



16 August 2024

Ku-ring-gai Council Election 2024 – Candidate Questions

Please return your answers to info@foke.org.au by 5.00pm on FRIDAY 23 AUGUST 2024.

Candidates Full Name: Jennifer Anderson

Ward Standing for: Gordon

Authorised Campaign Address: Level 3, Suite 2, 828 Pacific Hwy, Gordon 2072

Email: kr.g.gordonward@gmail.com Mobile: 0408 222 993

Website:..... Facebook:.....

Qualifications: 15 year service as councillor and mayor Day job: Company director community bank at Lindfield.

Are you a member of a political party? YES/NO

If YES, specify Liberal Party of Australia, NSW Division

Community/ lobby/ sporting group membership? YES/NO

If YES, specify Ku-ring-gai Historical Society, FOKE, National Trust

Have you endorsed Save Greater Sydney Coalition's election planning principles? YES/NO My long history of upholding heritage and environmental controls is well-known by actions not words.

Have you signed the YIMBY election pledge? YES/NO

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

Do you support Ku-ring-gai Council's legal action against the NSW Government's Transport Orientated Development (TOD) SEPP? Why or why not? Yes, subject to being given the full legal advice. Process is important in a democracy.

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? YES/NO

Do you support maintaining public Council land for community use? YES/NO I support more open space acquisitions. This term of council failed to acquire any additional land for open space.

Do you support listing Ku-ring-gai GeoRegion as a UNESCO GeoRegion? YES/NO

I have been an early advocate for this listing.

Do you support the protection of Ku-ring-gai's Heritage Conservation Areas? YES/NO

Do you support the establishment of a Ku-ring-gai Council Environmental Advisory Group?
YES/~~NO~~

Do you support natural turf on Ku-ring-gai's sports and playing fields; or the installation of artificial turf? **NATURAL/ARTIFICIAL TURF** I support the NSROC Regional Sportsground Strategy
Expanded Questions: See attached three pages
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?
2. What is your vision for Ku-ring-gai?
3. What life experiences and professional experiences do you bring that will serve in your role as a councillor?
4. What do you see as the key issues facing Ku-ring-gai?
5. How do you propose to address those issues if elected?
6. How will you ensure community engagement, and participation?
7. What do you consider are key issues in your Ward?
8. Are there any additional comments you wish to add?

Candidate's Name: Jennifer Anderson Signature: Jennifer Anderson

Date: 22/8/24

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**.

Expanded Questions:

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

Answer: I have a lifelong commitment to community service through a range of organisations, including roles with St John Ambulance, Art Deco Society of NSW, NSW Federation of P&C Associations, NSW Parents' Council, Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter, Tulkiyan House Museum, Eryldene House and Garden, Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter, KYDS, company director with the community bank at Lindfield and as a Ku-ring-gai councillor and mayor. My passion is to make a positive difference to the community I know and love. Our community is under threat from the State Government's poor planning policies and from inexperienced councillors who have starved the council of the means to provide for residents' needs. I want to contribute to better outcomes.

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

Answer: Ku-ring-gai is an area with rare natural beauty and built heritage. Those qualities should be core to future planning with appropriate principles and controls enshrined in policy. We are strongly residential and thus require infrastructure and amenities to support residents' lifestyle and amenity. Increases in density require the acquisition of additional open space where it is needed most. Poor financial management of the council this term saw the Long Term Financial Plan abandoned without an alternative in place. Current councillors have resolved to start a process next year to increase rates and levies for all ratepayers, that is untenable and tone deaf in a cost of living crisis.

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

Answer: My early career was in library and information science with appointments to the University of London and University of NSW. I also worked with The Hon. Dr. Brendan Nelson MP, Federal Member of Parliament for Bradfield. This background gave me skills in research and analysis of information that has always been of incredible value in so many situations. Fifteen years as a Ku-ring-gai councillor and mayor and thirty years as a resident of Killara has given me a deep knowledge of the local government area and the experience necessary to achieve results. My current position as a company director with the community bank at Lindfield has enabled me to remain actively involved in providing financial and other support to local organisations and charities for worthy projects that are tangible in our community. My additional current roles as Patron of the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter and Patron of St John Ambulance mean I have a real connection with the social, health and welfare needs we continue to face. My experience as a mother who raised four children in Killara was also important in being aware of the needs of our younger residents and led me to serve as a committee member of KYDS for many years and also serve as an elected representative on local regional and State P&C Associations. Whilst others make promises that they don't keep, I am proud to be the recipient of numerous external independent awards recognising my achievements in local government.

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

Answer: The two most pressing issues are the very real concerns around meeting State Government demands for increased housing density and a lack of funds to meet the varied

needs of residents from all age groups. Council cannot and should not abrogate its responsibility for fiscal responsibility and resort to forcing the burden continually onto ratepayers, many of whom are facing difficulties during a cost of living crisis. The character, heritage and lifestyle our residents want to enjoy must be a foundation consideration for future well considered planning.

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

Answer: The community needs to be engaged and informed about the options to be considered before Council makes new proposals to the State Government as alternatives to the TOD policy, which is effectively a scorched earth policy and must be removed. I have experience of working on new Local Environment Plans, which is desperately lacking on the current council. Zonings across our suburbs and what happens to residents' most important assets, their homes and surrounds, should not be handled by the inexperienced. The financial future of our council needs to be properly addressed by way of a Long Term Financial Plan that does not rely on large rate and levy increases. During my past tenure, Kuring-gai Council was named by Local Government NSW as the top performing council in NSW. This term of council has taken us backwards and there's no hope to winning an independent award of such standing in the future without a change of representatives. During the last nearly three years this term of council has not acquired any new open space for community use despite the future density demands being well known. During my previous tenure council had successfully acquired 27,500 sq metres of new public open space for parks and playgrounds.

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

Answer: Opportunities and mechanisms for timely, direct and cost effective engagement and participation are changing with technological advances. Council needs to be at the forefront to offer residents a variety of ways to be informed and to communicate their opinions before council makes decisions. Older residents who prefer traditional methods must not be excluded or isolated from providing input and receiving information. Personally, I have always attended meetings to listen and learn and will continue to do so. My role with the community bank also provides me with constant opportunities to engage with an even greater array of community groups to hear directly about the needs of the residents they serve.

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

Answer: Killara and Gordon are two of the first to suffer the consequences of the State Government's TOD policy but I am well aware that there will be many other wards impacted with later State Government plans if council does not offer viable alternatives that provide density acceptable to the State. I know that better planning than the TOD policy is possible to achieve densities while protecting our heritage and environmental controls. There are important additional issues that are related to development, such as footpaths, drainage, roads and much more – they all need funding. Council needs to get its own finances in order, not shift the burden significantly to ratepayers and make sure that the State Government is also accountable for its share of provision to our community. Developers will need to accept