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COMPLETE

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Page 1: 2020 Moreland Council Candidate climate survey

**Q1**

Candidate Name

Shanaka Perera

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**Q2**

**North West Ward**

Contesting Which Moreland Ward?

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**Q3**

**Independent**

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

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**Q4**

If you are receiving campaign funding for this election, who are you receiving funding from? (list all or state 'None')

None

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**Q5**

**North West Ward**

Connections to Moreland Wards. I am a resident in:

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**Q6**

What are your other connections to Moreland wards

I am a community advocate in

**North West Ward**

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**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 with reservations**

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### 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**

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### 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)

**Undecided**

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### 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?

I don't agree with the MITS as it currently stands but I would want an integrated transport strategy to embrace technological trends as it pertains to all modes of transport, including cars, such as infrastructure to support 24 hour driverless cars, trams, buses, etc in an integrated, technology-driven framework. This is where I see the future of transport heading and much of the technology already exists but needs supporting infrastructure to work (e.g. driverless, battery powered cars).

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### 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?

I want to advocate for Council supporting/subsidising or facilitating double glazed windows for houses. Similarly, I want a program where people can add the cost of solar to their rates notice through an interest free period so people do not have to pay up-front, but have a schedule of payments. If the house is sold, the new owner would take on any remaining payments. I also feel that people will take more ownership of the environment if they are allowed to plant their own trees and plants on the nature strip, including exotic trees like Jacarandas.

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### 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?

I think all Councils should band together and fund a state-of-the-art waste/recycling sorting centre that uses robots and artificial intelligence to sort through contaminated rubbish. The technology already exists and can achieve faster and more accurate sorting of waste to a point where people could just use one bin for all their waste and it can be sorted properly by machine.

<https://www.greenbiz.com/article/how-artificial-intelligence-helps-recycling-become-more-circular>

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### 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?

Attach the cost of solar to the rates notice so people do not have to pay upfront costs. Darebin Council achieved this through their Solar Saver program so there is precedence.

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### 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?

I'm not sure, although helping businesses take pride in the environment they operate in can be through education such as showing pictures/video from heavily polluted countries and reminding them of their corporate responsibility.

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### 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?

My platform for Council requires there to be a clear and transparent cost/benefit analysis so that every dollar of public funds invested in an initiative or action has a clear return on investment. I would only support proposed actions that actually do provide a positive return.

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### 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 would like to see Council create and sustain networks within food supply chain networks to redistribute surplus food as needed. Australia has enough food to feed itself and export food around the world but the main bottleneck is waste, 'ugly' fruit and vegetables and other irrational behaviours that leads to a lot of good food being wasted when it could be redistributed. One thing that Council does not address is that food insecurity is compounded by pride/shame; many vulnerable communities feel ashamed to receive what they perceive as handouts. There needs to be a better way of providing food relief without the shame many people have to be suffering poverty to a point where they do not have secure access to food.

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### Q17

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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)?

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### 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?

Request a comprehensive landscaping/vegetation plan and require a much larger deposit to be held so that developers can't suddenly go bankrupt and not finish off landscaping works like they did in Duranta Drive in Gowanbrae. Council should also verify each development to see that stated works were actually completed instead of relying on third party private surveyors.

### 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?

(no label)

**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?

(no label)

**Undecided**

### Q21

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

Priority 1

**Lowering of rates in response to the recession**

Priority 2

**Fast-tracking of infrastructure projects to stimulate the local economy**

Priority 3

**Continuation of council-provided aged care**

Priority 4

**Fair and inclusive traffic enforcement**

### 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?

I don't think we embrace technological trends as much as we should. Innovation to reduce carbon emissions through technology have to be integrated into master plans, structure plans and other council strategies.