

Media Release



Adam Brooks MP

Shadow Minister for Small Business

Elise Archer MP

Shadow Minister for Planning

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Liberals table bills to grow the economy

Today the Tasmanian Liberals tabled three bills in State Parliament as part of our positive agenda to grow the economy – by reducing red tape, giving local businesses a chance to compete, and providing a uniform residential planning code for new development.

Adam Brooks said:

The Tasmanian Liberals strongly support Tasmania's 38,000 small businesses, which are the engine room of our economy and which support thousands of local jobs.

Government is the biggest purchaser in Tasmania, and where possible, we believe that the Government should support Tasmanian businesses, especially small businesses.

Yet recently we've seen the Labor-Green Government ditching local firms in favour of interstate competitors for relatively minor savings, and without taking account of the effect on the wider community of doing so.

That is why we have tabled our Local Benefits Test legislation in Parliament today to implement such a test on all State Government tenders, to ensure local businesses can benefit from Government spending.

The Liberals have also tabled our legislation to reduce the amount of red tape businesses have to deal with in this state.

Our legislation will mean that the Labor-Green Government will not be able to introduce a new business rule or regulation without

removing two other business rules or regulations. Our new 'one on, two off' law will effectively stop the increasing growth in red tape.

It should be the role of Government to empower business, to help them grow and prosper.

We encourage Labor and the Greens to support our bills so something can be done about the state of our economy.

Elise Archer said:

To start things moving on making Tasmania a better place to invest and do business, we today tabled our bill to introduce a single statewide residential planning code.

The Labor-Green Government has failed to act on this urgent issue to reform the state's fragmented and often dysfunctional planning system.

The Government has had twelve years to fix it, but they have failed to act, repeatedly sending the issue off for review or delaying making a decision.

The Liberals went to the last state election with a policy for a single state-wide residential planning code - as a critical part of planning reform - and we remain committed to that policy.

We have taken action today to make it happen, and have introduced legislation to force this government to act and to implement a single state-wide residential code in Tasmania by the end of this year.

Given the endless promises and repeated delays, we would hope Labor and the Greens will seize the opportunity to support our bill.

For further information or comment please call Bronwyn Perry - 0459
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