



# Campaign Update



**Damon Thomas**  
for Hobart City Council

**1<sup>ST</sup> EDITION**  
**21<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2009**

## IN THIS EDITION

- **The decision to stand**
- **Campaign launch**
- **Platform priorities**
- **Introducing the campaign manager, Stewart Wardlaw**

### THE DECISION TO STAND FOR COUNCIL

My decision to stand for election to the Hobart City Council at the forthcoming October elections was a logical one. I spent the formative years of my career working as a lawyer in the Brisbane Council at a time of significant transformation for that city. It was a phase of exponential growth that included Expo '88, the Commonwealth Games bid and major subdivision development. I returned to Tasmania in 1990 and before I took up my role as CEO of TCCI I worked in a number of key State Government positions including State Crown Solicitor, State Ombudsman and Ombudsman for local government, Health Complaints Commissioner, Freedom of Information Commissioner and Energy Ombudsman Crown Solicitor and Ombudsman. *My combined local and state government experience and commercial insight provide me with a strategic insight on which to base a meaningful election platform.*

### CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

***"Working to make Hobart the way it should be. Easy to live, easy to do business"***  
**DAMON THOMAS**

THE former head of the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, State Crown Solicitor and Tasmanian Ombudsman, Damon Thomas has announced his decision to run for Hobart City Council.

Mr Thomas is currently head of the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal and the Korean Consul. He has previously been on the Board of the Heart Foundation and the Cancer Council. He has a Master of Laws.



Mr Thomas said he had a passion for the potential of Hobart, demonstrated local government experience and long term interest in our city's future. *"If elected I will add value to the Hobart community by using my professional qualifications, experience and my strong business and community relationships to assist measured progress,"* Mr Thomas said.

"Given the impact of the global financial crisis, we need to accelerate local investment and the allure of job creation in order to sell Hobart as a city of opportunity both interstate and overseas. I will work with council on charters of sustainability which offer certainty for developers and the community, so when a proposal is put forward all parties know where they stand."

Mr Thomas said through engaging with key stakeholders he will work to address current community and business concerns. *"It is time to use the strength of cross government and cross sector networks to facilitate a new dialogue aimed at enhancing cooperation between business, other councils, the state and the federal government and its representatives,"* Mr Thomas said.

## WHAT PRIORITIES WILL I BRING TO THE COUNCIL TABLE?

### Review of rating system

My first priority is to introduce common charges for common services.

### Business friendly

I will explore every available opportunity to revive the Myer Liverpool Street site. I will also investigate joint investment and trade missions with State Government.

### Certainty and simplicity in planning

I will work to reduce adversarial processes.

### Promote reputable, open, accountable and transparent City Governance

I will focus on policies and not personalities.

### City accessibility and amenities

It must be as easy as possible for people to shop and do business in the city. I will promote the timely completion of inner city road works and work to improve public safety in the CBD and waterfront precincts. City amenities, including public toilet facilities, need to be improved and a thorough investigation of inner city parking needs and opportunities for

additional intercity and connecting cycle ways needs to be completed.

## WHY STEWART WARDLAW WANTS TO SEE DAMON THOMAS ELECTED

Damon has complementary as well as diverse skills and experience to ensure there is broad and comprehensive input to policy deliberations and local decision-making.

It is commendable that Damon Thomas is offering himself to serve the Hobart City community.



*I spent over 35 years in various positions within Local Government in Tasmania and it was always apparent that both councils and communities benefited from the orderly recruitment of new members, such as Damon, with alternative qualities, qualifications and experiences to refresh policy*

*deliberations and raise the bar of governance.*

Whilst Damon has an indisputable strength in his understanding of business and commerce, his qualifications and experience in the law equip him excellently to contribute to the demands of changing public administration.

But, Damon's proven qualities do not stop there. *He has a record of involvement with a number of social and welfare organisations in the City to which he has unselfishly given his energy and wise counsel over a period of time.*

I have enormous respect for people such as Damon who are prepared to offer themselves for election to Councils across the State. Elections are an opportunity for the public to have their say on who they believe are best equipped to superintend over mature and responsible City governance.

*Number one, everyone should exercise their democratic privilege to record their vote in October. Number two, I suggest that electors give earnest consideration to vote Damon onto the Council. I am confident you will not be disappointed.*

**Stewart Wardlaw**  
Campaign Manager

## Important Dates to Remember

**Don't forget to vote! Polls close at 10am on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009.**

**Local Government elections are taking place from 13 to 27 October 2009. In order to have your say, you must be enrolled to vote. More information about eligibility and enrolling to vote is available from the Hobart City Council website:**

<http://www.hobartcity.com.au/HCC/STANDARD/ELECTIONS.html>

## Would you like to help?

If you want to support positive change in Hobart and be involved in Damon's campaign, send an email to Damon at [damon@damonthomas.com.au](mailto:damon@damonthomas.com.au)

- Ask your friends and family if they would like to receive the newsletter and let us know their email address so we can add them to the mailing list
- Check out Damon's web site for the latest campaign news and information, and refer your friends and family too: [www.damonthomas.com.au](http://www.damonthomas.com.au)
- Put a campaign sticker on your car. Just send Damon an email at [damon@damonthomas.com.au](mailto:damon@damonthomas.com.au) and a sticker will be sent to you

## VOTE 1



**DAMON THOMAS**  
FOR HOBART CITY  
[www.thomas4hobartcity.com.au](http://www.thomas4hobartcity.com.au)  
AUTHORISED BY AG KEMP A.M. 33 NORFOLK CRESCENT SANDY BAY