

Wayne Kinrade Vote Climate Questionnaire Responses 243 – amended by candidate

1. Name: Wayne Kinrade
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4. Council: Nillumbik
5. Ward: Wingrove

6. **Are you nominated, supported, or backed in any way by a political party in this election? If so, which one?**
No
7. **Are you a member of a political party? If so, which one?**
No

8. **Why are you standing for (re)election to council? What are your top priorities if elected? (100 words maximum.)**
I'm passionate about raising awareness of biodiversity and ensuring we balance growth with environmental stewardship. If elected, I'll focus on protecting and enhancing our biodiversity, preserving neighbourhood character, and aligning future development with our Green Wedge values. I believe in a Municipal Planning Strategy that respects our unique environment while promoting sustainable growth. Local councils have a critical role to play in addressing climate change. As the level of government closest to communities, councils can both implement and advocate for strong climate action including promoting renewable energy, increasing urban tree cover, and adapting local infrastructure to manage risks like floods and bushfires.

9. **What are three of your achievements in recent years? (100 words maximum)**
I've recently been appointed to serve on the Shire's Economic Development Advisory Committee and will ensure Council economic policies balance growth with environmental stewardship. I have proudly led the Friends of the Eltham Copper Butterfly (ECB) for over 20 years. Last year I introduced enhanced methods of surveying ECB larvae and adults leveraging the greater use of community volunteers as citizen scientists. I was a co-founder of Nillumbio in 2022, a local NGO committed to raising awareness of biodiversity through community education programs and policy advocacy to the three levels of government.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

10. **Do you accept the research evidence from climate scientists that the earth is already too hot and we are outside the safe climate zone?**
Any comments?
I fully acknowledge the scientific consensus that the planet has already warmed beyond safe levels. Immediate, decisive action is essential to mitigate further harm.

11. Do you agree that we face a climate emergency? Any comments?

Yes, immediate action is needed to address rising temperatures, extreme weather, and biodiversity loss. Local councils must lead by implementing policies that address the four R's.

12. If your council has declared a climate emergency, do you support this declaration?

Our council (Nillumbik Shire Council) has declared a climate emergency and I support this declaration.

Any comments? What are your priorities for emergency action?

What are your priorities for emergency action?) My priorities for immediate local action include promoting renewable energy, increasing urban tree cover, and adapting local infrastructure to manage risks like floods and bushfires.

13. If (re)elected will you initiate and/or support measures to educate residents and stakeholders about the climate emergency and put pressure on other levels of government to act?

I will initiate. The Shire of Nillumbik has a responsibility to raise awareness through workshops and advocacy, encouraging sustainable practices locally. The Council should lobby state and federal governments to adopt stronger climate policies and provide support.

14. Do you agree that it is now too late to restore a safe climate via emissions reductions alone and that additional measures, including drawdown and local cooling, are required?

Yes. Council should prioritize tree planting, green infrastructure, and protecting open spaces to enhance carbon drawdown and local cooling.

15. Will you initiate and /or support measures to rapidly reduce the municipality's emissions towards zero, draw down carbon dioxide (eg planting trees), and increase the reflectivity of surfaces (eg roofs and parking lots)?

I will initiate. See my comments to q14 above.

16. Will you initiate and/or support measures to protect vulnerable people and ecosystems within the municipality from dangerous climate impacts?

I will initiate. Councils should enhance climate-resilient infrastructure, improve emergency response systems, safeguard biodiversity, and support community programs that assist at-risk populations during extreme weather.

PARTICIPATORY AND DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY

17. Under the Local Government Act 2020 Community Engagement Policy, councils are required to use deliberative practices. What action will you take to involve a broad cross-section of residents in deliberating respectfully and effectively on important issues? For example, will you push for the use of Citizens' Assemblies to deliberate on contentious issues

and/or to have input into the council budget? (100 words maximum)

Citizen's Assemblies have the potential to play a crucial role in fostering meaningful community engagement and harnessing collective creativity to address complex issues. I had the opportunity to participate in a form of Citizen's Assembly run by the Shire of Nillumbik for the development of a revised Green Wedge policy in 2018. Unfortunately, the integrity of that process was undermined when the then Council failing to implement the assembly's recommendations aimed at strengthening local Green Wedge protections.

18. Over recent years difficulties within some councils have resulted in the need for monitors, mediators and arbiters. The 2023 Arbiters Report on Darebin Council estimated that \$600,000 had been wasted in just two years to deal with these failures. There have also been issues in Brimbank, Glenelg, Hume, Knox, Moira and Yarra Councils. What would you do to ensure that your council deliberates effectively and respectfully? (100 words maximum)

My personal experience of a CA referred to above in q18 taught me a vital lesson: for Citizen's Assemblies to retain their credibility and effectiveness, their recommendations must be respected and acted upon. Without honouring the outcomes of these deliberative processes, we risk eroding public trust and diminishing the value of participatory democracy.

19. Do you promise not to accept campaign donations from property developers or gambling interests, directly or via intermediaries, in this council election campaign?

Yes.

20. Do you promise to support the introduction of a requirement that all gifts or donations larger than \$500 are declared in real time (similar to the measures adopted by the Melbourne City Council)?

Yes.

21. The state government has imposed single-member wards on councils against the wishes of many councils and the recommendation of the Local Government Association. Do you support or oppose single-member wards?

I oppose single member wards – council should put pressure on the state government to return to multi-member wards.

22. Dr Sonia Randhawa from the Sortition Foundation is running a one-hour Q&A session for council candidates covering Citizens' Assemblies and other deliberative processes. It's on Sunday 29 September starting at 5pm. Please register here if you'd like to attend. Will you attend this session?

I can't attend on that date, but would be keen to come on another occasion.

23. Please provide a link to your candidate's statement or paste it below.

As an economist, management consultant, and employer, I've made tough, financially responsible decisions throughout my career. I've lived in Eltham for 37 years and am deeply invested in our community's future. With a strong background

in public finance and strategic planning, I aim to bring both fiscal discipline and a forward-thinking approach to Council. Currently, I serve on the Shire's Economic Development Advisory Committee and have proudly led the Friends of the Eltham Copper Butterfly for over 20 years. As a founding member of Nillumbio, I'm passionate about raising awareness of biodiversity and ensuring we balance growth with environmental stewardship. If elected, I'll focus on protecting and enhancing our biodiversity, preserving neighbourhood character, and aligning future development with our Green Wedge values. I believe in a Municipal Planning Strategy that respects our unique environment while promoting sustainable growth. A vote for me will ensure strong financial management, a voice for biodiversity, and a community-first approach to planning.