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City of Sydney Act: Small business vote once again overshadowed by political hype

Independent councillor Angela Vithoukas said today that proposed changes to the City of Sydney Act were long overdue and a step in the right direction, but she also expressed concerns that the small business voice was again being overshadowed by political hype.

'I am a small business owner and I came to the council elections in 2012 with my views firmly grounded by my day to day experiences. If there was one thing that resonated with me during my campaigning, it was the frustration and confusion felt by local business owners at the convoluted electoral processes.

'I have long argued and campaigned to simplify the voting process for business. Local business owners need to be given an equal say like residents in the electorate. Obviously legislative change is needed to make that happen because funding Electoral Commission advertising has not worked.

'While I welcome the developments that have occurred in this area they are now becoming overshadowed by political hype. The City of Sydney electorate is not just about the big end of town, it's about supporting local business owners in the city and surrounding suburbs of the electorate that employ people and contribute in direct and indirect ways to the local economy. It's about fairness and it's also about democracy.' Cllr Vithoukas said.

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