

# Kate Chaney MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR CURTIN



## March 2023 Newsletter

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*Hello!*

*This week I hosted Ross Garnaut AC, one of Australia's preeminent economists, in a conversation about WA's role in decarbonisation. Ross has advised numerous governments on economics and climate policy and has written two books on the decarbonisation journey ahead.*

*With 200 people attending, it was a sold-out event with great questions from the audience. Apologies to those who missed out – we will use a bigger venue next time. A recording is available on my [YouTube](#) channel.*

*Ross spoke about all the natural advantages Australia has (particularly in WA) in a net zero economy: the best solar and wind resources, land for biomass and carbon sequestration, minerals that need (green) processing, energy transition*

*minerals as well as the knowledge, skills, institutions and infrastructure to make the most of our natural advantages.*

*We spoke of the huge opportunity this creates, and the urgency. Making the most of it will require significant capital commitment, an educated, productive workforce and the right policy settings to reward innovation and provide certainty.*

*He outlined the stranded asset risk of continuing to develop fossil fuel projects and the opportunity for WA from hydrogen, green steel and alumina.*

*A conversation with Ross on this topic is inspiring – the breadth, depth and length of his knowledge on the Australian and global economies makes his optimistic, long-term view very encouraging.*

*I feel very lucky to have access to minds like Ross's, which continues to inform the advocacy I am doing on getting the policy settings right to make the most of the decarbonisation opportunities ahead.*

*Kate*



## *Update from Canberra*

### **Climate Action**

*Last week was a big week in Canberra, pushing the Government to do more on climate.*

*I seconded Zali Steggall's Private Members Motion on methane, urging the Government to enact effective [methane regulations](#) and use the Safeguard Mechanism to drive methane capture.*

*I debated the [Safeguard Mechanism \(Crediting\) Amendment Bill](#) and asked the Government to consider amendments around new entrants, unlimited carbon offsets and increased transparency and integrity.*

*I joined other independent crossbenchers in a productive meeting with Climate and Energy Minister Chris Bowen about negotiating improvements to the Safeguard Mechanism, and we will continue to drive this advocacy in coming weeks.*

*I also asked the Prime Minister a question in [Question Time](#) about what the Government is doing to position Australia on the global stage for exports and trade in a decarbonised future.*

### **Integrity in Politics**

*It was great to see my independent colleague Dr Sophie Scamps introduce her "Jobs for Mates" Private Members Bill which requires all government appointments to go through a merit-based selection process. I regularly speak on the need for greater transparency and integrity in legislation so I will be supporting this Bill.*

*Integrity was one of my main concerns when I debated the [National Reconstruction Fund Bill](#), which is a positive step towards a future-facing economy, but creates huge discretion as to how the fund is allocated. I was pleased to support the Greens' amendment that ensured that the National Reconstruction Fund could not be used to directly support fossil fuel or deforestation projects.*

### **Inclusive Communities**

*I spoke on the [Referendum \(Machinery Provisions\) Amendment Bill](#) which will update the relevant legislation ahead of the referendum on the Voice to Parliament at the end of this year. I am supportive of the changes proposed, but would like to see greater funding transparency and a framework to ensure misinformation is addressed.*

*I had some great meetings with organisations including Amnesty International, Parkinson's Australia and the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre. It's so important for me to hear from a wide range of advocates, and I love hearing the stories!*

*I met with Ukraine Ambassador Vasyl Myroshnychenko at a Parliamentary Friends of Ukraine event and had a great chat with author Rick Morton at the Friends of Australian Books event.*

*Lastly, I celebrated International Women's Day with other community independent MPs at the unveiling of two statues outside Old Parliament house of Dame Enid Lyons and Dame Dorothy Tangney (from Nedlands) who were the first female federal parliamentarians 80 years ago.*



## *Events*

### **March Community Catch-Up**

**Date:** *Friday 24 March*

**Time:** *9am - 10am*

**Location:** *Cottesloe Beach (on the grass, south of Indiana)*

*Community catch-ups are my opportunity to hear from you on a broad range of issues.*

*If you know of any Curtin residents who would like to share their views or concerns please encourage them to come along.*

### **Canberra Debrief**

**Date:** *Wednesday 5 April*

**Time:** *5.30pm - 6.30pm*

**Location:** *The Park Floreat (cnr Howtree Place and The Boulevard)*

*I hope you can join me for a debrief of the most recent sitting weeks in Canberra.*

## **Curtin Sustainability Fair**

**Save the Date: Saturday 24 June**

*A day long exhibition of the ideas, products, businesses, advocacy and education that are promoting a broad range of sustainability solutions.*

*As we transition to net zero, we will all need to make changes and this event is designed to give you some tips on how to play your part.*

*Below: At UWA Orientation Week with my cousin helpers, Eliza and Minnie.*



***Volunteers wanted***

*We are kicking off our **Curtin Pathway to Net Zero** project and are seeking volunteers to contribute to four working groups from across the community on each of our four major emissions sources here in Curtin: Energy, Transport, Built Form, and Greening.*

*These groups will work on educating us about opportunities to reduce emissions at the Sustain Curtin Fair and identify project opportunities.*

*We are also seeking expressions of interest to put together a group to explore a home electrification pilot here in Curtin. The scale and scope are still to be determined!*

*If you are interested in contributing to either of these projects, please email [Kate.Chaney.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Kate.Chaney.MP@aph.gov.au)*

## **Refugee Sponsorship Opportunities**

*Around 50 people gathered at Floreat SLSC earlier this week, to hear from Blaise and Shabnam from **Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia (CRSA)** and learn about the new **Community Refugee Integration and Support Pilot (CRISP)** which launched last May.*

*It only takes five people to form a group as the first step in welcoming refugees into your local community. CRSA is hoping that their first WA-based volunteer group will form and take the plunge. If this sounds like you and your friends or community group, then please email my office and we can provide the CRISP information pack.*

*We also heard from Amena, who fled Kabul in those terrifying airport scenes in August 2021 when the Taliban took power. Amena, who worked in finance for Skateistan in Afghanistan, is supported by a group of six people, including Curtin constituents under the CRSA banner. Amena is so brave and I was inspired to hear her story and the impact of those who have helped her. This group is now working on an application to sponsor Amena's sister, who is in grave danger in Afghanistan.*



## 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.*



*Support your independent voice in Parliament*

*Donate to help keep an independent voice in Parliament. Your donation won't buy influence or access but will assist me to continue doing politics differently. You can [donate here](#).*

# Kate Chaney MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR CURTIN



*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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