



TOM VENNING MP

Member for Grey



MEDIA RELEASE

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GREY BACKS LOCAL REPRESENTATION OVER OUTSIDE FUNDING

Data released this week shows Teal Independent candidate (for Grey) Anita Kuss received over \$624,000 in donations - with the majority flowing from outside Grey.

Sydney-based special interest group Climate 200 contributed \$194,228, while Sydney investment banker Robert Keldoulis donated \$203,542.

Combined, these two Sydney sources alone provided nearly \$400,000.

In contrast, Tom Venning MP's grassroots campaign was built on support from Grey residents and local businesses focused on regional priorities.

Mr Venning's final disclosure figures are still being finalised, but his campaign operated on approximately one-quarter of that budget.

The election result in favour of Mr. Venning demonstrates that Grey's vote cannot be bought. Voters chose a local representative backed by their own community.

SOURCE: (AEC TRANSPARENCY)

<https://transparency.aec.gov.au/CandidateSenateGroup/ReturnDetail?eventId=31496&returnId=80118>

Quotes attributable to Tom Venning, Member for Grey:

"The data tells a clear story about where the money came from in this campaign. Grey's vote cannot be bought. Voters chose genuine local representation over outside funding, and I'm incredibly proud of that."

"I'm backed by locals who have our region's interests at heart. My focus is solely on the issues and opportunities facing our communities on the ground, not the agendas of Sydney-based special interest groups."

"In the months leading up to the election, I drove more than 100,000 kilometres, and I've kept up that pace ever since. I've met thousands of residents across Grey, from Port Pirie and Port Augusta to Ceduna and Coober Pedy. Many of these big end-of-town lobby groups have never even set foot in our region, let alone understand the unique challenges we face."

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"This result proves that real community connection matters. Grey voters want a representative who fights for them, not donors from outside the electorate with their own priorities. And it raises an important question: what strings were attached to those significant donations?"

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