

City of Melbourne

Getting input on a 10-year financial plan

The City of Melbourne were developing a 10-Year Financial Plan for the first time. Naturally, they wanted to make sure the community had opportunity to put forward their views.

The council used Simulator in combination with a representative panel of residents, asking people how they would allocate the \$400 million annual budget. Hundreds of people took part, providing valuable qualitative and quantitative data to inform the council's recommendations. The deliberative approach was also educational for participants, showing the public the tough choices a council has to consider in a 10 year plan for a city.

"This is a brilliant way to gauge the community reaction and actively consult and facilitate our input into policy outcomes — I hope you will continue to exploit its huge potential in the future!"

- Participant comment, City of Melbourne Budget Simulator