

# COGG CANDIDATE SURVEY

## Introduction

Geelong Sustainability Group Inc. is an apolitical non-profit community association established in 2007. Over the last ten years the group has evolved into a vibrant, well-connected organisation with over 1800 subscribers and several thousand Facebook supporters. Our reputation has been steadily rising built upon the consistent delivery of strong project outcomes and professional events. We were a partner in City of Greater Geelong's *Our Future* project. We are members of the G21 Environment Pillar and are also on several other advisory panels.

We regularly prepare candidate scorecards for local, state and federal elections. Given the importance of the upcoming Geelong Council election, we are keen to ascertain the views, priorities and attitudes of candidates standing for election. To enable objective analysis and comparison of responses, the survey questions have been designed as multiple choice or ranking types finishing with a couple of open questions. The survey should only take a few minutes to complete.

All candidates are invited to complete the 10-question survey **by 5pm on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October**. Responses, received by the closing date, will be collated and published as an independent scorecard on our website and Facebook page by Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October. Separate scorecards will be published for the four Council Wards: Bellarine, Brownbill, Kardinia and Windermere.

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## Questions

### 1. Name & Ward

My name is .....

### 2. Which Council Ward are you standing in?

- a) Bellarine
- b) Brownbill
- c) Kardinia
- d) Windermere

### 3. Political links/independence - Are you a member of a Registered Political Party?

- a) Yes, the Australian Labor Party
- b) Yes, the Liberal Party of Australia
- c) Yes, The Australian Greens
- d) Yes, the Socialist Alliance
- e) Yes, the Animal Justice Party
- f) Yes, but none of the above
- g) No, I am standing as an Independent

### 4. Accessibility - If elected, how will you ensure effective and efficient consultation with your constituents? [Select all that apply]

- a) I will respond to emails within two weeks.
- b) I will hold drop-in sessions for ward constituents on a monthly basis.
- c) I will work with other councillors to hold community meetings on a quarterly basis.
- d) I will seek to reinstate the public's ability to ask questions in the chamber before Council meetings.
- e) I will work with other councillors to rotate the venue for Council meetings around the municipality.
- f) I will ensure community advisory panels are set up to inform Council strategies and plans.
- g) .....

### 5. Council responsibilities - Rank the following local government responsibilities from most to least important, where 1 is most important and 6 is least important to you.

- a) Economic sustainability
- b) Effective use of ratepayers' money
- c) Environmental sustainability
- d) Improving the overall quality of life for people in the Geelong community
- e) Promoting business and employment opportunities
- f) Social sustainability

6. **Clever & Creative Future vision** - From the extensive community engagement of the *Our Future* process, a 30-year consensus vision for the City of Greater Geelong was developed. *'By 2047, Greater Geelong will be internationally recognised as a clever and creative city-region that is forward looking, enterprising and adaptive, and cares for its people and environment.'*  
If elected as a Councillor, do you commit to implementing the Clever and Creative Future vision including the necessary long-term strategies, short-term action plans and organisational changes?
- Yes, fully committed
  - Partly committed
  - Unsure at this stage
  - No, not committed
7. **Community aspirations** - At the heart of the *Greater Geelong: A Clever and Creative Future* vision are nine community-led aspirations. Rank the importance of these community aspirations from your perspective, where 1 is most important and 9 is least important to you.
- A prosperous economy that supports jobs and education opportunities
  - A leader in developing and adopting technology
  - Creativity drives culture
  - A fast, reliable and connected transport network
  - A destination that attracts local and international visitors
  - People feel safe wherever they are
  - An inclusive, diverse, healthy and socially connected community
  - Sustainable development that supports population growth and protects the natural environment
  - Development and implementation of sustainable solutions
8. **One Planet Living Principles** - If everyone in the world consumed our natural resources like the average Australian, we would need five planets! Geelong is one of only three cities in Australia to be awarded a [One Planet](#) certification. Rank the importance of these principles from your perspective, where 1 is most important and 10 is least important to you.
- Culture and community: Nurturing local identity and heritage, empowering communities and promoting a culture of sustainable living
  - Equity and local economy: Creating safe, equitable places to live and work which support local prosperity and international fair trade
  - Health and happiness: Encouraging active, sociable, meaningful lives to promote good health and well-being
  - Land and nature: Protecting and restoring land for the benefit of people and wildlife
  - Local and sustainable food: Promoting sustainable humane farming and healthy diets high in local, seasonal organic food and vegetable protein
  - Materials & products: Using materials from sustainable sources and promoting products which help people reduce consumption
  - Sustainable transport: Reducing the need to travel, encouraging walking, cycling and low carbon transport
  - Sustainable water: Using water efficiently, protecting local water resources and reducing flooding and drought
  - Zero carbon energy: Making buildings and manufacturing energy efficient and supplying all energy with renewables
  - Zero waste: Reducing consumption, reusing and recycling to achieve zero waste and zero pollution
9. **Your motivation** - In 10 words, what are your key motivations for standing for Council?
10. **Your priorities** – In 25 words, if elected, what are your top three priorities?

**END OF SURVEY**