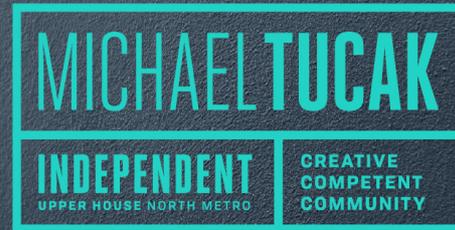


An independent voice
for a more
creative,
constructive,
community
approach to growing
and planning WA.



MICHAEL TUCAK, INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE – COMMUNITIES POLICY

My Community Policy is based on my belief that if Perth has strong communities where we all feel we *belong*, we will contribute ideas and energy to benefit our city and WA's future.

Strong Communities Benefit Us All, and Generate Great Ideas and Solutions

I have had the pleasure of being part of very strong and special communities in WA, from my local suburb to the local arts & music scene, and in particular radio station [RTRFM 92.1](#).

Strong communities offers each of us, whatever our background or beliefs, opportunities to be accepted, belong, participate and contribute. Our similarities matter more than any of our differences, and this is a very powerful force, as it can unlock great potential within us all. Great things can happen when people band and work together, and that really is the “engine room” of our society and culture, from our sporting clubs to our migrant or ethnic groups, and our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, intersex and questioning community to the street we live in. I believe our city and state benefit greatly from each of these communities within it.

For this reason, I believe we need to support our diverse communities, and embrace the richness and creativity that they offer. At a government level, all aspects of our communities should be seen, valued and represented – and have the opportunity to provide input, ideas, energy and expertise on areas that matter to them. There is great wealth of knowledge here, and it allows us to ensure we develop appropriate, fair and effective policies in many areas.

However, at present, we still have much more to do in communities, beginning with how government sees and understands the diversity of our communities, and what they offer. For government to be more proactive, creative and future-looking in how we plan and grow WA, “inclusiveness” needs to become more central and be “real”, to ensure that decisions made not only take account of differences, but also build on our own community's true strengths.

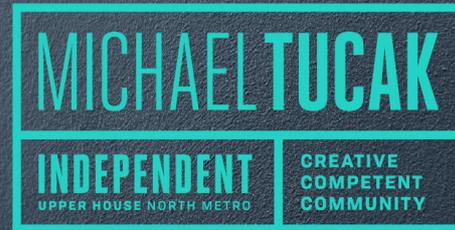
- 1. I will push for a government-wide approach to inclusiveness, to ensure that both policy and administration have sought out, considered and implemented approaches that reflect the differing needs that can arise from communities. It is up to government to “lead by example” with a “values-based leadership” on understanding and embracing the diversity making us who we are and can be.**

I believe, like many, that arts & culture act as a glue to unite community across difference and is allows us to communicate despite differences. Music, for example, has a great power to bring us together regardless of where we are from, as do events such as ‘Sculpture by the Sea’, our arts festivals and our local artists. “Creativity is humanity”, and the arts help us to navigate and understand our shared and individual humanity. It is a great tool we must use.

- 2. Therefore, I want to see our local governments properly supported to facilitate and implement quality, accessible, diverse community arts and culture events, building communities, and generating new connections, collaborations, ideas, through a combination of State partnered-funding and departmental support.**



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Central to my “creative, constructive, community” approach is the belief that government does not ‘hold all the answers’ to the complex problems that face our communities, whether is it homelessness, crime, health and mental health, transport issues or sub-urban planning. Governments role as “decision-maker” must recognise that communities contain a wealth of expertise, knowledge, connections and ideas, and that this must be properly embraced in a communicative and consultative process, not simply paying ‘lip service’ or being tokenistic.

I believe government should commit to seeking out and gathering in community input in the pursuit of creative, constructive solutions to our complex issues, and in the Upper House, where policy and decisions are reviewed and shaped, I believe I can play this role. This will encourage more quality input from communities, who often feel side-lined, and left to protest.

- 3. Therefore, I will push for a shift from centralised government decision-making to a community “asset based” approach, drawing in and building upon ideas and strengths within our communities, allowing our society to set and shape a vision for its future, and invest in creation, implementation and improvement. Particularly, this includes overlooked issues such as homelessness or drugs.**

Lastly, I believe we can quickly and easily utilise technology to gain community input on key issues to achieve the above goals, whilst we set about developing more connected and state-wide approaches to empowering and involving communities to grow a strong State.

- 4. Therefore, I commit to immediately trialling the use of tools that will allow our communities to input directly in government policy and decision-making, in the manner outlined above, beginning with the use of “blockchain” technology to seek safe, secure input to guide government decision making on key issues. If we begin using this technology in a constructive way, we can understand how best it can serve our communities future needs – rather than just handing over a vote in Parliament entirely to one group. It needs to be used transparently.**

If elected to the Legislative Council, I will work hard, “creatively, constructively, with a community focus”, with whichever party forms government to achieve each of the above four policy positions. I strongly believe that proper investment in our public transport offers Perth and WA a very real opportunity to develop and grow a state where we all benefit and enjoy our lives, with confidence, diversity and resilience. It is an investment in all of our futures.

It is this “creative, constructive and community” approach that informs all my policies.

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