

Clarification of Gungahlin and Mitchell Voters Association Questionnaire

Education

Provide funding to plan and develop a local facility for Year 11 and 12 students to the Gungahlin Government school system i.e. construct a college, or an alternative facility, to provide quality Year 11/12 education in the Gungahlin district. This facility should be completed by the start of the 2007 school year.

The Canberra Liberals will provide funding to plan and develop a local facility for Year 11 and 12 students in the Gungahlin District. We would plan to have the college open in the 2008-09 financial year – subject to student numbers, it may be opened earlier. *The trigger for earlier opening would be having a pool of Year 9 students in the Gungahlin area sufficient to sustain a college in the district earlier- that is, comparable with enrolments in other colleges in the ACT.*

Employment

Develop and implement policies that will stimulate, expand and diversify sustainable employment opportunities in the Gungahlin Town Centre and Mitchell region, including the implementation of strategies to reverse the stagnation of the Mitchell commercial district. Offices and office jobs are required to provide stimulation to the Gungahlin Town Centre, with the relocation of Federal or Local Government Departments, to Gungahlin, seen as the most favoured outcome for providing stability and endorsement of Town Centre status.

The Canberra Liberals will encourage Federal and ACT Government enterprises to relocate to Gungahlin and *we will work with Federal representatives in the ACT towards persuading a Federal Government Department to establish in Gungahlin. We would also work towards offering incentives including stamp duty and payroll tax concessions to encourage a large private sector enterprise to establish in Gungahlin.* We consider that many of the future jobs in Gungahlin will come from creative enterprises such as film, publishing, software, biotechnology, defence industries, toys and games, architecture, video games, fashion, music art and design. The Canberra Liberals will work with the Gungahlin Community Council and Mitchell business community to make the district attractive to creative industries.

Planning

Develop and implement policies associated with the installation and ownership of services infrastructure ie telecommunications and power.

The Canberra Liberals will develop and implement policies associated with the installation and ownership of services infrastructure. We will work with telecommunications and power companies to ensure that Gungahlin receives equivalent services to those provided elsewhere.

Implement policies to revitalise and focus the Mitchell commercial district, including the provision of incentives for retail development.

The Canberra Liberals will implement policies to revitalise and focus the Mitchell commercial district, including the provision of incentives for retail development. Specifically, we will revise the policies relating to industrial districts to look at making Mitchell a more attractive location for businesses to operate.

Commit resources to establishing an ACT light rail network, with the construction of the link Civic to Gungahlin Town Centre as the first stage of construction (construction to be commenced by 2007)

The Canberra Liberals will be releasing our transport policy later in the campaign. This will include a provision to conduct a financial feasibility study of an ACT light rail network. If the financial feasibility study shows that such a network is viable, construction of a link between Civic and the Gungahlin Town Centre will be a priority.