



RANDWICK CITY'S future



CONSULTATION UPDATE

TELEPHONE SURVEY

Randwick City Council has undertaken one of its largest single community consultations in the history of the Council.

The community consultation was in response to State Government's Fit for the Future program released in late 2014.

The NSW State Government's Fit for the Future program requires Randwick City Council to consider amalgamating with its neighbouring councils Waverley, Woollahra, Botany, City of Sydney – forming a global city with more than half a million residents.

We don't support amalgamations, however, we are required to show the NSW Government that we can meet their requirements in some way, whether it be through their preferred global city option or a merger that is broadly consistent. The Government has made it clear that "doing nothing is not an option".

We have sought the views of residents, ratepayers and local businesses on the NSW Government's Fit for the Future program and what it means for our future.

This information has been used, along with a comprehensive financial analysis, to develop our Options Analysis package. A snapshot of the telephone survey is included here, with the full information available on our website www.yoursayrandwick.com.au/future

PARTICIPANTS: 643

Data: quantitative, 3.9% error margin, 95% confidence.

Purpose: To conduct a statistically valid, representative sample survey of Randwick City residents on their attitudes to local government reform and merger preferences.

Randwick City Council engaged Micromex Research to undertake a statistically valid, random and representative survey of Randwick City residents.

The survey consisted of a three-stage methodology:

Stage 1: Initial recruitment of 1,000 residents via telephone

Stage 2: Mailout by Council of a letter, information pack and summary sheet

Stage 3: Call back of 643 of the initial 1,000 recruits to conduct survey

Key findings

- The two largest amalgamation options (Global City of Randwick with Sydney, Waverley, Botany and Woollahra; Randwick with Waverley, Botany and Woollahra) generated the highest number of 'Not very supportive' and 'Not at all supportive' ratings.
- In a head-to-head preference comparison of all seven options, 'Standalone' was residents' most preferred option.
- Looking beyond the 'Standalone' option, 'Amalgamation with Waverley' attracted the next most support across the total sample of residents.
- Amongst those who selected 'Standalone' as their first option, their two main other preferences were 'Amalgamation with Waverley' and 'Amalgamation with Botany'. These are the two smallest amalgamation options.
- 96% of residents were at least 'somewhat satisfied' with the performance of Council in dealing with the NSW Government's Fit for the Future project and the associated issue of possible amalgamation.
- 35% committed said 'completely supportive' in response to Randwick standing alone – which is more than double any other option.
- 50% said they are completely supportive or supportive of an amalgamation with Waverley
- The third most supported option is an 'amalgamation with Waverley and Woollahra' with 40% of respondents completely supportive or supportive.



Randwick City Council
a sense of community

Who makes the final decision?

The State Government has appointed the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to act as the Expert Advisory Panel to review council Fit for the Future submissions.

IPART's draft assessment criteria state that they will determine all submissions to be either "fit" or "not fit" for the future.

According to IPART's draft assessment criteria, Randwick Council's proposal will be considered using the scale and capacity of the Independent Local Government Review Panel's preferred option – a global city (Randwick, Waverley, Woollahra, Botany, Sydney). They will then consider whether our proposal is 'broadly consistent' with a global city. If it is not 'broadly consistent' the Council's proposal will be determined to be "not fit".

If Council proposes to stand alone, IPART requires that we prove standing alone is "superior" to a global city merger in all areas of the criteria including scale and capacity, effectively managing infrastructure, sustainability and efficiency.



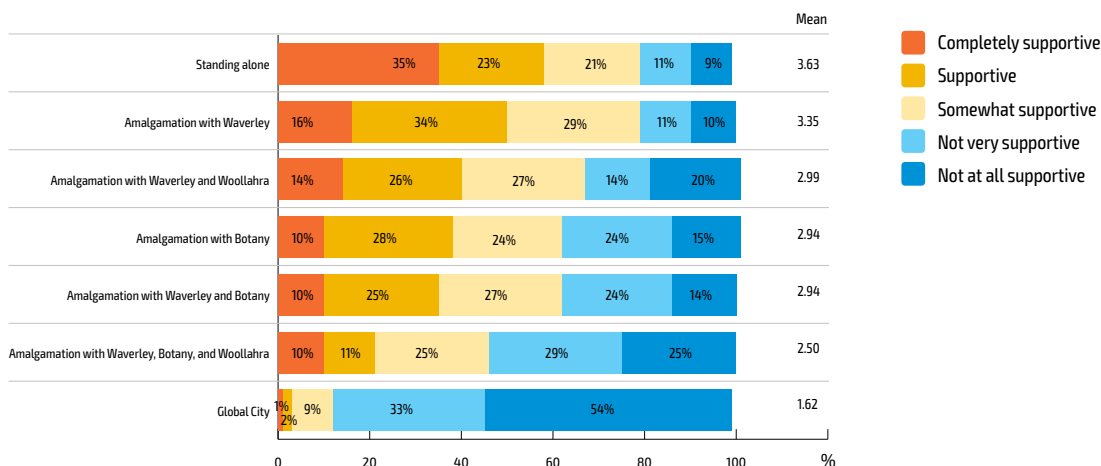
Randwick City's future - Telephone survey results

87% are not very supportive or not at all supportive of a global city merger

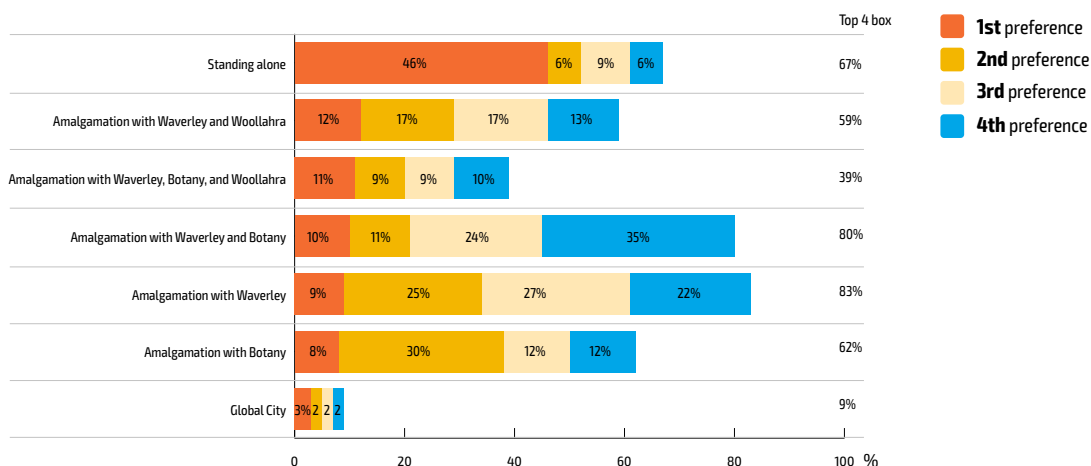
*Micromex Research, Options Analysis, Appendix B, page 21-22

Summary of support

Please note: data displayed in the graph is rounded to the nearest whole number



Q11. Which of the seven options is your most preferred option? And which is your next most preferred option? (Etc.)



View the Council's analysis and the full results of all community consultation in "Appendix B: Community Engagement" online at www.yoursayrandwick.com.au/future

Randwick Council's submission on the Fit for the Future program will be on public exhibition, through IPART, from July 2015.