

## **What is your party's commitment to lowering the cost of living – especially with electricity prices?**

The Coalition and the ALP have suddenly 'discovered' the pain at election time. Throwing cash at some households but refusing to identify and address the real causes of cost of living hikes will not work. The Greens will:

- take the pressure off renters by increasing the supply of publicly funded housing options for low income households,
- invest in public transport to reduce vulnerability to rising petrol prices,
- improve competition in the food and grocery retail sector by better planning decisions.

For electricity, householders are paying up to 35% more to pay for poorly planned, outdated infrastructure. Lower cost alternatives including improving energy efficiency, demand management and local renewable generation will eliminate the need for much of this money to be collected and reduce total consumption, further reducing bills.

Recent power price rises have nothing to do with a carbon price or combating climate change. The longer we leave it, the more it will cost.

We can and should compensate people for the impacts of a carbon price, but we cannot compensate for the impacts of climate change.

## **What are you going to do about the Princes Highway - in our region?**

Road safety is an important and complicated issue. Unfortunately, Far South Coast residents currently have no choice but to use the Princes Highway. There are well known accident hot spots, such as Dignams and Victoria Creek that must have highest priority for upgrades.

However, The Greens would also love to see safe and affordable public transport for freight and passengers, ideally a rail link connecting us to major capital cities. This would provide more transport options for residents and would make the Princes Highway safer by reducing traffic congestion.

The Journal of the Australasian College of Road Safety has reported that that up to 45 road deaths a year could be reduced if 15 percent of road freight were transferred to rail.