

**Combined Residents of Whitehorse
Action Group (CROWAG) Incorporated.**

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Candidate Questionnaire, Whitehorse Council Elections – October 2024

Name of Councillor candidate: Jarrod Gunn

Whitehorse Council Ward: Terrara

The *Combined Residents of Whitehorse Action Group Inc. (CROWAG)* represents a number of community groups and individual members across the municipality. In the current COVID-19 environment we are seeking to assist candidates to reach our members, helping them to make informed decisions when they vote.

CROWAG advocates for appropriate and sustainable development concerning built-form, public amenity, and the natural landscape within Whitehorse to all tiers of government. It seeks to promote the quality of life for residents and the natural landscape of Whitehorse. It lobbies Whitehorse Council to improve its relationship with its constituents in the areas of public accountability, public transparency, good governance, community engagement, fairness and equity.

Your responses to this questionnaire will be made available:

- a. to all CROWAG individual and group members and their networks within Whitehorse
- b. on the CROWAG website at www.crowag.com

QUESTIONNAIRE:

Please answer all questions and keep written responses to each question to less than 150 words.

1. How long have you been a resident of Whitehorse?

- 0-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-15 years
- 16-20 years
- 20+ years

2. Do you live in the council ward for which you are a candidate?

Yes or No

3. List the community, political and/or professional organisations with which you are a member during the last 10 years.

Vermont South Neighbourhood House
Whitehouse United Soccer Club

4. What positive achievements resulted from your membership of these groups?

Whitehorse Business Group – Business Awards x2 years in a row (VSNH), Whitehorse Club of the Year (WUSC).

5. Please state what you want to achieve as an elected Councillor

Evolution not revolution. Whitehorse is a stable and generally responsive authority and I aim to maintain that focus. A number of local matters are important to Terrara residents – a pragmatic approach to tree canopy management, maintaining our commitment to increasing tree canopy but giving residents greater say on problematic trees on their/adjoining property, a improvement to facilities in the East Burwood Reserve precinct, advocating for and working with building authorities and developers to improve the wards two commercial zones (vermont south shops, tally-ho business park). Work with residents to sensibly respond to matters important to them.

6. What are the top five issues you believe could improve the functioning of the *Whitehorse City Council* in representing its ratepayers and community?

- 1) Greater Councillor availability to residents.
- 2) Improved communication both on reported matters and general updates, especially important since the demise of local newspapers.
- 3) Curtailing the direct influence of senior management in decision making clearly at odd with public sentiment.
- 4) Advocating for the improvements lobbied for by respected local community institutions / groups like CROWAG, Heatherdale Community Action Group and the Friends of Bellbird Dell, Friends of Healesville Freeway Reserve.
- 5) Continue to lobby and advocate for greater local input into the over-reaching action of State Government and associated planning authorities.

9. **The following Issues of specific interest to CROWAG.**

In the boxes below, please **rank** the priority of the areas of interest in order of importance

to you from 1 (Most important) to 10 (Least important). Please do not use the same ranking number more than once.

1	Engagement with residents and ratepayers
3	Transparency and governance in council matters
6	Managing Climate Change and Sustainability.
7	Administrative and budgetary efficiency.
2	Retaining council oversight for planning and development
8	Speeding up Planning and development by reducing council oversight.
10	Advocating for the Federation Brickworks site to be parkland
5	Enhancing the city's natural landscape, parks, tree canopy, streetscape, and overarching neighbourhood amenity
4	Improvement of Infrastructure for walkers, cyclists, and people with disabilities
9	Managing traffic and parking

10. If you have any further comments please note them below:

The above ranking comes from a position as a relatively informed outsider, located in Terrara ward (where Brickworks has very little direct implications for my constituents). Should I be successful in this election and I have greater access to all of Council's current activity and plans these ratings could well be re-adjusted. Finally thank you to CROWAG and other aligned community groups for your passionate advocacy on matters important to this community.

Thank you for completing the CROWAG questionnaire.

Please save your completed questionnaire and send it as an attachment by email to 'Whitehorse Councillor Candidate Responses' at: crowag.inc@gmail.com