

2023 NSW upper house voting guide for the pragmatic progressive

Groups in this table are roughly in order of 'least shit' to 'most shit', but obviously opinion on what constitutes being not shit and the exact order will differ. The important thing is to put *all* the not shit / less shit groups ahead of *all* the shit groups. If you do that, then no matter who's left at the final preferences distribution for that last seat, your vote will count towards a less awful government. Let's not let some deplorable monster sneak in to the last spot because there were too many exhausted progressive votes! In the interest of brevity, ungrouped candidates have not been listed as they are unlikely to be voted in.

Group / party name	Shit or not?	The gist of it
The Greens	Not shit	A wide-ranging platform of sensible policies for a better world.
Elizabeth Farrelly Independents*	Not shit	Former <i>SMH</i> columnist and architecture critic Elizabeth Farrelly has jumped on the Teal bandwagon.
Animal Justice Party	Not shit	Animal lovers, guided by kindness, equality, rationality and non-violence.
Legalise Cannabis NSW Party	Not shit	Just legalise it already! More hippies in parliament would be a good thing.
Public Education Party**	Not shit	A narrow focus on improving public education. Social justice advocates.
Socialist Alliance	Not shit	Let's bring down the imperial capitalist machine comrades!
Labor Party	Less shit	Lesser of two evils if you like your politics binary. A strong crossbench may delay the rot setting in.
Sustainable Australia Party - Stop Overdevelopment / Corruption	Too out there	Worrying anti-immigration sentiment nestled among an otherwise reasonable sounding platform.
Informed Medical Options Party	Too out there	Antivaxxers and individual freedom advocates with an unfortunate habit of siding with the far right.
Liberal Democrats	Shit	Advocating small government, low taxes and individual freedom – not particularly liberal or democratic but a name designed to catch the unwary voter.
Liberal Party***	Shit	Free market rationalists and social conservatives. Have achieved little in the last decade other than selling off much of the state's assets to their big biz mates. Well past their use by date as a government.
National Party***	Shit	Assorted coal monsters, koala haters, rednecks and other out-of-date political deadweight.
Small Business Party	Shit	More free market rationalists by another name.
Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party	Extremely shit	For people who like to shoot things, FFS.
Pauline Hanson's One Nation	Extremely shit	The poster child for bigots is still at it unfortunately...

Notes on party names: *Elizabeth Farrelly Independents were previously named 'Keep Sydney Open' in 2019, and then became the 'Open Party', and have changed again to support Elizabeth Farrelly's campaign.

**Public Education Party was previously named the 'Voluntary Euthanasia Party' in 2019, then became the NSW branch of the Reason Party, and has now been re-named the Public Education Party.

***The Liberal Party and National Party share the same group.



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