

Luci Blackborough

Plant the seeds for progress

Luci was elected to Campbelltown City Council at the age of 18 during the 2018 Local Government elections, making her SA's youngest Councillor.

Luci grew up in Magill and went to St Joseph Tranmere, Loretto and Concordia Colleges for her education. Her mother has an Italian heritage and her father Australian; a mix Luci and her younger sister see as providing the 'best of both worlds' with family events and celebrations.

Luci's teachers encouraged, and provided, a range of leadership opportunities, one being a two-year traineeship with the Unley City Council as part of a business certificate. This opportunity helped Luci to develop confidence and sparked her interest in Communication and Marketing. Luci was named the 2017 Trainee of the Year by her provider, AFL SportsReady.

Luci is currently studying a Bachelor of Marketing and Communication at UniSA and working in a range of part time positions including in hospitality as well as working on the Campbelltown City Council.

Luci joined the Campbelltown Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) in 2017 which provided her insight into the way individuals can influence local decisions. Luci developed strong friendships through her time on YAC but became frustrated by the ability of an advisory committee to effect change and make decisions.

This led Luci to speak to Jill Whittaker and Simon Brewer as elected members about their work and role and to run in the 2018 elections.

Luci's family are surprised by her interests and activism but have always provided support. Luci says that she is not as interested in state level politics at this point but has a passion to drive change to support the local community achieve its potential.

Luci recognised the importance of support and mentoring during the election process, stating 'you need a team to get you there'. Luci appreciated the support from other elected members and council members in both the decision to run and her work as a Councillor.

Luci has appreciated the opportunity to give back and enable positive change as a local Councillor and is proud to be part of a progressive, positive, forward thinking Council. She sees the diversity of experiences, ages and backgrounds on Council as a strength as it ensures a dynamic Council team.

Luci is impressed by the amount of behind the scenes work and time that goes into Council and is proud to be part of a Council with an open and progressive agenda. She would like to see more indie events locally and issues like affordable housing and local actions to address climate change as future focus areas. Luci believes that the Council must keep moving and reflecting the community culture, age and gender profile.

Luci encourages women of all back grounds to get involved, take on leadership roles and step up to be a change maker. She would tell her younger self or other women, to trust your instinct, your own abilities and be brave.

"It is important to take stock, be realistic, seek feedback and input so that you balance self-doubts with a good dose of reality."

Celebrating International Women's Day with the Women of Campbelltown project – inspiring stories of local women, their achievements and contributions to the Community'.

Thank you to the women who participated and the volunteer interviewers Di Booker and Katrina Spencer for their time.