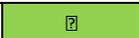


Local Food Connect

"Creating a vibrant local food culture for health, environment and community"

Elections 2020 Nillumbik Candidate Scorecard – Bunjil Ward

LEGEND:	 Good	 Fair/Maybe	 Poor	 Declined to respond
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Candidate supports strong:	Local Food Leadership	Food Security	Growing Food	Community resilience
Candidate Name				
GRAHAM, Hannah	?	✓	✓	✓
VAN HULSEN, Anika	✓	✓	?	?
MULLINS, Steve	✓	✓	✓	✓
HUNTER, Sarah	✓	✓	✓	✓
NELSON, Melanie	✓	✓	✓	✓

Candidate responses to open questions	Do you have any other comments on Local Food Leadership?	Are you a member of any local sustainability groups? If so, please name them.
Candidate Name		
GRAHAM, Hannah		NEAG, Friends of Diamond Creek
VAN HULSEN, Anika	<p>RE: 1.4. I am not sure on existing Council staff levels dedicated to agriculture in the shire. Maybe existing staff's duties and contracts could be extended to incorporate the 'administrating and resourcing of the local Food Strategy Plan'?</p> <p>RE: 2.4. Local farmers' markets already serve the function of "food hubs"? Maybe there are opportunities for rationalisation? Comparative cost and benefit analyses would be helpful.</p> <p>RE: 3.1. I certainly would support if it is within the existing planning scheme.</p> <p>RE: 3.3. In principle I am very supportive of sustainably-grown local food. The use of council land for it would depend on the</p>	<p>No, I am not a member of a "local Sustainability group", but I am a member of community groups, including various volunteer environmental groups; and my household tends a veggie patch 😊.</p>

	<p>methods employed; its location; alternative, possible community uses. A fair and comparative assessment seems necessary for informed decision making.</p> <p>RE: 3.4. I certainly would support it, if the proposal is within the current planning scheme. Maybe leasing arrangements could be investigated?</p> <p>RE: 4.2. To be honest, I am not entirely confident that I fully understand the concept, so would need to be educated to make an informed decision.</p> <p>RE: 4.3. As most Nillumbik households (by metro-Melbourne standards) are on relatively large properties, there seems plenty of opportunity for home vegie patches; thus the need for "community food gardens" seems of a lower priority. however, I am open to all arguments; and again comparative cost-benefit analyses would be appreciated.</p>	
MULLINS, Steve	<p>Our council needs to do more to support local farming - sustainable, regenerative, environmentally sensitive farming. Farming that will: invigorate our rural communities; provide nutritious, fresh local food for our shops, restaurants, farm gates and markets. We are fortunate to have some successful community groups, businesses and markets within the shire that are involved with growing and selling local food but how much better might things be with the right council support? Support that helps landowners develop business plans. Support that develops a Shire wide food strategy which works to ensure that residents have access to fresh healthy, nutritious food now and into the future.</p>	I am a member of my neighbourhood food swap and community garden.
HUNTER, Sarah	<p>Nillumbik has a strong history of leadership in the local food area which council should continue to support. I strongly believe in the importance of this area (as a local establishing a sustainable organic farm in a rural part of Bunjil.</p>	I am a member of Arthurs Creek Landcare. I have subscribed for several years to Local Food connect and I have enjoyed watching it go from strength to strength.

NELSON, Melanie	Local food production is key to a safe and healthy community. We have just experienced the potential impact of relying on global food production - and it was frightening. Council is a good place to show leadership on this issue - to educate and support local farmers and producers. Plus members of the community that want to buy and use locally produced food. If I was elected to Council I would set up an Agriculture Advisory Committee to focus on the future of agriculture in our ward. There are many challenges looming - from climate change, the economic impact of Covid and the physical and mental health of our community. We need to plan ahead and be ready	I started a community garden in our road which was able to provide produce to our community over the Covid period. It also fostered an interest in others and we had a lot of new veg patches spring up. I always buy local when possible - I bought veg boxes from the Little Organic Shop in Hurstbridge, Hurstbridge Farm Gate and Sugarloaf farm when available - and I miss having that ability now.
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The following candidates were contacted by LFC and invited to take part, but did not respond to the survey:	The following candidate could not be contacted by LFC to take part in the survey:
SIMPSON, Sue EGAN, Karen Jane PENROSE, Bill ROSENHAIN, Sue WALLACE, James TIBBETTS, Carol DOVILE, Tania	VEERMAN, Brian

Authorised by: P. MCLEOD PO BOX 3123 ELTHAM 3095

Local Food Connect

Local Food Connect is a non-partisan group of local citizens concerned about local food issues in the north east suburbs of Melbourne.

Candidate Local Food Scorecard

We have prepared this scorecard to inform voters about the views and policies of candidates standing in the election for the local Council. The scorecard is based on the candidates' responses to a detailed questionnaire.

Voting in the election

Voting in the Council election is by post. You should receive a ballot pack in the mail, and you need to post your completed ballot papers early so they arrive by **Friday 23 October 2020**.