



LG524
Discretionary Community Consultation

<p>Key Focus Area Leadership and Governance</p>	<p>Responsible Directorate Office of the Chief Executive</p> <p>Relevant Council Delegation Nil</p>
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Purpose

The Town of Claremont believes that consultation is an important component to assist in achieving the goals of the organisation. While there is certain mandatory consultation requirements, the Town believes it is beneficial to implement discretionary consultation as an important component of the information gathering process, to assist Council in making decisions.

This policy provides a set of principles to guide discretionary consultation processes used by the Town of Claremont.

Policy

Community consultation is one part of the information gathering process upon which decisions are based. Other information which may be taken into account includes technical advice, legal advice, third party expert advice and other stakeholder advice.

The Town will determine which level of participation is appropriate for the situation based on the levels of consultation outlined below.

<p>INFORM</p>	<p>To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives and/or solutions.</p>
<p>CONSULT</p>	<p>To obtain public feedback on analysis, Consult alternatives and/or decisions.</p>
<p>INVOLVE</p>	<p>To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public issues and concerns are consistently understood and considered.</p>
<p>COLLABORATE</p>	<p>To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision, including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.</p>
<p>EMPOWER</p>	<p>To place final decision-making in the hands of Empower the public.</p>

The Town:

- Values and encourages feedback from all population groups within the community, and will implement appropriate consultation practices to reach those groups.
- Will implement practices to ensure an appropriate level of consultation.
- Will clearly communicate to the community the purpose and aim of the consultation activity.
- Will provide feedback to the community about how the information gathered was used to inform the decision or outcome.
- Acknowledges that there are statutory requirements the Town must comply with in consulting with the community about particular issues.

Where Council's decision making is involved, the Town's administration is responsible for:

- Identifying the consultation opportunity (is it mandated, discretionary or a mix of both)
- Recommending the appropriate level of consultation
- Determining and implementing the consultation methodology; and where necessary
- Reporting to Council on the outcomes of the consultation process.

Document Control Box			
Business Unit:	Community Engagement		
Legislation:	Nil		
Organisational:	Policy LG525 Advertising of Development Applications		
Review Frequency:	Annual	Next Due:	2021
Version #	Decision:	OCM Date:	Resolution Number:
1.	Adopted	5 October 2010	210/10
2.	Reviewed	10 December 2013	360/13
3.	Reviewed	9 December 2014	203/14
4.	Reviewed	15 December 2015	226/15
5.	Modified	13 December 2016	206/16
6.	Modified	18 December 2018	228/18