

Candidate Statement for the 2020 ACT Election

The Candidate Statement is to give voters information to guide their selection of candidates based on the candidate's ability to be an MLA and their commitment to strengthen the democratic fabric of the ACT.

My name is **DAVID POLLARD** and I am a candidate for the ACT Legislative Assembly in the electorate of **Yerrabi**.
I am endorsed to represent the "David Pollard Independent" party

These are my skills and experience for being an MLA.

I work in my family software development business performing a range of duties, including software development, project management, contract negotiation and management, operations management, communications, and client relationships. I have a Bachelor of Engineering (Software Engineering) from University of Canberra.

I practice Asset Based Community Development with the Crace Community Association (President), Gungahlin Community Council (Treasurer) and my school P&C (President).

I have represented Gungahlin in democratic processes such as the Better Suburbs participatory budgeting forum. I contribute to submissions on government consultations, and development applications.

Born and bred here, I have strong ties and networks in communities around Canberra.

Further, I have these skills and experiences that qualifies me for a role in the ministry.

I commit to remaining Independent from the ministry. I believe an Independent should remain on the crossbench and vote on each issue on the merits. An Independent brings scrutiny and improves both sides of politics, but they cannot do that when compromised by a cabinet agreement.

If elected, this is how I plan to represent my constituents.

A thriving Canberra is good for everyone, but my priority above all else is the people of Yerrabi. I intend to focus on local issues, people, business, entertainment, environment, education, sport, health, and safety.

I will set the gold standard for what an Independent Crossbench can achieve for their electorate so that in 2024, every electorate wants to elect their own Independent.

I will have a local presence like an electoral office, where I will be available to all constituents.

I will continue to work with and promote the Community Councils as a conduit for community voice.

If elected, I will undertake these measures to promote good government and strengthen the responsiveness, accountability and transparency of government in the ACT.

- Prevent politicians from censoring reasonable debate on official channels, especially social media.
- Strengthen the Integrity Commission with resourcing and legislation.
- In my campaign I have implemented a "service desk" style ticketing system, which tracks correspondence and highlights responsiveness. I intend to use the same system as an MLA and will lobby to implement it at the Legislative Assembly for all MLAs.
- Improve and support constructive legislation from both the government and opposition of the day, to motivate the opposition to contribute to good government.

If elected, I will undertake these measures to promote and improve informed participation by my constituents in ACT policy development and decision making.

- I will establish public working groups. Interested constituents will have an opportunity to directly develop policy to be presented as private members bills.
- I will vote against issues that have had inadequate, insincere, or deceptive community consultation.
- I will attend and offer an Assembly update at Community Council meetings.

Statement of Democratic Commitment

1. I will strictly abide by the ACT Legislative Assembly Standing Orders Code of Conduct for MLAs.
2. I will fully disclose and make public the sources and value of all political funding donations, contributions, gifts public and private towards my election campaign and political activity, within one month of receipt.
3. I will place the public interest (the welfare and wellbeing of the general population and the integrity of the planet) ahead of sectional, corporate, personal, religious or other interests.

Signed



Date

28/07/2020

Authorised by Peter Tait, Secretary, Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy.