

## Candidate Details



Ballot paper name	<b>JOHNSTON, Gemma</b>
Candidate name	<b>Gemma JOHNSTON</b>
District	<b>Shire of Esperance</b>
Nominating for	<b>President for Shire of Esperance</b>
Election type	<b>Ordinary</b>
Enrolment status	<b>JOHNSTON, Gemma is eligible to stand for election as a resident of the Shire of Esperance.</b>

Over the last 6 years I have taken a strong interest in Local Government & have learnt a wealth of knowledge about how our Shire Council operates over this time.

I am passionate to lead a transparent & honest Council to make informed, logical & considered decisions for the greater good of our town.

I have a Bachelor in Accounting (BAcc) & have operated successful businesses my entire life, both serving me well for this role.

Sustainability of our assets & finances are paramount.

I commit to undertake a Strategic Financial Review to identify & implement efficiencies across all areas of the Shire, striving to get our rates back to an acceptable level, capped at CPI increase.

I have minimal commitments, enabling me to invest the necessary time & energy to fulfil all functions of the role well.

In this current political environment, I believe Local Government has increased in advocacy importance, to protect the rights & lifestyles of our community, which commences with strong Council leadership.

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Born to a Condungup pioneer farming family, I am incredibly proud of my humble beginnings and our family history being woven into the fabric of our beautiful town.

Our family built and still owns the Condungup Tavern, which I initially managed after returning from University. It was throughout these years, I realised I was a 'people person' who enjoyed being back in our close-knit community.

My own family now, has a 50 year family history in local retail and commercial property.

Community focused, I have worked with disengaged youth and our local Esperance Care Services.

Our 3 boys were raised here enjoying the best backyard in the world, which I am passionate to protect this unique lifestyle for generations to come.

I would advocate strongly for Esperance to have the level of services and facilities commensurate with the metropolitan area including:

- Improved Air Services & Airport Upgrade
- Upgrading Esperance Senior High School
- Revitalising the Town Centre
- Vibrant Tourism Industry & Expanding Tourism Infrastructure
- Increased Community Housing
- Quality Aged Care

I feel strongly to increase transparency, consistency and accountability in all decision making and would ensure our Council has a strong voice for all State / Federal issues affecting our community.

I have the courage to ask the hard questions, the tenacity to see things through and the integrity to do things right.

I love Esperance and would be honoured to serve our community as your President.