

Paying for Our Plan

Tasmania is in the midst of a health, housing, and cost of living crisis. There is also a desperate need to tackle the overarching climate and biodiversity emergency. Instead of prioritising solutions, Liberal and Labor politicians continue to back corporate tax cuts and subsidies. The Greens will make big corporations pay their fair share, to pay for our investment in health, housing and tackling the climate crisis.

Mining Royalties

In 2022, the mining industry made more profits than every single industry outside of finance combined.¹

In the 12 months to May 2023, the Tasmania mining industry exported \$2.8 billion worth of mineral products – 62% of the State's mercantile export value.²

Despite this, the State only collected \$56.1 million in royalties,³ under 2% of Tasmania's own-source revenue.⁴

The Greens will fight to double royalties paid on minerals.

Casino Taxes

Tasmania's gambling industry benefits one family over anyone - the Farrell family, or Federal Group. The Farrells are estimated to be worth \$745 million,⁵ with Greg Farrell himself said to be worth \$564 million.⁶

This extreme wealth has come at the expense of Tasmanians who can afford to lose it the least, and is due to Federal Group's gambling monopoly arrangement in Tasmania.

In 2021, after a cosy arrangement with the Liberal government, the licence fees and EGM tax rate for Casino's were cut.⁷

The Greens will fight to restore licence fees and the pokies tax rate for casinos to pre-2021 levels.

Fish Farm Royalties

The unchecked expansion of Tasmania's salmon industry, unsustainable stocking levels, and approval of fish farms in inappropriate locations has come at great environmental cost.

Parts of Macquarie Harbour have been turned into a 'dead zone',⁸ and threatened species like the Maugean skate, handfish, and Gunn's screw shell have been pushed closer to extinction.⁹

¹ Read, M, [Miners reap record profits as commodity prices soar](#), *Financial Review*, 2022.

² Morton, J, [Tasmanian minerals in high demand amidst electrification shift](#), *Ministry of Resources*, Muggle Head, 2023.

³ Department of Treasury and Finance, [Treasurer's Annual Financial Report 2022-23](#), Tasmanian Government, 2023.

⁴ Department of Treasury and Finance, [Budget Paper No. 1](#), 2023-24 Tasmanian Budget, Tasmanian Government, 2023.

⁵ Australian Financial Review, [Rich 200](#), 2019.

⁶ The Australian Business Review, [Rich 250 List](#), 2021.

⁷ Parliament of Tasmania, [Gaming Control Amendment \(Future Gaming Market\) Bill 2021](#), 2021.

⁸ ABC News, [Environment watchdog orders Tassal to destock salmon lease in Macquarie Harbour](#), February 2017.

⁹ Marine Life Network, [Submission to the Legislative Council Inquiry into Fin Fish Farming in Tasmania](#), 2019.

Tasmania's salmon industry has doubled in size over the last decade and now accounts for over 60% of the value of all aquaculture in Australia.¹⁰

In 2022, the gross value of salmon production was \$1.1 billion.¹¹ Despite exploiting a natural resource, and the significant cost to the environment and communities, little of these windfalls are being contributed to the state budget.¹²

The Greens will fight to establish a 10% royalty on the gross value of salmonoids grown in Tasmanian waters.

Rezoning Tax

If property developers know one thing, it's how to make massive profits. One of their best tricks is making money for nothing simply by rezoning land.

Rezoning land can make a developer millions simply by changing what the land is allowed to be used for to something of higher value.

In Australia, it's governments making the decision on whether developers are allowed to rezone land to high-value use. Of course, with this comes the opportunity for corruption or the like.

A rezoning tax is a once-off levy applied to the 'windfall gain' enjoyed by property developers when they are allowed to change what the land they've purchased can be used for. It ensures a government decision to award a

developer a massive profit will also benefit the community.

This system exists in the ACT. There, when a change in the allowable use of land results in an increase in valuation, the ACT government applies a 75% once-off tax on that increase in value.

The Greens will fight to establish a 75% tax on profits gained from the rezoning of land.

Empty Homes Levy

While many Tasmanians struggle to find a home to rent or buy, some 1,000 homes remain empty. There are an estimated 470 empty in the Hobart area, and 445 in Launceston.¹³

Elsewhere, levies on empty homes are used to curtail this problem. In Vancouver, such a levy has reduced vacant homes by 36% and raised \$115 million for social housing.¹⁴

The Greens will fight to establish a 1% levy on empty homes.

Racing Industry Subsidies

A Greens-initiated inquiry into greyhound racing found the numbers of greyhound deaths in the industry were unacceptable, and likely to be higher than reported.¹⁵ It found track design resulted in avoidable injuries and deaths,¹⁶ administration of prohibited substances was increasing while testing was

¹⁰ Department of Agriculture, Water & Environment, [Australian fisheries and aquaculture statistics 2018](#).

¹¹ Department of Natural Resources and Environment, [Tasmanian Agri-Food Scorecard 2021-22](#), n.d.

¹² The Australia Institute, [Making Mountains out of minnows: Salmon in the Tasmanian Economy](#), July 2019.

¹³ Bailey, S, [Tenants Union of Tasmania says levy needed to fill 100's of empty homes across the state](#)

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Parliament of Tasmania, [Inquiry into Greyhound Racing in Tasmania: Final Report](#), Joint Select Committee on Greyhound Racing in Tasmania, 2016, pp. 49-50.

¹⁶ Ibid, p. 91.

decreasing,¹⁷ rehoming services weren't properly funded,¹⁸ and racing stewards had limited or unclear powers.¹⁹

Greyhounds Australasia has acknowledged *"the industry has done a poor job in understanding the nature and depth of this fundamental problem and has done very little to find a genuine solution"*.²⁰

The industry body also acknowledged *"the culture of the industry is defined by animal deaths being acceptable and necessary and where profits come before welfare"*.²¹

Not only has progress been minimal,²² but new scandals continue to rock greyhound²³ harness, and thoroughbred racing.²⁴ These are industries that are rapidly losing their social licence.

Despite all this - and despite the fact a new tax was established to fund the industry - ²⁵ the public continues to subsidise racing in excess of \$30 million per year.²⁶

The Greens will fight to end subsidies to the racing industry.

Budget (\$m)

Revenue (\$m)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Mining Royalties	44.20	44.50	47.50	47.50	183.70
Casino Taxes	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	36.00
Salmon Royalties	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	380.00
Rezoning Tax	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	640.00
Vacant Property	8.00	7.00	6.00	5.00	26.00
Racing Subsidies	32.97	32.47	32.47	32.47	130.38
Total	349.17	347.97	349.97	348.97	1396.08

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¹⁷ Ibid, p. 95.

¹⁸ Ibid, p. 112.

¹⁹ Ibid, p. 130.

²⁰ Greyhounds Australasia, [Crisis to Recovery Program](#), 2015, accessed via: web.archive.org.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Office of Racing Integrity, [Response To Joint Select Committee Report Into Greyhound Racing](#), updated February 2020.

²³ Tasmanian Times, [Animal Liberation Exposes Greyhound Conditions at Bullock Property in Exeter](#), 2023.

²⁴ Moran, J, [Whistleblowers feel 'vindicated' by Tasmanian harness racing report findings after years of raising concerns](#), ABC News, 2024

²⁵ Howlett, J, [Point of Consumption Tax](#), Tasmanian Government, 2020.

²⁶ Department of Treasury and Finance, [Budget Paper No. 2 Vol. 1](#), 2023-

24 Tasmanian Budget, Tasmanian Government, 2023.