Fair Agenda's gender equality policy tracker survey

Fair Agenda is an independent campaigning community made up of 48,000 people nationwide who are jointly working for a fair and gender equal future.

Our members want to see a future where we can all live with safety, security and agency over our lives and bodies.

To that end, Fair Agenda are asking all candidates for the next Victorian parliament to take this Pledge for a Safe and Gender Equal Victoria.

The Pledge focuses on six issue areas that have been supported by Fair Agenda members as priorities this election. Those are:

1. Protecting and improving access to abortion
2. Improving women's access to specialist safety services
3. Improving supports for victim-survivors
4. Resourcing caring communities
5. Ensuring affordable and safe housing
6. Maintaining Treaty

Commitments from candidates and parties will be tracked on a custom website, with a range of summaries - including for commitments in each of the six sections, and overall.

To have your policy commitments included on this website by its launch, responses must be received by midnight on Monday 2nd of November.

Responses will be processed on a rolling basis thereafter, until midday Friday the 20th November.

If you have any queries about the pledge questions, please contact Fair Agenda's Campaign Manager Liz Hadjia via info@fairagenda.org.

Thank you in advance for your response.

Respondent details

* 1. Name of candidate

* 2. Party affiliation (or independent status)

* 3. Are you standing for the House of Representatives or the Senate?

- ◯ House of Assembly
- ◯ Legislative Council
- ◯ Party Response (covers all candidates for both houses)

* 4. Electorate

* 5. Name and position of person providing this response

* 6. Contact email for person responding

7. Contact number for person responding

Section 1. Protect and improve access to abortion

Everybody should be able to get timely and affordable access to the healthcare they need and to make decisions about their health, family and future with dignity and support. But right now, a Victorian's access to abortion care too often depends on where they live and what they earn. For women in regional and remote communities the shortage of abortion care providers can mean long journeys, delayed care and additional cost.

Given matters related to abortion are treated by some parties as a personal 'conscience' vote issue, we're asking about both your personal stance on these issues, as well as where your party stands on protecting and improving access to abortion care services.

1. Will you personally vote to protect Victoria's current abortion laws from amendments that would restrict or undermine access to abortion care (including safe access zones at clinics)?

- ◯ Yes - I will vote to protect Victoria's current abortion laws (including safe access zones), and it is a binding party position
- ◯ Yes - I will personally vote to protect Victoria's current abortion laws (including safe access zones), as my party provides a conscience vote on this issue.
- ◯ Yes - I will personally vote to protect Victoria's current abortion laws (including safe access zones), by 'crossing the floor' against my party's position against these laws.
- ◯ No - My party position means I will support changes to current abortion laws or safe access zones to restrict access to abortion in Victoria.
- ◯ No - My personal beliefs means I will support changes to current abortion laws or safe access zones to restrict access to abortion in Victoria.
- ◯ No Position

2. Will you and your party support funding to protect access to abortion care - including sustaining funding for services like women's sexual reproductive health hubs and women's health clinics that are due to lapse in June 2027?

- ◯ Yes - my party supports sustaining funding to protect access to abortion care - including extending funding for women's sexual reproductive health hubs and women's health clinics that are due to lapse in June 2027. And I personally support this investment as well.
- ◯ No - I do not personally support maintaining funding for access to abortion and would argue internally in the party to reduce or let lapse funding for women's sexual reproductive health hubs and women's health clinics when they lapse in June 2027.
- ◯ No - My party will not maintain funding for access to abortion and would reduce or let lapse funding for women's sexual reproductive health hubs and women's health clinics when they lapse in June 2027.
- ◯ No position.

3. Will you and your party support increased investment to improve access to abortion care, especially for people in remote and regional Victoria?

- ◯ Yes - me and my party support increased investment to improve access to abortion care in Victoria - especially for people in remote and regional Victoria.
- ◯ No - I personally oppose improving access to abortion care, and would argue internally for my party not to invest in this.
- ◯ No - my party will not increase investment to improve access to abortion care.
- ◯ No - me and my party support decreasing funding for access to abortion care.
- ◯ No position.

Section 2. Improve women’s access to specialty safety services

We all deserve to be and feel safe wherever we live, gather, work or play. Yet government funding priorities mean that specialist domestic, family and sexual violence services are under-resourced, limiting their ability to provide timely, specialist support to victim-survivors who need them.

We're asking which candidates will action the recommendations of key peak bodies, and commit to strengthening the specialist services that keep victim-survivors safe, and support healing and recovery.

1. Will you support sustainable investment in the specialist family violence sector, through a sustained uplift to $554 million per year from 2026-27, delivered through five year funding agreements, as recommended by Safe + Equal?

- ◯ Yes - I support an uplift to $554 million per year from 2026-27, delivered through five year funding agreements.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support some increase in funding for specialist family violence sector, but of less than $554 million per year
- ◯ No - I would not support an increase in funding, but would maintain existing funding
- ◯ No - I would support reducing funding from the specialist family violence sector
- ◯ No position.

2. Will you support increased, long-term and flexible funding to maintain and extend the work of frontline sexual violence services as recommended by Sexual Assault Services Victoria?

- ◯ Yes - I support increasing funding to maintain and extend the work of frontline sexual violence services.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support maintaining funding for the work of frontline sexual violence services.
- ◯ No - I would reduce funding for the work of frontline sexual violence services.
- ◯ No position.

3. Will you support the establishment of Djirra’s Aboriginal Women’s Centre to support women and children’s access to safety, justice, healing and community?

- ◯ Yes - I’d support the establishment of the Centre, and government providing the $16m needed to do so.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support establishing this Centre and government contributing (but less than the $16 million called for)
- ◯ No - I’d oppose resourcing and creating this Centre.
- ◯ No position.

4. Will you support providing increased and dedicated funding for family safety contact and advocacy work to ensure availability for all victim-survivors of men taking part in Men's Behaviour Change Programs (MBCPs), including current and ex-partners, children, parents and child victim-survivors? (Family Safety Contact and Advocacy Work refers to victim-survivor supports within MBCPs to help ensure the safety and needs of affected family members are met)

- ◯ Yes - I would support increased and dedicated funding.
- ◯ Partial yes - I would support some increase in funding.
- ◯ No - I would not support increased and dedicated funding
- ◯ No - I would reduce funding for family safety contact.
- ◯ No position.

5. Will you support investing $17.1 million in Women's Legal Service Victoria to deliver four additional rounds of their Emerging Lawyers Program, training 60 early career lawyers to provide free specialist legal assistance to more than 12,000 people impacted by family violence across regional and outer metropolitan Victoria?

- ◯ Yes - I support investing $17.1 million in Women's Legal Service Victoria to deliver four additional rounds of the Emerging Lawyers Program, training 60 early career lawyers to provide free specialist legal assistance to more than 12,000 people impacted by family violence.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support additional investment in the Emerging Lawyers Program to expand access to specialist legal assistance for people impacted by family violence, but at a level below the requested $17.1 million.
- ◯ No - I do not support additional funding for the Emerging Lawyers Program.
- ◯ No, reduce funding - I support reducing existing funding for the Emerging Lawyers Program.
- ◯ No position.

Section 3. Improve supports for victim-survivors

Most of us expect a justice and health system that responds swiftly, compassionately and effectively to the needs of survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence. Yet rules and processes set by our government mean many victim-survivors are caused additional harm by systems that should support their recovery. Victorian survivors face barriers and delays in accessing forensic medical examinations, are forced to wait years before they can give testimony for court, and Aboriginal women impacted by violence too often have to navigate police and child protection systems that can undermine their safety.

We're asking candidates whether they'll drive reforms to stop this harm; and resource the infrastructure needed to better support survivors' healing and recovery.

1. Will you support the development of a new 10-year strategy to end family violence, and the creation of a dedicated strategy to address sexual violence?

- ◯ Yes - I support the development and resourcing of a new 10-year strategy to end family violence and the creation of a dedicated strategy to address sexual violence
- ◯ Partial yes - I support the development and resourcing of a new 10-year strategy to end family violence and but not the creation of a dedicated strategy to address sexual violence
- ◯ Partial yes - I support the creation and resourcing of a dedicated strategy to address sexual violence but not a new 10-year strategy to end family violence
- ◯ Partial yes - I support creating strategies to end family violence and sexual violence, but no resourcing tied to these strategies.
- ◯ No - I do not support creating government strategies to end family violence or to address sexual violence.
- ◯ No position

2. Will you support expanding access to ‘just-in-case’ forensic medical examinations so that regardless of where a survivor of sexual violence is in Victoria, they can have evidence collected in the small window of time available without having to travel for hours, while deciding whether to report to police?

- ◯ Yes - I support the expansion of 'just-in-case' forensic medical examinations across Victoria and investment in infrastructure/workforce and storage to ensure survivors of sexual violence have the access to a forensic medical examination when and where they need it.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support expanding access to 'just-in-case' forensic medical examinations to metropolitan areas.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support investment in additional infrastructure funding but don't support giving all survivors in Victoria equitable access to just-in-case forensic medical exams.
- ◯ No - I do not support expanding 'just-in-case' forensic medical examinations or improving system capacity to ensure equitable access across the state.
- ◯ No position

3. Will you support legislative reforms to allow victim-survivors of sexual assault to pre-record their full testimony at a special hearing, in line with recommendation 28 of the ALRC justice responses to sexual violence report?

- ◯ Yes - I support legal reform to allow all victim-survivors of sexual assault to access a special hearing to pre-record their evidence-in-chief, cross-examination and re-examination.
- ◯ No, but I will support changes to allow police to record their interviews with victim-survivors and for these to be used in court proceedings
- ◯ No - I do not support changes to allow victim-survivors of sexual assault to fully pre-record their testimony at a special hearing.
- ◯ No position.

4. Will you improve court responses to victim-survivors of sexual assault by investing in the infrastructure needed to enable them to pre-record their full testimony at a special hearing?

- ◯ Yes - I support resourcing infrastructure to enable victim-survivors of sexual assault to pre-record their testimony at courts across the state.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support resourcing infrastructure to enable victim-survivors of sexual assault to pre-record their testimony at just a handful of sites.
- ◯ No - I do not support any infrastructure changes to enable victim-survivors of sexual assault to pre-record their testimony.
- ◯ No position.

5. Will you support the establishment and resourcing of a Child Protection Notification and Referral System as recommended by Djirra? (This would ensure that Aboriginal women are immediately referred to culturally safe legal advocacy and wraparound support if Child Protection becomes involved when they report family violence).

- ◯ Yes - I will support additional investment in an Aboriginal led service to establish and resource a Child Protection Notification and Referral System
- ◯ No - I do not support the establishment of a Child Protection Notification and Referral System to support Aboriginal women when reporting family violence.
- ◯ No position.

6. Will you implement Yoorrook’s Recommendation 27 by establishing a properly resourced, independent police oversight authority, with the power to independently investigate complaints about police misconduct – so victim-survivors can safely seek accountability?

- ◯ Yes - I will support implementation of Yoorook’s Recommendation 27 in full
- ◯ No - I would not support establishing an independent police oversight authority as proposed in recommendation 27.
- ◯ No position.

Section 4. Resource caring communities

Most of us share a vision of a Victoria with quality services that care for our people - wherever we live, and whatever we're going through.

We're asking candidates whether they're committed to funding the basic services and care that our communities deserve, and to ensure there are supports available in the moments we need them most.

1. Will you support funding the true cost of vital community services, by ensuring government funding agreements include the cost of wage increases ordered by the Fair Work Commission's gender undervaluation review of the Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services (SCHADS) Industry Award and other priority awards?

- ◯ Yes - I support ensuring Government funding agreements fully fund community sector wage increases arising from the Fair Work Commission's gender undervaluation review, including associated on-costs.
- ◯ Partial - I support ensuring additional funding to help organisations meet the increased wage costs arising from the Fair Work Commission's gender undervaluation review, but will not commit to covering the full cost.
- ◯ No - I will not commit to additional funding to cover the increased wage costs arising from the Fair Work Commission's gender undervaluation review
- ◯ No position.

2. Will you support resourcing to sustain the capacity of women's health infrastructure in Victoria? Specifically extending the current investment (due to lapse in June 2027) for women's health clinics, women's sexual reproductive health hubs, Aboriginal women's health clinics and the statewide network of women's health services, and making their funding a permanent part of the health system?

- ◯ Yes - I support extending existing funding for women's health clinics, women's sexual reproductive health hubs, Aboriginal women's health clinics and the statewide network of women's health services with funding embedded as a permanent part of the health system.
- ◯ Partial - I support extending existing funding for women's health services, women's sexual reproductive health hubs, Aboriginal women's health clinics and the statewide network of women's health services beyond June 2027, but do not support making these services an ongoing part of the health system.
- ◯ Partial - I support making these services (women's health clinics, women's sexual reproductive health hubs, Aboriginal women's health clinics and the statewide network of women's health services) a permanent part of the health system, but I do not support maintaining their funding and expect the cost to come from a different part of the health system.
- ◯ No - I do not support maintaining funding for Victorian women's health services, clinics or specialist programs beyond June 2027.
- ◯ No position.

3. Will you support investment to develop and expand our community services (including support workers, case workers, allied health workers, counsellors and early educators) - by introducing a paid student placements model that supports both students and the community services that host them, based on a ‘per-placement-day’ fee?

- ◯ Yes - I support introducing a paid student placements model that provides a per-placement-day payment to both students and community service organisations.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support paid student placements for community services but cannot commit to introducing or funding a specific per-placement-day model.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support paying students during their placements in community services, but do not support resourcing the hosting community service organisations.
- ◯ No - I would not support introducing a paid student placements model.
- ◯ No position.

4. Will you commit to upholding, resourcing and expanding nurse/midwife patient ratios mandated in the Safe Patient Care Act?

- ◯ Yes - I support upholding and resourcing the delivery of nurse/midwife patient ratios as mandated in the Safe Patient Care Act (as amended in 2026); and support expanding those ratios into additional areas
- ◯ Partial yes - I support upholding and resourcing the delivery of nurse/midwife patient ratios as mandated in the Safe Patient Care Act (as amended in 2026), but do not support expanding those ratios into additional areas
- ◯ No - I do not support resourcing the ratios in the Safe Patient Care Act as amended in 2026, and would seek to amend.
- ◯ No position.

Section 5. Ensure affordable and safe homes

Safe, secure housing is essential to women’s safety and equality. For victim-survivors of family violence, housing insecurity can force an impossible choice between remaining in an unsafe home and leaving without a secure place to live.

Rising rents, inadequate social housing and insecure tenancies disproportionately affect women experiencing family violence and financial insecurity.

We're asking candidates for the next Parliament whether they support increasing the supply of social housing, strengthening protections for renters, and ensuring victim-survivors can leave unsafe homes without facing homelessness, financial hardship or discrimination.

1. Will you support building 80,000 new social homes over the next decade through dedicated growth in both public and community housing stock?

- ◯ Yes - I support building 80,000 new social homes over the next decade through dedicated growth in both public and community housing stock.
- ◯ Partial - I support building new social homes, but would commit to a different target.
- ◯ No - I would not support this target.
- ◯ No position.

2. Will you support action to limit rental stress by both: 1. continuing to cap the frequency of rent increases, And 2. charging the Essential Services Commission with developing a Rent Increase Fairness Formula for private rental housing?

- ◯ Yes - I support continuing to cap the frequency of rent increases and will establish a Rent Increase Fairness Formula for private rental housing – with the Essential Services Commission charged with its development.
- ◯ Partial - I support continuing to cap the frequency of rent increases only.
- ◯ Partial - I support the development of a Rent Increase Fairness Formula for private rental housing, but do not support continuing to cap the frequency of rent increases.
- ◯ No - I will not introduce or maintain these measures.
- ◯ No position.

3. Will you support building on existing family violence provisions in the Residential Tenancies Act to expand legal protections against discrimination, financial loss, and risk of eviction?

- ◯ Yes - I support expanding protections in the Residential Tenancies Act for victim-survivors of family violence - to prevent discrimination, financial loss and risk of eviction.
- ◯ No - I do not support additional protections for victim-survivors of family violence in the Residential Tenancies Act.
- ◯ No - I would support revoking current protections for victim-survivors of family violence within the Residential Tenancies Act.
- ◯ No position.

4. Will you support delivering liveable and affordable homes for renters, by completing the full rollout of the new Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards for private rentals, public housing and community housing as scheduled?

- ◯ Yes - I support full rollout of the new Minimum Energy Efficiency standards for private rentals, public housing and community housing from the scheduled start date - with the first wave of reform from 1 March 2027.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support full rollout of the new standards across private rentals, public housing and community housing, but on a delayed schedule.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support rollout of part of the new standards across some but not all of private rentals, public housing and community housing.
- ◯ No - I do not support the roll out of new Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards in any of private rentals, public housing or community housing.
- ◯ No position.

5. Will you support updates to Victoria’s emergency relief and recovery programs to reflect the impacts of a changing climate and the impacts of the housing crisis? Specifically - expanding programs and eligibility for emergency relief payments to renters so they can access support to remain in their communities.

- ◯ Yes - I support expanding programs for renters to enable them to remain in their communities in the wake of emergencies, and to expand eligibility for emergency relief payments to renters.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support expanding programs for renters to enable them to remain in their communities in the wake of emergencies, but not expanding eligibility for emergency relief payments to renters.
- ◯ Partial yes - I support expanding eligibility for emergency relief payments to renters but not expanding programs for renters to enable them to remain in their communities in the wake of emergencies.
- ◯ No - I do not support expanding programs or eligibility in either of these areas.
- ◯ No position.

Section 6. Maintain Treaty

As women know well - we all do better when we're free to make decisions for ourselves. Victoria's Treaty puts First Nations people in the driver's seat when it comes to policies and decisions that impact them. It makes sure Aboriginal people have the power to design solutions that work for their communities across a range of barriers - including women's safety and equality.

1. Will you honour and sustain Victoria's landmark Treaty Legislation and resource and empower Gellung Warl to continue acting in their role as the First People's representative body?

- ◯ Yes - I support maintaining Victoria's Treaty legislation and Gellung Warl as the First Peoples' representative body.
- ◯ No - I would support repealing Victoria's Treaty legislation.
- ◯ No position.