

Longman residents, please consider the best vote for Qld farmers

FORMER State-of-Origin great and cane and beef cattle farmer Martin Bella will head to the electorate of Longman this weekend to talk to voters about the impact of poor “Green” policy decisions on Queensland farmers.

Mr Bella grew up on a cane farm before playing Rugby League and representing both his State and Country. Whilst playing representative football, Mr Bella also practiced as a qualified physiotherapist. Since his retirement from rugby league, Mr Bella has returned to farming, and is currently a Councillor at Mackay Regional Council.

He is one of the founding members of the Green Shirts Movement Qld, a collection of concerned farmers actively campaigning against The Greens.

“We believe The Greens are trying to impose unnecessary and prohibitive policies and legislation on Queensland’s farmers, with the Queensland Labor Government’s support,” Mr Bella said.

“Ours is a grass-roots movement pushing back against the fake ‘greens’; who have no real connection to the land, but are trying to control it with unsubstantiated claims based on misinformation, ideology, or blatant social agenda under the guise of environmentalism.

“We’re keen to engage with voters and will be asking them to think about supporting their farmers – we provide the food served on Queensland families’ plates every day,” he said.

“We all have different stories, but one commonality – our farmers are among the cleanest and greenest in the world and we think of ourselves as the caretakers of their land, and our goal is to preserve it for future generations – why would we destroy something that creates our families’ livelihoods?

“Our greatest concern is The Greens and now the Labor Government too with its preferences, are demonising farmers and claiming we’re destroying our environment, when this couldn’t be further from the truth.

“We rely on highly-respected environmental scientists here in Queensland with evidence-based research for our ever improving practices – their education and research far outweighs the snake-oil environmental policies being pushed by The Greens which are designed only to disrupt agricultural businesses.

“Farming has come a long way in the last 20 years and we work closely with these scientists and researchers to ensure we protect the environment as well as produce the best food we can. Queensland is a large area, with a great diversity of land types and blanket policies can cause more harm than good

Mr Bella said 83 per cent of Queensland is operated by beef cattle and sheep farmers and only 4 per cent is prime agriculture land – ie cultivated crops or fruit trees and vegetables.

Mr Bella and other Green Shirt supporters will be at the Sandstone Hotel at 9.30am on Friday 27 July and at Burpengary McDonalds at 7am on 28 July and will be visiting polling booths for the rest of the day talking to voters.

Ends.

For more information contact: Martin Bella on 0419 793 479.