Candidate Statement for the 2020 ACT Election

The Candidate Statement is to give voters information to guide their selection of candidates based on the candidate's ability to be an MLA and their commitment to strengthen the democratic fabric of the ACT.

My name is **Tim Dobson** and I am a candidate for the ACT Legislative Assembly in the electorate of **Murrumbidgee.**

I am endorsed to represent the ALP.

These are my skills and experience for being an MLA. *(No more than 100 words in 10pt Arial font)*

I've worked in the Learning Support Unit at Mawson Primary, and in Wollongong I helped start Green Connect – a social enterprise that trains youth, refugees and long-term unemployed people in environmentally sustainable jobs. As a teacher, I know how to listen to the needs of parents and students, and through my work I've supported those in our society who are often the first to be left behind. My work has created jobs and supported people from childhood to adulthood to get set up for fulfilling lives.

Further, I have these skills and experiences that qualifies me for a role in the ministry. *(No more than 50 words in 10pt Arial font)*

I am not a career politician, but I have been politically active for the past twenty years. My background in Economics has given me the understanding and tools to deal with policy ideas and financial problems, and my frontline work with students and families has ensured I have an acute understand of the impact those big decisions have on ordinary community members.

If elected, this is how I plan to represent my constituents. *(No more than 100 words in 10pt Arial font)*

I want to support community organisers who are from the constituency, to initiate and maintain ongoing engagement with the broader population. Alongside them, I will facilitate participatory environments that opens an ongoing dialogue rather than merely consulting over issues.

If elected, I will undertake these measures to promote good government and strengthen the responsiveness, accountability and transparency of government in the ACT. *(Up to 100 words, dot points, in 10pt Arial font)*
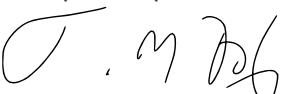
- Employ deliberative democracy where possible, to maximise the community's say in governance.
- Support the ACT government's planning review to ensure we have a planning system that responds to Canberra's growth and builds a city that is sustainable and leaves no Canberran behind.

If elected, I will undertake these measures to promote and improve informed participation by my constituents in ACT policy development and decision making. *(Up to 50 words, dot points, in 10pt Arial font)*

- Apply Asset Based Community Development principles in any engagement with the community.
- Facilitate greater involvement of community members who are traditionally left out of community consultation: public housing tenants, migrants and refugees, people with disabilities and their carers, single parents, people with mental health issues, unemployed workers and young people.

Statement of Democratic Commitment

1. I will strictly abide by the ACT Legislative Assembly Standing Orders Code of Conduct for MLAs.

2. I will fully disclose and make public the sources and value of all political funding donations, contributions, gifts public and private towards my election campaign and political activity, within one month of receipt.

3. I will place the public interest (the welfare and wellbeing of the general population and the integrity of the planet) ahead of sectional, corporate, personal, religious or other interests.

Signed   *[signature]*   **Date**   September 25, 2020

Please send a pdf copy of your statement to secretary@canberra-alliance.org.au for placement on the CAPaD website.
Authorised by Peter Tait, Secretary, Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy.