

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 **Tara Cheyne** and I am a candidate for the ACT Legislative Assembly in the electorate of **Ginninderra**.

I am endorsed to represent the ALP.

These are my skills and experience for being an MLA. *(No more than 100 words in 10pt Arial font)*

Before being elected, I was a Director in the APS but my passion was working with the Belconnen community. I served across a range of community roles, including on the Belconnen Community Council and Belconnen Arts Centre Board, as well as authoring a blog which promoted Canberra and Belconnen. As an MLA, I've helped thousands of residents, held hundreds of mobile offices, delivered on election commitments, and been an open, regular communicator. I've served on 13 committees (deputy chair of six and chair of two). Despite being a backbencher, I introduced legislation which passed with tripartisan support.

Further, I have these skills and experiences that qualifies me for a role in the ministry. *(No more than 50 words in 10pt Arial font)*

To best get results for my constituents, I've dedicated my first term to voraciously learning the *how* and *why* of Government – whether it's through an extensive committee inquiry or by joining a ranger out in the field. I've led large, diverse teams, have an MBA, and work hard.

If elected, this is how I plan to represent my constituents. *(No more than 100 words in 10pt Arial font)*

As an MLA, I've prided myself on being available and accessible – and I will continue that. In addition to the multiple channels where constituents can reach me (email, social media, phoning and meetings), I proactively reach out to constituents, such as through regular mobile offices, volunteering at many fetes and community events and meetings, running numerous petitions, and engaging (not just broadcasting) through social media. In this way, I can best understand what's important, effectively pursue outcomes, and get results on the things that matter.

If elected, I will undertake these measures to promote good government and strengthen the responsiveness, accountability and transparency of government in the ACT. *(Up to 100 words, dot points, in 10pt Arial font)*

- Encourage and work to have as much information as possible available, accessible and easy to find across different media
- Provide regular updates or reports on implementation of policies, programs and election commitments
- Explain the how and why of parliamentary and Government processes and decisions
- Respond in a timely and candid way to constituent concerns or queries

If elected, I will undertake these measures to promote and improve informed participation by my constituents in ACT policy development and decision making. *(Up to 50 words, dot points, in 10pt Arial font)*

- Proactively share information and work to make information easier to find
- Respond candidly to questions or concerns
- Highlight, promote and encourage participation in parliamentary or Government inquiries or consultations, and, where possible, work to make it easier and simpler to participate
- Support deliberative democracy processes where appropriate

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.

CAPaD - *Awakening Democracy*

The Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy

www.canberra-alliance.org.au



Signed

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Date 9 September 2020

Please send a pdf copy of your statement to secretary@canberra-alliance.org.au for placement on the CAPaD website.

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