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Robert Hunt

CEO

Dieticians Australia

RE: Dieticians Australia NSW Election 2023 Policy Platform

Dear Mr Hunt,

Thanks for reaching out to the Greens NSW with the Dieticians Australia policy platform for the 2023 NSW state election.

1. Fund every community mental health service across NSW to include Accredited Practising Dietitian (APD) services.

The Greens NSW acknowledges the important role that nutrition and dietary interventions play in addressing mental health. The Greens NSW support your policy ask to fund every community mental health service across NSW to include Accredited Practising Dietitian (APD) services.

2. Invest in preventive health by committing 5% of the NSW health budget to preventive health and implementing actions from both the National Preventive Health Strategy and National Obesity Strategy.

Chronic disease represents a significant cost burden on the NSW Health System with nearly 50% of people suffering from a chronic disease. Despite a third of chronic disease being preventable the NSW Government spends less than the OECD average on preventative health.

Increased spending on preventative health will reduce the burden on our health system and is estimated to return \$14 in benefits for every \$1 invested¹. The Greens NSW agrees with Dieticians Australia's policy ask to increase preventative health funding to 5% of the NSW Health budget.

¹ <https://jech.bmj.com/content/71/8/827>



3. Increase the NSW Health dietetic workforce in public hospitals, community health, outpatient, justice, disability, maternal, newborn and child health, and aged care services.

The Greens NSW support Dieticians Australia's policy as to increase the NSW Health dietetic workforce.

4. Establish a state government food security and nutrition plan and council.

The Greens NSW support Dieticians Australia's policy ask to establish a state government food security and nutrition plan and council.

Recent flooding across NSW recently showed us just how much climate change threatens our food supply. Food prices have skyrocketed and will continue to rise as extreme weather events like drought and flooding become more frequent and impact our farmland and supply chains.

The Greens NSW will launch our plan soon for a NSW Sustainable Food System that includes establishing a NSW Food Systems Council that will develop a statewide strategy for sustainable food strategy. The strategy will include ensuring our farmland is resilient to climate change, building a circular food economy and urban agriculture industry, embracing new agrotechnology, regulating supermarkets to limit food waste and empowering future generations by bringing food production education into our schools.

5. Improve the delivery and consistency of Home Enteral Nutrition provided to NSW residents through establishing dedicated services within NSW Health and reducing the out-of-pocket costs for consumers.

The Greens NSW acknowledge the patchwork provision of Home Enteral Nutrition (HEN) services and the financial and access difficulties that people who require HEN often face. The Greens NSW supports Dieticians Australia's policy ask to improve the delivery and consistency of Home Enteral Nutrition provided to NSW residents.

Warm regards,

Cate Faehrmann

Greens MP and health spokesperson.