

Vanessa Goodwin MLC

Shadow Attorney-General and Minister for Justice

Friday 11 September, 2009

Goodwin relishes portfolio challenges

I am delighted to have received these new responsibilities as Shadow Attorney-General and Minister for Justice.

My own career before entering Parliament has been in the law and in criminology, so I am very pleased to be given the opportunity to work on policy in this area.

I am pleased to inherit some of the excellent policies which Michael Hodgman and the Tasmanian Liberals have announced. I aim to carry on the work Michael has done as Shadow Attorney-General and Justice Minister and add to that.

I look forward to a new role in assisting the Liberal Leader in the important area of ICT, where there are great opportunities for Tasmania.

The Liberals have strong policy positions, already announced, such as mandatory rehabilitation courses for sex offenders in prison; giving victims of crime a voice on the parole board; establishment of a Sentencing Advisory Council.

I also intend to work with my Shadow ministerial colleagues on other issues which have justice elements, like mandatory employment screening for all people working with children; better public safety laws; and a range of road safety measures.

I relish this opportunity to promote our existing policies and to work with my colleagues on new ones in the lead up to the next election.

In particular, I have a close interest in integrity in government and am keen to work with Will Hodgman on a suite of measures to improve accountability and transparency in government, including through an anti-corruption and ethics body – with teeth.

Justice is not some dry concept in court rooms. If it works properly it both strengthens our community and protects our Tasmanian lifestyle.

And I will work hard as Shadow Minister to that aim.

For further information or comment please call Don Morris – 0416 277 035