



Dear Chantelle,

Like many Western Australians, I am drawn to the heart-stopping beauty of the Kimberley Region. It gives me great pleasure to assure you that the Greens have a plan for the Kimberley and all the precious places in Western Australia, particularly with an eye to developing opportunities for sustainable tourism, maintaining marine reserves and limiting destructive mining practices.

The Greens support a comprehensive, adequate and representative marine reserve system. Our policy is that there are many coral reefs, bays, mangroves, estuaries and islands that are of outstanding ecological importance and should be protected within this system, and this is certainly true in the Kimberley. As such our policy supports the protection of areas like Adele Island that have been left out of the Great Kimberley Marine Park.

Critical to the success of any new conservation proposals is to involve Aboriginal traditional owners and the broader community in decision-making at all stages of planning, development and management, and this must be the case with any new parks in the Kimberley including a leading role for traditional owners in management of parks.

You can read more on our marine and coastal policy at <http://greens.org.au/policies/wa/marine-coastal>

With respect to mining, our policy is that our most important natural and cultural heritage should be protected from any large scale disturbances, such as mining. With its living culture, rock art, intact mammal populations and a near pristine marine environment that is among the most intact left on Earth, the Kimberley coast region ranks among our most important natural and cultural places.

You can read more on our policy on mining and fossil fuels at: <http://greens.org.au/policies/wa/mining-fossil-fuels>

The Greens will also provide a \$20 million boost to regional and rural tourism, through grants for local tourism operators, community groups and local governments, and will commit \$80 million for events and destination marketing to attract more visitors and generate sustainable economic activity in WA. We'd also like to see cheaper flights to our beautiful regions so that it becomes easier for people to enjoy them.

The Greens will push to extend contracts for Indigenous Ranger groups out to 15 years, to ensure there is certainty of funding beyond the 4 year election cycle. We would push for the creation of 66 new ranger parks from more than 5 million hectares of idle pastoral land purchased by the state in the late 1990s. This would see opportunities for a minimum of 212 new Rangers across WA, including a significant portion in the Kimberley. As a local example we absolutely support the Walmajarri, Bunuba, Nyikina Mangala, and Gooniyandi traditional owners in their Fitzroy River declaration and would support the creation of a Fitzroy River National Park IPA with management plans and input from Indigenous Ranger groups.

You can read more on our policy for Indigenous Rangers here: <http://greens.org.au/initiatives/wa/indigenous-rangers>

We would also like to see more done to stop the advance of the Cane Toad. More than \$200 million has been spent across the top end on programs to eradicate fire ants, yet less than 10% of that has been spent on Cane Toads. We know from speaking to people in communities like Warmun that many native species, such as Goannas and King

#### PORTFOLIO AREAS:

ENERGY & CLIMATE CHANGE; MINES AND PETROLEUM; STATE DEVELOPMENT & INDUSTRY; NUCLEAR ENERGY; LOCAL GOVERNMENT; WASTE MANAGEMENT; PORTS; PASTORAL ISSUES; ABORIGINAL ISSUES; RACING AND GAMING; AND REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY.

Browns, are getting rarer. Once these species are gone they are gone for ever. We must focus on biological controls and stopping the advance of this invasive species before it begins to affect tourism and the Kimberley economy.

To implement this plan in the Kimberley, the Greens have a strong and vibrant lower house candidate in Liz Vaughan, who is pushing for sustainable tourism, agriculture and fisheries in the Kimberley, focusing on input from local people, in line with the region's environmental and cultural assets and spirit.

I have been a parliamentarian for the Greens since 2001, and am one of the Greens longest serving parliamentarians. I live in Derby and have a special connection to the region; I will do whatever it takes to protect the beautiful, unique and wild place that is the Kimberley.

Robin and Liz can be contacted on their Greens' Facebook pages, and here: [iningandpastoral@wa.greens.org.au](mailto:iningandpastoral@wa.greens.org.au)

Please follow this link to the Greens Precious Places Initiative: <http://preciousplaces.org.au/> .

Here is a condensed list of our commitments to the Kimberley region:

1. 15 year long term contracts for the Indigenous Ranger program, a minimum of 212 new ranger positions created state-wide and a promise that all new conservation proposals will include Indigenous Protected Areas and management plans with rangers.
2. Investment into sustainable, local industries - such as bushfood and renewable energy - as well as tourism for the region to promote future prosperity in line with Kimberley values. Investment in economic futures that protect, not destroy the Kimberley's assets.
3. 100% renewable energy in the Kimberley by 2030 through a reduction in take-or-pay gas contracts with Horizon Power and installation of new technology allowing flexibility in our grids and greater uptake of rooftop solar.
4. A new approach to drugs and crime focusing on harm reduction, rehabilitation and breaking the cycle of crime early so that police have more time to catch traffickers.
5. Protect the Kimberley's precious places; creation of a world class marine park including Buccaneer Archipelago and Adele Island, and an expansion existing conservation reserves to include places like the Fitzroy River system.
6. Stop the advance of the Cane Toad before it is too late; protect our native flora and fauna, and the region's tourism industry.
7. No fracking in Kimberley National Parks! Only the WA Greens voted in opposition to the Natural Gas (Canning Basin Joint Venture) Agreement Act 2012, and only the WA Greens can be trusted not to support this invasive industry.

If I can be of any further assistance then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



The Hon Robin Chapple MLC  
**Member for the Mining and Pastoral Region**  
8 March 2017

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