



## February 2024 Newsletter

Kaya!

After a break over summer, I've launched back into the Parliamentary year with a renewed sense of purpose and optimism.

During the month I spent three weeks in Canberra, with only a week here in Curtin. I raised a variety of topics in Canberra including the Stage 3 Tax Cuts, Paid Parental Leave, gambling and donation reform, Curtin's tree canopy and I tabled my Bill on the use of telehealth in Voluntary Assisted Dying. You can view all of my speeches on my website.

During the week that I spent in Curtin, I hosted four events, including our Curtin's Pathway to Net Zero Report Launch, a Grant Writing Workshop, a Canberra Debrief and a Community Catch-up. We had a great turn out at all of the events and I enjoyed speaking with many of you about a variety of issues.

I was particularly excited about launching Curtin's Pathway to Net Zero - this has been a marvellous example of a community-driven, optimistic, rigorous piece of work, that can look beyond a political agenda to create a vision for

what a decarbonised Curtin would look like and how we get there. Huge thanks to all those involved.

Last Friday I spent most of the day at UWA for O-Day. Despite the relentless heat, it was a great day and a wonderful opportunity to hear from my younger constituents. Unsurprisingly, the two highest concerns that we heard were climate/environment and the cost of living.

The Crossbench has continued working on a broad agenda of integrity measures, with Helen Haines introducing a pork-barrelling bill about the way grants are assessed this week. I also submitted a dissenting report on the Administrative Review Tribunal, clarifying that we need to make sure that these sorts of appointments are not politicised.

On a personal note, my eldest son George has moved to Canberra to start studying at ANU this month! It's an exciting time for him and a change in our home dynamics, but I'm very grateful to be able to catch him for dinner during my parliamentary sitting weeks. Seeing him in Canberra and going to O-Day has reminded what a great time of life that is, but also focused my attention on the challenges faced by young adults at the moment.

March is shaping up to be a very busy month, split between Canberra and Curtin.

I'm feeling particularly grateful for my wonderful team right now - it makes such a difference being surrounded by staff and volunteers who are investing their energy in something positive.

I hope you enjoy a lovely long weekend and that you stay safe on the roads if you are travelling.

Kate



## Voluntary Assisted Dying

On 12 February 2024, I introduced my Voluntary Assisted Dying Telehealth Bill to the House of Representatives.

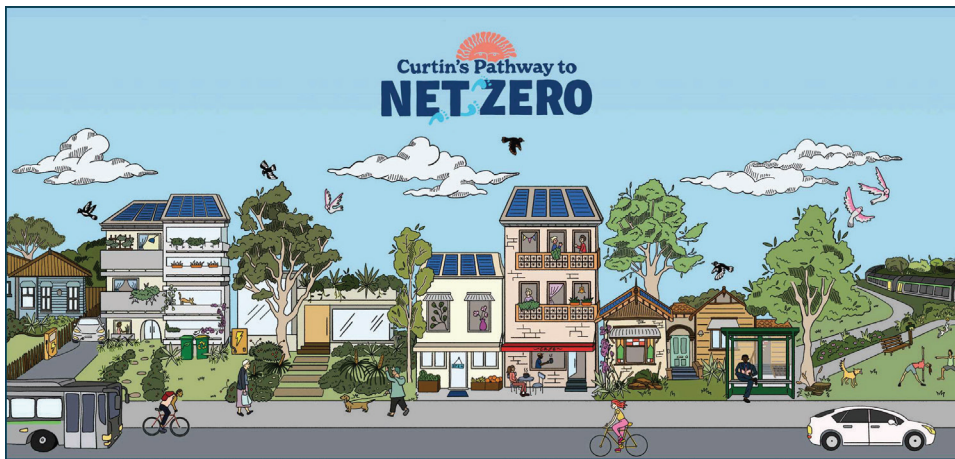
Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) is lawful in all Australian states, however the Commonwealth Criminal Code prevents people from promoting suicide using a carriage service. Late in 2023, the Federal Court found that this included online VAD consultations. This means doctors are at risk of being prosecuted if they use telehealth to discuss VAD with patients.

My Bill makes a change to the Criminal Code, by making it clear that VAD is not suicide.

I have heard heartbreaking stories of terminally ill people travelling long distances in agony to see a doctor in person, or both doctor and patient travelling for hours to have a consultation halfway in a carpark. VAD practitioners are being forced to choose between compassionate and convenient care for their patients and the risk of being prosecuted.

You can read my Bill [here](#), the Explanatory Memorandum [here](#) or watch my speech in Parliament about it [here](#).





## Curtin's Pathway to Net Zero Launch

Getting to net zero is one of the biggest challenges we will ever face, but it's also a huge opportunity to make our society healthier, cleaner and fairer. Many of the actions needed to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions also address other social, economic and environmental problems, improving our health, reducing cost of living, supporting local economies and restoring our biodiversity.

Curtin's Pathway to Net Zero is an accessible, easy-to-read report that steps out the big changes needed to decarbonise five key areas most relevant to Curtin: electricity, buildings, transport, urban greening and waste. It identifies priority actions for federal, state and local governments, and the best and simplest things you can do as an individual.

Over 50 volunteers have spent the last year compiling this report and developing four community projects to encourage local action: Electrify Curtin, Clean Air for Schools, Native Verge Makeovers and Plastic Free July.

This year, we will continue to run these community projects, and advocate for the policies outlined in the report. New volunteers are always welcome, and no expertise is required. Email [Kate.Chaney.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Kate.Chaney.MP@aph.gov.au) if you're interested.

**You can access the full report and summary pages online [here](#).**

If you live in Curtin, you can have a free hard copy - drop into our electorate office.

## Have Your Say - New Vehicle Efficiency Standards to make EV's more affordable

The average Australian car uses 20% more fuel than US cars, costing Australians more in petrol for every kilometre we drive. The Government's proposed New Vehicle Efficiency Standard (NVES) will improve the average fuel efficiency of Australia's passenger vehicle fleet and increase the availability and affordability of electric vehicles.

It is a key step in reducing our transport emissions that will also reduce petrol costs for motorists. The policy could help Australians save around \$1,000 on fuel each year and contribute \$96.46 billion to the national economy by 2050.

### **How does a New Vehicle Efficiency Standard work?**

The Standard requires car manufacturers to meet an emissions threshold for the entire fleet they sell, with that threshold declining each year.

Manufacturers can choose the exact vehicle mix they provide but will need to increase the proportion of electric vehicles and hybrids available over time.

### **Consultation on the NVES is open until 4 March.**

The Government has provided three options for the NVES - A, B and C – that vary in strength and speed of emission reductions. The volunteers with Curtin's Pathway to Net Zero have made a submission in support of Option C.

You can complete the survey [here](#).



## **Events**

### **Menopause Forum**

When: Thursday 7 March, 5-7.30pm

Where: Mount Claremont Community Centre, Banksia Room

RSVP: Menopause Forum - Embrace Change | Humanitix

### **Duty of Care Bill Discussion**

When: Monday 11 March, 6-7pm

Where: Online

RSVP: Duty of Care Bill Discussion | Humanitix

### **Canberra Debrief**

When: 17 April, 5.30-6.30pm

Where: TBC

### **Community Catch-up**

When: Saturday 16 March, 9-10am

Where: Subiaco Theatre Gardens, next to Billie Bob the Giant

## **Social Media**

Don't forget to follow me on social media. It's the best way to keep up-to-date and find out about upcoming events!



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

## **Contact Us**

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