

2022 CAMPAIGN PLATFORM

Helen Haines MP

Independent Federal Member for Indi

Climate Change

1. **Locally-Owned Renewables:** Secure \$300 million funding for community-owned renewable energy and provide direct support to regional communities to lower their power bills and boost energy security with local renewables.
2. **Home Battery Incentives & Electrification Loans:** Offer households no-interest \$5000 loans for zero emissions electric appliances and introduce incentives for home batteries by incorporating them into the Small-Scale Renewable Energy Scheme.
3. **Net Zero Emissions Farms:** Establish a voluntary carbon neutral farms certification scheme and support farmers lower emissions with an agricultural extension network of 200 officers.

Rail

4. **Fast, Frequent & Reliable Trains:** Secure more frequent services on the upgraded North East Line, hold the Government to account on punctuality targets and secure permanent maintenance funding to keep our trains running at peak speeds.
5. **Quality Rail Precincts:** Deliver strong local outcomes for the upgrades to Benalla, Euroa and Glenrowan rail precincts as part of the Inland Rail project.
6. **Good Connections:** Make sure passengers from the North East have direct rail connections to Melbourne Airport and regional Victoria with a connection at Sunshine Station.

Integrity

7. **Australian Federal Integrity Commission:** Establish a strong, independent Australian Federal Integrity Commission by passing the proposal I introduced to parliament in 2021.
8. **Political Donation Reform:** Pass laws to force all political parties and entities to declare donations above \$1000 within 3 months, and donations above \$15,000 within 5 days, including cumulative donations over time.

Phone & Internet Coverage

9. **Mobile Blackspots Program:** Secure funding to build mobile phone towers in the remaining black spots in Indi to bring better mobile coverage to the places left behind.
10. **Regional NBN Infrastructure:** Secure Federal funding to finish the NBN build in regional Australia instead of forcing cash-strapped regional councils to foot the bill.
11. **Regional Internet Standards:** Introduce legislation that guarantees minimum average daily speeds of 50 mbps, requires maximum one-day wait times for fixing faults, and introduces tougher penalties for telcos that fail to meet those targets.

Health

12. **Albury-Wodonga Hospital:** Secure \$300 million in federal funding to build a new, world-class, single-site hospital in Albury-Wodonga.
13. **Rural Hospital Fund:** Establish a \$1 billion fund to support upgrades to outdated health facilities in small rural towns, starting with Benalla, Bright and Mansfield.
14. **Health Workforce:** Build our regional healthcare workforce by tripling the size of programs to train doctors and other health workers locally and offer \$20,000 grants to mid-career health workers to upskill and take on further training opportunities here in the region.

Mental Health

15. **Eating Disorder Facility:** Secure Federal funding for a dedicated residential treatment facility for young people experiencing eating disorders in our region.
16. **Mental Health Workforce:** Attract psychologists and mental health workers into the regions by offering university debt-relief to qualified professionals who move to regional Australia.

Aged Care

17. **Rural Aged Care Facility Fund:** Establish a \$1 billion fund to build new and upgraded residential aged care facilities in rural and regional Australia.
18. **Home Care Wait Times:** Introduce legislation setting a maximum wait time of 1 month for the delivery of home care packages.
19. **Minimum Aged Care Staff Times:** Introduce laws to require aged care providers to provide minimum 215 minutes of care for each resident per day and having an RN onsite at all times.

Economic Recovery

20. **Regional Housing Fund:** Set up a \$2 billion Regional Housing Fund to unlock private investment in new houses by building the infrastructure needed for new developments.
21. **Home Ownership Uplift Scheme:** Support people to purchase their first home through a shared equity scheme, where the Commonwealth co-invest up to 25% of the property price.
22. **Regional Tourism Fund:** Establish a \$1 billion Regional Tourism Fund to invest in transformational tourism assets for regional Australia.