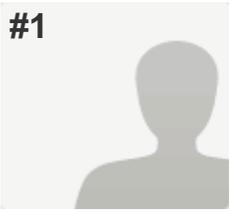


#1

**COMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Thursday, September 15, 2016 11:40:54 AM**Last Modified:** Sunday, September 18, 2016 5:39:07 PM**Time Spent:** Over a day**IP Address:** 180.200.148.18

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Rebecca Vassarotti

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Kurrajong

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

ACT Greens

**Q4: Gender**

Female

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes,

If so, why

Love is love. It is as simple as that. Families are diverse and people love who they love. They should be supported and celebrated by the community.

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes,

If so, why

End of life is a deeply personal and emotional journey. I believe that people have the right to die with dignity and not be expected to die in great pain and suffering. I sat with my mother as she entered the final stages of life, when her illness was terminal and when there was nothing we could do but sit there and support her as her body failed her. Most Australians believe we should have the right to die with dignity. We have confidence that we can put in place a system where that is balanced and protects the vulnerable.

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why

The evidence is in and there is no debate. We have an obligation to act and the longer we delay the more costly it will be - for our economy, our community and the planet. There are opportunities to embrace around supporting a renewable energy economy, and working to adapt to climate change. The ACT Greens want to continue to see the ACT be leaders in our response to climate change.

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes,

If so, why

The Greens support light rail because it will provide more efficient public transport options to service all of Canberra, and fits with our clean energy plan for the Territory. As our city grows and expands light rail will play a critical role in keeping our now-small Territory connected and accessible for everyone.

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes,

If so, why

The ACT public service should be setting an example of good industrial relations policies and practices that respect staff, and offer conditions that attract and retain quality staff. The ACT Government should be maintaining workplace laws of the highest standard and working to ensure that harmonisation processes do not weaken workplace protections. These agreements provide the opportunity to ensure equitable industrial relations standards, protect against all forms of unlawful discrimination in the workplace, and provide opportunities to be leaders in relation to issues such as gender pay equity and supporting workers affected by domestic violence.

**PAGE 4: PART C**

**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

I have been very lucky to work across a number of health areas which has increased my understanding of how we need to invest in health differently than the way we have in the past. I have worked in areas including advocacy to ensure that health services are consumer focused, and work to create a safe and supportive community as rates of Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia increase. The ACT Greens understand the importance of investing in health at the right time, and the need to acknowledge the changing health needs of our community. We are living longer and this is a great thing. This will mean that we are managing different health needs - moving from acute illnesses to needing to ensure we stay healthy, and increasingly as we age, manage chronic conditions. The ACT Greens announced recently that we will open two new walk-in centres in Dickson and Weston Creek to meet the needs of a growing population. They will reduce waiting times, and offer free, high quality care and one-off advice and treatment for people with minor illness and injury. It will give people another place to go to get health care and advice, without putting more pressure on our hospitals. We will also invest in preventative health programs that focus on keeping people healthy, rather than waiting to treat people when they are sick.

**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

I have been working to reduce poverty and inequality most of my working life - ever since I was the project officer that led the ACT Poverty Project in 1999. While we now acknowledge that many Canberrans are doing it tough, we are still not doing enough in key areas such as housing - particularly with us having the second highest rate of homelessness in the ACT. While I was leading the YWCA of Canberra we highlighted the looming issue of older women's vulnerability to homelessness and developed new services to deal with this. The ACT Greens think it is a priority to address poverty and disadvantage and have introduced a range of policy initiatives to address this - from an injection into funding of homelessness services, funding into mental health services, priority into disability services and ways we can make this an age friendly community.

**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

The ACT Greens are committed to public transport that is reliable, accessible and affordable. Light Rail is part of the solution but we have committed to a range of other initiatives that will improve access to our public transport system. Key within this is a recent initiative to freeze public transport fares to make public transport more attractive and encourage more people to use it more often. The ACT Greens know that public transport is good for Canberra. It's often cheaper than driving and, especially as light rail is built, will become faster and more reliable than driving.

**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

The issue of rates and utilities is difficult. There is a need to provide essential services to the community and a limited range of revenue options. The ACT has been the only jurisdiction that has introduced a progressive land taxation system that aims to be fairer and more sustainable. We have seen large increases in utilities mainly due to issues such as an over investment in infrastructure by utilities that has been passed on to consumers. Ensuring that home design is environmentally efficient is a key way that we can minimize costs to households in utilities. The ACT Greens want to support households to move to more efficient and sustainable energy sources and appliances. There are a range of initiatives that will address this

**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH:** Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?

Dental care is a significant issue in Australia and it requires additional investment. The ACT Greens will be making announcements around dental health in the election campaign.

#2

**INCOMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Tuesday, September 20, 2016 3:30:49 PM**Last Modified:** Tuesday, September 20, 2016 3:31:18 PM**Time Spent:** 00:00:28**IP Address:** 136.153.18.101

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Mick Gentleman

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Brindabella

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

Australian Labor Party

**Q4: Gender**

Male

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?***Respondent skipped this question***Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?***Respondent skipped this question***Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?***Respondent skipped this question***Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?***Respondent skipped this question***Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?***Respondent skipped this question*

## PAGE 4: PART C

**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?***Respondent skipped this question*

**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT.

Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH:** Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?

*Respondent skipped this question*

#3

**COMPLETE**

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)

Started: Thursday, September 22, 2016 10:55:27 PM

Last Modified: Friday, September 23, 2016 1:42:10 AM

Time Spent: 02:46:43

IP Address: 49.195.33.20

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Andrew DEWSON

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Yerrabi

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

Other (please specify) Australian Sex Party ACT

**Q4: Gender**

Male

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes,

If so, why

As a gay man myself. I must admit, i grew up thinking I'd never be given the chance to marry. However, as society changes, i now have hope. Personally, every person gay, straight or transgender should be treated equal. This is not the case currently. I hope to one day change this.

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes,

If so, why

I believe in free choice. It doesn't mean i want to see healthy people die, but if there are genuine reasons for one to be given assistance to die, than i would support this. I have known people who suffered from cancer and seeing them in pain everyday was gut-wrenching. I don't want people to through the end of their lives in overwhelming pain.

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why

I believe that it's reasonable to conclude that with an ever growing population and the need for fuel, food and lifestyles. Humans are at least part of the problem. Plus there are many scientific research to support this.

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes,

If so, why  
I would like to see more and better public transport in the ACT. I think the cost is a lot, however if we don't begin sooner rather than later, it may cost a lot more.

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes,

If so, why  
I support fair enterprise agreements. I'm not sure we would get much doing them alone.

**PAGE 4: PART C**

**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

I would like to see a fully subsidised program that allows vulnerable people including the elderly 55+ access to a number of services (gp, specialists etc) per year to help with many preventative illnesses. I would welcome any further advice on this matter, as I don't have that much experience.

**Q11: POVERTY: The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)**

This is a tough one. I have a keen interest in ending homelessness and those on the verge of housing stress. Helping older Australians is certainly part of that. I don't have any answers, but I'm very keen to work with specialist organisations and to provide better access to affordable transport and housing to alleviate living costs.

**Q12: TRANSPORT: Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?**

A much better seniors program including free days which I believe is an important part of helping seniors with living costs. Free days may include weekends and pension days for example.

**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES: Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?**

Yes! I'm interested in a review into the ever increasing rates in the ACT. I would like to see the way rates are calculated changed and a fairer system be put in place. This review would include any seniors or pension discount and whether these are working.

**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH: Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?**

See health section. I believe dental would be part of the specialist services to help with preventative illnesses and dental has a huge part to play in hygiene and nutrition.



#4

**INCOMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Friday, September 23, 2016 9:10:55 AM**Last Modified:** Friday, September 23, 2016 9:16:23 AM**Time Spent:** 00:05:27**IP Address:** 124.168.213.111

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Jill Thomsen

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Kurrajong

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

ACT Greens

**Q4: Gender**

Female

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes,

If so, why

As an LGBTIQ person, I believe we should have the same rights as any other couple to marry.

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes,

If so, why People deserve choice and control.

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why Science.

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes,

If so, why

Its part of Canberra's long term needs. More buses will only solve part of the problem.

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes,

If so, why

We should expect the public service to set an example for work rights and pay.

## PAGE 4: PART C

**Q10: HEALTH:** As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

*Respondent skipped this question*

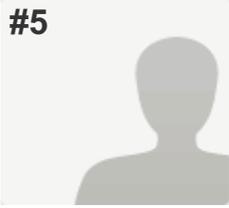
**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH:** Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?

*Respondent skipped this question*

#5

**COMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Friday, September 23, 2016 9:14:59 AM**Last Modified:** Friday, September 23, 2016 9:33:58 AM**Time Spent:** 00:18:58**IP Address:** 124.171.167.18

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Leigh Watson

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Ginninderra

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

No Political Party

**Q4: Gender**

Female

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why  
 My caveat to this is that I do not have a science background so am not really in a person to determine this truly - especially as the experts do not agree and we are generally presented with both sides of this argument. However it is a fact that what we are doing to our planet is have adverse effects with the obvious (and not contentious) results of pollution of our soils, waterways and atmosphere.

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes,

If so, why  
 In my capacity of being a candidate for the upcoming ACT Election I do not present the Light Rail proposal by the ACT Government in its current form as the feedback I am receiving from the people in my electorate is that the costs far outweigh the benefits to be had, especially for those living in this electorate. In addition, the Ginninderra residents feel that they are paying increased rates (and other living costs) to pay for this transport while at the same time basic services are being neglected here.

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

If so, why  
I am not familiar with the issues related to this question. If anything though my concerns re workers are for those who are on minimum wages - such as personal care workers, retail assistants, child care workers, labourers etc - who are unable to afford their housing. I am particularly concerned for those who are in casualised employment which makes them even further disadvantaged especially in regard to their housing.

**PAGE 4: PART C****Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

This would require a very long response! But in short, your key word is "preventative" which would involve a raft of measures around promoting healthy lifestyles and making it easier for people to access exercise and healthy food. For example, I would implement measures to discourage the promotion and sale of junk food. I am particularly concerned about mental health and one of my goals is to see support increased for families caring for members with a mental health issue.

**Q11: POVERTY: The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)**

My major platform is on increasing the supply of affordable housing in the ACT. Housing is one of the key determinants of a range of social outcomes. Seniors are included as one of the target cohorts in my strategy.  
<http://www.voteforleigh.org/solutions-for-the-act>

**Q12: TRANSPORT: Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?**

This is an area that I feel strongly about now having campaigned for 3 months and listened to concerns. This is a broad and technical area that I would undertake further research on in order to implement the most effective and sustainable measures.

**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES: Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?**

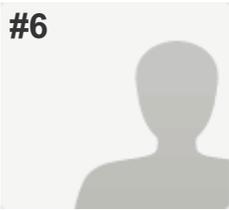
Absolutely! This is the second most common issue I am hearing from electors. If elected I will ensure a thorough review is undertaken of this issue, with a focus on those on pensions who own and live in their own homes.

**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH: Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?**

Again, this is something that I would investigate further but may include tax offsets of other incentives to dental providers or provision of means tested services through the ACT Health services.



#6

**COMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Friday, September 23, 2016 1:15:58 PM**Last Modified:** Friday, September 23, 2016 1:25:42 PM**Time Spent:** 00:09:43**IP Address:** 121.127.216.34

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Peter Robinson

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Kurrajong

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

No Political Party

**Q4: Gender**

Male

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes,

If so, why Gays are human

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes,

If so, why Death with dignity

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why Scientific evidence

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

No,

If so, why  
 Inappropriate for our city. Ugly tarmac down Northbourne Ave. Wrong direction for Canberra's development. Decision reached without analysis. Canberra's density is too low.

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes,

If so, why  
 Labour must be able to negotiate conditions.

## PAGE 4: PART C

**Q10: HEALTH:** As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?

Education

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**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

Dividing the pie of Government dollars is the name of the game. It's complex. I'm making no pre-election money promises.

---

**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

I'm proposing the trial of a dynamic demand driven bus network for the ACT.

---

**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

Dividing the pie of Government dollars is the name of the game. It's complex. I'm making no pre-election money promises.

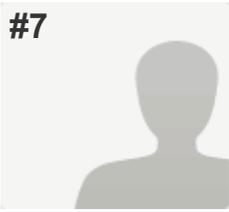
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**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH:** Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?

Dividing the pie of Government dollars is the name of the game. It's complex. I'm making no pre-election money promises.

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#7

**INCOMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Friday, September 23, 2016 10:10:52 AM**Last Modified:** Friday, September 23, 2016 6:33:41 PM**Time Spent:** 08:22:48**IP Address:** 192.102.239.195

## PAGE 2: PART A

Q1: Name?

*Respondent skipped this question*

Q2: Which Electorate?

Kurrajong

Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?

*Respondent skipped this question*

Q4: Gender

*Respondent skipped this question*

## PAGE 3: PART B

Q5: Do you support marriage equality?

*Respondent skipped this question*

Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?

*Respondent skipped this question*

Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?

*Respondent skipped this question*

Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?

*Respondent skipped this question*

Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?

*Respondent skipped this question*

## PAGE 4: PART C

Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT.

Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH:** Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?

*Respondent skipped this question*

#8

**COMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Saturday, October 01, 2016 7:31:44 PM**Last Modified:** Saturday, October 01, 2016 7:40:06 PM**Time Spent:** 00:08:22**IP Address:** 124.168.212.140

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Chris Steel

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Murrumbidgee

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

Australian Labor Party

**Q4: Gender**

Male

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes

## PAGE 4: PART C

**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

\$500 million to expand Canberra Hospital, build a new Surgical Procedures, Interventional Radiology and Emergency (SPIRE) Centre.

– \$150 million to enhance health services for women and children at the Centenary Hospital and develop a new child and adolescent mental health unit.

– \$36 million for 68 new nurses across Canberra and to fund a nurse practitioner course at UC.

– More funding to increase organ donation rates in the ACT and make it easier for people to opt in to be organ donors.

– New stroke support services to improve the quality of life for stroke patients.

– Provide the Meningococcal B vaccination for free to all babies born in the ACT, and continue to fund the free antenatal whooping cough vaccination.

– Increase the capacity of the Hospital in the Home program and provide new grants to construct three new bulk billing medical practices – two in Tuggeranong and one in the Molonglo Valley.

– Fund two new mobile dental vans to visit vulnerable communities across Canberra.

– Build two new free nurse-led Walk in Centres in Weston Creek and Gungahlin.

– Invest \$12 million for Winnunga Nimmityjah to build a new modern health clinic that is fit for purpose for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

– A one-off grant for Spinal Cord Injuries Australia to establish a NeuroMoves program in Canberra, offering people with spinal injuries a purpose-built gym to help them recover.

– Fund the Health Care Consumers Association to help patients better understand the health system and develop a model for patient care navigators to work with Canberrans with chronic health conditions.

– A new Nursing and Allied Health Clinical School at the University of Canberra

– An additional \$3 million to support health research in key areas.

– Establish a new Preventative Health Coordinator to focus on keeping Canberrans healthy.

**Q11: POVERTY: The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)**

Stand up against the Liberal's unfair pension cuts

Ensure the ACT maintains sustainable concessions scheme

**Q12: TRANSPORT: Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?**

ACT Labor is committed to building a Rapid Bus Network for Canberra, which will include more rapid services, over 100 new jobs, including 80 drivers, 80 new buses, the design of a new North-side depot, and an investment of over \$100 million to give Canberrans a real alternative to driving, alleviate road congestion and ensure our integrated public transport system grows with our city.

**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

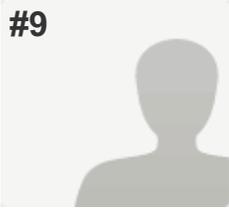
- Ensure rate rises are sustainable whilst ensuring that health) which is the most significant increasing cost on the budget is properly funded.
- Promote rates deferral for eligible pensioners so that they can defer all or part of the balance of their total rates charges after the rebate has been deducted. A relatively low rate of simple interest is charged on deferred amounts.

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**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH:** Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?

*Respondent skipped this question*

#9

**COMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Saturday, October 01, 2016 7:34:59 PM**Last Modified:** Saturday, October 01, 2016 8:22:32 PM**Time Spent:** 00:47:32**IP Address:** 121.45.209.178

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

David Pollard

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Yerrabi

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

No Political Party

**Q4: Gender**

Male

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes,

If so, why  
I think the "no" position is the one that needs explaining, not the "yes". If a particular religion wants to discriminate when marrying two people, that's a different question with different ramifications, but the government should certainly not be in the way of two people's happiness.

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes,

If so, why  
This may be a difficult concept to regulate, and there will need to be protections in place, but if an otherwise reasonable adult is suffering there should be an option to die with dignity on their own terms, rather than being made to suffer. Forced suffering is not the humane answer.

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why Peer-reviewed evidence, mostly.

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes,

If so, why

While I have questions about the governance and transparency surrounding some elements of the project, that is a different question that must be addressed. In general, the evidence I have seen indicated that fixed-line mass transit is a good fit for the Canberra of the future, the Canberra my children will grow up in. Light Rail is a good answer to the question of fixed-line mass transit. I do think \$230 million to cancel a bad contract is an acceptable sum to pay, however I do not believe this is an inherently bad contract. I certainly have not seen any evidence to suggest it is.

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes,

If so, why

I believe union negotiated enterprise agreements protects employees, particularly those who are unable to protect themselves. Unions empower individuals to negotiate on a more level playing field.

PAGE 4: PART C

**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

One strategy is to develop communities in a way that strongly supports aging-in-place. The vertical village concept is one way this can be encouraged, but there are many others.

Micro and macro communities that can support people from all stages of life have health, social and environmental benefits for all people, including an aging population.

Coming from a technology background, I also see an aging population increasingly incorporate technology in to their lives to prolong an independent, healthy lifestyle.

**Q11: POVERTY: The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)**

The move from stamp duty to rates based on land value is a good overall strategy, however it can have significant detrimental impacts on pensionable aged people who have lived in the same home for many years. The unimproved land value may have increased to a point that does not reflect the wealth of the residents, leaving them unable to afford to stay in that home.

Even with the slow phase in of increased rates, many are already feeling the pinch, or worse. We should consider means-based exceptions to pensioners in this position.

I believe in evidence-based policy and protecting our vulnerable, and would support additional policies and strategies that address pensionable aged people living below the poverty line.

**Q12: TRANSPORT: Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?**

One of the services currently offered by the ACT government is the Flexible Bus Service, however it appears to be poorly communicated and underused. This is a free service that can be coordinated to pick up senior citizens (and other demographics) and drive them directly to shopping centres, medical appointments, etc. I would like to see this service with higher patronage though better communication and access.

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**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES: Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?**

As mentioned earlier, the move to increased rates in lieu of stamp duty is a good one, overall. It is having an unintended consequence of putting sometimes extreme rates pressure on seniors who have seen their land value and rates increase disproportionately (or sometimes inversely proportionally) to their wealth. This needs to be revisited to determine if there should be exceptions put in place for vulnerable seniors.

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**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH: Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?**

While I have not considered dental health for seniors explicitly, I generally support preventative health programs. This would include dental, among many others. The benefits of preventative health include economic and social factors, as well as the obvious health ones.

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#10

**COMPLETE**

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)

Started: Saturday, October 01, 2016 9:30:44 PM

Last Modified: Saturday, October 01, 2016 9:48:06 PM

Time Spent: 00:17:22

IP Address: 121.127.212.29

## PAGE 2: PART A

Q1: Name?

Richard Niven

Q2: Which Electorate?

Kurrajong

Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?

Australian Labor Party

Q4: Gender

Male

## PAGE 3: PART B

Q5: Do you support marriage equality?

Yes

Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?

Yes

Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?

Yes

Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?

Yes

Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?

Yes

## PAGE 4: PART C

**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

Lifestyle education initiatives

Workplace actions (which have dropped back in recent year)

**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

As a general statement during the campaign I have found one of the biggest barriers for poor or marginalised people generally is lack of awareness of what services are available to them. This is because much information has been pushed on line as a savings measure. More use of 'case workers' or something similar may assist in linking people in to Government and other networks

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**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

The regional base initiative is a good one to allow people to access transport when they can no longer drive themselves for health or financial reasons. The light rail will also have at level boarding which will assist with access along that route.

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**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

This is a very difficult question. Much of the rate rise is associated with an increase in property values and some with stamp duty changes. Reductions to stamp duty can assist in lowering costs for changes to more appropriate accommodation. There may be some other options for accessing the value of assets and while this is not popular, particularly as it goes against the philosophies of older Australians in regards to savings and asset ownership, it is a feasible approach to financing and the benefit of an escalating asset value is still provided. I understand some rate relief is already provided.

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**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH:** Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?

I have no specific initiatives, but schemes to assist people who need basic dental health issues addressed can be funded on the basis that they can contribute to preventative health.

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#11

**COMPLETE**

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)

Started: Saturday, October 01, 2016 9:24:34 PM

Last Modified: Saturday, October 01, 2016 10:23:29 PM

Time Spent: 00:58:54

IP Address: 203.214.109.150

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Tobias Holm

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Yerrabi

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

ACT Greens

**Q4: Gender**

Male

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes

## PAGE 4: PART C

**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

We know that elderly people have better health when they are able to maintain independence. There are many ways to do this but I'll list a few examples:

increasing after-hours and at-home health services to reduce unnecessary, lengthy hospital visits;

reducing stamp duty so people can move to a smaller, more manageable home with easier access to public transport and services;

introducing an advisory panel (as Veronica Wensing announced) that prioritises accessibility for new developments;

simply increasing the number of benches along paths so people have an opportunity to rest while still maintaining regular exercise

**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

No one should live in poverty but yes, many of our old (and young) people do.

Simple things like access to cheap public transport and housing affordability are absolutely crucial as they reduce the two biggest costs for households.

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**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

The light rail will not only provide an efficient backbone for our transport network, it will free up millions of kilometres of bus journeys. The Greens plan to use this surplus to provide more regular services to suburbs across all of Canberra. Shane Rattenbury also started up the shuttle bus service for retirees. He also proposed the plan to construct benches (as I mentioned earlier) with a focus on the major walking paths to bus stops to make it easier for people with mobility issues to access public transport. The Greens also announced our plan to make 100% of public transport wheelchair accessible.

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**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

Rates are going up for several reasons. One of the big reasons is because land prices are going up. Too many people see housing as a financial investment to profit from rather than as a place to live.

Another reason is because rates pay for our municipal services that are being stretched further and further by our low density urban sprawl. By increasing housing density the costs of municipal services will go down per household.

The final big reason is as part of the rebalancing of our tax system. Rates are slowly rising as house insurance goes down and stamp duty is phased out. The rain for this is to make our housing market more efficient and more affordable. It will be easier for people to live in a small house in town when they are young, move to a bigger house when they have a family, and then move into a smaller, more manageable house when they get older.

Many people I've talked to say they want to move somewhere smaller but can't afford to. We need to make sure we aren't hurting older people by forcing them to stay in 5 bedroom houses while simultaneously making it impossible for young people with a new family to afford a similar house.

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**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH:** Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?

The Greens have been pushing for dental to be included in Medicare for a very long time. Dental care is an important part of overall health. We should do whatever we can to encourage cheaper provision of dental care, whether by adding dentists to our government run health clinics to helping set up not-for-profit clinics that provide affordable services

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#12

**COMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Monday, October 03, 2016 10:24:17 AM**Last Modified:** Monday, October 03, 2016 10:29:34 AM**Time Spent:** 00:05:17**IP Address:** 220.245.32.218

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Veronica Wensing

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Yerrabi

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

ACT Greens

**Q4: Gender**

Female

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes,

If so, why  
because it affects me directly. my partner and I were one of the 31 couples who married in the 5 days of equity - only to have it annulled by the High Court after 3.5 days. The Greens have always supported ending marriage discrimination - every member of every parliament, has supported marriage equality, every time a vote has been put forward. We believe that people should be equal before the law regardless of gender or sexuality. With the support of the majority of Australians, we believe that the time is now right for marriage equality as the community understands that it's an issue of basic fairness. If the federal parliament votes for marriage equality, Australia will join countries like Ireland, Canada, Spain, Sweden and South Africa in recognising same-sex marriage. We do not support the current proposed plebiscite, because we should never put questions of basic human rights to an opinion poll.

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes,

If so, why

The people of the ACT, like others across the country, believe strongly that they should have the right to make choices over their own life and death. They believe that at the end of their life, a time that is deeply personal and meaningful and often involves pain and suffering, they should have the right to die with dignity, how and when they choose. To many people there are few choices more important. It's well known that the Greens support the right of people to make decisions at the end of their life and the creation of a compassionate, safe and workable scheme for voluntary euthanasia. In fact the majority of Australians agree and also support such a scheme. The ACT Greens believe that our community is ready to have a genuine conversation about end of life issues and voluntary euthanasia. The Federal Government has taken that power away from us, effectively banning the Legislative Assembly from responding to the needs of people suffering through terminal illnesses despite their personal wishes. The old parties have given up. Only the Greens have the courage and the vision to support this challenging but ultimately compassionate issue being progressed, and respecting the views of the community.

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**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why

The Greens have always campaigned to stop human-induced climate change at every level of Government. In 2009 we were the first party in the ACT to support a 40% emissions reductions target for the ACT - a target that is consistent with climate science. We put forward a comprehensive plan to source renewable energy for the Territory and have been part of delivering the 100% renewable energy target. We want to see the ACT reach zero net emissions by 2030, and have a plan to transition of gas, and to build a sustainable transport network across Canberra. The Greens support the view that global warming is human-induced, consistent with the Academies of Science from 80 countries plus many scientific organizations and around 95% of actively publishing climate researchers. We have consistently advocated for climate change targets that are consistent with the science.

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**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes,

If so, why

Yes. The ACT Greens campaigned for light rail prior to the 2012 election, agreed to the first stage in our parliamentary agreement with the Labor party, and have also promised work on stage 2 light rail from Civic to Woden. The ACT Greens believe high quality public transport is key to building a modern, sustainable, people-friendly Canberra. Creating denser, high capacity transport corridors using light rail will help the city develop in a more sustainable way, will attract more people to use public transport, and will avoid emerging problems in the future such as congestion, pollution and high costs as the city sprawls. Light rail will also run on renewable energy, making it an important part of our zero emissions future. We have been particularly disappointed that the Canberra Liberal Party has used the election to spread distortions and misinformation about the light rail project.

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes,

If so, why

Yes. The ACT Greens believe that workers have the right to organise, collectively bargain and be represented, and that unions play an important role in advocacy for workers' rights.

**PAGE 4: PART C**

**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

The ACT Greens understand that preventative healthcare is the most effective way to improve health outcomes and reduce healthcare costs. The ACT Greens believe that an effective health system must be based on primary health care and preventive health care, including health promotion, disease prevention and early intervention. We absolutely understand the need for acute care, but we want the primary and community health sectors to be able to focus more on preventative health.

We understand that prevention is always better than trying to treat people who are already sick. That's why we've recently announced our plan to invest in keeping people healthy and out of hospitals, and making sure they get the best possible treatment if they do fall ill and need treatment in one. We know that the ACT has an ageing population, as we live longer and healthier lives, and we want to make sure that we have the right services, in the right place, for the right length of time. A recent review of the health system found that it is more efficient for health care to be delivered in the most local and least complex health service setting, such as the home, general practice and allied health care services.

So clearly, the evidence is saying provide more options. The evidence also says: work on preventative health; support more community care services; focus on the humans not the shiny buildings; and work with the community to provide increased access to afterhours sub-emergency care.

**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

The World Health Organisation (WHO) Commission on Social Determinants of Health has found that, in all countries, there is a link between social conditions and health which is referred to as a social gradient - people with lower socioeconomic position have poorer health. The ACT Greens have been considering the Social Determinants of Health framework in our policy development of many years, and are pleased to see more mainstream political parties, stakeholders and representative bodies utilizing the terminology and underpinning approach. We would like to support a project which measures and analyses the effects of the social determinants of health on the ACT community and which develops strategies to reduce broader inequities. The Greens health policies are always guided by the unavoidable fact that the most vulnerable in our community are often facing compounded disadvantage by lack of access to essential services, and that is why we focus our initiatives on putting the community first.

Beyond health policies, we also recognise that poverty has many faces. We want to support older canberrans to have access to energy efficient homes and heating and cooling appliances; to have access to affordable, regular and reliable public transport; and to have a range of affordable housing options no matter which suburb they live.

**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

Yes, the Greens have a comprehensive package of initiatives to significantly improve public transport in Canberra. In the next term of the Assembly the Greens commit to expanding Canberra's light rail network to Woden; integrating light rail with an improved and more frequent bus network (including an extra \$60M of services); and investing in transport innovation such as electric and low emission buses; and addressing transport challenges for Canberra's most disadvantaged people with improvements to the flexible bus network.

We have also announced a \$4M package to build "age friendly communities" across Canberra. We believe a well functioning society values all of its members, and our suburbs and our city should be easy to navigate and safe for people of all ages. The program will build improvements such as crossings, seating, walkways, slower traffic environments in consultation with the local community.

**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

The Greens support the ACT taxation reforms which is redistributing the taxation base. Government reliance on stamp duty places a heavier burden on those who are buying homes (like first home buyers and downsizers) rather than other members of the community. Over time these reforms will not lead to an increase in revenue for the Government; they simply redistribute the taxation burden. The territory remains a low-taxing jurisdiction., with taxation per capita lower than the national average.

Cuts to stamp duty and insurance tax are being offset by incremental rate increases. The Government has boosted concessions to help pensioners and low-income earners, with a rates deferral and rates rebate schemes available.

ACT Greens understand that energy and transport costs are can place a burden on people with low or fixed incomes. That's why we are focussing on improving public transport introducing a fare freeze for the next term of the Assembly. We will ameliorate against heating and cooling costs with initiatives to increase the energy efficiency of our public housing stock; minimum standards for all rental properties; and stopping the rollout of expensive and inefficient gas infrastructure to new suburbs.

**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH: Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?**

The Greens believe that dental health is core to our overall healthcare. It is vital for better health outcomes that we see our teeth as part of our overall health.

We know that when people don't have good dental care, they can often fall into unhealthy diets – for example by not being able to eat fresh fruit and vegetables; if their teeth are very bad, they can find it terribly difficult to get a job. These are very serious consequences of bad dental care, and yet dental care is just not part of the mainstream healthcare system.

We want to ensure that essential dental care is provided to Canberrans who need it most. Many Canberrans struggle to afford dental treatment, which can lead to dental health crises that can have serious consequences – like heart disease and stroke. Part of having a good preventative health plan, means making sure people can access the dental care they need to prevent more serious illness in the future.

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#13



**COMPLETE**

**Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)  
**Started:** Monday, October 03, 2016 12:42:28 PM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, October 03, 2016 12:55:49 PM  
**Time Spent:** 00:13:20  
**IP Address:** 136.153.18.101

PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Candidates of the ACT Labor Party

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

Australian Labor Party

**Q4: Gender**

*Respondent skipped this question*

PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes,

If so, why  
ACT Labor is committed to ensuring that all  
Canberrans have the ability to express their love and  
commitment in the eyes of the law. Labor considers  
the best way to achieve this important step for human  
rights is a free vote in the Commonwealth Parliament.  
There is a high risk that a plebiscite will lead to an  
incredibly damaging, factually incorrect and divisive  
campaign, that will make our LGBTIQ friends and  
family feel ostracised and demeaned. Labor Chief  
Minister Andrew Barr is taking a national leadership  
position in fighting for marriage equality.

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

If so, why

Unfortunately, the ACT Legislative Assembly is not currently able to progress an open and honest discussion about euthanasia and end of life options for people who are terminally suffering from disability or illness. This is because the ACT does not have the constitutional capacity to permit euthanasia or the assisting of a person to terminate his or her life. In 1997, the Commonwealth Government enacted legislation which removed the power of the ACT Legislative Assembly to make laws permitting, or having the effect of permitting, assisted death or euthanasia. For ACT residents and the Assembly to consider any proposal to allow euthanasia, the Commonwealth Parliament must remove this prohibition. In September 2014 Labor members supported a motion in the ACT Legislative Assembly calling on the Prime Minister of Australia to act to repeal this limitation on the law-making ability of the ACT. This remains the position of the ACT Labor Party. A genuine discussion about dying and end of life options is something our community is ready for, and needs to have. If we were not barred by the Commonwealth Parliament from voting on this issue, a re-elected Labor Government would act to progress legislation allowing euthanasia, and bring it to a conscience vote. Labor Chief Minister Andrew Barr has publicly stated he would vote in favour.

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**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why

Climate change is one of the biggest issues facing the world today. Scientific evidence, extensive and peer reviewed, tells us that increasing levels of greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere are having a profound effect on our climate and oceans and the Earth's systems. The ACT Labor Government has a proven track record in taking action on climate change. We understand that it makes economic, as well as environmental sense to take action. By taking an innovative approach to delivering our 100% renewable energy target we have secured economic benefits totalling over \$500 million and have positioned Canberra as a global leader in renewable energy creating increased commercial, research and learning opportunities for Canberra. The ACT Labor Government has also had a focus on helping households and business to save money through energy saving programs. The Energy Efficiency Improvement Scheme (EEIS) has been a great success since it began in 2013 by reducing energy bills for households and directly contributing to the reduction of green house gas emissions in the ACT. The EEIS has delivered energy savings to over 70,000 households, including more than 17,000 lower income priority households. Over 1,000,000 energy saving items have been installed, saving over 650,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent. By 2020, households participating in the EEIS will save around \$5.00 on their weekly energy bills, largely offsetting the cost of the renewable energy target. ACT residents continue to enjoy some of the lowest electricity prices in Australia, much lower than the national average.

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**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes,

If so, why

Canberra's population is growing by over 5,000 new residents per year. The right transport plan now means we can keep the Canberra we love but make it better. Labor is building the first of a five-stage Canberra-wide Light Rail network and we have committed to building the second stage from Civic to Woden via the Parliamentary Triangle. But light rail is only part of our plan. ACT Labor is committed to building a Rapid Bus Network for Canberra, which will include more rapid services, over 100 new jobs, including 80 drivers, 80 new buses, the design of a new North-side depot, and an investment of over \$100 million to give Canberrans a real alternative to driving, alleviate road congestion and ensure our integrated public transport system grows with our city. Labor is also investing in the network of foot and cycle paths including an extension of our successful Age Friendly Suburbs program. This program, which is already being rolled out, helps make it easier for older Canberrans to move around their suburbs and access the local shops by improving footpaths, installing ramps and upgrading lighting.

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**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes,

If so, why

If ACT Labor is returned to Government we will make sure that we enter enterprise negotiations in good faith and enter agreements that will see fair and equitable conditions for ACT public servants. ACT Labor will maintain the size of the ACT Public Service (ACTPS) if re-elected. And to ensure Canberrans continue to receive high quality public services and to protect jobs, we will grow the ACTPS in key areas such as health, education, police and emergency services. ACT public servants will continue to see their wages increase at a rate equivalent to CPI under Labor. Real wages will be maintained.

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PAGE 4: PART C

**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

Healthcare has always been a key priority for ACT Labor. That's why we have made a number of commitments to the future of health care in Canberra, highlighting that only Labor has a comprehensive ten year plan to keep Canberrans healthy, deliver more services and build the infrastructure we need for the future.

Our ten year plan will continue to build a world-class health system that focuses on prevention and meets growing demand. This plan will also create highly-skilled jobs, harnesses our world-leading research abilities, and delivers care where and when people need it.

This comprehensive plan will see investments in:

- New and improved hospital facilities
- Women's and Children's health services
- Supporting the nurses that support Canberra
- Bringing health care closer to your home, which will significantly benefit our older Canberrans and those with chronic and complex conditions; and
- Other health initiatives, including prevention to improve health outcomes in the ACT.

Our plan will see state-of-the-art infrastructure built right across the Territory. These facilities, along with boosting the number of frontline health staff will increase the number of services and timeliness.

Labor has a strong track record. Labor has already invested a \$1 billion in health infrastructure including the Canberra Region Cancer Centre, the walk-in-centres, and the community health centres in the Gungahlin, Tuggeranong and Belconnen town centres.

By delivering new projects and further supporting and growing our critical frontline workforce we are making our strong healthcare system even better.

ACT Labor recently redeveloped the Canberra Hospital ED, increasing space by 30 per cent, we have committed to upgrading the Calvary ED, and also announced an expansion to community care, to make sure people get the care they need it when they need it.

These initiatives, coupled with a range of other health policies, will increase the types of services offered, improve timeliness and employ more than 150 new nurses within the ACT public health system.

In relation to elective surgery and outpatients, we have recently conducted an elective surgery blitz which significantly reduced the number of long wait patients. We have also opened two new outpatient areas at Canberra Hospital, including the new building 15. Each month there are more than 5,000 people seen as outpatients at these and other ACT Health facilities.

ACT Labor remains absolutely committed to investing in mental health for people of all ages who need help, not in the community or acute setting. Through our most recent Budget, mental health received a major \$50 million boost in new funding over the next four years to provide Canberrans with better and more tailored services.

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**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly? (\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

ACT Labor is the party that builds inclusion, equality and fairness in our community. Our investments, commitments, members and candidates all unite around these values.

Housing affordability and homelessness remain challenges in every state and territory. In government, ACT Labor will keep working to help provide or keep people in a steady home because not only is it best for those people, but because it saves the community far higher costs which can result from homelessness – for example in health, crisis accommodation and legal services.

**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

A re-elected ACT Labor Government will continue its work in upgrading bus stops across the ACT to make public transport more accessible. Nearly 2,000 bus stops have been upgraded and ACT Labor is committed to providing 100 percent accessibility for seniors and disability by 2022. This includes a review of bus stops on major routes and near significant housing complexes.

ACT Labor introduced the very popular free Flexible Bus Service in 2014 and it now covers four zones of Canberra. ACT Labor will extend this service to include the inner north and Canberra City areas. Since it began, the flexible bus service has continued to exceed expectations with over 20,000 boardings taking passengers to destinations across Canberra.

This free bus service is specifically designed for aged residents and people with disabilities. It picks up residents from their home and takes them to places such as shopping centres and hospitals.

It supports everyone, from those people looking to attend one-off appointments or recreational activities, to our regular patrons who have used the service every week since it started.

More generally, ACT Labor is committed to building an integrated transport network and providing Canberrans with better transport. ACT Labor's transport plan will improve our public transport system so it becomes more convenient, efficient, affordable and reliable – a genuine alternative to driving.

**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

In the ACT, rates pay for much more than municipal services. As a Labor Government we believe in providing quality services that people rely on: such as schools, hospitals, police, emergency services, and municipal services. ACT Labor wants Canberrans to have access to these services now and into the future.

The ACT Labor Government's ongoing tax reform program is improving housing affordability for all Canberrans, with recent research indicating it has reduced growth in housing prices by 20 percent. We recognise that people who bought a home before tax reforms began in 2012 are now paying higher rates. But while some taxes have increased, others have been cut – for example, insurance levies have been completely abolished, saving households hundreds of dollars a year.

ACT Labor supports a range of options to allow Canberra seniors to stay in their own homes. The Act Revenue Office is able to discuss the possibility of entering into a payment plan, and outline concessions for which people may be eligible. Eligible seniors are also able to defer their rates until they sell their house – for more information phone the ACT Revenue Office on (02) 6207 0028.

More generally, ACT Labor is a strong supporter of the Territory's concessions program. ACT Labor knows that concessions play a vital role in supporting vulnerable and low-income households. In the 2016-17 ACT Budget, Labor announced a \$35 million boost in funding over four years for the concessions program. This funding will ensure Canberrans continue to have access to a broad range of concessions.

Canberrans continue to have access to a broad range of concessions.

Concessions provided by the ACT Labor Government, which we will continue, include:

- Electricity
- Gas
- Water
- Household rates
- Public transport
- Motor vehicle registration
- Driver licences
- Spectacles; and
- Funeral assistance.

In addition, the ACT Labor Government set up a one-stop-shop information source about concessions: [www.assistance.act.gov.au](http://www.assistance.act.gov.au). The ACT Labor Government also set up Access Canberra, which is a one-stop-shop for Canberrans seeking information about the ACT Government, including about concessions. Access Canberra can be contacted 13 22 81.

In the 2014-15 Budget the Abbott Liberal Government cut \$2.2 million in annual funding provided to the ACT to deliver concessions by scrapping the 'National Partnership on Certain Concessions for Pensioner Concession Card and Senior Card Holders'. The ACT Government covered the shortfall caused by this funding cut – we were not willing to sit back and let Canberrans suffer because of the Commonwealth's cuts.

Earlier this year the Chief Minister wrote to Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull about the axing of this concession, but Mr Turnbull refused to reinstate it.

In light of increasing demand for concessions and the Commonwealth's funding cut, the ACT Labor Government undertook a detailed and considered review of the concessions scheme during 2015 and 2016. This involved close consultation with local stakeholders, in particular the Council on the Ageing ACT (COTA ACT) and the ACT Council of Social Service (ACTCOSS), and public consultation.

As a result of this review and consultation, in the 2016-17 Budget the Labor Government announced the \$35 million funding boost noted above, and announced changes to three concessions, to ensure the concessions program continues to be sustainable and targeted to those who most need support.

The three concessions changed in the 2016-17 Budget are:

- General rates concessions: Reducing the gap between the 'uncapped' and 'capped' schemes to make rates concessions fairer.
- Seniors card: Gradually raising the eligibility age for the ACT Seniors Card by one year, every two years, until 2025.
- Utility bills: Combining the rebate for water and sewerage with the rebate for energy, to ensure households who rent are not disadvantaged.

Further information on these changes is available at <http://apps.treasury.act.gov.au/budget/budget-2016-2017/home>

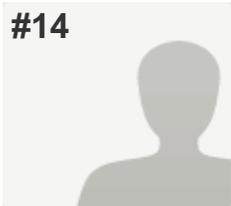
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**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH: Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?**

We acknowledge the link between dental health and overall health and wellbeing which is why we have committed to two new mobile dental vans to improve dental services for Canberrans who may have difficulty accessing care, particularly residents of aged care facilities. Labor remains committed to ACT Health delivering a whole range of other dental services. Last year there were more than 280,000 dental procedures undertaken by ACT Health.

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#14

**COMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Saturday, September 24, 2016 2:46:20 PM**Last Modified:** Monday, October 03, 2016 3:11:00 PM**Time Spent:** Over a week**IP Address:** 124.171.145.55

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Joel McKay

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Brindabella

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

Other (please specify) Independent

**Q4: Gender**

Male

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

No

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes

## PAGE 4: PART C

**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

Canberra Hospital requires a redeveloped emergency department. A detailed analysis of elective surgeries needs to occur to reduce waiting times. The ACT Government needs to ensure we have sufficient resources, i.e. specialist doctors, operating theatres and hospital beds. We need to listen to our doctors and not water down their solutions (which the current Government has done).

**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

See answer to question 13.

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**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

Reduced age eligibility for free travel on ACTION busses (policy from my website)

The Australian Bureau of Statistics has predicted that the number of people aged 65 and over will double by 2040. Canberra needs to prepare for an ageing population and ensure suitable public transport is available. Currently, the ACT Government provides free travel on ACTION buses for residents aged 70 or over. I believe providing free travel at this age is too late.

At age 70, many people have formed their travel habits and established their preferred method of transport. If someone has not caught public transport on a regular basis, they may be unwilling to use it when it's provided for free at age 70. The ACT Government needs to be encouraging residents to utilise public transport at an earlier age. If elected, I will encourage the Government to reduce the age eligibility for ACTION busses from 70 to 60.

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**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

Rate relief for older Canberrans (policy from my website)

The ACT Government currently provides property owners who receive a Centrelink or Department of Veterans Affairs pension a rebate of up to 50% on their rates. However, the rebate assistance is capped to a maximum concession of \$700.00. Given that the Government has increased rates by an average of 10% since 2012, it will not be long before the maximum cap is providing little or no relief for older Canberrans.

When you consider that many older residents have moved house two or three times, and each time was required to pay stamp duty to the Government, slugging them with 10% rate increases is wrong. If you also take into account that the age pension is not linked to real wages growth and increases are not keeping up with living costs, pensioners in Canberra are doing it tougher than most.

If elected, I will insist that the Government increase the maximum concession of \$700.00. I will also investigate other mechanisms to provide improved rate rebates for older Canberrans.

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**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH:** Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?

If elected, I will be lobbying the federal government to include dental services more widely as part of our medicare coverage.

#15

**INCOMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Monday, October 03, 2016 8:46:14 AM**Last Modified:** Tuesday, October 04, 2016 8:47:51 AM**Time Spent:** Over a day**IP Address:** 220.240.59.110

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Michael Mazengarb

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Brindabella

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

ACT Greens

**Q4: Gender**

Male

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes,

If so, why Love is love.

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes,

If so, why

Yes, dying with dignity is a right that all people should be afforded. I also believe that Federal legislation that denies the ACT (and NT) Parliaments to debate, let alone legislate, on voluntary euthanasia should be overturned.

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why

Yes. I studied climate change science and policy at University, and have worked in both climate change and clean energy policy over the last decade or so. Human activity is causing climate change and it is important that we take proactive action to reduce our emissions and invest in cleaner energy sources.

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes,

If so, why

Yes. Light Rail is an important investment in Canberra's public transport infrastructure, as well as our city as a whole. Light Rail will generate significant value for Canberra and will help prepare our city for our transport demands in the future.

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes,

If so, why  
Absolutely. As a former CPSU workplace delegate, I understand and appreciate the importance of the union in EA negotiations. With the Union's involvement, negotiated EA's are fairer and better reflect the needs of workers.

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PAGE 4: PART C

**Q10: HEALTH:** As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

*Respondent skipped this question*

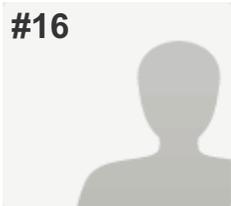
**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH:** Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?

*Respondent skipped this question*

#16

**COMPLETE**

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)

Started: Tuesday, October 04, 2016 8:11:02 AM

Last Modified: Tuesday, October 04, 2016 9:07:32 AM

Time Spent: 00:56:30

IP Address: 180.200.146.45

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Brendan Whyte

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Murrumbidgee

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

Other (please specify) Independent

**Q4: Gender**

Male

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

If so, why  
 (Abstract) Federal issue; supports equal rights for all people according to the law; would extend the requirements of marriage preparation courses; marriage shouldn't be a "free for all".

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

No,

If so, why  
 (Abstract) Concern about youth suicide; preciousness of human life and the message that voluntary euthanasia may send.

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why  
 (Abstract) Yes with Reservations. Climate change is an international issue that can be led locally, eg banning of petrol powered leaf blowers. Encourage public transport use, better urban design and planning.

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes,

If so, why  
 (Abstract) Yes with Reservations. Concern about the cost, the destruction of mature trees down Northbourne Ave, and integration with other public transport.

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes,

If so, why  
(Abstract) Qualified Yes. Public Servants should be able to choose their own bargaining representative; employers have too much power in the bargaining process; supports the return of the right to strike; dislikes employers "gaming of the system".

**PAGE 4: PART C**

**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

(Abstract) Improve community values for social inclusion, which will help with mental health and well being among both old and young. Encourage walking and cycling to retain fitness and physical mobility. Retirement homes should be more integrated with suburb and community, and located closer to shops. House designs should be encouraged to keep entire life cycle in mind.

**Q11: POVERTY: The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)**

(Abstract) "Poverty is due to the cost of basic living being nearly equal to one's income." Poverty not just material but also social. Concern for the creation of ghettos with public housing located in large clumps.

**Q12: TRANSPORT: Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?**

(Abstract) Extension of ACTION services, rather than private operators to the airport. Extend airport services to Tuggeranong and Woden; preference for cash fares in preference to Myway tickets. Abolish the surcharge for not tagging off. Allow rear door to open for embarkation and disembarkation and allow older and disabled to move at their own pace.

**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES: Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?**

(Abstract) Concerns about transport; eg would refuse the car allowance (\$25,000) given to MLA; would always fly economy. "Your rates to fund Territory services, not excessive perks and salaries for your elected representatives."

**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH: Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?**

(Abstract) "Dental health should be treated no differently to other physical bodily and mental health, ... but usually forgotten in the health issues debate." Survey of dentist in ACT and public campaign to increase competition between dentists to ensure adequate supply and avoid black spots.

#17

**INCOMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Tuesday, October 04, 2016 6:54:22 PM**Last Modified:** Tuesday, October 04, 2016 7:44:21 PM**Time Spent:** 00:49:58**IP Address:** 124.171.133.100

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Emma Davidson

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Murrumbidgee

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

ACT Greens

**Q4: Gender**

Female

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes,

If so, why

Because it's the right thing to do. Discrimination on the basis of sexuality in other aspects of Australian life is illegal, it should be the same in marriage.

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes,

If so, why

Because people should be allowed to make their own end of life decisions. With the right decision-making processes in place, voluntary euthanasia can provide people suffering painful terminal illnesses with the peace of mind that they can have a dignified death with their loved ones around them, if they decide that they want that.

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why

Because the overwhelming scientific evidence tells me that this is true. My grandfather was a drover, my father was a sheep farmer, and I have seen the effects of climate change on the area that my family have farmed for the past 5 generations. The time to act is now if we want to reduce the impact of climate change to something that future generations can live with.

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes,

If so, why

Because it will provide jobs during construction and to run the network, and the infrastructure will enable our growing population to travel easily and conveniently between town centres. This will support business growth, including small businesses along the transport corridor. It will make it easier for young people, the elderly, and people with disabilities to travel independently. It will reduce our carbon footprint, reduce transport costs to the individual, and reduce road traffic for those who need to drive.

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes,

If so, why

I have seen first-hand the power of collective bargaining for people who have reduced negotiating power. In 2001, I was offered a Work Choices contract by a Commonwealth Department that offered me a pay increase in exchange for no paid maternity leave, and on the condition that I didn't discuss my contract with my co-workers. I told them to talk to me union, as did many of my co-workers. I am confident that our Department was better off collectively than if we had each negotiated individual contracts in a race-to-the-bottom for wages and working conditions.

PAGE 4: PART C

**Q10: HEALTH:** As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?

*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT.

*Respondent skipped this question*

Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015> pension glance-2015-en#page209 and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

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*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES:** Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?

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*Respondent skipped this question*

**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH:** Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?

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*Respondent skipped this question*

#18

**COMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Tuesday, October 04, 2016 1:48:34 PM**Last Modified:** Wednesday, October 05, 2016 12:39:50 AM**Time Spent:** 10:51:15**IP Address:** 58.6.180.25

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Leah Dwyer

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Kurrajong

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

Australian Labor Party

**Q4: Gender**

Female

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes,

If so, why

I believe that a person's gender or sexuality should not affect their legal rights and responsibilities under Australian marriage law. I also believe that marriage equality should be a matter dealt with by the Australian Parliament, not an expensive and divisive plebiscite.

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes,

If so, why

I watched mother-in-law pass away from a terminal illness in excruciating pain. I believe that people should have the opportunity to make an informed decision regarding dying with dignity at the time of their choosing and be surrounded by the people who love them.

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why

As a science graduate I accept the science behind climate change is real and human activity is causing climate change. I deplore how science is being increasingly undermined and underfunded by the Australian Government and it is crucial we support students who study science, workers in climate science institutions and the institutions themselves so as to better inform the Australian population and take decisive and meaningful steps to mitigate climate change.

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**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes,

If so, why

I support the ACT Light Rail project for a number of reasons. The project is an investment in our future infrastructure will help prevent Canberra from facing the issues which plague Sydney and Melbourne traffic. The light rail project, in combination with ACT Labor's investment in other public transport options such as buses and bike pathways is an investment in building an equal Canberra in which people can access the economic opportunity that fast, efficient and reliable public transport provides to transport them to and from work and study.

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**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes,

If so, why

I am a long-time union member and a strong believer in the power of collective bargaining and unionised workplaces. As a Commonwealth public servant, I have been at the coal-face of collective agreement negotiations, enterprise agreement votes and stop-work activities since 2014.

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**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

I have worked in the aged care industry as a nurse and, when I first moved to Canberra, I worked in policy at National Seniors Australia. These experiences have shaped how I have thought of aged and elderly Australians and made me acutely aware of the social isolation they often encounter.

Effective preventative health, encompassing economic and social participation, should be priority for all governments. Aged and elderly Canberrans, on average, wish to remain active and in their homes and in their workplaces for as long as possible.

Encouraging workforce participation and volunteerism can allow ageing Canberrans to remain active and agile in their community and allow them to maintain their social networks.

There needs to be an emphasis on how retired Canberrans can still share their skill sets and their knowledge with the community. There is a role for government to explore effective mentoring programs which capitalise on the working experiences of retired and aged people.

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**Q11: POVERTY: The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)**

I am proud of the extensive concession schemes and assistance the ACT Labor government has implemented and provided to the most vulnerable within our community.

If elected I would advocate for continuing to implement and better target assistance to the most vulnerable within our society, particularly those living below the poverty line.

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**Q12: TRANSPORT: Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?**

Public transport is critical in assisting Canberra's ageing and elderly residents to maintain their social networks. Labor's light rail project will support seniors who utilise public transport. Light rail is an accessible method of transport, and allows for easy use for those with walkers and disabilities.

Furthermore, Labor is continuing to upgrade the existing bus network and trailing the free Flexi-bus service, which picks up users from their home. This service is specifically designed for elderly residents and those with disabilities.

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**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES: Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?**

ACT Labor has undertaken taxation reform which has sought to make Canberra's taxation system fairer now and into the future. While I understand that taxation reform can be unpopular at times I do believe that these reforms are necessary to create fairness within our community. What I am most proud of is the extensive concession schemes which the ACT Labor government has implemented as part of its taxation reform package. Each year within the territory budget there has been an increase in concession provide to those who need it most within our community.

If elected I would strongly advocate for these schemes to be constantly reviewed to ensure fairness and that they were ensuring that all Canberran's were able to live comfortably in our community.

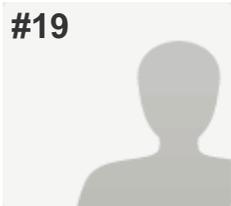
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**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH: Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?**

Dental health is an important health policy aspect that is quiet often forgotten in health policy debates. I understand that access to dental care can at times be cost prohibitive and if elected I would actively advocate for the implementation of policies which ensured access to dental care was made affordable, particularly to those who can least afford it.

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#19

**COMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Friday, October 07, 2016 11:52:35 PM**Last Modified:** Saturday, October 08, 2016 12:19:06 AM**Time Spent:** 00:26:31**IP Address:** 121.127.214.98

## PAGE 2: PART A

**Q1: Name?**

Marea Fatseas

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Kurrajong

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

No Political Party

**Q4: Gender**

Female

## PAGE 3: PART B

**Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes,

If so, why I see it as a human rights issue

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes,

If so, why  
While I support it, we also need protections to ensure that people do not feel pressured by others to take this action.

**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

If so, why  
The ACT Auditor General recommended an independent external review of the light rail project and I support her recommendation. The proposed stage 2 of the light rail has been put forward during the election campaign without any business case. I have no basis for supporting stage 2 in the absence of such a business case.

**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes

## PAGE 4: PART C

**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

Preventative strategies such as well designed living spaces flexible enough to accommodate people with mobility issues (universal design), accessible public buildings and transport and open spaces, support access to fitness/exercise activities, improve energy efficiency of homes to reduce heating/cooling costs and improve comfort, early intervention for chronic disease

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**Q11: POVERTY: The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)**

I would be very interested in better understanding the evidence about the highest costs faced by pensionable aged people e.g. accommodation, food, health, and in engaging with stakeholders and the community, including the aged, to identify strategies for addressing these issues.

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**Q12: TRANSPORT: Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?**

Clearly, proximity and frequency are both key issues and need to be addressed as part of an assessment of how the whole transport network could work better.

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**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES: Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?**

I agree that it is desirable that seniors and ageing community members be able to remain in their own homes and community as long as possible, and I look forward to engaging with these members of the community and other key stakeholders to come up with innovative approaches to addressing this issue.

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**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH: Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?**

I am aware of the link between dental health and disease. With regard to access to dental care, this is an issue I would need to familiarise myself with, and engage with the community and other stakeholders to identify possible options.

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#20

**COMPLETE****Collector:** Web Link 1 (Web Link)**Started:** Sunday, October 09, 2016 5:41:29 PM**Last Modified:** Sunday, October 09, 2016 5:49:35 PM**Time Spent:** 00:08:06**IP Address:** 180.200.158.190

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**PAGE 2: PART A****Q1: Name?**

Caroline Le Couteur

**Q2: Which Electorate?**

Murrumbidgee

**Q3: Which political Party to you belong to?**

ACT Greens

**Q4: Gender**

Female

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**PAGE 3: PART B****Q5: Do you support marriage equality?**

Yes,

If so, why

The Greens have always supported ending marriage discrimination - every MP, every vote, every time. We believe that people should be equal before the law regardless of gender or sexuality. With the support of the majority of Australians, we believe that the time is now right for marriage equality as the community understands that it's an issue of human rights. If the federal parliament votes for marriage equality, Australia will join countries like Ireland, Canada, Spain, Sweden and South Africa in recognising same-sex marriage. We do not support the current proposed plebiscite, because we should never put questions of basic human rights to an opinion poll. The passage of the ACT's Marriage Equality (Same Sex) Act 2013 was a result of the 2012 ACT Labor-Greens Parliamentary Agreement, unfortunately being overturned by the High Court just weeks after passing

**Q6: Do you support voluntary euthanasia?**

Yes,

If so, why

My mother spent the last 11 years of her life in a nursing home so I am well aware of the pain and suffering that can occur. She certainly did not want the life she had. The people of the ACT, like others across the country, believe strongly that they should have the right to make choices over their own life and death. They believe that at the end of their life, a time that is deeply personal and meaningful and often involves pain and suffering, they should have the right to die with dignity, how and when they choose. To many people there are few choices more important. It's well known that the Greens support the right of people to make decisions at the end of their life and the creation of a compassionate, safe and workable scheme for voluntary euthanasia. In fact the majority of Australians agree and also support such a scheme. The ACT Greens believe that our community is ready to have a genuine conversation about end of life issues and voluntary euthanasia. The Federal Government has taken that power away from us, effectively banning the Legislative Assembly from responding to the needs of people suffering through terminal illnesses despite their personal wishes. The old parties have given up. Only the Greens have the courage and the vision to support this challenging but ultimately compassionate issue being progressed, and respecting the views of the community.

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**Q7: Do you accept that human activity is causing climate change?**

Yes,

If so, why

The number one reason I am standing for the Greens in 2016 is to see more action to reduce human caused climate change. I am very proud of the Greens achievements in the 2008 -2012 Legislative Assembly which lead to the legislated target for Greenhouse gas reductions and our renewable energy purchases. The Greens have always campaigned to stop human-induced climate change at every level of Government. In 2009 we were the first party in the ACT to support a 40% emissions reductions target for the ACT - a target that is consistent with climate science. We put forward a comprehensive plan to source renewable energy for the Territory and have been part of delivering the 100% renewable energy target. We want to see the ACT reach zero net emissions by 2030, and have a plan to transition of gas, and to build a sustainable transport network across Canberra. The Greens support the view that global warming is human-induced, consistent with the Academies of Science from 80 countries plus many scientific organisations and around 95% of actively publishing climate researchers. We have consistently advocated for climate change targets that are consistent with the science.

**Q8: Do you support the ACT Light Rail project?**

Yes,

If so, why

Yes. The ACT Greens campaigned for light rail prior to the 2012 election, agreed to the first stage in our Parliamentary Agreement with the Labor party, and have also promised work on stage 2 light rail from Civic to Woden. The ACT Greens believe high quality public transport is key to building a modern, sustainable, people-friendly Canberra. Creating denser, high capacity transport corridors using light rail will help the city develop in a more sustainable way, will attract more people to use public transport, and will avoid emerging problems in the future such as congestion, pollution and high costs as the city sprawls. Light rail will also run on renewable energy, making it an important part of our zero emissions future. We have been particularly disappointed that the Canberra Liberals have used the election to spread distortions and misinformation about the light rail project. In conjunction with the light rail, the ACT Greens have announced our commitment to boosting the flexible bus service by \$1.5 million to ensure that Canberrans with disabilities, or who are older and less mobile, can get around easily and participate fully in our community.

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**Q9: Do you support union negotiated Enterprise Agreements for the ACT Public Service?**

Yes,

If so, why

The ACT Greens believe that workers have the right to organise, collectively bargain and be represented, and that unions play an important role in advocacy for workers' rights

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PAGE 4: PART C

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**Q10: HEALTH: As the population ages, demand for health care will increase exponentially. What long term preventative strategies and active interventions would you use to improve health outcomes for the elderly in the ACT?**

The ACT Greens understand that preventative healthcare is the most effective way to improve health outcomes and reduce healthcare costs. The ACT Greens believe that an effective health system must be based on primary health care and preventive health care, including health promotion, disease prevention and early intervention. We absolutely understand the need for acute care, but we want the primary and community health sectors to be able to focus more on preventative health.

We understand that prevention is always better than trying to treat people who are already sick. That's why we've recently announced our plan to invest in keeping people healthy and out of hospitals, and making sure they get the best possible treatment if they do fall ill and need treatment in one. We know that the ACT has an ageing population, as we live longer and healthier lives, and we want to make sure that we have the right services, in the right place, for the right length of time. A recent review of the health system found that it is more efficient for health care to be delivered in the most local and least complex health service setting, such as the home, general practice and allied health care services. So clearly, the evidence is saying provide more options.

The evidence also says: work on preventative health, support more community care services, focus on the humans not just the buildings, and work with the community to provide increased access to after hours sub-emergency care.

That is what the ACT Greens will be focusing on, and we will be making more community focused announcements in the coming weeks.

This election, the ACT Greens have already announced that we will:

- Develop a new comprehensive preventative health strategy;
  - Continue to invest in the Healthy Weight Initiative to continue to keep our community healthy, and reduce the incidence of heart disease, diabetes and other preventable illness;
  - Better co-ordinate and refocus the existing Healthy Weight Initiative to ensure that the ACT is genuinely focused on preventing obesity, cardiac disease and type 2 diabetes in particular;
  - Provide \$1 million of increased funding for targeted and evidence based Health Promotions Grants;
  - Open two more walk in centres - one in Dickson and one in Molonglo/Weston Creek - to provide a viable alternative for the increasing and anticipated population;
  - Undertake a review of the data on emergency department presentations and referrals from existing walk in centres to identify whether opening hours and types of treatments can be expanded to further alleviate pressure and provide more choices for community based care;
  - Create a new Office for Mental Health in consultation with local representative bodies and service providers such as the Capital Health Network, local community based advocacy services and government officials; and
  - Empower the Office for Mental Health to provide independent reports and advice to the community and government on what is and what is not working in the delivery of mental health services; and have a role in partnering and monitoring the delivery of programs.
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**Q11: POVERTY:** The OECD has reported that in Australia, 36%\* of pensionable aged people live below the poverty line. This figure includes seniors in the ACT. Do you have any proposals or strategies (not otherwise addressed in this questionnaire) to assist ACT Seniors living in poverty if you were elected to the Legislative Assembly?(\* <http://www.oecd.org/publications/oecd-pensions-at-a-glance-19991363.htm> and <http://www.keepeek.com/Digital-Asset-Management/oecd/social-issues-migration-health/pensions-at-a-glance-2015-pension-glance-2015-en#page209> and <http://www.smh.com.au/national/onethird-of-australian-pensioners-live-in-poverty-oecd-report-20160106-gm0uno.html>)

The World Health Organisation (WHO) Commission on Social Determinants of Health has found that, in all countries, there is a link between social conditions and health which is referred to as a social gradient - people with lower socioeconomic position have poorer health.

The ACT Greens have been considering the Social Determinants of Health framework in our policy development of many years, and are pleased to see more mainstream political parties, stakeholders and representative bodies utilizing the terminology and underpinning approach. We would like to support a project which measures and analyses the effects of the social determinants of health on the ACT community and which develops strategies to reduce broader inequities. The Greens health policies are always guided by the unavoidable fact that the most vulnerable in our community are often facing compounded disadvantage by lack of access to essential services, and that is why we focus our initiatives on putting the community first.

Beyond health policies, we also recognise that poverty has many faces.

We understand that transport costs have a big impact on people who are struggling to make ends meet. That's why we are committing to a freeze on public transport fares for the next term of the Assembly. We believe that every Canberran should be able to quickly, conveniently and affordably get around our city, and having a disability or being an older person should not be a barrier to getting good public transport.

We want to support older canberrans to have access to energy efficient homes and heating and cooling appliances; to have access to affordable, regular and reliable public transport; and to have a range of affordable housing options no matter which suburb they live.

The ACT Greens believe that putting the community first means valuing and meeting the needs of all members of our society. That means making sure older Canberrans have secure, affordable and decent housing. It means supporting vulnerable Canberrans, particularly older women, who often struggle to afford housing. And, it means supporting older Canberrans to age in their own homes when they want to.

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**Q12: TRANSPORT:** Access to public transport is particularly important to seniors. How would you improve access (eg proximity & frequency of services) to assist the aged sector to actually use public transport in the ACT?

Yes, the Greens have a comprehensive package of initiatives to significantly improve public transport in Canberra. In the next term of the Assembly the Greens commit to expanding Canberra's light rail network to Woden; integrating light rail with an improved and more frequent bus network (including an extra \$60M of services); and investing in transport innovation such as electric and low emission buses; and addressing transport challenges for Canberra's most disadvantaged people with improvements to the flexible bus network. \

All of these will help seniors but I would like to particularly highlight the flexible bus network. It uses the buses that take children with disabilities to and from school to transport people with disabilities during school hours. Also the light rail will be very wheelchair friendly and it will be easy to drive a motorised scooter on for instance.

We have also announced a \$4M package to build "age friendly suburbs" across Canberra. We believe a well functioning society values all of its members, and our suburbs and our city should be easy to navigate and safe for people of all ages. The program will build improvements such as crossings, seating, walkways, slower traffic environments in consultation with the local community

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**Q13: RATES & UTILITIES: Many ACT residents have experienced enormous rate rises and increased costs of utilities in recent times. This can cause enormous stress for seniors who planned long ago to remain in their homes and couldn't have foreseen these increases. Do you have any proposals that would assist the senior or ageing community members from being forced out of their homes by increased Territory fees and charges?**

The Greens support the ACT taxation reforms which is redistributing the taxation base. Government reliance on stamp duty places a heavier burden on those who are buying homes (like first home buyers and downsizers) rather than other members of the community. Over time these reforms will not lead to an increase in revenue for the Government; they simply redistribute the taxation burden. The incremental rate increases are offsetting the phasing out of stamp duty and insurance taxes having been completely phased out. The Territory remains a low-taxing jurisdiction, with taxation per capita lower than the national average.

The Government has boosted concessions to help pensioners and low-income earners, with rates deferral and rates rebate schemes available

ACT Greens understand that energy and transport costs can place a burden on people with low or fixed incomes. That's why we are focusing on improving public transport introducing a fare freeze for the next term of the Assembly. We will ameliorate against heating and cooling costs with initiatives to increase the energy efficiency of our public housing stock; minimum standards for all rental properties; and stopping the rollout of expensive and inefficient gas infrastructure to new suburbs.

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**Q14: DENTAL HEALTH: Studies have linked poor dental health to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory illness, strokes and dementia. All are serious illnesses for an ageing community. Do you have any proposals that you would be prepared to raise in the ACT Legislative Assembly to provide timely access to dental care for those who find the costs prohibitive?**

The Greens believe that dental health is core to our overall health care. It is vital for better health outcomes that we see our teeth as part of our overall health.

We know that when people don't have good dental care, they can often fall into unhealthy diets – for example by not being able to eat fresh fruit and vegetables; if their teeth are very bad, they can find it terribly difficult to get a job. These are very serious consequences of bad dental care, and yet dental care is just not part of the mainstream healthcare system.

We want to ensure that essential dental care is provided to Canberrans who need it most. Many Canberrans struggle to afford dental treatment, which can lead to dental health crises that can have serious consequences – like heart disease and stroke. Part of having a good preventative health plan, means making sure people can access the dental care they need to prevent more serious illness in the future.

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