

2023 NSW Election Guide

Information as of 14 March 2023

This guide is intended to highlight the key policies and pledges from each of the three major parties for the 2023 NSW Election on Saturday, 25 March 2023. The guide may be used to assist voters in making an informed decision on election day, but it is NOT a comprehensive list of each major party's election pledges. Voters are encouraged to view each party's respective platform in its entirety.

Fifteen parties are registered with the NSW Electoral Commission. Apart from the major parties, there are several smaller parties also running in this election, alongside a contingent of prominent independents. Some of the smaller parties and independents have only limited policy platforms, making it difficult to compare them to each other and to the major parties. They have not been included in this guide for that reason.

All 93 seats in the Legislative Assembly and 21 of the 42 seats in the Legislative Council will be contested during the election. Candidates from 13 different parties have registered to contest the election and 88 independent or unaffiliated candidates have also registered.

This guide does NOT constitute an endorsement of any of the major parties, nor does it constitute an opposition to the parties not mentioned.

	Liberal/Nationals	Labor	The Greens
Cost of Living	<p>Has promised to introduce a toll relief rebate scheme to combat cost of living pressures brought on by the sharp rise in interest rates.</p> <p>Has pledged to give small businesses up to \$1,000 over two years to cover government costs and charges like liquor licences and event fees.</p>	<p>Plans to introduce a toll cap to combat cost of living pressures brought on by the sharp rise in interest rates.</p> <p>Has promised to appoint Professor Allan Fels AO to lead an overhaul of the toll network.</p> <p>Has pledged to abolish the 3 per cent Public Sector Wage Cap and negotiate on a sector-by-sector basis.</p>	<p>Has pledged to reduce cost of living pressures from interest rate rises with affordable housing, free public transport and fully funded public education.</p> <p>Has promised to scrap the Public Sector Wage Cap.</p>
Energy	<p>Have promised to slash energy bills by \$250 from July 1 through to December 31 as part of a \$500 million scheme.</p>	<p>Has promised to allocate \$1 billion to a new state-run energy body to accelerate investment in renewable energy assets.</p> <p>Says it will stop any further privatisation of NSW energy assets.</p>	<p>Says it will establish a new government-owned electricity retailer to offer lower electricity prices.</p>

	Has promised to set up a \$1.5 billion Clean Energy Superpower Fund to support the delivery of renewable energy storage and grid security projects.		Has promised to provide support to install solar panels on homes and businesses.
Housing	<p>Has promised to proceed with its plan to unlock 70,000 new homes through rezoning sites in priority locations.</p> <p>Says it will upgrade more than 15,800 social housing properties over the next three years.</p> <p>Has implemented a First Home Buyer Choice policy, allowing homebuyers to pay an annual property payment instead of stamp duty.</p>	<p>Plans to abolish stamp duty outright for first homebuyers purchasing a home worth up to \$800,000, with a partial concession for properties up to \$1 million.</p> <p>Has promised to appoint a Rental Commissioner to advocate for renters.</p> <p>Says it will allow renters to directly transfer bonds from one property to another.</p>	<p>Has promised to introduce a rent freeze and strengthen the rights of tenants on long-term leases.</p> <p>Plans to invest \$1 billion to deliver at least 2,500 public and social homes in regional NSW.</p> <p>Has promised to ban the sale of public housing and public land suitable for housing.</p>
Families	<p>Has promised to implement a \$2 million program to help community organisations support women re-entering the workforce.</p> <p>Says every child under 10 will be given a NSW Kids' Future Fund account and the government will match parents' contributions of up to \$400 a year into the account, until they're 18.</p>	<p>Has promised to provide \$13.8 million to boost women's workforce participation.</p> <p>Plans to open the remaining Dine and Discover funds to help families pay pills.</p>	<p>Says it will provide free public school breakfasts and lunches to ease pressure on families.</p>
Education	<p>Has promised to spend \$8.6 billion over the next four years on hundreds of new and upgraded schools.</p> <p>Has promised 15,000 teachers will be offered permanent positions during 2023.</p> <p>Plans to employ 600 high-achieving teachers in public schools over four years and provide a \$253 million boost for the intensive learning support tutoring scheme.</p>	<p>Says it will build 100 public preschools in its first term of government and invest \$60 million in 50 new and expanded preschools at non-government schools.</p> <p>Has promised to offer 10,000 casual teachers permanent positions.</p> <p>Plans to establish TAFE manufacturing centres so every year, an extra 1,000 apprentices can be trained in mechanical engineering and electrical fitting for free.</p>	<p>Has promised to give NSW public school teachers a minimum 15% pay rise.</p> <p>Plans to invest \$1 billion to address school maintenance backlogs and promised to deliver 100 new government schools in the next 3 years.</p>

	Says it will build 500 new preschools and provide universal free preschool education by 2030.		Says it will make TAFE free and preschool free by 2030.
Transport	<p>Says it will spend \$260 million to complete the final business cases for four new Sydney Metro routes.</p> <p>Has committed \$600 million in funding toward stage two of the Parramatta Light Rail project.</p> <p>Plans to address severe bus driver shortages by recruiting more drivers from overseas and waiving training fees.</p>	<p>Has committed to completing two of the four Sydney Metro routes planned by the government.</p> <p>Plans to begin the procurement process for a new fleet to replace the Tangara trains (which entered service in the 80s and 90s) in its first term.</p> <p>Has promised to create an industry taskforce to improve bus services, and begin construction on stage two of the Parramatta Light Rail project in its first term.</p>	<p>Plans to introduce free public transport in NSW</p> <p>Has promised to reverse privatisation of the bus network.</p> <p>Has pledged to fast-track the transition to an electric bus fleet.</p>
Health	<p>Has promised to employ 10,000 additional healthcare workers over the next four years.</p> <p>Says it will spend \$11.9 billion on new and upgraded hospitals across the state.</p> <p>Plans to spend \$1.7 billion to hire almost 2,000 extra paramedics and create 30 new ambulance stations.</p>	<p>Plans to employ an additional 1,200 nurses and midwives over four years, as well as 500 additional paramedics in regional NSW.</p> <p>Has promised to provide over 600 new hospital beds in Western Sydney by building new and upgrading existing hospitals in the area.</p> <p>Has pledged to provide \$70 million to fund three new helicopter ambulance bases.</p>	<p>Says it will provide an above inflation pay rise to healthcare workers.</p> <p>Has promised to hire 1,500 more paramedics in regional NSW.</p> <p>Plans to provide free sexual and reproductive healthcare.</p>
Infrastructure	<p>Has committed \$1 billion to upgrade regional roads and the fast-track freight network as well as another \$1 billion for Western Sydney road upgrades.</p> <p>Has set up a \$500 million fund to help local councils across NSW fix potholes.</p> <p>Has promised to spend \$350 million over the next four years to deliver 2,000 commuter car-parking spaces for residents in Western and South-Western Sydney.</p>	<p>Promises \$1.1 billion for road improvements across Western Sydney and regional NSW.</p> <p>Has promised to spend \$225 million to build critical evacuation roads, bridges and levees across Western Sydney to protect communities from flooding.</p> <p>Says it will remove construction speed limits when work is not taking place.</p> <p>Will ensure the trains are built in NSW, creating at least 1,000 jobs.</p>	<p>Plans to bring train manufacturing back to the Newcastle and Hunter region.</p> <p>Has promised to invest in new water infrastructure like purified water recycling, storm water recycling and desalination.</p>

Environment	<p>Has created a \$190 million five-year koala strategy which aims to double the number of koalas in NSW by 2050.</p> <p>Has promised to protect and restore 47,000 hectares of koala habitat.</p>	<p>Has promised \$80 million to create an iconic Great Koala National Park on the Mid-North Coast between Kempsey and Coffs Harbour.</p> <p>Has pledged to create a new Georges River Koala National Park on public land between Glenfield and Appin.</p>	<p>Says it will introduce a ban on installing gas in new residential builds.</p> <p>Has promised to transition to 100% renewable energy.</p>
Domestic Violence	<p>Has promised to appoint five new permanent magistrates to tackle delays in domestic violence matters.</p> <p>Has pledged to review domestic violence sentencing and conduct a feasibility study on a specific domestic violence court.</p>	<p>Plans to build a specialist multicultural domestic and family violence centre in south-western Sydney.</p> <p>Has promised to provide an additional \$923,000 a year for the NSW sexual violence helpline, to employ 25 new counsellors.</p>	<p>Has promised to increase funding for domestic and sexual violence services.</p> <p>Plans to increase funding for safe and holistic trauma recovery centres.</p>
Homelessness	<p>Has invested \$394.8 million in 2022-23 to support specialist homelessness services.</p> <p>Has invested \$20 million to its NSW Homelessness Strategy to keep people in their social housing tenancies.</p>	<p>Has promised to implement a program to identify public land which can be developed for social housing.</p> <p>Plans to help to improve the delivery of social housing by merging agencies to create a new Homes NSW agency.</p>	<p>Plans to end homelessness with a Housing First policy which will provide people with a home.</p>
Families	<p>Has promised to implement a \$2 million program to help community organisations support women re-entering the workforce.</p> <p>Says every child under 10 will be given an NSW kids' future fund account and the government will match parents' contributions of up to \$400 a year into the account, until they're 18.</p>	<p>Has promised to provide \$13.8 million to boost women's workforce participation.</p> <p>Plans to open the remaining Dine and Discover funds to help families pay pills.</p>	<p>Says it will provide free public school breakfasts and lunches to ease pressure on families.</p>
Law & Justice	<p>Has promised to make all poker machines in NSW cashless by 2028.</p> <p>Has promised to ban political donations from pubs and clubs around the state.</p>	<p>Says it will commit to a trial of cashless poker machines and will reduce the number of machines across the state.</p> <p>Has promised to ban political donations from pubs and clubs around the state.</p>	<p>Has promised to repeal anti-protest laws, enshrine dissent in law and plans to raise the age of criminal responsibility.</p> <p>Has promised to end the use of sniffer dogs and invasive strip searches.</p>

Religious Freedom	Has pledged to protect religious rights under any new legislation related to proposed laws banning gay conversion therapy.	Has pledged to protect religious rights under any new legislation related to proposed laws banning gay conversion therapy.	Has committed to removing religious exceptions from the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act.
	Has pledged a \$10 million grants program for faith organisations to strengthen safety and security at places of worship, schools or other centres.	Pledged \$15 million to a grants program going towards the security of religious institutions.	Has pledged to protect freedom of religion in NSW.

NB: The information contained in this guide has only been sourced from the respective party websites, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and the NSW Electoral Commission. This website <https://elections.nsw.gov.au/elections/state-government-elections/2023-state-general-election> provides information on the election and also names of candidates in each district and for the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council.

Either major party – Liberal-National Coalition or Labor – need to win 47 seats to win government. If neither party can get to 47 seats it is the crossbench who will determine the next premier.

For further information included how each party will fund their pledges, please visit each party’s website or individual independents. Below are some links:

Liberal Party	https://nswliberal.org.au/
Nationals	https://www.nswnationals.org.au/
Labor Party	https://www.nswlabor.org.au/
The Greens NSW	https://greens.org.au/nsw
Pauline Hanson's One Nation	https://nsw.onenation.org.au/
Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party	https://www.shootersfishersandfarmers.org.au/
Socialist Alliance	https://socialist-alliance.org/
Informed Medical Options Party	https://imoparty.com/

Legalise Cannabis NSW Party	https://legalisecannabis.org.au/
Liberal Democratic Party	https://www.ldp.org.au/nsw
Revive Australia Party (Fred Nile Alliance)	https://www.facebook.com/reviveaustraliamovement/
Sustainable Australia Party	https://www.sustainableaustralia.org.au/
Animal Justice Party	https://nsw.animaljusticeparty.org/state_election
Elizabeth Farrelly Independents	https://www.elizabethfarrelly.com.au/
Climate 200 (Five candidates)	https://www.climate200.com.au/candidates/nsw
Family Voice	https://familyvoice.org.au/elections/nsw-election-2023
Independent Alex Greenwich	https://www.alexgreenwich.com/
Small Business Party	https://thesmallbusinessparty.com/
Public Education Party	https://www.publiceducationparty.org.au/