

GREG PETTY

Independent Candidate for Lord Mayor

MEDIA RELEASE



Independent Lord Mayor Candidate Greg Petty answers *The Greens* challenge and happy to divulge financial donations.

Answer: None.

Greens Lord Mayor Candidate Ms Jill Merrin has challenged all *"Lord Mayors and Councillors not accept any corporate or developer donations"* having spoken *"about the corrosive effects of political donations at the Illawarra Business Chamber's Lord Mayoral forum yesterday.... while signing onto the Mercury's pledge for integrity and accountability"*

Mr. Petty is today taking that challenge and stated *"We are compliant with Election Funding rules and have established a bank account, which my Official Agent has sole control of all election receipts and expenditure. However what Ms. Merrin has not included is where political parties are paying election expenses direct to suppliers of behalf of candidates or the party brand"*.

"What expenses have the political parties paid on behalf of its candidates in this election?" asks Mr. Petty.

Mr. Petty questions *"How does any political organisation know if an individual is not part of a corporation or developer – or paid through a third party? But within The Greens definition it means that individuals can make donations – isn't it the same, a donation is a donation. All donations must be banned to remove the shades of grey"*.

Surely the only way to do that is to refuse all donations, corporate, developer and individuals.

The Greg Petty Independent Team has not received any donations nor has any election expenses been paid on behalf of the team. Mr. Petty personally paid the non member rate to attend the Illawarra Business Chamber Lord Mayoral Forum lunch and the Northern Illawarra Business Chamber meeting.

In light of political parties paying expenses for candidates in the form advertising, corflutes, printing, how does this allow them to sign the Illawarra Mercury's Pledge?

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