

16 August 2024

## Ku-ring-gai Council Election 2024 – Candidate Questions

Please return your answers to [info@foke.org.au](mailto:info@foke.org.au) by 5.00pm on FRIDAY 23 AUGUST 2024.

**Candidates Full Name:** Andrew Gee Kang CHENG

**Ward Standing for:** St Ives Ward.....

**Authorised Campaign Address:** 33 Warrimoo Ave St Ives NSW 2075

**Email:** a\_cheng@live.com.au.....**Mobile:** 0466409409.....

**Website:** N/A..... **Facebook:** a\_cheng@live.com.au.....

**Qualifications:** EMBA AGSM .....**Day job:** Managing Director / Business Consultant

Are you a member of a political party? **YES**

If **YES**, specify..... Liberal Party NSW.....

Community/ lobby/ sporting group membership? **YES/NO**

If **YES**, specify Kissing Point Softball Club , Delegate of P&C federation, North Shore District Council of P&Cs.

Have you endorsed Save Greater Sydney Coalition’s election planning principles? **NO**

Have you signed the YIMBY election pledge? **NO**

Do you believe dwelling supply alone will solve the housing shortage and affordability? **NO**

Do you support Ku-ring-gai Council's legal action against the NSW Government's Transport Orientated Development (TOD) SEPP? **I don't have the details to comment on this action. But as a general view, I believe the council should be given the opportunity to plan and action for a state government's desired outcome.**

Do you support making a new place based LEP to mitigate the adverse impacts of the TOD and Low to Mid-Rise Housing SEPP on Ku-ring-gai? **I do not have a particular view on place based LEP and I believe legal documents as such need to be thoroughly reviewed based on their purpose and potential impact on the community.**

Do you support maintaining public Council land for community use? **It needs to be consulted with the community and reviewed case by case.**

Do you support listing Ku-ring-gai GeoRegion as a UNESCO GeoRegion? **I do not have enough information to comment on UNESCO as an organisation nor its listings.**

2016 NATIONAL TRUST HERITAGE AWARDS HIGHLY COMMENDED  
2009 NATIONAL TRUST HERITAGE AWARDS HIGHLY COMMENDED  
2008 NSW GOVERNMENT HERITAGE VOLUNTEERS AWARD  
2000 FOKE, WINNER, NSW HERITAGE OFFICE CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION AWARD  
“HERITAGE WATCH OVER OUR PLACE OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE –KU-RING-GAI”  
KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL COUNCIL (NSW) METRO PRIDE AWARDS.

Do you support the protection of Ku-ring-gai's Heritage Conservation Areas? **YES**

Do you support the establishment of a Ku-ring-gai Council Environmental Advisory Group? **YES**

Do you support natural turf on Ku-ring-gai's sports and playing fields; or the installation of artificial turf? **NATURAL TURF Preferred.**

**Expanded Questions:**

*Please keep each answer less than 200 words (longer answers may be cut).*

1. What motivated you to run for office at the Ku-ring-gai local government elections?

The desire to have my children grow up in a safe and comfortable environment and to preserve the living standard of Ku-ring-gai residents.

2. What is your vision for Ku-ring-gai?

A council that perfectly embodies the blend of community, culture, and convenience. A close-knit community with natural surroundings. A vibrant multicultural infusion of art and ethnic restaurants that celebrate cultural festivals and strive for creativity and inclusivity. Within the tranquil setting, local business activities are convenient and affordable and small business owners collaborate, fostering growth and innovation. Well-maintained roads and well-connected public transport, children can safely ride bikes to school, and seniors stroll to the nearby community centre. A council is desired by families and retirees alike.

3. What life experiences and professional experiences do you bring that will serve in your role as a councillor?

Having lived in Ku-ring-gai for almost 20 years and previously served as an associate general manager in a Japanese multinational company in Sydney and as an entrepreneur, I deeply understand how the broader environment impacts our lives in the local area. Policies from the state and local governments directly affect the quality of life and interests of residents. For example, the Transport Oriented Development Program introduced by the state government this year will have a significantly impact to the property value and lifestyle for our Ku-Ring-Gai residents.

In recent years, I served on the P & C committee at a local primary school, where I was elected as vice president for two years and president for another three years. This role allowed me to connect with many parents, understand their diverse lifestyles and needs, and advocate for more educational support for their children. As a result, I received the Executive Director Award from the NSW Department of Education in 2021, recognising my contributions to local education. I am also active in the local chamber of commerce, advocating for small businesses. In 2022, I was honoured with the Community Service Award from the NSW Premier, acknowledging my contributions to the local community.

4. What do you see as the key issues facing Ku-ring-gai?

There are three major issues Ku-ring-gai residents are facing:

- I. Rising cost of living: cost of living pressures
- II. Health and Safety: Physical and mental health, including pedestrian and traffic safety, children's mental health, domestic violence, and crime
- III. Heritage and environmental protection.

5. How do you propose to address those issues if elected?

- I. Reducing the burden of the rising cost of living by providing community batteries for residents without rooftop solar and encouraging rooftop solar uptake both funded by government grant. Establish community buses to reduce residents' travel time and expenses. improving residents' quality of life, and boosting local business activities.
- II. Prioritizing residents' physical and mental health, including pedestrian and traffic safety, children's mental health counselling, domestic violence prevention, and crime reduction.
- III. Emphasizing heritage and environmental protection, promoting the use of green energy equipment, promote share economic, installing community energy storage facilities and electric vehicle charging stations.

6. How will you ensure community engagement, and participation?

Ensuring community engagement and participation can be achieved through several key initiatives. Promoting multicultural community events in and around schools fosters inclusivity and cultural exchange, enriching the educational environment. Interacting with and supporting local sports clubs, as well as sponsoring non-profit community organizations, strengthens community ties and provides valuable resources for growth. Additionally, engaging with religious groups and aged care/childcare centres ensures that all demographics are included, promoting a sense of belonging and mutual support. These efforts collectively create a vibrant, cohesive, and supportive community.

7. What do you consider are key issues in your Ward?

Mental health for children, road safety, and heritage and environmental protection

8. Are there any additional comments you wish to add?

As we approach the upcoming council election, I humbly ask for your support and vote. My commitment to our community is unwavering, and I am dedicated to fostering a vibrant, inclusive, and supportive environment for all residents. With a proven track record of advocating for educational improvements, supporting local businesses, and promoting sustainable practices, I am ready to bring positive change to our area. Together, we can enhance our quality of life, ensure the well-being of all age groups, and create a brighter future for our children. Your vote is crucial in making this vision a reality. Let's work together to build a stronger, more connected community.

Thank you for your support.

**Candidate's Name:**.....Andrew Gee Kang CHENG .....**Signature:**.....

**Date:**.....23/08/2024.....

Thankyou for your time in answering the questions. Candidate answers will be published on FOKE's website, Enews and sent to members and supporters/resident's lists.

Please attach your election **photo**.

# ANDREW CHENG



## ST IVES WARD

**3 KEY CHANGES FOR KU-RING-GAI  
FOCUS ON RESIDENTS' HEALTH & SAFETY  
EFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT  
SERVICES TO CUTBACK COST OF LIVING**

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