

Cost of living –

- Please outline what you/your party would do to contain cost of living increases, particularly your view on electricity and water pricing

When the long term Bligh Labor Government was thrown out of office by Queenslanders at the 2012 State election they left behind a financial crisis – a lost AAA credit rating, \$85 billion debt, a \$10 billion budget deficit, public transport fares going up at 15% every year, expensive car and boat registration, and spiralling electricity prices (partly due to Labor's Carbon Tax) and water prices (from Labor's wasteful SE Water grid).

Since the LNP Government was elected in the historical 2012 landslide election, we have worked hard to get Queensland's finances back on track, and to provide cost of living relief for families.

In our first budget we immediately:

- Provided a one-off \$80 water bill rebate and froze the family electricity bill tariff for one year.
- Froze family car registration for three years.
- Halved future public transport fare increases and introduced free travel after nine trips (weekly).
- Repealed the \$7,000 stamp duty tax increase on buying the family home.
- Abolished the \$88 million waste levy on businesses.
- We also fought every step of the way against the carbon tax until it was abolished.

While the LNP Government has made some progress in tackling the cost of living, we know there is more that needs to be done.

By taking on the responsibility and making the disciplined decisions to deal with debt and waste early, the LNP Government has acted to restore Queensland as a low-taxing state.

Taxation per person in Queensland is now \$539 lower than the average for other states and territories. This means Queensland families pay less in tax than other Australians, in turn encouraging business investment and job creation.

We know there is much more work to be done, and we have a plan to tackle the cost of living.

By fixing the State's finances, we can tackle the cost of living so that taxes and household bills are not paying for debt and deficits.

Because of the Newman LNP Government's strong economic management, public transport fares have now been cut by 5%. This is the first time that fares across the State have gone down in Queensland's history, and they will not increase again next year.

Reducing Queensland's debt, which is the highest in Australia, is essential to keeping downward pressure on cost of living for families.

Our Strong Choices plan will help put the Budget on a more sustainable footing by paying down Queensland's \$80 billion debt to a manageable level.

Our plan will also provide \$3.4 billion to directly ease cost of living pressure for families. The Newman LNP Government's Strong Choices Electricity Price Relief initiative gives us the opportunity to lower electricity prices by \$577 on the average household's power bill over the next five years.

As part of our strong plan to repay \$25 billion of Labor's debt, we will direct more than \$2 billion towards Seqwater's debt. This will result in lower prices for water consumers from 2016-17.

The LNP Government will continue to look for opportunities to tackle cost of living pressures on Queensland families, making sure our State is the best place to live, work and raise your family.

Transport and roads infrastructure –

- Do you/your party support a significant Government investment in transport and roads infrastructure?
- What are your/your party's funding/program priorities and what commitment do you/your party give to delivering the projects?

Our plan also provides \$8.6 billion for infrastructure projects across the State, creating up to 25,000 jobs. I am fighting for Cleveland and Redland City's fair share of this funding for our State roads and public transport, schools and Redland Hospital.

Economic development –

- Do you/your party support initiatives that will grow the Redlands economy and create jobs?
- What would be your/your party's priorities to help grow the Redlands economy?
- Please state your position on the City's PDAs?
- Do you support other developments that will strengthen the economy and create local jobs?

The LNP Government is committed to strong economic management and development in Cleveland and Redland City in ways that build infrastructure and create jobs. One such example is the Toondah Harbour redevelopment. Since 2009 I fought the Labor Government's bureaucratic red tape and green tape that prevented Toondah Harbour going ahead. With the formation of the LNP Government in 2012, we passed the Economic Development Act that created Priority Development Areas and the Toondah Harbour development was approved for construction under these new laws.

I am very proud to have been involved in the passing of the laws that will enable this project to go ahead. Toondah Harbour is critical for jobs and the economic future of Cleveland and Redland City. Starting in 2015, thousands of jobs will be created in construction, tourism and hospitality and small businesses - at the Harbour, in the Cleveland CBD and on North Stradbroke Island. Toondah Harbour is also vital to the Government's plan to grow eco-tourism on Straddie as the island transitions away from mining and towards a more diverse economy by 2035. Toondah Harbour will give Cleveland the go-forward it needs and I look forward to construction starting in the months ahead.

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- Do you support a university for the Redlands? If yes, what role should the government play?

While Universities are generally the jurisdiction of the Federal Government, an LNP Government would support a University starting a campus in Redland City

Government services –

- What do you consider to be the priorities for delivery of Government services in the Redlands? What can you/your party do to improve services?

Apart from continuing to invest in our schools and the education of our children, the future master-planning and expansion of the Redland Hospital Precinct is important. Under the LNP Government frontline services have improved significantly – shorter visits to the Emergency Department, with a new paediatric section and short-stay beds, waiting lists reduced dramatically for elective surgery, an Australian first surgery guarantee, a new palliative care service. An LNP Government will also continue to increase the number of nurses and doctors at the hospital.

Authorised by Mark Robinson, 19 Waterloo St, Cleveland, QLD, 4163

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