

Who is planning for a safe climate?

Victorian State Election 2022 Report Card

Good planning decisions can lead to healthy, affordable, climate resilient communities. However, there is a disconnect between high level policy positions on tackling climate change and day-to-day planning decisions. Despite work by councils to make the planning system a better tool for change, government needs to do more to help restore a safe climate and create resilient communities.

How does each political party rate regarding introducing explicit, mandatory and enforceable climate change commitments into the planning system?

The Victorian Greenhouse Alliances and the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) have been meeting with parliamentarians to discuss the challenges councils have in tackling climate change through the planning system. They provided each political party with an opportunity to respond to four key “asks”:

Party	Ask 1 Amend the Planning and Environment Act and the Climate Change Act to explicitly address climate change at all levels of the planning process.	Ask 2 Require every planning scheme amendment to include an assessment against relevant climate change considerations.	Ask 3 Introduce mandatory minimum climate change standards into the planning scheme.	Ask 4 Adopt science-based targets for high level policy and align the planning system to the most up to date climate science.	Comments
Labor	?	?	?	?	Government ministers have declined to meet with us and did not answer our survey questions.
Coalition	?	?	?	?	Shadow Planning Minister declined to meet us, but we met with others in the Shadow Cabinet. Did not answer our survey questions. Advised us they're still developing climate change policy positions.
Greens	✓	✓	✓	✓	Met with Samantha Ratnam, Greens leader. Supportive and spoke in parliament on this issue.
Animal Justice Party	✓	✓	✓	✓	Met with Andy Meddick. Supportive and spoke in parliament on this issue.
Derryn Hinch's Justice Party	?	?	?	?	No survey response from Stuart Grimley or Tania Maxwell, although both indicated they would review our campaign information.
Reason Party	✓	✓	✓	✓	Met with Fiona Patten. Supportive and spoke in parliament on this issue.
Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party	?	?	?	?	No survey response from Jeff Bourman.
Sustainable Australia Party	✓	✓	✓	✓	Met with Clifford Hayes. Supportive and has spoken in parliament on this issue. Introduced a Private Members Bill to include climate change in the Planning & Environment Act.
Transport Matters Party	✓	✓	✓	✓	Met with Rod Barton. Supportive and spoke in parliament on this issue.

Note: None of the independent MPs approached responded to the questions, but we did meet Ali Cupper MLA who expressed support for the campaign.

This report card has been compiled by the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances and CASBE – formal partnerships representing most Victorian councils.

The four key “asks” are based on evidence from a report, *Climate Change and Planning in Victoria*, produced by the respected planning consultants Hansen Partnership. More information on each of these asks is available on our website.

<http://www.victoriangreenhousealliances.org/planning-for-a-safe-climate>