

# July 2025 Newsletter



*(In Canberra, watching 'Ocean' with my crossbench colleagues and Layne Beachley AO)*

Hello!

I hope you've managed to stay warm this month.

July has been full of action, both locally and in Canberra, with the 48th Parliament officially commencing.

It was a busy first sitting fortnight and we covered a lot of ground – read about it below. It's great to be back.

The new look Parliament is a bit different, with more women and an overwhelming Labor majority.

With the WA Liberals teaming up with Barnaby Joyce on calls to reverse Australia's international commitment to a net zero target, the ALP now has a low bar to clear on climate, so the role of the crossbench in holding them to account will be vital.

Thanks Curtin,  
Kate

# In Canberra

## We're Back!



The 48th Parliament opened with ceremony and history, marking the first time a majority of parliamentarians are women, a powerful sign that times are changing. We've got a new seating plan too, which means I'll be sitting between Allegra Spender and Barnaby Joyce for the next three years!

## Speaking in Canberra

In the first two sitting weeks, I spoke in Parliament about housing & tax reform, improving behaviour in the House, allied health services under the NDIS, the HECS debt change, oversight of childcare centres and a Fair Work amendment.

In Question Time I asked the Government about gambling reform and the slow roll-out of the National Reconstruction Fund.

If you are interested in seeing what I had to say on any of these topics, you can always watch my parliamentary speeches!

Speeches

## New bill on AI



I introduced a [Private Member's Bill](#) to crack down on AI tools designed for creating child sexual abuse materials. Emerging technologies are enabling predators to create synthetic abuse content at scale, often evading current laws.

This Bill closes a critical gap by criminalising the development and use of tools designed to produce such material. It's a direct response to recommendations from the recent National Roundtable on Child Safety in the Age of AI, and I've worked closely with ICMEC Australia to ensure it's targeted and effective.

AI is going to be a big theme during this term – it has so much potential for productivity, but it raises huge risks and governments will need to get better at nimbly adapting our laws as the technology changes.

[Watch me speak in Parliament here](#)

[Read my media statement here](#)

# Lies in political ads

I also seconded a Private Member's Bill with Zali Steggall, reintroducing the Government's bill from the end of last term to create protections from lies in political ads – continuing our work on electoral reform.

I had meetings with the Treasurer, the Environment Minister and the Minister for the Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence and joined Allegra Spender's Tax Roundtable to push for meaningful tax reform.

## Tax



In the last term, Allegra and I talked about tax reform more than anyone else (confirmed by the parliamentary library!), so we are pleased that the Treasurer has now put it on the agenda.

I also made [a submission to the Economic Reform Roundtable](#), emphasising the need for intergenerational equity.

[Read my post column here](#)

# Climate



*(Knit for Climate Action - shows a visual representation of global warming)*

In the second week, there were a lot of meetings about the upcoming 2035 emissions reduction targets, some of which I hosted, and I went to a screening of *Ocean* by David Attenborough, which is a powerful reminder of what we're working to protect (if you haven't seen it, you should!).

I also joined scientists and economists to publicly call for ambitious emissions reduction targets.

With the Coalition still divided on committing to net zero by 2050, and the WA Liberal State Council taking a backwards step, it will fall to the crossbench to push for strong, science-backed targets.

Ambitious targets will give investors the certainty they need to unlock capital and drive the transition to a forward-looking, prosperous economy, especially here in WA.

## Gaza



In the media, I stood with Médecins Sans Frontières to call for Australia to use all its diplomatic tools to demand action to protect lives, stop weaponising aid and lift the siege in Gaza. The mass acute malnutrition crisis is deeply troubling to a large number of constituents and Australia must play its role in upholding international law.

# North Cottesloe Primary



In the midst of the hustle and bustle of Canberra, it was so much fun to welcome students from North Cottesloe Primary into Parliament House! I showed them around and they had a photo with the Governor General and the Speaker of the House!

## In Curtin

Before heading east, I spent time in Curtin meeting with constituents, listening to your ideas and concerns, and visiting local organisations doing incredible work.

## Plastic Free July



Did you know Plastic Free July was founded here by Rebecca Prince-Ruiz? It's now the world's largest plastic waste avoidance campaign, reaching over 174 million people globally.

To kick off the month, I joined students from PLC, MLC, and Scotch College, along with Keep Australia Beautiful WA, Eco Surf Australia, and the Town of Cottesloe, for a beach cleanup at North Cottesloe, the birthplace of the movement. Together, we collected 70kg of litter, contributing valuable data to the Australian Marine Debris Initiative (AMD I) database, which helps shape national policy.

Participating in the challenge, I am always struck by how difficult it is to avoid plastic packaging in our daily lives. I have asked the Environment Minister for a briefing on packaging regulation, because we need to make it easier for people to avoid plastic.

## Woodlands Food Pantry



I had the pleasure of sharing a cuppa with the organisers, volunteers, and patrons of the Woodlands Food Pantry.

**48 Lombardy Street, Woodlands**  
**Wednesdays, 9 –11am**

The pantry offers warm drinks, nourishing meals, and free food hampers to anyone in need.

**Want to help?** If you're able to contribute, donations of non-perishable food items (excluding meat and peanuts) are welcome on **Tuesday lunchtimes** or **early Wednesday mornings**.

## Shothole Borer Update



I spoke with ABC's 7:30 about the ongoing impact of the Shothole Borer on our local environment.

This invasive pest continues to threaten WA's urban canopy and biodiversity. Despite efforts, the WA Government has not eradicated it, and constituents are waiting months for responses from DPIRD. Perth already has the lowest tree canopy of any major Australian city. We need faster action to protect our trees and I'll keep advocating for that.

## **The Kids Research Institute**



Dr Vincent Mancini from The Kids Research Institute shared his new research with me. It shows that for young men, engagement with sports gambling is the top predictor for future problems with gambling.

This research reinforces the urgency of reforming gambling advertising and policy.

[Listen to what Vincent had to say](#)

## Parents for Climate



## Social Media

their hopes for stronger climate legislation in Parliament. Their advocacy is a powerful reminder of the role we all play in shaping a sustainable future. Don't forget to follow me on social media. It's the best way to keep up-to-date and find out about my upcoming events!



Instagram

Facebook

TikTok

Bluesky

Funding from grants can:

## Contact Us

- contribute to improving infrastructure at sporting clubs

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*We acknowledge the Whadjuk Noongar Peoples as the Traditional 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  
**Some grants open now or closing soon (see more on my website):**

### **Small Environmental Grants Scheme**

If you would like to unsubscribe from these emails,

Provides support for projects that will make a positive difference to the natural living environment, in land, sea or air, rural or urban.

### **National Kitchen Garden Awards**

Celebrates the inventive, community-driven ways educators and young Australians are using their kitchen garden to learn about health, wellbeing and sustainability.

### **International Travel Fund**

Supports international travel costs associated with Australian artists, creative workers and organisations attending significant market development platforms or key gatherings overseas.

### **Supporting Stronger Communities Grant Program**

The Supporting Stronger Communities (SSC) grant program provides Neighbourhood and Community Houses and Centres (NCHC) across Australia the opportunity to apply for up to \$10,000 for projects/programs that seek to promote equality and inclusion.

# Events

## **Community Forum**

Wednesday 6 August

5:30pm – 6:30pm

Albert's Respite and Refreshments, Wembley

Come and hear latest news from Canberra sitting weeks and what is happening around Curtin!

Events