

ALBURY COUNCIL CANDIDATES 2021 – CLIMATE CHANGE SURVEY RESPONSES

Albury Council candidate group/ticket leaders were emailed two climate change questions in the lead up to the 2021 election. They were given a week to respond and sent a reminder text if needed. Ten responded (see details in table below), but one did not (Darren Cameron).

RESPONSES FROM CANDIDATES (in alphabetical order of surname)

* Q1. How do you rate the importance of climate action on a five-point scale, where one indicates low priority and five indicates high priority?

Candidate Name	Names of others on ticket	Q1. Climate action rating*	Q2. If elected, how will you use your position to reduce emissions from council operations and the community?
Stuart Baker	Jess Kellahan Stephen Mamouney Danielle Cale Lou Pemberton	5	I believe our council needs to declare a climate emergency and join many other committed councils around Australia.
Daryl Betteridge	No response	5	Continue support for the Halve Waste Campaign. Support improvements and extension to bicycle and walking infrastructure. Lobby to improve public transport access and frequency of service if applicable. Council vehicle fleet review with EV vehicles on the agenda and also look to improve the usage culture of said fleet. Continued solar and other emerging technologies uptake. Native revegetation, water conservation and continued support of direction from the sustainability advisory committee.
Andrew Boyd Barber	Not applicable	4.5	As an urban designer I have a technical understanding of how our towns and cities impact collective and individual emissions. If elected I would bring a strong focus on getting our land use and transport planning right. Transport is one of the largest sources of emissions and having an effective public transport network is vital to achieving urban sustainability.
Ashley Edwards	Kofi Isaacs Susie Monte Jillian Pattinson Dr Amanda Cohn	5	<p>Albury's first Greens councillor and Deputy Mayor, Dr Amanda Cohn, led the way for Albury Council to set carbon emission targets and join the Climate Council's Cities Power Partnership. However, more needs to be done including a review of council's current targets in light of the latest IPCC report.</p> <p>I am ready to hit the ground running having represented the community on AlburyCity's Sustainability Advisory Committee for the last three years.</p> <p>If elected, I commit to using my position to strive for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a reduction of 75% below 2018/19 council carbon emissions by 2030 including all waste • carbon neutral council operations (including all waste, not just Albury LGA waste) by 2040 • the current 2050 target including all waste will be too late

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a review of council fossil fuel investments and divesting where identified • revegetation across our urban and rural areas • the transition of the council fleet to electric vehicles - the transition of council infrastructure, plant and equipment to electric e.g. trucks and power tools • solar car parks that provide both shade and power • the renaturalisation of our concrete waterways and • the extension of council’s single use plastic ban to any events on council land to reduce waste to landfill. <p>I will also be advocating for council to support community carbon emissions reductions through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an urban forest strategy and at least 40% urban canopy cover target for cooler streets meaning resident use less energy to stay cool • Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers at council carparks • active and public transport • incentives for residents to switch to solar • advocacy for all-electric homes, switching away from gas and building energy efficient homes • support for residential developments that are planned with climate and energy efficiency in mind e.g. street/home orientation and light coloured roofs • support for renewable initiatives such as heat pump subsidies, community batteries, solar projects, bulk purchases and microgrids and • advocacy and support for circular economy initiatives and businesses. <p>Local action on climate change means a better future for all of us.</p>
Alice Glachan	No response	5+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant initiatives have been commenced and good progress has already been made. Installation of solar panel ‘packages’, more efficient vehicle fleet acquisitions, including planning to introduce advanced alternative fuel designs, along with general reductions in power use across the board are but a few examples. Of particular note have been the progressive improvements made to the AWMC, including diversion from landfill and expanding recycling opportunities, methane capture and power generation being some examples but each area of success indicates scope for further innovation and improvement. Albury is celebrated as a national leader in this sphere. • The Albury 2050 long term planning process presents a fabulous opportunity to directly involve the wider community, to exercise their collective social responsibility, in helping us continue to reduce the environmental impact footprint of our City. Implementation of the Halve Waste programme demonstrates what can be achieved when the community as a whole is committed to working towards the City’s reduction in emissions. Council has an important role in planning a route, and setting an example, to achieve improvements which benefit the population as a whole, but it has to be a collective responsibility.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasis on, and work towards, energy and emission reduction has become core business of Council and it makes good economic sense. Council needs to magnify this reduction by encouraging, enabling and supporting the community to do likewise. <p>Climate action must be a 'five plus' for a number of reasons. In the first place it is already Council Policy, and we know our community demands a reduced footprint. To make a difference we need a coherent and comprehensive set of goals, policies and actions across the range of factors that we can control, but also ways of adapting to factors that we cannot, or cannot yet, control. The direct cost of weather and climate impact on councils are already significant and so robust contingency plans to deal with extreme events such as fires and floods are required. We also need to ensure we adapt our buildings, vegetation and procedures to cope with a changing climate and by so doing we change adversity into opportunity to benefit the community as a whole. Council needs to be acting and evolving in sustainable ways as part of our core business thereby bringing the community as a whole along with us, confident that success breeds success.</p>
Ross Hamilton	Di Thomas Emily Grellman Lucie Wallis Claire Hamilton	5	<p>I am of the generation that will deal with most of the consequences of climate change. Therefore emissions reduction and mitigation is high on my priority list. Firstly I must acknowledge the great work done by previous councils in reducing emissions through the Halve Waste strategy as well as renewable energy projects and efficiency measures achieved through the Clean Energy Finance Corporation. I will support any continued efforts to reduce our emissions from waste and energy consumption. However I see four key areas that have yet to be adequately addressed by council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing our urban canopy with tree species that will provide shade and evapotranspiration for decades to come as well as sequestering atmospheric CO2. This is especially important in the new developments in the Albury LGA. 2. Improving Albury's bike path network. Albury has a decent path network but it needs work on connecting paths to each other. Improvements in our paths will encourage cycling and walking for transport in a city that is well suited to cyclists and pedestrians. Taking cars off the road, even electric cars, can slash our emissions. 3. Maintaining a green space to citizen ratio in Albury. Citizens that are connected with nature are citizens that care about protecting nature. 4. Lobbying the NSW Government regarding regulatory burdens that prevent the creation of microgrids which are needed for widespread rooftop solar to be at its most efficient.
Peter Hood	Not applicable	5	<p>If we don't take serious action to eliminate the use of fossil fuels then we don't have a planet. Will campaign and push to become a totally Renewable Council and Albury City following Yackandandah.</p>
Kylie King	Steve Bowen Rhiannon Veness Aimee Chan Taneesha Smith	5	<p>My team and I see the role as a councillor as seeking and representing the interests and views of the community and taking an objective, respectful approach to decision making. I would hope AlburyCity continues to strive for strong emission reduction targets (and action) and we support efforts to propel us in that direction (while seeking YOUR ideas and those of others in our community on how AlburyCity can do better.)</p>

David Thurley	Mark Doyle Esther Heather John Moore Michael Machin	4+	Request staff to regularly report on actions being taken to reduce Council's carbon footprint and use my scientific knowledge to keep staff focussed on innovations that affect our footprint. In the last 2 terms of Council I have questioned and suggested a number of issues including use of variable speed pumps in our sewer pumping stations, better use of biosolids and green waste, etc.
Henk van de Ven	Garry Pearce Paul Armstrong Bill van Noordennen Chris Martin	4	Continue to push for further action on PV on Council Buildings, a measure that I was solely responsible for pushing to get started 7 years ago. As well continue to improve the reduction of waste to landfill, which I have also fully supported over the time I have been on Council. These measures Cr Cohn ignored when she said my "Green" credentials were not good enough, and she took the Deputy Mayor role when offered to her by Kevin Mack in return for her support for him to be Mayor, support she had offered to me in the first instance during 3 face to face meetings, and renege on via a phone call.