

2018 STATE ELECTION POLICY SCORECARD



To help our members make their choice at the 2018 State Election, Master Builders Tasmania has rated the policies of Labor and Liberal against its own top ten election priorities.

MBT has also included the written responses from both parties so that you can see what they have written for themselves.

Note: The Liberals' response is more comprehensive; which is to be expected due to the greater resources available at their disposal.

Master Builders Rating



Strongly aligns with Master Builders policy reform priorities and have committed to implementing them.



Mostly aligns with Master Builders policy priorities and typically have committed to investigating their implementation if they win the Election.



Broadly aligns with Master Builders policy objectives and will have a generally positive impact on the building industry and the economy.



Not aligned with Master Builders policy priorities and expected to work against MBT's policies.

1. Northern Suburbs Growth Corridor for Hobart

LIBERAL PARTY

- The Liberal Party has aligned this policy with the Hobart City Deal
- The City Deal is not as comprehensive as what MBT is proposing as it is not as fully integrated

LABOR PARTY

- Promised re-zonings and reasonable alignment to MBT's overall objectives
- No reference to City Deal so unsure of funding model
- Willing to work with MBT moving forward

RATING:



RATING:



2. Focus on The Economy

LIBERAL PARTY

- Liberals are relying on past track record here rather than new initiatives, but nonetheless they have demonstrated a good fiscal approach to the state's finances over last 4 years
- Commitment to long-term average investment in public infrastructure welcomed along with stamp duty, land tax and payroll tax relief

LABOR PARTY

- New initiatives are welcomed including public infrastructure commitment
- Commitment to measurable KPI's a good move and introduces accountability in government budgeting which is welcomed
- Industry Advisory Councils an interesting approach but unsure as to effectiveness

RATING:



RATING:



3. Affordable Housing

LIBERAL PARTY

- Both parties have made similar (strong) commitments to the construction of affordable housing -1,500 new homes in the case of the Liberals
- Range of incentives incl. stamp duty and land tax relief to encourage additional affordable housing

LABOR PARTY

- Labor has committed \$106 million for affordable housing which equates to close to over 900 homes
- Other targeted incentives are also available as part of the package to increase housing supply

- Government also seeking to release affordable land from its current stock which gives it the extra tick

RATING: 

RATING: 

4. Buy Locally Policy – Major Projects

LIBERAL PARTY

- Government’s current buy local policy has improved local outcomes and is working
- Liberal Party has flagged a willingness to discuss further improvements

LABOR PARTY

- Labor will establish a Tender Support unit to ensure all construction tender procurement is scoped to match local capability – good initiative
- Both parties evenly matched on this priority

RATING: 

RATING: 

5. Apprentice Reform

LIBERAL PARTY

- Liberals have committed to extending the Payroll Tax Rebate Scheme until July 2021
- Agreed to extend the small business incentive for employing apprentices for another three years. This is up to \$5,000 per apprentice (expected 500 places)
- 70% of state funding to be directed to TasTAFE
- Happy to discuss further

LABOR PARTY

- Establish Building and Construction Industry Advisory Council to provide input into reform of apprenticeship and training system
- 70% of state funding to be directed to TasTAFE
- 3,000 apprentice and trainee scholarships each worth \$1,000 in high skills demand areas
- Liberals are more generous with their apprentice employment incentives and get the nod

RATING: 

RATING: 

6. Implementing Planning and Building Reforms

LIBERAL PARTY

- Committed to ongoing planning implementation
- Investing in iPlan, an online shop for building and planning approvals to make approvals faster and easier
- Actively looking at occupational licensing review
- Good track record of reform in this space

LABOR PARTY

- Committed to ongoing planning implementation
- Inquiry into the Building Act 2016, especially looking into CPD. This is the only concern as it flags a potential move away from compulsory CPD which MBT supports

RATING:



RATING:



7. Attracting Skilled Tradespersons to Tasmania

LIBERAL PARTY

- Government is currently undertaking a social media campaign interstate to attract people to re-locate to Tasmania
- Campaign has specific focus on areas which are experiencing skills shortages such B & C industry

LABOR PARTY

- Through newly implemented Industry Advisory Councils, Labor intends to develop Workforce Development Plans that will identify ways to fill vacancies.
- Committed to Tasmanian industry

RATING:



RATING:



8. WHS Reform

LIBERAL PARTY

- No real commitment to WHS reform and have shown little interest in taking up WHS reform to date
- This issue is both parties' Achilles heel

LABOR PARTY

- Labor has committed to a comprehensive review of WHS laws, which includes looking at implementing industrial manslaughter laws into Tasmania. MBT strongly opposes industrial manslaughter laws.

RATING: 

RATING: 

9. Local Government Reform

LIBERAL PARTY

- Liberal Party has committed to assisting Local Government by sharing resources and driving rationalisation but will not force Council amalgamations
- Policy is better than nothing, but ultimately 29 Councils servicing 520,000 people is not sustainable - disappointing

LABOR PARTY

- Supports Council amalgamations on a voluntary basis only. Will provide resources to assist with voluntary transitions
- A disappointing result for the Tasmanian community overall

RATING: 

RATING: 

10. Centralisation/Co-Ordination of Government Procurement

LIBERAL PARTY

- Interested in talking to MBT further about how procurement can be improved, but will not be establishing a new bureaucracy to deal with this matter

LABOR PARTY

- Will establish a Tender Support unit to "guide and empower" agencies and improve tenders
- Approach is more in line with MBT's wishes

RATING: 

RATING: 

TOTAL	
LIBERAL PARTY	LABOR PARTY
19/30	16/30

Disclaimer

This comparison of the policies of the Labor Party and the Liberal Party is based on the attached written responses provided to Master Builders Tasmania and other policies that the Association is aware of. Master Builders' members seeking more information are encouraged visit the websites of the respective parties.