

Response from **Ray Goodlass**, Greens candidate for Riverina

1. EQUALITY

a) Are you committed to equality for lesbians and gay men?

Yes

b) How will you work within your party (if applicable) to secure equality for lesbians and gay men?

I have played a leading role in amending the Greens NSW Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) policy and the Australian Greens Sexuality and Gender Identity policy. I am a member of the Greens NSW Working Party and am also the Greens NSW LGBTI spokesperson and recently initiated an LGBTI workshop at a Greens NSW State Delegates' Council

2. DE FACTO RECOGNITION

a) Do you support the equal treatment of same-sex couples with heterosexual de facto couples across federal law?

Yes

b) If so, how have you or will you demonstrate this commitment?

Through my role as Greens NSW LGBTI spokesperson, taking part in rallies, marches and demonstrations, letters and stories to the press, and by lobbying MPs in other parties.

3. FORMAL RECOGNITION

a) Do you support marriage equality and/or a civil union scheme for same-sex couples in Australia?

Yes

b) If so, how have you or will you demonstrate this commitment?

Through my role as Greens NSW LGBTI spokesperson, taking part in rallies, marches and demonstrations, letters and stories to the press, and by lobbying MPs in other parties.

4. PARENTING

a) Do you support the recognition of same-sex families, through the recognition of lesbian co-mothers and gay co-fathers in federal laws?

Yes

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c) Do you support non-discriminatory access to fertility services for lesbian couples and single women?

Yes

e) Do you support Medicare-funded fertility services that do not discriminate on the basis of medical and 'social' infertility?

Yes

5. PROTECTION FROM DISCRIMINATION

a) Do you support the enactment of federal legislation similar to the Sex Discrimination Act which would provide lesbians and gay men with comprehensive and effective protection from discrimination on the grounds of their sexuality? If so, how have you or will you demonstrate this commitment?

Yes

b) Do you support a Bill of Rights for Australia that enshrines the right of all Australians to be protected from discrimination and treated equally before the law on the basis of their sexuality? If so, how have you or will you demonstrate this commitment?

Yes

c) Do you support funding for equity and diversity training for all Commonwealth Employees to ensure that gay and lesbian clients and customers are treated appropriately when accessing Commonwealth agencies and services? If so, how have you or will you demonstrate this commitment?

Yes

6. EDUCATION – NATIONAL CURRICULA

a) Do you support teaching materials that include anti-homophobia and inclusive sexuality education in the development of any national curricula? If so, how have you or will you demonstrate this commitment?

Yes. Through my role as Greens NSW LGBTI spokesperson, taking part in rallies, marches and demonstrations, letters and stories to the press, and by lobbying MPs in other parties.

7. HIV & IMMIGRATION

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Recently people living with HIV/AIDS applying for permanent residency have automatically had their applications fail at the primary stage because of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DICA) refusal to exercise the health waiver. This has led to consuming and costly appeals to the Migration Review Tribunal. Given that many people living with HIV/AIDS have their applications for permanent residency succeed upon appeal, do you support giving DICA discretion at the primary stage of the application process?

Yes

8. SELF-DETERMINATION AND PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING

Will your consult and meet with lesbian and gay rights groups and community organisations on issues affecting lesbians and gay men in Australia in the next Parliament and beyond?

Yes