

## Liz Kelly: Boroondara Council Candidate for Cotham



Let me introduce myself. I am Liz Kelly, a local who has lived in Boroondara with my partner for 30 years. I see myself a true local because of my love for this beautiful area and my active involvement in many aspects of local community life including as part of a family. This has given me an understanding of the things that matter to the local people of Cotham ward. My working life has also given me the capacity to contribute to meaningful and effective change such as can be achieved through local government.

I grew up in Country NSW and landed in Kew in 1994 after extensive travel. I was attracted to the area by the beautiful green spaces and proximity to the city whilst still feeling like you were in a country town. There is a definite community 'vibe' in Kew. I am committed to maintaining and protecting our extensive green spaces so that all our community and its visitors can access and enjoy.

I feel privileged to live in Boroondara and acknowledge the many stunning heritage homes surrounded by beautiful gardens. This essence of the history should be maintained, whilst taking the opportunity to improve housing access for those less fortunate in the community. Medium density planning access to areas in Boroondara that are close to transport and shopping precincts should be considered.

My partner, Stephen and I have 2 adult children Connor and Claire. Both kids went to local primary schools, Claire attending Kew High and Connor went to St Pauls specialist school. Connor is a regular in the community and appreciates the beautiful spaces he can access with his support workers. Connor swims at HALC, attends Scouts and engages in many other activities within the community.

I am an active member of the community including involvement in local fundraising particularly for St Pauls. I am also physically active and a member of the local gym and the Hawthorn Running Group – you can often see me tagging along as a very slow 'back ender'.

### **What I have to offer**

As a highly qualified senior manager with over 2 decades of governance experience, I have had extensive experience as a chair and board member of a diverse range of organisations. This includes health, disability, sporting, dispute resolution, audit and governance groups. This has given me first hand experience in policy development and service provision that are major responsibilities in local government

### **What is important to me**

I am dedicated to ensuring decision makers in Council are accountable and transparent to ratepayers in their decision making.

I am committed to council providing services that allows members of the community and visitors to access activities with respect and dignity. Inclusion for all abilities and allowing community members to age in place improves outcomes for all.

I understand through first-hand experience the benefits of care delivered in the community by the community. Aging in place for community members offers dignity and respect

Access to beautiful green spaces is something I prize as great for health, wellbeing and inclusion. I see that heritage buildings add to the beauty of Boroondara.

I think the Kew Recreation centre should be energised by sustainable means not gas

Come and say hello at Briquettes on Saturday 20 July from 9am to 12pm. We will be having a sausage sizzle and I will be handing out lemons from the best tree in Kew East.

*To contact Liz Kelly, please write to Eastsider News at PO Box 392, Mont Albert Vic 3127 or email her at [eastsidernews1@gmail.com](mailto:eastsidernews1@gmail.com) and we will forward your correspondence to her.*