

Media Release 05 May 2016

THE FEDERAL BUDGET - A LOST OPPORTUNITY

Julie Lyford, Greens candidate for the seat of Lyne, says that the Federal Budget fails all tests of fairness and responsibility.

Julie says:

"The government's tax policy rewards the wealthy and the big corporations and offers nothing for the average taxpayer and even less for those struggling on benefits such as the aged pension.

The Treasurer claimed that the budget was an economic plan for extraordinary times but failed to mention at all the environmental and economic threats posed by global warming and climate change."

HEALTH, AGED CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

The electorate of Lyne has many retired people who depend on a good health and aged care system. This budget cuts \$1.2 billion from aged care and does nothing to deal with the chronic underfunding of our health system and this at a time when the highest income earners have been given a tax cut. The Liberal/Nationals are clearly out of touch with the ordinary Australian.

EDUCATION

The Turnbull government has walked away from its commitment to fully fund vital Gonski reforms, so important for our children's future. Turnbull has slashed 20% from Higher Education, and this coupled with the NSW government's destruction of our TAFE system is devastating for young people in rural and regional Australia.

HOUSING

The Liberal/Nationals have declared war on younger people who are excluded from the housing market by unfair tax benefits relating to negative gearing. The negative gearing rules favour the wealthy at the expense of young people seeking to buy their first home.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLEAN ENERGY

The government continues to hand out billions in subsidies to the biggest polluters and yet has cut the clean energy budget by \$1 billion dollars.

Julie says:

"The Greens are clearly now the only party that is really attuned to the aspirations and interests of the average Australian and particularly those living in rural and regional Australia."

