

# The Hugo Group meeting slides

June 2016



# Current Issues

- The Labour-Greens pact
  - Trying to curtail the NZ First vote
  - But is the plan misconceived?
  - Another case of the Left talking itself?
  - NZ First has always gone with the largest party post-election
  - Labour-Greens bid attempts to have the pairing seen as one
  - But it has already put Winston on the outer
  - Where he likes to be
  - He is still a National Party MP at heart

# Housing – the govt is losing badly

- No matter what Bill English says
  - But the NPS should have some impact
- Phil Twyford is proving to be highly effective politically
  - And some of his ideas make sense
  - But he is overselling a govt's ability to force medium density intensification
  - And would risk sprawl with abolishing the MUL

# Sleeper issues

- Pay equity
  - Potential to have significant fiscal impact
  - Identified as one of two biggest fiscal risks by Bill English
  - Employers and unions united on the approach, BUT
  - No guidance yet on which industries to use as comparators to create equity
- Holidays Act
  - Too hard to reform, apparently
  - But subject to large-scale, inadvertent non-compliance

# International influences

- June 23 Brexit vote
  - Finely balanced in the same way that TPP is
  - The logic seems fine, the practical reality less than compelling
- July 2 Australian federal election
  - Turnbull looks beatable
- US presidential election campaign
  - Sanders never faced real criticism
  - Clinton will face less from her own side from now on