

Deliberative Poll

ID Number

1. Overall, how much opportunity do you think the Government currently gives citizens to be engaged in decision making in...

	<i>Much too much</i>	<i>Too much</i>	<i>About right</i>	<i>Too little</i>	<i>Much too little</i>
Australia	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Western Australia	<input type="checkbox"/>				

For the remainder of the survey, please respond in the context of Western Australia.

2. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following:

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>No strong opinion</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
We engage in <u>too much</u> consultation	<input type="checkbox"/>				
We give too much weight to the people with the <u>loudest</u> voices	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<u>All</u> people have an <u>equal</u> chance to influence community and public affairs	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Most West Australians <u>don't want to be involved</u> in policy development and decision making	<input type="checkbox"/>				
It is <u>important</u> to have citizens more involved than they are now in major planning and policy decisions	<input type="checkbox"/>				
The relationship between <u>community engagement</u> and <u>actual decision making</u> is left unclear	<input type="checkbox"/>				

3. To what degree can citizens realistically be expected to address complex public planning and policy issues in a thoughtful and objective manner?

Tick **ONE** option which **BEST** matches your views

Not at all	These are matters for elected officials and the experts they consult. Citizens don't (and can't) know enough about such matters.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Somewhat	Public input should be sought before officials make the final decisions.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Considerably	Citizens know a lot about local conditions and public values, and this information needs to be considered.	<input type="checkbox"/>
A lot	Adequately informed and engaged citizens should be included in public deliberations as valued peers in official decision-making.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totally	I would trust the citizenry to make decisions more than I trust government or appointed experts.	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Where do you think the final responsibility for complex planning and policy decisions should lie?

	←	←	←	=	→	→	→	
Totally with elected officials and / or experts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Totally with citizens						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

5. When seeking input from the community, where do you think the balance should lie in the weighting given to the views of a) people directly affected by a particular issue versus b) the overall views of the total community?

	←	←	←	=	→	→	→	
Totally to the views of affected people and groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	Totally to the views of the community as a whole						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

6. For each of these forms of community engagement, on a scale of 1-to-5 (where 1 is the best possible score): A) how well do you think we are doing at the moment?; and B) how important is it?

		How well	Importance
CONSULTATION	Officials understand how the public thinks		
EDUCATION	The public understands official views and proposals		
EMPOWERMENT	The public is empowered to make informed policy judgements		
PARTICIPATION	People have a chance to participate and be heard		
COLLECTIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING	Citizens, stakeholders and officials create better solutions together		
LEGAL AUTHORITY	Citizens have a legal, institutionalised role in the policy-making process beyond voting for representatives (e.g., drafting or reviewing legislation, referenda, etc.)		

7. What are the barriers to effective community engagement? Please tick the **FIVE** main barriers

	Tick 5
Getting citizens to participate and be involved in the process	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unbalanced media coverage of issues	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of accurate and complete information in the wider community	<input type="checkbox"/>
The resources in time, effort and cost involved	<input type="checkbox"/>
The technical skills required (eg: design, facilitation, surveys, logistics, etc)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Engagement being done too late in the process	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treated as a forum for protest rather than one for developing creative solutions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Balancing the interests of stakeholders and the whole community	<input type="checkbox"/>
Allowing enough time for sufficiently thorough deliberation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of evidence of community input being valued and implemented in final decisions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scepticism about organisations' motivations or agenda	<input type="checkbox"/>
Choosing an inappropriate engagement technique for the issue	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. How would you rate each of the following on a scale of 1-to-5 (where 1 is the best possible score): A) At the present; and B) How you would expect to answer the same question in 5 years time (2010).

	Now	2010
Community engagement results in <u>better quality</u> decision making		
Community engagement results in <u>greater acceptance</u> of decisions in the wider community		
Community engagement results in more <u>efficient</u> decision making and policy development		
The <u>right cultural environment</u> exists in Western Australia to allow community engagement to work to its potential		
Citizens <u>want</u> to be involved in community engagement projects		
There are <u>opportunities</u> for me to use innovative community engagement techniques in my work		
I am <u>confident</u> about trying innovative community engagement techniques in my work		