

FUNDING THE CHANGES WE WANT TO SEE

We're fully aware that the changes and improvements we want to see in the future planning of this country require funding. This is a collection of our ideas about how to find that funding, that would collect or save a combined total of over \$22bn – far more than the changes we propose.

CORPORATE COMMUNITY TAX - Large corporations, by and large, pay very little tax. This is done perfectly legally - but to be the responsible community-minded organisations they claim to be, it's time something more was given back. We propose a levy of 0.2% of reported turnover paid by every corporation in Australia with turnover in excess of \$100m, paid into a special cultural fund, to support community organisations across the country. If applied in 2013-14, [this would have raised over \\$3.2bn](#) for community projects.

ARTS LOTTERY – The Sydney Opera House was paid for primarily through a lottery. We propose reintroducing this approach, to raise \$500m+ for small/medium community organisations across the country, the proceeds paid via a special cultural fund.

REFORM NEGATIVE GEARING - We propose that negative gearing be limited to 1 existing investment property or 2 new build properties only, leveraging up to \$1.5m in total. [This would save over \\$4bn in subsidies from the budget](#), while allowing Australians to continue investing in their futures through the property market. These changes would need to be undertaken gradually, over a period of 5-7 years, to minimise disruption.

SUPERANNUATION TAX CONCESSIONS - We endorse The Australia Institute's proposal for progressive super tax rates, [saving the budget \\$9.6 billion per year](#). The vast majority of these savings (\$9.3 billion) would be collected from the top 20% of earners. All of the savings would be collected from the top 40% of earners. The other 60% of Australians would receive greater tax benefits than they do now.

SUPER PROFITS TAX ON BANKS - Last year Australia's banks made more than \$1000 in profit from each person in Australia. The Arts Party also supports The Australia Institute's proposal to implement a tax surcharge of 30 per cent on all profits banks above a threshold 12 per cent pre-tax rate of return on equity. It is estimated that [this would have raised \\$5.7 billion in the 2013-14 tax year](#). It is expected that this amount will increase substantially in years to come, yet still a small slice of their profits.

LEGALISE CANNABIS - While we do not wish to encourage cannabis consumption, the fact remains that it is extensively used by Australians and the current treatment offers no tangible benefits to Australian society. Cannabis consumption is fundamentally a health, not a criminal, issue and should be viewed as such. If cannabis was legalised nationwide, tax income from this is [estimated to be in excess of \\$700m a year in revenue and a saving of up to \\$500m from police and judicial activity related to cannabis cases](#). This new income should be channelled back into drug and health support, while the remainder could be invested back into communities through artistic and cultural activity.

[Further policy ideas and positions can be found by visiting our website.](#)