

COCKBURN

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Sounding others out

Bryce Luff

COMMUNITIES in Cockburn's north were last week processing the recent local government reform announcement, as they prepare to move into neighbouring councils next July.

Under recommendations accepted by Local Government Minister Tony Simpson, Cockburn is set to cede North Coogee and Hamilton Hill to the City of Fremantle while North Lake, Coolbellup, its part of Leeming and Jandakot Airport will move into the City of Melville.

While disappointed to be leaving the City of Cockburn, which will amalgamate with Kwinana to form the City of Jervoise Bay, Hamilton Hill resident and community figurehead Chris Ferreira said the aim was to ensure Hamilton Hill and North Coogee were not frozen out by a city considered CBD-focused.

"The concern is we will be lost in the City of Fremantle," he said. "That relationship we've built with Cockburn is

WHAT THEY HAVE SAID SO FAR

Melville Mayor Russell Aubrey to North Lake and Coolbellup residents: Residents should feel confident their needs will be represented fairly, with a new ward structure planned to provide proportional councillor representation. **Cockburn Kwinana Community Committee co-chair Daryll Smith:** "We're obviously disappointed with the decision to extend the boundaries further, meaning we lose Hamilton Hill to Fremantle on top of the other suburbs lost Melville. But overall it's fairly positive. **Cockburn MLA Fran Logan on losing the Cockburn identity:** "A huge effort was put in by locals in Cockburn to try and protect a council which many of

them had a direct hand in actually building." **Willagee MLA Peter Tinley on Hamilton Hill and Coolbellup residents:** The principal problem is that they've been hearing mixed messages from the State Government for five years. **Arthur Stanton, Cockburn RSL member, based in Hamilton Hill:** There's a lot to consider but we're wondering what a move to Fremantle will mean. **Tammy Van Lit, State Basketball League Director, Cockburn Basketball Association on Wally Hagan Stadium to fall under Fremantle boundaries:** We don't really know how it will impact us yet.

titt said the City had always considered Hamilton Hill and North Coogee residents as part of the broader Fremantle community. "Our plan is to ensure new City of Fremantle residents feel

part of the Fremantle Council as quickly as possible," he said.

"Fremantle's ethos from the start has always been to retain service levels and facilities, so in lots of ways, their experience won't change a whole lot."

Dr Pettitt said his City intended to work with Cockburn Council to ensure community groups were identified and communicated with.

Coolbellup Community Association treasurer Pip Brennan admitted there was uncertainty among residents following the announcement.

She said the aim was to ensure a continuation of council support, including the upkeep of local parks, support for community events and the following through of the revitalisation strategy laid out by the City of Cockburn.

"It's no secret we were fighting to stay in Cockburn," she said. "But we want Melville to know we're a very positive suburb."

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something we're going to have to recreate with the City of Fremantle, to ensure the services, facilities, resources and support that we've had in the past continues."

Fremantle Mayor Brad Pet-

AUBIN GROVE

Real estate agency books in to help foundation

MORE than 400 books have been donated to the Women and Infants Research Foundation at King Edward Memorial Hospital.

The books, donated last Wednesday, were gathered as part of a book drive organised by staff from an Aubin Grove real estate agency.

The mix of fiction and non-fiction was made available to the Subiaco-based foundation to sell in its op-shop.

Money raised from those sales will go towards research, packs for dis-

vantaged families, as well as helping to purchase new equipment for the hospital.

Gateway Residential sales administrator Katie Fraser said they decided to donate to the hospital after one of her colleagues gave birth at the hospital.

Lynne McHale, volunteer co-ordinator for the foundation, was stunned to receive a donation from a group so far south.

"It was wonderful to be approached from someone outside our little circle," she said.

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