

### Public Participation

All people have a fundamental right to be actively involved in the economic and political decisions that affect their lives and which impact on the community and the environment. It is the responsibility of governments to ensure that all citizens have the means to exercise those rights.

Ongoing public participation should underpin the making of laws and policy. Marginalised groups must be supported and enabled to participate in decision-making. The public must be provided with comprehensive, factual and timely information in order to be able to contribute meaningfully to decision-making

#### Aims

*The Greens (WA) want:*

- greater access and opportunity for meaningful involvement in decision-making for all citizens and residents, including marginalised groups
- individuals, community groups and non-government organisations to participate in public debate and decision-making without fear of repercussion
- the provision of timely and comprehensive information to the public
- a fair and transparent process for decision-making with a commitment to consensus decision making where possible

#### Measures

*The Greens (WA) will initiate and support legislation and actions that:*

- provide individuals and community groups with comprehensive information considering all stakeholders, and sufficient time to enable their meaningful participation in decision-making
- ensure equitable representation and involvement of all people, including all marginalised groups in all levels of decision-making (see also The Greens (WA) [Women](#), [First Nations Peoples](#), [Cultural Diversity](#) and [LGBTIQ+](#) policies)
- facilitate the participation of people in regional and remote areas, as well as those with disability or who face other challenges that might otherwise affect their capacity to participate in decision-making (see also The Greens (WA) [Disability](#) policy)
- enable decisions to be based on consensus decision-making, where possible, with adversarial processes such as a majority vote only used as a last resort
- ensure transparency and procedural fairness in all public participation processes
- provide adequate and clear communication and feedback processes for all public participation processes, including the availability of translated materials and accredited interpreters to assist those whose first language is not English
- support community capacity building to strengthen public participation

(See also the Australian Greens [Community Participation](#) policy)

**Public Participation policy ratified by The Greens (WA) in 2021**

**The Greens (WA) public participation spokesperson is [Alison Xamon MLC](#)**