



**PROTECTING URBAN BIODIVERSITY  
FROM BUSHLANDS TO THE BALLOTS: TALKING WITH  
CANDIDATES WHERE AND WHEN IT COUNTS**

**ONLINE EVENT**

[www.bushlandperth.org.au](http://www.bushlandperth.org.au)

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY



# INTRODUCTION



- **Welcome**
- **Etiquette**
  - Microphones muted, questions in chat
- **Speakers**
  - Elizabeth Eaton, Katherine Neaves, Colma Keating
- **Purpose**
  - Encouraging and supporting you to be part of a community groundswell for better protection of our natural environment



# FIND YOUR CANDIDATES AND REQUEST A MEETING



## 1. Visit WAEC website

<https://www.elections.wa.gov.au>

Scroll down and select 'Find your candidates'

## 2. Find candidates

<https://www.elections.wa.gov.au/elections/state/sgelection#/sg2025>

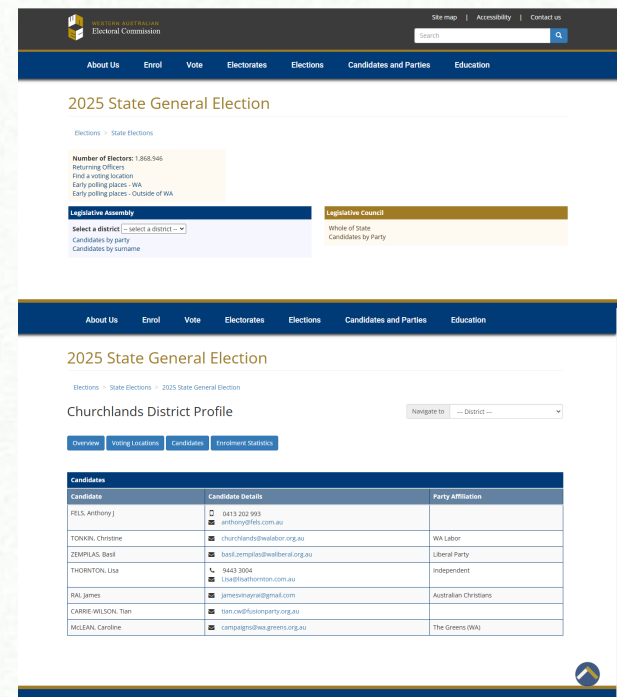
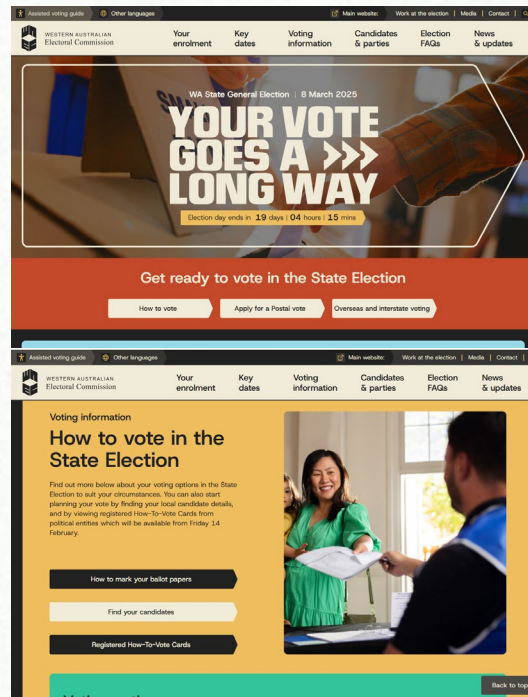
Select your 'District'  
Select 'Candidates'

## 3. Contact candidates

Email (for written record)

Follow up call (where possible)

Follow up socials/media (if needed)



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# MEET YOUR CANDIDATES



## 1. PEOPLE

- **Know who you are meeting with - THE CANDIDATE!**
  - Learn about the candidates (not just the political party)
  - Find out what they care about and prioritise – you can do this by asking why they nominated.
  - Ask them and confirm this when you meet
- **Ensure the candidate knows who they are meeting with – YOU!**
  - Share your personal story
  - For example –
    - a) Who you are
    - b) How long lived in electorate
    - c) Connections you have in the electorate
    - d) Where you live in electorate
    - e) Your experience with engaging the Members of Parliament (good/bad – feel represented?)



# MEET YOUR CANDIDATES



## 2. ABOUT THE PATCH/YOUR PASSION/LOCAL MATTER

- **Ask the candidate to share their current understanding first - LISTEN**
  - About the patch, their personal position, party affiliation position and commitments
  - Note: The candidate likely is not an expert, aware or may not have prioritised the matter
- **Reflect to the candidate what you heard the candidate understands – REFLECT**
  - Gives the candidate an opportunity to clarify
- **Share why you care about this patch of bushland/nature – SHARE**
  - Express your topline thoughts, knowledge and understanding of the patch/matter
  - Express, if possible, how this connects to the WA State Election Environment Priorities



# MEET YOUR CANDIDATES



## 3. CANDIDATES COMMITMENT AND FOLLOW UP

- Bring along the Nature Priorities Scorecard and use as a guide
- Connect your patch to the priority needs for better nature protection in WA
- Seek a commitment from candidate and use scorecard to capture responses
- **Complete the form. Follow up with candidate**



### Ask Your State Election Candidates If They Will...

- 1 Deliver new, strong **Black Cockatoo Recovery Plans**, to save all three threatened Black Cockatoo species in WA from extinction
- 2 Update the **Biodiversity Strategy for WA** to protect and restore WA's ecosystems
- 3 Place a **moratorium on clearing critical habitat** and remnant native vegetation in WA
- 4 Fund **ecological restoration programs** to increase native vegetation cover to 30% by 2040, focusing on local government areas and bioregions with less than 10% cover
- 5 Support the WA Environmental Protection Authority to **assess the state of the Swan Coastal Plain** bioregion
- 6 **Limit the use of environmental offsets** in WA and establish stringent criteria to guarantee that offsets contribute to an absolute gain in habitat and biodiversity
- 7 Improve government consultation standards to ensure **meaningful and ongoing public participation** in environmental decision-making



### 2025 State Election Candidates Nature Priorities Scorecard

**General Information**  
The Conservation Council of WA (CCWA) has worked with key member groups and partners to develop a set of key priorities for environmental reform ahead of the 2025 State Election. These priorities address some of the most important threats to our unique and precious nature in WA. CCWA encourages individuals and community groups to meet with candidates in the lead up to the election. To call on incoming politicians to commit to these priorities and deliver stronger nature reform in the next term of government.

By sharing feedback from candidate meetings with CCWA, together we can build a collective understanding of candidate and party positions on key environmental priorities and learn what issues we need to devote to in the lead up to the election.

**Candidates Nature Priorities Scorecard Guide**

- Organise a meeting with your local candidate and discuss the environmental reform priorities using the Candidates Scorecard. Note that the Candidate Scorecard is designed only to indicate your subjective opinion of the candidate level of support for each environmental priority.
- Complete ONE Candidate Scorecard PEP candidate meeting, you can scan the QR code to complete an online version on complete a paper version. Please use BLOCK LETTERS if completing a paper version.
- Share feedback from candidate meetings with CCWA before 8 March 2025.
- To do this, scan your completed scorecard and need to attach a photo or take a photo of each page on your mobile and text the images to 0487 320 443.

- Not applicable indicates the candidate was not asked about issue
- Undecided indicates the candidate was asked about issue but they did not provide a position
- Strong oppose indicates the candidate does not support the priority
- Weak oppose indicates the candidate does not support the priority at this time
- Weak support indicates the candidate does support the priority
- Strong support indicates the candidate does support the issue and has made a commitment

Download the full WA State Election Priorities report [ccwa.org.au](http://ccwa.org.au)



500 Swan to Bushland Election Priorities Report 2025  
Author: Michelle Phipps, CCWA, LGA, Urban Bushland Council WA Inc, 2025

### 2025 State Election Candidates Nature Priorities Scorecard

#### Your Contact Information

Your name  
Your email  
Your phone number  
Are you meeting on behalf of an organisation, group, or alliance?  Yes  No

#### Meeting Details

Please specify  
Candidate's name  
Candidate's party  
Meeting date (dd/mm/yy)  
Meeting address  
Did you meet the candidate themselves, or a representative?  Yes  No  
Did you meet a representative only?  Yes  No  
Please specify

#### Scorecard Questions

- 1 Deliver new, strong **Black Cockatoo Recovery Plans**, to save all three threatened Black Cockatoo species in WA from extinction
  - Not applicable
  - Undecided
  - Strong Oppose
  - Weak Oppose
  - Weak Support
  - Strong Support
- 2 Update the **Biodiversity Strategy for WA** to protect and restore WA's ecosystems
  - Not applicable
  - Undecided
  - Strong Oppose
  - Weak Oppose
  - Weak Support
  - Strong Support

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#### 3 Place a moratorium on clearing critical habitat and remnant native vegetation in WA

- Not applicable
- Undecided
- Strong Oppose
- Weak Oppose
- Weak Support
- Strong Support

#### 4 Fund ecological restoration programs to increase native vegetation cover to 30% by 2040, focusing on local government areas and bioregions with less than 10% cover

- Not applicable
- Undecided
- Strong Oppose
- Weak Oppose
- Weak Support
- Strong Support

#### 5 Support the WA Environmental Protection Authority to assess the state of the Swan Coastal Plain bioregion

- Not applicable
- Undecided
- Strong Oppose
- Weak Oppose
- Weak Support
- Strong Support

#### 6 Limit the use of environmental offsets in WA and establish stringent criteria to guarantee that offsets contribute to an absolute gain in habitat and biodiversity

- Not applicable
- Undecided
- Strong Oppose
- Weak Oppose
- Weak Support
- Strong Support

#### 7 Improve government consultation standards to ensure meaningful and ongoing public participation in environmental decision-making

- Not applicable
- Undecided
- Strong Oppose
- Weak Oppose
- Weak Support
- Strong Support

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[#saveourbushlands](https://twitter.com/saveourbushlands)

# 7 PRIORITY NATURE ASKS



## How WA Cooked up a plan to scupper EPA

Pliberseck left red-faced after PM listens to Premier and skewers pact



Hottest year on record sent planet past 1.5C of heating for first time in 2024

Highest recorded temperatures supercharged extreme weather - with worse to come, EU data shows



**RIP NATURE POSITIVE**

# COOKED

Premier convinces PM to finally unpopolar enviroment laws

Perth's hot, dry conditions blamed for 100 turtle deaths at Bibra Lake wetlands



Australia has one of the world's highest rates of extinctions with about 100 species of flora and fauna lost since European colonisation.

There were 42 new additions to the national list of threatened species, including 21 animals, 20 plants and one threatened ecological community – the King Island scrub complex.



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# 7 PRIORITY NATURE ASKS



WA voters send clear message in polling:

## PROTECT OUR PRECIOUS NATURE

79%	78%	75%
think the government should assess the climate impact from new projects before approving them	want the government to strengthen national environmental laws to better protect nature	believe we need an environmental regulator that is independent of government

**IT'S NOT LIKE THEY CAN DEFEND THEMSELVES.**

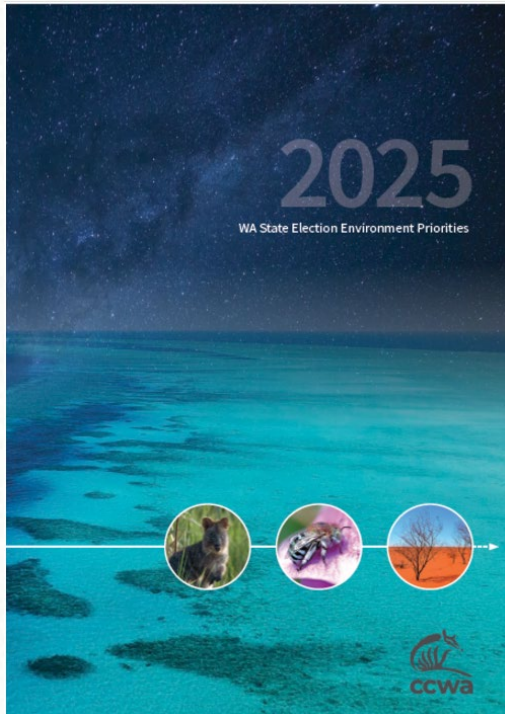
Without strong nature laws, WA's precious wildlife and ecosystems are in a one-sided fight. Ask our elected decision-makers to act now. Visit [DefendWANature.org.au](http://DefendWANature.org.au)

**DEFEND WA'S NATURE**



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# 7 PRIORITY NATURE ASKS



## WA at the Crossroads: A Protection Agenda for Nature

The four major areas of reform set out in this positive agenda for nature would deliver the mechanisms needed to protect WA's unique environments, which are facing multiple compounding threats amid declining government attention and action. This is not a comprehensive review of WA's environment laws or agencies, but is a consolidation of key reforms that have been identified by the Conservation Council of WA and alliance partners.



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2023 Swan Coastal Plain Cockatoo Conservation Plan: Swan Coastal Plain  
Approved by the Project CCA, L100 (Swan Coastal Plain, Swan Coastal Plain)



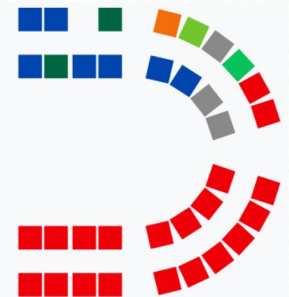
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# BIG, BIG CHANGE TO WA's LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



## The LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL = CRITICAL CHAMBER

- Reviews legislation passed by the lower house
- Monitors, scrutinises & reviews govt administration & expenditure
- Represents the people of WA, matters of public interest to be heard & brought to public attention (eg our petitions).



2021-2025 CHAMBER

**OUT with the OLD:** 6 'community of interest' regions (3 regional, 3 metro e.g Agriculture, South Metro). We were represented by 6 members/region. Total 36 seats.

**IN with the NEW:** 2021 legislation passed to abolish regions & increase size to 37 seats. All elected by the state-at-large (similar to Federal Senate).

- Combines the proportional & preferential voting system of the single transferable vote.



SOURCE: Parliament of WA [Parliament of WA Web - Role of the Legislative Council](#)

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# NEW VOTING OPTIONS for LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



The ballot paper or 'bedspread' is 14 columns wide and almost 40 rows deep.

## YOU CAN vote:

**either ABOVE the line** = Numbering 1 or more squares  
(WAEC will then follow the [registered voting cards of the groups](#),  
in the order of your voting preference)

**or BELOW the line** = Numbering up to 20 or more squares  
(WAEC will then follow your vote preference)

Be careful **NOT to MARK/NUMBER both sides of the THICK BLACK LINE.**  
Otherwise, your vote will be considered informal / invalid.

SOURCE: WA Electoral Commission [Voting in a State Election | Western Australian Electoral Commission](#)



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# NEW VOTING OPTIONS for LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



**In order LEFT to RIGHT across the BALLOT PAPER, the groups are:**

- **A - Sustainable Australia - Anti-Corruption (10 candidates)**
- **B – Shooters, Fishers & Farmers Party WA (SFFPWA) (5)**
- **C - Liberal Party (18)**
- **D - The Nationals WA (10)**
- **E - Australian Christians (5)**
- **F - The Greens (WA) (9)**
- **G - WA Labor (37)**
- **H - Animal Justice Party (5)**
- **I - Libertarian (7)**
- **J - Stop Pedophiles! Protect kiddies! (17)**
- **K - Legalise Cannabis Party WA (8)**
- **L - Pauline Hanson's One Nation (5)**
- **M - Independent group (5)**
- **Ungrouped Candidates (5)**

SOURCE: [WA 2025 – Summary of Parties and Candidates – Antony Green's Election Blog](#)



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[#saveourbushlands](#)

# RESOURCES



## Download report

<https://www.ccwa.org.au/publications>



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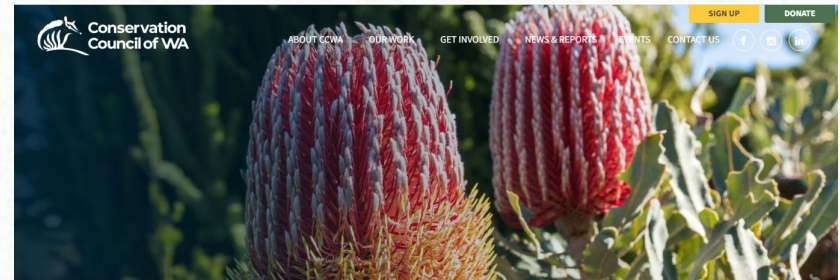
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100 Years of the Australian Environment - 1901-2021  
www.environment.gov.au/100years

## Community resources

[https://www.ccwa.org.au/nature\\_communityresources](https://www.ccwa.org.au/nature_communityresources)



## Contact Us

### We'd love to hear from you.

Whether you want to collaborate on a campaign, express an interest in volunteering, notify us to a nature-based issue, or simply would like to connect, get in touch and we'll do our best to respond as soon as possible.

08 6558 5155

1186 Hay Street, West Perth WA 6005, Whadjuk Boodja

[nature@ccwa.org.au](mailto:nature@ccwa.org.au)

[@VoiceforNature](https://twitter.com/AtVoiceforNature)

### Send a message

First Name  Last Name

Email

Type your message...

Send me email updates

## Contact us

[https://www.ccwa.org.au/nature\\_contact](https://www.ccwa.org.au/nature_contact)



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# YARD SIGNS



Order a sign

**SAVE OUR BUSHLANDS**

We must save our bushlands, woodlands and forests from being wiped out. We must protect the nature we love.

**Act now - Be a voice for nature!**

@aVoiceforNature  
ccwa.org.au/nature

Conservation Council of WA Urban Bushland Perth Bushland Society Save Our Bushlands

3025 Main Division Hwy, Swanley 6009  
Authorised by W.Pope, CCWA, 1186 High Street, West Perth, Swanley WA 6005

[https://www.ccwa.org.au/bushlands\\_yardisgn](https://www.ccwa.org.au/bushlands_yardisgn)

Order a sign

**SAVE THE BLACK COCKATOO**

Chicken Pixels Studio

We will lose our black cockatoos forever unless we protect the critical habitat they need to survive

**Act now - Be a voice for nature!**

@aVoiceforNature  
ccwa.org.au/nature

Conservation Council of WA Urban Bushland Perth Bushland Society Save Our Bushlands

3025 Main Division Hwy, Swanley 6009  
Authorised by W.Pope, CCWA, 1186 High Street, West Perth, Swanley WA 6005

[https://www.ccwa.org.au/cockatoo\\_yardisgn](https://www.ccwa.org.au/cockatoo_yardisgn)

Conservation Council of WA

ABOUT CCWA OUR WORK GET INVOLVED NEWS & REPORTS EVENTS CONTACT US

ORDER A YARD SIGN

HOME - OUR WORK - CONSERVATION - NATURE - YOU CAN HELP - ACT FOR NATURE - SAVE THE BLACK COCKATOO - WAYS YOU CAN HELP - ORDER A YARD SIGN

**Order A Yard Sign**

Order a cockatoo yard sign, ideal for your front yard, home window or business.

Please share your contact details and we will be in touch to confirm your sign soon!

First Name  Last Name

Email

Phone

Street Address

City

State



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[#saveourbushlands](https://twitter.com/saveourbushlands)

# QUESTIONS

