

New East Ward Councillor Declared

Published on 25 February 2015



The Mayor, Clr Pickering and Clr Scott

The Electoral Commission NSW has declared Jane Stott winner of the City of Ryde East Ward By-Election.

Ms Stott polled 5002 votes and is the first female Liberal councillor to be elected to the Council.

Ms Stott is an assistant principal specialising in special needs education and said she was honoured to represent the community.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Bill Pickering, said he was very pleased to welcome Ms Stott: “Ms Stott is a brilliant addition to our team and brings with her a wealth of experience and a real commitment to working hard on behalf of the residents.”

Ms Stott will attend her first meeting of Council on Tuesday 10 March, 2015, at 7.30pm in the Civic Centre Council Chambers, 1 Devlin Street, Ryde.

Fit for the Future

Published on 18 February 2015

The City of Ryde at an Extraordinary Council meeting held on Tuesday 17 February 2015, endorsed the implementation of a range of actions to proactively respond to the Minister for Local Government's "Fit for the Future" initiative. Under the recommendations detailed in the Independent Panel's final report "Revitalising Local Government" the City of Ryde is proposed to be split and amalgamated with Councils to the west (Parramatta, Holroyd and Auburn) and to the East (Hunters Hill, Lane Cove, Mosman, North Sydney and Willoughby).

The City of Ryde is vigorously opposed to forced amalgamations and is also opposing the recommendations made in the Independent Panel's report.

Following the announcement by the Hon Paul Toole, the Minister for Local Government, "Fit for the Future" initiative in October 2014, the City of Ryde hosted and facilitated a Northern Sydney Council's Forum with neighbouring Councils. As a result of these discussions, a "Fit for the Future Symposium" was held at Willoughby Council on 5 February 2015 with most of the northern Sydney Councils attending to discuss the issues and the position each Council would be taking on this very important issue, for their individual Council and the region.

The City of Ryde has endorsed investigating the formation of a modified joint organisation (regional body) with other interested Councils across northern Sydney. The joint organisation (regional body) would be responsible for the strategic planning of the northern Sydney subregion that would include subregional land use and infrastructure planning; subregional community and cultural planning; subregional economic development and tourism and other joint service initiatives.

Council is also seeking other neighbouring Councils to support a shared community engagement strategy with those Councils that confirm their support in exploring the formation of a joint organisation (regional body). This will ensure a consistent approach is taken in discussions and consultations with our local communities.

Council's Mayor, Bill Pickering, stated, "if we are to survive into the future, we have to demonstrate that we are showing leadership in working to achieve the best outcomes for the City of Ryde community and the region and this is the reason why Council has taken this proactive action in bringing our neighbouring Councils in the northern Sydney region together. It is pleasing to note that the approach being taken by the City of Ryde has support from some of our adjoining Councils and we look forward to working with those Councils who support these initiatives."

For more information, visit the [Fit for the Future](#) page.

RYDE SAYS **NO** 
TO FORCED AMALGAMATIONS

VISIT THE FIT FOR THE FUTURE PAGE

FOR MORE **INFORMATION** AND TO PROVIDE US WITH
YOUR FEEDBACK VIA AN **ONLINE SURVEY**

Ghostbusters at Eastwood Plaza

Published on 17 February 2015

Eastwood Plaza will be turning green this Saturday evening for a special screening of all-time favourite movie Ghostbusters, as part of the annual Cinema in the Park festival.

Ryde Council is taking extra steps to ensure movie goers have a great experience by laying soft astro-turf over the surface of Eastwood Plaza, making it more comfortable for people to sit on their picnic rugs and low chairs. Atmospheric lights and decorations will add to the ghostly atmosphere.

City of Ryde Events Manager, Derek McCarthy, said provisions for wet weather have also been put in place. "Just in case there's rain, we've arranged to move the cinema viewing area to nearby Eastwood School under the pergola so that patrons can fully enjoy the movie."

So, gather your friends and family, pack a picnic and rug and head on down to Eastwood Plaza for a memorable night at the movies under the stars.

Ghostbusters is part of the popular Cinema in the Park festival run every year for local residents.

- Movies start at sundown, approximately 8pm
- Entry is free
- All venues are smoke free
- All venues are wheelchair accessible
- Coffee, cold drinks and snacks available at all venues
- Parking available at all venues
- Movie includes closed captions for the deaf and hearing impaired community.

To find out more, visit the [Cinema in the Park](#) page.

Special Rates Variation Update

Published on 12 February 2015

The City of Ryde at its meeting on Tuesday 10 February 2015 endorsed the Revised Delivery Plan for 2014/2018 and Operational Plan 2014/2015, which includes Council making an application for a Special Rating Variation to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal [IPART].

This follows Council's support for a proposed Special Rate Variation (SRV) of a 7% increase over 4 years commencing 1 July 2015 that is proposed to be an on going permanent increase.

Council's Mayor, Bill Pickering at Council's meeting on Tuesday 10 February 2015 gave two examples of what this means for our ratepayers. An owner of a residential property valued at \$645,150 will expect an estimated increase of \$64 per annum resulting in an additional \$290 over four years. An owner of a unit dwelling with a land value of \$92,510 will experience an estimated increase of \$39 per annum or \$225 over four years.

The SRV that is proposed to commence in the 2015/2016 year will raise additional funds and undertake works in infrastructure over the remaining term of this Delivery Plan and is proposed to be ongoing.

The Special Rate Variation application will be submitted by 16 February 2015 to IPART for consideration, with a determination by 19 May 2015.

Council's Mayor, Bill Pickering, also stated that Council was mindful of the positive response from the City of Ryde's community to maintain current services and service standards. He also emphasised that Council had complemented this proposed SRV with a reduction in Council's operating costs and it was also seeking other opportunities in raising other sources of revenue, to minimise the impact on the City's ratepayers.

Update

The [City of Ryde Special Rate Variation Application](#) was submitted to IPART on 16 February 2015 for consideration.

The application can also be viewed on the [IPART website](#).

Vaccinate Your Pet Rabbit

Published on 05 February 2015

An ongoing rabbit control program is being undertaken in public open space in northern Sydney.

This includes open spaces within the City of Ryde.

Rabbits are a declared pest species and a threat to infrastructure and endangered ecological communities.

The aim of the program is to reduce rabbit numbers and thereby reduce the negative impacts of rabbits.

Commencing in March, Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus (RHDV) will be released in the local area in a solution applied to chopped carrots.

RHDV is species-specific. It affects only rabbits. It is not harmful to native animals, or to domestic pets other than rabbits.

If you have a pet rabbit, it is important to get it vaccinated against RHDV as soon as possible.

This will ensure that if your pet rabbit comes into contact with the virus, which is mainly spread by insects and contact with other rabbits, it will be immune.

To ensure that your pet rabbit remains protected, you should consult your vet and maintain an ongoing vaccination program.

For further information, call Local Land Services on 4655 9165 or Council's Customer Service Centre on 9952 8222.