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A sustainable plan at last

ACT Greens MLA for Molonglo, Deb Foskey, has welcomed the inclusion of sustainability as one of the key strategic themes in the Canberra Plan discussion paper released today.

"The Canberra Plan: Towards our Second Century seems to be based on an understanding that the ACT has to grapple with a number of key issues, and – now, at last- sustainability is up there with health care and a strong economy," said Deb Foskey today.

"The Greens are pleased that the concerns we share with a growing number of Canberra residents are being heard by Government."

"It makes a change from the resistance this government has shown over the past four years when I have raised sustainability as a key measuring stick for government policy."

"I hope that in hearing what the community has to say about the future of Canberra, in response to this paper, the Stanhope Labor Government will be prepared to strengthen its targets on reducing water use and greenhouse emissions and increasing the convenience of public transport."

"At present, the Canberra Plan: Towards our Second Century is a very broad-brushed document which commends the ACT Government on progress thus far and provides only aspirational objectives for the future."

"To really make Canberra sustainable, the government will have to take the lead in policy and action: introducing an interim target for greenhouse gas reduction and putting more money into an integrated transport system, as well as recommitting to waste reduction.

"That would be the way to persuade the Canberra community that this latest glossy document is more than words and pre-election spin," said Dr Foskey.

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