

Shooters, Fishers & Farmers Party Tasmania Policy Summary

Shooters, Fishers & Farmers Party evolved from growing discontent from within the Tasmania Rural and regional Communities. There is a wide spread view that the Major Parties have given scant regard to Tasmania's Rural Community only calling on them during election campaigns for support. The past decade or so has seen dramatic change and challenges for rural and regional Tasmanians and their communities.

SFFP Tasmania is your political voice for all Tasmanians feeling disenfranchised, stigmatised and ignored by the major parties, Tasmanians deserve better. Our Policy platform has been formed from communication with real people in our communities with realistic aims.

SFFP believe large change starts with small, simple, community engaged ideas that are realistic and achievable.

If we obtain seats in government, the following policies will be pursued by us:

Health Services

- Demand the refunding of Preventive Rural Health Services that were vital in delivering positive health services to rural Tasmanians who it is well known have such poor health outcomes.
- Adopt a rural health Policy based on prevention, improving health literacy, keeping people in their homes and out of our current overloaded, dysfunctional health system.
- Demand the elected Parties adopt a bi Partisan Committee or Board that removes politics from services such as Health and Child Protection. This Board should include true staff representation from agencies, identify major deficiencies, strategies, hospital locations and capacity, staffing, policy, budgets and a long term 20-year plan for the future.
- Staffing for medical facilities has always been a major concern. Explore the option of an expanded Nurse Training Program and

Campus based in Tasmania to provide career and employment opportunities for future staffing requirements.

Community

- Deliver education programs into primary and secondary schools to educate children about how food is grown, produced and harvested for the table. This will be achieved by training and increasing teachers and support staff across the State.
- Increase teaching support staff to assist children with basic learning difficulties.
- Insist that mobile phone blackspots for rural Tasmanians be eliminated as with the withdrawing of localised emergency services, rural phone coverage should be considered a basic service.
- SFFP will vigorously protect individual rights to enjoy the outdoor way of life, now and into the future with regard to traditional Tasmania activities such as fishing, hunting, 4 wd access, trail bike riding, marine fishing, camping and bushwalking.
- Defend the access and ownership of lawful firearm owners for recreational activities such as hunting, shotgun and dog hunting for wallabies, target shooting, trap shooting and promote this sport as a lawful activity
- Oppose over regulation of Firearm Owners that achieves nothing other than targeting lawful firearm owners instead of criminals.
- We do not accept the concept of some to remove poker machines from rural and regional pubs and clubs. Why, because SFFP rejects fundamentally using public funds to buy jobs from people which will lead to rural and regional business disadvantaged compared to major businesses. The recent

public funds used during the Forestry restructure is example of inept policy.

- SFFP believes a higher proportion of gaming revenue should be allocated to education and targeted harm minimisation programs for those with an addiction to gaming.
- SFFP believes at its core that people have, within reason, the individual rights to choose the lawful activity they participate in and the way they live their lives.
- Individuals should be responsible for their own decisions and Government interference should be minimal.
- Re-fund Theatre and Art Grants for use within regional and Rural Tasmania and promoting these in local schools.
- Appoint an Art Minister portfolio, to ensure culture and the Arts receives the attention it deserves.
- Remove vehicle registration fees for 1 vehicle (per family) for Tasmanian pensioners. Third party insurance payment still required.
- Grant free public transport access to aged pensioners.
- Have a liaison policy enacted between Police, local Councils, IFS, Wildlife Rangers, Hydro to address and enforce the litter problem that plagues our wild places.
- Assist councils to provide free periodic bulk rubbish collections

Agriculture (Lake, Land & Sea) and Biosecurity

- Introduction of Help the Farmer Help the Community program. A program to assist the farmer feed struggling Tasmania and help to minimise food waste. This is by

processing the tonnes of quality vegetables classed as “seconds” which are currently dumped. Farmers will receive incentives such as Hydro, Tax and Diesel rebates commensurate with produce donated. This is a cost negative proposal with participating Primary Producers. Working with Community organisations such as “ Second Bite, Loaves and Fishers” Devonport, this produce will promote job training, healthy eating, supporting school breakfast programs, assisting those in need of quality meals in times of hardship.

- We will continue to expand the agriculture, forestry and mining industries, balanced by the sustainable utilisation of all natural resources.
- Push for a much needed injection of funds to Fisheries and Game Services for management and enforcement to sustain our wild fisheries both Inland and Marine environment and our world class wild fallow deer herd.
- Increase funding significantly for bio security state-wide to protect marine and land-based agriculture from threats such as fruit fly, blueberry rust, POMS, green snails and the ever-growing threats of other threats to our farmers and growers. Increase security at airports and Ports with detection dogs and officers including investigating the impact of bilge water dumping from visiting shipping.
- Introduction of car and boat wash bays for suspect vehicles at the place of arrival. Our island state cannot afford to permit future insect pest incursions.
- Demand that the IFS (Inland Fishery Service) abandon their current proposed 10 year plan and develop a more robust comprehensive inclusive policy to restore our wild fishery.
- Support aquatic farming practices which are proven to be sustainable and not damaging to our marine environment. We strongly oppose the Okhampton Bay operation, proposed King Island lease and deplore the destruction of Macquarie Harbor.

We will never support commercial Salmon Farms in areas of marine sensitivity that do not have broad LOCAL community acceptance.

Tourism

- Promote funding for local rural Councils for the construction and expanding sites for free or low-cost camping sites and basic infrastructure such as refuse, toilets & dump stations to both protect against illegal dumping of rubbish, human waste & keep the high numbers of travelling tourists in rural areas as long as possible. Phone service is vital in this regard.
- Implement a policy of subsidised travel on the Spirit of Tasmanian for interstate anglers bringing boats to Tasmania for recreational fishing use. Thus, promoting and supporting tourism, hospitality, small business through recreational fishing.
- Cancel National Park fees currently paid by licenced inland anglers wishing to fish within Park boundaries.
- Allow visitors visiting National Parks to have restrained and under control pets with them.
- Abolishing fees to allow Tasmanian pensioners access to their National Parks.
- SFFP will carefully monitor Government plans to restrict public access to our National Parks, Crown Land & reserves and any proposal to expand WHA that preclude traditional Tasmanian Outdoor activities such as bushwalking, horse trail riding, motorised access, fishing, camping and hunting.
- Promote the World Fly Fishing Championships which will be held in Tasmania & show cased around the world and use this to promote this State to the World audience promoting tourism.

- Introduce information cards, in all the major tourist languages to assist them with understanding what is permitted and not into this State, both at entry points and car hire locations and other relevant locations throughout the state.

Law and order

- Insist that criminals and Game thieves using firearms illegally receive severe penalties that truly reflect public sentiment.
- Create positive working relationships with agencies such as TFGA, SSAA, ADA, Tasmania Police to ensure Tasmanian recreational hunters and firearm owners are properly consulted BEFORE change is forced upon them.
- Developing SOP, Standard Operating Procedures for Tasmania operators conducting storage Inspections to ensure a standard is set and achieved.

Business & Infrastructure

- SFFP will help protect local businesses by ensuring a buy local first policy, particularly with government contracts.
- Promote the decentralisation of government services to rural communities
- Commit to addressing public transport, both commuter and tourism by exploring the option of investing in the future of rail throughout the state, both passenger and tourist trains.
- Revisit Macquarie Point, where this should be a terminal for bus and rail, to assist with commuter and tourists alike,
- Protect and stimulate local businesses by ensuring we put Tasmania's business interests first and using them where possible with Government contracts in lieu of National assets.

- Re allocate police to front line duties by replacing police with trained operators to do none essential activities. For example, conducting firearms safe inspections.
- Support the need to significantly increase police numbers and increase staffing in rural areas.