



RANDWICK CITY'S future



CONSULTATION UPDATE

POP-UP INFORMATION STALLS

PARTICIPANTS: 508

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 pop-up information stalls is included here, with the full information available on our website www.yoursayrandwick.com.au/future

Only **3%** of people supported a global city merger

Purpose: To provide multiple and convenient opportunities for interested people to speak with staff in an informal setting at convenient locations across Randwick City.

Council developed a program of community information pop-up stalls at local shopping centres, beaches, parks and community centres. They were generally held for two-hour periods at various times of the day both during the week and on weekends. Sessions were held during January to complement the 'inform' stage and during February to support the 'involve' stage of Council's community consultation program.

Two Council staff were available to speak with interested residents, answer questions and discuss the issue in more detail.

The stalls proved popular and successful. There were visually prominent with strong branding with tear-drop banners used at outdoor sites.

Council staff recorded the general nature of comments offered from people into four categories.

These comments provide some insight into community feedback but are not representative of all views. People were not prompted to answer questions or provide responses and all comments were provided voluntarily.

- 127 people said they opposed amalgamations
- 141 people said something positive about Council
- 15 people said they supported the global city option
- 71 people said they supported an eastern suburbs council merger

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 - Pop-up information stall



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

Randwick Council's submission on the Fit for the Future program will be on public exhibition, through IPART, from 1 July 2015.