

## **GREEN EYES MUST LOOK AT POPULATION**

PAUL Hayes quite rightly links serious planning issues with population growth and queries why this is not publicly recognised by conservation groups including green parties (Letters, *Mercury*, March 28).

Unsustainable population growth is clearly "the elephant in the room". It is not hard to relate most environmental issues to increased population.

As David Attenborough once said: "I've never seen a problem that wouldn't be easier to solve with fewer people. The same problem becomes harder, or ultimately impossible, when more people are involved."

So come on Greens leader Cassy O'Connor. Do you agree with David Attenborough, and if so what is your population policy? I am asking you to consider the next five years, 50 years, 150 years, even the next 500 years.

Have you noticed how wild gorse quickly spreads and wrecks good farmlands and your forests if not controlled? The analogy is obvious.

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