

2023 Election Survey of Key Public Health Issues in NSW – letter to NSW political parties

PHAA is Australia's peak body for public health. Working with our members, wider public health community, and the wider public health community, we lead the public health policy conversation in Australia to advance the health of all people.

PHAA NSW Branch is running the [Vote For Public Health](#) campaign to highlight issues for the 2023 election. The campaign features five focus areas where action is most needed to help improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in New South Wales.

Through the [VoteForPublicHealth site](#), PHAA NSW will publish what we know about the positions, policies and statements of the three major parliamentary parties - **the Liberal-National Coalition, the Labor Party, and the Greens NSW** - on these vital focus areas. Our 2023 election platform, and supporting materials, are already published on this site. Needless to say, we strongly urge all parties to respond positively to support these very important policy and health investment directions.

While we will seek to obtain material from the parties' published policy statements, we nonetheless ask each of the parties to **provide us with an official response**, which we undertake to post to the VoteForPublicHealth site, and which will inform our presentation of information on each party's positions.

We ask each party to send us a response that addresses each one of the five areas for action we have identified. Parties should feel free to highlight to us any other public health policies and initiatives to which they are committed.

To finalise our advice to our community prior to the election on Saturday 25 March, we ask each party to respond to this message by **COB Thursday 9 March**. If responses are received earlier, we will promptly post them to the VoteForPublicHealth site.

During the election campaign period, we will provide our audience with a simplified 'scorecard' of the policies of the three major parliamentary parties, with ratings of *green* for a comprehensive response for action on each focus area, *orange* for a partial response, and *red* for a lack of commitment or silence on each action area.

PHAA does not intend to offer analysis, opinion or commentary on each party's positions – we aim merely to present them to the public. Where appropriate, our scorecard may include explanatory information so that our readers get a clear picture of each party's positions.

To promote awareness and debate on these crucial public health issues, during the election campaign we will take other opportunities to comment on the public health positions of the major parliamentary parties, as well as other parties, candidates, and voices.

Thank you for your attention.

Associate Professor Kate McBride, PHAA NSW Branch President

RESPONSES ARE REQUESTED BY C.O.B THURSDAY 9 MARCH : policy@phaa.net.au