MEDIA RELEASE

© City of Ryde Lifestyle and opportunity @ your doorstep

Tuesday 14 August 2012

WELCOME TO 'MY PLACE'

The City of Ryde has launched a unique website called *My Place*, designed to encourage more open conversations and interactions between the community and Council on local issues.

My Place is an interactive and social website just for the City of Ryde community, which provides an online space where a free flow of ideas, opinions and information can take place.

Once registered, members can link with neighbours, businesses, community groups and the Council and converse on a range of issues, take part in surveys and access volunteering opportunities in their local area.

The Mayor, Clr Artin Etmekdjian said: "*My Place* is all about what happens here in our own community. It is an accessible and convenient way for people to connect with one another and the Council.

"Not only will *My Place* inform and involve the community, it will empower them to have their say on a broad range of issues, and that feedback will help the Council to make well-informed decisions about the services we provide."

A Waste and Recycling Survey is the first to appear on *My Place*, inviting all residents and ratepayers within the Ryde local government area to comment on the current levels of waste services. Responses to this survey will assist with the forward planning of Ryde's waste and sustainability programs.

The City of Ryde believes that the new website is one of the first of its kind in the local government environment, taking current community engagement methods one step further.

To become part of the conversation go to <u>www.myplaceryde.com.au</u> to register and create an online profile. Then start participating in surveys and discussions to help shape the future of your City of Ryde. There are also ongoing incentives for all community members who join *My Place*.

Photo Opportunity: The Mayor will officially launch *My Place* on Monday 22 August 2012, Ryde Library, 1 Pope Street, Ryde (within Top Ryde City shopping centre), 6.00-7.30pm. Refreshment and food provided.

Media contacts: City of Ryde: Lee Kirkland Media Officer 9952 8083.