



Engagement Outcomes Report

26 January Events Review

Summary

The 26 January events review was open for community comment from 8 March to 7 April 2019 via Your Say Inner West. The project page received 171 visitors and 37 completed the survey. Of the respondents 19% identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.

The survey asked respondents a number of qualitative and quantitative questions.

Question 1 asked people:

‘What does Australia Day mean to you?’

The top three response themes were:

- Invasion of Australia (14)
- Celebration of Australia (9)
- Celebration and sorrow (7)

People were asked to give three suggestions to move forward with the event. The top three themed suggestions were:

- Change the date (14)
- Acknowledge First Nation Peoples (13)
- Consult with First Nation Peoples (12)

People were asked to rate support for the various elements of the event. Most respondents were opposed to Council holding a celebratory event, Citizenship Ceremony, and Citizen of the year awards on 26 January.

Background

The purpose of the engagement was to obtain community input as part of Council's major events review to inform decision-making around the future of Council's 26 January event.

The engagement was the result of a Council resolution (13 November 2018) that:

Officers conduct a holistic review of the events program, incorporating:

a) Consideration of the reframing the Marrickville community festival currently held on 26 January; and

b) Consultation with the local Aboriginal community and the wider community about how the nature of Council's January 26 events should further evolve to recognise the history of Indigenous Australia.

Engagement Methods

Council engaged online and face-to-face including:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Working Group who endorsed the engagement program and were invited to provide feedback as a group or as individuals through the survey
- Aboriginal Workers' Group were invited to provide feedback as individuals through the survey and promote the survey through their networks
- Broad community through the Your Say Inner West online engagement project page or paper surveys

Promotion

The engagement was promoted through Council's communication channels including:

- Social media
- March edition of YSIW e-news
- Council column 26 March 2019
- Council website



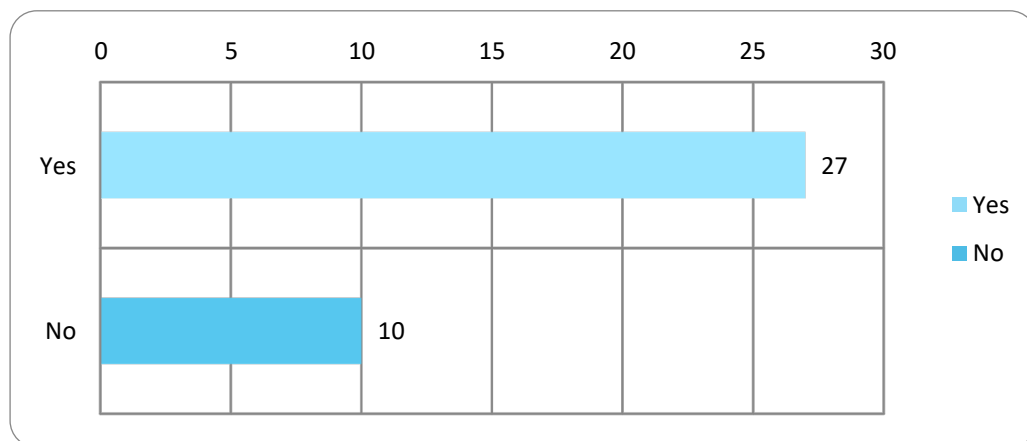
Engagement outcomes

Who did we hear from?

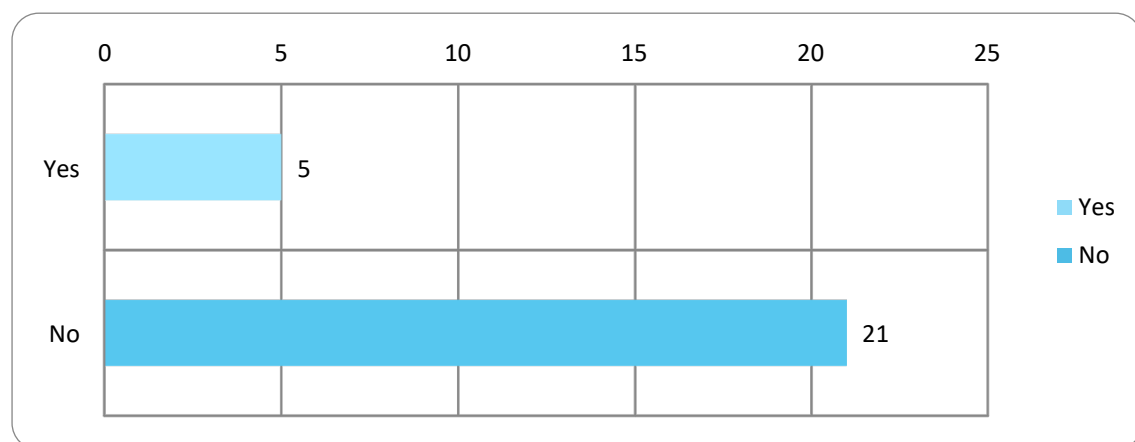
Council received 37 submissions via the Your Say Inner West online engagement hub, of which 7 identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. Most respondents were between 35 to 49 years old. The highest number of respondents were from Marrickville (9) and Dulwich Hill (7).

What did they say?

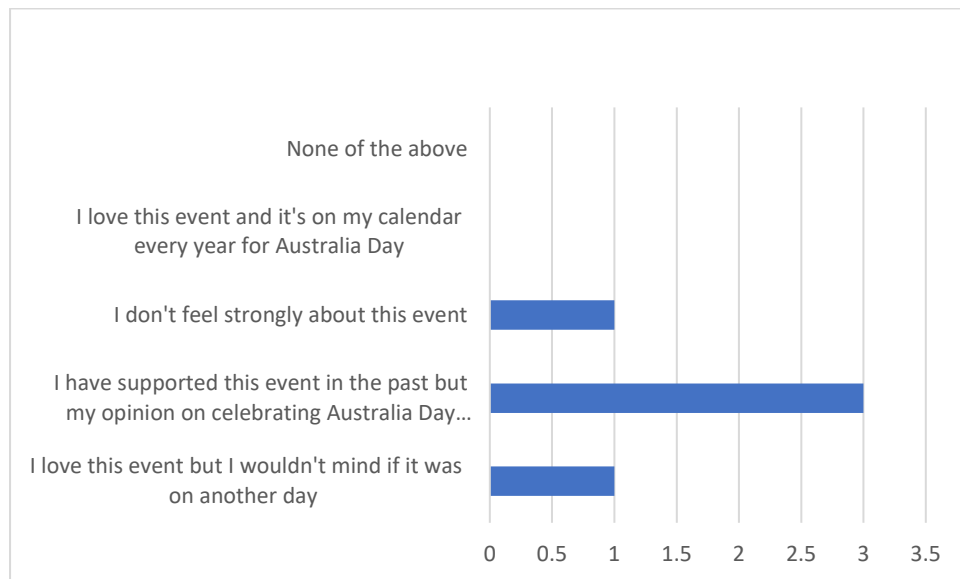
Q: Council currently holds an Australia Day event in Enmore Park which includes a citizenship ceremony, announcement of the Citizens of the Year awards, live entertainment, children's activities and a fireworks display. Prior to this survey, were you aware of this event?



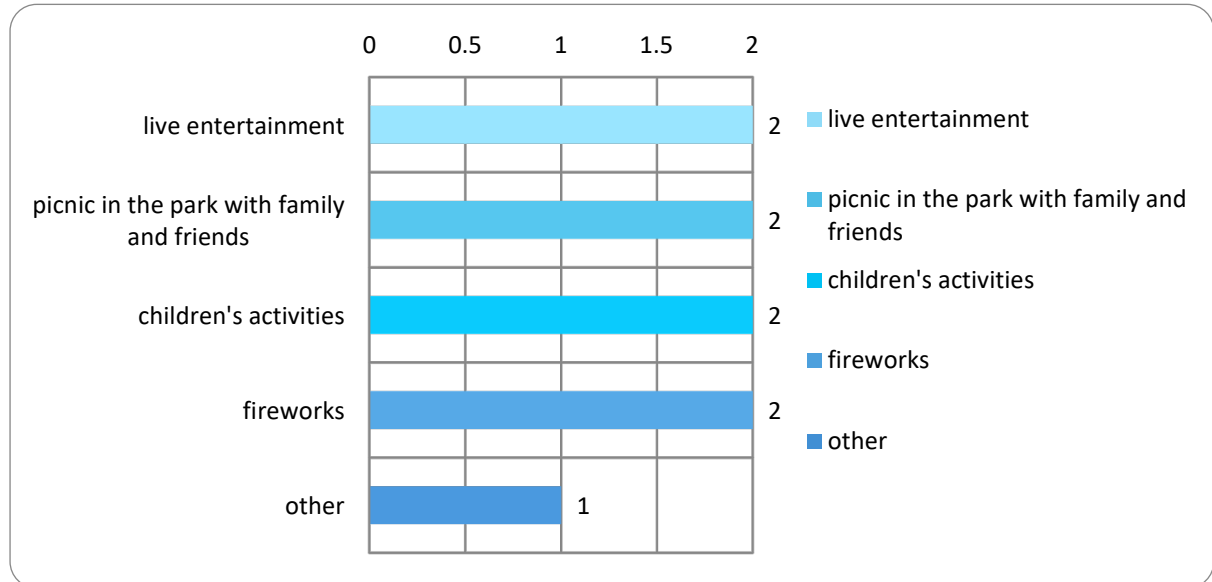
Q: Have you attended this event in the last five years?



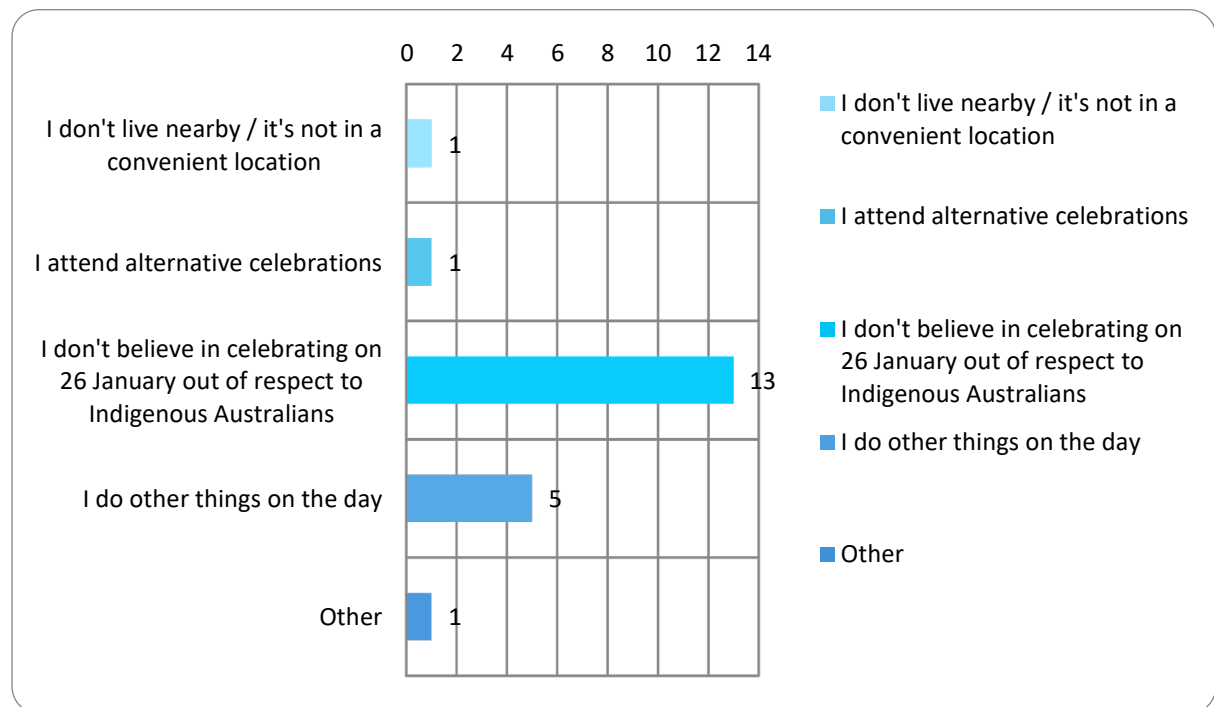
Q: Which statement best describes how you feel about this event?



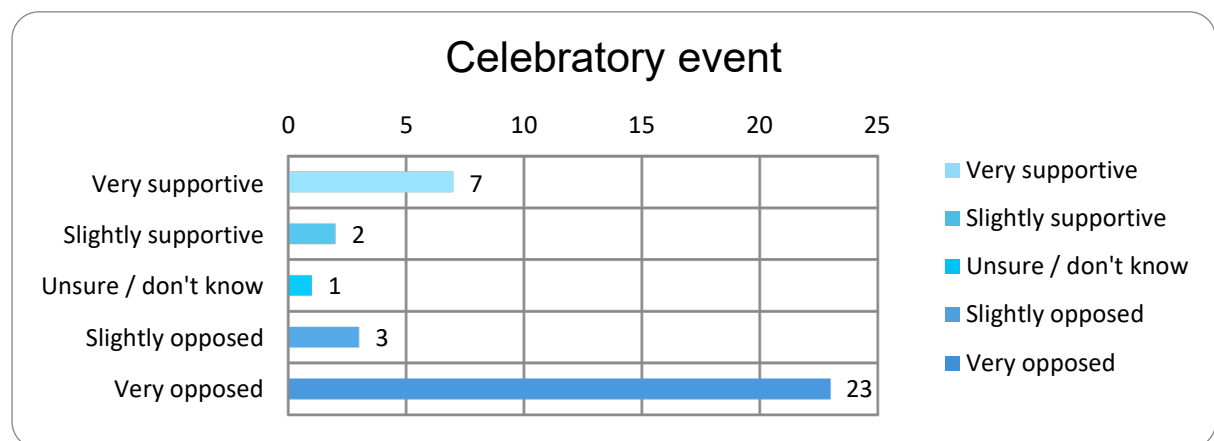
Q: Which of the following are the main reasons you attended this event?
Select up to two.



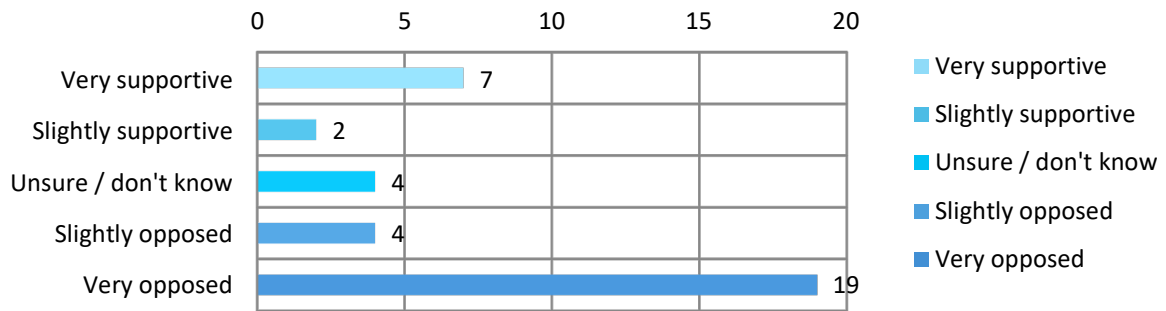
Q: Which statement best describes the main reason why you have not attended this event



Q: How supportive are you of Council holding the following on 26 January?



Citizenship ceremony



Citizens of the year

