



**Nick McKim MP**  
Greens Leader  
Member for Franklin  
**Tasmanian Greens**

Tuesday, 17 September 2013

The Hon. Will Hodgman MP  
Liberal Leader  
Parliament House  
Hobart, TAS, 7000

Dear Mr Hodgman,

I am writing to propose a tripartite approach to assessing how to best progress the suggestion made by Mr Julian Burnside QC to establish Tasmania as a recognised asylum seeker haven where asylum seekers would, after initial risk assessment, be hosted in the Tasmanian community while awaiting assessment of their claims.

Clearly such a proposal would require the agreement of, and funding from the Commonwealth.

The Greens believe there is merit in further developing Mr Burnside's proposal, and we note that other organisations such as TasCOSS have also publicly supported it.

Tasmania has a proven track record of welcoming asylum seekers with compassion, and they have made a real contribution to their adopted home.

The Greens believe that Mr Burnside's suggestion provides both a compassionate approach to asylum seekers, as well as having the potential to strengthen our social fabric and economy.

Since it has been reported in the media, we have received strong support from many within the community. However, further details and refinements are obviously required to make this proposal workable.

Compassion is not the domain of any particular political Party. In that spirit, I wish to ask whether you would be prepared to meet with Premier Lara Giddings and I to discuss progressing the proposal.

I have written to Ms Giddings in the same terms.

Yours sincerely,

**Nick McKim MP**  
**Greens Leader**

1 of 1

• State Parliamentary Offices of the Tasmanian Greens  
• Postal Address: Parliament of Tasmania Hobart, Tasmania 7000  
• Phone: (03) 6233 8300 • Fax: (03) 6223 1406 • E-mail: [greens@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:greens@parliament.tas.gov.au)  
• Internet: [www.tas.greens.org.au](http://www.tas.greens.org.au)

