

Community consultation

Council has been conducting community consultation on several issues and this has been done through 'Your Say' and other more active methods such as surveys. Many in the community feel that even though the consultation is conducted, the input from it is not considered since many decisions made more recently by the Council seem to be at odds with community wishes.

If elected, what would you do to ensure that the community consultation conducted by Council had more influence on decision making?

I think community consultation is an important part of any large-scale development or key policy changes, and if elected I would be aiming to improve transparency from council on decision making processes including adequate review of community consultation, with mitigation of any issues raised through that process. Taking a community first approach to decision making is key to best representing Clarence and I'll do just that.

Climate Change

Every year we are seeing increasingly devastating impacts of climate change across Australia and the world. Many councils have declared a climate emergency, along with delivery of Climate Emergency Plans which include actions such as 100 percent renewable energy, zero net emissions, divesting finances and pledges to lobby state and federal politicians for stronger action.

What are your views on this and in your role as councillor what sort of actions would you support to mitigate or adapt to climate change?

As someone currently undertaking studies related to climate change at IMAS I'm well aware of the risks climate change poses, especially those in relation to the Greater Hobart area. I believe council has a responsibility to its community to acknowledge and address climate change through a net zero target in line with other levels of government, and formulation of a plan to ensure that target is met, along with adequate climate resilience planning.

Public Land

In the last 10 years we have seen proposals put forward or invited by Council for the building of private developments on public land (such as Arm End, Kangaroo Bay, Rosny Hill). These proposals have been controversial suggesting that they will have significant impacts on community.

If you were elected and you received evidence of significant community opposition to a proposed development on public land under Councils control, how would you act on it?

These developments have been controversial with good reason – I think any potential development on public land would have to bring significantly greater benefits to the community than that same land does in its current use. In the event of a proposed development receiving significant community opposition I would wholeheartedly support recognising community sentiment, and if beneficial support any open forum or community consultation measures and their outcomes.

Urban Growth

In the last ten years, the Census shows that the population of Clarence has increased by almost 10,000 people, and there has been a corresponding increase in dwellings of 3,500. With new suburbs still being developed, further growth is underway.

What challenges and opportunities do you think this level of growth presents to Council?

The growth of Clarence provides challenges for council into the future particularly regarding housing, infrastructure as well as maintaining and improving the existing quality of life for locals - which must be adequately addressed and managed. Collaboration between the four councils of Greater Hobart is also an important factor in this regard, and I believe broader well-considered planning is key to achieving positive outcomes. This growth presents opportunities in business and well-designed public spaces fit for purpose.

Ferry service

The new ferry service between Hobart and Bellerive is anticipated to continue. The current patronage of the service is already putting pressure on the parking around Bellerive, and this will only increase if the service grows.

Do you support the service and, if you do, what would you do to address the parking pressures especially if the service was to be expanded in the future?

I think the ferry service is a great thing for our community, as we all know parking can be difficult and expensive in the city, and traffic at peak times is considerable. I have noted that parking is becoming harder to get at the ferry terminal in Bellerive over recent months and if the service was to be expanded clearly part of that must include review of parking and accessibility to achieve good outcomes for the community.

Your key issues

What new initiatives are you eager to champion if you are elected and why do you see these as important to the future of the Clarence community?

If elected my first priority is improving public green spaces across Clarence, to better enable people to live healthy active lifestyles. I would also like to see greater support for sporting clubs as part of that. As well as small business to ensure it's a fun place to live as well with a healthy local economy. I see all of these as important to the future of Clarence as all underpin a strong & vibrant community from which we'll all benefit.