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From: **Claire McAsh** <claire.mcash@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, 4 Sept 2024 at 04:43

Subject: Re: SHASA questionnaire on Better Business Practices

To: <go.kathryn.maxwell@gmail.com>

Thanks Kathryn for the opportunity to answer these questions and for all your work you do for our community.

1. Climate Risk Assessments

I fully support the inclusion of climate risk assessments in the decision-making process for major investments and infrastructure. Just as financial risks are considered, it is crucial to assess the long-term impacts of climate change to ensure the sustainability and resilience of our projects. This approach will protect both our environment and ratepayers' money. I did the sea level rise mapping for local government which were used for development and disaster management planning.

2. Development Control Plan (DCP) for All-Electric Developments

I am committed to revising the Development Control Plan to mandate all-electric for new developments.

3. Active Transport Plans

Active transport is key to a healthier, more sustainable community. I have been a team member in the mapping and prioritisation of active transport plans for local government which was exciting and satisfying work. I will advocate for a Shire wide comprehensive active transport plan that prioritises the development and maintenance of footpaths, bike paths, and walking routes, ensuring they are well-connected and accessible for everyone.

4. Electric Vehicle Chargers

Installing electric vehicle chargers at public council facilities is a practical step towards reducing emissions and supporting the transition to clean energy. I support this initiative and will work to ensure that our public spaces are equipped to meet the growing demand for EV infrastructure.

5. Development Restrictions in High-Risk Areas

To protect our community from the increasing risks of sea level rise, flooding, and bushfires, I will push for controls on new developments in high-risk areas. Our priority should be the safety and security of our residents and their properties. I am keen to look at the Rural Lands Strategy as it is my understanding that there are recommendations that were ignored by the Council that state authorities made.

6. Resilience of Critical Infrastructure

Relocating critical infrastructure from high-risk areas and improving the resilience of infrastructure that cannot be moved is essential for long-term community safety. I will ensure that our planning reflects these priorities to safeguard our future.

7. Transition to Electric Council Vehicles

Transitioning the council's vehicle fleet, including garbage trucks, to electric is a forward-thinking move that aligns with our sustainability goals. I am committed to this transition and will work towards making it a reality within a reasonable timeframe.

8. Waste Management and FOGO Program

Reducing waste and improving recycling are vital to our environmental and economic health. I support the implementation of a Food and Garden Organics waste program (FOGO) ahead of the 2030 mandate and investigating if our council recycling facilities can be upgraded to better serve our community. One of the issues with FOGO having spoken to both Bega and Eurobodalla waste contractors is the volume, even of both Shires, is not substantial enough to support a facility. The concern here is that FOGO waste would not have a local location to be composted so then need to be freighted to Sydney and then on to a large facility. I am very keen to work with Bega's National Centre for Circularity to see if Eurobodalla's waste could be included in their program and local processes. But I would love to investigate the volumes generated locally and the feasibility of having our own composting facility.

Cheers,

Claire

On 2/09/2024 6:03:54 PM, Kathryn Maxwell <go.kathryn.maxwell@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Mayoral candidates

Can you please provide answers to the following 8 questions by COB Thursday 5 September. SHASA will then prepare a media release summarising your responses.

Better Business Practices for Eurobodalla Shire Council

Implementing sustainable business practices by Councils saves money for ratepayers. Our Council has been basically treading water in this area for the last four years and we have missed out on significant savings. We call on all candidates to commit to the following policies.

1. Include climate risk assessments (much like financial risk assessments) in the decision-making process of major investment and infrastructure decisions.
2. Follow the footsteps of Waverly Council, Lane Cove Council, City of Newcastle, City of Parramatta and more to alter your Development Control Plan (DCP) to require new developments (homes and businesses) to be all-electric with no gas across the Shire and no wood fired heating in urban areas.[4]
3. Encourage active transport by developing active transport plans including building and maintaining more and higher quality footpaths, bike paths, bike routes, walking routes, signage and connectivity.
4. Install electric vehicle chargers at public council facilities eg. libraries, swimming pools
5. Stop any new developments in high-risk areas affected by sea level rise, flood risk, or bushfire risk.
6. Plan to move critical infrastructure out of high-risk areas and improve resilience for infrastructure that can't be moved.
7. Transition all council vehicles, including garbage trucks, to electric.

8. Reduce long term Waste Management costs by:

- implementing a Food and Garden Organics waste program (FOGO) to reduce landfill and methane before it becomes mandatory in 2030;
- upgrading Council recycling shops at all locations so each one caters for the full range of customer's needs, including building materials; and
- supporting the above initiatives with an ongoing program of ratepayer consultation and education.

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Cheers

Kathryn Maxwell

President

SHASA

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