

From: "Byrne, Darcy (Councillor)" <dbyrne@lmc.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 26 September 2012 6:20:21 AM AEST
To: "Byrne, Darcy (Councillor)" <dbyrne@lmc.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Labor wins Leichhardt Mayoralty

Labor wins Leichhardt Mayoralty

*Statement by Darcy Byrne, Mayor of Leichhardt
September 26 2012*

Despite the Greens Party cynically and dishonestly refusing to sign a shared governance agreement they had proposed themselves, Local Labor Councillors Darcy Byrne and Linda Kelly have been elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Leichhardt Municipality at last night's mayoral election.

SEE ATTACHED THE GREENS PROPOSED AGREEMENT THAT LABOR SIGNED BUT THE GREENS REFUSED TO.

Local Labor proposed a series of compromise agreements to ensure stability and cooperation at Leichhardt and agreed to a proposal to vote for for the Green Party Mayoral candidate for this year.

"I am humbled to be elected Mayor of the community I grew up in. As Mayor I will fight every day to improve services like childcare, sports facilities and parking for locals that Council has neglected" said Mayor of Leichhardt Darcy Byrne.

"There is a lesson for NSW Labor in our inner west resurrection. Grassroots organising and fighting for better services is the way to bring the ALP back to life.

"It is incredibly disappointing that the Greens Party has completely refused to cooperate with Labor. We caved in and agreed to vote for a Green Mayor this year but they then refused to sign their own agreement.

"This is yet further evidence that the Greens Party is incapable of compromising to achieve progressive outcomes."

ALSO SEE ATTACHED EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE THAT RECORDS THE GREENS UTTER REFUSAL TO COOPERATE WITH LABOR.

Green Councillor Michelle McKenzie even abstained from voting for Labor Deputy Mayor Linda Kelly over the Liberal candidate.

"For the record we refused to enter into any kind of deal with the Liberal Party on principle. Greens Party Councillor McKenzie should be deeply ashamed that she chose not to vote for the Labor candidate over the Liberals in the ballot for Deputy Mayor."

LEICHHARDT COUNCIL FACTS

- At the Council elections there was a 5.8% swing to Labor across the Municipality and a 10.9% swing against the Greens Party.
- The Greens Party refused to sign a two year governance agreement with Labor that the Greens themselves had proposed.
- Labor outright refused to consider doing any deal with the Liberals.
- 2012 will be the first time in 28 years that there has been a Labor Mayor and Deputy Mayor at Leichhardt Council

ENDS

Media contact: Darcy Byrne - 0404528277