



Nick McKim MP
Greens Leader
Member for Franklin
Tasmanian Greens

Tuesday, 17 September 2013

The Hon. Lara Giddings MP
The Premier
Parliament House
Hobart, TAS, 7000

Dear Premier,

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 Liberal Leader Will Hodgman and I to discuss progressing the proposal.

I have written to Mr Hodgman in the same terms.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nick McKim'.

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
• Internet: www.tas.greens.org.au

