

Sinead Francis-Coan

Newcastle Greens

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About Me:

I have grown up in Newcastle, where I have also studied Leisure and Tourism, recently completing a masters degree by research. As a large component of leisure and tourism studies, we aim to understand the communities in which tourism occurs, and from which tourists come, to achieve positive outcomes that are widely beneficial, especially to the host communities.

My professional experience mostly includes hospitality and tourism, across three countries but also includes a year of teaching English as a second language in Japan.

Beyond this, I have served as Newcastle Greens Convenor for nearly two terms, jointly co-ordinated an election campaign, coordinated phone banking for our election campaigns and currently serve on the NSW Greens National Council Reference Group and Publications Committee.

I have undertaken voluntary and some professional work for a number of Greens representatives in NSW Parliament where I was able to gain a deeper understanding of parliamentary process, build relationships with our state MPs and staff but also gain insight into the many different roles of an MP.

I have been privileged to act alongside our community as we stopped coal boats from the port of Newcastle, marched our streets for a wide range of rights, joined hands to protect our coast, held vigils to remember those imprisoned offshore and protested on occasions when racist hate speech was brought to our town.

Community and Action:

Newcastle and the Hunter have a vibrant community that is active across a wide range of social issues. I look forward to working with the community as we:

- * Address housing affordability in the region
- * Protect our coast from offshore testing and drilling
- * Implement a just transition to renewable energy that responsibly addresses the winding down of the Hunter's coal industry
- * Address the epidemic of domestic and family violence
- * Work towards a treaty with first peoples
- * Continue to advocate for refugees and asylum seekers both locally and nationally
- * Demand public transport that works and is trusted and respected by those who use it
- * Advocate for community input into changes in our region

We have much work to do, but together we can work to build the kind of community we want, one that is sustainable, just and thriving.

I believe we can build on a strong campaign in Wallsend to see a councillor elected for Ward Four at the next Newcastle City Council election. I would be eager to nominate as Greens Ward Four candidate if endorsed by the local group and if circumstances allow.

