Appendix 5 ACT Greens Policy Platform for the 10th Assembly

The ACT Greens took a comprehensive package of election commitments to the electorate in the 2020 election campaign. These focused on building a better normal through real climate action, a home for all, modern transport, healing the environment, a stronger democracy and supporting our community. The key priorities ACT Greens will progress this term are listed below.

This is not the ACT Greens full set of commitments across all portfolio areas. Any policy commitments included in the Appendix 1 have also been removed. Please refer to ACT Greens Policy Initiatives at https://greens.org.au/act/better-normal

Animal Welfare

- 1.1 Secure long-term funding for wildlife carer groups and fund an ACT Wildlife Wombat Mange Management Program
- 1.2 Expand Gonacon dart delivery rollout to enable a more humane approach to kangaroo population management (\$1.4M over four years)
- 1.3 Conduct a cat-containment awareness campaign on the impact of cats on wildlife in Canberra and increase cat containment measures to move towards Territory-wide cat containment

Arts

- 2.1 Establish a pay the artist first and fairly policy, and trial a Canberra Creative Industries funding certainty program by funding 100 local, professional artists at a level equivalent to a median salary for 3 years, under a model co-designed by artists and the sector
- 2.2 Review funding of key arts organisations in consultation with artists and industry to determine a more open, transparent and accountable model
- 2.3 Establish a separate arts venue and facilities maintenance fund with an open, transparent and accountable model
- 2.4 Implement the 2019 Entertainment Action Plan
- 2.5 Provide an additional \$1 million in Homefront Grants and extending payroll tax and rent relief programs
- 2.6 Fund a co-designed 'Women's Walk" of artwork by, for and about women at West Basin precinct
- 2.7 Include a live music venue and arts precinct in the construction of the new Woden CIT campus

Circular economy

- 3.1 Establish a Circular Economy Grant scheme (\$1.2M over four years)
- 3.2 Improve household and business waste reduction and recycling education (\$2M over 4 years)
- 3.3 Deliver an organic waste processing facility for households and businesses

Community Facilities

- 4.1 Build a new community multi-purpose centre in Gungahlin Town Centre
- 4.2 Revitalise Yerrabi Pond and foreshore
- 4.3 Establish an all ages nature playground in the inner north
- 4.4 Release 5 concessional sites to community groups over 4 years, with at least 2 in Gungahlin and 2 in Molonglo, and establish a \$1 million annual grant stream in the Zero Emissions Fund for upgrades to Government owned buildings leased to community organisations and a \$2 million annual upgrade fund for community owned buildings that are used by the public

Community Sector

- 5.1 Review and increase funding for the community sector to account for population growth, increased demand, and complexity of client need and increased cost of salaries and operation
- 5.2 Establish a Technology Upgrade Fund for the community sector
- 5.3 Insert a non-discrimination clause in all funding agreements between government and community organistions (particularly around equal access to services for LGBTIQ)

Community Sport

- 6.1 Develop an indoor and outdoor Facilities Management Plan
- 6.2 Make Stromlo Forest Park a premier mountain biking destination by finishing the Stromlo Park Masterplan, implementing recommendations from the "Mountain Biking ACT report" and building a flow trail from Stromlo Forest Park to Cotter
- 6.3 Build a new multi-purpose indoor sports centre combined with community meeting rooms in the Woden Town Centre
- 6.4 Design and construct a new competition standard Half Pipe in Belconnen and a Skatepark in Dickson

Drug Reform

- 7.1 Double the existing funding for services to address drug and mental health co-morbidity
- 7.2 Introduce permanent pill testing at all ACT festivals and other sites
- 7.3 Pilot a safe drug consumption site
- 7.4 Train GPs to better understand the medicinal cannabis scheme
- 7.5 Enhance drug diversion pathways for law enforcement

Education

- 8.1 Ensure all indoor learning spaces are between 17 and 30 degrees at all times, appropriately ventilated, and smoke-free (\$30M over four years)
- 8.2 Review the ACT Education Directorate's "Bring Your Own Device", Google classrooms and remote learning policy
- 8.3 Increase nature play spaces and outdoor activities equipment for older schools (\$3M over four years)
- 8.4 Move CIT into the Education Directorate, include a Member of the AEU on the CIT Board and expand the Gungahlin CIT Campus to provide more technical and vocational training
- 8.5 Commit to no more school closures, including examination of models to keep Tharwa preschool open

First Nations

- 9.1 Support First Nations families with claims to connection to country in the ACT to submit native title claims
- 9.2 Repeal and replace the Namadgi Agreement (including provisions requiring parties to withdraw native title claims)
- 9.3 Establish a community controlled Aboriginal drug and alcohol residential rehabilitation facility and new family recovery programs
- 9.4 Prioritise community controlled organisations to deliver First Nations services including with \$1.5 million seed funding for Yerrabi Yurwang Child and Family Service
- 9.5 Return Yarramundi, Boomanulla and the Ngunnawal Bush Healing farm to community control
- 9.6 Deliver new accommodation for Gugan Gulwan
- 9.7 Establish a Ngunnawal Language Centre at Yarramundi Cultural centre and fund and support culture and languages programs in schools and after-school programs, including on country learning

- 9.8 Increase the number of identified First Nations staff positions in CYPS, implement recommendations from Our Booris Our Way and fund family group conferencing
- 9.9 Establish a First Nations Commissioner in the Human Rights Commission

Gender equity

- 10.1 Ensure well-funded systemic women's advocacy groups, including community legal centres, women's legal centres and women's resource and support centres, and increase the capacity of domestic and family and sexual violence services
- 10.2 Develop a women's employment and education strategy to close the income gap
- 10.3 Improve early intervention programs for people who use violence against their partners, family members or pets
- 10.4 Ensure a gendered lens for policy and program development through gender responsive budgeting and producing an annual women's budget statement that clearly outlines the impacts and benefits for women

Green jobs

- 11.1 Allocate \$10 million interest free seed funding loans for turning businesses into co-operatives, and employ two additional full time staff members through Access Canberra to help advise on establishment and development of co-operatives
- 11.2 Establish a \$100,000 a year Volunteer Ready Program to support COVID recovery
- 11.3 Provide \$250 000 a year for the next two years to the National Capital Attractions Association to undertake product development work, as well as to provide capacity to support tourism operators to ensure that they have the right service offerings in place to give tourists confidence that they are safe, and can enjoy their visit
- 11.4 Increase the tourism marketing budget by \$1 million for each of the next three years

Health

- 12.1 Improve services for walk-in centres including offering sexual health screening, reduce Elective Surgery Waitlists, build a hydrotherapy pool, expand Hospital in the Home, invest in preventative health measures including physical activity, obesity reduction, social prescribing, and scope a Northside Hospital
- 12.2 Improve Emergency Department responses with geriatric streaming and a Psychiatric Alcohol and non-prescription Drugs Assessment (PANDA) Unit
- 12.3 Introduce more end-of-life treatment and care options, including a palliative care ward at the Canberra Hospital, enhanced after hours palliative care, palliative care respite facility for carers and a scoping study for a secular hospice
- 12.4 Provide an additional \$1.5 Million in Dental Care for Low Income Families

Justice and Community Safety

- 13.1 Implement the Disability Justice Strategy Action Plan
- 13.2 Invest \$20 million in justice reinvestment programs over 4 years
- 13.3 Reduce incarceration of First Nations women and men to match non-indigenous incarceration rates by 2030
- 13.4 Pilot a new Youth Justice throughcare program for young offenders leaving detention
- 13.5 Undertake a feasibility study to establish a one stop response for sexual assault to be overseen by the existing overarching Sexual Assault Reform Program

Human Services and Access

- 14.1 Fund the Older Persons Abuse Line
- 14.2 Support The Neighbourhood to secure land for Canberra's first Dementia Care Village
- 14.3 Review concession assistance measures and tax reforms to make these fair and equitable

Maternity

- 15.1 Expand capacity at the Birth Centre and establish a standalone family birth centre
- 15.2 Expand home birthing eligibility criteria
- 15.3 Provide woman and baby-centred planning, design and delivery of maternity services and increase access to breastfeeding information for new mothers
- 15.4 Increase investment in Perinatal Mental Health and Wellbeing

Mental Health & Youth Mental Health

- 16.1 Expand PACER to two teams to service the North and South of Canberra 7 days a week
- 16.2 Build 5 additional supported accommodation houses over the next 4 years
- 16.3 Refurbish 10 beds at the Brian Hennessy Rehabilitation Centre for transitional and rehabilitation accommodation for consumers with enduring mental illness (\$10 Million Capital expenditure plus \$3.25 Million over 4 years)
- 16.4 Boost community counselling, mentoring, home visits, advocacy and case management for 10-25 year olds
- 16.5 Establish a psychologist subsidy scheme for young people and people on low incomes (\$2M over 4 years)
- 16.6 Improve programs that target and support youth mental health, eating disorders, alcohol/drug use/mental health, First Nations mental health, First Nations suicide prevention & postvention and respite for mental health carers

Natural Environment

- 17.1 Better protect remnant grasslands, woodlands and key waterways as nature reserves or similar protective zoning
- 17.2 Increase PCS funding to manage Canberra Nature Park and Namadgi National Park (\$4M each over 4 years)
- 17.3 Create a separate biodiversity offsets management fund
- 17.4 Increase funding for weeds and invasive species management (\$7.5M over 4 years)
- 17.5 Increase funding for local environmental volunteer-based groups (\$3.2M over 4 years)
- 17.6 Employ an additional 10 Ngunnawal rangers and incorporate cultural land and water management practices
- 17.7 Establish a wildlife corridors program and install 5,000 nesting boxes
- 17.8 Ban neonicotinoids and reduce the use of glyphosate and other pesticides
- 17.9 Expand the Healthy Waterways program (\$30 M over 4 years)
- 17.10 Create a ten year stormwater upgrade plan to handle climate change storm events
- 17.11 Maintain Coombs Peninsula as green space
- 17.12 Establish more air quality monitoring stations, including in Fyshwick

Planning and heritage

- 18.1 Work with Federal Government on co-ordinated national/ACT heritage protection of the central national area, lake and inner hills to protect Canberra's character while meeting community needs for housing and transport
- 18.2 Investigate options for a single "hub" site for heritage groups, including storage space

Procurement and investment reform

- 19.1 Set targets in ACT Government procurement for zero waste consumption and minimum amounts of recycled content
- 19.2 Support ACT Government CBR branding and labelling for local food
- 19.3 Set stronger ethical investment processes for ACT Government funds, including cosponsoring activist shareholder resolutions

Sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex rights

- 20.1 Increase the capacity of Meridian and continue to support for CBR Pride Hub
- 20.2 Fund a dedicated housing and homelessness officer to provide advocacy and support to same sex attracted and gender diverse people
- 20.3 Provide increased funding for A Gender Agenda including for a dedicated intersex officer and delivery of services in The Friday Centre
- 20.4 Update the high school health curriculum as it relates to gender and gender identity, and continue updating all government forms, including for schools, to recognise sex and gender diversity
- 20.5 Roll out community based rapid HIV testing and HIV/BBV prevention efforts
- 20.6 Ban gender-related surgery on intersex babies (unless necessary for preservation of life) and provide training for midwives and doctors
- 20.7 Work with survivors of conversion therapy to determine further reforms

Social inclusion

- 21.1 Fully fund the ACT Carers Strategy
- 21.2 Establish a dedicated Access Committee for people with disabilities to guide government on active travel, urban planning and transport design proposal issues
- 21.3 Scope on-demand and flexibus services to make it easier for people with mobility issues and enable night buses to drop off closer to home where there are safety concerns
- 21.4 Amend the Children and Young People Act to create an external merits review system
- 21.5 Support family unity prior to making a care and protection order
- 21.6 Establish the Children and Youth Services Council, and provide access to supported decision making for parents with disability and in particular for families where the CYPS system is involved. This includes support in hospital especially for mothers who are at risk of having their baby taken into care
- 21.7 Establish an Official Visitor for aged care
- 21.8 Pilot and then scale-up a Neighbourhood Democracy Program across Canberra suburbs

Transport

- 22.1 Build and maintain walking & cycling infrastructure by allocating 20% of the roads and parking capital upgrade budget or \$20M per year, whichever is greater
- 22.2 Deliver a community-driven 10 year walking and cycling infrastructure priority plan in 2021
- 22.3 Construct large scale cycling corridors in key areas of demand
- 22.4 Improve bus services and aim for hourly weekend services

Urban Agriculture

- 23.1 Establish a Canberra Region Food Collaborative through Regional Development Australia
- 23.2 Change Territory Plan overlays to convert productive farmland from Broadacre zoning to Rural zoning, including in the Majura Valley, and provide certainty for agricultural leaseholders through long term leases
- 23.3 Amend the Residential Tenancies Act to create a presumption that landlords will permit renters to compost and grow food