



ELENA PEREYRA – FIRST NATIONS JUSTICE

I pay my respects to all the Traditional Owners of this land. Their languages, culture, & connection to Country are still strong.

JAM! (Justice Action Maribyrnong)

1. What priority are First Nations justice issues for you?

First Nations Justice is a high priority for me and for the Victorian Greens. Our approach is based on treaty, truth, and justice.

There are numerous areas where First Nations people are continuing to be marginalised and disadvantaged. These include in the justice system, health care and reduced lifespan (inc. health span), education, and secure and affordable housing, among many others. Through my work in housing, I am deeply concerned about the systemic lack of cultural consideration being demonstrated in the provision of housing for First Nations people and for the broader implications of how we live, and house people, on stolen land. To me housing, care for Country, and First Nations justice are highly relational issues and must be solved together.

2. How will you support First Nations people in Footscray / Western Victoria Region?

I would like to learn more about your organisation and support your work in every way I can.

Through my housing work I will continue to build awareness and consideration around First Nations justice as an essential part of housing design and delivery including supporting participatory processes that incorporate First Nations voices. If there are First Nations led conversations happening in this space, please feel free to connect me.

I would like to know more about the issues that are important to local First Nations peoples. Regardless of the election outcome I would welcome ongoing dialogue to build stronger ties and be an ally. Please stay in touch!

3. What do you believe are the priorities for First Nations people that need to be addressed and how will you do that?

The Victorian Greens have a comprehensive plan to address issues of First Nations justice, based on the ongoing impacts of colonisation, trauma, and self-determination.



Treaty and Truth Telling: continue to support the process for treaty; advocate for funding so First Nations Victorians can participate equally in Treaty processes

Reform the criminal justice system: that affects First Nations people at a much higher rate than other Victorians. I'll advocate to:

- Raise the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 14 years
- Fix our broken bail laws to reduce deaths in custody
- Provide additional funding for the Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service
- Create an independent commissioner to monitor progress on implementation of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody

Protect Aboriginal cultural heritage and caring for Country through:

- Strengthening First Nations rights to water, aquifers, and oceans
- Limit water taken from rivers; ensure cultural flows available for cultural practices
- Support for Traditional Owner management of national and state parks
- Funding to allow First Nations people to participate in environmental consultation

Fair sentencing: repeal mandatory minimum sentencing laws which are a driver of over incarceration of First Nations people and entrench offenders' likelihood of ongoing contact with the criminal justice system

Monitor police and prisons: to end Aboriginal deaths in custody and hold our police to account; develop a framework to monitor potential racial profiling by police

First Nations justice policy: <https://greens.org.au/vic/platform/first-nations-justice>

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