Candidate Questionnaire and Answers

Answers to questions contained in lodged candidate questionnaires are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about a candidate's answers should be directed to the relevant candidate. Answers to candidate questionnaires are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.

COUNCIL	Bass Coast Shire Council 2024
WARD (if applicable)	Western Port Ward
CANDIDATE'S NAME (as on ballot paper)	SCHELLEKENS, Nikole

What is your vision for the municipality of the above Council? (maximum 50 words)

My vision for Bass Coast is a thriving, inclusive community that values its natural beauty, supports local businesses and farmers, and promotes sustainable growth. I aim to ensure our unique needs are met through strong services, infrastructure, and thoughtful land management, protecting our region for future generations.

What expertise or attributes do you have which would help you in undertaking the role of Councillor? *Provide details (maximum 50 words)*

With 20 years of experience in mental health, social work and leadership roles in community organisations, and a deep commitment to rural issues, I bring strong problem-solving, communication, strategic planning, and advocacy skills. As a farmer and active community member, I understand the unique challenges and opportunities facing Bass Coast.

Have you read the current Council Plan for the council named above?	Yes
Have you read the current Councillor Code of Conduct for the council named above?	Yes
Are you endorsed by a registered political party? Note: Registered political party has the same meaning as in Part 4 of the Electoral Act 2002. If yes, provide the name of the registered political party.	No
Are you currently a Councillor?	No
If yes, what has been your attendance record at Council meetings during your current term of office?	
Note: Council meetings means Council meetings referred to in section 61 of the Local Government Act 2020 but does not include meetings held for which a Councillor has been granted leave from attending by the Council.	

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What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? Provide details

Nikole Schellekens: nikole.basscoast@gmail.com. PO BOX 61, Bass, VIC, 3991.