ensure minimum standards for energy and security, protect tenants against eviction, unfair rent rises, discrimination and landlords who refuse to maintain properties. And under our plan, we'll prohibit blanket 'no pets' clauses so your fluffy best friend is guaranteed a home with you.

The Greens will commit \$30 million to properly fund tenancy advocacy services, to provide free and independent information, advice and advocacy to people who rent. We'll pay for this by winding back the unfair Capital Gains Tax handout and phasing out negative gearing over five years.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Let you live with your pet
- No more unfair rent increases
- Hang a picture and make minor changes without unfair consequences
- Longer leases for better security
- You can't get kicked out of your home without justification





## ABOLISH UNFAIR TAX RULES

Right now, wealthier people are claiming tax deductions on their second, third or fourth house while young people, young families and those on lower incomes may never own a home. The Greens have a plan to ease the market lock-out for first home buyers by ending the tax breaks that make it easier to buy your fifth home than your first.

Decades of Labor and Liberal tax policies have rigged the housing market in favour of their big donors: property investors who can afford to play the housing market and big banks who profit from mountains of mortgage debt.

**By reforming our tax system, we can build a fairer housing system where an affordable home is a reality for everyone.**

The Capital Gains Tax (CGT) discount is an unfair tax break that has encouraged wealthy investors to gamble on future price rises and has done very little to encourage the building of affordable homes. Negative gearing has encouraged speculation by wealthy homeowners into the housing market, and stamp duty is an inefficient tax that raises the upfront cost of homes. By backing these policies for decades, the major parties have made it easier for investors to buy their fifth property than for a young person to buy their first.

We will dismantle the rigged tax system by winding back the CGT discount and phasing out negative gearing over five years, prohibiting negative gearing on all future investment properties.

Phasing out the Capital Gains Tax discount and reforming negative gearing will raise \$5.8 billion. Under our plan, this money will be redirected to fund affordable housing, protect renters rights and support crisis services.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Easier to buy your first home
- No unfair advantages for investors
- More affordable homes
- Fewer investors to compete with

## FUND CRISIS HOUSING SERVICES

We all deserve a comfortable and secure place to call home. Without this security, it is hard to go to work, raise a family, be healthy, or be part of a local community.

Around 300,000 people seek assistance for homelessness every year, including thousands of people fleeing domestic violence.

Rather than ensuring that everyone has a place to live, the Government has sought to criminalise and vilify people who are experiencing homelessness.

**Our approach will be one based upon compassion and care for people doing it tough.**

In addition to tackling the housing crisis by building new community and public homes, the Greens will commit \$500 million per year to crisis services, which represents a significant increase in funding. This extra funding will be guaranteed for ten years to provide certainty and security. We'll pay for this by winding back the unfair Capital Gains Tax handout and phasing out negative gearing over five years.

Our plan is to make secure housing the start of the solution, rather than the result of it. This is what's worked in Finland, where the same approach has led to homelessness falling by 35% and the need for crisis services dramatically reducing.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- No one left without a roof over their head
- More funding to help more people
- Ten year funding guarantee provides security for support workers
- More compassion, less stigma
- Support for all people, no matter who you are, including people fleeing domestic violence, young LGBTIQ+ people kicked out of home, people experiencing relationship breakdown and older Australians struggling to find work



# JOBS AND TRAINING FOR THE FUTURE

Planning for the future of work and protecting people as our industries change.

All of us should have access to meaningful, secure work so we don't struggle to make ends meet and we have the freedom to do more of the things we love. And while most of us have to work to live, we should never be living just to work.

**Employment in Australia is changing rapidly. Some of us are stuck working too many hours, while many of us can't find enough work.**

Jobs are less secure, wages are flatlining and small businesses are getting squeezed by big business and their mates in the government.

We live in a wealthy country where advances in technology could be making everyone's lives better, but instead, economic inequality is the highest it has been for 70 years in Australia.

We know an increase in automated technology will have a huge impact on many industries and we need to start planning for it now, creating the jobs of the future, so no one is left behind.

But the major parties are doing the bidding of their big corporate donors instead of planning for the rest of us. The Labor and the Liberal parties have taken over \$100 million from big corporates since 2012, and both major parties have sided with those corporations to cut award conditions, keep wages down, restrict our ability to protect our rights at work and ignore small business.

**The Greens have a plan to educate, up-skill and protect people as our industries change.**

We will protect workers' rights, support small business and the industries of the future, create jobs, close the gender pay gap and plan for the future of work.

## OUR PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF WORK:

- Increase wages and protect workers' rights by rewriting our workplace laws
- A Future of Work Commission to plan for the future
- Invest in science, research and innovation
- Close the gender wage gap and better support working parents
- Grow the creative economy and support the contribution art and artists make to our society



## FIGHTING FOR YOUR RIGHTS AT WORK

For many people, work is insecure, unfulfilling and low paid. Despite decades of uninterrupted economic growth, the changing nature of work means life is harder than it used to be for many of us.

So even though people are working hard, wages are flatlining and too many people – especially young people – aren't getting the hours of work they need to live a decent life. Job insecurity is on the rise and people are in record levels of personal debt because of unaffordable housing and the rising cost of living. And yet, one in four people living in poverty are also working full-time.

**The system is rigged. Under Labor and Liberal governments, labour laws were rewritten to restrict people's rights to organise, cutting away at awards and repressing wages growth.**

The minimum wage has fallen to the point where even working full-time is no longer a guarantee of security. Our Fair Work Act now breaches international law. Giant corporations are wrecking our planet and making record profits while employers use labour laws to cut wages, conditions and workplace rights.



## REJECT THE TPP

The Labor and Liberal parties even joined together to sell out Australian workers by supporting the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)– one of the most shocking trade agreements in a generation. The only winners out of the TPP are the giant corporations looking to exploit workers for their own super-profit. The Greens voted against the TPP and will always vote against unfair trade deals that undercut labour laws.

## CHANGE THE RULES

Right now, something has to give. Our industrial relations laws are broken. The Greens are the only party that has formally endorsed the #ChangeTheRules campaign. The Greens stand for:

- **Labour laws that reduce inequality**, including increasing the minimum wage to a living wage, stronger awards, ending employers' ability to terminate agreements during bargaining, restoration of penalty rates and paid family and domestic violence leave
- **Equal pay for equal work**, including equal pay for gig economy and labour hire workers, ending the gender pay gap, tackling wage theft, abolishing work for the dole, and stopping contracting out of minimum conditions
- **Tackling job insecurity** and giving workers more control, including restricting casualisation and contracting out, and the right to work fewer hours if you want
- **The right to engage in industrial action**, including abolishing the ABCC and Registered Trade Organisation Commission, restoring the right to strike, bargaining at whatever level workers consider appropriate, not just within an enterprise
- **Creating jobs and tackling unemployment**, including large-scale government investment in services, infrastructure and industry support, and returning essential services to public ownership
- **No more unfair trade deals** that undercut labour laws



## PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE OF WORK

Work is changing all around us. From temporary or freelance work through to manufacturing, advancements in technology and science represent an exciting opportunity for all of us.

But we must plan for the transition for those whose jobs may be replaced by automated technologies within the next twenty years.

### We need to plan for the future, right now.

For younger and older workers alike, job security has been significantly reduced in today's economy. But this issue has proven too big for the old parties to even acknowledge – they are too beholden to the industries of the past, instead of thinking about the industries they could be creating for our future.

### FUTURE OF WORK COMMISSION

Under our plan, we will establish a specialised, independent Future of Work Commission. The Commission will examine the impacts of technological innovation and develop long-term strategies for jobs. It will find ways to overcome the threat of insecure work, casualisation and automation, as well as the new opportunities technological advancement creates. It will model a four day work week without loss of pay, and explore the prospect of introducing an Australian Universal Basic Income.

### INVEST IN SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

The Greens will also invest in the science, research and innovation that will transform our economy and make Australia a global leader in new technology.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- More secure, long term jobs
- More time doing the things we love
- No one left behind as our industries change
- More money for science, technology and innovation

## CLOSING THE GENDER WAGE GAP

Everyone has the right to equal pay for equal work. But right now, across Australia, women continue to be paid much less than men. The Greens believe all women should receive equal pay for work of equal value and unpaid caring responsibilities should be acknowledged and properly valued throughout our lifetime.

### The Greens have a plan to begin legal, workplace and economic reforms to address the root causes of women's income inequality.

We support women's rights to financial security and will focus on creating family-friendly, caring-friendly and flexible workplaces for everyone, including flexible working hours and the possibility of working from home.

The Greens are working towards equality for all women in all aspects of life, and are committed to seeing these values reflected in our laws and society.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- No more gender pay gap
- Easier to work and be a mum
- Caring work and family caring responsibilities are more valued
- More superannuation available in retirement





## INVESTING IN AUSTRALIAN CREATIVITY

Everyone deserves the opportunity to participate in a vibrant and thriving arts sector. The arts form the foundation of who we are as a culture, a society and as individuals. We should all be free to explore the arts and have our contributions valued.

Artists make a significant contribution to Australian cultural life. But, thanks to years of funding cuts by Labor and Liberal governments, they are forced to operate part-time and often for no pay at all. The average Australian artist lives below the poverty line and works multiple jobs - sometimes even taking unemployment payments in order to keep the lights on.

**98% of Australian artists received Newstart between 2010 and 2015. The arts are too valuable to be a part-time contribution.**

The Greens recognise that art and culture make a valuable contribution to the nation's economy and we recognise that support to the arts represents an important economic, as well as a social, investment.

We have a plan to support a creative and innovative Australia by establishing a Creativity Commission to provide oversight, advice and structural support to help grow the arts sector, by investing in local content production and by reinstating funding to the independent Australia Council for the Arts so that it can provide security and confidence to the sector.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Grow the creative economy, an industry which Australians love
- Better support for artists and greater depth of creativity
- A thriving local screen content sector
- More secure jobs for people working in the creative sector



# A FAIRER, MORE EQUAL COMMUNITY

Better together: protecting diversity, championing equality and promoting peace.

All of us deserve to feel safe and to have equal opportunities in life, no matter our cultural background, ability, gender, sexuality, income or postcode.

To ensure a safe, equal world for all, we can't let a few powerful voices turn us against each other or divide us based on where we come from, who we love or what we look like.

**Both Liberal and Labor governments have cynically pitted members of our community against each other.**

They've introduced and aggressively championed policies that exclude or vilify people just because of who they are - divisive policies like allowing schools to discriminate against gay teachers, unbelievably cruel policies like locking refugee children up in offshore detention indefinitely, or discriminatory policies that result in First Nations children locked up in jail at ten times the rate of non-Indigenous children. They've eroded everyone's fundamental rights, including our right to privacy and digital freedoms.

It doesn't have to be this way.

**The Greens will always advocate for our rights, champion diversity and call out discrimination, bias and bigotry. We will make sure that everyone has the opportunity to live a good life, free from discrimination.**

The Greens understand that everything is connected, which is why we need to be good global citizens.

We recognise that this always was, and always will be, Aboriginal land and that sovereignty was never ceded. It's long past time for treaties, healing, justice and truth for our First Nations Peoples.

## OUR PLAN TO CREATE A MORE DIVERSE, EQUAL AND PEACEFUL FUTURE:

- Work with First Nations Peoples, to establish a path for sovereignty and treaties and to close the gap
- Close offshore detention and create a safe pathway for people who seek our help
- Champion diversity in our communities
- Enure equality for women in all aspects of society, including at work
- Stamp out systemic racism and hate speech
- Make Australia accessible and fully fund the NDIS
- Ensure LGBTIQ+ people have full equality under the law and in our communities
- Create a charter of rights
- Make Australia a good global citizen, by supporting peace and demilitarisation





## JUSTICE FOR FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES

The Australian Greens acknowledge that First Nations Peoples are the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land we call Australia. We know this land was stolen and that sovereignty was never ceded and that Australia has unfinished business. We pay our respects to elders, past, present and future.

Despite living in a wealthy nation, First Nations Peoples still experience entrenched disadvantage with health, education and life expectancy outcomes more common in the developing world.

**Liberal and Labor governments have not listened to First Nations Peoples, and their paternalistic, punitive approaches have failed First Nations communities.**

### A PATH TOWARDS TREATIES

Self-determination is a key part of justice and healing for First Nations Peoples, and to closing the gap and addressing intergenerational trauma. Any plan for justice must be led by First Nations Peoples.

First Nations Peoples must be the key decision makers in policies and programs that affect their communities. We must start by addressing Australia's unfinished business through implementing a constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament and establishing a path to treaties. The Australian Greens support the Uluru Statement from the Heart in full.

## ADDRESS INDIGENOUS INCARCERATION RATES

Twenty-seven years after the final report into the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, there are still too many First Nations Peoples incarcerated and over 407 First Nations people have died in custody since the release of the Royal Commission report.

Australia-wide, First Nations Peoples are eleven times more likely to be imprisoned than non-indigenous Australians. The Greens will adopt the Change the Record campaign recommendations to reduce the rate of incarceration of First Nations Peoples as well as promoting a Justice Reinvestment approach that prioritises the services that we know keep people out of jail.

## FEWER FIRST NATIONS KIDS IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE

There are currently more than 15,000 First Nations children in out-of-home care across Australia. The Greens will fund a system that focuses on keeping children out of the care system in the first place and focuses on early intervention and support for children and their families, including trauma and healing services.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Addressing unfinished business through truth, justice and healing
- Genuine treaty or treaties
- Justice reinvestment, not jails
- First Nations Peoples' voices heard in our parliament
- Genuine progress to Close the Gap



## CLOSE THE CAMPS

All of us, including people who are fleeing persecution or war-torn countries, have a right to live free from danger, to be treated with dignity and compassion and to be given help when we need it. Australians are compassionate and fair. Looking out for others is at the very core of who we are.

But our values are being betrayed by both the major parties, who, in an attempt to win your vote, have spent years locking up women, men and children in indefinite detention, separating families who have turned to Australia for help.

Labor created offshore indefinite detention and the Liberals doubled-down on it. Both the Labor Party and the Liberals support the indefinite detention of people in deliberately cruel and torturous conditions. They support turning around boats at sea and returning people to face persecution. People have died, been assaulted and endured psychological torment because of the choices of the old parties. Labor and the Liberals have refused to act with basic humanity and compassion and people who need our help are suffering.

**The Greens are the only party to have always stood against indefinite offshore detention. We believe the Manus Island and Nauru detention centres must be closed, and every single man, woman and child detained there should be brought to Australia.**

Our plan will create a system that fairly and quickly helps people find safety, rebuild their lives with dignity and doesn't punish them for seeking our help.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- An end to offshore detention
- Faster, more efficient processing times
- Refugees living in our community, not in detention
- Assistance for those who need our help
- We meet our international obligations

## SUPPORTING MULTICULTURAL AUSTRALIA

Australia is one of the most culturally diverse countries on earth and we are a stronger nation because of this. This country is home to generations of migrants and refugees who are valuable members of our communities, and we should be celebrating what makes us all different.

The Greens have a plan to address the needs and aspirations of Australians from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds, and reflect this diversity in policy.

### DELIVER THE FEDERAL MULTICULTURAL ACT

Most states have legislation to protect and value multiculturalism, however there are no such laws at a federal level. This has led to multiculturalism being used as a political football on the national stage by conservative politicians and media outlets, promoting fear and dividing communities. The Greens have introduced a Federal Multicultural Act to Parliament, which will create a framework for multiculturalism and establish clear guiding principles for Australian society to embrace cultural and religious diversity, and we will continue fighting for it to be legislated.

### PROMOTING DIVERSITY IN FEDERAL PARLIAMENT

Half of all Australians are either born overseas or have a parent who was born overseas. But currently, Australians with dual nationality cannot sit as MPs in our Federal Parliament. The Greens believe this should change. Diversity in our political leadership means more innovation, better policy outcomes and a Parliament which is reflective of our society and its values. Our plan will ensure that multicultural Australians can run for Federal Parliament and keep their dual citizenship, by calling a referendum to amend section 44 of our Constitution.



### **MORE FAMILY REUNION VISAS**

The Greens recognise how prohibitively expensive and difficult it is for migrants to bring their family members to Australia, particularly with some visa categories imposing a 30-50 year wait list.

#### **THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:**

- Everyone feels safe in our community
- Everyone has an equal opportunity to achieve their goals and live fulfilling lives
- More diversity in our Federal Parliament
- Thousands more families reunited in Australia

### **EXTEND THE NATIONAL ANTI-RACISM CAMPAIGN**

Despite anti-discrimination law, racism and discrimination remain prevalent within our society. In many cases, racism is a result of unconscious bias, and education is key to addressing this. The Greens' plan will extend the current national anti-racism strategy, delivered by the Australian Human Rights Commission, to deliver programs in schools, workplaces, sporting organisations and media institutions.

## **TACKLING RACISM AND FAR-RIGHT EXTREMISM**

In the wake of the Christchurch massacre we must act to stem the rising tide of Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, racism and bigotry. Enough is enough.

The Greens are shoulder to shoulder with the overwhelming majority of Australians, united against hatred and the hate-speech that has dominated our politics and our public spaces for far too long. We have a plan for a united, respectful and decent society that welcomes and celebrates difference.

### **STOP POLITICIANS SPEAKING HATE**

Too often politicians attack and dehumanise minority communities. This has to stop. The Greens have proposed a Code of Conduct to establish a set of rules governing federal politicians, requiring them to represent public office in a manner consistent with Australian values of respect and inclusion.

### **COUNTER VIOLENT EXTREMISM**

Tackling racism and extremism will take a commitment from all levels of government, and the support of community-led organisations. In many cases, racism is the result of unconscious bias. We know that education is the key. The Greens will extend the current anti-racism strategy, commit \$10 million each year to counter violent extremism, and empower communities to prevent it.

### **MAKE HATE SPEECH ILLEGAL**

Left unchecked, hate speech will often lead to hate crimes, yet there is currently no criminal prohibition of hate speech at federal level. We believe Australia needs an effective legal framework to handle hate speech, while also balancing freedom of expression. So we have a plan to protect everyone, by introducing a Charter of Rights.



## STRENGTHEN GUN CONTROL

It is estimated there are 260,000 weapons in the illicit firearms market in Australia. This puts the whole community at risk. And at the same time, the gun lobby is becoming more active in its push to weaken gun laws. The Greens will ban all political donations from the gun lobby and prohibit the possession of semi-automatic guns in the community.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- A society that welcomes and celebrates diversity
- Members of Parliament held to account for the way they behave towards all communities
- A coordinated strategy to counter violent extremism
- Greater respect for diversity is promoted through a national anti-racism campaign
- Improved community safety through stronger gun laws

## EQUALITY FOR WOMEN

The Greens believe that women should enjoy equality with men in all aspects of their lives and in our society. We believe that all women, including LGBTQ+, First Nations, and women of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, have the right to live free from harassment, fear, violence, abuse and discrimination.

Right now, we are in the midst of a national security crisis, with one in three women experiencing family and domestic violence in their lifetime and, on average, one woman killed by her partner or former partner every week. These rates of domestic violence have not reduced, despite significant public attention.

Women also still face systemic discrimination in many areas of their life. Older women represent the largest growing cohort of homeless people, with huge increases in the number of women seeking housing and homelessness support services. In the workplace, women continue to be paid much less than men. Women also face greater barriers to healthcare, with abortion, for example, remaining a criminal offence in NSW.

### **The Greens are committed to achieving equality for women by building housing, financial, and workplace security.**

We have a plan to ensure women are safe, valued and treated as equals in private and public life, and we will put in place legal, workplace and economic reforms that directly address the key causes of inequality for women in Australia and around the world.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Safety for women, in the home, workplace and in the community
- Gender pay gap is abolished
- Abortion is safe, legal, accessible and free for all women
- Equality is promoted for women





## AN ACCESSIBLE AUSTRALIA

The Australian Greens believe that a healthy, functioning society embraces diversity and removes barriers to provide for equitable access and participation by all. We believe that all people have a right to independence, self-determination and choice in their lives. Disability policy and law is a matter of human rights, as well as individual health and well-being.

### **Disabled people continue to fall through the cracks, to be locked out of the community and denied the same rights as other Australians.**

Failings of successive Labor and Coalition governments have perpetuated this discrimination, often denying disabled people access to inclusive education, meaningful employment, adequate services and the support they need. Disabled people are so often shut out of our communities through outdated, discriminatory planning regulations.

We must do better. It's time to talk about disability differently. It's time to build our places and spaces differently. It's time to change attitudes and realise that we are all different and unique, and that an inclusive society is a better society for everyone.

The Greens also recognise that it is not enough to deliver services for people, we must work with them to ensure they are the right services. We see that decisions that profoundly shape the lives of disabled people are currently being made without their genuine involvement.

### **THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:**

- Better access to public transport, events, shops and other public spaces
- More jobs and more opportunities
- Easily accessed, adequately funded and staffed NDIS
- Disabled Australians enjoy more control over their own lives

## LGBTIQ+ EQUALITY

The Greens believe that all people are equal, have fundamental human rights and are entitled to live their life with equal protection under law and without any discrimination, including on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status.

The Greens celebrate the diversity in our society and value the contributions of LGBTIQ+ members of our community. We recognise that people have the right to self-identify their gender. All too often LGBTIQ+ communities are shut out of decisions that affect them.

### **The Greens are very proud to continue to be strong allies of the LGBTIQ+ community.**

As the first party to support and actively campaign to remove discrimination in marriage, we are so proud of what a strong and united community campaign can do to make positive change. We congratulate all those who have celebrated love through marriage since the reforms.

But there is so much more to be done.

The Greens have a plan to continue to work with the LGBTIQ+ community to achieve equality for all of us.

### **THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:**

- End sexual orientation and gender identity conversion efforts (commonly referred to as 'gay conversion therapy')
- Everyone is free to love who you want to love
- Everyone is safe in our community
- Everyone has equal opportunities in all areas of life
- Free healthcare that is respectful and appropriate for you





## A CHARTER OF RIGHTS

Australia is the only western democracy that does not protect the basic rights and freedoms of its people in either legislation or the Constitution. So many of our freedoms have been hard won, and others are still being fought for. The Greens have a plan to protect everyone's rights in law by introducing a Charter of Rights.

Without a Charter of Rights it is too easy for the Liberals, Labor and big corporations to take freedoms away. We have seen this in the gagging of media and criminalising of whistleblowers, passing of anti-protest laws, restrictions on association and expression, and the acquisition and pollution of private property, agricultural land and water tables by governments and corporations.

We believe that the rights of people are far more important than the rights of huge corporations, that's why we want to protect the economic, employment, civil, cultural and environmental rights of every Australian.

**A Charter of Rights for Australia would tip the balance back in favour of people and the environment rather than corporations and the faceless men and women of governments.**

This Charter would include civil and political rights, including expression, privacy, association, equality, movement, and presumption of innocence. It will include economic, social and cultural rights, including our right to housing, education, healthcare, employment, and participation in cultural life. And, crucially, it will also protect our environmental rights including clean air, water and climate.

A Charter of Rights will give us all the opportunity to shape our own lives and to help us to live with dignity and self-respect.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Protection of our digital freedoms and privacy
- Freedom to protest
- Guaranteed access to essential services no matter who you are
- Freedom of religion and cultural expression
- Rights for the environment

## AUSTRALIA: A GOOD GLOBAL CITIZEN

Everyone has the right to live in peace. We know that the vast majority of Australians want peace and global prosperity, not more weapons and war.

The Coalition government, supported by Labor, is intent on making Australia a top 10 global arms exporter, continues to blindly support the US, and is focused on arming our nation rather than supporting those in need across the world.

Our government has shamefully committed almost \$4 billion to assist arms exporters to do deals with human rights abusers like Saudi Arabia. The Greens' plan will immediately abolish the Defence Export Facility, and introduce legislation that prohibits Australia from exporting weapons to human rights abusers. Under our plan, we will immediately sign and ratify the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty, substantially increase our development budget and limit our role as a global arms dealer.

**The Greens believe Australia's foreign policy should be based on dialogue, diplomacy and cooperation, not aggression.**

The Greens are committed to peaceful and non-violent solutions locally, nationally and internationally. We know that trying to prevent or counter violence with violence itself will not work.

Genuine security rests on parliamentary scrutiny, international cooperation, and respect for human rights. Unquestioning support for the US and more machines of war is not the right path. Instead of buying a whole lot more big and expensive equipment, we should be preparing our defence force to provide humanitarian support in our region. Our plan would give Parliament the power to decide if we go to war, not just the Prime Minister, and would renegotiate the increasingly unstable alliance we have with the United States.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Money for overseas development, not weapons
- A defence force that is fit-for-purpose in a warming world
- Less risk of nuclear disaster
- Fewer senseless wars



# PAYING FOR OUR PLANS

If everyone paid their fair share of tax, we'd all get a fair go at living a decent life.

The Greens are building a world where everyone has what they need for a decent life, where essentials are either free or low-cost, our jobs are meaningful, our environment is protected and restored back to its proper health.

**Our economic plan is based on a few simple premises. That:**

- **A strong economy is a sustainable economy, built on a healthy environment**
- **It's the shape of our economy, not simply its size, that determines our nation's wealth**
- **Our economy should work for us, not the other way around**

Right now our economy doesn't work for us. Big corporations are using their influence and their political donations to gain more and more for themselves, while many people across our communities are struggling to afford a roof over their head or to put food on the table.

Since 2012, both Liberal and Labor governments have taken over \$100 million from big corporates and in return, they've sold our public assets to those vested interests, protected their record profits and left big loopholes in our tax system, to the point where 1 in 3 of the biggest corporations pay no tax at all.

That's not good economic management. That's economic injustice.

It doesn't have to be this way.

Being a good economic manager should mean that your plan works for people and communities, not solely for enormous private profit. It means you share the enormous wealth in our society by prioritising investment in public services for everyone – in world class accessible social services, education, healthcare and affordable homes.

## **OUR PLAN TO MAKE OUR ECONOMY WORK FOR ALL OF US, AND PUT BILLIONS OF DOLLARS BACK INTO PUBLIC SERVICES:**

- Introduce a super profits tax on the oil, gas and mining giants that operate in uncompetitive markets and with huge tax advantages
- End the billions in corporate handouts from government
- Make big corporations pay for their pollution, instead of getting government handouts
- Close the tax avoidance system, to stop giant multinationals dodging their tax bill
- Reverse the big tax cuts to shareholders and the super wealthy



## A TAX ON SUPER-PROFITS

The mining, oil and gas industries exploit our environment for their own super-profits and an unfair tax system means many don't pay for these natural resources. The result: less money for the public services we all need to live a good life.

Companies in some industries make super profits not because of their skill, innovation or hard work but because government sets the regulatory and tax settings in their favour.

Australia is now the world's biggest gas exporter. These offshore gas companies will make billions over the next 40 years but never pay a cent in royalties and may never pay a cent in tax either. They get our gas resources completely free and the major parties won't change that arrangement because they have received millions in donations from these companies.

**The rules have been rigged in favour of big business and it's one of the major contributors to the rapidly growing gap between the super-rich and the rest of us.**

The Greens would set royalties for gas extraction and wind back the staggering \$367 billion worth of tax credits they are sitting on.

For mining companies, we would implement the recommendations of the Henry Tax Review by introducing a 40% super-profits tax on very profitable mining ventures to ensure more wealth is shared with the community.

Our plan would reclaim those super-profits from the mining and gas industries to invest directly in improving public services and infrastructure.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- End the free ride these giant companies enjoy
- Tax super profits for the benefit of society, not just shareholders
- Encourage investment in more productive areas of our economy

Total raised: \$18.7 billion

## ENDING CORPORATE HANDOUTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT

We can build a future for all of us, and create a truly sustainable economy with quality public services, but only if we reverse decades of terrible decisions by Labor and Liberal governments that reward industries which are causing social and environmental damage.

Government subsidies to mining companies make it more profitable for them to run their operations and pollute our environment. Subsidies to destructive industries cost the economy billions each year - money that could be spent on schools, hospitals and other public services. These handouts are a reward to the big corporate donors of the two major parties.

The Greens also have a plan that will take on the vested interests in health insurance and the military, cutting unnecessary spending and investing billions into the public services everyone relies on.

**Tax-Free Fuel Rebate:** The Greens plan scraps the tax-free fuel rebate for mining companies. This is the government's 17th biggest expenditure item, just below funding for public schools and has given an enormous benefit to some of our largest and dirtiest companies.

**Private Health Insurance Subsidies:** We would remove the public subsidies that line the pockets of private health companies yet do nothing to take pressure off the public health system. This disproportionately benefits those who can afford private health insurance, while taking money out a system which is available to all of us. The Greens will reinvest this \$6.5 billion a year back into the public health system to pay for our plan for health, including the expansion of Denticare.

**Weapons Exports:** Our plan cuts back the billions the government hands over to weapons exporters and those who make money from war and misery. Billions of dollars have already been thrown at our military and weapons manufacturers with almost no scrutiny and for no overriding purpose. And still the Liberals, supported by Labor, are intent on making Australia a top 10 global arms exporter. Our government has shamefully committed almost \$4 billion to assist arms exporters to do deals with human rights abusers like Saudi Arabia.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Make renewables cheaper and dirty energy more expensive
- Redirect funding going to private health companies into the public health system
- Stop weapons exports ending up in the hands of human rights abusers

Total raised: \$55.6 billion





## TAXING POLLUTION

A green economy is one where we tax pollution and use that revenue to support households and transform our energy sector to renewables.

Our biggest polluters are so profitable because they get to pollute for free. Macquarie University calculates that this looting has totalled a staggering \$9.5 trillion of corporate profits since 1995, with communities forced to clean up the mess left by these big polluters.

**The Greens support a carbon price as the simplest, fairest, most effective way to reduce emissions, drive a transition in renewables and reduce household costs.**

Under our plan, we will legislate to re-introduce an economy-wide carbon price on direct emissions from facilities which emit more than 25,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>-e per year.

### THE BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- Reduce pollution and fast-track more renewable energy
- Unleash innovation in smart, clean technologies
- Make polluters pay for the damage they are doing to our environment

Total raised: \$12.8 billion

## END TAX AVOIDANCE

Profits made by multinational corporations in Australia are soaring. These enormous businesses get so much out of our society, but many are not giving anything back. They use every method available to avoid paying their fair share of tax, if they pay any at all.

We don't have a tax system anymore, we have a tax avoidance system - and Australians are sick of it. They've had enough of multinational companies and the super rich treating tax as an optional extra. That's why the Greens have a comprehensive plan to stop the \$11 billion a year tax avoidance industry. We'll focus on enforcement, changes to our tax laws, public disclosure and global action.

**Trusts and Transparency:** Our plan cracks down on the tricks of tax avoidance, like income splitting through trusts, and reduces the threshold for public reporting to \$50 million to provide greater transparency over the tax affairs of the biggest companies in the country.

**Buffett Rule:** Under our plan, a Buffett Rule will be introduced so the super rich will have to pay a baseline amount of tax, no matter how many deductions they use. With this Buffett rule in place, we can make serious inroads in eliminating poverty and economic inequality.

Every year, we hear news stories about the millionaires in Australia who paid accountants to reduce their tax bill to zero - so they don't even pay the Medicare Levy. Our plan is to cap those deductions so that someone earning above \$300,000 a year - the richest 0.5 percent of the workforce - could no longer deduct to a level below 35 cents in every extra dollar earned.

**Resource the ATO:** The Greens would also resource the Australian Tax Office (ATO) so they can do their job well. We would re-create the 4,400 ATO positions taken away by Labor and Liberal governments since 2012. Our plan would also require accurate and timely reporting on tax avoidance, including a settlements register to detail any arrangement reached with the ATO.

### BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- No more tax loop-holes
- Restore faith in our tax system
- Everyone pays their fair share

Total Raised: \$12 billion

## REVERSE UNFAIR TAX-CUTS

Everyone should pay their fair share of tax in order to contribute to a fairer, more equal society. Our taxes pay for the things we all need, like schools, hospitals, public transport and infrastructure. No one should be above contributing to a fairer society for all of us.

Both the Liberals and Labor have passed tax cuts to top income earners and big business in this term of Parliament. The Liberals want to go further after the election and Labor have said they will support big business tax cuts when Australia's surplus reaches 1% of GDP.

The tax cuts which have already passed the Parliament will turbocharge economic inequality and wipe out our progressive tax system - for example, a graduate nurse on \$41,000 will pay the same rate of tax as a financial adviser on \$200,000. We can create new jobs by reversing these unfair tax cuts and investing in the public services we want and need.

Company tax cuts for banks and mining companies will do nothing to help ordinary Australians as public services deteriorate. And because of Australia's dividend imputation system, company tax cuts will only benefit foreign investors. The 'trickle down' approach to economics has failed for thirty straight years.

**These giant businesses don't need a tax cut, they need to start paying tax so government can pay for the services that we all need to live a good life.**

The Greens will reverse any company tax cuts for businesses earning more than \$10 million per annum by restoring the tax rate to 30%. Small businesses would still keep their current tax rate.

Only the Greens will unequivocally oppose further tax cuts to big corporations and the wealthiest Australians. We should be sharing the enormous wealth in our society by investing in public services, not handing out tax cuts.

### BENEFITS OF OUR PLAN:

- More money for essential services, like schools and hospitals
- Bigger corporations pay more tax than small businesses
- New jobs directly created instead of hoping that 'trickle-down' jobs eventually arrive

Total raised: \$16.8 billion





# GET INVOLVED WITH THE FASTEST GROWING POLITICAL PARTY IN AUSTRALIA

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# A FUTURE FOR ALL OF US

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