



# Tasmanian Greens Party Policy 2014

## Treasury and Finance

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The management of the State Budget is the key government instrument for implementing economic policy. Budgets need to be assessed on long-term environmental, social and cultural impacts.

The Greens are committed to responsible budget management. The Tasmanian Greens previous Alternative Budgets demonstrated the triple-bottom line principle, and integrated social and environmental objectives with economic priorities. This is the same approach we will take in government.

We intend to realise our vision for a healthy, compassionate Tasmania, leading in sound economic management that incorporates environmental protection and social justice.

We will retain publicly-owned assets and natural resources in public hands to pass on to the next generation. They are vital in ensuring the most economically efficient provision of public services and are important in meeting the needs of future generations.

We advocate that resource rentals reflect the cost of depletion of non-renewable resources and ecosystem impacts.

The Greens believe that for the best economic outcomes, budgets should remain balanced over the long economic cycles but that government borrowings can be used to build public infrastructure that will last for, and be available to, future generations.

### Measures

#### Criteria for Budget Assessment

The Tasmanian Greens will work to:

1. ensure that a 'triple bottom line' principle of People, Place, Prosperity is adopted which measures all budget proposals against the requirements of social justice, ecological sustainability and economic wellbeing;
2. develop a set of social, economic and environmental indicators that provide a report on Government, community and industry progress, and which provide criteria for measuring intergenerational equity planning;
3. seek to have public reports on a quarterly basis on those indicators through the Treasurer, and require independent assessment of the reports by the Auditor-General;
4. establish a comprehensive review of the current state taxation regime.

#### Resource Rentals

The Tasmanian Greens will work to:

5. ensure payments which reflect the use of public resources and the loss of non-renewable assets;
6. withdraw, progressively, state subsidies for environmentally damaging and job-shedding industries and divert incentives towards a clean, green and clever economy;
7. require a dividend from government business enterprises based on a fair return on equity;
8. investigate and implement pollution taxes.

### **Stamp Duty**

The Tasmanian Greens will work to:

9. abolish stamp duty on insurances in line with calls by consumer and taxpayer groups to benefit businesses, ordinary citizens, community groups, and to promote increased insurance coverage.

### **Clean, Green and Clever Development**

The Tasmanian Greens will work to:

10. support the current transition to a clean, green and clever economy;
11. support cradle-to-grave practices by business;
12. support eco-effective technology, products and services;
13. support education and training, enabling Tasmanians to live sustainably.

### **Government Practices**

The Tasmanian Greens will work to:

14. judge government procurement against the principles of social justice, ecological sustainability, democratic processes and general economic security;
15. require government leadership in ethical purchasing;
16. preference Tasmanian goods, services and imported products that are fair-trade certified;
17. meet the highest environmental standards by maximising recycling and energy efficiency.