

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

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**Candidate Questionnaire, Whitehorse Council Elections – October 2020**

**Name of Councillor candidate:** Philip Daw

**Whitehorse Council Ward:** Simpson Ward

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](http://www.crowag.com)

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**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 have been involved during the last 10 years.

Whitehorse councillor n2008-2016  
Mayor 2016  
Heatherdale Community action Group  
Mitcham Residents Association  
Liberal Party

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

Whitehorse theatre project, Nunawading Community Hub, streetscape upgrades, community engagement, representation of community interests and community group interests on Council

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

See my 300 word statement and campaign brochure. Provide rates relief especially in these difficult Covid 19 times, a more livable municipality, better services and facilities, a better environment.

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) More operational efficiency
- 2) Even greater community focus
- 3) More sensible consideration of rate rises. An imposed annual rates cap of 2% is less than the cost increases of operational expenses – sooner or later it is going to catch up to us. (Whitehorse is never-the-less in a much better position than most councils.
- 4) Unity of councillor purpose and objectives. (This does not mean that councillors can have different views in debate,)
- 5) Less higher level government and departmental interference/cost shifting.

7. There are many important roles of Local Government. As a Councillor you will need to make difficult decisions with many issues of importance competing for your vote, council action and finances. Whitehorse Council's responsibilities are listed below.

In the boxes below, please **rank the roles that are most important to you** from 7 (Most important) to 1 (Least important). Please do not use the same ranking number more than once.

<b>2</b>	<b>Children and Families including childcare, kindergartens, maternal and child health, playgroups, immunisation</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Health and Wellbeing</b> including disability services, home and community care, meals on wheels, food safety
<b>4</b>	<b>Residential and Commerce</b> including strategic development, planning, and building, business development, animal registrations, rubbish collection and recycling
<b>5</b>	<b>Sport and Leisure</b> including sportsgrounds and pavilions, aquatic and leisure centres, Morack golf club
<b>3</b>	<b>Non-structured Recreational activities</b> including cycleways and shared use paths, parks and gardens, bushland, and open space
<b>7</b>	<b>Roads and Safety</b> including management of roads and footpaths, streetscapes (including street trees), street lighting, car and bike parks, pedestrian and cycling safety and security, disabled accessibility
<b>6</b>	<b>Community</b> including library services, theatre and the arts, community centres, volunteering, community grants

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

In the boxes below, please **rank the priority of the issues** in order of importance **to you** from 10 (Most important) to 1 (Least important). Please do not use the same ranking number more than once.

<b>10</b>	Engagement with residents and ratepayers
<b>9</b>	Transparency and governance in council matters
<b>8</b>	Council response to Climate Change and Sustainability issues in terms of mitigation, adaptation, and urgency
<b>7</b>	Administrative and budgetary efficiency.
<b>5</b>	Council rates and capital expenditure policies
<b>6</b>	Administration of Council's planning and building provisions in the Whitehorse Planning Scheme (WPS) e.g. overall level of development in the city, building site compliance requirements, general administration including inspections, Planning

	Permit Conditions compliance, administration of tree and vegetation controls, tree retention and protection on building sites, ensuring compliance with landscape and planting plans, community consultation, fines and prosecution for transgressors
<b>4</b>	The city's natural landscape, tree canopy, streetscape, and overarching neighbourhood amenity considerations
<b>3</b>	Provision of infrastructure for walkers, cyclists, and people with disabilities
<b>2</b>	Management and utilization of the city's parks, open spaces, and linkages (e.g. shared use paths, waterways, and residential streets)
<b>1</b>	Traffic issues in Whitehorse

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

There are a lot of issues that you have asked me to rank. I suggest ALL are important and it is difficult to rank them. Many are close to equal importance. Can't rank Permit conditions etc, in question 7 because your program does not allow me to enter anything in that field. I suspect the table has become detached at

Thank you for completing the CROWAG questionnaire.

For further queries contact CROWAG secretary David Berry on 0413 457 184

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