



Sarah English

Candidate for New South Wales

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Previous terms served on Council: 1

I have worked in environmental, human rights, and political organisations in campaigns and communications roles for over a decade, and I know that the climate crisis is the most urgent threat our world faces. I have dedicated my career to working for a better world, and I believe that the best way to achieve this is to bring communities together across Australia to take on the climate crisis. ACF will continue to play a key part in this nationwide movement, which is why after moving from WA to NSW for a new position, I'm renominating as a NSW Councillor.

What I will bring to Council

Throughout my career, I have delivered campaigns that have created political, corporate, and social change. I determine the problem, solution, ask, and decision makers; the dynamic power map, theory of change, and critical path for engaging our community, stakeholders, decision makers, and media; and the corresponding ladder of engagement and tactics. One of my highlights was helping to save a Little Penguin colony from a proposed development by building a coalition of environmental and interest groups, facilitating around 5,000 emails and fifty phone calls to the Minister, and holding a national press conference between scientists and major television networks.

Advocacy and community engagement

As my work focuses on campaigns and communications, I often develop tactics and partner with technology specialists to design or customise tools and support environmental communities to use them. For example, I have supported groups to use Twitter storms, virtual call parties, online-to-offline postcards and letter writing, and bulk letter-to-the-editor tools that I have co-designed. As a political campaigner, I have also supported communities to doorknock, phonebank, and textbank using peer-to-peer SMS tools.

Governance interest and experience

I have served as an ACF Councillor for WA for the past three years, where I have contributed in the areas of campaigns and community engagement, and have helped map the expertise and networks of Councillors to share as a resource with staff. I have appreciated the opportunity to represent my state, and to ensure that as one of Australia's most influential environmental organisations, ACF continues to be across the issues that matter most.

My ideas for climate and nature solutions

While I'm fortunate to work in the space, I remain an activist and am led by what needs to be done, rather than by what is easy or expected. We need to shift Australia out of fossil fuels and into renewable energy as early as possible, as it is the best chance we have to avoid the worst impacts of catastrophic climate change, to secure a just transition for workers, and to protect First Nations' sacred sites from further destruction.