



President and Board Elections 2025

**Election of
Director**

**Great South Coast Barwon
Region**

Voting instructions,
candidates' statements
and photographs

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



STAPLETON, Libby

I'm a second-term Councillor at Surf Coast Shire, having served two years as Mayor and now in the role of Deputy. I'm independent, focussed on community outcomes and committed to a collaborative approach to uplift the local government sector. With demonstrated leadership skills and strategic mindset, I am well-placed to represent our region on the MAV Board, to provide a fresh perspective, and to advocate for Councils to have the resources and support needed to meet the diverse needs of our communities. As a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and experienced Board Director, I am well-versed in governance and strategic decision-making. Combined with my professional skills as a Public Relations consultant, I can help build a stronger advocacy program to improve the position and influence of MAV as the peak body representing local government in Victoria. Importantly, I am deeply committed to ensuring the voices of rural and regional Councils across the Great South Coast Barwon Region are heard and represented at the state level. I seek your vote as the MAV Board representative, so I can bring my skills to the table and help ensure that together we build resilient and sustainable communities across our region.

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GSTREIN, Ruth

It has been an honour to represent your Council on the MAV Board for the past two years. With your support I would like to continue being an active advocate for the GSCB Region and provide continuity to the Board. The Organisation has gone through substantial change recently and has made invaluable sector representation to State and Federal governments including Housing Reform and the Parliamentary Committees into Financial Sustainability which influenced report outcomes. The launch of the 4 year strategic plan lays a strong foundation for MAV to build on going forward. Communication with State Government has markedly improved with MAV being a strong voice for the sector. This needs to continue to improve. Opportunities for ongoing learning for Councillors is vital to improve decision making and governance and MAV has the experience to deliver this. Along with Insurance and Procurement and strong advocacy, MAV is an important partner with all Councils. I am passionate about local government and will always fight for our fair share. As an experienced Councillor with Corangamite Shire and 6 term Mayor I understand the issues that face local government and with your support, will work hard to represent your Council at MAV Board level.