

21 AUG 2022

MEDIA RELEASE

Sandy Verschoor announces re-election bid for the “best job in Adelaide”

Sandy Verschoor has officially declared her intention to nominate for re-election in Light Square today, while also announcing a new greening strategy including a city-wide ‘green team’ and on-street electric vehicle charging stations for residents throughout the city – two key commitments she promises to deliver if she’s re-elected as Lord Mayor of Adelaide.

These climate-conscious commitments, along with a \$1 million cultural infrastructure fund and 150 seat theatre in the city centre are the first commitments of her re-election campaign.

When Sandy was first nominated for the role in 2018, she did so with a pledge to make Adelaide a magnet city – attracting people, investment and creativity and encouraging our best and brightest to stay.

Four years on and despite an unprecedented global pandemic and the many challenges that created, Adelaide has come through the other side stronger than ever.

“Our city deserves genuine solutions to serious problems and I can’t wait to start campaigning on my agenda for the next four years,” Sandy said.

“It’s a great privilege to lead a capital city council, along with a great responsibility, and I could think of no greater job and challenge.

“I’m determined to build on the opportunities and address the challenges we now have in a post-pandemic world.”

Sandy believes now is not the time to lose momentum, we must continue forging a path for a reinvigorated city and it’s for this reason and because there is still much more to do that she will this week nominate and seek re-election for “the best job in Adelaide”.

“I couldn’t be more proud of what we have achieved these past few years even when faced with the most trying of circumstances,” Sandy said.

“I have worked tirelessly to bolster our cultural and economic development, to demonstrate real leadership in regards to climate change and to tackle the issue of homelessness.

“In April we announced work had started on a city plan for Adelaide, a strategic spatial vision for our great city that will propel us into the future and I look forward to seeing that delivered.

“The city plan will also map our response to climate change using the latest technology to reduce emissions and use resources wisely.

“During my first term, the City of Adelaide became the state’s first SA council to have all operations powered using 100% renewable electricity, saving costs, halving emissions and creating jobs and we are now an accredited carbon neutral council.

“A new greening strategy will guide the delivery of \$1 million of city greening and the creation of a volunteer community ‘green team’ to work with the city’s horticulture team adding trees and plants throughout the city and parks.”

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Sandy will also pledge to plant a minimum of one tree for every day in office and deliver new green avenues throughout the city.

Sandy, who also chairs Kadaltilla/Park Lands Authority has championed the need for canopy and heat mapping data which clearly shows the need to increase canopy for shade and shelter, particularly in the south west and north west of the city.

"As a community we also need to further reduce emissions if we have any chance at all of reaching the 2050 net zero emissions target," Sandy said.

"If I'm re-elected we will also deliver a minimum of 20 new residential on-street electric vehicle charging stations in our first year making it easy and convenient to own an EV and reduce the need for fossil fuels."

Today's commitments also include a \$1 million cultural infrastructure program to ensure that our city is culturally alive and delivers a year-round program of arts and entertainment.

The first pledge of the program will be \$500,000 to help build a new theatre and artists hub in the city centre.

The hub will feature a 150 seat fully rigged theatre, rehearsal rooms, a courtyard entertainment area, a gallery, artists studios and supporting activities.

"We know the power of arts and culture - it goes to the very heart of a city people want to live, play and work in," Sandy said.

"We've made enormous strides in so many ways and there is still so much to do.

"Now is not the time to gamble on the future of our city. Please make your vote count this November."

Who is Sandy Verschoor?

Sandy is an independent, who is not, and never has been, a member of a political party.

She has a successful and diverse background – as a small business owner, retailer, restaurateur, university lecturer and marketing executive.

She is the third female Lord Mayor in the city's history.

She has been involved in Local Government through the City of Adelaide for the past 12 years; as a program manager, general manager, councillor, Deputy Lord Mayor and Lord Mayor. The only person to do so.

She's previously delivered the most significant cultural events for the state, including the Adelaide Fringe, the Adelaide Festival, Womadelaide, Australian Documentary Conference and the Adelaide Film Festival.

She twice produced the acclaimed Adelaide Festival of Ideas bringing global ideas and innovation to Adelaide including presenting the first public lecture by the Head of the Space Agency Dr Megan Clark.

SANDY VERSCHOOR

FOR LORD MAYOR OF ADELAIDE

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Sandy serves on several boards including the Premier's Climate Change Council, ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability), GCOM (Global Covenant of Mayors), AEDA (Adelaide Economic Development Agency), The Adelaide Festival Centre Trust, Adelaide Festival and is a member of both the Capital City Committee and the national Capital City Council of Lord Mayors.

Sandy is married to artist/designer Gregg Mitchell and has three children.

I live on Kurna country. I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we stand, the Kurna People of the Adelaide Plains and pay my respects to elders past and present.

More policy announcements will follow, see sandyverschoor.com or you can follow Sandy on social media at [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

Written and authorised by S. Verschoor, 40 Gilbert Street, Adelaide 5000

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Bec Marshall

bec@metric.com.au

0409 090 492
