

# Creating Jobs & Supporting Local Business in Moreland.



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Moreland Greens Policies  
Updated July, 2020

**With Australia now in a recession and unemployment rising, the Greens will create jobs in Moreland, and support local businesses and innovation and training opportunities. We'll also improve transparency and community consultation, to help Council make better decisions.**

For the first time in nearly three decades, Australia is in an economic recession. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, more people are out of work, and looking for a job to support their livelihood. Businesses are being forced to make difficult decisions or having to shut down.

Greens Councillors helped secure 310 jobs for Moreland through the Victorian government's Working for Victoria jobs guarantee program, and will continue to work to create decent jobs through Council and its spending and services, and promote job creation throughout Moreland.

# Jobs in Moreland

## On Council, the Greens will work to:

- Support smart capital expenditure projects that benefit local businesses in the area;
- Make Moreland City Council an employer of choice;
- Implement an integrated learning and work experience program for members of the community who are experiencing cyclical, structural or long term unemployment;
- Develop a target and/or training opportunities for Council to employ older people, given the increasing unemployment rate for older workers;
- Develop a target and/or training opportunities for Council to employ people with disabilities;
- Support new hubs for the arts that will create new jobs and employment opportunities in the creative industries;
- Create an Aboriginal Employment Pathways program to create a culturally inclusive Council (including minimum targets for employing Aboriginal people within Council's workforce) with resources and funding for an Aboriginal officer dedicated to implementing this program.



## Supporting Local Business

**Locally-owned and operated businesses are vital to a strong local economy and creating decent jobs. With a strong record in supporting local enterprises, the Greens commit to supporting local businesses in Moreland, particularly in the wake of COVID-19.**

The Greens have supported the Brunswick Business Incubator since its inception and supported the establishment of small businesses in Moreland. The Incubator is transitioning to a new model and we will support measures that facilitate start-ups and new small businesses in the area.

We will work with organisations like the Australian Energy Foundation (formerly the Moreland Energy Foundation) to help local businesses and landlords save on energy costs and be more sustainable through investing in renewable energy and energy efficiency measures.

## Innovation

**Through supporting innovation in Moreland, we can help generate new industries and jobs. The Greens want to connect new innovative ideas to the places where products can be made. Our plan is to create jobs in Moreland and create the industries of the future.**

We will support the new Brunswick Design District to promote innovation, start ups and local business in Moreland, to provide spaces for people to work, and for legal and business support to be available for commercialisation of innovative projects and products that could be manufactured or conducted in Moreland.

Council has reviewed the Industrial Land Use Strategy (the MILS), to provide certainty for industry and commerce in the municipality.

The Greens will work to develop programs for rooftop solar installation, battery storage and water tank installation, reducing upfront costs to support jobs and new industries in Moreland. We will also support community renewable energy projects in Moreland.

## Increasing transparency for Council

**Local councils are responsible for significant budgets on behalf of their constituents. Councillors have a responsibility to ensure Council's investments and budgets are ethical, fair and transparent. The Greens will ensure people have a say in how Council money is spent.**

### **On Council the Greens will:**

- Support ethical and sustainable investments and procurement;
- Enhance public participation and engagement in the setting of annual council budgets, target setting for new infrastructure projects and revenue raising measures;
- Add public information sessions to increase public participation in annual budget processes so residents can better understand the decisions behind the proposed budget;
- Seek to implement triple bottom line reporting (ecological, social and economic) for all council activities.

## Council Budgets

**Councils have limited means of raising revenue to invest in services, local initiatives and programs.**

The Greens believe that local government should receive a significantly higher proportion of the national taxation revenue and will work to ensure that the services that are provided by local government, on behalf of the Federal and State Governments, are fully funded.

The Greens acknowledge that people who rely on the pension as their only source of income or are receiving low incomes, are finding it increasingly difficult to pay rates. We will advocate to increase the concession on their rates.

To reduce Council's reliance on revenue from rates, Council will seek to work with other Councils to provide services cooperatively, where this will reduce the cost to Council while maintaining staffing levels.

Council has also been able to leverage funding from other sources through initiatives like the Australian Energy Foundation which has allowed Council to move towards achieving its environmental goals at a reduced cost. The Greens on Council will continue to seek innovative new ways of reducing Council's reliance on rate revenue and secure alternative sources of funding.

The Greens have advocated for increased planning fees to better reflect the costs involved throughout the process. The Greens will advocate for a fairer fee structure relative to the size of developments.

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**To find out how you can get involved in with your local greens community, or to read our other policies, please visit:**

 [greens.org.au](https://www.greens.org.au)  
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