



Flinders Island

Delivering a 21st Century Sustainable Economy

Launched by Kim Booth MP

March 2010

READY TO DELIVER

- \$3.9 million investment in Flinders Island***
- Investment in infrastructure for economic recovery***
- Energy independence through renewable energy***
- A Community Garden and Sustainable Living Centre***
- Development and promotion of a Flinders Island Brand***

POLICY INITIATIVE OF THE TASMANIAN GREENS MPs



Flinders Island

“The Tasmanian Greens are ready to deliver necessary and well-deserved infrastructure for Flinders Island. We share a vision of a Flinders Island world-renowned for its unique lifestyle, product, and sustainable economy.”

Kim Booth MP - Greens Member for Bass

THE ISSUE:

Through 12 years of Labor neglect, the Flinders Island community has endured significant social and economic harm due to:

- ☒ *A deficient shipping service*
- ☒ *Deterioration and lack of investment in port facilities*
- ☒ *Lack of government support for a Flinders Island vision*

THE TASMANIAN GREENS WILL:

- ☑ ***Seek tripartite parliamentary support for investment in essential Port Infrastructure, and allocate \$1.5 million for critical infrastructure upgrades at Lady Barron;***
- ☑ ***Deliver renewable energy independence with innovative loan schemes for locally-generated renewable energy, and \$300,000 for electric car conversion;***
- ☑ ***Commit \$300,000 to develop and promote a Flinders Island produce and tourism brand;***
- ☑ ***Deliver \$1.2 million Flinders Island Community Garden and Sustainable Living Centre; and***
- ☑ ***Transfer road ownership of the main link road B85 to State government, and commit \$217,000 for maintenance.***

The Tasmanian Greens - Delivering for Flinders Island

The Greens' Flinders Island package will ensure essential infrastructure is in place to enable Flinders Island to take advantage of its unique natural resources, people and location.

The Tasmanian Greens share the vision of a Flinders Island world renowned for its unique lifestyle, natural resources, low carbon economy, high quality agricultural and fishery products and high end tourism - one that is truly self-reliant.

The Tasmanian Greens strategy comprises:

- ▲ Stimulating economic recovery and fresh food independence;
- ▲ Energy independence through renewable technologies; and,
- ▲ Commitment to building the Flinders Island Brand.

The Tasmanian Greens are ready to deliver the necessary infrastructure to make our vision for a sustainable and successful Flinders Island a reality.

Stimulating Economic Recovery

The Tasmanian Greens will stimulate the economic recovery of Flinders Island through:

▲ Shipping:

- ☑ Ensure a reliable, efficient and safe shipping service is in operation.
- ☑ Invest **\$150,000** in commissioning an independent review to determine an appropriate level and standard of shipping service in cooperation with key Island stakeholders, which will consider:
 - » Seasonal peak load demand;
 - » Regularity of service;
 - » Freight and passenger needs; and
 - » The best ownership model.

▲ Ports:

- ☑ Seek tripartite parliamentary support for essential port infrastructure, and immediately commit **\$1.5 million** for critical infrastructure upgrades.

▲ Sewerage:

- ☑ Provide a one-off grant of **\$250,000** for sewerage solutions at Lady Barron in partnership with Council and land owners

▲ B85 Road Ownership:

- ☑ The Tasmanian Greens are committed to deliver the necessary transfer of B85 Road ownership and maintenance costs to the State Government (as suggested in the Flinders Council Priority Projects 2009).
- ☑ **\$217,000** commitment for road maintenance and capital costs.

Community Garden and Sustainable Living Centre

The Tasmanian Greens will commit **\$1.2 million over three years** to establish a *Community Garden and Sustainable Living Centre* on Flinders Island.

For the health and well-being of Flinders Island residents it is important that there is a wide and readily available variety of fresh fruit and vegetables, reducing the community's dependence on costly imports.

The establishment of a *Sustainable Living Centre* compliments the Tasmanian Greens' commitment to leadership on Flinders Island and will:

- ▲ Function as both a market for fresh produce and training centre for sustainable living;
- ▲ Provide skills in renewable energy instalment; and
- ▲ Provide useful information and examples of ways to reduce overall energy consumption and live sustainably.

Independence With Renewable Energy

The Tasmanian Greens recognise the significant local commitment already made on Flinders Island, with between 70 and 80 percent of homes already using solar hot water systems.

The residents and ratepayers of Flinders Island have clearly voiced a desire for their community to become known for an economy powered by renewable energy, and the Greens are committed to supporting that vision.

Flinders Island's diesel fired generators are already supplemented by renewable energy, giving rise to a shared ambition to harness science, engineering and creativity to achieve a truly workable, practical and - above all else - renewable economy. Advances in technology over the past two years have made the impractical, practical - the potential reward for the Island is considerable.

In order to drive rapid take-up of renewable energy, the Tasmanian Greens propose setting up an innovative lease system that will be under-written by the Tasmanian government, if there is private sector failure, to enable households and businesses to become a mini generator in their own right as part of a decentralised grid connected power system.

Households and businesses will benefit from these generators (without the need to make a significant upfront capital outlay) creating an additional income stream for a rapid pay-back period and contributing to energy security.

The Tasmanian Greens will ensure Flinders Island benefits from:

- ▲ A cost reflective feed in energy tariff for renewable energy, which matches Hydro's cost.
- ▲ Advanced renewable energy technology for independence, including:
 - ☑ Evacuated Tube Solar Hot Water collectors & solar photovoltaic under the lease scheme, driving rapid take up;
 - ☑ Plug-in, grid interactive electric vehicles with battery storage contributing to grid security and stability;
 - ☑ Suitable government vehicles retrofitted as plug-in grid-interactive vehicles or replaced with new vehicles under normal replacement program.
 - ☑ **\$300,000 fund** for conversion cost, or top up costs on new vehicles, as first stage to electrify vehicle fleet.

Building the Flinders Island Brand

The Tasmanian Greens will commit **\$300,000** to a comprehensive study into building the Flinders Island Brand

This study will focus on:

- ▲ Developing Flinders Island into a Zero Carbon Holiday destination and leader in low carbon advanced economies;
- ▲ Developing a Flinders Island Product Brand in consultation with stakeholder groups, including the Flinders Island Council, TFGA, government departments, Tourism Tasmania, local businesses and the Flinders Community.

Job Creation

The *Renewable Energy Scheme* will encourage energy independence, reduce CO₂ emissions and create jobs in:

- ▲ Electric car conversion; and
- ▲ Solar hot water and photovoltaic component manufacturing and or assembly and installation.

Investment in the Flinders Island Package

	2009-10 Budget	2010-11 Forward Estimate	2011-12 Forward Estimate	2012-13 Forward Estimate
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Stimulating economic recovery	617	217	217
Community Garden & Sustainable Living Centre	400	400	400
Independence with renewable energy	300
Building the Flinders Island Brand	300

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