

Hi Folks,

In general it is tweaking the current system. It presumes the current is mostly sustainable - it isn't. Economic growth may be desirable (in the right areas) or catastrophic (it is currently a driver of our ecological catastrophe). It presumes more people working is a good thing; I'm of the view that working current hours is largely a negative for most people - we need to implement a four day week and then reduce work hours.

The population will largely be the result of federal government immigration policy. Tasmania doesn't control this. And population growth will likely be from other Australian states too, which the Tasmanian government can't control.

There are going to be huge numbers of climate refugees and Australia and Tasmania need to take their share. So we need to discuss how doubling or tripling our population can lead to a better life for all.

The major challenge will be government being able to respond flexibly and quickly to what is likely to be a rapidly changing and challenging situation.

Planning Arrangements.

Liveability. Moving people away from areas that will flood (either ocean or river). Sufficient roads out of areas prone to fire and/or flood.

Opportunities. Growing seaweed. Partnerships in the Asia-Pacific and the poor.

Working together. Citizen juries and such. Expecting the existing arrangements to change rapidly seems unrealistic. So we need some kind of new mechanism.

Children

The only way to have affordable childcare (if staff ratios and pay are to be reasonable) is for government to fund. As is done for schooling.

For reasonable work, pay and conditions the unions are likely vital. Casual employment expectations, from employers, is for employees to be continually available and they likely won't get shifts if they aren't. Eliminating or moderating credentialism would help.

Families. Early childhood support (roughly speaking parents esp. single parents) pays back multiples. (On purely financial assessment it should be done massively.)

The problem won't be attracting people - especially as climate change bites ever harder people will be coming.

Employment

15-18 y.o. Humane schooling. The opportunity to take time out of schooling and try jobs and vocations (artistry, physicality etc). Alcohol and drug free events.

18-44 unlikely to be a problem. Fund sustainable industry and agriculture. Fund affordable child care. Conditions of employment suitable to young parents (not having to neglect your children to earn enough to buy a house).

Skilled migrants. Mentors and other systems of sponsorship to introduce them to the community. It's been done before we can do it again. Major funding to groups already working with migrants esp refugees.

Emerging needs.

The challenge is getting different groups working together. New thinking and adaptive behaviours are not likely to come from existing players. Find a way to include those who are being and will be affected.

I'm puzzled that co-op's get so little mention.

Ageing Population

In general, fund what is likely to be preventive (social contact, physical exercise opportunities, ability to access and contribute to what people find meaningful) rather than treating the problems once they've emerged.

Innovation Opportunities. The NDIS approach (right to thriving) is very positive. Find ways to make it easy for old people to create co-housing. Shifting to health centres where a range of facilities and services can be accessed locally - including meeting rooms for use by the general population.

Consider funding some kind of state carer's allowance. This should be able to be at a reasonable level and still save a very great deal from the health budget.

Scale and decline.

Localise everything. If not permanently available facilities and services, then reliably periodically available.

Redesign

Accessibility of facilities is generally pretty good. Supervision/opening out of hour has problems. They could often be used much more than they currently are. You would need to deal with insurance.

Neighbourhood houses (varying effectiveness depending on who's on the committee) are a wonderful resource. Scaling these up should be easy to do.

Park Runs - or walks, make them more old people friendly. Qi Gong, Yoga, aerobics, stretching and resistance training classes.

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