



**Inner West Council  
Balmain Ward**

**CLIMATE CHANGE AND YOUR COUNCIL**

*We asked candidates how they see the role of council in recognising and responding to climate change. How should council minimise its own greenhouse gas emissions? Is it council's role to help residents and businesses reduce their own carbon footprint?*

**Darcy Byrne**

**A - Labor**

1. Leading the Inner West Council to be the most divested from fossil fuels of any council in NSW by achieving **70 per cent divestment in 2018** and 100 per cent divestment in the future.
2. Making Inner West Council **100 per cent carbon neutral by 2023** and systematically retrofitting all council premises with solar photovoltaic panels.
3. Opening a new **Office of Renewable Energy Innovation (REI)** to unleash the potential for solar and renewables on local apartment blocks and businesses and other community solar projects.
4. Committing to Council becoming **waste free by 2030** as well as immediately expanding food waste recycling and acting to make our community **plastic bag, bottle, and disposable coffee cup free**.
5. **Making the Iron Cove Catchment of the Parramatta River swimmable**, increasing support for the Cooks River Alliance and installing gross pollutant traps on all stormwater drains in the local government area.

Website:- [www.innerwestlabor.org.au](http://www.innerwestlabor.org.au)

**John Stamolis**

**B - Independent**

I will continue to actively support programs which address and respond to climate change and ensure that this is a priority focus for the Inner West Council through its Community Strategic Plan.

Strong and collaborative forums such as SSROC and Council's Environment Strategic Reference Group should be well resourced to allow experts, residents and businesses to develop strong environmental policy outcomes for our community.

I feel that Council's management plan and programs are effective in terms of energy efficiency, recycling, tree planting, biodiversity and encouragement of public transport use, walking and cycling.

I was on the committee which delivered the annual Footprints Festival. This event promotes environmental awareness and education and demonstrates how such policies can be easily implemented in our daily lives.



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**Stephen Meates      C - Liberal**

The NSW Coalition Government has committed to the aspirational goal of making our state carbon neutral by 2050, through investment in renewable energy efficiency.

The Inner West Liberal Team proposes to work with the NSW Government to implement local policies that align with NSW-wide initiatives, ensuring that the Inner West residents will gain maximum benefit from the actions of the state government.

**Rochelle Porteous      D - Greens**

**The Greens' transition to a 100% Renewable Energy Future for the Inner West includes:**

- Enable everyone who wants it, including tenants, to have rooftop solar on their homes
- Introduce interest free loans for solar panel purchase and installation
- Utilise Council's purchasing power to negotiate bulk low prices and permit the sale of solar panel kits to local residents at cost
- Provide council assistance and waive planning fees to enable solar panel installations on large or difficult sites
- Make the Inner West Council carbon neutral by 2020
- Develop community-owned renewable energy projects such as urban solar farms, photovoltaic systems for car parks, shopping centres, etc
- Install electric car and bicycle charging stations
- Building climate-smart infrastructure and open spaces
- Ensuring IWC joins the Cities Power Partnership

Website: [greensoncouncil.org.au/inner-west-renewables](http://greensoncouncil.org.au/inner-west-renewables)