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By BENJAMIN MILLAR

THE Canterbury Greens are celebrating the election of the group's first ever local councillor to Canterbury Council.

Hurlstone Park resident Linda Eisler was elected to East Ward with 25 per cent of the vote, a swing of 10 per cent on previous results for the Greens in this area.

The group enjoyed an 8 per cent swing across all wards, with Bashir Sawalha's team gaining 10 per cent of the vote in the highly contested Central Ward.

A former school teacher, Ms Eisler said the people of Canterbury have spoken and they want a real community voice on their council.

"I would like to sincerely thank all those who got behind the Greens this time, and I'm sure that this historic vote will deliver real change for this community," she said.

"From today onwards I'll be working hard to represent all the people of East Ward and the Canterbury Council area for the next four years.

Giving Canterbury residents a say on the issues that affect their lives will be Ms Eisler's top priority, arguing people deserve greater consultation on council decisions, particularly on major developments.

"I will work tirelessly against overdevelopment and for the disadvantaged in our community," she said.

I will be tenacious in seeking real action from the Council to clean up the Cooks River once and for all.

Candidate Bashir Sawalha, who lives and runs a small business in Lakemba, said the strong Green vote in Labor heartland shows that people want a genuine alternative.

"The 8 per cent swing to the Greens across the Council area shows that our campaign for good development not overdevelopment, improved services, openness and accountability and real action on the environment has resonated with the people of Canterbury," he said.

"The remarkable results the Greens have achieved across New South Wales show that our key messages are on the mark."

He said it's particular clear the community wants an immediate end to political donations from corporations and developers.