

NSW Labor’s election policy commitments

March 2019

This Occasional Paper will outline NSW Labor’s policy commitments made by the NSW Labor Leader, Michael Daley, ahead of the Saturday 23 March 2019 general election.

Relevant policy commitments of an elected Daley Government across portfolio areas include:

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Infrastructure

Ryan Park - Shadow Treasurer and Shadow Minister for Infrastructure

- \$500 million to create a new cultural institution in Western Sydney
- \$412 million to encourage recycling, promote cycling and walking and improve related infrastructure
- \$10 million commitment to preliminary work on a rapid transport link between the new Western Sydney Airport and Liverpool
- \$8 billion to fast-track Western Metro and \$3 billion to improve the existing rail network
- \$100 million to install lifts and a commuter carpark at Tuggerah Station.

Health

Walt Secord - Shadow Minister for Health, Shadow Minister for the Arts, Shadow Minister for Mental Health, Shadow Minister for Medical Research and Shadow Minister for the North Coast

- Improve nurse-to-patient ratios – employing more than new 5,500 nurses
- Improve the way emergency departments care for vulnerable people by introducing world-leading innovations to improve emergency departments – starting at Nepean Hospital
- \$5.7 million to protect and support paediatric cardiac services at the Sydney Children’s Hospital in Randwick
- \$5 million over three years to assist with the operation of five more 24/7 pharmacies
- NSW Labor will fund permanently around 50 disability advocacy services, including the Deaf Society of NSW, NSW Council for Intellectual Disability, Carers NSW and Vision Australia
- Implement a four-point plan for the Northern Beaches Hospital to review patient safety and emergency service capabilities
- \$700 million North West public hospital at Rouse Hill, the largest investment in public health in Sydney’s north-west by a State or Federal Government
- \$2.2 billion to plan Bathurst Base Hospital's Expansion
- \$1 billion for the upgrade of the Nepean Hospital
- \$434 million for the upgrade of the Shoalhaven Hospital
- \$251 million for the upgrade of the Shellharbour Hospital upgrade
- \$200 million to build the Eurobodalla Hospital
- \$200 million for the redevelopment of the Goulburn Hospital
- \$100 million for the upgrade of the Manning Hospital
- \$37 million for the upgrade of the Bulli Hospital
- \$23.6 million for the redevelopment of the Cooma hospitals.

Roads and Transport

Jodi McKay - Shadow Minister for Transport and Shadow Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight

- Return millions in tolls a year to Western Sydney motorists with the re-introduction of the Cashback on the M4
- Deliver free fares for all school children until they turn 16 or graduate from a NSW secondary school.
- Re-evaluate the train timetables and correct the bias against Western Sydney.
- Reduce the airport train station access fee, paid to the private Airport Link Company (ACL) to \$5 for regular passengers and abolish it altogether for the 29,000 people who work at Sydney Airport.
- Hold a judicial inquiry into WestConnex and the Sydney Light Rail, implementing a four-point plan to combat mismanagement, incompetence and waste and includes:
 - A judicial inquiry into WestConnex and the Sydney Light Rail to establish exactly how these projects have gone so wrong and provide full public accountability,
 - A pledge to never use secretive vehicles like the Sydney Motorway Corporation (the front company for the State Government that is delivering WestConnex) which was established specifically to dodge freedom of information laws,
 - No construction contracts will ever be signed before planning approvals have been received, as has been the case with the Westconnex and Sydney Light Rail, and
 - New legislation will require Infrastructure NSW to provide annual 'health checks' on the progress of major projects and publish their findings.
- Increase tolling transparency and create a fairer tolling system for all road users.

Education

Jihad Dib - Shadow Minister for Education

- \$90 million state level investment and \$449 million in federal Labor investment in early childhood education
- \$500 million to replace 1,000 ageing demountables with new permanent air-conditioned classrooms
- Ensure every public school in NSW is air conditioned
- Provide \$5,000 a year to every public school P&C in the state
- Recruit 100 full time language teachers to give more children choice of learning second language
- Ensure 52,000 disadvantaged schoolchildren from Kindergarten to Year 3 are able to access to free glasses
- Build more than 50 modern education precincts which may include either a preschool, a long day care centre, and/or out-of-school-hours care facilities, to assist working parents with daily school runs. All new public primary schools will have preschool or day care services.

Skills and TAFE

Prue Car - Shadow Minister for TAFE and Skills and Shadow Minister for Western Sydney

- Make TAFE free for more than 600,000 students over the next decade
- Guarantee that at least 70 per cent of vocational education and training funding will be allocated to TAFE
- Tackle youth unemployment with career advisors, roving fairs and online tools
- \$11 million to train and accredit electricians to install and maintain the new renewable energy infrastructure
- Crack down on dodgy training providers in the vocational education sector.

Environment and Energy

Environment and Heritage

Penny Sharpe - Shadow Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Shadow Minister for Trade and Deputy Leader of the NSW Labor Party

- Create the first Heritage Strategy for NSW, delivering specific laws to protect Aboriginal cultural heritage, close the loopholes in heritage laws and ensure a transparent heritage decision-making process
- \$32.5 million to 3,000 Landcare, Bushcare and Rivercare groups
- Invest \$50 million over the next four years to deliver more green spaces across greater Sydney
- \$10 million to restore Callan Park and establish a Trust
- Ban single use plastic bags
- The ecological catastrophe at Menindee Lakes requires a swift response and decisive action and a Daley Labor Governemnet will:
 - Conduct a special commission of inquiry,
 - Restore low and medium flows to the Darling River,
 - Ensure there are inspectors conducting compliance,
 - Stop the State Government's decommissioning project at Menindee,
 - Increase the number of outreach officers from Fisheries NSW, and
 - Put in place a community consultative committee.

Energy and Climate Change

Adam Searle - Shadow Minister for Energy and Climate Change, Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations, Shadow Minister for Industry and Resources and Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council

- Implement the Solar Homes policy to support 500,000 households to install roof top solar over 10 years
- Set a renewable energy target of 50 per cent by 2030 and as close to 100 per cent as possible by 2050
- Deliver 9 gigawatts of renewable energy for NSW by 2030.

Rural and Regional

Western NSW

Mick Veitch - Shadow Minister for Rural Affairs, Shadow Minister for Primary Industries, Shadow Minister for Lands and Shadow Minister for Western NSW

- Snowy Hydro Corporatisation Amendment (Restriction on Sale) Bill to ensure that every dollar that NSW receives is invested in infrastructure in regional NSW
- Establish a new independent body, RecFishNSW, to oversee recreational fishing
- \$37.5 million for Wild Dog Exclusion Fence
- \$50 million to fight weeds and pests
- \$4 million will fund 8,000 vaccinations for at-risk residents in rural and regional NSW to combat Q fever .



Regional Roads

Peter Primrose - Shadow Minister for Regional Roads and Shadow Minister for Local Government and Communities

- \$266 million for Muswellbrook bypass and \$100 million to accelerate the Singleton Bypass
- \$81 million to deliver long overdue repairs and upgrades for rural and regional roads
- \$900 million boost to existing \$500m fixing regional roads program.

Women

Sophie Cotsis - Shadow Minister for Women, Shadow Minister for Multiculturalism, Shadow Minister for Ageing and Shadow Minister for Disability Services

- Return the Office for Women to the Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Establish a Premier's Council for Women
- Require the publication of a Women's Budget Statement
- Establish targets for women in leadership
- Reform board and committee appointment processes
- Amend anti-discrimination laws to protect women at work
- Invest \$500,000 to deliver new mentoring and networking opportunities for women in business
- Create a minimum ratio of 1 midwife for every 3 mothers
- Work toward allowing pharmacists to provide emergency prescriptions for urinary tract infection medications
- Invest \$15 million to expand the services provided by Women's Health Centres
- \$8 million to help Women's Health Centres employ more specialist caseworkers for domestic, family and sexual violence
- Invest \$7 million to trial new health screening and outreach programs
- Invest \$500,000 to support volunteer women's groups.

Aboriginal Affairs

David Harris - Shadow Minister for Regional Development, Shadow Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Shadow Assistant Minister for Education and Shadow Minister for the Central Coast

- Develop a pathway to negotiate a Treaty or Treaties with the First Peoples on NSW
- Move Aboriginal Affairs to the heart of Government
- Invest \$4 million to support the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group
- Invest \$4 million to support the Girls Academy program
- Invest \$5 million to support Cultural Burning
- Deliver an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act to protect and promote Aboriginal cultural heritage
- Invest \$100,000 for the Arakwal Cultural Centre in Byron Bay
- Provide \$4.5 million for Justice Reinvestment
- Will establish the Walama Court and support Aboriginal legal services
- Invest up to \$3 million to establish a Myall Creek Massacre Education and Cultural Centre.



Jobs and Economy

Industry and Industrial Relations

Adam Searle - Shadow Minister for Energy and Climate Change, Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations, Shadow Minister for Industry and Resources and Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council

- Create a new NSW Jobs Act
- Amend the NSW Procurement Policy Framework to consider local jobs, local skills and local industry
- Create a new unit to support NSW businesses in the Department of Industry
- Mandate of 50% local content for major state government contracts valued at more than \$50 million
- Introduce protections for gig workers
- Require 20 per cent of work on major NSW Government construction projects be allocated to a combination of:
 - Apprentices,
 - Trainees,
 - Indigenous Australians, and
 - People who have been long term unemployed.
- Repeal the Liberals and National's extreme mining anti-protest laws within 100 days of taking office
- Criminalise wage theft
- New laws to hold head franchisors accountable for the actions of franchisees
- Extend powers of NSW workplace inspectors to proactively undertake wage audits
- Introduce a licensing scheme for labour hire companies to force compliance with existing labour laws
- Introduce new laws to protect Sunday penalty rates
- Require businesses to publicly display minimum wages rates
- Create a public "name and shame" register for business that break the law
- Ensure disputes and other issues regarding apprenticeships and vocational training which are regulated by State law can be heard in the Industrial Relations Commission; and
- Give the Industrial Relations Commission the power to order the payment of any unpaid superannuation, together with any unpaid wages and other employment conditions not provided.
- Move Liquor and Gaming NSW to Wollongong to stimulate the local economy
- Established a full-time Parliamentary Budget Office
- Introduce tougher penalties for corporations and jail for individuals responsible for workplace death resulting from a breach of work safety laws.

Emergency Services and Police

Guy Zangari - Shadow Minister for Police, Shadow Minister for Corrections and Shadow Minister for Emergency Services

- Double funding for physical and mental health program and provide \$80 million for police station upgrades (includes new Revesby station)
- Restore ICAC to former strength and extend scrutiny measures
- Hire 200 additional firefighters over the next four years
- Hire an additional 1,500 new police officers over four years.



Social Justice

Domestic Violence

Jenny Aitchison - Shadow Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and Shadow Minister for Small Business

- Fund a \$158 million domestic, family and sexual violence package
- Join Our Watch and deliver respectful relationships education from an early age
- Provide 10 days paid domestic violence leave.

Housing

Housing and Planning

Tania Mihailuk - Shadow Minister for Planning, Shadow Minister for Housing and Shadow Minister for Family and Community Services

- Put an end to development 'spot-zoning'
- Conduct a full audit of government-owned land and create the Affordable Housing Land Register (AHLR)
- Deliver a 25% Affordable Housing mandate on government-owned land
- Implement a 15% Affordable Housing mandate on privately developed land
- Legislate to ban property developers and real estate agents from holding office at a local government level
- Implement rental market reforms including ending no-fault evictions; introducing tenancies for up to five years in length.

Arts

Walt Secord - Shadow Minister for Health, Shadow Minister for the Arts, Shadow Minister for Mental Health, Shadow Minister for Medical Research and Shadow Minister for the North Coast

- Restore the integrity of arts board appointments and grants
- Invest \$100 million in the Regional and Cultural Fund
- Establish a Western Sydney Cultural Fund
- \$500 million to the world-class state cultural institution in Sydney's West and retain the current Powerhouse Museum
- \$35 million to support contemporary music
- \$100 million to redevelop the Riverside Theatre, with the NSW Government taking a 50 per cent interest in the project
- Provide up to \$36 million toward the redevelopment of various galleries and theaters
- Establish a \$40 million Regional Conservatorium Fund to support and expand the outstanding work already being done by regional conservatoriums and help more children from rural and regional NSW receive the benefits of musical education
- Invest \$300,000 over three years to expand the Sydney Writers' Festival's activities for children in Western Sydney and rural and regional NSW
- Organise a Philanthropic Roundtable with business and community leaders to expand the current level of financial support from private and corporate donors to the arts in NSW – including rural and regional areas.



Music and the Night Time Economy

John Graham - Shadow Minister for Gaming and Racing, Shadow Minister for Tourism and Major Events, Shadow Minister for the Night Time Economy and Music, Shadow Minister for Forestry

- Commit to consulting with festival sector and streamlining regulatory processes.

Local communities

Peter Primrose - Shadow Minister for Regional Roads and Shadow Minister for Local Government and Communities

- Providing more than \$60 million of additional funding for public libraries
- Labor does not support forced mergers, nor forced demergers of local councils

Disability

- Restore the \$13 million in disability advocacy services cut by Coalition

General Pledge

No more electricity privatisation

No privatisation of NSW hospitals

No privatisation of water

No privatisation of public transport services

Further information

Further information on NSW Labor's policy commitments are available [here](#).

For further information, contact [Eamonn Fitzpatrick](#) on +61 401 719 488 or [Debbie Manchin](#) on +61 421 083 995