

Deputy Premier
Attorney-General
Minister for Justice, Corrections and Rehabilitation
Minister for Small Business, Trade and Consumer Affairs
Minister for Environment and Climate Change

Level 10, 15 Murray Street, HOBART TAS 7000
GPO Box 123 HOBART TAS 7001
Phone: 03 6165 7678
Email: barnett.correspondence@dpac.tas.gov.au



Ms Elizabeth Caballero

28 August 2026

Email: elizabeth.caballero@womenspeaktas.au

Dear Ms Caballero,

Thank you for your correspondence in relation to the Tasmanian Greens' draft Conversion Practices Prohibition Bill 2026.

I appreciate you taking the time to share your views.

Tasmania should be a place where everyone feels valued, included, encouraged and supported. Coercive, abusive and or serious harmful practices should not be tolerated.

The Greens' draft bill is fundamentally flawed. The draft Bill is in my view amongst the most extreme of its type in Australia.

The draft Bill risks criminalising certain conversations between a parent and their child and conversations within families. It criminalises legitimate conversations between consenting adults and children as well as certain conversations in a health or educational setting.

Sadly, the draft Bill risks criminalising conversations and or prayers in a church or religious setting.

Another fundamental flaw is the definition of 'conversion practice'. It is broad and ambiguous which has huge implications leading to significant unintended consequences.

What exactly is the problem the Greens are seeking to fix?

Any legislative reform must not limit people's ability to have open respectful discussions, especially within families.

Further, Tasmanians should not be subject to unfair investigations or lengthy quasi-judicial processes based on misleading or false complaints. We should not create laws which punish differences of opinion on sex or gender, expressed respectfully.

Any proposed legislation must guarantee the appropriate constitutional legal and other safeguards including the protection of parental rights, respectful conversation and opinions, including in a church or religious setting.

Any future proposed Bill should take into account the above concerns and be subject to full consultation and both legal and constitutional advice. Further the consultation feedback on the Greens' draft Bill should be released publicly as soon as possible.

I hope the above is informative and helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Guy Barnett', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Hon Guy Barnett MP
Deputy Premier