

Good and bad promises

Premier Roger Cook has again stated that the reason he and Rita Saffioti continue to press ahead with the proposed Burswood Park Supercars circuit and associated infrastructure, in the face of significant community concerns about the cost, and environmental destruction which will result, is because it is an “election promise” (*News*, 16/8).

This promise wasn’t made on the back of community calls for a motor-racing track through Burswood Park — a unique inner-city green space. It was made to private corporations run by millionaires.

This was an election promise based on false facts — no business case, no cost-benefit analysis, no genuine community consultation prior to its announcement, and no environmental and acoustic studies.

In Parliament, Ms Saffioti confirmed that the Government had no real idea of the final cost of this project.

What responsible government commits to an entertainment project with no firm budget, funded by taxpayers which will primarily benefit big corporations, when our hospitals and prisons are in disarray and the homelessness situation continues to be critical?

This Government hasn’t been willing or able to fulfil the 2017 election commitment to fix ambulance ramping, despite watching it increase by over 700 per cent since then.

They haven’t fulfilled previous election commitments to build regional youth justice centres in Kalgoorlie and Derby, yet they press ahead with committing without question to the Burswood Park motor racing circuit.

There are wasteful election promises that impact on the community and damage the Labor brand and there is doing the right thing. Let’s see this Government do the right thing.

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