

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2024

Candidate position statements regarding UTAS relocation

DIVISION OF HOBART

Charlie Burton
Independent
candidate

I oppose the move given that a diverse range of community concerns have not been addressed.

John Kelly
Independent
candidate

I totally oppose the move and I am in full support of the SaveUTAS policies. Read my position statement on my [website](#).

Cassy O'Connor
Greens candidate

As the Greens' candidate for Hobart, I support the [Greens position](#)
As the former Greens' MP for Clark and Leader, the Hansard record shows I have asked many questions of UTAS leadership and government ministers about the relocation plan. The UTAS proposed campus city move has not been embraced by a majority of Hobart residents, relevant unions, staff and students. Our university must respect the democratic voice and stop the move. As a well-loved public institution, UTAS has given much and has much still to give our city and Tasmania. University management needs to consult and listen to staff, students and the community about how UTAS needs to grow and change.

Stefan Vogel
Independent
candidate

I support the goals of the SaveUTAS community, and I welcome the decision for the Law department to remain on campus. First step in the right direction. See updated position statement on my [website](#).

DIVISION OF ELWICK

Fabiano Cangelosi
Independent

I am opposed to UTAS' intended relocation. I graduated BA (Hons, Classics) in 2008, and BA-LLB (Hons, LLB) in 2011 at UTAS. I am disappointed by the approach that UTAS has taken. Many academic staff whom I know have either left or feel that remaining at UTAS in the long term is untenable. I am gravely concerned about the effect on the learning environment and campus culture.

I would like to see UTAS focus on being an institution of higher learning and pursue excellence in teaching and research; and not on playing around with its real estate empire. If elected, I would be prepared to consider a private members Bill to amend the University of Tasmania Act 1992 to refocus its objectives, if necessary.

Janet Shelley
Greens candidate

The Tasmanian Greens oppose the planned relocation and demand a commitment to the maintenance of the Sandy Bay campus for educational purposes. I fully support this position, and our belief that the University of Tasmania must be a leader in tertiary education, community standing and transparent decision making.

Our policy position - which looks at broader issues associated with the management of the university and the campus - is available at this [link](#).

DIVISION OF PROSSER

**Phillp Bigg
Shooters, Fishers,
Farmers candidate**

UTAS have consistently failed to recognise the concerns of staff and students and has failed to acknowledge the negative impacts on an already congested CBD, with no efficient or reliable public transport which only adds to the pressures on staff and students. A realistic approach may be to use profits from the sale of CBD buildings to reinvest and reinvigorate the Sandy Bay campus. There needs to be an inclusive approach to a better Utas for the future of higher education in our state.

VOTE 1

**Professor Pam Sharpe
Independent
candidate**

I am a founder member of Save UTAS and although I am no longer Hobart based I remain committed to UTAS staying on campus. I am a former academic staff member at the university. I believe they should abandon their plans for the CBD.

As a candidate for Prosser I know that regional and rural students face many challenges. The last thing they need is a university that has lost its way and will not listen to community concerns.

**Kelly Spaulding
Independent
candidate**

I did support the relocation initially from my perspective then as mayor of Tasman due to any reduction in travel time for students from the Tasman may have been of benefit. However the results from the elector poll were quite clear and the result should be respected.

**Kerry Vincent
Liberal candidate**

As you may be aware, the Liberal Government announced during the recent State election campaign that they will amend the University of Tasmania Act 1992 to require that the land at Sandy Bay currently held by the University of Tasmania cannot be sold, leased or otherwise disposed of, except with the explicit support of both Houses of the Parliament.

As I am seeking to become the Liberal Member for Prosser, I support this position.

The amendment to the Act will ensure that if, at any stage, the University does seek to sell or otherwise dispose of this land, they will need to secure the approval of both Houses of the Parliament – both the House of Assembly, and the Legislative Council.

To see the full list of candidates for each division, visit the [Tasmanian Electoral Commission](https://www.electoralcommission.tas.gov.au/) website.