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tourist
information
parking
surveillance

Willink

Independent



Independent Candidate for Denison, HANS WILLINK has announced a plan to expand the role of 25 Hobart parking meter attendants into tourist information, parking and surveillance (TIPS) officers.

Parking meter attendants are an unpopular and under utilised resource. I hope to turn them into valued, additional eyes and ears for Police as well as a friendly and convenient resource for visiting tourists and a deterrent for wrong doers.

They would wear a bright yellow vest, like police, displaying a large 'i', the international symbol for information as well as a band with a hatch pattern, the international symbol for police. Underneath would be displayed the acronym TIPS, a word that also means a friendly piece of advice.

Tasmania Police have maintained their presence with the introduction of high-visibility uniforms. This proposal is just taking it one step further.

TIPS officers would carry smart phones so they could rapidly respond to requests for information, if they did not know the answer immediately.

Whilst they would have no policing functions other than to report suspicious behaviour and pass on requests for police assistance, their mere presence would have a deterrent effect on potential shop lifters or trouble makers

This is a highly cost effective measure that would require little more than some training, which I expect would be eagerly assisted by the hotel and tourism industry.