



TRRA

'Meet the Candidates' Forum

Thursday 29 August 2024

**Reminder of 'Meet the Candidates' Forum
for the 2024 Port Stephens Council Election
to be held on Thursday 29 August at 7.00 pm.
2nd Floor Crows Nest Room
Nelson Bay Bowling Club**

Dear {{ contact.FIRSTNAME }}

As previously advised, this Forum will be held will be held in the Nelson Bay Bowling Club. **Please be advised that the venue will now be the Crows Nest Room located on the 2nd Floor of the Club.** This is accessible by the centrally located stairway or a nearby lift.

The objective is to provide an opportunity for Mayoral and East Ward Candidates to introduce themselves to the voting public, to provide a brief statement of their priorities for the coming term of Council, and to answer questions on matters of concern to residents and ratepayers. **We have also compiled three questions for each candidate to answer. These are attached for your information.**

Where Candidates are standing with a group, due to time constraints, it is only possible to offer the invitation to speak to the lead candidate of the group. We would encourage the lead candidate to identify and introduce the other members of their group. Where a candidate is standing for election as mayor and also as an ordinary councillor in the East Ward, the candidate appearing as No. 2 on their ballot paper for councillors has also been asked to make a brief presentation. The No. 2 candidate in these circumstances has a good chance to be elected to Council if their lead is elected to be Mayor, so members of the public will be interested in their priorities.

The conduct and procedure for the Forum will follow that of similar successful Forums offered by TRRA for Council, State and Federal elections.

The Forum will be facilitated by a moderator who will ensure that the time allocations are strictly enforced and that the proceedings are respectful.

The speaking order in each category will follow that of the Electoral Commission Ballot Paper.

All of the Candidates for Mayor and all of the lead candidates for Groups standing for Councillor in the East Ward, have accepted TRRA's invitation to participate in the Forum.

The format for the evening will be as follows:

1. Each Mayoral Candidate will be given 5 minutes to introduce themselves and their policy platform.

Where a Mayoral Candidate is also the Lead candidate for an East Ward Group, their No. 2 candidate in the group will also be offered 3 minutes to speak.

2. Lead Councillor (non-Mayoral) candidates from other East Ward Groups will then be offered 3 minutes to speak

3. Each Mayoral or Lead candidate who spoke in 1 and 2 will then address their response to the 3 set questions (3 minutes on each question)

4. Each Mayoral or Lead candidate will then be given a 1 minute 'right of reply' on any issues raised in 3. they wish to comment on.

5. Open floor for questions from attendees.

Robyn Williams

Secretary

Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc

27 August 2024

Contact: secretary@trra.com.au or telephone 0437 961 355

Tomaree Ratepayers & Resident's Assoc Inc



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