

February 2025 Newsletter



Hello!

As summer comes to an end, I'm feeling energised and ready for the challenges ahead.

After two weeks in Canberra in early February, I'm now back on Perth time and focused on the next few months.

Canberra felt like the last weeks of the school term, with a lot of noise and wedging that seemed far more focused on an election than actually dealing with the major challenges we're facing.

Alarmingly, we also saw the major parties getting together to rush an 'electoral reform' stitch-up through the Senate, to lock in their future public funding and reduce future political competition. Needless to say, this is not good for our democracy.

Now, back in Curtin, this week I am launching my Housing Policy, which you can download [here](#). Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this – I'm determined to still be highlighting solutions, even when the focus is more on politics than policy.

With the State election at the end of next week, there's plenty of politics in the air. We still don't know the exact date of the Federal election (bring on fixed 4 year terms!) but we launched our campaign office in Subiaco this week in anticipation.

We have started seeing the panicky attack lines about how the world will end if we have a balanced parliament. There will be lots more of these – both parties are hoping they can use fear to kill the hope that we can actually do better than the status quo.

Our energetic volunteer team is mobilised and out in the community, doorknocking, listening to people's concerns and making sure that voters understand what is at stake at this election...

Neither party is serious about tackling the significant long-term issues we face – as well as housing affordability, there's climate action, tax reform, intergenerational inequity and productivity. We're seeing nothing better than sugar hits for the rising cost of living which is so top of mind at the moment.

It seems that the only way we will be able to drag either party to better long-term thinking is by forcing them to work with the sensible centre in a balanced Parliament.

If you want to see what happens when one side of politics holds all the levers with no checks and balances, look to the US.

We have a different option available here in Australia – a crossbench focused on improving the laws and focusing on the long term, no matter who is in government. This feels so hopeful in a world that is looking pretty grim.

Thank you for all the ways you have contributed to doing politics differently – by sharing your views and values by email, attending our events, volunteering your time or sharing your optimism about the independent movement.

Your engagement, in whatever form, will be more important than ever after the State election when the Federal election campaign heats up. It still feels worth doing!

Warm regards,
Kate

Curtin Housing Policy



After a number of community events, hundreds of emails, expert input and an extensive survey, I am pleased to launch my housing policy, which is now available for download.

This sets out 15 policy ideas that we should be pursuing – none is a silver bullet – but we need to start now.

We need to put politics aside and get cracking on the policies that will make housing more affordable and fairer, so that everyone can reasonably expect stable and secure housing.

[Download the report](#)

Gas and fear tactics

You might have seen some wild headlines in the last few days suggesting I'm out to shut down WA's economy and hold the country to ransom. I'm not! We need gas as part of the energy transition but I'm deeply concerned about locking in fossil fuel expansion for another 50 years. If I find myself discussing minority government, I will not use a single project, industry or issue as a bargaining chip. That's just fear-mongering.

If we had a system that fully costed carbon, with robust offsets, then some gas projects might still stack up economically, as long as they can meet

environmental and cultural requirements as well. Sadly, our system doesn't do this now. I'm not here to shut things down overnight - I want a smart, managed transition that keeps WA strong and prosperous in the long term. I'll keep advocating for this!

[Listen to my 7:30 Report](#)

Canberra



The photo above is The House during the Electoral Reform division - you can see how the major parties voted....

While there is the possibility we could be returning to Canberra for the Budget next month, the last fortnight felt like it may be the last for this term.

The most disappointing part of the sitting was witnessing the Government and the Opposition team up to ram through amendments to the Electoral Legislation which will give more taxpayer money to the major parties and lock out new independent candidates from being elected. The major parties are threatened by the possibility of a more balanced and representative Parliament, and instead of appealing to voters through policy and leadership, they are changing the rules to sure up their dominance.

Over the fortnight I met with the PM, the Opposition Leader, the Treasurer and a bunch of other Ministers as well as having great chats with inspirational

young women in new media, Clontarf alumni and some great economists and integrity academics, to discuss priority reforms in the next term.

In Parliament I spoke on the scams framework legislation, early childhood education and care legislation, the benefit of production tax credits for WA and on how we need more transparent processes for government spending on infrastructure. I was also happy to support ACOSS on its call to raise the rate of Jobseeker to above the poverty line.

Campaign Office



368 Hay Street, Subiaco

Coming to you live from Hay St ... it's the Team Chaney campaign office!

Opening from Tuesday the 4th of March, please come say hi! You can sign up to volunteer or come and grab a t-shirt, hat or bumper sticker!

Get your corflutes!



Lewis Payton (constituent and photographer) took such a good photo for the corflute!

One of the most impactful ways you can show your support for my campaign is by displaying a yard sign (or as we like to call them, corflutes!) at your home or business in Curtin. It's a simple yet powerful gesture that helps spread the word and shows your commitment to the community. Every sign makes a difference, showing Curtin voters that we want to remain independent.

Team Chaney will deliver and install!

To make things really easy for you, our dedicated corflute team will deliver a corflute to you and install it in the best spot at your home so you don't have to mess about with stakes or cable ties.

If you have a specific spot you want the sign to be, or if there is anything to be aware of, you can add any installation notes for the team when signing up.

Recycling your corflute!

The corflute is made of partially recycled material. We will collect (or you can deliver) corflutes at the end of the campaign. The collected corflutes will be dropped to Claw Environmental for recycling. Further information can be found here:

[Sign up for your corflute](#)

Ruhi's 18th!



O-Day!

It's been a while since I've been invited to a 18th and I loved talking to Ruhi and her friends about all the fun stuff ahead, including voting!



I love UWA O-Day – it seems to get bigger every year. I met so many young people passionate about politics and had far too many teal slushies. UWA holds so many happy memories for me - Uni Camp For Kids, Leisure, UDS and more... and it's where I met my husband :).

Fossil Fuelled Insurance Premiums



I was delighted to join a panel hosted by The Australia Institute to discuss how climate change is affecting the way we insure our houses. I was joined by Karl Mallon from Climate Valuation who told us that within the next decade, one in ten properties in Australia are expected to be uninsurable. It was a fascinating conversation; made even more important given the recent LA bushfires and the repercussions this tragic event has had on global insurance premiums.

[Watch the recording](#)

Small Businesses around Curtin



Small businesses truly are the backbone of our economy, and I'm getting good feedback about our new small business support brochure, outlining some useful supports that may be available to different businesses in our community.

Over the past few weeks, I've visited local spots in Scarborough, Doubleview and Subiaco to talk to owners and staff, hearing more about the challenges they face in their businesses at the moment. This informs my advocacy for better policy and practical supports.

[Small Business Brochure](#)

Rotto Swim



Upcoming Events



Mt Claremont Farmers Market

Date: Saturday 1 March

Time: 7:30 - 8:30am

Please pop past and say hi, and if you have any concerns or issues, let me know!

INNALOO Community Catchup 1

Date: Saturday 1 March

Time: 9-10am

Location: Yuluma Park, Birdwood Street (right next to the playground).

INNALOO Community Catchup 2

I'm so proud of the way our community turns it on for the Rotto Swim each year, and I was delighted to be down on Cottesloe Beach sending the

swimmers off on their long journey. I was a paddler when my husband did

the swim, many years ago, and while it was tough, it felt like a real

achievement for the swimmers and the support crew.

Date: Saturday 1 March

Time: 10:15am - 11:00am

Location: La Grange Dongara Reserve

Community Catchup

Thanks to the organisers for pulling together another successful event (and for letting me loose with the hooter!) and a huge congratulations to the

swimmers, paddlers and supporters who made it to Rottnest.

Date: Sunday 23 March

Time: 9 - 10 am

Location: The Grass by Ward Central Dining - Victoria House, 4 Thorburn

Way, Sheraton Park

Youth Advisory Social Media

Don't forget to follow me on social media. It's the best way to keep up-to-date

This week I met with my 2025 Youth Advisory Group for their second

meeting. We talked about the tools they can use to contribute to meaningful



Instagram

Facebook

TikTok

Bluesky

Contact Us

the momentum we need to keep Curtin's voice strong in Parliament. Your support is ensuring our community is heard where it matters most.

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Under the recently passed Electoral Reform Act, after this election, major parties will be able to outspend Independents in seats like Curtin, making it even harder for community-backed candidates to compete in future.

So this election just became even more important.

We acknowledge the Whadjuk Noongar Peoples as the Traditional

Every donation, every conversation and every vote matters – thank you.
Custodians of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Authorised by Kate Chaney MP, Cnr The Boulevard and Floreat Ave, Floreat WA 6014

Support Kate

If you would like to unsubscribe from these emails,