

2021 Election: City of Sydney Council

Lord Mayoral candidate key position statements

	Candidate's name & party: Linda Scott, Labor Party
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Snapshot of your key platforms (maximum 220 words)

Linda Scott and Labor are committed to accelerating action on climate change, delivering a bold jobs plan to drive a locally-led recovery from COVID and delivering more green space and community services.

Under Labor, the City of Sydney will see an increase in our capital works program to support local jobs, reach net zero by 2030, 5 years early and see permanent City staff return to our community centres.

Labor is committed to protecting heritage across our City, but especially in our important heritage conservation areas, including Glebe.

As only Councillor to vote against the outsourcing of waste collection, Linda and Labor are committed to undertake a review with a view to reducing outsourcing of council services to improve the quality. Linda Scott and Labor will introduce for FOGO and better waste collection services for our City of Sydney residents.

Labor will work with State and Federal governments to secure the creation of at least one further suite of homes to support City residents currently sleeping rough into safe and affordable housing, such as a new Common Ground dwelling, and take strong action to create more affordable housing.

Linda Scott and Labor are committed to working for Sydney's future, not our past.

Focus	Candidate's Response (please write you response to the questions below)
Community	<p>Q1 GLEBE/FOREST LODGE COMMUNITY CENTRE</p> <p><i>What are your plans to provide us with a genuine centre for community activities?</i></p> <p>City of Sydney Labor will restore City staff to our community centres, ensuring community facilities such as Glebe Town Hall are open, available to the community and offering social support tailored to Glebe. City staff are the glue that binds our communities together, and will help to rebuild our local community knowledge base and expand community activities such as playgroups, allied health services, arts and craft classes, choirs, and community groups.</p>

	<p>GLEBE COMMUNITY STRATEGY & FUNDING</p> <p>Q2 Do you support Council reviewing the Community Strategy?</p> <p>Having a well resourced, strong and effective Community Strategy is vital for the future of our City, and if elected Linda and Sydney Labor are committed to undertaking a review of the Community Strategy with a view to implementing changes to ensure more support for all corners of our community.</p> <p>In particular, providing ongoing funding security for essential community services, such as the Glebe Youth Service, will be a priority for Sydney Labor.</p> <p>Q3 Do you support a review of the current CoS grant model to fund targeted community organisations?</p> <p>Yes. At the October meeting of Council I moved a motion calling for long term funding for essential social services to be provided as a stand alone grant category. The services provided by community organisations such as the Glebe Youth Service are essential and should be funded as such.</p>
<p>Environment</p>	<p>BLACKWATTLE BAY OVERDEVELOPMENT</p> <p>Q4 Are you for or against the State Government's current plans for Blackwattle Bay development?</p> <p>Linda Scott has advocated strongly against the State Government's current plans for Blackwattle Bay and the Sydney Fish Markets, and has collected hundreds of signatures on her petition with Inner West Mayor Darcy Byrne. Linda and Labor believe that, although the Fish Markets need a face lift, the current plan would privatise the foreshore and see the CBD creep into our beautiful residential suburbs.</p> <p>Q5 If you are against the overdevelopment are you committed to actively oppose and change it?</p> <p>Linda Scott has started a petition of concerned local residents and speaking openly about her objections to the plan. If elected Lord Mayor, Linda will continue her strong opposition to this overdevelopment and fight to protect the important heritage conservation areas in our Glebe, Ultimo, Pymont and Forest Lodge communities, and seek Council's work to create an alternative vision.</p>
	<p>Q6 WENTWORTH PARK</p> <p>6.1 Is this an important issue for you?</p> <p>Linda Scott and Labor strongly believes the City of Sydney should be the consent authority for Wentworth Park, and would strongly advocate to the NSW Government to ensure this is the case for the future. Sydney Labor has the strongest green space targets for the future, and Wentworth Park will be a key component of this.</p> <p>6.2 If you were Lord Mayor, briefly outline how would you reconcile these competing claims for the control of the future direction of Wentworth Park,</p>

	<p>and ensure that the future direction the Park recognises and continues its historical connection to Glebe?</p> <p>Linda Scott and Labor are committed to increasing green space across the City to 50% by 2050. This will include the creation of more parks across the City without removing significant historical sites, such as those at Wentworth Park.</p>
Heritage	<p>PROTECTION OF GLEBE’S URBAN & SOCIAL FABRIC</p>
	<p>Q7 Protection of low rise and broad social demography What are your plans to protect this aspect of Glebe’s urban and social fabric?</p> <p>Linda’s Labor mentors, such as Tom Uren, saved Glebe and Sydney Labor is committed to preserving Glebe’s heritage and low rise streetscapes for the future. We will fight to preserve and defend the heritage conservation areas in every way.</p> <p>As a Councillor and a candidate for Lord Mayor, Linda is also committed to supporting the building of more affordable housing in suitable locations outside the conservation areas the City of Sydney to ensure that the people who work in the City of Sydney can also live here. Linda and Labor will continue funding the important work to support social cohesion in Glebe done by organisations such as the Glebe Youth Service. Linda and Labor are committed to maintaining the heritage character of Glebe and protecting it from the creep of the CBD proposed by projects such as the State Governments Blackwattle Bay redevelopment.</p>
	<p>Q8 What is your position on rezoning for high rise in Glebe?</p> <p>Sydney Labor strongly supports the preservation of heritage conservation areas in Glebe, and low rise streetscapes.</p>
	<p>Q9 Will you work for retention of Glebe’s heritage conservation areas? Yes, as Linda Scott has done for 9 years as a Councillor. Linda has ensured residents have met with relevant State Government ministers to advocate for this for the future, when needed.</p>
	<p>Q10 If elected will you oppose the demolition and rezoning of the Franklyn Street estate?</p> <p>As this may be the subject of a future site specific planning control, it is not possible for Sydney Labor to comment as this may lead to a breach of our future duties.</p> <p>Linda and Labor are committed to working with the Franklyn Street residents, and the Glebe Society, to ensure the City policies best reflect the need for high quality public housing on this site in future. Linda will also seek to restore City staff to the Robyn Kemmis community centre, ensuring public housing residents have access to social services and support.</p>
	<p>Q11. Development Control Plan Improvements How can these be improved (top 1- 3 actions)?</p> <p>In large part, the City’s heritage is being degraded as a result of poor State Government controls and enforcement. In the forthcoming review of the Heritage Act, Sydney Labor would ensure we work alongside Glebe residents to strengthen heritage protections across the City.</p> <p>Once this is completed, Labor is committed to reviewing the City’s heritage controls with the community to ensure they preserve heritage and meet the needs of our future communities.</p>
	<p>SUPPORT FOR RESIDENTIAL HERITAGE</p>

	<p>Q12 Do you support having a heritage education program to develop and provide resources and guidelines for maintenance, restoration and sensitive development of residential heritage in Glebe/Forest Lodge? Linda Scott and Labor believe that it's important that we educate our communities on the importance of maintaining and restoring beautiful heritage areas including Glebe and Forest Lodge, and strongly enforce heritage controls wherever possible.</p> <p>Q13. How would you engage with the community on developing such a program so it responds to community needs? Linda Scott and Labor believe that all community programs should be developed through strong community consultation especially with local community groups such as the Glebe Society. Labor supports the introduction of wards, and personal community engagements from the Lord Mayor to achieve these outcomes, in addition to the City's engagement.</p>
<p>General</p>	<p>Q14 BRIDGE ROAD CYCLEWAY What is your view on Council's plans for the future of this cycleway and/or alternative proposals? Linda and Labor support cycleways in the City of Sydney as they provide active and sustainable transport options. Sydney needs more safe cycleways for the community, not less.</p> <p>Linda has worked closely with residents of Bridge Road and surrounding areas to increase the safety of the pop up cycleways, and will work with residents and the Glebe Society to ensure permanent cycleways are on the safest and best routes.</p>