

Forbes Shire Council Community Consultation Principles Policy

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FORBES SHIRE COUNCIL

Community Consultation Principles Policy

Revision History

Version	Date	Amended	Authorised by	Approved by	Revision Date
V1.1	19 April 2012	General Manager	General Manager	Council	19 April 2014

Change History

Version	Change Details
V1.1	Initial Policy

Related Documents

Document Title	Location
File reference:	
Related Policy:	
NSW Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Act 2009	
NSW Local Government Act 1993	
NSW Planning and Assessment Act 1979	
NSW Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000	
FSC Code of Conduct	
FSC Development Control Plan	
FSC Integrated Reporting Plan	

1 INTRODUCTION:

This policy sets out Forbes Shire Council's approach to community engagement activities as part of our role to represent and serve the community. It provides a broad framework for the manner in which Council will undertake community engagement on challenges or decisions for which Council is responsible. This policy does not apply to development applications (particularly where Council is the applicant) as consultation on these is undertaken in accordance with the Forbes Shire Council Development Control Plan. For avoidance of doubt where Council is the applicant: letters will be sent to neighbours directly adjoining the proposed development of proposed development consistent with the principles followed for any other development.

2 POLICY:

When will Council undertake formal community engagement?

- Where Council resolves to consult the community: Public Meetings will be convened by resolution of Council. Council recognises that in a system of representative democracy, it is neither practical nor possible to undertake community engagement on every issue; however when a decision has the potential to impact the local community significantly, Council will seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected by or with an interest in a decision.
- Community meetings will be convened as required.
- When required by law, policy or by agreement with a government agency or statutory body.

When undertaking community engagement, Councils commitment is that the community's contribution will influence the decision. This does not necessarily mean achieving consensus; it does involve hearing each other's perspectives and seeking broad informed agreement to achieve the best possible and lawful outcome for both Council and the community.

Related policies and legislation:

- NSW Local Government Act 1993
- NSW Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Act 2009
- NSW Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- NSW Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000
- FSC Code of Conduct
- FSC Development Control Plan
- FSC Integrated Reporting Plan

3 REVIEW OF THIS POLICY:

Council will formally review this policy after three years of operation. Ongoing formal review will be undertaken by Council officers and Councillors as the policy is applied to decision making processes.