



Kate Chaney MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR CURTIN



EDITION 7 AUTUMN 2024

A MESSAGE FROM KATE

Kaya!

I hope you enjoyed a wonderful Easter break and the beautiful weather we've been having.

I announced in March that I will run again at the next Federal election. I want to thank everyone who has helped me to do politics differently so far in this term – whether you have helped inform my policy positions, attended events, contributed to one of our community submissions or discussed issues with your friends and family.

The election is still a way off, so for now I'm focused on doing the job you elected me to do as the Independent Member for Curtin. I'm meeting with members of the government and opposition, as well as the crossbench, to drive long-term thinking in our national conversations, improve legislation as it's introduced to Parliament and ensure your voice is heard in Canberra.

It has been a busy couple of months with the launch of Curtin's Pathway to Net Zero report, speaking to UWA students at O-Day, hosting a Menopause Forum, meeting with my new 2024 Youth Advisory Group, and holding our monthly Community Catch Ups and Canberra Debriefs. We also had five Parliamentary sitting weeks across February and March.

One of my key concerns since being elected is the declining trust people have in our politicians and political system.

To rebuild trust, people need to be confident decisions are made in the public interest, not in the interest of a few. The rules about our elections have a big impact on this confidence. This is why I have recently been working on electoral reform with the crossbench in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Cost of living remains a big issue on the agenda too. With the steep rise in grocery prices, there has been a lot of discussion about supermarket power. There's no doubt we have an issue in Australia with market concentration in a number of industries. I will continue to advocate for sensible long-term reform that maintains healthy competition.

Over the coming months, I look forward to having more conversations across the electorate about what matters to you, whether it's out doorknocking, at an event or via email. Please complete my cost of living survey (below) and my survey on current issues (on page 2) so I can hear what you think.

Regards

Kate Chaney MP

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Community catch-up:**
Saturday 4 May
9:30am-10:30am
Bradley Reserve (near playground)
184 Huntriss Rd, Doubleview
- Let's get transparent!**
Electoral reform discussion —
Fair and Transparent Bill
Tuesday 7 May
5:30pm - 6:30pm
Albert's Respite and Refreshments
293 Cambridge St, Wembley
- Canberra debrief —**
Budget wrap up:
Wednesday 22 May
5:30pm-6:30pm
 Scan QR code for details or go to katechaney.com.au/events

Keep up to date with upcoming events by scanning this QR code:



COST OF LIVING SEMINARS

Constituents constantly raise cost of living concerns with me, and a number of factors are making it tough at the moment. Even my Year 11 Youth Advisory Group has chosen cost of living as our next issue for discussion, aware that buying a house will be challenging for them when the time comes.

I will be holding two forums over the coming months with the Financial Wellbeing Collective to look at practical ways to help individuals and small business owners manage their costs and budgets. I hope you can attend.

Financial wellbeing for individuals

Equip yourself with great tools to understand money, budgets and seeking financial help when you need it.

21 May, 5:30pm-6:30pm

For Small Business Owners

A seminar covering a range of topics including budgets, grants, and accessing dispute resolution services.

13 June, 5:30pm-6:30pm

REGISTER HERE!



COST OF LIVING SURVEY

To inform our upcoming events and my policy discussions, please take this short survey on cost of living issues:

SCAN ME!





Press conference with independents from both houses.

CANBERRA UPDATE

Fair & Transparent Elections Bill

In March, as part of my ongoing commitment to restoring trust in politics, I introduced my Fair and Transparent Elections Bill. The crossbenches of both Houses support my Bill, including David Pocock in the Senate. The Bill introduces a suite of electoral reforms to rebuild trust in our political system, including voters knowing who is supporting political candidates before they vote. The table shows what the Bill covers.

These changes have broad support. The government says it supports many of them, but I (and many on the crossbench) are concerned that we will not see any change before the next election.

I will keep driving for reform during this term, because shining a light on vested interests will encourage politicians to make decisions in the interests of community, on so many important issues.

SNAPSHOT OF FAIR & TRANSPARENT ELECTIONS BILL

ISSUE	SOLUTION
Dark money We need to fix disclosure requirements and ban lies so voters can make an informed choice about their representatives.	Lower disclosure threshold to \$1,000
	Disclose within 7 days
	Fix 'gift' definition to include 'cash for access' dinners, 'business forum' memberships, subscriptions
	Require disclosure of fundraising events, investments, memberships, loans
	Ban lies in political advertising
Financial influence We need to reduce financial influence so we can trust Governments to make decisions for all, not vested interests.	Ban donations from social harm industries
	Ban donations from current/potential substantial government contractors
	Ban anyone from donating more than 2% of public funding from the last election (~\$1.5m)
Uneven playing field We need to reduce some of the many incumbency and party advantages.	Limit self-congratulatory government ads before elections
	Stop postal voting applications from being used for data harvesting and misleading voters
	Provide equal access to voters & reporting through the creation of an Independent Campaign Entity

IN PARLIAMENT

Voluntary Assisted Dying

In February, I introduced a Private Members Bill to amend the Commonwealth Criminal Code to clarify that Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) is not suicide, so medical practitioners can use telehealth to deliver end of life care. VAD is legal in every state but the anomaly in the Commonwealth Criminal Code robs people of that choice if they live too far away. I have been in discussions with many State Attorneys-General who would like to see this anomaly addressed. The Federal Attorney-General is now considering the Bill.

Speed of decarbonisation

In March I presented a Private Members Motion about the barriers to faster decarbonisation and the need to provide production tax

credits for the critical minerals industry. One of the dangers of re-opening the nuclear debate is that it threatens the policy certainty needed by the private sector to invest in renewables, where we have great comparative advantages. With the US Inflation Reduction Act pulling a lot of capital investment to the US, we need a bold government response that makes Australia an attractive investment location for projects that will outlive fossil fuels.

Fuel Efficiency standards update

I support the Government's fuel efficiency standards – we are the only developed country other than Russia that doesn't have these! Requiring car manufacturers to meet an average fuel efficiency level will mean that Australians have access to more fuel-efficient petrol cars, as well as more EVs.

Online Gambling update

The clock is ticking on gambling reform. It has been interesting to see that even some of the gambling companies recognise that reform is needed. I hope that by the time you are reading this newsletter, we will have seen some action from the government on a gambling ads ban.

TELL ME WHAT YOU THINK

Please complete this short survey about a range of current issues such as indexation of HECS debt, energy solutions, banning lies in political ads, and more.



IN CURTIN

Curtin's Pathway to Net Zero Launch



It was uncomfortable but fitting that we introduced our Net Zero report on one of the hottest days of the summer at Mounts Bay Sailing Club. Environmental scientist Josh Byrne, who you may know from Gardening Australia, braved the heat to attend the launch with nearly 200 other people. The report is the product of a year's work from more than 50 dedicated Curtin volunteers, led by Claire Gardner from my office. It sets out what we can do to decarbonise across electricity, buildings, transport, greening and waste - with policy asks at a Federal, State and Local government level and practical individual actions.

As pictured, Claire and I were pleased to present a copy of the Net Zero Report to the Minister for Climate Change and Energy, Chris Bowen, the Minister for the Environment and Water, Tanya Plibersek, the Attorney-General, Mark Dreyfus, and the State Premier, Roger Cook.

If you would like a copy of the report, you can pick up a hard copy from my office, download it from my website or ask for one by emailing kate.chaney.mp@aph.gov.au



My Community Liaison Officers are wonderful... and here to help you.



My community liaison officers, Felicity and Jo, deal with hundreds of inquiries each month from constituents facing challenges in their dealings with NDIS, Centrelink, ATO, Aged Care Services and Immigration. They can help you navigate these challenges, escalate urgent matters on your behalf and support you in progressing issues.

Here are some case study examples:

Centrelink

A constituent applied for the Aged Pension in June last year and was unable to speak with Centrelink to check its progress. In February, we were able to raise a query with Centrelink, who advised extra documents were required. Once submitted, the claim was then approved.

Immigration visas

We assisted a pregnant constituent's partner, who is not Australian, to be granted a visa in time for the baby's birth.

Australian Tax Office

A constituent was alarmed to see an unexplained debt appear in her ATO account. Despite trying to resolve the matter with the ATO, no explanation or solution could be provided. We raised a query with the ATO and the debt was explained and eventually removed.

Final Report of the Aged Care Taskforce

I welcome the final report of the Aged Care Taskforce as the first step in ensuring the aged care system is adequately funded into the future. I was pleased the Task Force did not recommend an aged care levy nor any change to the exemption from means testing the family home when a spouse is still living in it. I will monitor the implementation of the recommendations to ensure increased co-contributions are fair and transparent for constituents.

Grants, grants, grants!



Check out the Grants page on my website for the latest grants available for individuals, organisations and small businesses.



Curtin Sustainability Fair

SATURDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2024

- ✓ LEARN ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY
- ✓ MORE EXHIBITORS
- ✓ ALL AGES EVENT

If you are a sustainability focused community organisation or business and you are keen to participate then contact Louise at kate.chaney.mp@aph.gov.au



IN CURTIN

1. Curtin's Pathway to Net Zero event at Mounts Bay Sailing Club was attended by nearly 200 people.
2. UWA O-Day is always a fantastic time to speak with new students.
3. Sculptures by the Sea is a special event in the Curtin calendar. I was thrilled to be a part of its opening.
4. It was an honour to speak to year 12s at Christchurch Grammar School's Building Good Men Breakfast.
5. Sonja from Eco Surf Australia has created a 3 Minute Litter Station – look out for one at your local Curtin beach!
6. The Menopause Forum I held with Embrace Change demystified this often overlooked time of life.
7. It was an honour to attend the Australian SAS Association's Family Day at Campbell Barracks in Swanbourne and meet with veterans on 26 January.
8. I love attending Citizenship Ceremonies across the electorate – including this one at the City of Stirling.
9. Thank you to all our firefighters across Curtin for their work over a very busy summer – Josh and Jeremy from Claremont Fire Station managed to find time to pick up a flag from my office.
10. Cathy McGowan AO, former independent for Indi, joined me at my Canberra Debrief in February.



INVITE ME TO SPEAK AT YOUR NEXT FUNCTION!

One of the parts I love about this job is speaking with schools, community groups and organisations across Curtin, even book clubs and local sporting teams! It's important to hear what matters to everyone in the electorate. If you have an upcoming event or regular get together that you would like me to attend and speak at, please contact my office.

CONTACT

E. kate.chaney.mp@aph.gov.au
 W. katechaney.com.au

ELECTORATE OFFICE
 Cnr The Boulevard and Floreat Ave
 Floreat WA 6014
 PO Box 186 Floreat WA 6014
 T. 08 9388 0288

PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE
 PO Box 6022
 House of Representatives
 Parliament House
 Canberra ACT 2600
 T. 02 6277 4655

AUTHORISED BY KATE CHANEY MP
 Cnr The Boulevard and Floreat Ave
 Floreat WA 6014

f @katechaneyMP
 @katechaneyMP
 X @ChaneyforCurtin

We acknowledge the Whadjuk Noongar people as the Traditional Custodians of this land and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Kate Chaney MP
 FEDERAL MEMBER FOR CURTIN