## **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                               | Merri-bek City Council 2024 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| WARD (if applicable)                  | Djirri-Djirri Ward          |
| CANDIDATE'S NAME (as on ballot paper) | GEORGE, Smitha              |

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

I want to represent the diverse population of the community, improve local services and businesses, support startups, maximize the value for rate payer money, support appropriate infrastructure & housing development ,ensure community safety and to recommend strengthening of democratic rights of the residents in decision making.

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

I am a social worker by profession and work for an Australian Public service Agency. My work involve lots of engagement with people, liaising with stakeholders to identify their goals and aspirations. I am passionate about supporting and empowering the community making Merri-Bek a safer place to live.

| 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?                                                                                                                            |     |
| <b>Note:</b> 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. |     |
| What are your contact details (so that voters can contact you)? Provide details                                                                                                                                                 |     |

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