The Merger - the future looks bright!

Strengthening our communities

Your vote matters -
here's what this merger means for you.



Member information booklet for the proposed merger of SWSbank and Regional Australia Bank.
This document supports the Member Information Document and should be read in conjunction with that document.
The MID is available to view on the SWSbank website, in branch, or at the scheduled Member Information Sessions.

SWSbank

regional australia bank



Stronger together, for our members and communities

SWSbank and Regional Australia Bank are proposing to come together based on shared values, a strong community focus, and a commitment to delivering more for our members. This partnership will help create a stronger, more sustainable customer-owned bank that continues to put people first.

By joining forces, we'll be able to offer better value through improved products, greater access to services across more locations, and enhanced support for regional communities. With over 50 locations, over $6 billion in assets, and more than 450 staff, the combined organisation will be better equipped to meet the challenges of an increasingly competitive and regulated environment.

What won't change is our commitment to delivering personal, locally focused banking and supporting the communities we're part of.

This is about ensuring long-term strength and sustainability, so we can continue to grow with you, support local jobs and services, and invest in the future of regional banking.

We're asking you, our members, to vote 'yes' on this important step forward. Your voice matters, and your support will help shape the future of banking in regional Australia.



More branches

A combined network of over 50 branches across regional NSW, and access to more than 3,000 Bank@ Post facilities across Australia.



More products

Enhanced products and services, including Agri and business loan facilities, with a continued focus on innovation and digital convenience.



More community support

More resources to support local initiatives, sponsorships and sustainability.



More staff

Over 450 team members committed to helping you thrive.

Voting on the Merger

Voting Eligibility

SWSbank eligible members have the right to vote on the proposed merger. Each eligible member has one vote, regardless of the size of their account balance.

For the merger to proceed, it must be approved by at least 75% of members who cast a vote, not 75% of all members.

The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) have now evaluated the proposed merger and given their approval to move forward with the member vote.

Key Dates

SWSbank AGM and Merger Vote	19 November 2026
Merger Effective Date	1 April 2027

How to Vote

Eligible members can vote on the proposed merger in one of the following ways:

- In person by attending the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- By proxy, by completing and submitting a Proxy Form. Proxy Forms must be lodged at least 48 hours before the AGM begins.
- By appointing someone else to vote on your behalf, which can include:
  - an attorney, using a valid power of attorney, or
  - a corporate representative (for company members), with proper written authorisation.

Each eligible member can only vote once. Full details on how to vote, including how to appoint a proxy are in the Notice of Annual General Meeting and Proxy Form.



Frequently Asked Questions

We've compiled responses to the most common questions to help you understand what the merger means for you and your community.

1. Do the Board and management support the merger?

Absolutely! The Board and management are excited for the future of regional banking as a result of the merger. They are unanimously recommending for members to vote 'yes' for our merger.

2. How can I stay informed?

Members will be kept updated through our website, emails and branch communications.

3. What will the merger mean for my products and banking services?

Your existing accounts and banking arrangements will continue following the transfer of business, and we do not expect any significant changes to the way you bank with us. The merger is expected to provide members with access to a broader range of products, services, channels and banking capabilities over time. As the two organisations are integrated, there may be opportunities to enhance, simplify or align products and services for the benefit of members and the combined organisation. If any changes are made in the future, they will be communicated well in advance and implemented in accordance with applicable terms and conditions.

4. Will my branch close?

No, there will be no branch closures. In fact, the proposed transfer of business presents a significant expanded branch network, with over 50 branches combined around regional NSW.

5. Will staff change?

No! The staff you know and trust will continue to support you in your local branches.

6. How will the merged organisation be better positioned to serve regional and rural banking customers?

The merger will create a stronger, more sustainable organisation with greater capacity to invest in infrastructure, technology and innovation, while strengthening our advocacy for regional and rural communities and continued access to essential banking services.

7. Will the bank's name change?

At this stage, it is proposed that the merged organisation will continue to operate under both SWSbank and Regional Australia Bank brands. If the merger goes ahead, members can expect to see co-branding across our branches and sponsorships.

8. When will the transfer of business take effect?

The transfer is anticipated to commence on 1 April 2027, pending the SWSbank member vote.

9. How can members have their say in the decision?

Members will be asked to vote on the proposed transfer of business at the SWSbank 2026 Annual General Meeting. Member support is critical in having a say about the future of the bank and ensuring a strong, sustainable future for banking in regional Australia.

Find out more about SWSbank

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Find out more about Regional Australia Bank

Scan Here

SWSbank

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