Q1
Candidate Name
Daniel Taylor

Q2
Contesting Which Moreland Ward?
North West Ward

Q3
Are you a candidate for a political party? Which Party? Or are you standing as an Independent candidate?
Victorian Socialists

Q4
If you are receiving campaign funding for this election, who are you receiving funding from? (list all or state ‘None’)
I’m receiving funding from the Victorian Socialists, as well as from donations from residents and supporters. I am not taking any donations from property developers or other harmful industries.

Q5
Connections to Moreland Wards. I am a resident in:
South Ward

Q6
What are your other connections to Moreland wards
I am a community advocate in South Ward, North East Ward, North West Ward
Other (please specify) If you have other connections to Moreland, please state the ward(s) and the connection(s) briefly in 100 characters.
I’ve participated in and promoted progressive demonstrations in Moreland.
Q7
Triple bottom line accounting brings to account three domains that we need for a good life. They are economic, environmental and social which includes health. Do you commit as a Councillor for Council to use triple bottom line accounting on all Council infrastructure projects and will you try to ensure that climate emergency is embedded in every Manager’s performance plan?

(no label) Agree Strongly

Q8
Transport: Upfield Rail Upgrade - Problems with parking and traffic congestion, capacity issues of public transport (once the pandemic passes) necessitate solutions for upgrading the Upfield Line. According to Infrastructure Australia, the northern region Transport Corridor will reach and exceed capacity in the next decade. Will you support duplication and extension of the Upfield rail line to Craigieburn and Wallan for provision of a more reliable and frequent rail service catering for the growing population in Moreland and residents in new growth suburbs further north?

(no label) Strongly Agree

Q9
Transport: Tram Network Extension: As a Councillor will you support ongoing advocacy for the Victorian State Government to extend the No 58 West Coburg Tram along Derby street in Pascoe Vale, and No 19 North Coburg tram routes further north along Sydney Road to Campbellfield?

(no label) Strongly Agree

Q10
Transport: Mode shift - What actions will you be pushing for to facilitate a mode shift to more sustainable modes of transport in Moreland as part of, or beyond, Moreland Integrated Transport Strategy (MITS), including changes to parking restrictions, increasing public transport advocacy, cycling and walking infrastructure?

We must campaign for the extension of both the 19 and 58 tram lines, as well as the duplication and extension of the Upfield line to increase transport options for people who live north of Bell St, where public transport options are limited.

Council should also campaign for increased, more reliable, bus services. In some parts of the NW ward, such as Gowenbrae, there are no busses after 7pm on a weeknight, and none at all on Sunday. Free, fast, and reliable public transport is what we need. Improving cycling infrastructure is also crucial - I’m concerned that some proposed developments, such as the Bunnings development in South Ward, will disrupt existing bike paths and routes, making cycling less safe in the area.

There should be extensive community consultation before any changes are made to parking restrictions.

Q11
Heat Vulnerability: Large sections of Moreland's north are at the extreme end of the Heat Vulnerability Index, meaning residents are very susceptible to global warming. What will you do to address this beyond existing policies, including Moreland Urban Heat Island Effect Action Plan (Word Doc 48MB), Moreland Urban Forest Strategy 2017-2017 (PDF 9MB), Cooling the Upfield Corridor Action Plan?

Land surface temperatures of over 52 degrees have been reoccorded in Moreland, making addressing heat vulnerability a crucial task on a burning planet. Given limited vegetation is a key contributor, Council should rapidly increase vegetation projects, including mature aged trees which can have an immediate impact.

Council should reduce the felling of mature trees in the area. The loss of mature trees in Gandolfo Gardens, and other spots along the Upfield line, was a terrible outcome for urban cooling and biodiversity in Moreland.
Q12

Waste Management. Moreland aims to be a leading council in sustainable waste management, yet its rate of diverting waste to organics and recycling sits just above the state average. What will you do to help Moreland in the rollout of the Food and Garden Organics Collection Service, and achieve Moreland's 2030 zero waste to landfill target as part of Zero Carbon in the Planning Scheme – ESD Policy v2.0?

The food and organics waste collection service should not be an opt-in service. Bins should be provided to all residents without question to encourage ease of use.

Council can increase use of hydrogen waste collection vehicles as well can assist in reducing emissions.

Q13

Energy Efficiency and Renewables. Moreland has a goal of “Efficient and 100% renewably powered energy”. Yet Moreland has one of Victoria’s lowest uptake of solar PV. How can Moreland “walk the talk” on renewable energy and meet the community goals set in the Zero Carbon Moreland – Climate Emergency Action Plan 2020/21 – 2024/25?

Over 30% of Moreland residents are renters, this is undoubtedly a barrier to installing solar PV. Landlords and developers are keen to spend as little as possible on rental properties, maximising their profits.

Council should continue to support social and low income housing residents to access solar PV, including advocating on behalf of renters where necessary.

Council owned and operated facilities should continue to be upgraded to be as energy efficient as possible.

Q14

Pollution and litter: How will you educate and incentivise business in industrial zones (especially in the North East Ward) to avoid pollution and litter from entering our drains and our creek systems?

Businesses who dump and pollute need to face real punishment. It is not enough for businesses, particularly repeat offenders, to simply be warned against dumping. Toxic fires, like those we've seen this year in Campbellfield, also add to industrial pollution in our creeks.

Council must advocate for harsher penalties for businesses who pollute and dump in our waterways.

Q15

Supporting business and the environment as part of Covid RecoveryWhat actions will you take to help Council promote environmentally sustainable jobs as part of a Covid recovery such as by possible development of large abandoned sites for a sustainability hub (such as former Kangan TAFE automotive campus)? How else will you advocate for supporting small business Covid recovery that includes environmental co-benefits?

Abandoned sites should be used for initiatives such as a sustainability hub. Council should also advocate for the creation of a recycling plant in Moreland, providing jobs in the area - something desperately needed in this period of crisis.

Q16

Food SecurityHow would you address food security in Moreland beyond the existing Moreland Food System Strategy? (including as a part of the clean Covid recovery)?

I support the establishment of a community food hub in the north of Moreland, and support more council initiatives to provide food to residents going without.
Q17
Food Security. The IPCC Special Report on Land and Climate Change Summary for Policy makers (2020) articulates major emissions reduction can be achieved from adopting a primarily plant based diet (B6.2). Will you advocate for public health policies that promote proper nutrition and dietary change by Moreland residents as per the IPCC (C2.4)?

Q18
Buildings, Biodiversity and Urban cooling: What would you do as a Councillor to ensure that with new building developments, Moreland has sufficient vegetation cover to contribute to biodiversity outcomes and urban cooling beyond existing policies in the Urban Forest Strategy, Moreland Nature Plan, and the Achieving Zero Carbon in the Planning Scheme – ESD Policy v2.0 project?

New building developments should be required through the planning scheme to include sufficient green spaces, including mature trees to assist urban cooling. Developments that do include these spaces should not be approved by council. Climate change is a significant threat to biodiversity. Council planning for green spaces should take into account biodiversity needs. Council should also provide funding and support to community groups engaged in crucial biodiversity conservation projects in the area.

Q19
Cement Emissions. Use of Portland Cement contributes to 8% of global emissions. Alternative low emissions/zero emission cement products are available at reasonably competitive rates. Will you commit to amending Moreland Council Procurement policy sustainability filter to purchase low carbon/zero emissions cement/concrete products?

Strongly Agree

Q20
Climate Citizen Assemblies: Under the new Local Government Act 2020 (community engagement policy), all councils in Victoria are required to use deliberative practices for the development of their Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan and Asset Plan, at the bare minimum. The gold standard of this kind of democratic, deliberative practice is a Citizens’ Assembly. So, will you support such a democratic framework for Council’s climate emergency response by establishing a Citizens’ Assembly?

Strongly Agree

Q21
What are your top four priorities for the Council Plan to be formulated for 2021-2025.

Priority 1
Stopping inappropriate development

Priority 2
Divesting Council from fossil fuels

Priority 3
Standing against discrimination such as racism

Priority 4
Retaining council run services and reversing privitisation
Q22

Do you have any other comments on Council Climate Leadership and Advocacy (include any actions you have taken on this)? Do you have any supplementary comments relating to the questions above, comments on other issues related to climate change not covered, or comments on climate change generally?

Protecting green spaces, biodiversity, making Moreland act like we are in a climate emergency, means having first rate instead of compromised policies. This means taking on big polluting companies, the state government, and property developers—all at once.

One of the worst things that can happen is when residents start to think that talking about climate is just code for gentrification, which it doesn’t have to be – in fact Moreland can have community-first development and protection of green spaces at once.

I know a lot of locals now think that all that environment talk is just code for handing power to property developers. But if we take them on, and take on the state government, we can have – protected green spaces in working class areas, high quality energy efficient public housing with green community spaces built in, a more affordable community AND leading environmental outcomes.