

# DESPI O'CONNOR

## INDEPENDENT FOR FLINDERS

### STATEMENT FROM DESPI O'CONNOR

6<sup>th</sup> May 2022

To the People of Flinders,

**I'm still standing. My campaign for the seat of Flinders continues.**

Since the issue of my eligibility was raised we have sought legal advice from barristers, lawyers, and constitutional experts from across the country. **There is nothing to categorically say that I am ineligible to run for election or sit for parliament.** I have tendered my resignation as a public school teacher.

I decided to run for this election because I believe that everyday people should be represented by everyday people. Community members, like teachers, nurses, health workers and emergency service workers, should not face unnecessary hurdles to represent their community. These are the exact people that we need to represent our electorate.

Our community has a right to influence the policy decisions that affect their lives. The People of Flinders should not be represented by somebody who has been hand-picked by a political party. We should not be represented by someone who will vote in the party interest, instead of the community's interest. We deserve to have *real* community representation – by the people, for the people.

This movement is about fighting for that right. Those who fight can win, those who don't fight have already lost.

Voters have a choice between a Flinders representative in Canberra and a party's representative in Flinders.

My name is on the ballot. My campaign continues. I am standing to take Flinders to Canberra.

**Despi**  
**Independent for Flinders**