



Sue Hickey

Independent Candidate for Clark

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3 March 2024

Dear Anna,

Thank you for your email outlining the City of Hobart's priorities leading into the State election. As you would know from my background and public commentary, I am supportive of each of the advocacy priorities as set out in your paper. Each priority resonates and has been part of my platform in public life ever since I was Lord Mayor of Hobart. Housing has been a particular focus, but I have also publicly stated positions on climate change, transport, research and education, community sports facilities, and Hobart as a visitor destination.

With housing, which again as you'd know, is a particular passion of mine, I have already called for the next Tasmanian Government to provide \$100 million in loan funding, interest free for three years, to support social and affordable housing providers to build up to 400 new homes. If social and affordable housing providers are given a government-guaranteed \$100 million in loan funding and a three-year interest holiday, it would boost home construction and employment, help to provide homes for those on the housing waiting list and act to bring rents under control.

We have a population with almost 50 per cent functional illiteracy and numeracy skills, which is completely unacceptable and does not prepare a workforce for our future needs and so future education is a priority which I've said publicly at the start of the election campaign. Conversely, we could be a brain hub of innovation, an island of entrepreneurs and a knowledge economy and our Antarctic and science sectors along with other UTAS research work provide the foundation for us to showcase world-class innovation.

On climate change, our young people are begging us to lift our game. We could be the world's envy in this space and a haven for those wanting to escape their current environs. We all need to do better to limit greenhouse emissions, whether it is through science in farming, making electric vehicles more accessible to average families or offering subsidies for solar panels to free up our electricity for businesses needing to expand in Tasmania.

I have also announced I will move to establish a statewide strategy to boost community sporting facilities and participation. While I support Tasmania's AFL team and a proposed new stadium home (V2.0), this should not be at the expense of community sporting facilities and the hundreds of local sports clubs around the State many of which are struggling with ageing infrastructure. I believe it's beholden on our politicians to ensure community facilities are provided to cater for the demand and that these facilities are of the highest possible standard. Where needed, equipment and uniforms should be provided where buying them is beyond the capacity of individuals or local clubs.

New thinking is required to deal with transport and city and suburban road traffic issues. The urban traffic build-up, particularly in Hobart and surrounds, has been allowed to deteriorate over past decades and now urgent action was needed to be taken to provide a sustainable fix. This must include out-of-the-box thinking, and a focus on cheaper, cleaner, and healthier transport options. We should make greater use of e-bikes, bicycles, and electric vehicles, as well as providing improved infrastructure to encourage innovative solutions that foster a more sustainable future for our communities. The incoming Tasmanian parliament must adopt a comprehensive strategy for the future to improve public transport, upgrade the road outlets in and out of Hobart and to encourage new-age transport solutions.

I also am fully behind the development of a City-To-State Visitor Gateway Strategy to maximise the visitor experience through a fully integrated visitor strategy. As the Hobart City paper outlines, we are a unique city with amazing experiences at our doorstep. A partnership between the tourism industry, governments and the City to maximise the offerings, makes so much sense.

So, in essence, I fully endorse Hobart's six advocacy priorities. If elected on March 23 I would be happy to talk further with you to see how we can progress the priorities within the new parliament.

Thanks again for making contact.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sue Hickey', with a stylized, cursive script.

Sue Hickey
Independent candidate for Clark

Authorised J Pritchard 23a Cadbury Rd Claremont 7011