

Changes to Household CleanUp Service

Published on 25 March 2015

Currently, each household is provided with 5 scheduled Household CleanUp collection days per year.

From **1 May 2015**, household CleanUp collections will no longer be scheduled by Council. Instead, you will be able to book your collection at your convenience.

This is what we mean by an 'at-call' service. You will continue to have up to 5 Household CleanUp collections per calendar year, just call or visit our website to make a booking!

Bookings will available early April, with collections commencing from **4 May 2015**.

This new at-call service is designed to be more flexible and convenient. It will also help keep our streets cleaner by reducing illegal dumping.

For more information, visit the [Pre-Booked Household CleanUp Collection](#) page.

Keep Councils Local - MPs in Sydney's North Must stand up for Ratepayers

Published on 23 March 2015

The Keep Councils Local campaign is urging Liberal MPs in Sydney's north to join with the Member for Lane Cove, Anthony Roberts and the Member for Ryde, Victor Dominello in opposing forced amalgamation of their councils.

Mr Roberts, who is the NSW Minister for Resources and Energy, was unequivocal when asked about forced council amalgamations:

"When it comes to local Government, there is no policy on the table except the Fit for the Future policy which allows for voluntary council mergers, but only if every Council agrees to it."

"As I said in June 2013, when it comes to Councils, bigger is not better. I naturally support the idea of all Councils working closer together to achieve the best outcomes for their ratepayers, whilst retaining their identity and autonomy."

Mr Dominello, who is also Minister for Citizenship, Communities and Aboriginal Affairs, said:

"I will advocate that Ryde Council not be split up, given its strategic importance with Macquarie Business Park."

The Keep Councils Local campaign is supported by Ryde, Hunter's Hill and Lane Cove councils.

A spokesman for the campaign, Ryde Mayor Bill Pickering, said councils in Sydney's north were heartened by the two Ministers' comments.

"We applaud Anthony Roberts and Victor Dominello for standing up for the ratepayers and businesses in their electorates," Mayor Pickering said today.

"The fact is, the Government has so far failed to provide any evidence showing how the amalgamation of financially viable councils like Ryde, Hunter's Hill and Lane Cove, will deliver cost savings or other efficiencies to our local communities.

"Instead, we are concerned a forced amalgamation will result in a dramatic reduction in local representation for our ratepayers and businesses and reduce the quality and quantity of local government services.

"That's why the Keep Councils Local campaign is now calling on the Minister for Health Jillian Skinner, who is the Member for the North Shore, and the Minister for Transport, Gladys Berejiklian, who is Member for Willoughby to come out and match the comments of Anthony Roberts and Victor Dominello."

Argyle and Bowling Club site options

Published on 23 March 2015

Community response to the Council's proposed options to develop the Argyle Centre and Ryde Bowling Club sites has been positive.

Around 40 local residents attended a community meeting on Wednesday evening to discuss the Council proposals that would realise the sites' potential to generate income, provide housing and address the loss of community and recreational facilities for residents since the closure of the sites.

City of Ryde General Manager, Gail Connolly, whose presentation contained a history of the sites, explanation of the zoning, and strategic vision, said: "The community needed to be reassured that the sites would not be sold.

"Our strategic vision for the sites ensures that the future benefits of any development will flow back to the community.

"While the two sites sit side by side their zoning requires that they will be developed independently of each other but with an integrated vision."

The General Manager added that all of the comments and suggestions made by the residents which will be taken on board and presented in a report to Council in early May.

OPTIONS

Argyle Centre Site – Council owned land zoned B4 (mixed use).

Proposal is to construct a mixed-use building (residential and commercial/retail mix) similar in size to a building directly across Blaxland Road, that would provide some key workers housing within the community. The development could be funded from the Council's property investment portfolio reserve and borrowings.

Bowling Club Site – Crown land zoned REI – Public Recreation

Council will seek expressions of interest to develop the site in line with permissible uses that include facilities for community/environmental/indoor recreation/outdoor recreation/arts/culture, as well as restaurants and cafes and return to parkland.

The sites whose use dates from the early 1900s, sit side by side on a parcel of land on Blaxland Road at the south-west corner of Ryde Park. The Argyle site is owned by the Council while the Bowling Club is located mostly on Crown land, with the City of Ryde having care control and management of the land.

Residents are invited to complete the online survey by visiting the [Have your Say](#) website.

OMG! Don't get Distracted

Published on 20 March 2015

Texting, talking and listening to music on a mobile device is a vital element in the lives of most young people, but when coupled with walking and crossing the road, alarm bells ring.

Distracted? is a pedestrian safety awareness campaign that will run across ten northern Sydney councils aimed at persuading people to put their heads up and their mobiles down while walking.

35 pedestrian casualties were reported in the City of Ryde in 2013 according to figures from the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), with almost half aged under 25 years. Many of these incidences could have been avoided if people were more alert when crossing the road.

Young people in particular are vulnerable when texting or listening to music while crossing the road. Reminding them to STOP and be aware of all the potential dangers before stepping off the kerb would reduce at least some collisions involving pedestrians.

Wearing headphones limits hearing the sounds around you and reduces concentration, so pedestrians become more vulnerable when stepping out from the kerb if their head space is occupied with their music and mobile phones.

Pedestrian safety tips:

- Head up phone down
- Don't walk and text
- Be especially aware in heavily trafficked areas
- If you do need to text, move to one side, stop, then text
- Always use pedestrian crossings, if available
- Never assume an approaching driver can see you or will stop
- At intersections, check for turning vehicles before you leave the kerb.

Distracted? is a joint initiative of ten Northern Sydney Councils including Ryde, Kuring-gai, Lane Cove, Mosman, North Sydney, Pittwater, Warringah, Manly, Hornsby and Willoughby in conjunction with the RMS and will include print advertising, face-to-face promotions and various types of outdoor advertising designed to engage young pedestrians.

Keep Councils Local: Ratepayers Reject Amalgamation with 82% Vote

Published on 20 March 2015

The people of a major northern Sydney council have emphatically rejected plans for forced amalgamation of councils.

An online survey by the City of Ryde currently shows that 82 per cent of people reject amalgamation of their Council with others.

“In just a few days we’ve had around 600 people respond to our survey. The people are making their voices heard,” the Mayor of the City of Ryde, Cr Bill Pickering, said today.

“Opposition to the prospect of forced amalgamation is growing.

“I note that ratepayers in nearby Holroyd have also overwhelmingly rejected amalgamation—with 71 per cent opposing it,” Mayor Pickering said.

The City of Ryde has joined Lane Cove Council and Hunter’s Hill Council in launching a public campaign on the issue: Keep Councils Local.

“Over recent months, we have had no unequivocal statement of position on forced amalgamations from the Premier,” Mayor Pickering said today.

“He needs to answer a simple question: **Will the Baird Government, if re-elected, force councils to amalgamate?**”

“Mr Baird currently has no mandate from the voters to axe councils.

“If he wants to do this, he needs to tell the voters before they vote at the end of this month.

Mayor Pickering said that the business case for amalgamating councils simply did not exist.

“Overwhelming economic analysis shows that the vast majority of metropolitan councils, including those in northern Sydney, are economically viable,” he said.

“The government’s claim of one million dollars a day losses is simply incorrect. There has been no independent cost benefit analysis undertaken to support this argument.’

Mayor Pickering said that Professor Graham Sansom, chair of the independent Local Government Review Panel, had declared a few months ago that too much had been made of the financial benefits of amalgamation, stating that: *“Any one of the metropolitan councils in Sydney can be financially sustainable within their current boundaries. No ifs, buts or maybes.” (SMH 9 December 2014)*

Mayor Pickering said that proposed ‘super Councils’ would mean:

- A dramatic reduction in local representation for ratepayers and businesses and the impact of this on the local community; and
- Cuts in the quality and quantity of local government services.

“Crucial services like childcare, disability care, free immunisation, maintenance of sportsfields, libraries, swimming pools and Meals on Wheels could be reduced or scrapped altogether,” Mayor Pickering said.

“There is no evidence to suggest that amalgamations of Councils will create financial savings.”

The Mayor of Hunter’s Hill and President of the Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils, Cr Richard Quinn, said that people would lose their voice in local government.

“There will simply be fewer councillors representing larger populations.”

Mayor Quinn said that the very essence of local government, namely its close connection with, and responsiveness to its community would be lost.

“The Premier needs to tell us where he stands on forced amalgamations,” Mayor Quinn said.

Keep Councils Local: Baird Government must reveal Amalgamation Plans

Published on 19 March 2015

BAIRD GOVERNMENT MUST REVEAL AMALGAMATION PLANS

Opposition is growing on Sydney's north shore to the threat of forced council amalgamations, with the Mayor of the City of Ryde, Cr Bill Pickering, launching a public campaign on the issue: Keep Councils Local.

Supported by the majority of councils on the north shore, including the adjoining Hunter's Hill Council, Ryde is calling on the Premier to come clean on the Coalition's position on forced amalgamations before the March 28 State election.

"Over recent months, we have had no unequivocal statement of position on forced amalgamations from the Premier," Mayor Pickering said.

"He needs to answer a simple question: Will the Baird Government, if reelected, force councils to amalgamate?"

"Mr Baird currently has no mandate from the voters to axe councils.

"If he wants to do this, he needs to tell the voters before they vote at the end of this month. Mayor Pickering said that the business case for amalgamating councils simply did not exist.

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“The Premier needs to tell us where he stands on forced amalgamations,” Mayor Quinn said.

Local women who made change happen

Published on 19 March 2015

Forty-three local women who 'made change happen' were recognised for their contribution to the community and civic life at the City of Ryde's inaugural International Women's Day Forum.

The Make It Happen Forum, an initiative of the City of Ryde's Status of Women Advisory Committee, encouraged women to speak up about the successes, challenges and opportunities facing them and the wider community.

City of Ryde General Manager, Gail Connolly, said the opportunity to celebrate local women who 'make it happen' is overdue. "Women are leading the way in society, in their homes, in schools, workplaces and government.

"They solve difficult problems and help create stronger and better communities through collaboration, clear heads and good hearts.

"The women we recognised today are not exceptional, but more a reflection of what all women can be."

Chairperson of the City of Ryde's Status of Women Advisory Committee, Councillor Denise Pendleton said: "The mood from the participants was extraordinary."

The audience of around 85 women and men, enjoyed an informative debate with the expert panel that included guest speaker, feminist and self-styled 'stirrer' Eva Cox; the CEO of Achieve Australia, Anne Bryce; Mahboba Rawi, founder of Mahboba's Promise; Superintendent John Duncan from Ryde LAC; and City of Ryde's General Manager, Gail Connolly.

Discussion topics included equality, leadership and workplace issues, financial independence, domestic violence, health care, recognition in the arts and the growth of female-owned businesses as well as assistance for people with disabilities and health care for women in disadvantaged countries.

The City of Ryde's annual Women's Art Prize and Exhibition was official launched at the Forum.

Artists and members of the community can submit artworks that connect to the Make It Happen theme and issues surrounding women. There are five categories (Open, Community, Youth, Local Artist and Peoples' Choice) with a total prize pool of \$3,250. Applications close 11 May 2015. For more details visit the Women's Art Prize page.

Ryde women who Make it Happen in Ryde

Members of the community were invited to nominate women who 'Make It Happen' in Ryde for the International Women's Day MAKE IT HAPPEN Forum.

- Edna Wilde

- Aggie Palu
- Marg Somerville
- Therese Mackenzie
- Melinda Doust
- Monique Orian
- Marie Sillars
- Rebecca Ho
- Kavisha Shah
- Susana Bluwol
- Belinda Yeh
- Young Byun
- Carla Kassab
- Bev Debrincat
- Carolin Wilkinson
- Cathy Griffiths
- Football4All:
 - Tracey Williams
 - Denise Robinson
 - Kim Schaefer
 - Leisl Stimpson
- Lorraine Cox
- Vicki Newstead
- Rita Lapedjian
- Deb Maio
- Hannen Abdallah
- Paula Hanlon
- Dawn Chadwick
- Ana Tuitahi
- Karen Barfoot
- Sunita Menezes
- Sevinc MacCue
- Rajni Chandran
- Heather Pinto
- Agnes Shim
- Kathleen Synnott
- Helen Crouch
- Kate Teys
- Denise Pendleton
- Chantha Mau
- Julie Bertoldo
- Helen Silvia
- Camile Livingstone Newstead

These forty-three women include civic advocates, community champions and leaders in commerce, law enforcement, community care and the arts. They range in age from teens to seniors and include long-term residents and new arrivals.

2015 ClubGRANTS

Published on 18 March 2015

Applications for the 2015 Ryde ClubGRANTS Scheme are now open.

The ClubGrant Scheme provides one-off, non-recurrent funding to non-government organisations and community groups for projects and programs which address demonstrated welfare needs of the local community.

The scheme is sponsored by local clubs and administered by the City of Ryde.

Participating Clubs in the City of Ryde area are:

- Gladesville RSL and Community Club
- North Ryde RSL Community Club
- Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club
- Club Ryde X.

To apply online, visit the [ClubGRANTS](#) page.

Closing date for applications is **5pm, Sunday 24 May 2015.**

If you have any further queries, please call 9952 8222.

Celebrate Harmony Day with a Latino Twist

Published on 12 March 2015

From maraca making to Macapella, from Spanish opera to Salsa dancing, the City of Ryde will sway to a Latino beat to celebrate Harmony Day in a festival of inclusiveness, respect and belonging.

This year Harmony Day celebrate its 15th birthday ... and everyone is invited to the party at Top Ryde City Piazza dining area between 10.00am – 4.00pm on Saturday 21 March 2015 to enjoy music and cultural performances and thank the people in our community who make our diverse city so amazing.

You are also invited to leave a message on our 'Everybody Belongs Thank You' wall and drop into Ryde Library where there will be free activities and festivities from 11.00am.

Mayor, Bill Pickering, said Ryde's population diversity makes it an exceptional international city: "Forty-two percent of residents here speak a language other than English at home. This makes the City of Ryde one of the most diverse communities in our State.

"Our commitment to ensure that everyone who lives here 'feels like a local' is expressed in every day life and in special community celebrations like Harmony Day."

For more information and to view the program visit the [Harmony Day](#) page.

P I N K Football4All

Published on 04 March 2015

City of Ryde Council is continuing its support for the popular football program for women and girls with special needs – it's called PINK Football4All.

PINK (Play Interact Network Kick) Football4All is a free ten-week program for women and girls who have a physical, intellectual and/or developmental disability to participate in the sport of football (soccer) in the north west region.

City of Ryde's Active Recreation Officer, Meredith Gray, said: "PINK Football4All is a wonderful, inclusive program which allows women and girls of all abilities to get out and get involved with playing soccer.

"This initiative was a recipient of a City of Ryde Community Grant last year so it's great to see the PINK Football4All program continue to develop and expand in 2015,"

The ongoing partnership between the City of Ryde and the North West Sydney Women's Football Association (NWSWF) will see PINK Football4All female teams play other NWSWF teams in a modified mainstream format.

Registration for PINK Football4All is now open.

All coaches are qualified and ensure that the program is tailored to meet all needs. Beginners are welcome.

Dates: Sundays, 10 week program commencing 19 April 2015 (up to and including to 28 June)

Time: 11:45am – 1:00pm

Location: Morrison Bay Park, Frances Rd, Putney

Parking: Available in car parks and on-street parking on Frances Rd

Suitability: Women and girls (aged 6 years and over) with physical, intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. No previous experience necessary. Beginners welcome. Parent/carer/guardian must be in attendance.

Cost: FREE

Register your interest by 22 March, by contacting the North West Sydney Women's Football Association on 0409 154 090 or via email nswsf@bigpond.com (late registrations accepted).

For more information visit www.nswsf.com.au.

NWSWF is a non-for-profit football association. For years NWSWF has created an environment that enables players to join in to the fullest of their abilities in the spirit of inclusion, tolerance and fair play.