



RANDWICK CITY'S future



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 community survey is included here, with the full information available on our website www.yoursayrandwick.com.au/future

90% prefer an eastern suburbs council merger over a global city

COMMUNITY SURVEY

PARTICIPANTS: 6,446

Data: quantitative, 1.2% error margin, 95% confidence.

Purpose: To provide all Randwick City residents, ratepayers and business owners with the opportunity to have their say through a community survey either online or via reply-paid paper surveys.

The purpose of the community survey was to provide an opportunity for residents, ratepayers and business owners within Randwick City to express their views about proposed amalgamations as part of the State Government's Fit for the Future program.

The survey provided an important opportunity to discuss costs and benefits of a range of merger options and provide residents with an opportunity to have their say.

The survey provides a good sample representation of suburbs in Randwick City and gender. There is an age bias towards older residents and an under-representation of younger people.

Key findings

- There is a high level of satisfaction with services and facilities provided by Randwick City Council and a concern that a larger Council will result in a loss of local identity and a less say in how the area develops.
- More respondents (39%) associate with the 'eastern suburbs' than they do with their suburb (31%) or the City of Randwick (26%).
- There is a rejection of the global city concept. This is significantly the least preferred outcome.
- In two separate questions in the survey, a consistent 49% of respondents indicated they preferred no change with the remaining 51% preferred one of the merger options.
- If amalgamations must occur, 90% would prefer an eastern suburbs council model and 5% would prefer the larger global city council model (5% are unsure).
- The most preferred merger option is an amalgamation Randwick + Waverley Councils.

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.



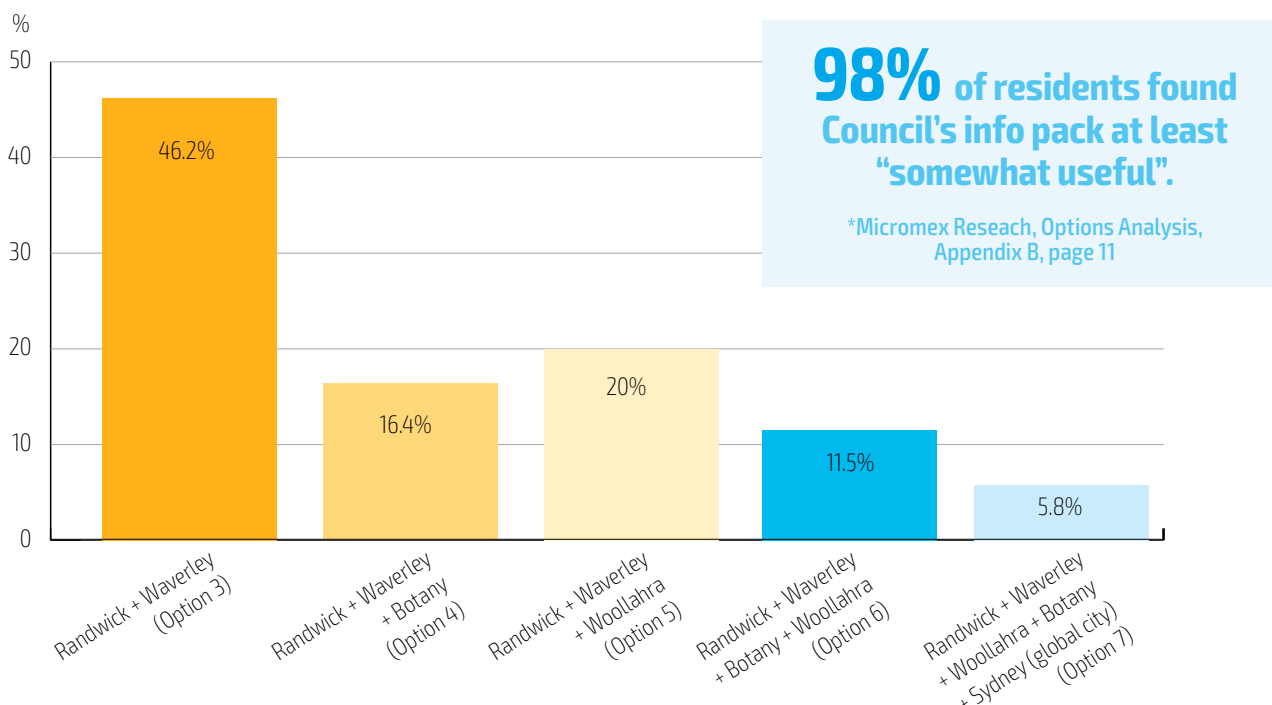
Randwick City's future - Community survey results

Question 10: Please rank your preferences (results by percentage)

	Randwick (no change) (Option one)	Randwick + Botany (Option two)	Randwick + Waverley (Option three)	Randwick + Waverley + Botany (Option four)	Randwick + Waverley + Woollahra (Option five)	Randwick + Waverley + Botany + Woollahra (Option six)	Randwick +Waverley +Woollahra +Botany +Sydney (global city) (Option seven)
1st preference	49%	6%	10%	5%	15%	10%	5%
2nd preference	5%	24%	33%	10%	16%	10%	2%
3rd preference	9%	11%	24%	23%	21%	10%	3%
4th preference	4%	14%	16%	40%	9%	13%	2%
5th preference	4%	19%	12%	19%	28%	15%	3%
6th preference	14%	20%	4%	3%	10%	42%	6%
7th preference	14%	4%	1%	0%	1%	1%	80%

Question 10: Please rank your preferences

(distributed by first preferences after removing Option One Randwick and Option Two Randwick + Botany)



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.