

GREG PETTY

Independent Candidate for Lord Mayor

MEDIA RELEASE



1. *Publicly restate the long held position of not supporting or endorsing any political parties or candidates at these elections.*

Encouraged that SCLC is neutral in endorsement. I am an independent, never been a member of political party, will not accept a donation and will be transparent and openingly accountable to the community.

2. *Publicly state the Council's position in relation to:*

- i) *Protection of local government jobs, conditions, existing collective agreements and opposing outsourcing.*

Agree protection of conditions and existing collective agreements

Agree protection of local government jobs subject to:

Expect that costs, efficiency reviews identify surplus requirements that would be reallocated and allow natural attrition to occur to soak up the identified surplus.

- ii) *Ensuring that local government is corruption proof and that we do not see a return to inappropriate relationships between developers and Councilors.*

Agree and will expand anti corruption measures to procurement and lobby groups.

I have announced a new position of Internal Ombudsman. Staff will be free to make complaints without the fear of intimidation from management or councillors.

- iii) *Protection of public land and assets from privatization*

Agree in principle in order to ensure long term control over ordered sustainable lifestyle [includes environment, employment lands and food producing lands] subject to: possible joint venture opportunities, with asset ownership remaining community.

- iv) *Ensuring the integrity of elected local government representatives to be chiefly accountable to the residents of their Local Government Area and not to external corporate, political or other vested interests.*

Agree absolutely.

- v) *A vision and a plan for the growth of local industries and services in the interests of the people of the region.*

Agree. However such a commitment infers that it is a joint responsibility of all and not the sole responsibility of Council to lead. Small business is a significant employer and it is essential SME businesses are given every opportunity to grow and provide employment opportunities for all Wollongong residents, without having to leave the area.

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