



Ecological Sustainability - Social Justice - Peace and Non-violence - Grassroots Democracy

ACTION ON SMOKING AND HEALTH (ASH) AUSTRALIA FEDERAL ELECTION 2010

The Greens will seek the government's response to the recommendations of the National Preventive Health Taskforce with regards to tobacco and support the establishment of an independent National Preventive Health Agency.

In particular the Greens support the need for a sustained counter-tobacco social marketing campaign and strengthened support for those who wish to quit smoking. It is critical that an independent agency has responsibility for preventive health and that the agency is adequately funded to properly fulfil its role. The Greens believe the agency should have its current budget doubled to \$200m as well as the \$50m from the alcopops revenue for the Greens' alcohol harm prevention package.

There has been a significant reduction (30%) in the number of smokers in Australia over the past 35 years. Yet smoking still costs the community \$5.7bn in lost work days and damages the health of around 2.9 million Australians every year.

The Greens strongly support the government's recent increase in tobacco tax as a mechanism to reduce smoking. In addition, the Greens will introduce a minimum floor price on cigarettes to prevent tobacco companies and retailers from flooding the Australian market with cheap imported cigarettes.

The Greens have consistently advocated for reform of political donations and will continue to do so.

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