November 30, 2018

STATEMENT BY V4i SPOKESPERSON ALANA JOHNSON

Identifying an Orange Independent future candidate

TEAM Orange supporters in Indi will have the opportunity in January, next year, to identify a future independent candidate for our federal parliamentary electorate in an innovative, transparent and inclusive selection process.

Supporters of Team Orange – the name given to the group of voters who rallied to elect Cathy McGowan to the House of Representatives in 2013 and again in 2016 – overwhelmingly endorsed a proposed succession planning process in a recent survey.

Orange supporters who were registered to vote in Indi and had previously signed V4i's Values Statement took part in the survey.

As a result, from today, advertisements appear in Indi's regional newspapers and in social media inviting expressions of interest from people who aspire to become an Orange Independent candidate for Indi.

Applicants will be asked to sign the V4i Values Statement and endorse the 'The Indi Way'. They will also have to provide proof of their eligibility to serve as a federal parliamentarian in accordance with Section 44 of the Australian Constitution.

Cathy has often spoken of the importance of succession planning and has supported the widespread engagement in that process of those who had endorsed the Values Statement and worked to elect her to Parliament.

Together, the V4i team and Cathy are absolutely committed to ensuring that the people and communities of Indi will have a strong, Orange Independent candidate in the future.

All registered Orange supporters who live in Indi will be invited to take part in the identification process at a future candidate forum in Benalla on January 12, next year. The forum will provide eligible applicants with the opportunity to present their vision for Indi and to put a case for their electability as a future federal representative for the seat.

Orange supporters who choose to attend the forum will be able to listen to applicants, ask them questions, reflect on their suitability and, finally, determine a future Orange Independent candidate.