

**ATTACHMENTS DISTRIBUTED UNDER SEPARATE COVER**

**CCL 26/04/2022 – ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

<b>Item 34:</b>	Page 3	<b>Attachment A:</b>	Newcastle 2040
	Page 51	<b>Attachment B:</b>	Newcastle 2040 – Public Exhibition Report
	Page 134	<b>Attachment C:</b>	Newcastle 2040 – Proposed Changes
	Page 142	<b>Attachment D:</b>	Newcastle 2040 – Insights Report

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**ITEM-34**      **Attachment A:**      Newcastle 2040

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# NEWCASTLE 2040

it's our *future*



City of  
Newcastle

## Contents

<b>Welcome</b>	<b>4</b>
Acknowledgement of Country	4
Lord Mayor Message	6
Chief Executive Officer Message	7
Our vision	8
Plan on a page	10
Our commitments	12
About Newcastle 2040	16
<b>Our Newcastle</b>	<b>18</b>
Our city, our people	20
How Newcastle lives, works, plays and invests	22
<b>Our shared future</b>	<b>24</b>
Our approach	26
Opportunities and challenges	29
From local to global	32
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	34
<b>Our priorities for Newcastle</b>	<b>36</b>
CN's role and services	38
Liveable Newcastle	40
Sustainable Newcastle	46
Creative Newcastle	52
Achieving Together	58
<b>Appendix</b>	<b>65</b>
How to read Newcastle 2040	66
Alignment with state and regional priorities	68
Sustainable Development Goals	70
Newcastle 2040 indicators	74
Glossary	82
References and research	83
Acknowledgements	84
Links for further information	85

### Enquiries

For information about  
this document contact

City of Newcastle  
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newcastle.nsw.gov.au

# Welcome

## Acknowledgement of Country

**We all sit on Awabakal and Worimi land  
'Niirun Yalawa Awabakal and Worimi burrei'**

City of Newcastle (CN) acknowledges its Local Government Area (LGA) sits within the Country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples. We acknowledge that Country for Aboriginal peoples is an interconnected set of ancient relationships. We acknowledge the custodianship of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples and the care and stewardship they have performed in this place since time immemorial.

**Always was, always will be Aboriginal land  
'Wunyibu wunyibu warra wunyibu wunyibu  
gkuuba Aboriginal burrei'**

In recognition of Aboriginal cultural heritage, eight Newcastle landmarks are officially dual-named with their traditional Aboriginal names. These are based on Aboriginal references to the landmarks documented in maps, sketches and geological descriptions dating back as early as 1798:

Nobbys Head – **Whibayganba**

---

Flagstaff Hill – **Tahlbihn**

---

Pirate Point – **Burrabihngarn**

---

Port Hunter – **Yohaaba**

---

Hunter River (South Channel) – **Coquun**

---

Shepherds Hill – **Khanterin**

---

Ironbark Creek – **Toohrnbing**

---

Hexham Swamp – **Burraghinhbihng**

---





# Lord Mayor Message

Nuatali Nelmes



# CEO Message

Jeremy Bath

It's fair to say that we believe Newcastle is the best place to live, work and play anywhere in the world.

But while there's plenty to love about our incredible city today, we always need to keep our focus on tomorrow, and on how we can continue to enjoy this place we love – long into the future.

That's why we've created Newcastle 2040: our shared vision for achieving a liveable, sustainable, inclusive global city.

Newcastle 2040 has been developed in consultation with you, the community, over a period of 12 months. It represents the collaboration of thousands of interactions, including face-to-face conversations, workshops, surveys, online feedback, advisory committees and stakeholder engagement.

Through this community consultation, we have developed four key themes that reflect the aspirations and values of the Newcastle community:

- Liveable Newcastle
- Sustainable Newcastle
- Creative Newcastle
- Achieving Together

These themes are integral to the future of Newcastle and are underpinned by our commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The next decade is set to be an exciting and rewarding time for all of us as Newcastle grows from a great regional city to an emerging global city.

I invite you to dream big and join us to make our city a better place for everyone.

**Councillor Nuatali Nelmes**  
Lord Mayor of Newcastle

The importance of Newcastle 2040 for the future of our city can't be overstated. Representing the highest level of planning we undertake at local government level, it's a shared community vision that will inform our projects and programs for the next 10 years and beyond.

Creating a vision for our city is one thing – but what's just as important is having a plan to make sure we get things done.

As custodians of Newcastle 2040, we'll implement an integrated approach to planning and reporting, enabling the community and our partners in government and business to track our progress and see our achievements, year-to-year, for each of the key themes.

City of Newcastle alone cannot deliver the priorities and objectives of Newcastle 2040. Shared decision-making and collaborative partnerships with government agencies, non-government organisations, business and, of course, our local community, will be critical to our collective success as a region.

Every one of us has a role to play in realising our shared future.

As we move towards achieving our goals for Newcastle 2040, we will work closely with you, our community and partners, on the actions, projects and services we need to deliver to bring this plan to life.

Together, we can create a liveable, sustainable, inclusive global city.

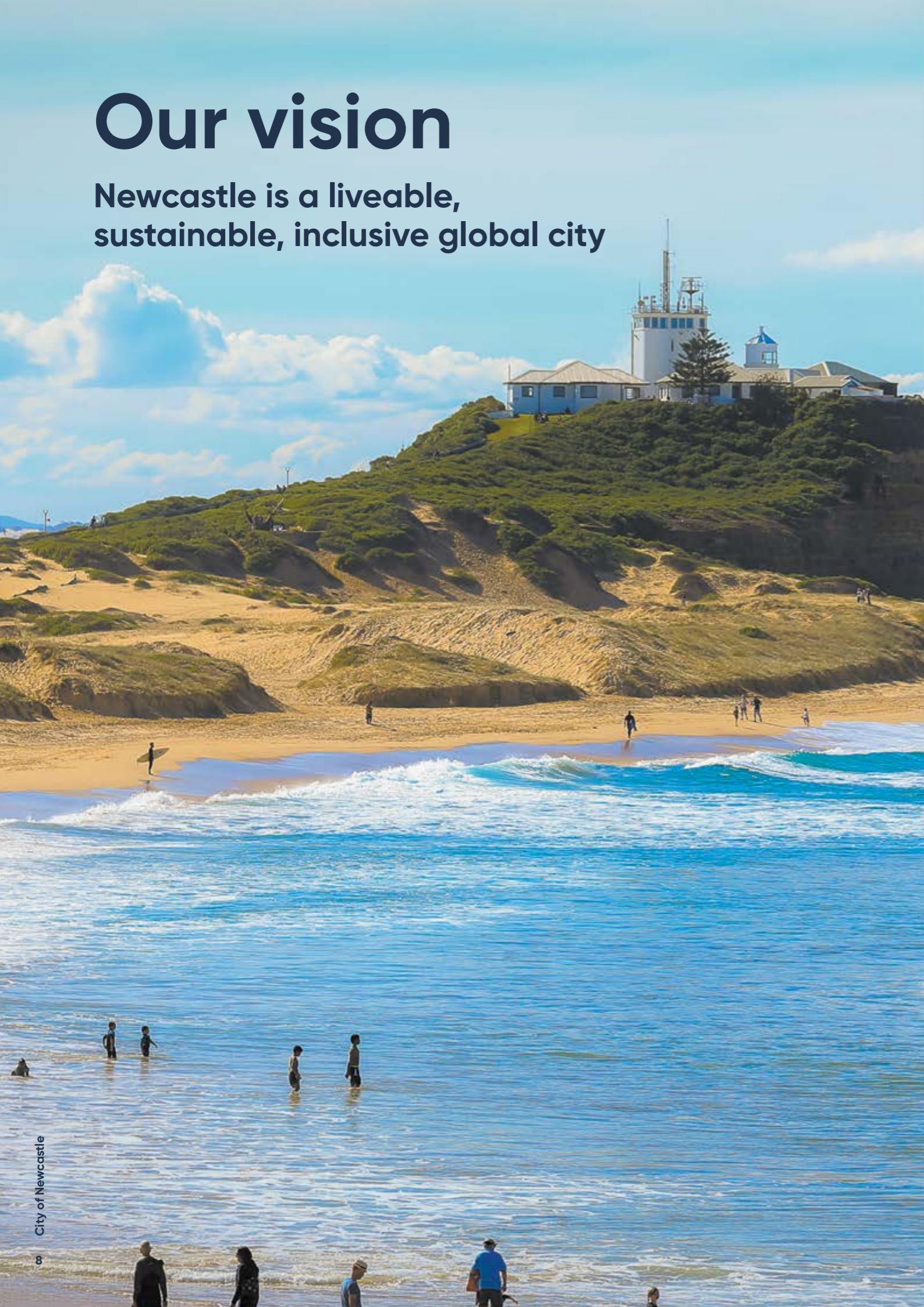
**Jeremy Bath**  
Chief Executive Officer





# Our vision

Newcastle is a liveable, sustainable, inclusive global city



# Planning for our future

Newcastle 2040 is a shared community vision, developed as a guide to inform policies and actions throughout the city for the next 10+ years. For all of us who live, work, play and study in Newcastle, this vision sets the direction for how we want our city to grow. With direct input from a wide cross-section of the community, it represents what we value in our city and what we want to prioritise. We will be a better city in 2040 thanks to the input and insight of the community members who contributed their time to this planning process.

In 2040, Newcastle will be a **liveable, sustainable, inclusive global city**. We will celebrate our unique city and protect our natural assets. We will optimise opportunities and build resilience in the face of future challenges.

We will champion inclusion so that everyone is valued, and we will encourage innovation and creativity. As we make our way towards 2040, we will work together to achieve our vision by building trust and collaborative relationships.

To guide us forward, we will focus on four themes that emerged from our shared planning process:

- Liveable
- Sustainable
- Creative
- Achieving Together

These themes work together in harmony to deliver our vision for Newcastle as a place for everyone.

## Turning our plan into action

Delivering Newcastle 2040 and our informing strategies, such as our Environment Strategy and Economic Development Strategy, turn our vision into action. For more information, visit our website [www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au](http://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au)



# NEWCASTLE 2040

it's our *future*

Newcastle is a liveable, sustainable, inclusive global city

## Our commitments

Inclusion	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and culture	Supporting local
Our planet	Innovation	Social justice principles

### 1. Liveable

### 2. Sustainable

### 3. Creative

### 4. Achieving Together

- 
**1.1 Enriched neighbourhoods and places**
  - 1.1.1 Great spaces
  - 1.1.2 Well-designed places
  - 1.1.3 Protected heritage places
- 
**1.2 Connected and fair communities**
  - 1.2.1 Connected communities
  - 1.2.2 Inclusive communities
  - 1.2.3 Equitable communities
  - 1.2.4 Healthy communities
- 
**1.3 Safe, active and linked movement across the city**
  - 1.3.1 Connected cycleways and pedestrian networks
  - 1.3.2 Road networks
  - 1.3.3 Managed parking
  - 1.3.4 Effective public transport
- 
**1.4 Innovative and connected city**
  - 1.4.1 Emerging technologies
  - 1.4.2 Digital inclusion and social innovation

- 
**2.1 Action on climate change**
  - 2.1.1 Towards net zero emissions
  - 2.1.2 Know and share our climate risk
  - 2.1.3 Resilient urban and natural areas
- 
**2.2 Nature-based solutions**
  - 2.2.1 Regenerate natural systems
  - 2.2.2 Expand the urban forest
  - 2.2.3 Achieve a water sensitive city
- 
**2.3 Circular economy**
  - 2.3.1 Design out waste
  - 2.3.2 Localised supply chain and sustainable procurement

- 
**3.1 Vibrant and creative city**
  - 3.1.1 Vibrant events
  - 3.1.2 Bold and challenging programs
  - 3.1.3 Tourism and visitor economy
  - 3.1.4 Vibrant night-time economy
- 
**3.2 Opportunities in jobs, learning and innovation**
  - 3.2.1 Inclusive opportunities
  - 3.2.2 Skilled people and businesses
  - 3.2.3 Innovative people and businesses
- 
**3.3 Celebrating culture**
  - 3.3.1 Nurture cultural and creative practitioners
  - 3.3.2 Promote Newcastle as a major arts and cultural destination
  - 3.3.3 Culture in everyday life
- 
**3.4 City-shaping partnerships**
  - 3.4.1 Optimise city opportunities
  - 3.4.2 Advocacy and partnership

- 
**4.1 Inclusive and integrated planning**
  - 4.1.1 Financial sustainability
  - 4.1.2 Integrated planning and reporting
  - 4.1.3 Aligned and engaged workforce
- 
**4.2 Trust and transparency**
  - 4.2.1 Genuine engagement
  - 4.2.2 Shared information and celebration of success
  - 4.2.3 Trusted customer experience
- 
**4.3 Collaborative and innovative approach**
  - 4.3.1 Collaborative organisation
  - 4.3.2 Innovation and continuous improvement
  - 4.3.3 Data-driven decision-making and insights

# Our commitments

Some things are non-negotiable. They go above and beyond strategic directions, themes and priorities and are central to everything we do. These are our commitments.

CN's commitments underpin Newcastle 2040 and inform the actions we take, the choices we make, the behaviours we demonstrate and the interactions we have.

CN is committed to:

- Inclusion
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and culture
- Supporting local
- Our planet
- Innovation
- Social justice principles



## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and culture

CN recognises Aboriginal peoples as the first people of Australia and the Traditional Custodians of the land. Aboriginal people have lived here for over 60,000 years and are recognised as the oldest continuous culture in the world. We understand and appreciate that Aboriginal people have diverse, unique languages and spiritual beliefs and an enduring reciprocal relationship with the land.

CN acknowledges and regrets the acts of dispossession and settlement, the discriminatory policies, and the cumulative acts of colonial and contemporary governments since the commencement of colonisation, all of which have led to a legacy of economic and social disadvantage for many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

CN commits to developing a genuine understanding of our shared history and its lasting impact on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples so that we do not repeat past injustices. We embrace moving forward together and building a relationship based on mutual respect that acknowledges, values and celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their spirits, their spiritual beliefs and their culture. CN commits to delivering economic and social outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

## Our planet

Our global challenge is to meet the human needs and wellbeing of all while simultaneously regenerating our planet and reducing our ecological impact to a sustainable level. The planet has been warmed by 1.1 degrees and Newcastle is already experiencing the impacts of climate change. There is an urgency and responsibility to reverse this trend, with climate scientists stating that a 75% reduction on 1990 emission levels is needed by 2030.

CN commits to respecting our natural environment by minimising our overall impact and protecting our natural resources. CN commits to measuring and understanding the environmental impact of our operations in order to develop ways to mitigate the effects while balancing the needs of our community.

## Inclusion

CN believes in access, equity and justice for all. We support the rights of every person to participate fully in the social, economic, civic and cultural life of our community.

'Inclusion' is the term used to reflect the community's desire to not only be welcoming and open, but to actively respect and embrace differences. Inclusion occurs when people feel valued and when conditions for equal opportunities have been created.

CN commits to identifying and considering inclusion in the decisions we make, the projects we deliver and the partnerships we foster.

## Supporting local

Local businesses are the lifeblood of our community. Supporting local businesses creates jobs, reduces carbon footprints, injects money into the local economy and promotes a sense of community.

CN preferences local businesses, where appropriate, when procuring goods and services.

## Innovation

Innovation is a process of empathy and invention, of collaborative problem-solving and actively shaping the future. A community that harnesses innovation will have the tools to confidently adapt to change.

CN commits to embracing creativity and innovation in our organisation and in our community.

CN commits to applying innovation to improve our community's experience and equity, and to enhance the sustainability, amenity and liveability of our city.

## Social justice principles

CN believes in a just society for all. Social justice means that all people have equal access to wealth, health, wellbeing, justice and opportunity.

The four principles of social justice are:

### Equity:

Resources are allocated according to need with the aim of achieving more equal outcomes, particularly for those with greater needs or barriers to access.

### Access:

People have fair access to services, resources and opportunities to improve their quality of life.

### Participation:

People can fully participate in community life and genuinely influence decisions that affect their lives.

### Rights:

Human rights are universal – everyone has the right to be treated with respect, equality and dignity. Human rights are the basic freedoms and protections that people are entitled to, including economic, social, cultural and political rights.

CN commits to the implementation of social justice principles with the aim of decreasing or eliminating inequity, promoting inclusiveness of diversity, and establishing environments that are supportive of all people.



# About Newcastle 2040

## From vision to action

### What is Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR)?

IPR requirements for local government were introduced in 2009. They arose from the notion that all council planning should originate from a sound understanding of the community's expectations around priorities and service levels. The IPR framework comprises a series of interrelated documents that provide a consistent, integrated approach to community planning across all NSW local councils, while also ensuring alignment with regional and state priorities.

### Why is IPR important?

CN operates in an increasingly complex environment, with responsibilities under more than 50 different pieces of legislation and direct relationships with over 20 NSW and Commonwealth Government agencies. The IPR framework allows CN to navigate these complexities in a meaningful and purposeful way, and to:

Integrate community priorities into strategies and plans

Support our community and stakeholders to play an active role in shaping the future of their community

Articulate the community's vision and priorities

Assign resourcing to support delivery of our vision and priorities, while also balancing aspirations with affordability

Maintain accountability and transparency through regular monitoring and reporting.

### Newcastle 2040

#### Our community's vision

Newcastle 2040 is the highest-level plan that CN prepares. Its purpose is to identify the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and to plan strategies for achieving these goals. Newcastle 2040 guides all other CN strategies and plans and must be developed with and on behalf of the community.

### Delivering Newcastle 2040

#### Our commitment of delivery to the community

**Delivery Program** is a statement of commitment to the community from our newly elected Council. It translates the community's vision and priorities into clear actions, and is the primary reference point for all activities undertaken by Council during its term of office. It allows Council to determine what is achievable over the next four years, what the priorities are, and how programs will be scheduled.

**Operational Plan** (including annual budget) is CN's action plan for achieving the community priorities outlined in Newcastle 2040 and the Delivery Program. An Operational Plan is prepared each year and adopted by Council. It identifies the projects, programs and actions that CN will deliver to achieve the commitments in the Delivery Program.

### Resourcing Newcastle 2040

#### Our resources to deliver Newcastle 2040

Resourcing Newcastle 2040 clearly articulates how CN will implement and resource our vision. This consists of three components:

1. Long-Term Financial Plan
2. Workforce Management Plan
3. Asset Management Plan.

### Reporting on Newcastle 2040

#### Our accountability to the community

Evaluation of the quality and effectiveness of our services is an important accountability mechanism between CN, councillors and the community. The IPR framework requires CN to report in the following ways:

Quarterly Financial Budget Review Statements

Six-Monthly Performance Progress Reports

Annual Report

State of Our City Report (replaces End of Term Report).


### Monitoring Newcastle 2040

#### Our progress towards vision

Key indicators and measures assist in understanding how well CN is performing. They also allow for evidence-based decision-making to inform other stages in our planning cycle.



**Community Indicators**  
The wellbeing of our city and community



**Service Indicators**  
The high-level impact of CN's service delivery on our city and community



# Our Newcastle



# Our city, our people

Newcastle is a proud community that has been shaped by our heritage.

**We have survived earthquakes, superstorms and the closure of major industries, and we continue to grow and change.**

The Awabakal and Worimi peoples are acknowledged as the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters of Newcastle. The tangible and intangible cultural heritage of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples continues to enrich and inform contemporary Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities of Newcastle and the Hunter region.

European settlement introduced a range of activities, from farming to coal mining and industry. While the industrial sector continues to play an important employment role, a substantial and growing portion of our economy is now based around the service sector.

We are home to artists, galleries, museums, theatres, creative enterprises, arts organisations, cultural education providers, cultural collections, and a community that embraces cultural expression. We have a diverse natural environment, from coastal headlands and beaches to wetlands, mangrove forests, steep ridges and rainforest gullies. Our suburbs are also diverse – from the heritage-lined streets of Newcastle East to the leafy homes of our middle suburbs such as Lambton and Kotara, and more recent greenfield estates at Fletcher and Minmi.

## Our place in the region

Newcastle is located about 160 km north of Sydney. It is Australia's seventh-largest city and is the centre of the Greater Newcastle Region, the largest regional centre in NSW. Newcastle is the economic hub of the Hunter Region, with an international profile as a major port city and a gateway to the world for the Hunter's rich resources. Newcastle accounts for approximately 30% of the Hunter's developed industrial space and 80% of its office space. Newcastle is home to the University of Newcastle (UoN); the John Hunter Hospital, which is the tertiary referral hospital for Northern NSW; and a number of world-class research organisations, including the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and Hunter Medical Research Institute. Newcastle is the cultural heart of the Hunter Region, supporting Newcastle Art Gallery, Newcastle Museum, and the Civic Theatre and Playhouse, and hosting a diverse calendar of cultural events. The Hunter Regional Plan 2041 and the Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan 2036 are the key regional development planning documents that support Newcastle. The Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan states that:

**'Metropolitan cities succeed and perform best when all tiers of government collaborate and work together with business, industry and community to deliver a shared vision for their city.'**

## Our population

Newcastle population 2021

**171,307**

Population by 2041

**199,700**

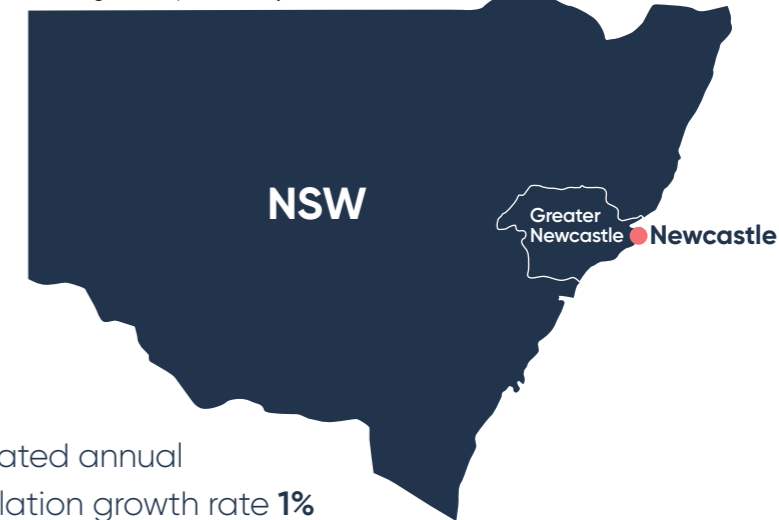
Greater Newcastle population 2021

**608,700**

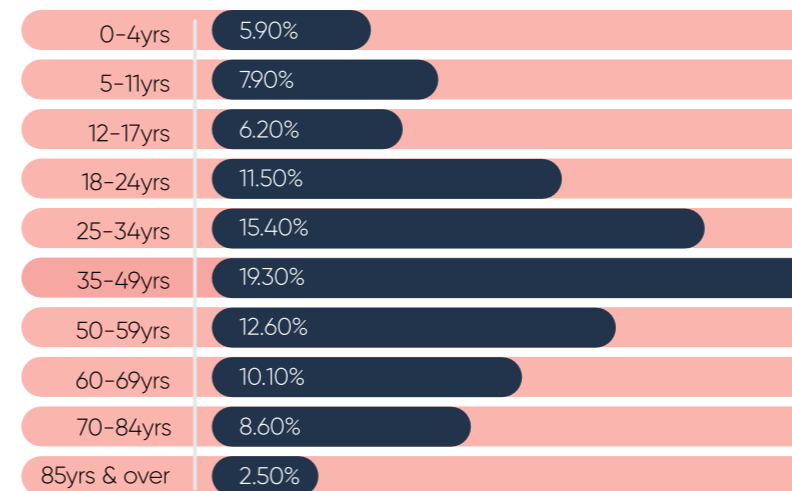
Population by 2041

**699,200**

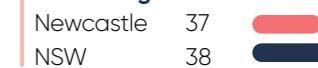
Planning NSW Population Projections, forecast.id



### People



### Median age



### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population



### Born overseas



### Speak a language other than English



134 different languages spoken at home – most widely spoken included Mandarin, Macedonian, Italian, Greek and Arabic. Languages spoken with greatest need for translation included Arabic, Mandarin, Swahili, Persian/Dari and Tibetan.

### Number of people living with disability



Defined as people needing help or assistance in one or more of the three core activity areas of self-care, mobility and communication, because of a disability or long-term health condition.



### Homeless categories

- 'severely' crowded dwellings
- temporarily with other households
- improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping out
- boarding houses
- supported accommodation for the homeless
- other temporary lodgings

### Housing stress

Overall, 13% of households are experiencing 'housing stress' – 31% of renters and 7.3% of mortgage holders (2016).

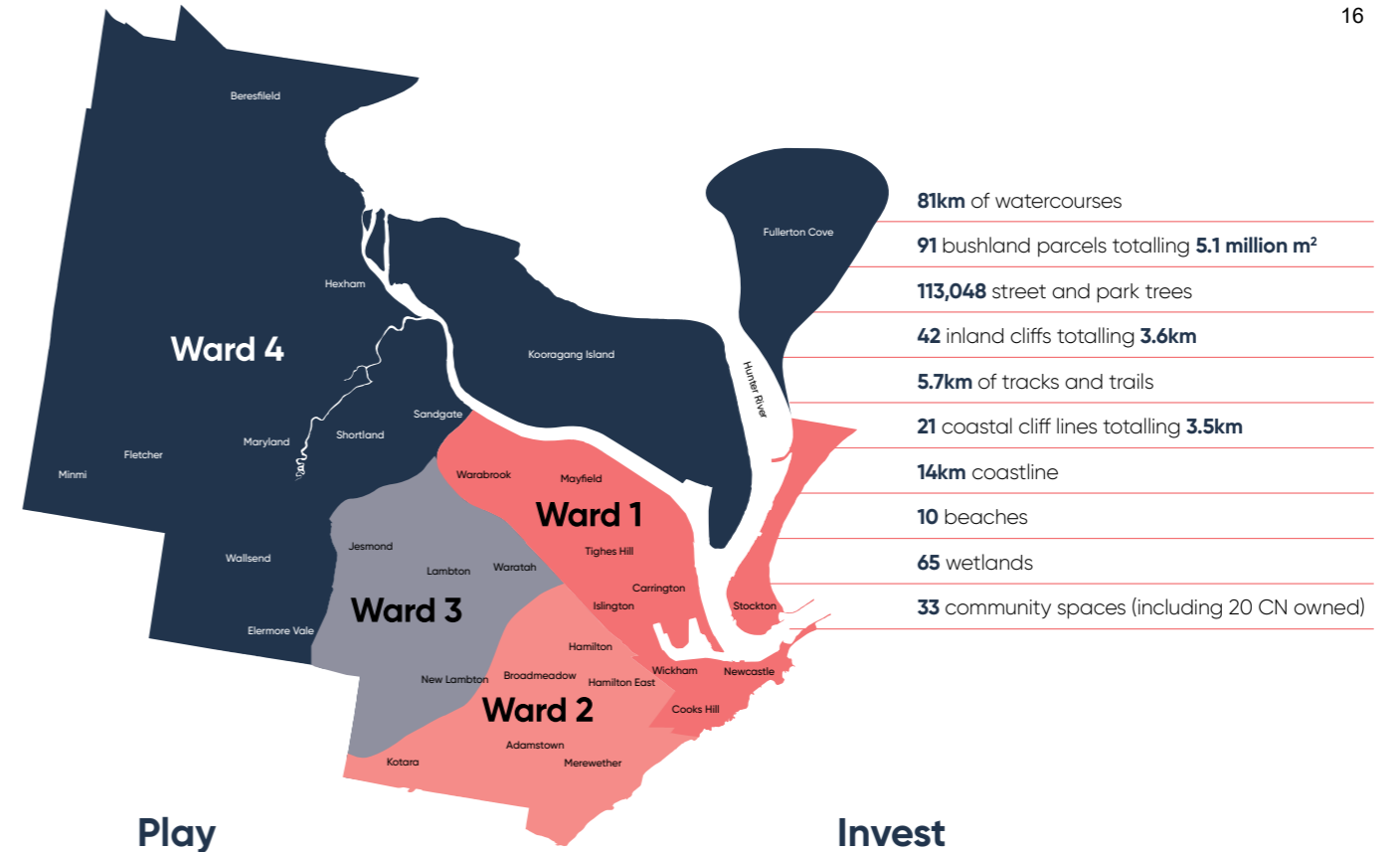
20,000 people



**Up to 11% of Australians may have a diverse sexual orientation, sex, or gender identity. In Newcastle this equates to approximately 20,000 people.**

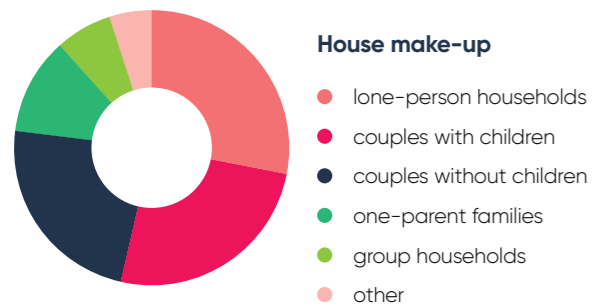
Source: Australian Human Rights Commission: Face the Facts (2014)

# How Newcastle lives, works, plays and invests



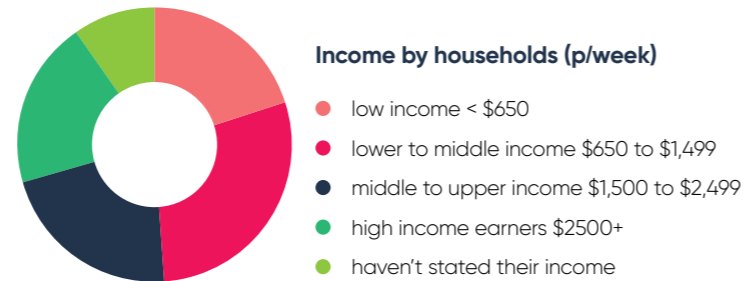
- 81km of watercourses
- 91 bushland parcels totalling 5.1 million m<sup>2</sup>
- 113,048 street and park trees
- 42 inland cliffs totalling 3.6km
- 5.7km of tracks and trails
- 21 coastal cliff lines totalling 3.5km
- 14km coastline
- 10 beaches
- 65 wetlands
- 33 community spaces (including 20 CN owned)

## Live



- 52 suburbs
- \$851,000 median house price (December 2021)
- 2.36 people average household size
- 78.4% internet access at home
- 30% of dwellings are medium or high density
- 29% of residents fully own their home; 30.3% have a mortgage; 34.5% are renting; 0.7% other; 5.5% not stated
- 40.5% Domestic recycling rate
- 10.4kg waste and recycling generated per person per week

## Work



- Top 3 industry sectors by employment**
- Healthcare and social assistance – creating 20,293 jobs
  - Education and training – creating 9,789 jobs
  - Retail trade – creating 8,803 jobs

- 102,800 jobs in Newcastle**
- 50.1% live within LGA
  - \$1,398 (p/week) average household income
  - 5.3% unemployment rate

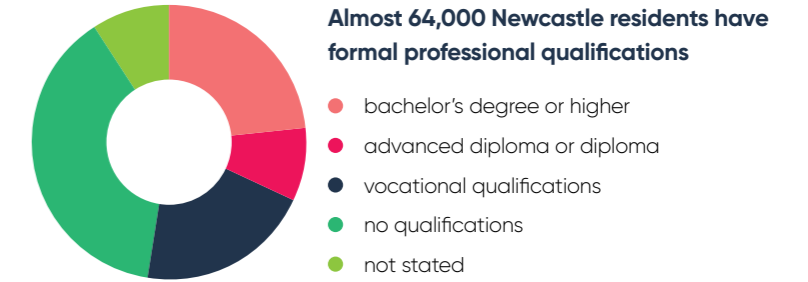
- 14,150 businesses**
- 30% of the Hunter's developed industrial space
  - 80% of the Hunter's office space

## Play

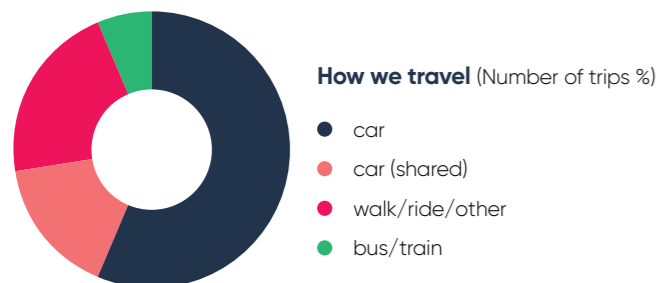


- 2 ocean baths
- 5 aquatic centres
- 6 main patrolled beaches
- 8 lifeguard facilities
- 17 dog off-leash areas
- 4 outdoor exercise facilities
- 14 community gardens
- 14 libraries (including 3 privately owned)
- 6 surf clubs
- 250 recreation parks
- 972km pathways
- 147 sporting grounds
- 63 sports venues
- 15 grandstands
- 13 BMX/skate parks
- 134 playgrounds (that contain either a playground or exercise equipment)

## Invest



- 1 airport
- 1 holiday park
- 41 cultural spaces (including 8 CN owned)
- 1 waste and resource recovery centre
- 125 early education and childcare centres (including 10 CN owned)
- 62 primary and secondary education facilities
- \$1.10 billion value of building approvals (DAs, CDCs and SSDs in 2020/21)
- \$18.4 billion Newcastle's Gross Regional Product
- 4.63 million annual visitors (2019)
- \$2 billion value of city-owned assets
- \$46 million received in grants and subsidies (2020/21)
- 11 tertiary education facilities
- First in family degree: 11,387 students or 48% of Newcastle-based registrations in 2021
- Indigenous enrolments: 1080 students or 4.5% of Newcastle-based registrations in 2021
- Largest regional innovation ecosystem in Australia with 322 people and elements



- 1 ferry - Queens Wharf to Stockton
- 2.7km light rail, with 6 stations
- 127 transport shelters
- 850km of roads



# Our shared future



# Our approach

We all have an important role to play in Newcastle 2040. Together, we have developed an ambitious long-term vision that sets out our priorities for the future. Our community is passionate about Newcastle, and they love where they live. This willingness to engage has helped shape our city's future.

## Collaboration and listening

Newcastle 2040 has been developed through an extensive engagement process undertaken throughout 2020–2021. The focus of this process was to listen to the needs and aspirations of our community to determine our future priorities based on our strengths, challenges and opportunities.

Our engagement began at local community events and was followed by workshops, stakeholder meetings, surveys, online discussions and local neighbourhood conversations. We wanted to make sure we heard from all of Newcastle – young and old, from Bar Beach to Beresfield and everywhere in between.

## Where we've been

External	External (Online)
City Leaders Talk	CSP Survey February 2020
Councillor Strategic Workshop	Quarterly Community Survey December 2020
Plattsburg Public School	Quarterly Community Survey May 2021
Newcastle TAFE	Social Pinpoint Survey
IQ Innovation Event	Community Online Workshop November 2021
Newcastle Show	
Library Summer Stories event LGBTQIA+	
Count Us In – Launch	
Count Us In – Multicultural pop-up library	
Guide Dogs Newcastle	
Seniors Week	
Jesmond Harmony Day	
Jesmond Shopping Centre	
Blackbutt Indigenous Youth Workshop	
Youth Week – Wallsend Skate Park	
Wallsend Shopping Centre	
Marketown Shopping Centre	
Beresfield Local Centre	
Dixon Park	
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Network Event	
Waratah High School Leaders	
Future Entrepreneur Workshop	
New Local Event – Workshop	
Liveable Cities Advisory Committee	
Community and Culture Advisory Committee	
Strategy and Innovation Advisory Committee	
Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee	
Youth Council	
Guraki Advisory Committee	
Newcastle Art Gallery Youth Advisory Group	

Internal
City Administration Centre Wall Takeover
City Administration Centre
Works Depot
Libraries Staff – all branches
New Local Event - Workshop
Executive Leadership Team
Newcastle 2040 Champions – Session 1
Newcastle 2040 Champions – Session 2



## Community involvement

We listened to over **2,600** people

**550** people rated satisfaction on current Newcastle 2030 Strategic Directions

**450** survey contributions about our vision and values

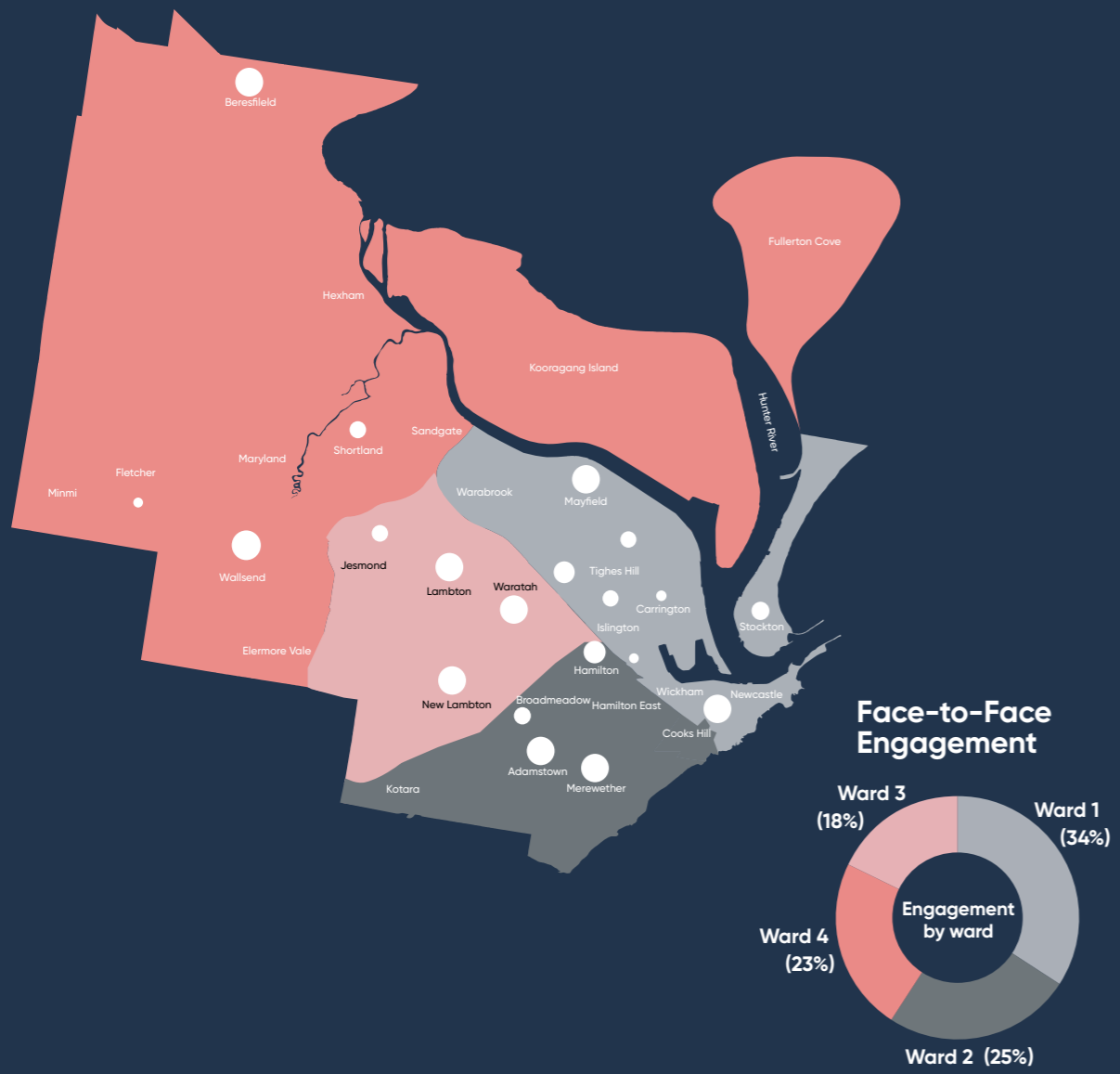
**400** online vision wall ideas

**1,000** responses to our survey to prioritise what we heard

**5,000+**  
people engaged

**40+**  
events and activities

## CSP engagement by ward



# Opportunities and challenges

CN acknowledges that there are challenges facing Newcastle in our journey to becoming a liveable, sustainable, inclusive global city. CSIRO's global megatrend research has identified significant shifts in environmental, economic and social conditions that will play out over the coming decades. Acknowledgement of these challenges and identification of how they can be mitigated, or even turned into opportunities, will be key to delivering Newcastle's vision.

### Low education

At the 2016 Census, just over half (53.1%) of Newcastle's population above the age of 20 had attained a post-school qualification of Certificate III or above. With 9 out of 10 future jobs estimated to require post-school qualifications, there is likely to be a significant decline in demand for an unqualified labour force. This will have a substantial impact on the Newcastle economy, polarising employment opportunities and increasing economic inequality into the future.

### Population challenges

When compared to Australian trends, Newcastle has a number of unique population challenges. These include:

**Moderate population growth:** A past challenge for Newcastle has been our lagging population growth compared to Australia's other major population centres, which may contribute to slower economic diversification, output and opportunities. In the period 2019-2020, Newcastle's population grew by 1.1%, compared to a capital city average growth rate of 1.4%. Newcastle's population grew slowly compared to similar regional centres like Geelong (2.3%), Adelaide (2.5%) and the Gold Coast (2.4%).

**Local brain drain:** Regional population data suggests that the population cohort most likely to move away from Newcastle is people aged 15-24. This is the age group most likely to be engaging in post-school education and entering the workforce.

**Lack of diversity:** Compared to the rest of NSW's population, residents of Newcastle are more likely to have been born in Australia (86.1% versus 72.4%) and to only speak English at home rather than other languages (90% versus 74.9%). This may signify less exposure to diverse cultures and innovative practices, and fewer international connections.

### Climate change

The climate emergency has become the key social and economic challenge of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We are already beginning to glimpse the impacts of a changing climate on our everyday lives. The likely effects of more extreme climate events include more frequent and widespread bushfires, flooding, extreme heat, and increased risk of disease and pandemics – all with indeterminate impact on our economic and social fabric.

## COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has been an unprecedented economic and social challenge for Australia. Although some industries have recovered or will recover strongly, other sectors such as tourism and hospitality have been disproportionately impacted and are struggling to return to normal trading levels.

Alongside these challenges are new opportunities for Newcastle, particularly in the accelerated adoption of work-from-home practices and subsequent technological shifts. This trend is encouraging a demographic shift away from congested capital cities and represents an opportunity to attract more internal migration to Newcastle, with the working population enticed by lifestyle factors, cost of living considerations and competitive infrastructure.

## Industry transition

The mining sector continues to play a significant role in our local economy – particularly coal, which is extracted in the Upper Hunter region and exported through the Port of Newcastle. The significance of coal mining to the local economy highlights Newcastle’s exposure to volatility and long-term downturns in the industry. There is opportunity for economic restructuring towards ecological and social sustainability through creation of new green jobs, as well as provision of support for people and communities who might be disadvantaged during the change process.

## Affordable housing

Forecasts show that Newcastle’s population is set to grow to 199,700 by 2041 – an increase of 28,393 residents, stimulating demand for some 19,450 new dwellings. A mix of affordable and sustainable future housing is imperative to meet the diverse needs of our growing community.

Unfortunately, due to a significant shortfall in the supply of longer-term social (and affordable) housing, housing unaffordability (‘housing stress’) and homelessness for our vulnerable families and individuals is increasing. Newcastle’s housing affordability problem for lower-income households has become acute and its impact is being felt strongly.



# From local to global

## How Newcastle 2040 fits in with other strategies and plans

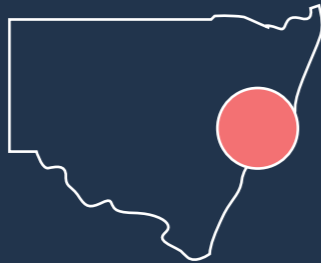


### Delivered at the local level

Includes: local roads, parks, waterways, waste, libraries, events, community wellbeing and facilities, development

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (featuring Newcastle 2040 Community Strategic Plan)

CN's policies, strategies and plans



### Delivered at the regional level

Includes: regional planning, health and wellbeing, water catchment management

Hunter Region Plan 2041

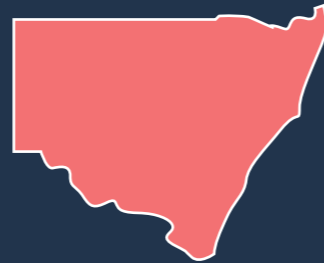
Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan 2036

Health District Plan Regional

Hunter Joint Organisations Strategy

Regional Water Strategy

Greater Newcastle Transport Plan



### Delivered at the state level

Includes: health, care (aged, child, disability), transport, education, employment, police, development

State Plan NSW Housing

NSW Smart Places Strategy

NSW Energy Plan

NSW Disability Inclusion Action Plan (2020–2024)

NSW Net Zero Plan

Future Transport Strategy 2056

NSW Infrastructure Strategy

NSW State Health Plan

Premier's Priorities

NSW State Emergency Service Strategic Plan

NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy

NSW Circular Economy Policy Statement

NSW Biodiversity Strategy



### Delivered at the national level

Includes: defence, immigration, taxation, communications, trade

Places for People: An Urban Protocol for Australian Cities

Social Inclusion Agenda

Australian Modern Manufacturing Strategy

National Agreement on Closing the Gap

Australia's Biodiversity and Conservation Strategy

National Digital Economy Strategy

Infrastructure Australia Strategy

National Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy

National Waste Policy and Action Plan



### Delivered at the global level

Includes: environmental and social issues; political, health or economic crises

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Paris Climate Agreement

China National Sword Policy

# Sustainable Development Goals

## Our Global Commitment

In September 2015, 193 countries committed to the United Nations SDGs. These goals provide a global roadmap for all countries to work towards a better world for current and future generations.

CN immediately declared our support and intention to deliver the SDGs and began proactively implementing action and engagement. We are committed to contributing to the achievement of the SDGs and have been working towards increasing and improving our contribution to this shared global vision.

Newcastle 2040 and our ongoing engagement with the community shape our localisation of the goals, and we apply the ideals and intent of the SDGs throughout our organisation. The interconnectedness and integration of actions towards the SDG targets has influenced the development of themes, priorities and objectives in Newcastle 2040.

The SDGs are significant and will take time to achieve. However, it is important to recognise the steps we are taking to progress these goals. While CN recognises the importance of all 17 SDGs, we have focused our efforts on the areas where we can have the most impact in our local communities.



## Localising SDGs for Newcastle

SDG	SDG and how it is addressed by CN
	<b>Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</b> CN has a strong focus on the health and wellbeing of the community. We are working in partnership with the health and community sector on identified local priorities, such as mental health and overall wellbeing, while promoting healthy lifestyles.
	<b>Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</b> CN supports opportunities and initiatives that help to build the educational basis for lifelong learning. From early childhood programs at the library through to vocational education and training support for workers, we are focused on improving the inclusivity and equity of education and training to support community outcomes.
	<b>Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</b> CN promotes opportunities to recognise and celebrate the rights of women and girls and to fully participate across the spectrum of political, economic and public life. We enable and empower women through our own employment practices and by supporting information and communications technology programs and advocacy. We support organisations and charities that actively focus on the unique experiences of women and girls.
	<b>Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</b> CN encourages equal opportunities for all by actively considering inclusivity across our program design. Our strategies and programs support innovative, productive enterprises that provide decent job creation and promote local culture, economy and products.
	<b>Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation</b> CN is taking action to build the resilience of our city's infrastructure. We are consistently identifying and promoting inclusive, sustainable solutions to modern challenges in new and responsive ways.
	<b>Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries</b> CN is progressively achieving greater equality by identifying and eliminating inequalities of outcomes through appropriate legislation and policies, and through the way we operate and interact in our community and beyond. We provide direct investment and promote social, economic and political inclusion through action and initiatives. We also seek active participation and representation, reflective of our community makeup, in the development of all our guiding strategies.
	<b>Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</b> SDG 11 is considered the local government-driven goal and our work in creating a sustainable city is extensive. CN commits to building a sustainable city through initiatives and advocacy in housing; transport and natural heritage; waste, green and public space; and the deliberate planning of our city using local materials.
	<b>Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</b> CN aims to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production, including reviewing and improving on waste and natural resource use.
	<b>Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts</b> CN is leading in many aspects of climate change policy, strategy and planning. We are working to mobilise and improve our capacity and that of our community through education, awareness-raising and strategies for climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning. We are building and transitioning to green jobs and encouraging sustainable, inclusive growth of climate-aware enterprise.
	<b>Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</b> With some of the best beaches in the world, Newcastle values its coastline, and CN recognises our responsibility to ensure its conservation, resilience and restoration. The need to sustainably manage marine resources for the use of our community is integral to our future, as is the positioning of Newcastle as an international tourist destination.
	<b>Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</b> Protecting the natural assets, green space and biodiversity of our region is an important part of CN's work. We have mobilised resources toward management, conservation and planning to ensure biodiversity and sustainable ecosystems.
	<b>Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</b> CN seeks to be inclusive, participatory and representative in all our decision-making. Our continuous improvement processes focus on our effectiveness, accountability and transparency with public access to information. Our initiatives focus on how our work impacts the community and how we can best ensure safety and security for all, especially the most vulnerable members of our community.
	<b>Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development</b> CN has a strong focus on building and maintaining partnerships for the progress of the SDGs. Through formal and informal partnerships, we are able to best effect change on behalf of our community and to mobilise resources and expertise for the good of Newcastle. In building partnerships, we build our community.

# Our priorities for Newcastle



# CN's role and services

As Newcastle continues to grow, CN, our stakeholders and our community need to work together to invest in our individual and collective wellbeing.

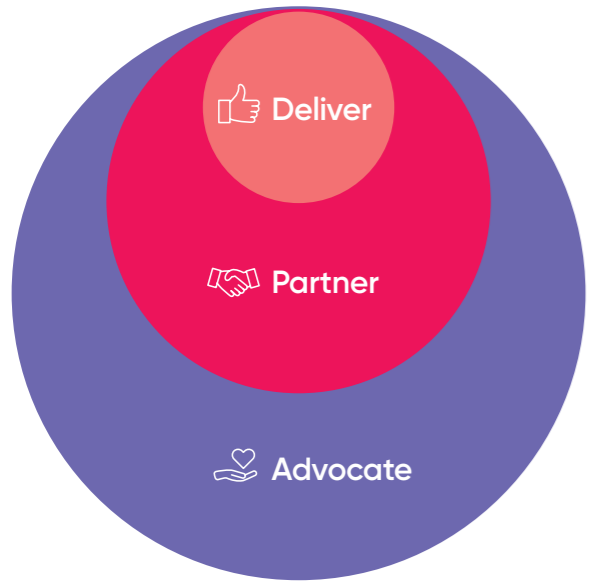
While CN has a custodial role in initiating, preparing and delivering Newcastle 2040 on behalf of the community, it is not solely responsible for its implementation.

Many of the issues and concerns facing Newcastle are complex and beyond the direct control and influence of CN, such as public transport, health, education, housing, planning and employment.

To deliver our vision, CN works with various stakeholders and partners, including other levels of government and their affiliated agencies, local businesses and industry, educational institutions, community groups, and other service providers.

Depending on the activity being undertaken, CN's role is to Deliver, Partner and/or Advocate.

By building partnerships, taking a strong leadership role and delivering on its own commitments, CN plays an important role in shaping our city and making Newcastle a place for everyone.



## Deliver (Control)

CN delivers a wide range of programs and services including waste collection, libraries, childcare, maintenance of local roads and public spaces, recreation facilities and programs, community support, special events and regulatory functions.



## Partner (Influence)

There are areas in which CN has partial or shared responsibility or influence. CN builds strategic partnerships with federal and state government agencies, the private sector, and a range of other stakeholders whose work will contribute to delivering our long-term priorities.



## Advocate (Concern)

A wide range of issues important to the community sits outside CN's control. CN gives a voice to the needs and aspirations of the community by advocating for changes in policy and action at relevant levels of government and industry.







# Liveable Newcastle

Our neighbourhoods are safe and thriving, with diverse and equitable housing and social and urban infrastructure that supports local living. Our public places bring people together for active living and social connection. We plan for areas of identified growth and change. We support the 15-minute neighbourhood concept, where the things we want and need are nearby and easy to access.

Our city is walkable, connected by safe roads and accessible parking, and options for active transport are available, enabling access to services and facilities.

Our community is connected and equitable, and everyone is valued. We use innovation and technology and promote health, wellbeing and equal opportunities to increase residents' quality of life.



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



# Why Liveable Newcastle?

You told us that you want a Liveable Newcastle. Liveable Newcastle is about creating a great city for our community to live in, and supporting all members of our community to succeed and live well.

## The following priorities have been identified as key to achieving a Liveable Newcastle:



### Enriched neighbourhoods and places

Places are well planned to be meaningful, engaging and accessible to all. Sustainable, healthy and inclusive streets, open spaces, and neighbourhood centres with unique character and heritage are important.

We value public places supported by planned infrastructure that bring people together for active living and social connection. Pride in the culture and heritage of our city enhances our sense of identity.



### Connected and fair communities

Connected and fair communities value all people and embrace diversity. We are respectful of culture and work towards inclusion to achieve a sense of belonging for all. We promote health, wellbeing, digital inclusion and equal opportunities to improve quality of life.



### Safe, active and linked movement across the city

Moving across the city with ease is important to the liveability of Newcastle. Diverse transport options, active travel and safe roads play a major role in keeping us physically connected to work, leisure and services.

Active transport becomes the preferred transport method for people of Newcastle. Every time someone rides or walks to work, to university, to the beach or to the local shops instead of using a car means less congestion, less noise, less pollution and better streetscapes for people.



### Innovative and connected city

A city that confidently harnesses innovation and technology will ensure increased quality of living for all. We consider digital infrastructure in our planning and development to future-proof our city and local centres. We utilise digital infrastructure and emerging technologies to better identify and service community needs, improve efficiency and increase city amenity.

"Newcastle could be the world's greenest, safest, most self-sufficient, innovative and liveable city"  
– Online survey

"Newcastle hasn't lost its roots – there's pride in the area. People look you in the eye. People are proud"  
– Count Us In event

"There is potential for diverse, lively and vibrant urban areas to cater for people's needs"  
– Count Us In event

#### Our role:

- Deliver
- Partner
- Advocate

## Priorities and objectives

### 1.1 Enriched neighbourhoods and places

#### 1.1.1 Great spaces

Provide quality, stimulating and inclusive leisure, learning and recreation options that enable all people to participate and thrive.

#### 1.1.2 Well-designed places

Prioritise, create and maintain contemporary, sustainable, healthy and inclusive streets, buildings, neighbourhoods, local centres and facilities that result in better places to live, work and enjoy.

#### 1.1.3 Protected heritage places

Conserve and protect our rich cultural heritage places, as they provide local character and enhance our sense of identity.

### 1.2 Connected and fair communities

#### 1.2.1 Connected communities

Support diverse communities to build strong social and cultural connections through tolerance, participation and inclusion, so that everyone feels welcome in Newcastle and enjoys a sense of belonging and place.

#### 1.2.2 Inclusive communities

Recognise, acknowledge and celebrate the Awabakal and Worimi people's strength, resilience and living culture. Champion inclusion across our community so that everyone is supported, valued and respected.

#### 1.2.3 Equitable communities

Support access to affordable, sustainable and inclusive housing, food, services, programs and facilities to improve quality of life and the strength of our community.

#### 1.2.4 Healthy communities

Promote and support active and healthy communities that have strong physical, mental and spiritual health and feel safe and secure in the city.

### 1.3 Safe, active and linked movement across the city

#### 1.3.1 Connected cycleways and pedestrian networks

Provide safe and connected networks, making active movement a convenient, accessible way of getting around.

#### 1.3.2 Road networks

Manage and maintain local road networks to connect people and places comfortably across the city.

#### 1.3.3 Managed parking

Manage parking to improve the amenity of our streets, support the accessibility of our centres, and encourage a shift to active and public transport.

#### 1.3.4 Effective public transport

Support the implementation of regional transport strategies and plans and public transport network improvements to allow easy movement across the city.

### 1.4 Innovative and connected city

#### 1.4.1 Emerging technologies

Embrace emerging technologies, creative ideas and new approaches to address city challenges and improve quality of life for the community.

#### 1.4.2 Digital inclusion and social innovation

Support capacity-building and inclusive digital access to narrow the digital divide and ensure the benefits of innovation are applied equitably across the community.



## Elsa Licumba

As a migrant herself, Elsa Licumba knows all too well that a sense of belonging is important for everyone to have. After the culture shock of leaving Mozambique and arriving to study in Australia, she felt what it was like to lose herself between places and become invisible to society. To regain her sense of belonging, she realised she had to change her mindset and first give herself the freedom to belong.

Elsa authored *Freedom to Belong*, a book to show how she and other migrants could reinvent themselves and their identities while living in a foreign land. She also founded a support service with the same name to help migrants find their place in a new country.

Having lived in Newcastle for 10 years now, Elsa finds the city's appeal as strong as ever. She has always found it to be a welcoming city and that its citizens are inclusive, multicultural and focused on the wellbeing of the area and each other.

At home, she loves to garden. Creating something that lives and thrives under her care and the act of putting roots down helps to remind her that she is doing the same thing here in the Newcastle community.

'I want every single migrant to understand that belonging has nothing to do with a place. You can have two homes if you want to – this place, the city of Newcastle, can be your home too,' says Elsa.

### Community indicators

The wellbeing of our city and community.

CN uses these indicators to track trends to ensure that we are moving towards our vision.

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Overall quality of life in Newcastle  
(Source: CN Liveability and Wellbeing Survey)

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Rental Affordability Index (RAI)  
(Source: SGS Economics and Planning)

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Travel patterns on an average weekday for residents  
(Source: NSW Transport - Household Travel Survey (HTS))

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Number of recorded criminal incidents for major offences  
(Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research)

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Potentially preventable hospitalisations  
(Source: NSW Health Stats)

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Newcastle digital inclusion index score  
(Source: National digital inclusion data)

### Service indicators

The high-level impact of CN's service delivery on our city and community.

CN uses these indicators to track progress and performance against our service delivery and to guide our decision-making.

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Social Infrastructure index score:  
% of residents that live within a designated distance (walkable) of community facilities, public transport (train stations and bus stops), recreation facilities, local centres, and parks  
(Source: GIS mapped data)

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Cycle-friendly and walkable city  
(Source: CN Liveability and Wellbeing Survey)





# Sustainable Newcastle

Our environment sustains our community, economy, health and wellbeing. It is at the heart of all that we do.

Our city acts on climate change to achieve net zero emissions and build resilience in our community, infrastructure and natural areas.

We protect, enhance and connect our green and blue networks, and we're transforming our city through circular economy solutions.



# Why Sustainable Newcastle?

You told us that you want a Sustainable Newcastle. Sustainable Newcastle is about valuing our natural environment and responding to challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss and overuse of resources.

## The following priorities have been identified as key to achieving a Sustainable Newcastle:



### Action on climate change

We respond to the climate emergency by committing to net zero emissions and preparing for risks from increasing temperatures, storms, coastal erosion, flooding and bushfires. Decisions we make build resilient communities, infrastructure and natural areas.



### Nature-based solutions

We manage and enhance our blue, green and natural spaces for biodiversity, recreational amenity and human wellbeing through education and engagement of our local community. We strengthen our blue and green grid through sustainable, integrated management that is adaptable to current and future risks. We regenerate our natural systems and work towards zero pollution through collaboration with our community and industry partners.



### Circular economy

Through our transition to a circular economy, we design out waste, creating new opportunities and technologies in our local economy, promoting renewable products and sustainable infrastructure, and rethinking our use of resources as a circular flow.

"Green with trees and plants, waste minimisation, optimal use of resources, response to climate change and environmental emergencies"  
– Ideas wall

"Focus on individuals, businesses and council being proactive about recycling"  
– CN staff feedback

"Let's focus on looking after natural resources and living sustainably"  
– Online survey

#### Our role:

- Deliver
- Partner
- Advocate

## Priorities and objectives

### 2.1 Action on climate change

**2.1.1 Towards net zero emissions**   
Achieve net zero emissions by increasing energy and waste efficiency and reducing emissions from buildings, transport, infrastructure and supply chains. Encourage clean technology and future energy initiatives and industries.

**2.1.2 Know and share our climate risk**   
Undertake holistic, evidence-based assessment and monitoring of climate risks to enable best-practice risk and investment planning as we prepare for extreme weather events and support community and business to do likewise.

**2.1.3 Resilient urban and natural areas**   
Create resilient communities, economies and natural areas that prepare for and adapt to climate risks. Prioritise social equity and ensure vulnerable communities are not left behind.

### 2.3 Circular economy

**2.3.1 Design out waste**   
Create sustainable material cycles through the city's economy. Establish resource recovery industries and circular economy precincts. Increase recycling and productive reuse of organics.

**2.3.2 Localised supply chain and sustainable procurement**   
Foster resilience and sustainability through procurement, resource-sharing and construction activities that preference local suppliers and supply chains.

### 2.2 Nature-based solutions

**2.2.1 Regenerate natural systems**   
Strengthen our natural environments, including our waterways and beaches, to support healthy, biodiverse systems; minimise pollution; and maintain recreational amenity as well as ecological and community value.

**2.2.2 Expand the urban forest**   
Manage and care for Newcastle's urban forest and maximise urban greening, resulting in a healthy, green and biodiverse city that provides economic, ecological and social benefits.

**2.2.3 Achieve a water-sensitive city**   
Integrate the water cycle into planning, design and construction to create liveable urban spaces. Capture water at the source, mitigate flood impacts through design, and create public spaces that collect, clean and recycle water.





# Natalie Mitchell

When Natalie looks at a household item, she doesn't picture herself owning it. Instead, she imagines all the future people who can share in its usefulness over time.

Natalie runs the Share Shop in Newcastle, a community non-profit run entirely by volunteers. It's a library of things, full of useful household items that you might use sparingly, such as power tools, a whipper snipper or a bread maker. Rather than everyone buying these items to sit in a garage unused for most of their lives, the Share Shop lets its members use the items like a lending library. By borrowing items, members can break the cycle of overproduction and waste and strengthen their mindset for reuse.

Natalie loves how the community in Newcastle has come together to support the shop and its goal to promote a circular economy. Most items in the shop are donated by the community, while volunteers donate their time to help out around the shop or support the upkeep of equipment.

'I think Newcastle, the same as anywhere else, needs to be looking towards the future. I think about how our children will grow up and what the world will be like for them. We don't want to be filling our world with so much individual waste. I believe that bringing back that sense of community is important for their future,' says Natalie.

By 2040, Natalie hopes that all Novocastrians share a mindset to reuse, recycle and repurpose, rather than throw things away. She believes that by choosing things that can be reused, shared and passed on to others, we're helping to create a better future for generations to come.

## Community indicators

The wellbeing of our city and community.

CN uses these indicators to track trends to ensure that we are moving towards our vision.

Community greenhouse gas emissions  
(Source: Ironbark Sustainability)

Community uptake of electric vehicles  
(Source: ABS data)

Whole LGA canopy cover  
(Source: CN (GIS) mapped data)

Satisfaction with our green, blue and wild spaces  
(Source: CN Satisfaction Survey)

Per capita or household water usage  
(Source: Hunter Water – State of the Environment Report)

Municipal waste diversion from landfill  
(Source: CN data)

## Service indicators

The high-level impact of CN's service delivery on our city and community.

CN uses these indicators to track progress and performance against our service delivery and to guide our decision-making.

CN operational greenhouse gas emissions  
(Source: CN data)

CN uptake and support of electric vehicles  
(Source: CN data)

Road and open parkland canopy cover  
(Source: CN (GIS) mapped data)

CN operational water consumption  
(Source: Hunter Water)

Use of local suppliers  
(Source: CN data)

Proximity to natural areas  
(Source: CN (GIS) mapped data)





# Creative Newcastle

Our city is vibrant, inclusive and creative. Newcastle is a destination known for its culture, heritage, entertainment and innovative ideas.

We are excited about the city's opportunities in the areas of jobs, education and the economy.

Multiculturalism, Aboriginal culture, diverse communities and the arts are celebrated. Locals and visitors gather for events and cultural experiences, and to feel part of the community.

Newcastle is driven by city-shaping partnerships that enhance our opportunities and attract people to live, play and invest in our city.

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

<b>4</b> QUALITY EDUCATION 	<b>8</b> DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 	<b>9</b> INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 
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# Why Creative Newcastle?

You told us that you want a Creative Newcastle. Creative Newcastle is about creating a city full of opportunities for enjoyable experiences, economic success, innovation and celebration.

## The following priorities have been identified as key to achieving a Creative Newcastle:



### Vibrant and creative city

We are a vibrant city, actively shaped by our culture, heritage, entertainment and bold ideas. We are a welcoming city, activated day and night with diverse offerings. We are a visitor and events destination with a rich art, culture and foodie scene and accessible nature-based and coastal experiences.



### Opportunities in jobs, learning and innovation

We are excited about opportunities for work, education and lifelong learning, now and into the future. These opportunities will result in skilled and innovative people in our city.



### Celebrating culture

Culture is an essential part of Newcastle, valued for its contribution to people's lifelong learning and wellbeing and to the city's identity and economy. We recognise the richness of our heritage and our diverse backgrounds, and the traditional knowledge that this brings. Our industrial heritage is activated through creative expression.

Celebrating culture and the institutions that support it helps to unite and educate locals and visitors alike.



### City-shaping partnerships

Newcastle is driven by city-shaping partnerships that enable success and attract people to live and invest in our city. We leverage the growth sectors of the new economy to allow the city to think globally and act locally. We retain Newcastle's unique identity while embracing innovation and change that will unlock the city's potential.

"I feel our city is on the verge of something great. Young people and families are relocating to our city and can see the huge potential that perhaps we long-term residents take for granted"  
– Listening post

"Newcastle is an amazing place of opportunity, beautiful natural features and home to people with a fun, generous spirit, always ready to lend a hand and support each other"  
– Social pinpoint survey

#### Our role:

- Deliver
- Partner
- Advocate

## Priorities and objectives

### 3.1 Vibrant and creative city

#### 3.1.1 Vibrant events

Plan and support events to enhance community wellbeing and social inclusion and showcase our city to a local, national and international audience.

#### 3.1.2 Bold and challenging programs

Deliver accessible, nationally significant programming and events that enliven people's experiences of objects, performances, collections and exhibitions.

#### 3.1.3 Tourism and visitor economy

Promote Newcastle as a premier Australian visitor and events destination, showcasing a rich art, cultural and food scene, a vibrant night-time economy, and accessible nature-based and coastal experiences.

#### 3.1.4 Vibrant night-time economy

Support a creative, vibrant and safe nightlife that offers a diversity of experiences for all and contributes significantly to the cultural and economic activity of Newcastle.

### 3.2 Opportunities in jobs, learning and innovation

#### 3.2.1 Inclusive opportunities

Support participation in learning, training and employment initiatives to allow equal opportunities for our community to learn and grow – particularly its most vulnerable members.

#### 3.2.2 Skilled people and businesses

Grow our local skills base, attract domestic and international talent to Newcastle, and embed inclusive practices in all actions of local business to establish a skills-based labour market.

#### 3.2.3 Innovative people and businesses

Embrace and cultivate innovation with business and industry to create new opportunities. Encourage entrepreneurship, where anyone can nurture an idea into a successful business.

### 3.3 Celebrating culture

#### 3.3.1 Nurture cultural and creative practitioners

Nurture arts and cultural practitioners to provide stimulating experiences that expand, resonate and connect with their audiences.

#### 3.3.2 Promote Newcastle as a major arts and cultural destination

Attract visitors and strengthen Newcastle's reputation as an arts and cultural destination by creating a nationally significant platform for arts, culture, festivals and expression.

#### 3.3.3 Culture in everyday life

Facilitate opportunities for creative ideas to flourish and for communities to be immersed in culture that is local, diverse and accessible. Celebrate the richness of our cultural heritage and diverse backgrounds.

### 3.4 City-shaping partnerships

#### 3.4.1 Optimise city opportunities

Optimise existing and future growth opportunities to improve infrastructure and capitalise on city-shaping initiatives.

#### 3.4.2 Advocacy and partnership

Advocate and collaborate across government, industry and business to foster competitive advantages and global opportunities for the city.





## María José Sanchez-Varela Barajas

**María loves big cities and seeing the unique ways their microcosms and ecosystems come together. She's especially fond of watching them grow and has dedicated her life to helping them flourish.**

In 2016, she led a successful bid for Guadalajara to become a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Creative City for Media Arts. This involved bringing together local talent, establishing creative hubs and strengthening the connections between the arts and other creative fields in the city to exchange cultural ideas.

To María, cities such as Singapore, Dubai and Barcelona have a vibrancy and energy to them. In these places, culture and heritage are embraced and come together with art, science and innovation in an authentic way.

She sees that same vibrancy here in Newcastle and wants to play a part in bringing different people, thinking and ecosystems together to unleash their creative energy. As co-founder and part of Art Thinking, she's already helped to bring festivals and ideas to Newcastle, where technology, art, science and entrepreneurship could intersect and interact.

'I like to live in Newcastle because it has all the perfect elements to me. Creativity, great location, art and then combining it all with innovation and entrepreneurship. It's a perfect melting pot for everything to come together and to grow a city from,' says María.

When thinking about Newcastle in the future, María wishes for all the potential she sees right now to flourish and thrive. With her help and that of other local legends, she's already contributing to help it become a reality.

### Community indicators

The wellbeing of our city and community.

CN uses these indicators to track trends and ensure the changes that have occurred are moving us towards our vision.

Rate of economic growth – Gross Regional Product (GRP)  
(Source: REMPLAN)

Tourism number of visitors to the city from outside the LGA  
(Source: Tourism Research Australia)

Employment rates by age group (youth specifically)  
(Source: ABS – Labour Force Data)

Early Childhood Development Index  
(Source: Australian Early Development Census (AEDC))

Number of international university students  
(Source: University of Newcastle)

### Service indicators

The high-level impact of CN's service delivery on our city and community.

CN uses these indicators to track progress and performance against our service delivery and to guide our decision-making.

Return on investment (ROI) on events sponsored by CN  
(Source: CN data)

Diversity of cultural expression  
(Source: CN Liveability and Wellbeing survey)

Value of building approvals  
(Source: CN data)





# Achieving Together

Our people come together to collaborate, share great ideas and opportunities, and co-create positive change for our organisation and city.

Our culture is one of trust and understanding, where honest conversations empower our people, customers and community. We value diverse perspectives and deliver what we promise.

Our strength is growing our capability to manage community and customer expectations and continuously improve our service delivery.



# Why Achieving Together?

You told us that Achieving Together was important. Achieving Together involves our people coming together to collaborate, share great ideas and opportunities, and co-create positive change for our organisation and city.

## The following priorities have been identified as key to Achieving Together:



### Inclusive and integrated planning

Considered, holistic planning is crucial to the city's future growth – locally, regionally and globally. We use evidence-based decision-making for the development of our policies and strategies and undertake research to understand the trends and issues affecting our community.

We have good governance that supports transparency in monitoring outcomes and reporting them to the community.



### Trust and transparency

Our culture encourages empathy, understanding and willingness to help each other. We have trust and confidence in the leadership of our city and work together to create better outcomes for our customers and community.

Our culture values integrity and accountability and encourages open, transparent decision-making. We promote our opportunities and celebrate our stories.



### Collaborative and innovative approach

We build strong relationships where knowledge is exchanged. Effective collaboration between our people, community, businesses, industry and government is essential.

Innovative services and ways of working empower our people and community, and continuously improve our service delivery.

“Want genuine engagement from Council with the community and for Council to really listen to the community”  
– Listening post

“Let's focus on planning for the future”  
– CN staff feedback

“If planned properly Newcastle could be the best city in the world”  
– Listening post

#### Our role:



Deliver



Partner



Advocate

## Priorities and objectives



### 4.1 Inclusive and integrated planning

#### 4.1.1 Financial sustainability

Make sound financial decisions that are consistent with CN's risk management framework and long-term planning. Sustainably manage assets and revenue streams to meet community expectations.

#### 4.1.2 Integrated planning and reporting

Undertake a holistic approach to planning that is reflective of community needs and aspirations. Identify the current and future needs and services desired by our community and deliver them in a sustainable manner.

#### 4.1.3 Aligned and engaged workforce

Plan for our future workforce to ensure we have highly skilled and engaged people to deliver on our community's priorities. Put our people first and strive to create a positive employee experience where equity, diversity and inclusion are championed.



### 4.2 Trust and transparency

#### 4.2.1 Genuine engagement

Encourage participation and provide opportunities for genuine, representative community engagement. Engagement is planned, proactive and meaningful and results in a shared responsibility for success, where people are inspired to actively participate in decision-making to shape Newcastle's future.

#### 4.2.2 Shared information and celebration of success

Proactively share clear, consistent, accessible and relevant information with the community, leading to an understanding of CN's actions and decisions. Celebrate the success of CN and the community by sharing positive stories across communication channels.

#### 4.2.3 Trusted customer experience

Continuously review and improve our service delivery to meet our customers' needs, creating great physical and digital experiences, focusing on transparency and building trust in CN.



### 4.3 Collaborative and innovative approach

#### 4.3.1 Collaborative organisation

Build a culture that listens and encourages empathy, understanding and willingness to help our customers and colleagues.

#### 4.3.2 Innovation and continuous improvement

Encourage innovation and continuous improvement to enhance overall performance, efficiency and effectiveness of products and services provided to the community.

#### 4.3.3. Data-driven decision-making and insights

Harness the digital transformation of the organisation to drive innovative approaches and insights using quality data to make strategic decisions that align with our vision, provide consistency and transparency, and promote continuous improvement.



## Andy Jones

Throughout his career, Andy Jones has always worked towards creating positive change. He strives to develop sustainable approaches and innovative thinking with organisations that benefit the environment, the community and those living in more vulnerable communities.

As a representative of the Hunter Region Sustainable Development Goals Taskforce, it's his role to facilitate bringing together community, not-for-profit, government and private sector organisations to collaborate and progress the goals within the region.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals are 17 international goals developed as a blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet. The goals include some of the most significant challenges for humans: ending poverty and hunger, providing quality education, clean water and energy, responsible consumption and building sustainable cities, just to name a few.

'In the Hunter, it's important that we all come together to progress the Sustainable Development Goals because none of us can achieve them all on our own. We need to work together to progress them as a region,' says Andy.

He hopes that in the future, we'll all be closer to achieving the goals and living harmoniously with each other and the environment around the region.

As for himself, Andy can't picture living anywhere else but Newcastle. Being so close to the ocean, among friendly people, and with a good music scene – what more could he ask for?

### Service indicators

The high-level impact of CN's service delivery on our city and community.

CN uses these indicators to track progress and performance against our service delivery and to guide our decision-making.

Operating performance ratio  
 Own source operating revenue ratio  
 Unrestricted current ratio  
 Debt service cover ratio  
 Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage  
 Cash expense cover ratio  
 (Source: CN Financial Statements)

Long-term planning and vision for the city  
 (Source: CN Satisfaction Survey)

Trust in CN  
 (Source: CN Liveability and Wellbeing Survey)

Response to community needs  
 (Source: CN Satisfaction Survey)

Value of community grants  
 Value of inward grants  
 (Source: CN data)

Number of advisory committees and groups  
 Number of organisations represented  
 Number of meetings held  
 (Source: CN data)





# Newcastle 2040 Appendix



# How to read Newcastle 2040

The following information helps to explain the key headings and terminology used in the plan.

## Theme

Our themes provide structure for this plan and inspire our vision to be a liveable, sustainable, inclusive global city. The themes have been developed in consultation with our community.

**Liveable Newcastle**

Our neighbourhoods are safe and thriving, with diverse and equitable housing and social and urban infrastructure that supports local living. Our public places bring people together for active living and social connection. We plan for areas of identified growth and change. We support the 15-minute neighbourhood concept, where the things we want and need are nearby and easy to access.

Our city is walkable, connected by safe roads and accessible parking, and options for active transport are available, enabling access to services and facilities.

Our community is connected and equitable, and everyone is valued. We use innovation and technology and promote health, wellbeing and equal opportunities to increase residents' quality of life.

**Why Liveable Newcastle?**

You told us that you want a Liveable Newcastle. Liveable Newcastle is about creating a great city for our community to live in, and supporting all members of our community to succeed and live well.

The following priorities have been identified as key to achieving a Liveable Newcastle:

- Enriched neighbourhoods and places**: Places are well planned to be meaningful, engaging and accessible to all. Sustainable, healthy and inclusive streets, open spaces, and neighbourhood centres with unique character and heritage are important. We value public places supported by planned infrastructure that bring people together for active living and social connection. Pride in the culture and heritage of our city enhances our sense of identity.
- Connected and fair communities**: Connected and fair communities value all people and embrace diversity. We are respectful of culture and work towards inclusion to achieve a sense of belonging for all. We promote health, wellbeing, digital inclusion and equal opportunities to improve quality of life.
- Safe, active and linked movement across the city**: Moving across the city with ease is important to the liveability of Newcastle. Diverse transport options, active travel and safe roads play a major role in keeping us physically connected to work, leisure and services. Active transport becomes the preferred transport method for people of Newcastle. Every time someone rides or walks to work to university, to the beach or to the local shops instead of using a car means less congestion, less noise, less pollution and better streetscapes for people.
- Innovative and connected city**: A city that confidently harnesses innovation and technology will ensure increased quality of living for all. We consider digital infrastructure in our planning and development to future-proof our city and local centres. We utilise digital infrastructure and emerging technologies to better identify and service community needs, improve efficiency and increase city amenity.

**Council's Role**

**What we can do**

While CN has a custodial role in initiating, preparing, and maintaining Newcastle 2040 on behalf of the community, it is not wholly responsible for its implementation. CN's role, depending on the activity being undertaken, is to Deliver, Partner, and/or Advocate.

**Priorities and objectives**

**1.1 Enriched neighbourhoods and places**

- 1.1.1 Great spaces**: Provide quality, stimulating and inclusive leisure, learning and recreation options that enable all people to participate and thrive.
- 1.1.2 Well-designed places**: Prioritise, create and maintain contemporary, sustainable, healthy and inclusive streets, buildings, neighbourhoods, local centres and facilities that result in better places to live, work and enjoy.
- 1.1.3 Protected heritage places**: Conserve and protect our rich cultural heritage places, as they provide local character and enhance our sense of identity.

**1.2 Connected and fair communities**

- 1.2.1 Connected communities**: Support diverse communities to build strong social and cultural connections through tolerance, participation and inclusion, so that everyone feels welcome in Newcastle and enjoys a sense of belonging and place.
- 1.2.2 Inclusive communities**: Recognise, acknowledge and celebrate the Awabakal and Wornji people's strength, resilience and living culture. Champion inclusion across our community so that everyone is supported, valued and respected.
- 1.2.3 Equitable communities**: Support access to affordable, sustainable and inclusive housing, food, services, programs and facilities to improve quality of life and the strength of our community.
- 1.2.4 Healthy communities**: Promote and support active and healthy communities that have strong physical, mental and spiritual health and feel safe and secure in the city.

**1.3 Safe, active and linked movement across the city**

- 1.3.1 Connected cycleways and pedestrian networks**: Provide safe and connected networks, making active movement a convenient, accessible way of getting around.
- 1.3.2 Road networks**: Manage and maintain local road networks to connect people and places comfortably across the city.
- 1.3.3 Managed parking**: Manage parking to improve the amenity of our streets, support the accessibility of our centres, and encourage a shift to active and public transport.
- 1.3.4 Effective public transport**: Support the implementation of regional transport strategies and plans and public transport network improvements to allow easy movement across the city.

**1.4 Innovative and connected city**

- 1.4.1 Emerging technologies**: Embrace emerging technologies, creative ideas and new approaches to address city challenges and improve quality of life for the community.
- 1.4.2 Digital inclusion and social innovation**: Support capacity-building and inclusive digital access to narrow the digital divide and ensure the benefits of innovation are applied equitably across the community.

**Our role:**

- Deliver**
- Partner**
- Advocate**

**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

The United Nations SDGs are established global goals that provide a roadmap for all countries towards a better world for current and future generations. We aim to contribute to achieving the SDGs through delivery of community objectives and strategies.

**Objectives**

The objectives represent what we want to accomplish and the outcomes CN wants to achieve for the community.

## Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)





The United Nations SDGs are established global goals that provide a roadmap for all countries towards a better world for current and future generations. We aim to contribute to achieving the SDGs through delivery of community objectives and strategies.

## Priorities

The priorities are the community's high-level focus areas for Newcastle. They contribute to achieving each of the four themes.

# Alignment with state and regional priorities



The following information shows how Newcastle 2040 priorities and objectives align with key state and regional plans. For more information on these state and regional plans, see the *Links for further information* section of the Appendix.

Themes	Priorities	State			
		NSW 2021	Premier's Priorities	State Plan NSW Housing	NSW State Infrastructure Strategy
 <p><b>Liveable</b></p>	1.1 Enriched neighbourhoods and places	1.1.1	1.1.1		1.1.1
		1.1.2	1.1.2		1.1.2
		1.1.3	1.1.3		1.1.3
		Newcastle 2040 Objectives			
	1.2 Connected and fair communities	1.2.1	1.2.1	1.2.1	1.2.1
		1.2.2	1.2.2	1.2.2	1.2.2
		1.2.3	1.2.3	1.2.3	1.2.3
		1.2.4	1.2.4	1.2.4	1.2.4
	1.3 Safe, active and linked movement across the city	1.3.2			1.3.1
		1.3.4			1.3.2
					1.3.3
					1.3.4
	1.4 Innovative and connected city				1.4.1
					1.4.2
	 <p><b>Sustainable</b></p>	2.1 Action on climate change	2.1.3		
			Newcastle 2040 Objectives		
2.2 Nature-based solutions		2.2.1	2.2.1		2.2.2
		2.2.2	2.2.2		
2.3 Circular economy					2.3.3
		Newcastle 2040 Objectives			
 <p><b>Creative</b></p>	3.1 Vibrant and creative city	3.1.3		3.1.3	
		3.1.4			
	3.2 Opportunities in jobs, learning and innovation	3.2.1	3.2.1		3.2.1
		3.2.2	3.2.2		3.2.2
					3.2.3
	3.3 Celebrating culture	3.3.3			3.3.3
		Newcastle 2040 Objectives			
	3.4 City-shaping partnerships	3.4.1	3.4.1	3.4.1	3.4.1
3.4.2		3.4.2	3.4.2	3.4.2	
 <p><b>Achieving Together</b></p>	4.1 Inclusive and integrated planning	4.1.1	4.1.2	4.1.2	
		4.1.2			
	4.2 Trust and transparency	4.2.1	4.2.1		
		4.2.2	4.2.2		
		4.2.3	4.2.3		
	4.3 Collaborative and innovative approach			4.3.1	
		Newcastle 2040 Objectives			

NSW Smart Places Strategy	NSW Disability Inclusion Action Plan (2020-2024)	NSW Net Zero Plan	Future Transport Strategy 2056	Regional		
				Hunter Region Plan 2041	Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan	Greater Newcastle Transport Plan
Newcastle 2040 Objectives						
1.1.1	1.1.1		1.1.1	1.1.1	1.1.1	1.1.1
1.1.2	1.1.2		1.1.2	1.1.2	1.1.2	1.1.2
				1.1.3	1.1.3	
1.2.1	1.2.1		1.2.1	1.2.1	1.2.1	1.2.1
1.2.2	1.2.2		1.2.2	1.2.2	1.2.2	1.2.2
1.2.3	1.2.3		1.2.3	1.2.3	1.2.3	1.2.3
1.2.4	1.2.4		1.2.4	1.2.4	1.2.4	1.2.4
			1.3.1	1.3.1	1.3.4	1.3.1
			1.3.2			1.3.2
			1.3.3			1.3.3
			1.3.4			1.3.4
1.4.1	1.4.2			1.4.1	1.4.1	
1.4.2				1.4.2	1.4.2	
2.1.1		2.1.1		2.1.1	2.1.1	
2.1.2		2.1.2		2.1.2	2.1.2	
2.1.3		2.1.3		2.1.3	2.1.3	
2.2.2				2.2.1	2.2.1	
				2.2.2	2.2.2	
2.3.1		2.3.1				
2.3.2		2.3.2				
2.3.3		2.3.3				
				3.1.3	3.1.3	
				3.1.4	3.1.4	
3.2.1	3.2.1			3.2.1	3.2.1	
3.2.2				3.2.2	3.2.2	
3.2.3				3.2.3	3.2.3	
3.4.1	3.4.1	3.4.1	3.4.1	3.4.1	3.4.1	3.4.1
3.4.2	3.4.2	3.4.2	3.4.2	3.4.2	3.4.2	3.4.2
4.1.2	4.1.2	4.1.2	4.1.2	4.1.2	4.1.2	4.1.2
4.3.1						
4.3.3						

# Sustainable Development Goals

The interconnectedness and integration of actions towards the SDG targets has influenced the development of themes, priorities and objectives in Newcastle 2040. Below are the links between SDG targets and Newcastle 2040 objectives. For further details on SDG targets, visit <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>.

Theme	Priority	Objectives
 <p><b>Liveable</b></p>	1.1 Enriched neighbourhoods and places	1.1.1 Great spaces
		1.1.2 Well-designed places
		1.1.3 Protected heritage places
	1.2 Connected and fair communities	1.2.1 Connected communities
		1.2.2 Inclusive communities
		1.2.3 Equitable communities
		1.2.4 Healthy communities
	1.3 Safe, active and linked movement across the city	1.3.1 Connected cycleways and walking networks
		1.3.2 Road networks
		1.3.3 Managed parking
		1.3.4 Effective public transport
	1.4 Innovative and connected city	1.4.1 Emerging technologies and digital infrastructure
		1.4.2 Digital inclusion and social innovation
 <p><b>Sustainable</b></p>	2.1 Action on climate change	2.1.1 Towards net zero emissions
		2.1.2 Know and share our climate risk
		2.1.3 Resilient urban and natural areas
	2.2 Nature-based solutions	2.2.1 Regenerate natural systems
		2.2.2 Expand the urban forest
		2.2.3 Achieve a water-sensitive city
	2.3 Circular economy	2.3.1 Design out waste
		2.3.2 Localised supply chain and sustainable procurement

**SDG Priority**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6					9.1		11.7					16.3	
		3.1						9.1							16.1	
										11.4						
										11.7						
	2.3		4.5, 4.7							11.3, 11.7					16.1	
								9.1	10.2						16.3	
		3.2														
		3.1								11.2						
		3.6														
										11.2						
										11.2						
							8.2									
			4.4													
						7.2, 7.3		9.4			12.4	13.2	14.3			
								9.4		11.3	12.6, 12.7, 12.8	13.1, 13.2, 13.3				17.6, 17.7
1.5																
					6.6								14.2	15.5, 15.9		
														15.1, 15.2		
						6.4, 6.5									14.2	
						6.3, 6.4				11.6	12.4, 12.5		14.1			
	2.3							8.3, 8.9			12.7					



Theme	Priority	Objectives
 <p><b>Creative</b></p>	3.1 Vibrant and creative city	3.1.1 Vibrant events
		3.1.2 Bold and challenging programs
		3.1.3 Tourism and visitor economy
		3.1.4 Vibrant night-time economy
	3.2 Opportunities in jobs, learning and innovation	3.2.1 Inclusive opportunities
		3.2.2 Skilled people and businesses
		3.2.3 Innovative people and businesses
	3.3 Celebrating culture	3.3.1 Nurture cultural and creative practitioners
		3.3.2 Promote Newcastle as a major arts and cultural destination
		3.3.3 Culture in everyday life
	3.4 City-shaping partnerships	3.4.1 Optimise city opportunities
		3.4.2 Advocacy and partnership
 <p><b>Achieving Together</b></p>	4.1 Inclusive and integrated planning	4.1.1 Financial sustainability
		4.1.2 Integrated planning and reporting
		4.1.3 Aligned and engaged workforce
	4.2 Trust and transparency	4.2.1 Genuine engagement
		4.2.2 Shared information and celebration of success
		4.2.3 Trusted customer experience
	4.3 Collaborative and innovative approach	4.3.1 Collaborative organisation
		4.3.2 Innovation and continuous improvement
		4.3.3 Data-driven decision-making and insights

SDG Priority																
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
							8.9									
									10.2							
							8.9									
				4.2, 4.4			8.1, 8.5									
							8.6, 8.8	9.5								
							8.2, 8.3	9.5								
							8.6, 8.8, 8.9									
			4.7				8.2, 8.3									
			4.7						11.4							
								9.5								
			4.3				8.2									
							8.3								16.5	17.3, 17.13
															16.7	
				5.5												
				5.1												
															16.1	17.16
															16.5	
																17.17
																17.19

# Newcastle 2040 indicators

CN uses indicators to gauge the progression, or otherwise, towards specific targets.


**Community indicators:** CN uses these indicators to track trends and ensure the changes that have occurred are moving us towards our vision. Community indicators will only show trend-lines.

**Service indicators:** The high-level impacts of CN's service delivery on our city and the community. Service indicators will have targets set once baselines have been established.


Theme	Priorities	Community indicators	Service indicators	Target	
 <p><b>Liveable</b></p>	All	Overall quality of life in Newcastle (Source: CN Liveability and Wellbeing Survey)		Trending up	
	1.1 Enriched neighbourhoods and places		Social Infrastructure index score: % of residents that live within a designated distance (walkable) of community facilities, public transport (train stations and busstops), recreation facilities, local centres, and parks (Source: GIS mapped data)	Maintain	
	1.2 Connected and fair communities	Rental Affordability Index			Trending down
		Number of recorded criminal incidents for major offences (12 months to December 2021)			Trending down
		Potentially preventable hospitalisations			Trending down
	1.3 Safe, active and linked movement across the city		Cycle-friendly and walkable city (Source: CN Liveability and Wellbeing Survey)		Trending up*
		Travel patterns on an average weekday for residents (Source: NSW Transport - Household Travel Survey (HTS))			Vehicle trending down
	1.4 Innovative and connected city	Newcastle digital inclusion index score (Source: National digital inclusion data)			Trending up

\*Note - This is a new measure for CN and targets will be set after 12 months of data collection.


Baseline	Why this is important	Source
75% of residents rate their quality of life in Newcastle as very good or excellent. 32% of residents stated that quality of life has improved over the past 3 years.	The liveability and wellbeing score is based on community perceptions of what Newcastle is like to live in and the quality of life of its residents. It takes into consideration elements such as environmental quality, safety, learning and health provision, access to shops and services, recreational facilities and cultural activities.	City of Newcastle - Liveability and Wellbeing Survey
<p><b>Within 800m:</b> Community facilities (libraries, community centres, senior citizen centres) - 38%. Recreation facilities (sportsgrounds, skateparks, playgrounds, pools) - 83%. Local centres (retail areas) - 56%. Parks and reserves - 96%</p> <p><b>Within 400m:</b> Public Transport (railway, ferry, bus, light rail) - 91% (as at March 2022).</p>	Social inclusion refers to people's ability to participate adequately in society. Access to social infrastructure such as community facilities and green spaces is a key component of social inclusion. Lack of access can result in barriers that make it difficult or impossible for people to participate fully in society.	City of Newcastle - GIS mapped data
90.48 as at June 2021	Housing affordability has become a major issue across Australia and an indication of the seriousness of the problem is the number of people experiencing housing stress. Renting households on average have lower-incomes, and therefore affordability issues affect renting households more than homeowners. The rental affordability index (RAI) report is an indicator of rental affordability relative to household incomes.	SGS Economics and Planning <a href="https://www.sgsep.com.au/projects/rental-affordability-index">https://www.sgsep.com.au/projects/rental-affordability-index</a>
9,133 major offences from Jan-Dec 2021	We want Newcastle to be a safe city, both in the public domain and within households. The number of major crimes in Newcastle impacts safety levels, both perceived and actual, of community members. Crime prevention may indicate a reduction in social vulnerabilities that influence crime such as inequality, poverty and lack of opportunities.	NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research <a href="https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Publications/RCS-Quarterly/NSW_Recorded_Crime_Dec_2021.pdf">https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Publications/RCS-Quarterly/NSW_Recorded_Crime_Dec_2021.pdf</a>
2,085.5 per 100,000 population in 2019/20	Potentially Preventable Hospitalisations (PPH) are those conditions for which hospitalisation is considered potentially avoidable through preventive care and early disease management, usually delivered in an ambulatory (walk-in) setting, such as primary health care.	NSW Health Stats <a href="https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/#/indicator?name=-pph-cat-hos&amp;location=LGA&amp;view=Trend&amp;measure=DSTRate&amp;groups=Category&amp;compare=Category_LGA&amp;filter=LGA,Newcastle%20LGA,NSW&amp;filter=Category&gt;Total">https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/#/indicator?name=-pph-cat-hos&amp;location=LGA&amp;view=Trend&amp;measure=DSTRate&amp;groups=Category&amp;compare=Category_LGA&amp;filter=LGA,Newcastle%20LGA,NSW&amp;filter=Category&gt;Total</a>
59% agree/strongly agree that Newcastle is a cycle friendly city. (Strongly agree - 24%, agree - 35%). 71% agree/strongly agree that Newcastle is a walkable city. (Strongly agree - 36%, agree - 35%)	Walking and cycling are healthy, affordable and clean forms of travel available to almost all ages and groups in society. In Newcastle, the large majority of trips are at distances that could reasonably be undertaken by utilising cycling and pedestrian networks. Coupled with large areas of relatively flat topography and Newcastle's favourable climate, potential for mode substitution is high, and this indicator assesses the perceived walkability and cycle-friendly nature of our city.	City of Newcastle - Liveability and Wellbeing Survey
2019/2020 - Mode Share % Vehicle Driver - 56.5% Vehicle Passenger - 16.1% Train - 1.5% Bus - 5.7% Walk/Cycle/Other - 21.3%	The HTS collects information about people's day-to-day travel, such as where they go, when they travel, the purpose of the trip, the modes of transport used and the costs associated with the trip. The data collected in the survey is essential to gain a complete picture of travel patterns in the LGA and how they change over time. The aim is to have the mode of travel shift from vehicle use.	NSW Transport - Household Travel Survey (HTS) <a href="https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/data-and-research/passenger-travel/surveys/household-travel-survey-hts">https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/data-and-research/passenger-travel/surveys/household-travel-survey-hts</a>
2021 National Average - 71.1 NSW Average - 71.0 Newcastle - 69.0	Digital inclusion is about ensuring that all community members can access and use digital technologies effectively. This is not just a tech issue. Digital inclusion is about enabling access to everything the digital world has to offer to improve quality of life and ensure no one is left behind. People with low levels of income, education and employment, those living in some regional areas, people aged over 65 and people with a disability are at particular risk of experiencing the digital divide.	National digital inclusion data <a href="https://www.digitalinclusionindex.org.au/dashboard/National.aspx">https://www.digitalinclusionindex.org.au/dashboard/National.aspx</a>

Theme	Priorities	Community indicators	Service indicators	Target	Baseline	Why this is important	Source	
 <p><b>Sustainable</b></p>	2.1 Action on climate change		CN operational greenhouse gas emissions	50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2025 100% reduction not later than 2030	61,563 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e (2008/09)	The assets, services and operations of CN create emissions that contribute to the global effect of climate change. Moving to net zero emissions allows us to reduce our contributions to climate change and also provide leadership to our community.	CN data	
		Community greenhouse gas emissions		30% reduction in city-wide emissions by 2025 100% reduction in city-wide electricity emissions by 2030 Note - whilst community indicators usually only have trends, this aspirational goal has been identified in CN's Climate Action Plan (2021-25).	2,230,000t CO <sub>2</sub> -e in 2019-20 financial year (waste 3%, transport 16%, gas 14%, electricity 67%).	Our community, including local business and industry, creates greenhouse gases that cause climate change. Working with our community to reduce their emissions will reduce the effects of climate change.	Ironbark Sustainability <a href="https://snapshotclimate.com.au/">https://snapshotclimate.com.au/</a>	
			CN uptake and support of electric vehicles	100% CN fleet EV by 2030 Number of charging stations trending upward	4 full electric passenger vehicles replacing pool cars. 4 Public EV Charging Sites (7 chargers, 11 charging bays)	CN has a large number of pool vehicles that currently run on petrol. Moving to electric allows the emissions from their use to drop and provides leadership to our community and beyond.	CN data	
		Community uptake of electric vehicles		10,000 registered electric vehicles in LGA by 2025. Note - whilst community indicators usually only have trends, this aspirational goal has been identified in CN's Climate Action Plan (2021-25).	295 electric vehicles registered in the Newcastle LGA in 2020	Transport emissions play a significant role in our city's carbon emissions, as well as air and noise pollution, which will be reduced through the uptake of electric vehicles.	ABS data <a href="https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/">https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/</a>	
	2.2 Nature-based solutions	Whole LGA canopy cover		Trending up	25% of total LGA in 2018. Excluding water bodies	Biodiversity, wildlife, urban heat and aesthetics are all improved by an increase in our public and private canopy as well as retention of existing canopy.	CN GIS data	
			Road and open parkland canopy cover	Trending up*	Road 20% in 2018 Parkland 47% in 2018	An increase in canopy cover as well as replacement of existing trees in our road reserves and parklands improves biodiversity and wildlife, reduces urban heat and makes our spaces more attractive.	CN GIS data	
			Proximity to natural areas	Increase percentage of residents that are within 500 meters of a greenspace to 90% by 2040.	83% of LGA residents within 500m of parkland 0.5ha or greater in size.	Being able to walk to a natural green and/or open space provides opportunity for recreation, exercise and social engagement.	CN GIS data	
			Satisfaction with our green, blue and wild spaces	Satisfactory and above, and trend increasing.	Satisfied/very satisfied: 71% coastal and aquatics 69% waste 67% parks and recreation 49% environment	CN plays a role in the provision of green, blue and wild spaces for the health and enjoyment of the community. Community satisfaction with these spaces is examined in the annual satisfaction survey with the aim to increase satisfaction scores year on year. Our community should be satisfied with the environmental assets and services that CN provides.	CN Satisfaction Survey	
				CN operational water consumption	Trending down Note - This measure for CN is currently being investigated and targets will be set after 12 months of data collection.	342,386 kL in 2020/21; 470,231 kL 3-year average	Water is a precious resource to conserve and not waste. CN assets, operations and services use water, and by decreasing our consumption we are able to save water and be a leader for our community and beyond.	Hunter Water
			Per capita or household water usage		Trending down	Annual dwelling consumption 139kL in 2020/2021; 150kL 5-year average	Our community can reduce their water usage through efficiency and behavioural change, allowing us to ensure water is preserved and not wasted.	Hunter Water – State of the Environment Report
	2.3 Circular economy	Municipal waste diversion from landfill		80% diversion by 2030	40.5% in 2021-22 (Domestic recycling rate)	Waste is just 'stuff in the wrong place' – we must move away from putting materials into landfill and find ways to rethink, refuse, reduce, repurpose, reuse, recycle and rot! The benefits are to reduce the environmental effects of landfill but also to keep materials in use longer, reducing creation and consumption costs.	CN data	
			Use of local suppliers	Trending up*	In 2020/2021 \$73m (36.3%) procured with suppliers within Newcastle LGA and \$45m (22.5%) in adjoining LGAs Total local spend \$118.3m (58.8%)	Local businesses are the lifeblood of our community. Supporting local businesses creates jobs, reduces carbon footprints, injects money into the local economy and promotes a sense of community. CN commits to the preference of local businesses when considering the acquisition of goods and services.	CN data	

\*Note - This is a new measure for CN and targets will be set after 12 months of data collection.

Theme	Priorities	Community indicators	Service indicators	Target	Baseline	Why this is important	Source
 <p><b>Creative</b></p>	All	Rate of economic growth – Gross Regional Product (GRP)		Trending up	Add (as at Dec 2021)	GRP is the net measure of wealth generated by the region. GRP has been measured using an expenditure approach where all forms of final expenditure, including consumption by households, consumption by governments, additions or increases to assets (minus disposals) and exports (minus imports), are added. The expenditure approach does not include intermediate expenditure, as this would lead to double counting (e.g. the wheat and flour in a loaf of bread). These methodological approaches are the same as those used to calculate Gross State Product (GSP) at a state level and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at a national level.	REMLAN <a href="https://app.rempln.com.au/newcastle/economy/industries/gross-regional-product">https://app.rempln.com.au/newcastle/economy/industries/gross-regional-product</a>
	3.1 Vibrant and creative city	Tourism number of visitors to the city from outside the LGA		Trending up	4,627,000 total domestic and international visitors in 2019 (Note: 2019 figures used due to impacts of COVID-19 on travel ability from 2020)	Newcastle is a contemporary urban playground, steeped in heritage, bustling with arts and culture with a vibrant night-time economy, while boasting a stunning section of the NSW East Coast. Celebrating and promoting the city, its events, its natural assets and its cultural heritage is anticipated to result in increased numbers of visitors to our LGA in the future.	Tourism Research Australia – National and International Visitor Surveys <a href="https://www.tra.gov.au/data-and-research">https://www.tra.gov.au/data-and-research</a>
			Return on investment (ROI) on events sponsored by CN	Trending up*	30.3%	Newcastle has positioned itself as an events city with events delivering both an immediate and ongoing benefit for the community and economy, with greater visitation, investment and liveability outcomes. The economic benefit of events conducted by CN can be evaluated through examination of the ROI for these events.	CN data
	3.2 Opportunities in jobs, learning and innovation	Employment rates by age group (youth specifically)		Trending up	Newcastle and Lake Macquarie Unemployment rate – 4.3% Youth unemployment rate (15-24 yr olds) – 7% NSW Overall Unemployment rate – 4.2% Youth unemployment rate (15-24 yr olds) – 10.6% (January 2022)	The unemployment rate is defined as the percentage of unemployed workers in the total labour force. It is widely recognised as a key indicator of the performance of a place's labour market. The unemployment rate doesn't just impact those individuals who are jobless – the level and persistence of the factors of unemployment have wide-ranging impacts across the broader economy.	ABS – Labour Force Data <a href="https://lmip.gov.au/default.aspx?LMIP/Downloads/ABSLabourForceRegion">https://lmip.gov.au/default.aspx?LMIP/Downloads/ABSLabourForceRegion</a>
		Early Childhood Development Index		Trending up	19.6% of children vulnerable in at least one domain (2018)	The Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) measures the development of children in Australia in their first year of full-time school. The census consists of approximately 100 questions across five key domains, which are closely linked to child health, education and social outcomes. For each of the five AEDC domains, children receive a score between zero and 10, where zero is most developmentally vulnerable.	AEDC <a href="https://www.aedc.gov.au/data/data-explorer?id=135202">https://www.aedc.gov.au/data/data-explorer?id=135202</a>
		Number of international students		Trending up	7,399 international students enrolled in UoN in 2020	International students not only provide economic benefits to the city but also enrich learning environments and communities with cultural perspectives.	UoN
	3.3 Celebrating culture		Diversity of cultural expression	Trending up*	62% agree/strongly agree that Newcastle offers a diverse range of events and activities (Strongly agree – 21%, agree – 42%)	The identity of Newcastle is influenced by the quality and diversity of our cultural activities. This indicator assesses community perceptions of the diversity of cultural expression in the city.	CN – Liveability and Wellbeing Survey
	3.4 City-shaping partnerships		Value of building approvals - Development Applications / Complying Development Certificates - State Significant Developments	Trending up Note – SSDs have been added to the value of building approvals. Due to this addition, targets will be set after 12 months of data collection	\$1.10 billion in building approvals (2020/21) (DAs – \$807.70 million CDCs – \$114.96 million SSDs – \$180.54 million)	Building approvals provide strong economic benefits such as jobs and services to boost local economies, while also delivering the infrastructure needed to create cohesive and engaged local communities. Development Applications (DA) – is a merit-based assessment conducted directly through CN. Complying Development Certificate (CDC) – is a combined planning and construction approval process. It is designed to enable straightforward development applications to be fast-tracked. It can be conducted by either CN or a private certifier. State Significant Development (SSD) – some types of development are deemed to have state significance due to the size, economic value or potential impacts. All of these building approvals provide investment into our city.	CN data

\*Note – This is a new measure for CN and targets will be set after 12 months of data collection.

Theme	Priorities	Community indicators	Service indicators	Target	Baseline	Why this is important	Source
 <p><b>Achieving Together</b></p>	4.1 Inclusive and integrated planning		1. Operating performance ratio 2. Own source operating revenue ratio 3. Unrestricted current ratio 4. Debt service cover ratio 5. Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage 6. Cash expense cover ratio	1. >0.00% 2. >60.00% 3. >1.50x 4. >2.00x 5. <10.00% 6. >3.00 months	1. (8.16)% 2. 86.31% 3. 2.23x 4. 3.15x 5. 3.91% 6. 6.62 months	Accurate and timely financial reporting provides vital information on CN's financial position, outlook and performance. It is an important tool used to ensure councils are made accountable for their actions. Baselines have been set by the Office of Local Government (OLG).	CN Financial Statements
			Long-term planning and vision for the city	Great than 3.5**	2021 – 3.3	During engagement for Newcastle 2040, the community told us that considered and long-term planning should be a key focus area to ensure our vision of a liveable, sustainable, inclusive global city is obtained. Community views on the success of CN to plan long-term is gained through the annual satisfaction survey with the aim to increase satisfaction scores year on year.	CN – Satisfaction Survey
	4.2 Trust and transparency		Trust in CN	Trending up*	71% have at least some level of trust in CN - Complete trust - 5% - A lot of trust - 23% - Some trust - 43%	Trust in CN centres on the community's belief that CN will act consistently with their expectations of positive behaviour. CN will gauge community perception of trust in CN through surveying areas such as responsiveness, reliability, integrity, openness and fairness.	CN – Liveability and Wellbeing Survey
			Response to community needs	Greater than 3.0**	2021 – 3.4	A key responsibility of CN is to respond to community needs. The community perception of this response is gained through the annual satisfaction survey and indicates the success of CN in this space.	CN – Satisfaction Survey
			Number of people engaged	Trending up*	2020–2021 20,300 people provided feedback on plans, projects and activities	Genuine community engagement is a key element in achieving the priority of trust and transparency. The number of people engaged with across all CN projects and activities gives an indication of the level of community engagement across the city.	CN data
	4.3 Collaborative and innovative approach		Value of community grants Value of inward grants	Trending up*	\$585,110 for community grant program in 2021 \$46 million in Federal and State Government grants and contributions	CN collaborates with numerous government organisations, businesses, community groups and individuals to deliver positive outcomes for the Newcastle community. Our Community Grants provide a number of funding opportunities to support initiatives that contribute to the social, cultural, environmental and economic life of the city. Federal and State Government contributions assist CN to provide facilities and services in the community.	CN data
			Number of advisory committees and groups, number of organisations represented and number of meetings held	Maintain	8 committees and groups met a total of 39 times in 2021. There were 22 organisations represented in addition to community participants.	CN collaborates with numerous government organisations, businesses, community groups and individuals to deliver positive outcomes for the Newcastle community. A number of Advisory Committees have been established to provide advice and inform decision making on specific areas. The number of committees and the representation on these committees is an indication of the focus on this area and breadth of collaboration occurring between CN and others.	CN data

\*Note – This is a new measure for CN and targets will be set after 12 months of data collection.

\*\*Satisfaction reasoning

Greater than 3 – A mean score above 3.0 indicates more satisfaction than dissatisfaction within the community. CN aims for satisfaction with these assets and services.

Greater than 3.5 – A mean score above 3.5 indicates high satisfaction within the community. CN aims for higher satisfaction for these higher performing assets and services.

# Glossary

- **ABS** Australian Bureau of Statistics
- **ADVOCACY** The act of speaking or arguing in favour of something, such as a cause, idea or policy. In the context of the Strategic Priorities it refers to another sphere of government or organisation delivering a service or outcome for the city.
- **BIODIVERSITY** The variety of all living things including plants, animals and microorganisms, their genes and the ecosystems of which they are a part.
- **CIRCULAR ECONOMY** A model of production and consumption that involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling existing materials and products for as long as possible.
- **CITY OF NEWCASTLE (CN)** In this document City of Newcastle (CN) means Newcastle City Council.
- **COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE (CDC)** A combined planning and construction approval process. It is designed to enable straightforward development applications to be fast-tracked. It can be conducted by either CN or a private certifier.
- **DELIVERY PROGRAM** A strategic document with a minimum four-year outlook, which outlines the key strategies the organisation will undertake to achieve its desired outcomes.  
(Note: this is a legislative requirement.)
- **DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION (DA)** A merit-based assessment conducted directly through CN.
- **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA (LGA)** Newcastle LGA covers an area of 187km<sup>2</sup>.
- **NEWCASTLE 2040 COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN (CSP)** This integrated Community Strategic Plan (CSP) provides clear strategic direction for the long term, and identifies the main priorities, aspirations and future vision of the community.
- **OPERATIONAL PLAN** A document with a one-year outlook that outlines the key activities to be undertaken to achieve the desired outcomes set out in the Community Strategic Plan.  
(Note: this is a legislative requirement.)
- **PARTNERING** A structured approach to working together with other parties to achieve a mutually beneficial outcome.
- **RISK MANAGEMENT** A discipline for developing appropriate procedures to reduce the possibility of adverse effects from future events.
- **SDGs** Sustainable Development Goals
- **STATE SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT (SSD)** Some types of development are deemed to have state significance due to the size, economic value or potential impacts.
- **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT** Development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the capacity of future generations to meet their needs.
- **TARGET** A goal to be reached by a specific date, which may be higher than the forecasted performance. It aims to continually improve performance.
- **WE / OUR / US** in this document refers collectively to the community of Newcastle and CN.

# References and research

## CN strategies and plans

Name	Link
Customer Experience Strategy	Internal document
Economic Development Strategy	<a href="https://newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Strategies/Economic-Development-Strategy-Final.pdf">https://newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Strategies/Economic-Development-Strategy-Final.pdf</a>
Local Housing Strategy	<a href="https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Strategies/Local-Housing-Strategy-Updated-2021.pdf">https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Strategies/Local-Housing-Strategy-Updated-2021.pdf</a>
Local Strategic Planning Statement	<a href="https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Strategies/Local-Strategic-Planning-Statement-March2021.pdf">https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Strategies/Local-Strategic-Planning-Statement-March2021.pdf</a>
Heritage Strategy	<a href="https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Strategies/4251-ADOPTED-Heritage-Strategy-2020-30-V4.pdf">https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Strategies/4251-ADOPTED-Heritage-Strategy-2020-30-V4.pdf</a>
On our bikes – Cycling Plan	<a href="https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Plans/On-our-bikes-Cycling-Plan-2021-2030.pdf">https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Plans/On-our-bikes-Cycling-Plan-2021-2030.pdf</a>
On the street – Parking Plan	<a href="https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Plans/On-the-street-Parking-Plan-February-2021.pdf">https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Plans/On-the-street-Parking-Plan-February-2021.pdf</a>
Newcastle Climate Action Plan	<a href="https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Plans/Climate-Action-Plan.pdf">https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle/media/Documents/Strategies,%20Plans%20and%20Policies/Plans/Climate-Action-Plan.pdf</a>

## External resources

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Remplan 2021, 'City of Newcastle: Economy, Jobs and Business Insights' and 'Our Place – Our Community' webpages. City of Newcastle, Newcastle NSW, accessed 27 November 2021  
<https://app.remplan.com.au/newcastle/economy/industries/employment?state=gZ5wFk!GW1dFWXkYFokWkLSw8wGAhPcVfq2OUL3J3eu4X2X8c6f6LljNHee4gHKmO>  
and <https://app.remplan.com.au/newcastle/community/population/indigenous?state=4i1Dir!YpBQSE879TzJGJrt7A7V4iMfQu7klhatou6u2bhNu8sZFkrz>

Note – for business and economic statistics, Remplan has been used.  
For community demographic information, .idcommunity has been used.



# Acknowledgements

- All councillors, CN staff and community members who attended and participated in workshops and engagement activities to ensure Newcastle 2040 reflects the views of all of Newcastle.
- Rod Smith, who created the featured songline artwork used in Newcastle 2040. Rod Smith is a Newcastle-born-and-bred Aboriginal man. His family moved here from Anaiwan country of New England in the late 1950s and worked on the railway, creating Smith General Contractors. With a long tradition of culture in music, dance and art, there is no lack of talent in the arts in the Smith family. Rod's creativity comes from family and environment.
- Straight Stick Photography, who partnered with CN to deliver a youth engagement workshop and provided featured photography.
- Councillors for their ongoing commitment to supporting the preparation of Newcastle 2040 and to achieving the long-term vision for Newcastle.
- Plattsburg Public School and Callaghan College Waratah Campus for allowing students to give their feedback on what they want Newcastle to be in the future.
- Guraki Aboriginal Advisory Committee, who assisted in the formulation of the Acknowledgement of Country and Commitment piece for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and culture.
- All members of the following CN advisory committees and groups that provided valuable insights and feedback that shaped the direction of Newcastle 2040:
  - Community and Culture Advisory Committee
  - Infrastructure Advisory Committee
  - Access Advisory Committee
  - Liveable Cities Advisory Committee
  - Newcastle Youth Council
  - Strategy and Innovation Advisory Committee
  - Newcastle Art Gallery Youth Advisory Group
- Community members featured in our Local Stories:
  - Elsa Licumba
  - Natalie Mitchell
  - María José Sanchez-Varela Barajas
  - Andy Jones

# Links for further information

	Name	Link
Regional Plans	Hunter Region Plan 2041	<a href="https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/draft-hunter-regional-plan-2041">https://pp.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/draft-hunter-regional-plan-2041</a>
	Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan	<a href="https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Greater-Newcastle-metropolitan-planning">https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Greater-Newcastle-metropolitan-planning</a>
	Hunter Joint Organisation Strategic Plan 2018-21	<a href="https://www.hunterjo.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/HunterJOStrategicPlan_2018_2021.pdf">https://www.hunterjo.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/HunterJOStrategicPlan_2018_2021.pdf</a>
	Greater Newcastle Transport Plan	<a href="https://future.transport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/media/documents/2018/Greater_Newcastle_Future_Transport_Plan_V1.pdf">https://future.transport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/media/documents/2018/Greater_Newcastle_Future_Transport_Plan_V1.pdf</a>
	Health District Plan Regional	<a href="https://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/401768/HNELHD_2021-26_Strategic_Plan.pdf">https://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/401768/HNELHD_2021-26_Strategic_Plan.pdf</a>
	Regional Water Strategy	<a href="https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/plans-programs/regional-water-strategies">https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/plans-programs/regional-water-strategies</a>
State Plans	NSW 2021	<a href="https://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/file_manager/NSW2021_WEBVERSION.pdf">https://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/file_manager/NSW2021_WEBVERSION.pdf</a>
	Premier's Priorities	<a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/premiers-priorities">https://www.nsw.gov.au/premiers-priorities</a>
	State Plan NSW Housing	<a href="https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/-/media/Files/DPE/Reports/Policy-and-legislation/NSW-Housing-Strategy-Report-2021-Mayv2.pdf">https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/-/media/Files/DPE/Reports/Policy-and-legislation/NSW-Housing-Strategy-Report-2021-Mayv2.pdf</a>
	NSW State Infrastructure Strategy	<a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/nsw-infrastructure-strategy-2018-2038">https://www.nsw.gov.au/nsw-infrastructure-strategy-2018-2038</a>
	NSW Smart Places Strategy	<a href="https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0017/348110/Smart-Places-Strategy.pdf">https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0017/348110/Smart-Places-Strategy.pdf</a>
	NSW Disability Inclusion Action Plan (2020-2024)	<a href="https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/disability-inclusion-action-plan">https://www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/about-us/disability-inclusion-action-plan</a>
	NSW Net Zero Plan	<a href="https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/-/media/OEH/Corporate-Site/Documents/Climate-change/net-zero-plan-2020-2030-200057.pdf?la=en&amp;hash=D65AA226F83B8113382956470EF649A31C74AAA7">https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/-/media/OEH/Corporate-Site/Documents/Climate-change/net-zero-plan-2020-2030-200057.pdf?la=en&amp;hash=D65AA226F83B8113382956470EF649A31C74AAA7</a>
	Future Transport Strategy 2056	<a href="https://future.transport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/media/documents/2018/Future_Transport_2056_Strategy.pdf">https://future.transport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/media/documents/2018/Future_Transport_2056_Strategy.pdf</a>
	NSW Energy Plan	<a href="https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/government-and-regulation/electricity-strategy">https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/government-and-regulation/electricity-strategy</a>
	NSW State Health Plan	<a href="https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/statehealthplan/Pages/NSW-state-health-plan-towards-2021.aspx">https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/statehealthplan/Pages/NSW-state-health-plan-towards-2021.aspx</a>
	NSW SES Strategic Plan	<a href="https://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/media/4537/building-our-future-our-plan-2021-2024.pdf">https://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/media/4537/building-our-future-our-plan-2021-2024.pdf</a>
	NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy	<a href="https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/our-work/environment-energy-and-science/waste-and-sustainable-materials-strategy">https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/our-work/environment-energy-and-science/waste-and-sustainable-materials-strategy</a>
	NSW Circular Economy Policy Statement	<a href="https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/-/media/epa/corporate-site/resources/recycling/19p1379-circular-economy-policy-final">https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/-/media/epa/corporate-site/resources/recycling/19p1379-circular-economy-policy-final</a>

# Links for further information

	Name	Link
National Needs	Places for People: An Urban Protocol for Australian Cities	<a href="https://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/publications/creating-places-people-urban-design-protocol-australian-cities">https://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/publications/creating-places-people-urban-design-protocol-australian-cities</a>
	Australian Modern Manufacturing Strategy	<a href="https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/make-it-happen-the-australian-governments-modern-manufacturing-strategy/our-modern-manufacturing-strategy">https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/make-it-happen-the-australian-governments-modern-manufacturing-strategy/our-modern-manufacturing-strategy</a>
	National Agreement on Closing the Gap	<a href="https://www.closingthegap.gov.au/national-agreement">https://www.closingthegap.gov.au/national-agreement</a>
	Australia's Biodiversity and Conservation Strategy	<a href="https://www.awe.gov.au/environment/biodiversity/conservation/strategy">https://www.awe.gov.au/environment/biodiversity/conservation/strategy</a>
	National Digital Economy Strategy	<a href="https://digitaleconomy.pmc.gov.au/">https://digitaleconomy.pmc.gov.au/</a>
	Infrastructure Australia Strategy	<a href="https://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/publications/2021-australian-infrastructure-plan">https://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/publications/2021-australian-infrastructure-plan</a>
	National Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy	<a href="https://www.awe.gov.au/science-research/climate-change/adaptation/strategy">https://www.awe.gov.au/science-research/climate-change/adaptation/strategy</a>
Global Issues	National Waste Policy and Action Plan	<a href="https://www.awe.gov.au/environment/protection/waste/publications/national-waste-policy-action-plan">https://www.awe.gov.au/environment/protection/waste/publications/national-waste-policy-action-plan</a>
	SDGs	<a href="https://sdgs.un.org/goals">https://sdgs.un.org/goals</a>
	Paris Climate Agreement	<a href="https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement">https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement</a>
Other	China National Sword Policy	<a href="https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/recycling-and-reuse/response-to-china-national-sword">https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/recycling-and-reuse/response-to-china-national-sword</a>
	Integrated Planning and Performance Framework	<a href="https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/integrated-planning-and-reporting/framework/">https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/integrated-planning-and-reporting/framework/</a>





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**CCL 26/04/2022 – ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

**ITEM-34 Attachment B:** Newcastle 2040 – Public Exhibition Report

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# NEWCASTLE 2040

it's our *future*

**PUBLIC EXHIBITION REPORT**  
March 2022



## Contents

Executive summary .....	3
1. Background .....	4
1.1 Previous consultation.....	4
1.2 Public exhibition.....	4
2. Engagement objectives.....	4
3. Communication and promotion.....	4
4. Engagement activities.....	6
5. Key findings.....	7
5.1 Online feedback form and other submissions.....	7
5.1.1 Overview – feedback on <i>Newcastle 2040</i> .....	7
5.1.2 Themes in submissions.....	11
5.2 Newcastle 2040 competition.....	21
5.2.1 Most important <i>Newcastle 2040</i> priorities .....	21
5.2.2 What success looks like.....	22
6. Next steps.....	28
<b>Appendix I – Promotional materials .....</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Appendix II – Online feedback form.....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Appendix III – Online feedback and submissions – Verbatim responses.....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Appendix IV – Competition entry form.....</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Appendix V – What success looks like - verbatim responses.....</b>	<b>57</b>

## Executive summary

*Newcastle 2040*, our next Community Strategic Plan, represents the highest level of strategic planning carried out by local government. *Newcastle 2040* will support City of Newcastle (CN) to draw various strategic plans together, understand how they interact and help us plan holistically for our future. To help inform development of the draft *Newcastle 2040*, over 5,000 people shared their aspirations and priorities for Newcastle's future between early 2020 and August 2021 through an array of in-person and online community engagement activities.

This report outlines community feedback received during public exhibition of the draft *Newcastle 2040* plan, which was open for comment from 20 January to 28 February 2022. Through the exhibition, we sought to better understand community sentiment on *Newcastle 2040*, build awareness of the plan in the community, and gain insights to help finalise the plan.

The public exhibition was promoted through social, digital and traditional channels to raise awareness of *Newcastle 2040* and promote the opportunity for people to provide feedback via a dedicated CN Have Your Say web platform. The community were able to make a submission via an online form, or by mail or email. To encourage deeper engagement with *Newcastle 2040*, people were also invited to enter a competition to win a \$500 gift card, which required them to tell us their most important *Newcastle 2040* priority and what success on that priority would look like. In total, we received 80 submissions and over 360 competition entries.

Of the 80 submissions received, about 45% included feedback on the *Newcastle 2040* plan specifically. There were more positive comments about the plan than negative ones and key themes to emerge from qualitative analysis of community submissions included:

- overall support for the themes that form the basis of *Newcastle 2040*; particularly Liveable and Sustainable
- community desire to see the plan put into action, and more information on how this will be achieved
- consider making it more clear in the document how *Newcastle 2040* interacts with informing and supporting strategies
- consider making some of the targets more specific, particularly in the Sustainability space.

The remainder of the feedback in submissions was in line with the themes and priorities we heard during previous *Newcastle 2040* community engagement activities. This included people wanting efficient transport options and links across the Newcastle local government area, great places and spaces to help foster a community vibe, inclusive and equitable communities, more trees and green spaces, a greater focus on sustainability, more activations and events, and a vibrant arts and culture scene. Similarly, through competition entries, we saw that the top three most important priorities to the community were:

1. Safe, active and linked movement across the city (22% rated as most important)
2. Action on climate change (18%)
3. Enriched neighbourhoods and places (12%).

## 1. Background

*Newcastle 2040*, our next Community Strategic Plan (CSP), represents the highest level of strategic planning carried out by local government. *Newcastle 2040* will support City of Newcastle (CN) to draw various strategic plans together, understand how they interact and help us plan holistically for our future. *Newcastle 2040* was drafted following extensive community consultation.

### 1.1 Previous consultation

To help inform development of the draft *Newcastle 2040*, over 5,000 people shared their aspirations and priorities for Newcastle's future between February 2020 and August 2021 through an array of in-person and online engagement activities. From these activities, it was clear our communities want thriving neighbourhoods, connected movement and strong commitment to sustainability.

Peopled valued Newcastle as an inclusive, liveable city with everything in close proximity, but would like to see improved transport options, access to affordable housing options for all, and expanded cycleways and footpaths. Environmental sustainability was important, particularly to young people, with a consensus that we should be protecting our natural areas and coastline and providing adequate greenspaces. Our communities would like to see more opportunities for activations and events, more job opportunities and support for a vibrant arts and culture scene. Underpinning all these things, people want to see long-term, deliberate planning for our city.

Please refer to the [Newcastle 2040 community engagement report](#) for further detail on key findings.

### 1.2 Public exhibition

The newly elected Council endorsed placing the draft *Newcastle 2040* on public exhibition for further community feedback at their inaugural meeting held on [18 January 2022](#). The final *Newcastle 2040* will go to Council for adoption in April 2022.

## 2. Engagement objectives

To better understand community sentiment on *Newcastle 2040*, CN publicly displayed the draft plan from 20 January to 28 February 2022.

More specifically, the public exhibition sought to:







- Build awareness of *Newcastle 2040* in the broad community
- Gain community feedback on the draft *Newcastle 2040* to help finalise the Plan.

## 3. Communication and promotion

During the public exhibition, a communications campaign was implemented to raise awareness of the draft *Newcastle 2040* and promote the opportunity for community members to provide feedback on the draft plan.

Key communications activities are summarised below, and key examples of communications collateral are available in Appendix I.



Channel	Description	
 <p><b>Have Your Say webpage</b></p>	<p>A dedicated project webpage was created on CN's Have Your Say landing page. The page aimed to provide information and raise awareness of <i>Newcastle 2040</i>, and to encourage people to provide feedback on the draft plan.</p>	
 <p><b>Social media</b></p>	<p>The public exhibition was promoted via paid posts on CN's Facebook and LinkedIn pages during February 2022. The posts intended to raise awareness and encourage people to have their say.</p>	<p>72,051 reached 3,334 click-throughs</p>
 <p><b>Advertising</b></p>	<p>An advertising package was taken out with InTouch Magazine, including print, digital, and social content.</p>	<p>135,000 readers 9,000 eDM recipients 31,000 social followers</p>
 <p><b>Newsletters</b></p>	<p>An article about the public exhibition was included in the CN Have Your Say e-newsletter, distributed on 31 January 2022.</p>	<p>Distributed to 2,386 people</p>
 <p><b>Flyers</b></p>	<p>Flyers were distributed at the Newcastle Ocean Baths 'Whirlpool' event on Friday 25 February 2022.</p>	<p>200 flyers</p>
 <p><b>Media coverage</b></p>	<p>A media release was issued on 20 January 2022 and was subsequently reported in a number of online publications including: NewFM, 2HD, Newcastle Weekly, NovoNews, InTouch magazine.</p>	

## 4. Engagement activities

The community were invited to provide feedback on the draft *Newcastle 2040* plan from Thursday 20 January to Monday 28 February 2022.

The community were able to have their say in two ways:

### Online feedback form and submissions

An online form was included on the CN Have Your Say webpage. The form had an open field for feedback on *Newcastle 2040*, and people could also upload a file if desired. The form also asked for the respondent's name and email address. A copy of the form is included in Appendix II.

In total, 75 people provided feedback via the online form. A further three submissions were received by email or mail. Findings from the online form and submissions are presented in **section 5.1**.

### Newcastle 2040 competition

To encourage deeper engagement with *Newcastle 2040*, people were invited to enter a competition to win a \$500 gift card. To enter the competition, people were required to complete a short online survey via the Have Your Say web page, including a question on which *Newcastle 2040* priority was most important to them, and a short description (100 words or less) of what success on that priority would look like. People entering the competition could also (optionally) upload a photo that visually represents what success on that priority would look like. A copy of the competition entry is included in Appendix IV.

In total, 368 people entered the competition (361 valid entries). Findings are presented in **section 5.2**.

## 5. Key findings

### 5.1 Online feedback form and other submissions

#### 5.1.1 Overview – feedback on *Newcastle 2040*

Of the 80 submissions received during the public exhibition, about 45% (n= 36) included feedback on the *Newcastle 2040* plan specifically. These comments are presented in tables 1 – 3.

The remainder of the feedback in submissions was in line with the themes and priorities we heard during previous *Newcastle 2040* community engagement activities, which sought to better understand community aspirations for Newcastle's future. This feedback is discussed further in **section 5.1.2**. All verbatim responses are included in Appendix III.

On balance, there were more positive comments about the *Newcastle 2040* plan than negative ones. Key themes to emerge from qualitative analysis of community responses on the *Newcastle 2040* plan include:

- Overall support for the themes that form the basis of *Newcastle 2040*; particularly Liveable and Sustainable
- community desire to see *Newcastle 2040* put into action, and more information on how this will be achieved
- consider making some of the targets more specific, particularly in the Sustainability space
- some concern that built heritage has not been adequately recognised in *Newcastle 2040*.

Table 1: Positive comments about Newcastle 2040

Positive comments
<i>"A very impressive plan for our future."</i>
<i>"I love all these plans. So modern, community oriented and economically friendly. Bringing jobs and sustainability."</i>
<i>"Overall, I feel that this plan is good and reflects the aspects of Newcastle that I would like to see improved."</i>
<i>"All things look really good to me...lots more jobs and finally a bigger art gallery. Fantastic efforts, well done."</i>
<i>"I've read the entire 2040 plan I'm very pleased the way document is prepared and shared with the public "</i>
<i>"The strategy is really impressive - well done! The alignment with key priorities, SDGs and inclusion of indicators is excellent and allows for clear accountability but importantly, capacity to measure change...Overall, it's really great, look forward to seeing the operational plans that come out of this."</i>
<i>"The plan looks great, fantastic themes and quite modern and forward thinking."</i>
<i>" The plan for transport is great - I really hope there is an actual commitment to making buses and public transport genuinely effective."</i>
<i>" I strongly support maintaining liveability. Newcastle is so well placed to maintain a medium density profile with more well-maintained public spaces."</i>
<i>" Plan looks great - I particularly support the items under liveable Newcastle regarding continuing improvements to public transport and cycleways"</i>
<i>"I like goal 11 and 16 and would like to see more options for waste disposal in suburban areas."</i>
<i>"I have only had a very quick look at the plan. It seems great at this point in time."</i>
<i>"I am in support of measures that decrease the damage our actions have on our waterways, flora and fauna. Reducing carbon emissions caused by the short journeys (10km or less) of private vehicles is needed and is possible."</i>
<i>" Liveability is a whole section -It's very high level but is good. Good to see the inclusion of Social Justice Principles included in the plan."</i>

Table 2: Neutral comments about Newcastle 2040

## Neutral comments

*"Whilst there are some great initiatives within the draft plan, it is disappointing to read that the local housing crisis is deemed not CNs responsibility to act upon."*

*"Good document - relevance to reality action?"*

*"Great words, but not matched by facts and/or action too often"*

*" A great vision and a lot of repetitive dialogue."*

*"I think this is a great plan and is outlined very clearly. The only thing that disappointed me was the small focus on creativity. I acknowledge that CN does support the arts and city nightlife, but I don't feel the commitment to sustaining and growing it was reflected in the plan."*

*"While I agree that a Community Strategic Plan is required, I disapprove with not incorporating our history because Newcastle has lost so much history already in the name of progress."*

*"I can see much for supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait people. I didn't see much for helping disabled have improved access to events and areas."*

*"I like the way Newcastle is looking to become more sustainable. I'd like to see more emphasis on the aged."*

*"I like the plan as it includes vehicle traffic trending down but was disappointed by the lack to details or how this will be done."*

*"It's clear that a huge amount of work has gone into this document and it's fantastic to see the huge increase in the number of community responses that went into compiling these priorities. Overall, my key suggestions for improvements are to increase the prioritisation of the sustainability components and to include more targets and indicators throughout the document."*

*"Our comment is a suggestion to improve the statistics used to refer to the community members who may have a diverse sexual orientation, sex, or gender identity on page 21...need more specific/recent information for you to relay in your plan which demonstrates the need for Newcastle to be a LGBTQIA+ friendly city."*

Table 3: Negative comments about Newcastle 2040

## Negative comments

*"I had to read it carefully a number of times to get any meaning out of this, which was a bit disappointing."*

*"You are requesting feedback on a very complex 42-page document which has been posted on Facebook when receivers are on holidays. They are therefore not likely to see it, have time or take the time to review and be involved."*

*"It's just a whole lot of stats and promises that are an 'overview' but not really definitive."*

*"Will you be producing a similar document that outlines all the projects and expected start and completion date that addresses everything?"*

*"Full of meaningless platitudes and not reflective of community consultation. An embarrassment to strategy and action plans."*

*"The only thing I think is a weak point, and it is an important one is the targets. I think it is a cop out to use trending upward or trending downward"*

*"One page and a header is not enough to address Newcastle's sustainability and climate plan. Approaching net zero emissions is a herculean task, and this plan shows no effort to address how this is to be achieved"*

*"In regard to the digital economy, there is no mention of Fibre to the premises. While this is a federal responsibility through the NBN, a strong lobbying effort from local and state government would hugely help...In regard to the bike paths, a more concrete plan is necessary."*

*"I would like submit a very important element for the future of Newcastle 2040. Nowhere in the document did I see any mention of NEWCASTLE'S HERITAGE."*

*"Heritage is referred to as one priority in Section 1 – Liveable. It seems very tokenistic and doesn't really say much... Newcastle 2040 Community Strategic Plan doesn't really address Heritage as a priority/what the ACTION is. It is also forced to align with the sustainable development goal that is not relevant and more so looks at NATURAL heritage... Heritage should be added to 3.3 - CELEBRATING CULTURE as it is Cultural Heritage. The Plan does reference in the back other plans and strategies including the HERITAGE ONE, but I think the relationship to it and other plans needs to be made clearer. How does the Newcastle 2040 Community Strategic Plan interact with the other plans set by Council?"*



Analysis of community responses revealed that much of the feedback received during public exhibition of *Newcastle 2040* aligns with the themes that emerged during [previous community engagement](#), which was used to inform development of *Newcastle 2040*.

Figure 2 provides an overview of how all community feedback received during the public exhibition relates to *Newcastle 2040* themes and priorities.

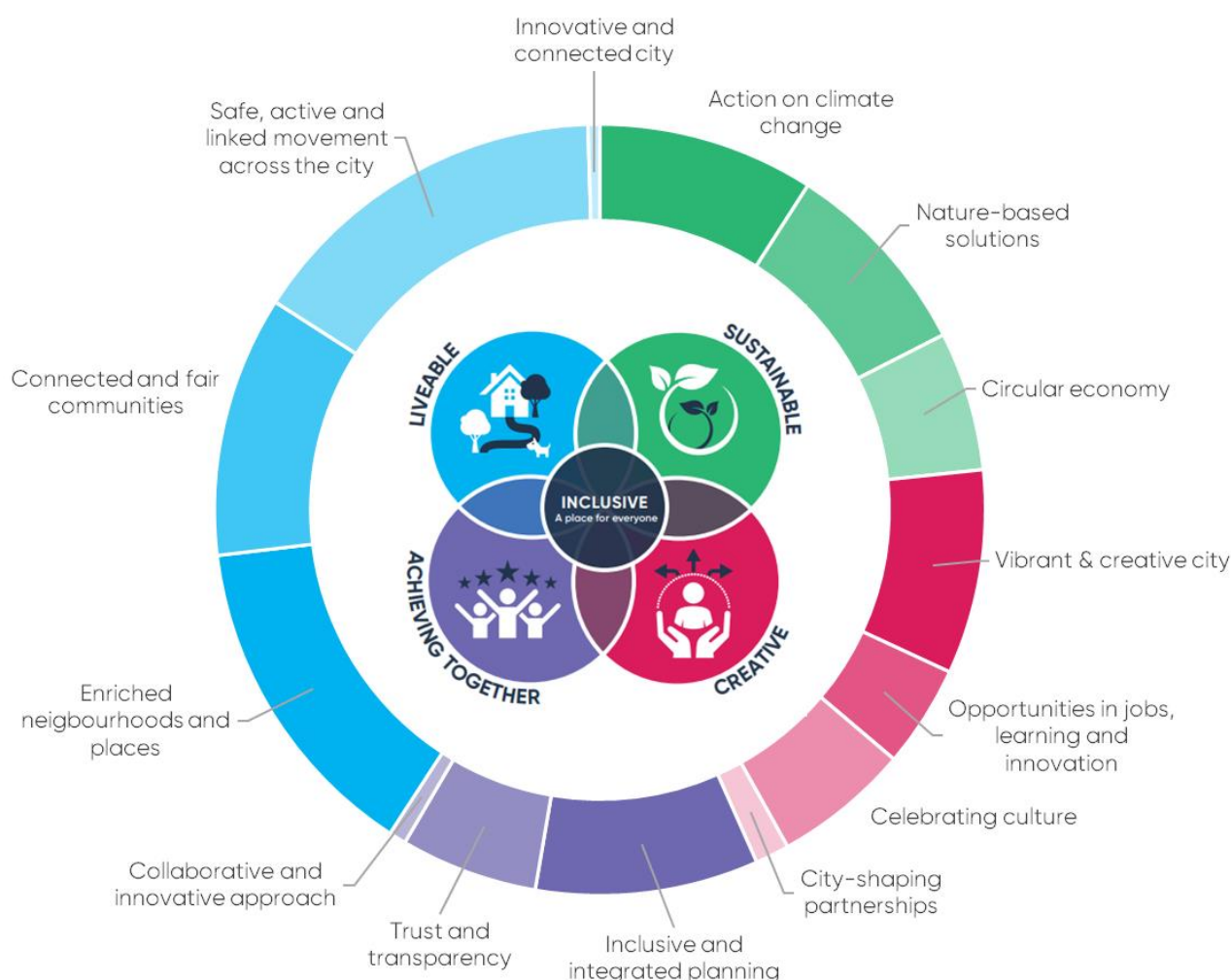


Figure 2: Categorisation of community responses by 2040 themes and priorities



### **Liveable**

Like with previous *Newcastle 2040* engagement activities, the Liveable theme came through most strongly in community feedback and was noted in n= 49 comments. Elements related to safe, active and linked movement across the city came through most strongly (n= 31 mentions), particularly around cycleways, footpaths and efficient public transport options. Comments about having well-designed neighbourhoods, and inclusive and equitable communities were also received.

*"More footpaths and cycle ways to allow active movement is integral - and needed well before 2040. We need this now."*

*"Have more parks and sporting recreational areas as sporting clubs can't keep up with demand as the population grows."*

*" I would love to see more bike-friendly, scooter-friendly and pedestrian-friendly streets. A comprehensive, convenient, and safe bike network linking most streets in the Newcastle LGA would make Newcastle really stand out. It would be a tourism drawcard. It would increase property prices. It would improve the well-being of residents."*

*"Affordable housing ... it's not only the unemployed and persons on welfare that are struggling"*

*" I'd like to see more emphasis on the aged. Both with a focus on employment and facilities provided in parks such as inclusive exercise equipment. Additionally, a focus on footpaths ... particularly for prams and the elderly in the inner city."*

*"I would definitely love to see more cycleways and walking paths in Newcastle as well as increased public transport connecting the suburbs to the city."*

Table 4 summarises the number of times each Liveable priority and/or objective was mentioned in feedback.

Table 4: Submissions mentioning Liveable elements  
(Note: dots represent number of times that aspect was mentioned)

Theme	Priority	Objectives
1. Liveable	1.1 Enriched neighbourhoods and places	<b>1.1.1 Great spaces</b> Provide quality, stimulating and inclusive leisure, learning and recreation options that enable all people to participate and thrive. ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
		<b>1.1.2 Well-designed places</b> Promote, create and maintain contemporary, sustainable, healthy and inclusive streets, buildings, neighbourhoods, local centres and facilities that result in better places to live, work and enjoy. ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
		<b>1.1.3 Protected heritage places</b> Conserve and protect our rich cultural heritage places, as they provide local character and enhance our sense of identity. ●●●
	1.2 Connected and fair communities	<b>1.2.1 Connected communities</b> Support diverse communities to build strong social and cultural connections through to enhance, participation and inclusion, so that everyone feels welcome in Newcastle and enjoys a sense of belonging and place. ●●
		<b>1.2.2 Inclusive communities</b> Recognise, acknowledge and celebrate the Awabakal and Worimi people's strength, resilience and living culture. Champion inclusion across our community so that everyone is supported, valued and respected. ●●●●
		<b>1.2.3 Equitable communities</b> Support access to a affordable, sustainable and inclusive housing, services, programs and facilities to improve quality of life and the strength of our community. ●●●●●●●●●●●●
		<b>1.2.4 Healthy communities</b> Promote and support active and healthy communities that have strong physical, mental and spiritual health and feel safe and secure in the city. ●●●
	1.3 Safe, active and linked movement across the city	<b>1.3.1 Connected cycleways and walking networks</b> Provide safe and connected walking and cycling networks, making active movement a convenient, accessible way of getting around. ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
		<b>1.3.2 Road networks</b> Manage and maintain local road networks to connect people and places comfortably across the city. ●●
		<b>1.3.3 Managed parking</b> Manage parking to improve the amenity of our streets, support the accessibility of our centres, and encourage a shift to active and public transport. ●●●●
		<b>1.3.4 Effective public transport</b> Support the implementation of regional transport strategies and plans and public transport network improvements to allow easy movement across the city. ●●●●●●●●●●●●
	1.4 Innovative and connected city	<b>1.4.1 Digital infrastructure</b> Ensure the effective deployment of innovation-enabling and digital infrastructure across the city to improve community experience, city sustainability and amenity. ●
		<b>1.4.2 Emerging technologies</b> Embrace emerging technologies, creative ideas and new approaches to address city challenges and improve quality of life for the community.
		<b>1.4.3 Digital inclusion and social innovation</b> Support capacity-building and inclusive digital access to narrow the digital divide and ensure the benefits of innovation are applied equitably across the community.

### **Sustainable**

Similar to previous engagement on *Newcastle 2040*, the community's desire for trees and natural spaces was again evident in feedback during the public exhibition, with n= 28 mentions for the Sustainable theme overall. Within this theme, mentions of elements related to action on climate change came through most strongly, followed by nature-based solutions.

*"Green space has been used during the pandemic. This should be followed up by planning more green space in Newcastle."*

*"I believe that there needs to be a greater emphasis on strategies to combat climate change. I think we should try to accommodate more electric vehicles by having more electric charging stations throughout the greater Newcastle region. I would also love to see more urban greenery and forests, which will be crucial for suburban areas to remain cool during the hotter months. I would also love to see Newcastle achieve net zero emissions by 2030."*

*"I am in support of measures that decrease the damage our actions have on our waterways, flora and fauna. Reducing carbon emissions caused by the short journeys (10km or less) of private vehicles is needed and is possible."*

*"Re-naturing some creek/stormwater channels where possible."*

Table 5 summarises the number of times each Sustainable priority and/or objective was mentioned in feedback.

Table 5: Submissions mentioning Sustainable elements  
(Note: dots represent number of times that aspect was mentioned)

Theme	Priority	Objectives
2. Sustainable	2.1 Action on climate change	<b>2.1.1 Towards net zero emissions</b> Achieve net zero emissions by increasing energy and waste efficiency and reducing emissions from buildings, transport, infrastructure and supply chains. Encourage clean technology and future energy initiatives and industries. ●●●●●●●●
		<b>2.1.2 Know and share our climate risk</b> Undertake holistic, evidence-based assessment and monitoring of climate risks to enable best-practice risk and investment planning as we prepare for extreme weather events and support community and business to do likewise. ●●●●
		<b>2.1.3 Resilient urban and natural areas</b> Create resilient communities, economies and natural areas that prepare for and adapt to climate risks. Prioritise social equity and ensure vulnerable communities are not left behind. ●●●
	2.2 Nature-based solution	<b>2.2.1 Regenerate natural systems</b> Strengthen our natural environments, including our waterways and beaches, to support healthy, biodiverse systems; minimise pollution; and maintain recreational amenity as well as ecological and community value. ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
		<b>2.2.2 Expand the urban forest</b> Manage and care for Newcastle's urban forest and maximise urban greening, resulting in a healthy, green and biodiverse city that provides economic, ecological and social benefits. ●●●●●●●●●●
		<b>2.2.3 Achieve a water-sensitive city</b> Integrate the water cycle into planning, design and construction to create liveable urban spaces. Capture water at the source, mitigate flood impacts through design, and create public spaces that collect, clean and recycle water.
	2.3 Circular economy	<b>2.3.1 Design out waste</b> Create sustainable material cycles through the city's economy. Establish resource recovery industries and circular economy precincts. Increase recycling and productive reuse of organics. ●●●●●●●●●●
		<b>2.3.2 Localised supply chain and sustainable procurement</b> Foster resilience and sustainability through procurement, resource-sharing and construction activities that preference local suppliers and supply chains. ●●
		<b>2.3.3 Transition industry and infrastructure</b> Innovate new standards, processes and business models that support sustainable products and infrastructure. Provide training, promotion and support for the establishment of circular economy industries and businesses.

### *Creative*

In early engagement to inform development of *Newcastle 2040*, people called for a focus by CN on vibrant local neighbourhoods with events that happen day and night that showcase Newcastle's people, places, and culture, and on supporting arts and culture. The importance of events and arts & culture was again reflected in community feedback during the public exhibition of the plan, particularly regarding events<sup>1</sup> and celebrating culture.

*"Develop business areas where night markets can open on a regular basis (not only on Thursday). Night markets help people revive and rewind ...can be a cultural melting point hub too."*

*"I am in support of creating opportunities for the arts."*

*"More cultural events such as 'Winter Fire' at Honeysuckle"*

*"I acknowledge that CN does support the arts and city nightlife, but I don't feel the commitment to sustaining and growing it"*

Table 6 summarises the number of times each Creative priority and/or objective was mentioned in feedback.

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<sup>1</sup> We note five negative comments were left about Supercars.

Table 6: Submissions mentioning Creative elements  
(Note: dots represent number of times that aspect was mentioned)

Theme	Priority	Objectives
3. Creative ●●●●●● ●●●●●● ●●●●●● ●●●●●● ●●●●●●	3.1 Vibrant and creative city ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●	<b>3.1.1 Vibrant events</b> Plan and support events, including multicultural and inclusive events, to enhance community wellbeing and social inclusion and showcase our city to a local, national and international audience. ●●●●●●●
		<b>3.1.2 Bold and challenging programs</b> Deliver accessible, nationally significant programming and events that enrich people's experiences of objects, performances, collections and exhibitions.
		<b>3.1.3 Tourism and visitor economy</b> Promote Newcastle as a premier Australian visitor and events destination, showcasing a rich art, cultural and food scene, a vibrant night-time economy, and a accessible nature-based and coastal experiences. ●
		<b>3.1.4 Vibrant night-time economy</b> Support a creative, vibrant and safe nightlife that offers a diversity of experiences for all and contributes significantly to the cultural and economic activity of Newcastle. ●●●
	3.2 Opportunities in jobs, learning and innovation ●●●●●●●	<b>3.2.1 Inclusive opportunities</b> Support participation in learning, training and employment initiatives to allow equal opportunities for our community to learn and grow - particularly its most vulnerable members.
		<b>3.2.2 Skilled people and businesses</b> Grow our local skills base, attract domestic and international talent to Newcastle, and embed inclusive practices in all actions of local business to establish a skills-based labour market. ●●
		<b>3.2.3 Innovative people and businesses</b> Embrace and cultivate innovation with business and industry to create new opportunities. Encourage entrepreneurship, where anyone can nurture an idea into a successful business. ●●
	3.3 Celebrating culture ●●●●●●●●●●	<b>3.3.1 Nurture cultural and creative practitioners</b> Nurture arts and cultural practitioners to provide stimulating experiences that expand, resonate and connect with their audiences. ●●
		<b>3.3.2 Promote Newcastle as a major arts and cultural destination</b> Attract visitors and strengthen Newcastle's reputation as an arts and cultural destination by creating a nationally significant platform for arts, culture, festivals and expression. ●●
		<b>3.3.3 Culture in everyday life</b> Facilitate opportunity for creative ideas to flourish and for communities to be immersed in culture that is local, diverse and accessible. Celebrate the richness of our cultural heritage and diverse backgrounds. ●●●
		<b>3.3.4 Tell our stories</b> <i>Celebrate the richness of our cultural heritage and diverse backgrounds through inclusive events, programs and exhibitions, and the collection, preservation and conservation of items that reflect our cultural identity.</i>
	3.4 City-shaping partnerships ●●	<b>3.4.1 Optimize city opportunities</b> Optimize existing and future growth opportunities to improve infrastructure and capitalise on city-shaping initiatives. ●●
		<b>3.4.2 Connected digital technology and analytics</b> Enable advanced digital technology and high-speed connectivity, combined with research and data expertise, to support innovative businesses to expand in Newcastle.
		<b>3.4.3 Government relations and advocacy</b> Advocate and collaborate across government, industry and business to foster competitive advantages and global opportunities for the city. ●

### *Achieving together*

During previous consultation on *Newcastle 2040*, the community's desire for deliberate planning by CN and genuine community engagement was clear. This was again evident in community feedback during public exhibition of the plan.

*"When consulting community, consult widely not just with people who will give you the response you want."*

*"The inclusion of data sources and indices adds legitimacy and transparency and there is an opportunity to expand those to be more specific."*

*" Thanks for thinking about the future if Newcastle and engaging the people"*

*"Council consistency regarding policy making and lack of consultation."*

Table 7 summarises the number of times each Achieving Together priority and/or objective was mentioned in feedback.

Table 7: Submissions mentioning Achieving Together elements

(Note: dots represent number of times that aspect was mentioned)

Theme	Priority	Objectives
4. Achieving Together ●●●●● ●●●●● ●●●●● ●●●●●	4.1 Inclusive and integrated planning ●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●	<b>4.1.1 Financial sustainability</b> Make sound financial decisions that are consistent with CN's risk management framework and long-term planning. Sustainably manage assets and revenue streams to meet community expectations. ●●
		<b>4.1.2 Data-driven decision-making</b> Collect and use quality data to make strategic decisions and validate actions that align with our vision, provide consistency and transparency, and promote continuous improvement. ●
		<b>4.1.3 Integrated planning and reporting</b> Undertake a holistic approach to planning that is reflective of community needs and aspirations. Identify the current and future needs and services desired by our community and deliver them in a sustainable manner. ●●●●●●●●●●●●
		<b>4.1.4 Aligned and engaged workforce</b> Plan for our future workforce to ensure we have highly skilled and engaged people to deliver on our community's priorities. Put our people first and strive to create a positive employee experience where equity, diversity and inclusion are championed.
	4.2 Trust and transparency ●●●●●●●●●●	<b>4.2.1 Genuine engagement</b> Encourage participation and provide opportunities for genuine, representative community engagement. Engagement is planned, proactive and meaningful and results in a shared responsibility for success, where people are inspired to actively participate in decision-making to shape Newcastle's future. ●●●●●●●●
		<b>4.2.2 Shared information and celebration of success</b> Proactively share clear, consistent, accessible and relevant information with the community, leading to an understanding of CN's actions and decisions. Celebrate the success of CN and the community by sharing opportunities and positive stories across community channels. ●
		<b>4.2.3 Trusted customer experience</b> Continuously review and improve our service delivery to meet our customers' needs, creating great physical and digital experiences and building trust in CN.
		<b>4.2.4 Excellent governance</b> Continuously improve our corporate governance frameworks to provide robust, coherent systems that demonstrate our commitment to our responsibilities as a public authority. ●
	4.3 Collaborative and innovative approach ●	<b>4.3.1 Collaborative organisation</b> Build a culture that listens and encourages empathy, understanding and willingness to help our customers and colleagues.
		<b>4.3.2 Collaborative relationships</b> Foster strong partnerships between the community and stakeholders to deliver positive outcomes for Newcastle. Work in partnership to build on the city's strengths and enable community-led solutions to local issues.
		<b>4.3.3 Innovation and continuous improvement</b> Encourage innovation and continuous improvement to enhance overall performance, efficiency and effectiveness of products and services provided to the community.
		<b>4.3.4 Data innovation and insight</b> Harness the digital transformation of the organisation to drive innovative approaches and insights using quality data to make strategic decisions. ●



## 5.2 Newcastle 2040 competition

### 5.2.1 Most important *Newcastle 2040* priorities

In addition to making a submission, people had the option of completing a short survey to enter a competition to win a \$500 gift card. The first question in the survey asked people which *Newcastle 2040* priority was most important to them. In total, 368 people answered this question and results are summarised in figure 3.

Like in earlier engagement for *Newcastle 2040* and in submissions during the public exhibition, having *safe, active and linked movement across the city* came through strongly, with 22% of respondents rating this as the most important priority. This was followed by *action on climate change* (18%), and *enriched neighbourhoods and places* (12%), which both also emerged as key topics in submissions.

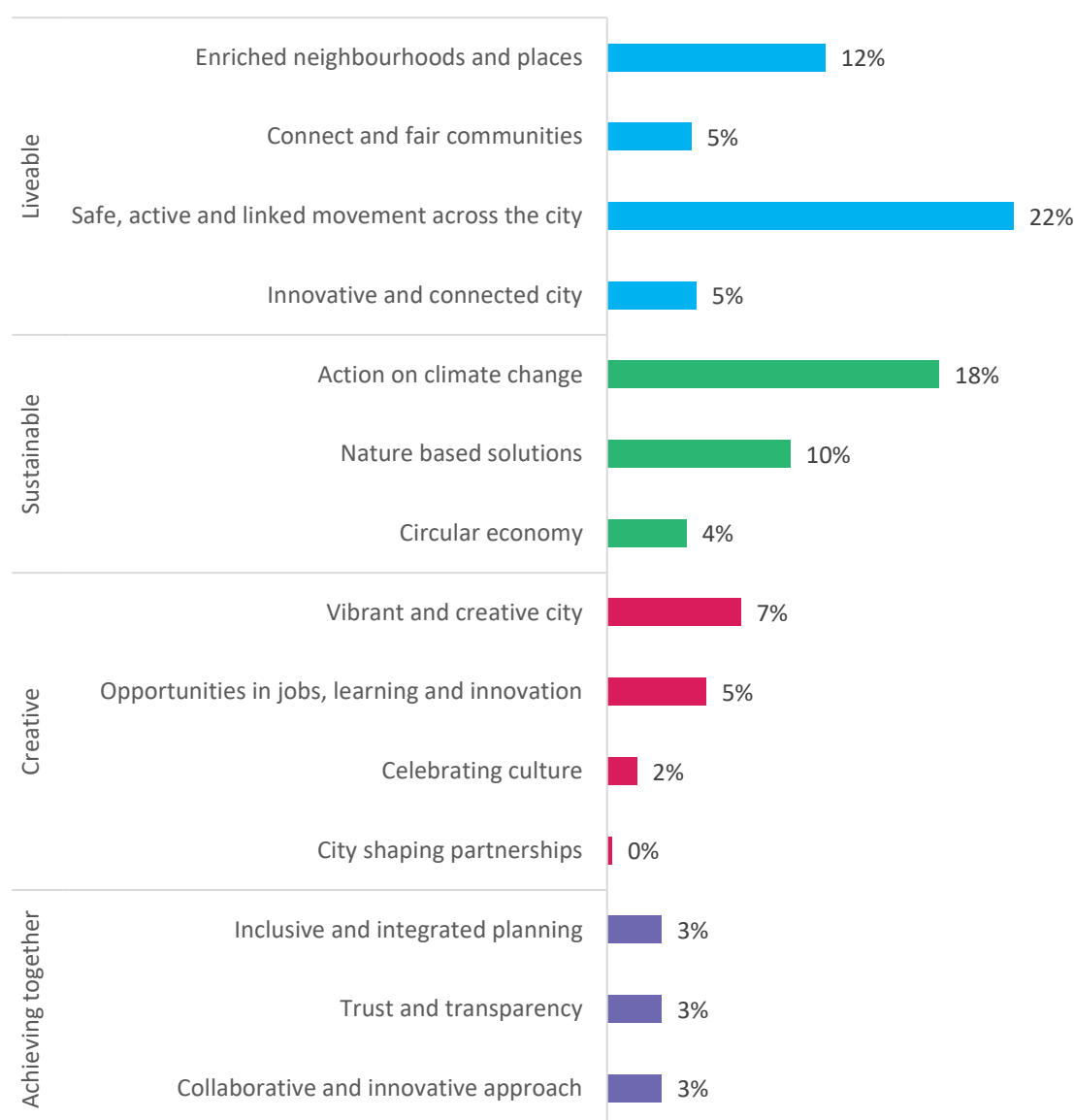


Figure 3: Most important *Newcastle 2040* priority (n= 368)

### 5.2.2 What success looks like

People were also asked what success on the priority they selected as most important would look like, in an open-ended question. In total, 361 people left a response. Verbatim comments for all 2040 priorities are included in Appendix V, and the top five most important priorities are discussed further below.

#### *Safe, active and linked movement across the city*

This emerged as the most important *Newcastle 2040* priority with 22% of people completing the short survey. Among these people, effective public transport and connected cycleways and footpaths received the most mentions.

*"Success to me means places around the city feels connected and accessible with safe public transport."*

*"Connected footpaths especially in suburban areas. In New Lambton, for example, it's almost impossible to walk anywhere on one, single path, without crossing a road or needing to go across grassy front yards. Pathways and cycle ways encourage more active movement but also generate greater community togetherness where everyone can enjoy the local area."*

*"Cycling around the city on a connected cycleway."*

*"Repairing broken streetlights, adding bus routes to areas without them, continuing the light rail project."*

*"Safe, active and linked movement means that there is a true sense of community, and everyone works together to help each other, be environmentally considered to ourselves and neighbours which creates community and belonging. Linked movement is having the choice of transport to be walking, bike riding, public transport and as a true last option, car. I love this city and the changes I have seen over the last 20 years and look forward to seeing my home evolve over the next 20 years."*

*"Transport that is efficient so you can connect with other parts of Newcastle easily. At the moment, I can't get a bus from Merewether to the top of town. Such a short trip and I have to get two buses. Of course, I take the car."*

*"Fast, direct public transport to avoid use of private vehicles. Shifting public views on using transport in this city."*

### *Action on climate change*

The second most important priority to people who completed the survey was *action on climate change* (18%). Most comments left on what success would look like on this priority included references to working towards zero net emissions and renewable energy sources.

*"Net zero emissions by 2030. An increase in electric vehicles to 25% of cars on the road by 2040. To increase renewable energy sources so that coal-powered electricity is no longer required (by 2040)."*

*"I'll think more initiatives from council to introduce sustainable solutions and potentially incentives for businesses (and apartment buildings) to introduce sustainable measures."*

*"Increased renewables energy access and use by the city, access programs to encourage solar uptake and challenge federal and state rhetoric that the Hunter is the centre of coal and fossil fuels. Move away from this dirty outdated image by turning towards renewables, solar, wind, tidal, we could be a leader in this arena."*

*"Success could come in a range of formats, but a simple index or understanding of Newcastle's net energy consumption from non-renewables, water savings and maybe captured carbon? A reduction in Urban Heat could also be a good measurable."*

*"Renewable energy is the norm."*

*"Success from this priority action on climate change would mean feeling assured that each decision has been well thought through to achieve this goal. Prioritise renewables, subsidise insulation and electrics, educate to decrease reliance on fossil fuels, conserve water and all resources. Make buildings safer for extreme weather. Plant trees for shading and clean air. Think before acting on any matter - is it necessary, will it help? Reflect and learn from each decision."*

*"Reduction in dependency on fossil fuels and actively engaging in renewable energy sources"*

### *Enriched neighbourhoods and places*

*Enriched neighbourhoods and places* was the most important priority for 12% of people who completed the survey. Success on this priority was largely expressed in terms of having well-maintained, accessible spaces and well-designed places that foster a community feel across the LGA.

*"Well maintained infrastructure including community streetscapes and public domain areas. This leads to community pride and social cohesion."*

*"Each suburb having their own main street that has a vibrant village/community feel. Coffee shops, food, essential services within walking distance of most houses. Modernised but preserving history where appropriate."*

*"No graffiti, new benches, bins etc. More plants and trees. Eyesores prioritised. Civic pride."*

*"Better sporting facilities, more active open space and all-weather options open to the community."*

*"Make more hubs in local suburbs like parks and cafes instead of all in the one place."*

*"Enhanced community spaces across the city which draw people together. Great parks for all ages, accessible areas, entertainment venues, sporting areas. Making them attractive for community groups or entertainment providers would want to utilise them. Also making sure they are respectful to nature and traditional owners, and accessible for those with different abilities."*

*"Green spaces that are well looked after with play equipment, gym equipment routes, bins along walkways, grass along medium strips and parks maintained, protected streets with safe roads"*

### *Nature based solutions*

*Nature based solutions* was the most important priority for 10% of people completing the survey. Success on this priority was largely conveyed in terms 'greening up' across the LGA, but particularly in the city, and improving our natural environment.

*"Lots of inner-city greenery, parks and bushy walks."*

*"More emphasis on natural spaces, returning these spaces back to health. Making our natural playgrounds the central focus of Newcastle."*

*"Greening up the city, and planting more trees around the foreshore, parks, river fronts and generally enhancing and embracing the natural beauty of the city!"*

*"I feel cities a lot of the time try to set themselves apart from nature, lots of steel and concrete, technology and industry, with busy streets and almost no wildlife. To me, an important part of our future is realising we are in fact a part of nature and that includes the way we design our environments and cities. Incorporating natural solutions to manmade problems isn't easy but imagine if Newcastle could be a world leader at that. The world's first 'natural city' so to speak. That's what success would look like for me".*

*"More community gardens, verge gardens, greening of the streetscapes."*

*"Planting more trees. Requiring developers to provide street level green space."*

*"Open green spaces. Trees. Creative, nature-based play spaces for kids. Community vegetable gardens."*

### *Vibrant and creative city*

Coming in as the fifth most important priority was vibrant and creative city, with 7% of people completing the survey rating this as most important. This was mainly expressed as wanting events<sup>2</sup> that are uniquely Newcastle.

*"Interesting public spaces, fascinating galleries/shops, collaborative events, people out exploring during the day, staying out for night events."*

*"As we re-emerge from the pandemic, a vibrant and creative city will provide meaningful experiences for the community to engage in, encouraging people to come out of their homes, and engage and enjoy their rich city. Vibrant and creative experiences will provide quality of life for residents who haven't had the opportunity to engage as much as usual. Events, activations, gigs and happenings will also support the creative economy in Newcastle and contribute to the visitor economy."*

*"More events! More chances to join others at all kinds of cultural and entertainment outings."*

*"A city that has a cultural and public art policy, invests in city shaping public art that goes beyond painting lightboxes and doing murals and mosaics. A city that invests in events that are not simply 'major' and celebrates more than just the coastline but leverages the unique mix of a post-industrial and being a port city."*

Please refer to Appendix V for verbatim comments on the remaining *Newcastle 2040* priorities are included in Appendix V.

People also had the option of uploading a photo that visually displays what success on their most important priority looks like. The images received are shown in figure 4.

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<sup>2</sup> We note four negative comments were left about Supercars across all competition entries.



Figure 4: Photos that visually display success

## 6. Next steps

Thank you to 5,500+ people who shared their aspirations, ideas and feedback about *Newcastle 2040* over the past two years.

Feedback received during the public exhibition of the draft plan will be used to help finalise *Newcastle 2040*, which is expected to go to Council for adoption mid-2022.



## Appendix I – Promotional materials

### Have your say webpage



Quick link to our competition:

Enter competition

Newcastle 2040 is a shared community vision, developed as a guide to inform strategies and actions throughout the city.

To help inform development of Newcastle 2040, we implemented an extensive community engagement program, hearing from over 5000 people, many who don't usually take part in community discussions. Our objective was clear, we wanted to listen to as many people as possible to hear their ideas and priorities for Newcastle's future.

#### Next steps

The draft Newcastle 2040 is now on public exhibition until 28 February 2022.

View the plan here:



View the plan in plain text by clicking here.

Please submit any feedback that you have on the plan below:

Feedback on Newcastle 2040:

Upload file (optional):

Choose File No file chosen

Name:

Email:

Submit

Submissions can also be sent via email to [engage@ncc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:engage@ncc.nsw.gov.au) with the subject heading: Newcastle 2040 submission.

Additionally, enter our competition to win a \$500 gift card by identifying which Newcastle 2040 Priority is most important to you and telling us what success from this priority would look like.

#### Project timeline

- November to December 2021**  
**Strategy writing**  
 We used community insights to help shape the draft Newcastle 2040 document.
- 20 January - 28 February 2022**  
**Public exhibition**  
 The draft Newcastle 2040 is on public exhibition for feedback from the community.
- April 2022**  
**Report to Council**  
 The final Newcastle 2040 will be put to the elected Council for adoption in 2022.

Expand timeline

#### Key documents

- [Newcastle 2040 Community Engagement report](#)
- [Newcastle 2040 Engagement Summary Infographic](#)
- [Our Budget 2020/2021](#)
- [Past Community Consultation](#)

## Advertising

(InTouch magazine)



**NEWCASTLE 2040**  
it's our *future*

**Over the past two years, we've heard from over 5,000 locals about what they value about Newcastle and what we should prioritise for the future.**

We've used these insights to help develop *Newcastle 2040*, our next Community Strategic Plan. It's a shared community vision, developed to guide our actions throughout the city for the next 10+ years.

**The draft *Newcastle 2040* is now on public exhibition for your feedback.**

Learn more and have your say at [newcastle.nsw.gov.au/yoursay](https://newcastle.nsw.gov.au/yoursay)



Flyer



City of Newcastle

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City of Newcastle

# NEWCASTLE 2040

it's our *future*




You've told us you want Newcastle to be a liveable, sustainable, inclusive global city

## Social media

City of Newcastle  
20 January · 🌐

Take our short survey and help shape Newcastle's future to go in the draw for a Visa gift card. Enter before Feb 28!



**NEWCASTLE 2040**  
it's our *future*

Help shape our city for your chance to receive a \$500 gift card

City of Newcastle

NEWCASTLE.NSW.GOV.AU

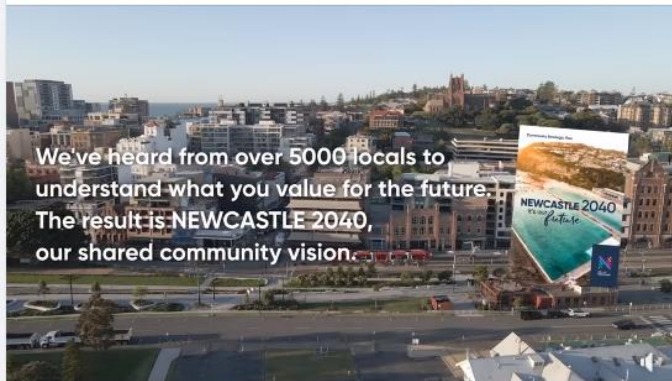
Take the survey [Learn More](#)

The Community Strategic Plan reflects what we value and drives the delivery...

👍👎 85 52 comments 13 shares

City of Newcastle  
20 January · 🌐

Take our short survey and help shape Newcastle's future to go in the draw for a Visa gift card. Enter before Feb 28!



We've heard from over 5000 locals to understand what you value for the future. The result is **NEWCASTLE 2040**, our shared community vision.

NEWCASTLE 2040  
it's our *future*

City of Newcastle


NEWCASTLE.NSW.GOV.AU

Take the survey [Learn More](#)

👍👎 41 60 comments 10 shares

## Newsletters

Have Your Say eDM – 31 January 2022



**Have your say**

You're encouraged to have your say on the projects open for feedback and read updates on a range of previous projects.


### Newcastle 2040 is now on public exhibition

Thank you to the 5,000+ people who shared their ideas and priorities for Newcastle's future!

The feedback has been used to develop our next community strategic plan, Newcastle 2040, which is now on public exhibition.

Did we hear you right? - [Read our draft Newcastle 2040 community strategic plan](#) and provide your feedback. Tell us which Newcastle 2040 priority is most important to you, and you could [win a \\$500 Visa gift card](#)

Community Strategic Plan



City of Newcastle

**HAVE YOUR SAY**

## Media release

# Media release



20 January 2022

## Community invited to comment on ambitious shared vision for Newcastle

Newcastle will be a liveable, sustainable and inclusive global city in 2040 under an ambitious long-term vision developed with the community.

City of Newcastle engaged with more than 5000 people during the development of the draft Community Strategic Plan, *Newcastle 2040*.

Lord Mayor Nuatali Nelmes said it was important to understand the community's vision for the future of Newcastle and how it relates to the policies and projects being delivered during the next decade and beyond.

"Newcastle 2040 has been developed in consultation with the community over a period of 12 months and represents the collaboration of thousands of interactions, including face-to-face conversations, workshops, surveys, online feedback, advisory committees and stakeholder engagement," Cr Nelmes said.

"Through this extensive community consultation, we have developed four key themes that reflect the aspirations and values of our community, which are underpinned by our commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

"The priorities and objectives contained within this plan will enable us to celebrate our unique city, protect our natural assets, optimise opportunities, build resilience, champion inclusion and encourage innovation and creativity.

"The next decade is set to be an exciting and rewarding time for all of us as Newcastle grows from a great regional city to an emerging global city.

"*Newcastle 2040* represents the highest level of strategic planning carried out by Local Government. It will guide our project delivery plans and annual budgets over the next decade and beyond as we work together to help make Newcastle a better place to live, work and enjoy."

The draft plan's four key themes are: Liveable Newcastle, Sustainable Newcastle, Creative Newcastle and Achieving Together – each of which have been expanded to include a range of priorities and objectives.

Cr Nelmes said the delivery of Newcastle 2040 will require shared decision-making and collaborative partnerships with government agencies, non-government organisations, business and the local community.

The community are being invited to provide feedback on the draft plan from today, after Councillors voted on Tuesday to place it on public exhibition for 28 days.

Visit [www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/yoursay](http://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/yoursay) to comment on the draft plan.

A Community Strategic Plan is required to be prepared every four years and must be adopted by June 30 of the year following a local government election.

## Media coverage

### Community encouraged to have their say on 'Newcastle 2040' plan

New FM 105.3 - 20 January 2022

The community is being encouraged to comment on the **Newcastle 2040** plan. Newcastle Council engaged with more than 5000 people to develop ... four years and must be adopted by June 30 of the year following a local government **election**. Image credit: **City of Newcastle** Facebook page

Word Matched : Newcastle Council, Nuatali Nelmes, election, City of Newcastle

[https://www.newfm.com.au/2022/01/20/community-encouraged-to-have-their-say-on-newcastle-2040-plan/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_medium=rss&utm\\_campaign=community-encouraged-to-have-their-say-on-newcastle-2040-plan](https://www.newfm.com.au/2022/01/20/community-encouraged-to-have-their-say-on-newcastle-2040-plan/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=community-encouraged-to-have-their-say-on-newcastle-2040-plan)

### Have your say on council's ambitious shared vision for Newcastle

Newcastle Weekly - 21 January 2022

Newcastle will be a liveable, sustainable and inclusive global city in 2040 under an ambitious long-term vision developed with local ...

the draft Community Strategic Plan, **Newcastle 2040**. Lord Mayor **Nuatali Nelmes** said it was important to understand the public's concept for

Word Matched : City of Newcastle, Nuatali Nelmes

<https://newcastleweekly.com.au/have-your-say-on-councils-ambitious-shared-vision-for-newcastle/>

POSTED IN 2HD JANUARY 2022

Community encouraged to have their say on 'Newcastle 2040' plan

<https://www.2hd.com.au/2022/01/20/community-encouraged-to-have-their-say-on-newcastle-2040-plan/>

POSTED IN NOVONEWS 21 JANUARY 2022

### Community's shared vision for Newcastle 2040

City of Newcastle is calling on the community to help shape their ambitious long term vision for Newcastle in 2040, focusing on creating a liveable, sustainable and inclusive city for all.

<https://novonews.com.au/2022/01/communitys-shared-vision-for-newcastle-2040/>

POSTED IN intouch Magazine 1 FEBRUARY 2022

A Shared Vision for Newcastle in 2040

<https://www.intouchmagazine.com.au/single-post/a-shared-vision-for-newcastle-in-2040>

## Appendix II – Online feedback form

View the plan here:



View the plan in plain text by clicking here.

Please submit any feedback that you have on the plan below:

**Feedback on Newcastle 2040:**

**Upload file (optional):**

 No file chosen

**Name:**

**Email:**

**Submit**

Submissions can also be sent via email to [engage@ncc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:engage@ncc.nsw.gov.au) with the subject heading: Newcastle 2040 submission.



## Appendix III – Online feedback and submissions – Verbatim responses

Verbatim comments - Online feedback forms and other submissions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liveability is a whole section (Section 1-liveable. It's very high level but is good.</li> <li>• Good to see the inclusion of Social Justice Principles included in the plan.</li> <li>• Heritage is referred to as one priority in Section 1 – Liveable. It's seems very tokenistic and not really says much. It does talk about the heritage streets of Newcastle East but there are hundreds of heritage buildings in Newcastle Old Town the area between Newcastle Harbour, King Edward Park, Brown Street and Newcastle Ocean Baths. City of Newcastle must refer this area to the Heritage Council to be made a Heritage protected area before it's too late. Newcastle Old Town will give Newcastle a SPECIAL identity and will attract local and international visitors to visit the Heritage of our city now that Newcastle Airport trying to open the Airport to international visitors.</li> <li>• Newcastle 2040 Community Strategic Plan doesn't really address Heritage as a priority/what the ACTION is. It is also forced to align with the sustainable development goal that is not relevant and more so looks at NATURAL heritage.</li> <li>• Heritage should be added to 3.3 - CELEBRATING CULTURE as it is Cultural Heritage.</li> <li>• The Plan does reference in the back other plans and strategies including the HERITAGE ONE, but I think the relationship to it and other plans needs to be made clearer.</li> <li>• How does the Newcastle 2040 Community Strategic Plan interact with the other plans set by Council.</li> </ul>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Modernize and update bus stands in and around Newcastle to have new look and feel as well as to feel safe and weather proof. Current bus stands looks Stone Age .</li> <li>2. Develop business area where night market ( operate from 5 pm to 12 midnight ) can open on regular basis (not only on Thursday) . Night market help people revive and rewind daytime grilling at workplace or business . Can be a cultural melting point hub too .</li> <li>3. Put effort to bring back business to Hunter street . A lookout from Tram on left and right looks so dead . Active city make a city alive and survive.</li> </ol>
<p>A great vision and a lot of repetitive dialogue. More cultural events such as „Winter fire‘ on Honeysuckle. Regarding Honeysuckle just stop building to the shore and removing green open spaces.. all cities require always. Plant palm trees along the beach parks and tree promenades in coastal suburbs. Majority of people do not like having to keep talking about first nations.. we were born here , to develop our pride for our country .</p>
<p>A very impressive plan for our future. Lighting up our magnificent cathedral at night with solar lights as it is very dark looking from the east.</p>
<p>Affordable housing: Isn't there research to suggest that it's not only the unemployed and persons on welfare that are struggling and require additional affordable housing but persons in professions such as teachers, nurses, paramedics, pilots, accountants, engineers, environment scientists etc. that are struggling to find 'affordable' housing. <a href="https://www.sgsep.com.au/publications/insights/rental-affordability-2021">https://www.sgsep.com.au/publications/insights/rental-affordability-2021</a></p>
<p>All things look really good to me...lots more jobs and finally a bigger art gallery. Fantastic efforts, well done.</p>
<p>As of this latest debacle our council has now successfully hamstrung and ransomed Newcastle city and it's citizens to the variable whims of Supercars. How long must this madness go on for? Vote Supercars out of Newcastle</p>
<p>Business rates are simply unaffordable for small businesses nesses and small commercial property owners. The cost is the higher Gordy in NSW and a u fair, unjust burden on major trainers, employers of unskilled or young adults.</p>
<p>Can't open file. I might not be alive in 2040 however I want the people that make up our community after im gone to have as a wonderful time in Newcastle that I have had.</p>

CoN will never achieve active transport for over %50 of trips (which is close to world's best practice). The only way they will achieve it is:

1. 30km/hr local speed limits, and local one way streets, deadends, to make car trips painful
2. Remove all confusing bike pictures on roads that are telling people they are expected to ride dangerously next to parked car doors opening and car traffic. CoN has refused to inform residents on their website about how to use fake bike lanes
3. Police to enforce road rules. Minimum passing distance NSW Road Rule 144 needs to be enforced.
4. Stop urban sprawl which creates more car trips
5. Get Newy buses to change lanes when passing cyclists. CoN need to talk to KD about this. Too many close calls.
6. Cargo and trailers, and E-assist bikes available at a CoN Active Transport Library.
7. Billboards advertising Active transport positives.

Council consistency regarding policy making and lack of consultation. Policy and practice not consistent such as old houses regardless should be given permission to be build dozed and new house built especially if old house has asbestos and lead based paint seems to focus on house and not the health and well being of humanity. Too many double standards across newcastle need for consistency. More bottle recycling facilities across newcastle only 2 at present.. consultation with council regarding tree planting on council land resident should be consulted. Policy to ensure people don't move residents bins on garbage day.

Cycleways after all these years are still not linked into a network of cycleways. Note, electric scooters etc are on the rise. Which comes first the EVs or the EV chargers? Level 2 EV chargers are needed in every Shopping Centre, and level 3 charges at locations that will attract passing traffic to stop near shops. There is still a way to go for disability access (Merewether Bath facilities are not accessible). Green space has been used during the pandemic. This should be followed up by planning more green space in Newcastle.

Definitely focus on renewable energy and climate change measures. Sustainability is lacking in Newcastle. A circular economy basis would help significantly with all the junk on the side of the roads. Communal veggie gardens in parks. Flower gardens in parks (for the bees!). Definitely putting a cap on rental pricing. Introducing a law to allow people with pets to live in rentals. So many people are homeless (and animals are homeless) because of this.

Fix up Newcastle mall it's sad and dirty and no shops

Full of meaningless platitudes and not reflective of community consultation. An embarrassment to strategy and action plans.

Good document - relevance to reality action?

Great idea. Will require funding to keep moving it along strategically.

Great words , but not matched by facts and/or action too often; eg, taking the first two 'principles', Liveable and Sustainable, CON doesn't apply these to all ratepayers/citizens. There's little 'liveable' about being a tied-down resident of Newcastle East during the fiasco of supercars, and certainly nothing 'sustainable' about this way-too-long time (just as an example). Stockton Beach is likely the greatest fiasco - especially with the no chance of success pretence that sand nourishment alone will be a permanent fix. Act on what GHD told you, and implement the combined artificial reef/headland and sand nourishment fix.

Have more parks and sporting recreational areas as sporting clubs can't keep up with demand as the population grows, we need more parks for local sport and a more mini stadium like number 2, darling street oval and magic park and Broadmeadow. Also add more recreational areas near local shops e.g. coffee shops, fish and chip shops and convenience stores.

Hi , I've read the entire 2040 plan Im very pleased the way document is prepared and shared with the public . Though I'll would like to share one suggestion regarding creative and innovative NewCastle and that is digital NewCastle . By digital NewCastle I mean shifting efforts to expand IT industry . Many of skilled workers in IT such as software developers experience job shortages in NewCastle and eventually they have to take their chance to Sydney . As IT industry has huge export potential and require less resources and workforce as compare to the other industries therefore I request the city officials provide the technology rich environment by creating government funded incubation centers and workspaces . This will not only create more jobs but also brings entrepreneurs to front stage .Thanks

I am in support of measures that decrease the damage our actions have on our waterways, flora and fauna. Reducing carbon emissions caused by the short journeys (10km or less) of private vehicles is needed and is possible. The Newcastle LGA is suited to bike riding and when it comes to micro-mobility, could be the leader of NSW.

I would love to see more bike-friendly, scooter-friendly and pedestrian-friendly streets. A comprehensive, convenient and safe bike network linking most streets in the Newcastle LGA would make Newcastle really stand out. It would be a tourism drawcard. It would increase property prices. It would improve the well-being of residents. It would decrease carbon emissions by getting people to have an alternative to the car for short trips. It would decrease noise and air pollution. It would decrease road accidents. It would increase neighbourliness. It would foster appreciation and pride for our streets, seeing things from the handlebars instead of from behind the windscreen. It would decrease congestion. I would love to see Council experiment with the way we design the public spaces that we call roads. To decrease car-usage in Newcastle, whether electric cars or not, would make for a healthier, more equitable and long-term thinking city.

I am in support of creating opportunities for the arts.

I can see much for supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait people. I didn't see much for helping disabled have improved access to events and areas.

I had to read it carefully a number of times to get any meaning out of this, which was a bit disappointing. Increasing the urban forest is great, and trying to reduce reliance on cars. One thing that was sorely missing was anything about providing activities and facilities for teenagers and young people that aren't sport based or skate parks. There used to be council funded venues for under age shows - what happened? Ask young people what they need!

I have lived in Newcastle for 37 years. I love all these plans. So modern, community oriented and economically friendly. Bringing jobs and sustainability. Thank you.

I have only had a very quick look at the plan.  
It seems great at this point in time.  
If i had any thing that i think would make Newy greater is more foot & scooter/bike/skateboard etc connectivity between suburbs over the existing rail lines & creeks/stormwater channels.  
Oh and re-naturing some creek/stormwater channels where possible.

I like goal 11 and 16 and would like to see more options for waste disposal in suburban areas. I would also like to see further development on making Newcastle pet friendly, with more pet friendly spaces including fully fenced dog parks

I like the first 2 steps

I like the plan as it includes vehicle traffic trending down, but was disappointed by the lack to details or how this will be done. I want to see Cycling and Pedestrian traffic becoming the majority transport within the city.

- The quickest route for most journeys is the bike path, with cars taking longer routes. Bike paths through parks and scenic areas. Cars and bikes are disentangled, different road networks for different types of traffic, with filtered permeability for bikes and pedestrians.
- Shared roads with cars and bikes have a 30 or 40km speed limit, with pedestrian and bike priority over cars at intersections. Protected bike lanes.
- Wide bike paths to allow sharing with mobility scooters, pedestrians and bikes.
- Kids are able to cycle or walk to school - the more people on cycleways, the more "eyes on the street" making parents feel safer in letting kids get themselves around. This means more independence for kids and less "soccer mum" journeys.
- Encouragement through zoning for more local shopping beyond major centers. Community coffee shops and general stores in smaller neighborhoods.
- More bike lockup facilities

The Hunter street bike path is a good start, its protected, but it just dumps you out onto a 4 lane street as you ride away from the city. there needs to be an overall plan for Cycling routes that services the majority of residents. I live at Adamstown heights and there is no way to get to anywhere without using a busy road or crossing a busy road.

I like the way Newcastle is looking to become more sustainable. I'd like to see more emphasis on the aged. Both within a focus on employment and facilities provided in parks such as inclusive exercise equipment. Additionally, a focus on footpaths. Increased walkability relies on good footpath and low trip hazards. Particularly for prams and the elderly in the inner city.

A submission was received detailing the below feedback:

- Strongly supports the themes and values in Newcastle 2040, with regard to equity and innovation.
- Increase engagement on education indicators and use a collaborative approach with stakeholders to support the wellbeing of students.
- Incorporate creativity into initiatives, education, and research.
- Support of building local skills base as a growing priority, with a strong and immediate focus on skills mapping for the region. Planning for future skills needs will be critical.
- Sustainable – focus on sustainability, energy and critical minerals
- Focus on energy transition as it presents a medium to long-term challenge for the coal industry and for energy jobs.

A submission was received detailing the below feedback:

- Draft Newcastle 2040 Community Strategic Plan has set an excellent vision for the city of Newcastle. Generally, it is a good basis for future planning.
- Too light on specific references to openness and accountability, commitment to heritage preservation and on retaining and enhancing biodiversity
- Transparency, Accountability, Collaboration and Openness:
  - Suggestion for CN to employ different mechanisms for residents and businesses to engage with council beyond pop in sessions or surveys to support ongoing dialogue with the public.
  - Suggestion for CN to outline accountability measures for transparency and accountability, including supporting the reference of a quote from the UN SDGs and what this means at the local government level.

- The plan lacks clear mechanisms by which Council can be held accountable to the residents and businesses that it serves. The relevant sections of the document, in Achieving Together, is silent on commitment to accountability measures, despite reference to “genuine, representative community engagement” (4.2.1). Indeed, under the heading “collaborative organisation” (4.3.1) there is only reference to the “customer” experience. The term “customer”, now ubiquitous in marketing speak refers to a passive economic unit, not a person with agency. A “customer experience” does not constitute collaboration in any sense of the word.
- The discussion entitled From Vision to Action (pp16-17) refers to “accountability” within the contexts of Integrated Planning and Reporting and Reporting on Newcastle 2040. However, what is described goes no further than reference to the minimum NSW government legislative requirements within the IPR process, and a series of reports in the form of quarterly, 6-monthly, annual 4-yearly reports. Nowhere is there a reference to deliberative community engagement in a credible mechanism of holding the Council to account for implementing its stated priorities and conforming in spirit to legislated accountability obligations.
- The term “openness” appears only once and that’s in a table on page 80 under the heading “why this is important to us”. That’s somewhat ironic given that the rest of the document makes much of inclusiveness without ever committing to making Council open. Inclusiveness is nothing more than a charade if the most serious matters of council are held in camera with the public excluded. It would at least be good if the concept of openness were addressed. As it currently stands, it appears that an open Council is no longer a clear priority either within the plan or to Council in general.
- Environment and Urban Forest:
  - Supports the priorities and objectives that come within the purview of Sustainable Newcastle, i.e. 2.1 Action on Climate Change, 2.2 Nature-Based Solutions and 2.3 Circular Economy. However, believes that a “vision” document such as this needs to address the “elephant in the room” when it comes to nature-based solutions and that is the protection of biodiversity during all stages of development.
- Ecologically Sustainable Development
  - Concern that “Ecologically Sustainable Development” is no longer a key principle and has been dropped entirely as a term used to describe how future developments will occur in Newcastle. Question around if “sustainable development” implies that ecology is included. It would be useful to make this assumption explicit, given that development will play such a major role in Newcastle’s future. If the consideration of the ecological impact of new developments has slipped to become a secondary concern, the principle of Action on Climate Change becomes meaningless.
- Development on greenfield and brownfield sites
  - Concern about the wholesale destruction of urban forest that is permitted for new development as a matter of course. There is an urgent need to discuss the land use of remaining lands in the face of catastrophic biodiversity loss and climate change. Given that large swathes of the lands adjacent to the Newcastle Link Rd and areas around Minmi are slated for development, the Council needs to ensure that enforceable regulations are in place to protect significant corridors of that ecologically valuable land. In short, we need to know that the commitment to expanding and enhancing the urban forest (2.2.2) goes beyond mere words and takes on the look of a real commitment.

- Clearing native vegetation to provide land for development is not ecologically sustainable. The biodiversity and climate change impacts of land clearing for urban development are sufficient justification to stop further land clearing.
- Indeed, a key resolution taken at COP26 in Glasgow is that further net land clearing should be halted by 2030.
- The inherent antagonism between development and saving our remaining forests needs to be acknowledged and discussed. Development that occurs at the expense of biodiversity retention cannot be classified as “sustainable”, either ecologically or economically, given that a truly healthy environment means not only healthy communities but viable communities in the long-term.
- The protection of urban forest often takes second place to the exigencies of big-event staging in the Newcastle LGA. Nowhere is this more evident than in the case of the Foreshore Park vegetation clearance in preparation for the Supercars event, which resulted in around 70% loss of canopy cover. Council needs to work out a way to conduct events in such a way as to give priority to preserving our urban forest, not just pay lip-service to it.
- To this end, we recommend that some firm commitments to the admirable objectives of this vision document would help assure the community that council does take biodiversity and expansion of urban forest seriously.
- Health and Well-being:
  - Concern that the third Sustainable Development Goal of Good Health and Well-being has disappeared from the vision. This indicates that Council no longer regards this as a priority for its own program for the city. If this is the case it is highly regrettable.
  - Noted that point 1.2.4 Healthy Communities takes up the question of healthy lifestyle and personal safety but believe that the 4th SDG needs to go back into the vision to reinstate the emphasis.
  - Newcastle City Council’s Local Government Area has an enviable number of parks, beaches, cycleways, shared paths, playgrounds and sporting fields that provides an excellent basis for the promotion of a healthy lifestyle. Council should be actively promoting healthy lifestyles as a priority. Furthermore, the LGA includes increasing numbers of people from migrant, refugee and disadvantaged backgrounds. Such populations have special needs in terms of helping them access the city’s health facilities. The incidence of domestic and sexual violence has received much public attention over the past year and all levels of government need to play a role in combatting this societal scourge.
  - Recommendation that these questions take up a greater priority in the final draft.
- Heritage
  - Approval that Liveability is afforded an entire section of the vision document. Strongly applaud the inclusion of Social Justice Principles included in the plan. Aboriginal heritage places are not specifically mentioned. While Aboriginal culture is rightly recognized, the document needs to recognize that Aboriginal heritage is a intrinsic part of Aboriginal connection and needs to be given some priority
  - While heritage is included as a priority in 1.1.3 – Protected Heritage Places, it appears somewhat tokenistic since it fails to embrace the totality of Newcastle’s diverse heritage places. The plan would give more confidence to those committed to preserving Newcastle irreplaceable heritage, if 1.1.3 included more than a wish to “preserve and protect”, but

added some substance to that statement in the form of commitment to that preservation and protection.

- The plan mentions the heritage streets of Newcastle East but the hundreds of heritage buildings in Newcastle Old Town, being the area between Newcastle Harbour, King Edward Park, Brown Street and Newcastle Ocean Baths are left out. A referral this area to the Heritage Council to be made a Heritage protected area before it's too late would give Newcastle a SPECIAL identity and attract local and international visitors to visit our city, especially with Newcastle Airport to open to international visitors.
- Newcastle 2040 Community Strategic Plan doesn't really address Heritage as a priority/what the action is. It is also forced to align with the sustainable development goal that is not relevant and more so looks at natural heritage. Heritage should be added to 3.3 - CELEBRATING CULTURE as it is Cultural Heritage.
- The Plan does reference in the back other plans and strategies including the Heritage plan, but the relationship to it and other plans needs to be made clearer. It would be very useful if the interaction between the Newcastle 2040 Community Strategic Plan with the other plans set by Council was made more explicit.
- Creativity
  - Support for the creative arts in the third theme of the document.
  - Without wanting to detract from anyone's experience of that the city has to offer, belief that a more imaginative depiction of the theme of "creativity" than the image of people having a drink could be used to illustrate this section – perhaps some images of people creating might be more apt.
  - Would also like to see more emphasis on community inclusion in 3.4 city-shaping partnerships.

I regard the 2040 timeframe does not apply to me as I am unlikely to be around. I attach some comments which I submitted earlier in the year for which I received no acknowledgement but may be relevant

Dear Lord Mayor

Re: My Life in Newcastle - Some disappointments

As a resident in Newcastle for 82 years and a rate payer since 1963 I feel that I have some knowledge of the city and its surrounds. Without putting them in to any time sequence I list my disappointments with Newcastle Council and State authorities that I have personally experienced.

Originally the harbour was flanked by a road which ran along the wharves from Wickham to Nobbys. There was a proposal to build a hotel at the Civic and instead of placing it on the south side of Wharf Road it was placed on the alignment of the road resulting on a complex realignment of the local roadway.

The biggest disappointment was the positioning of the light rail line from Wickham to Newcastle East along the alignment of Hunter Street. This has caused ongoing problems with parking and patronage of the shops along the street.

When the city administration facilities were moved from the Civic to a nondescript building at Newcastle West, the concept of a Civic Square was lost. The City Hall, Library and Art Galley formed the core of the City Square around Civic Park.

In earlier time when Donald Street railway gates were in operation, there was a call for a road overpass. When the traffic problems increased at Adamstown there was a plan to reserve properties for a road overpass at the Adamstown rail crossing. These properties were sold by authorities who had no idea of the future problems that would be created by those who follow.

For many years the need for a traffic bypass on the west of Charlestown was identified. A similar need was identified for a bypass on the east side. Areas on the alignment were identified, but some authority decided to sell the land, thereby neutralising any hope of making improvement in the future.

Hunter Street has had many make-overs in recent decades. From a main bus route down the street, then a mall with traffic, then an access with limited traffic and paving trip-stone for pedestrians.

In earlier times it was possible to drive into town, find a park near where you wanted to carry out business and be home within a few hours. This is no longer possible and with the removal of parking stations the prospect of coming to town is now a dream.

I used to be able to catch a bus from my area and be in town in 15 minutes. With the reorganised bus routes I now have to catch a bus to a rail interchange and then a tram into the area where required. This process now takes half a day and a lot of patience.

Supercars is something which does not fit into the east end of Newcastle. The potential damage to the nearby properties is a concern and the 3 months disruption to the Newcastle East each year is unjustified.

I submit my observations for your consideration and comments.

Yours faithfully

I strongly support maintaining liveability. Newcastle is so well placed to maintain a medium density profile with more well maintained public spaces. Overcrowded life in high rise unit blocks are neither necessary or desirable. Please make this a priority.

I submit that the preservation of Newcastle's remaining natural bushland areas should included. Please refer below:

1) Preserve all Newcastle's existing natural bushland and inherent wildlife (eg. Link Road Forest). Preserving these areas could serve as an example to the world (as a gold standard showpiece and model) on how natural areas could be integrated with city planning and growth. It would assist with stabilising climate change and species conservation locally. Another huge benefit is the increased mental health that the Newcastle community would obtain from having an easy to access natural environment they could experience. This would place Newcastle in the world class category and attract interest and tourism to the city. Business would be another important beneficiary.

2) Shift stridently towards Circular Economy where - A circular economy is a systemic approach to economic development designed to benefit businesses, society, and the environment. In contrast to the 'take-make-waste' linear model, a circular economy is regenerative by design and aims to gradually decouple growth from the consumption of finite resources. (This is something Lake Macquarie Council is shifting towards).



I submit that the preservation of Newcastle's remaining natural bushland areas should be included. Please refer below:

1) Preserve all Newcastle's existing natural bushland and inherent wildlife (eg. Link Road Forest). Preserving these areas could serve as an example to the world (as a gold standard showpiece and model) on how natural areas could be integrated with city planning and growth. It would assist with stabilising climate change and species conservation locally. Another huge benefit is the increased mental health that the Newcastle community would obtain from having an easy to access natural environment they could experience. This would place Newcastle in the world class category and attract interest and tourism to the city. Business would be another important beneficiary.

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I think this is a great plan and is outlined very clearly. The only thing that disappointed me was the small focus on creativity. I acknowledge that CN does support the arts and city nightlife but I don't feel the commitment to sustaining and growing it was reflected in the plan. We are seeing businesses losing money and closing due to covid, but before that it was due to lockout laws, and before that it was due to resident complaints (something that is still a prevalent problem in the live music scene- figures given the Newcastle median age). That is not to say I think CN isn't doing enough, I would just like to have the confidence that the arts will continue to be supported regardless of continued cuts federally.

I would like to submit a very important element for the future of Newcastle 2040. Nowhere in the document did I see any mention of NEWCASTLE'S HERITAGE. The Newcastle Concerned Citizens of Newcastle in 1997 provided a document to Newcastle Council called Newcastle Old Town regarding the Heritage Listing of the area between Newcastle Baths, Brown Street, King Edward Park and the Harbour. If we want to encourage future tourists to our city we MUST protect this area which is the original Newcastle Old Town. So much history is provided in this area and there are heritage items that haven't already been acknowledged. This is OUR LAST CHANCE to have something that really only Fremantle has but by acknowledging the history and heritage of this part of our city we could become well known for our Heritage. The other item is parking, I have a disability and small plots of garden are being added to our streets with less parking, who will maintain these gardens or will it be like the pots that have been installed with no regular maintenance. Please be careful how you plan your cycleways as in the CBD cycleways have been installed but cycle riders still ride along Wharf Rd and Hunter Streets on the Road.

I would like to see Newcastle help the homeless more and put in toilet facilities that you can use at night and more free things to do in Newcastle

If we can build an amusement park or some tourist attractions more and have fast speed rail to Sydney will be great.

In regards to the digital economy, there is no mention of Fibre to the premises. While this is a federal responsibility through the NBN, a strong lobbying effort from local and state government would hugely help. Having a properly connected Newcastle would hugely enhance the local economy by allowing professionals to work from home, even for remote work elsewhere, alleviating the brain drain, and even reversing the flow, by allowing local businesses to attract employees based on lifestyle.

In regards to the bike paths, a more concrete plan is necessary. At the very least there should be an off-road path from Newcastle to John Hunter Hospital, and from Charlestown to the university via the inner city bypass. (Our two largest employers, with the worst parking issues.)

It is a list of motherhood statements. How can the council achieve any of the concepts listed when they cannot keep streets clear of leaf rubbish, and provide footpaths that are trip safe.

It would be nice if you could think about the residents in Westend who were supposed to have so-called green space but now live with dirt and noise and by the look of the billboards our outlook is glum

<p>It's just a whole lot of stats and promises that are an 'overview' but not really definitive. Will you be producing a similar document that outlines all the projects and expected start and completion date that addresses everything?</p>
<p>Keep up the good work, is all i can say</p>
<p>More bike lanes connecting to fernleigh track at Adamstown, more Stockton ferry stops, 24hr off leash dog parks on the water, Dog beach at Cowry hole, more free parking in CBD, more affordable housing for over 65s, more social workers employed in public schools and libraries, more accommodation for people escaping FDV, more over 50s fitness clubs, performances/busking space at mereweather foreshore next to surf club, plant more street trees in the burbs, fund music instead of sport for a change, for quality control and accountability of building industry. Allow small dogs in apartments.</p>
<p>More footpaths and cycle ways to allow active movement is integral - and needed well before 2040. We need this now.</p>
<p>Newcastle needs more free parking in town or the business' will lose money because people aren't able to accessibly park or access their shops</p>
<p>No substance , full of bureaucratic phrases to meet the PC factions. All this does is promote the author's resume.</p>
<p><b>NO SUPERCARS IN OUR CITY EVER</b></p>
<p>One page and a header is not enough to address Newcastle's sustainability and climate plan. Approaching net 0 emissions is a herculean task, and this plan shows no effort to address how this is to be achieved. Please provide specifics regarding how you intent to achieve this. What % of energy production is from renewables? Is there a target to achieve 100% renewable energy consumption, and if so, when is this target due to compete? What strategies are in place to minimise emissions from transport, including the 1000s of busses, ambulances, police cars ect. currently used in Newcastle alone? Are there strategies in place to fund electric cars and create a safer environment for road bikes? Are there plans to increase/fund plastic recycling given the only resin codes currently recyclable in Newcastle are 1,2 and 5. Also given that this isn't very widely known, Will there be strategies in place to inform public on how to best recycle different plastics?</p>
<p>Overall, I feel that this plan is good and reflects the aspects of Newcastle that I would like to see improved. I would definitely love to see more cycleways and walking paths in Newcastle as well as increased public transport connecting the suburbs to the city. We need to reduce our reliance on travel by cars, as evidenced by the statistic that 73.3% of people are travelling to work by car. At present, the state of public transport means that most people can't rely on this mode of transport to get to and from work. I also believe that there needs to be a greater emphasis on affordable housing and strategies to combat climate change. I think we should try to accommodate more electric vehicles by having more electric charging stations throughout the greater Newcastle region. I would also love to see more urban greenery and forests, which will be crucial for suburban areas to remain cool during the hotter months. I would also love to see Newcastle achieve net zero emissions by 2030. In regards to a creative Newcastle, I think we definitely need more funding for the arts. Compared to capital cities, our art gallery is tiny and it would be great if this were expanded. It would also be great to have more local musicals, theatre, ballet, etc. This will bring more people to Newcastle and reduce the need to travel to capital cities.</p>
<p>Plan looks great - I particularly support the items under liveable Newcastle regarding continuing improvements to public transport and cycleways. For me, a lot of how I think of 'liveability' corresponds to not having to use a car and look for parking when I'm getting around for leisure or work.</p> <p>Under great spaces I would also encourage Council to continue to improve the various high streets of the city outside the city centre (eg Adamstown, Lambton) etc as with more people WFH I think they are being utilised more during the week and there is the potential for renewal at some of these locations with only a moderate amount of work being required. Hopefully this will facilitate commercial investment in these locations</p> <p>I also strongly support increased medium density residential (and appropriate high density) housing development. Newcastle is a great city and as many people should get to enjoy it as possible.</p>

Please look after the baths, the arts, stop allowing building ugly apartments. Don't waste anymore money on light rail. Just protect what we have and the people like me that grew up here and can't afford to live here anymore.

Please retain the sandy bottom in the Ocean Baths...

Public transport continues to evolve very slowly in Newcastle. Without using a car, it is time consuming and costly to get around town, especially from one centre to another (think Kotara to Charlestown) where cycling and walking just won't be appropriate. Cutting down or restricting access to parking is simply not the answer (locally, approving the building of 3 & 4 bedroom townhouses with 1 garage each is beyond comprehension). Although public housing is not Council's remit, you could use your planning powers to ensure that low cost housing is included in larger developments. This is not beyond council as others in NSW have done it.

Safer and more cycle ways and pedestrian walkways to promote healthier commuting

Stop spending money on marketing, electric vehicle recharging.

Fix existing infrastructure: King Edward is a joke full of pot holes, flooding drains, inadequate foot paths.

Submission for the Community Strategic Plan 2040

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 2040 Community Strategic Plan. It's clear that a huge amount of work has gone into this document and it's fantastic to see the huge increase in the number of community responses that went into compiling these priorities.

Overall my key suggestions for improvements are to increase the prioritisation of the sustainability components and to include more targets and indicators throughout the document.

I hope the following points will be of interest during the finalisation of the Plan.

Throughout the document

- Put the sustainable element listed and mentioned first throughout the document. Currently Livable is first but no amount of good planning will make the city livable if we don't urgently address the climate issue and associated extinction crisis.
- Include targets with a measurable indicator that's our current status and an increased target for that indicator by 2040 or even broken down into 5 or 10 year targets.
- Include more indicators throughout the document for council to use to monitor progress. I've made suggestions for what some of these indicators could be below.

Page 8 Our Commitments

- Our Planet should specifically refer to the fact that the planet has already been warmed by 1.1 degrees and Newcastle is already experiencing the impacts of climate change.
- Refer to the current global trajectory for global heating and the responsibility and urgency required to reverse this dangerous trend. Include that climate scientists have said we need to reduce our emissions by 75% by 2030 on 1990 levels.
- List Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders first and then Planet second

Pg 21. Liveable newcastle

- Include the 15 minute city that is also referenced in the draft regional plan
- Housing affordability should be more prominent as a goal of the plan

Suggestions to improve Community indicators:

look at a way of measuring loneliness and isolation

Include statistics on crime, imprisonment, homelessness, unemployment

Include median house prices and rental prices as well as location specific.

Include targets for the amount and types of affordable housing that CN will commit to.

Include measuring green space, urban heat effect measurement, public transport accessibility

Community and service indicators need to have a target that we are working towards for 2040.

Include the number kilometres of cycleways constructed per year.

Include indicator of canopy cover for road reserves and for the whole LGA

pg 25.Sustainable Newcastle:  
Include the net zero target date of 2040 for the city.

Community indicators:  
How does ironbark sustainability measure city wide emissions?  
Community and service indicators need to have targets that we are setting to achieve by 2040

Pg 29 Creative newcastle:  
Indicator improvement suggestions:  
Measure through the number of events held in the LGA?  
Local, state and federal grants awarded in Newcastle?

Vibrant night time economy:  
Measure through different types of venues open after 5pm?  
Measure police incidents on the streets in the evenings?  
Resident complaints about evening noise?

Thank you again. I'm looking forward to reading the other responses from the community  
Sincerely,

Thanks

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on this plan.

Our comment is a suggestion to improve the statistics used to refer to the community members who may have a diverse sexual orientation, sex, or gender identity on page 21. This study from the ABS outlines Mayfield East as one of the top 10 suburbs in Australia with the highest proportion of same sex couples. This is the only suburb on the list from within NSW which is outside of Sydney. The statistics within this page are from the 2016 census, and may provide more specific/recent information for you to relay in your plan which demonstrates the need for Newcastle to be a LGBTQIA+ friendly city.

<https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/2071.0main+features852016>

Thanks for thinking about the future if Newcastle and engaging the people

The Cancer Institute NSW is a Pillar organisation of NSW Health and provides the attached submission for consideration by Council staff.

General Manager  
Newcastle City Council  
PO Box 489  
NEWCASTLE NSW 2300

Dear General Manager,  
Re: Submission to Draft Newcastle 2040 Community Strategic Plan also to forthcoming Draft Delivery Program – regarding shade and UV protection

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Community Strategic Plan (CSP) recently prepared by Council. This letter should also be considered a submission to Council's forthcoming Delivery Program.

The Cancer Institute NSW (the Institute) is the state governments cancer control agency responsible for the delivery of the NSW Cancer Plan to reduce the incidence of cancer in NSW and the NSW Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy. The Institute works closely with key stakeholders with health and built environment expertise to reduce the incidence of skin cancer by improving access to adequate shade in NSW. The Institute also promotes sun protection and healthy lifestyle behaviours, including physical activity, which reduce the risk of certain cancers.

The Institute is committed to supporting your Council to reduce skin cancer and improving access to adequate shade in your LGA and has prepared the following submission that:

- outlines the importance of well-designed shade for the prevention of skin cancer
- offers specific comments and suggestions regarding the draft CSP and the forthcoming Delivery Program

- provides further information and contacts to assist Council in budgeting, planning, designing and constructing good quality shade.

#### 1. Skin cancer and shade in your LGA

Skin cancer is the most common cancer in Australia. At least 95 per cent of melanoma skin cancer are caused by overexposure to ultra-violet radiation (UVR) from the sun.<sup>1</sup> UVR is a carcinogen, and two in three Australians are expected to develop skin cancer before the age of 70.<sup>2</sup>

In your LGA, the incidence rate of melanoma in 2017 was 62.6 per 100,000 population, which was higher than the state average.

3

Across NSW, Bureau of Meteorology records show UVR levels are high enough to damage unprotected skin for at least 10 months of the year. Unlike temperature, UVR can't be seen or felt and damage to unprotected skin can still occur on cool or overcast days.

The good news is that skin cancer is highly preventable. In addition to personal protective behaviours (Slip Slop Slap Seek Slide), there is evidence that well-designed and correctly positioned shade, from both natural vegetation and built structures, can reduce exposure to UVR by up to 75 per cent.<sup>4</sup>

The provision of good quality shade is integral to assisting the community in reducing its exposure to UVR. However, quality shade needs to be planned, provided and maintained with careful thought if it is to be effective. This is where your Council can play an important role through the budgeting, planning, design and construction of good quality shade.

E22/01964~3

The flyer Shade: A planning and design priority that helps prevent skin cancer gives Council staff and Councillors an excellent overview of the benefits of well-designed shade.

#### 2. Specific comments regarding the draft CSP and forthcoming Delivery Program

The Institute recognises that the CSP is the highest level of planning undertaken for your LGA, and is a shared community vision that will inform Council's projects and programs for the next 10 years.

The Institute is concerned that shade is not mentioned in the CSP. It is suggested that the importance of built and natural shade is included in the following relevant CSP Priorities:

- 1.1 Enriched neighbourhoods and places  
1.3 Safe, active and linked movement across the city  
2.2 Nature-based solutions

To support this suggestion, Council may like to consider the following evidence:

1. The Institute is aware that the provision of shade to public spaces has consistently been a concern of the community over many years. For example, analysis in 2018 5 found that:

- around 41% of the NSW adult population always or often sought shade when they were out in the sun for more than 15 minutes between 11am and 3pm, although
- 35% of the population were not able to easily find shade in sporting areas; and
- people use shade when it is provided.

2. In recent Cancer Institute NSW research regarding benchmarking shade in NSW playgrounds (as yet unpublished), feedback from stakeholders indicated shade in community-based playgrounds to be extremely important, with specific feedback being:

- a desire for built shade to be used while waiting for immature trees to grow, and
- a desire to improve planning and design of playgrounds to match seasonal and regional variations with preference for some winter sun, and shade in summer to reduce heat.

The Institute suggests that Council, the CSP and forthcoming DP recognises that well-designed built and natural shade:

- is an asset that is critical to ensuring the health, comfort and well-being of your community, and has many benefits.
- should be provided in all public spaces including playgrounds, parks, recreation and sporting facilities, key footpaths and cycleways, town centres, adjacent to community buildings, within parking areas and at public transport approaches and waiting spaces including bus stops and train stations.
- is a natural hazard akin to heatwaves, floods and bushfires. As an explanation - overexposure to solar UV radiation is a meteorological hazard caused by the interaction of the sun, ozone and other natural processes. As explained earlier, this hazard is present in the region at levels high enough to damage unprotected skin for at least 10 months of the year. As such, UV radiation could be recognised as a natural hazard in the CSP.
- needs dedicated planning and budgeting. In this respect, the Institute recommends that the planning and construction of well-designed built and natural shade is recognised in Council's forthcoming Delivery Program (DP) – please also consider this letter as a submission to the draft DP.

E22/01964~3

The Institute also made a submission to Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) and is pleased that the importance of shade was recognised in this document. Hence it is appropriate that shade is likewise recognised in the CSP.

It is also noted that the draft Hunter Regional Plan recognises the role and importance of shade in public spaces, and contains a specific Strategy to require the provision of shade in development proposals. Hence it is appropriate that shade is also recognised in the CSP.

3. Further information and assistance regarding shade for all staff within council

The Institute's key message is that the provision of well-designed, appropriately located and properly budgeted built and natural shade is integral to assisting the community in reducing its over-exposure to UVR, and hence in reducing the risk of skin cancer in the community.

As such, the Institute will be pleased to provide support to Council that will assist in the planning, design and construction of shade. Some resources are provided in the Additional Information section below. Further

technical documents, information and assistance can be obtained from the Institute:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft CSP, and the forthcoming Delivery Program. Please keep the Institute informed as to the progress of the CSP, the Delivery Program and any further relevant policy or strategy related to shade.

Yours sincerely,  
28 February 2022

E22/01964~3

Copy: Hunter New England Local Health District

#### References

1. Arnold, M., de Vries, E., Whiteman, D. Jemal, A., Bray, F., Parkin, D, Soerjomataram, I., 2018. Global burden of cutaneous melanoma Attributable to ultraviolet radiation in 2012. International Journal of Cancer 3(6):395-401.
2. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2016. Skin cancer in Australia. Cat. no. CAN 96. Canberra: AIHW
3. Cancer Institute NSW Statistics Portal <https://www.cancer.nsw.gov.au/research-anddata/cancer-data-and-statistics/cancer-statistics-nsw#/>(Accessed February 10 2022)
4. Parsons, P., Neale, R., Wolski, P. & Green, A. 1998, The shady side of solar protection, Medical Journal of Australia, 168: 327-330.
5. Cancer Institute NSW 2021. Sun protection behaviours in target populations for skin cancer prevention: Analysis of the 2018 NSW Adult Population Health Survey

#### Additional information

General information about skin cancer, UV exposure and shade: [cancer.nsw.gov.au/shadeand-uv](https://www.cancer.nsw.gov.au/shadeand-uv)

Numerous resources for local government regarding planning and designing shade are available here <https://www.cancer.nsw.gov.au/prevention-and-screening/preventingcancer/preventing-skin-cancer/shade-and-uv-protection/helpful-shade-resources> , including the following:

- A 2 page summary about the benefits of shade (Cancer Institute NSW, 2019):  
Shade: A planning and design priority that helps prevents skin cancer.
- 
- Shade design - UV, climate and comfort (Cancer Institute NSW, 2020) – a 2 minute introductory video to designing effective shade
- Cancer Council NSW, 2013: Guidelines to Shade - A practical guide for shade development in New South Wales
- Shade Design Planning Considerations (Cancer Institute NSW, 2020)
- Shade Audits (Cancer Institute NSW, 2020) – flyer giving simple advice about how to conduct a shade audit
- Sunsmart's online Shade Comparison Check – an online shade audit
- Physical Shade Structures, Natural Shade and Shade Sails (Victoria State Government, Municipal Association of Victoria and SunSmart, undated)
- Shade Design for Public Places - selecting appropriate, innovative and cost effective shade measures (Municipal Association of Victoria, undated)

E22/01964~3

- Shade: A Resource for Local Government (Municipal Association of Victoria, undated)
- How schools, councils, community groups and sporting organisations created shade: 10 Case Studies (Cancer Institute NSW, 2015)
- NSW Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy (Cancer Institute NSW, 2017)
- Health and wellbeing statistics, including data at LGA level: [healthstats.nsw.gov.au](https://healthstats.nsw.gov.au)
- UV radiation index widgets available for locations across Australia
- Australian Standard AS 4174:2018 : Knitted and woven shade fabric

The objectives of this council should be

Fix the terrible roads  
Clear up the graffiti  
Regenerate Beaumont Street  
CCTV  
More oarkibgu

The plan for transport is great - I really hope there is an actual commitment to making buses and public transport genuinely effective. The past few years have seen my commute to work go from one fifteen minute bus ride to two buses that take me an hour and ten minutes. I also hope bike paths are well connected and not placed here and there in quiet areas while expected bike riders to still have to use the incredibly dangerous main roads. Lastly the plans for public places sounds great in principle, but I sincerely hope these public places remain truly public. The image of the baths used worries me because when a government invests money in something non-essential it is usually with a view to get something back from it. Instigating some form of pay wall to the public baths would be devastating for Newcastle. Not only would it make the baths yet another public service only truly accessible to the wealthy, it would allow such a rich part of Newcastle's culture to die. I truly hope future plans for Merewether and Newcastle Baths do not involve taking away one of the only natural public sanctuaries left for the people of Newcastle.

The Plan looks excellent -- it's thorough, thoughtful and productively appropriate for our unique and beautiful local area. Please, please, please just stop Supercars; having the race in the city is antithetical to everything in this Strategic Plan, is moving the City backward rather than forward, and is negatively impacting the health and well-being of our own citizens.

The plan looks great, fantastic themes and quite modern and forward thinking. The only thing I think is a weakpoint, and it is an important one is the targets. I think it is a cop out to use 'trending upward' or 'trending downward' If you have a bold plan you should have bold targets and be willing to stand by them. Especially think 30% carbon and greenhouse gas reduction by 2025 is not strong enough, why not 50% and then 100% by 2028?

The Save Link Road Forest Community Group strongly supports the Newcastle 2040, It's Our Future: Draft Community Strategic Plan priorities and objectives of 2.1 Action on Climate Change and 2.2 Nature-Based Solutions. Further, these priorities and objectives embellish elements of the 2.3 Circular Economy, and the Liveable (1), Creative (3), and Achieving Together (4) suite of priorities and objectives.

In flagging our support for the Plan it is recognised that a focus on saving urban, and adjacent forest (not reduction) needs to be addressed alongside 2.2.1 regenerate natural systems and 2.2.2 Expand the urban forest. Notes in support of the Plan include:

1. Clearing native vegetation to provide land for development is not ecologically sustainable. The biodiversity and climate change impacts of land clearing for urban development are sufficient justification to stop further land clearing.
2. There is an urgent need to discuss the land use of remaining lands in the face of catastrophic biodiversity loss and climate change.
3. Indeed, the resolution at COP26 in Glasgow is to halt land clearing by 2030.
4. The draft plan supports many of the 17 UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals including, but not exclusive to:
  - a. Life on Land (15)
  - b. Climate Action (13)
  - c. Responsible Production & Consumption (12)
  - d. Sustainable Cities & Communities (11)
  - e. Reduced inequalities (10) For too long surrounding vegetation, a marker of wellbeing, has been a marker of higher socioeconomic status.
  - f. Clean Water and Sanitation (6) [yes, forests contribute to this].
  - g. Good health & Wellbeing (3)

Newcastle City Council's (NCC) commitment to the UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals is peppered throughout the Newcastle 2040 Plan, and indeed, are integral to it, including in:

- o Our Lord Mayor, Nuatali Nelmes' welcome address (p. 6)
  - o The local to global vision (p. 32)
  - o A commitment to the Goals outlined on pages 34, 68 & 70. And,
  - o Advocacy for the Hunter Region Sustainable Development Goals Taskforce (p.62).
5. There is an inherent antagonism between Sustainable Development, and the saving of our remaining forest needs to be acknowledged and discussed bearing in mind that the saving of the intricacies of healthy biodiversity correlates with healthier communities. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40572-021-00313-9> . Saving remaining forests close to urban settings is a good fit for Priority and Objectives 1.1 Enriched neighbourhoods and places.
6. Saving biodiversity compliments plans that support Aboriginal communities given the integral synergies between connection to the land, sustainable land practices, and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander culture.



Saving biodiversity supports ecocentric communities more generally.

7. Australia has one of the lowest housing densities in the world with Newcastle having only 30% of dwellings at medium or high density(p. 22). As such, there is a discussion to be had about the use of remaining land and how to develop housing sustainably.

<https://profile.id.com.au/australia/dwellings#:~:text=Analysis%20of%20the%20types%20of,the%20Greater%20Capital%20Cities%20respectively.>

Once more, in supporting the Plan it is noted that a focus on saving urban, and adjacent forest (not reduction) needs to be a focus alongside 2.2.1 regenerate natural systems and 2.2.2 Expand the urban forest.

Yours sincerely, on behalf of Save Link Road Forest Community Group

M:

The strategy is really impressive - well done! The alignment with key priorities, SDGs and inclusion of indicators is excellent and allows for clear accountability but importantly, capacity to measure change. The inclusion of data sources and indices adds legitimacy and transparency and there is an opportunity to expand those to be more specific. E.g. community consultation and cultural impacts as a way of measuring inclusivity, health equity measures (see NSW Health 'Healthy Built Environment Checklist').

The plan on a page is great, inclusion of the indicators on the page would help to link and signal that the specific changes/ goals to be achieved (this would add credibility instead of 'words').

Overall, it's really great, look forward to seeing the operational plans that come out of this.

This is not a "survey" and should not be referred to as such. You are requesting feedback on a very complex 42 page document which has been posted on FB when receivers are on holidays. They are therefore not likely to see it, have time or take the time to review and be involved. As you have the email contacts of rate payers and others who have previously partaken in CN community issues and those who are connected to CN's What's On site , why is the link not sent directly to them ?

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Waste management - compost or kitchen house hold waste options, such as those in the Byron shire, Coffs Harbour council or the FOGO bins in Sydney's eastern suburbs. This helps reduce our landfill, educate about waste management and support sustainable eating practices. I have attached an opinion piece on this that I was interviewed for a few years ago at my local council.

Public transport options - continue to expand public transport access, such as Melbourne CBD with free trams in the city to encourage night life activities to help stimulate the economy and enhance use with Newcastle public transport.

We need another dog beach!!! We are the largest non capital city in Australia and we have one small dog beach as big as a 'horse shoe'. Susan Gillmore Beach could be a dog beach. OR South Newcastle Beach also. Please look at Port Stephens and Port Macquarie botht have dog beaches more than Newcastle. Its a disgrace as we are a beach city and there needs to be a PLAN to accommodate dog owners and our beach lifestyle. Newcastle Council appear to be anti dog..... Better planning for 2040 and dog beach access for a growing beach city and families.

We need more sporting fields and we need to improve the fields that we have. We need more sporting complexes to encourage active recreation, not tiny spaces with art and tables and chairs. We don't need more places to sit still. As more apartments are being built people need space to exercise. Fix up the existing sporting fields, get them decent lights, toilets, change rooms, provide more all weather options.

When Consulting community consult widely not just with people who will give you the response you want. Be more transparent with finances.

Leave the sandy bottom at Newcastle Ocean Baths. Listen to the community and rate papers who use the facility

While I agree that A Community Strategic Plan is required however I disapprove with not incorporating our history because Newcastle has lost so much history already in the name of progress. Leaving the facade of a building instead of the entire building in my opinion is criminal other Australian States have managed to blend the old in with the new. Take a look at Newcastle's history trains were stopped from going to Newcastle Station (Our wonderful Veterans returned home to that Station) we now have a tram that goes nowhere (waste of money) Failing to redevelop the world pool and open up the inground pool (in Newcastle Arcade) is a disgrace. Fort Scratchley could also become a working fort (tourist attraction and included all the tunnels including the one that goes from Nesca Pde under the main road to the beach.). Look around there is a lot of things that would draw tourism to Newcastle. Another thing that annoys me is that Affordable Housing is the only Housing planned for it should also include Public Housing is completely separate housing and owned by the tax payer. Sorry had to voice my disappointment in our local Council but everyone knows that if you give people a reason to visit tourism will pick up.

Whilst there is some great initiatives within the draft plan, it is disappointing to read that the local housing crisis is deemed not CONs responsibility to act upon. Then even more disappointing reading that no action has been taken from the LHS - see below.

There is a strong and evolving international evidence base indicating that local communities can affect positive change, and i believe, as the state government will not act, it is the responsibility of council to lead and act to support people experiencing homelessness and those under housing stress. Housing is a human right and the foundation for a person's positive wellbeing. By not acting, the CON is skirting it's very own social justice principles, and failing the community that they are responsible to. I hope to see housing move up the list of priorities within the final plan.

#### "Implementation and Monitoring

The LHS complements our Local Strategic Planning Statement and Community Strategic Plan. Future review of the Local Housing Strategy will align with the scheduled review of the Local Strategic Planning Statement and Community Strategic Plan, which is undertaken every four years.

The LHS will be implemented through the actions outlined in the Implementation Plan, which is integrated with CN's other work practices, policies and programs. The Implementation Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis.


Why couldn't we keep the. Railway line to Newcastle. We are looking to much like. Sydney i dont. Like. It I use. To go in to Newcastle but. Not any more I don't. Go. Out of. My way. I

Unless if I have to It makes me so sad 😞 to see no trains in to Newcastle it's self I think. Bring train line. Back In Newcastle please

You'd better be God damn planning for climate change and rising sea levels. Get Declan off the damn rainbow crosswalks and onto the things that will futureproof the city. The climate is already going tits up and it'll only get worse. Buckle up for in a year or two when it couples with El Niño (yeah I got Spanish on yo ass) and the electricity grid is cooked and the oldies are dying like a 22 degree day in England.



## Appendix IV – Competition entry form



Please answer the below questions to enter our competition for a \$500 Visa gift card.  
[Terms and conditions](#)

\* Which Newcastle 2040 priority is most important to you? (please select one priority)

<input type="radio"/> Liveable - Enriched neighbourhoods and places	<input type="radio"/> Creative - Vibrant and creative city
<input type="radio"/> Liveable - Connect and fair communities	<input type="radio"/> Creative - Opportunities in jobs, learning and innovation
<input type="radio"/> Liveable - Safe, active and linked movement across the city	<input type="radio"/> Creative - Celebrating culture
<input type="radio"/> Liveable - Innovative and connected city	<input type="radio"/> Creative - City shaping partnerships
<input type="radio"/> Sustainable - Action on climate change	<input type="radio"/> Achieving together - Inclusive and integrated planning
<input type="radio"/> Sustainable - Nature based solutions	<input type="radio"/> Achieving together - Trust and transparency
<input type="radio"/> Sustainable - Circular economy	<input type="radio"/> Achieving together - Collaborative and innovative approach

\* What would success from this priority look like? (100 words or less)

Your response

1000

**Optional**

You may also upload a photo that visually displays what success from this priority would look like.  
[Photo upload terms and conditions.](#)

Choose a picture

Next >

So we can notify the winner, please provide your contact details below:

\* Name:

Your response 200

\* Phone:

Your response 200

\* Email:

Your response 200

Next >

## Appendix V – What success looks like - verbatim responses

Enriched neighbourhoods and place Based on the 12% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority
A sense of belonging to a community for residents. Enriched with events that will bring people together and to help each other. Outdoor recreational facilities and playgrounds for families to get children out of the house and away from screens. More community gardens to grow food. Encouragement of the use of bicycles, which would entail more safety features for cyclists on the road.
Affordable housing, activities, more commercial opportunities and support
Amazing walks and rides that stretch all throughout and pass through beautiful public spaces with clean amenities available on the way.
Beautifying roads and neighbourhoods with more trees and flowering bushes. Cooks Hill area currently achieves this with jasmine along road crossings which make the neighbourhood shared areas feel softer and welcoming.
Better green spaces and parks for people and pets. Use of local Indigenous artists to create murals in areas that have been graffitied
Better sporting facilities, more active open space and all weather options open to the community.
Cheaper rent and build more places to live for Australians to experience the lifestyle and scenery of Newcastle.
Connected and inclusive neighbourhoods with equal access to facilities and recreational opportunities.
Council being downsized by at least 25%. All activities not expressly required by legislation terminated. All remaining "services" eg garbage collection and roads maintenance outsourced through competitive tender. Rates reduced by at least 25%.
Each suburb having their own main street that has a vibrant village/community feel. Coffee shops, food, essential services within walking distance of most houses. Modernised but preserving history where appropriate.
Enhanced community spaces across the city which draw people together. Great parks for all ages, accessible areas, entertainment venues, sporting areas. Making them attractive for community groups or entertainment providers would want to utilise them. Also making sure they are respectful to nature and traditional owners, and accessible for those with different abilities.
Great places to live and fantastic places to visit
Green spaces that are well looked after with play equipment, gym equipment routes, bins along walk ways, grass along medium strips and parks maintained, protected streets with safe roads and repaired roads,
Having more parks and recreational areas where you can go to and have a picnic or lunch, add more seating areas (mini parks) adjacent to small local convenience stores coffee shops or fish and chip shops so people can have lunch or a snack there. Bid on events to come to Newcastle so it will attract more tourist into the town and boost the economy to help recover from covid.
I envisage multiple community shared spaces linking suburbs with a common purpose. The dog park at Waratah is a perfect example of a successful community space where from all over Newcastle come to meet up, socialise and share a common purpose (dogs). I can imagine by 2040, more and more pockets spaces across Newcastle to encourage people to come together with a shared interest, whether that may be birds, books, computers, cooking, pets, social media, gardening etc. I feel like the community needs a support network where we can escape and do something different in our day. For example, I would love to see more community gardens around the city where strangers can share a common goal and interest. There are too many lonely people in the world. Free, cost effective spaces encourage community bonding and as an added bonus. As well as endless produce! I believe bringing people together in safe, comfortable spaces (outdoor in indoor) is what NCC should be focused on for 2040.

I'd like to see our bushlands see more funding for safe but also challenging recreation. I.e, have an excavator assigned to mountain bike trail maintenance in Glen rock/jesmond and Wallsend bushlands. Like the Harbour bridge. Start to finish then repeat. World class trails are easily achievable for less then \$500k a year. See East Coast Mountainbike trails at Dungog and anywhere
Investments in smaller or older suburbs to ensure there is public spaces accessible for all.
Just STOP concerning every recreational area left to the CBD. I was part of the working to 2030 workshops so just a total waste of time as council has its own agenda and takes no notice of the public and the people who use and love many of the pools and recreation areas.
Less residential development and more public use spaces. The Newy East won't be revived with just more apartments alone.
Looking at maintenance and improvement in outer suburbs as well. I'm in Maryland and the outdoor areas really need more regular maintenance. Some of the grassed areas aren't safe with snakes etc due to height. More maintain gardens, paths would be a value add.
Make more hubs in local suburbs like parks and cafes instead of all in the one place
More affordable housing would definitely encourage enriched, vibrant neighbourhoods tht maintain their Newcastle charm
More community spaces like parks and upgraded facilities at parks. More local events
more community spaces, resources, etc. in the suburbs, e.g. farmers markets, more opportunities for community and family activities. better access from the suburbs to hubs, e.g. Glendale, Broadmeadow, etc. Developing the 2287 electorate, as it's such a large and growing population with such few services
More designated event spaces
More free community activities in suburbs that bring people together. Better roads - there are a lot of potholes on suburban streets
More green ( grass and shade trees). No more concrete and bitumin in CBD. People need open green space as families increasingly populate our CBD. Already approximately a third of Foreshore Park and Camp Shortland
More parks with actual gardens planted with actual flowers the way parks use to have
More parks, open spaces, outdoor dining options connected to those open spaces
More village renewal projects, connected spaces for people to go within their local neighborhoods. The 20 minute walking factor is great. People need more than ever outdoor spaces due to covid. Could you design an amphitheater outdoors for more opportunities. Civic Park or Foreshore Park? Gregson Park or Lambton Park? They are amazing places. This could host more outdoor events connecting neighborhoods to places.
No graffiti, new benches, bins etc. more plants and trees. Eyesores prioritised. Civic pride
People interacting and sharing with respect for others area.
Providing opportunities for people to enjoy life beyond the everyday routines
Rich and enabled communities to interact and enjoy nice and well equipped community spaces, safe and easily accessible.
Spaces for kids to play safely, environmental plans, cultural understanding
Thinking of the people who live here not the people visiting the focus needs to be is not them
Upgrades to roads in congested new areas ( Maryland , fletcher , minmi areas )
Vibrant and energetic community spaces.
Well maintained infrastructure including community streetscapes and public domain areas. This leads to community pride and social cohesion.
What had the pandemic taught us? Get outside with your kids. So family friendly spaces to be outside where kids can run and be out in the open.
😊

Connected and fair communities
Based on the 5% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority
A safe and well-maintained integrated walkway/cycleway along all arterial routes around the city, catering for both leisure seekers and those commuting to work.
affordable housing, trying to find a house to rent these days is very very hard.
Being able to afford to live here.
Clear and transparent development that is community centred (not developer or \$\$ centred). A focus on sustainable public transport and the importance of place and space to help communities thrive. A mix of public and private housing in all new developments.
Connecting Newcastle with Sydney city by way of an express fast train
Creative, educational, social and employment opportunities for vulnerable populations including people with disabilities, people with a lived experience of mental illness, and people with complex backgrounds eg refugees. Our city should embrace and value its varied community, and provide opportunities for all to thrive. Programs to increase opportunities for people to participate in art and cultural events, vocational courses eg certificate 3 qualifications in various industries with NDIS support, and inclusion of people with disabilities in decision making and local government consultation would be a positive step towards achieving these goals. In addition to 1.22, incorporating these strategies with goal 3.21 could provide inspiring and creative opportunities for our whole community to share a sense of pride and ownership of our culturally rich city.
Diverse fair communities that have fairness in all communities. And a safe liveable city with decent public transport and plenty of parking. Also sustainable and green not reliant on fossil fuels for work and money.
I think it would be fantastic to have towns such as Wallsend, Glendale, Jesmond, Lambton etc. (places at the further end from Newcastle CBD) to be connected via public transport. This will help not only the lower socioeconomic bracket to access the perks of inner Newcastle and the beach, but also may help to reduce the traffic congestion that appears to be getting worse and worse as the city grows.
Less watching the trams going up and down and we lost a whole lane and parking! Money spent on baths and the cultural precinct. The Newcastle I remember and love being looked after and if I can't afford to live here anymore don't charge me to enter or park near the baths or beaches! Stop making Newcastle for elite rich white people.
Local communities and businesses given priority. Major events restricted to 1 or 2 days and minimal impact on typical community operations
Newcastle has the brains, heart and soul to be able to confidently embrace a sustainable future while making sure everyone is participating and no one is left behind.
Physically accessible facilities and suburbs that encourage diversity and engagement as well as vibrant and economically viable businesses. Strong social culture where we look after each other and create opportunities for everyone- CALD, LGBTI with disability etc.
Success, calmer community with job opportunities and free training & education. To transform the culture into with move innovation & art displays. To develop the culture with the care of climate change.
There is a major housing crisis in Newcastle. Rental properties are almost nonexistent and prices are inflated. We need more affordable housing options for renters. Also, housing and support options for vulnerable people: homeless, escaping domestic family violence, mental health issues, etc
universal basic income, housing for all, stop climate change, defund the police, no more deaths in custody, buses more frequent than once an hour
uplifting communities for better equality and affordability across the city

<b>Safe, active and linked movement across the city.</b>
Based on the 22% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority
A city teeming with people more so on weekends proving that Newcastle is worth visiting. Connecting museum, art galleries, cafes, retail actions all suburbs with transport to assist in this.
A decent public transport network. It took me 1.5 hours to get from Tighes Hill to Belmont for my COVID jobs. Not an acceptable amount of time for a disabled person with chronic pain issues. A lot of stops also don't have seats or the seats are falling apart. Also put a speeding camera in Elizabeth Street Tighes Hill because no one does 40kmph
A good, efficient bicycle commuting network across the city. Safety on major roads with proper bike lanes. Not just for recreation (eg the cycle way Islington to the beach) but efficient and quick (one that doesn't add on significant KMs for the privilege of safety). This will encompass other talking points of the above options, including sustainability, better parking and access
A highly accessible and utilised public transport network that is a novocastrians first choice for mode of transport, is economical and efficient. Cycleways are plentiful and ebikes and scooters are encouraged. Nighttime safety is prioritised particularly on Tuesday, Wed, Fri and Sat nights. Connected safety points are available across the city. Restaurants and nightlife are encouraged with links to theatre and the arts.
A lot of roads in Newcastle lack side walks to safely walk along. I would also like to see improved roads, we have a lot of streets that have pots holes
A young family vibe, while the University students are still living around here. It would make families want to stick around longer rather than being overtaken by construction or older people
Ability to travel across the Newcastle area easier to access shops and restaurants without having to drive yourself there. Bigger carparks to allow this more would be good too
Accessible roads and transit between litter suburbs and inner with bicycle paths, healthy clean playgrounds, skate parks, greenery, tennis walls and lit up areas.
Affordable connecting transport from airports to city to suburbs
An expanded and road-separated cycleway network that reaches into the Wallsend town centre, and additionally I think bike racks on busses would create new options for travellers within the city
An expanded network to encourage more residents to participate in active modes of transportation, especially cycling infrastructure. Connection of existing pathways and adding new and safe pathways to connect to existing ones. Have a target of new kilometres added per year. Set aside a dedicated annual budget for active modes of transport.
An improved public transport system supporting people with disabilities. A better cycleway network.
Being able to use different types of transport to be able to traverse Newcastle and not waiting hours to do so.
Being easily able to move to and fro mayfield, the city UoN campus and the UoN Callahan campus via public transport, without long wait times between buses which make public transport current too unreliable for me to use
Best regional city in the country.
Better cycling routes across the city, safer roads and safer streets where women can walk freely and safely without fear of crime. Having inviting and comfortable streets invite people to engage with existing (and potentially new) venues, events and occasions - without the constraints and safety and finance. The abolition of cars in favor of public transport or zero emissions transport will allow people to experience and connect with the Newcastle environment, instead of engaging with tarmac.
Better public transport links, extending the light rail network.
Bike path up the middle of parkway avenue linking Hamilton to bar beach, making it safe for children from three schools to ride to school. Light rail extended to JHH and Uni
Children being able to play outside without fear. Parents feeling comfortable with their community to allow this.
Complete network of off road bike tracks making Newcastle the flagship active city of Australia. Linked with expanded public transport



<p>Connected footpaths especially in suburban areas. In New Lambton, for example, it's almost impossible to walk anywhere on one, single path, without crossing a road or needing to go across grassy front yards. Pathways and cycle ways encourage more active movement but also generate greater community togetherness where everyone can enjoy the local area.</p>
<p>Council improving footpath and bike path connections around the city and public transport connections too.</p>
<p>Currently Newcastle's outer suburbs feel disconnected from the core of the city. It feels like there are serious gaps in public transport, which can make life difficult for many and creates this disconnect to the core of the city and many surrounding suburbs. A look into these gaps and a revision of public transport would more accurately help us to achieve this.</p>
<p>Cycling and Pedestrian traffic becomes the majority transport within the city.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The quickest route for most journeys is the bike path, with cars taking longer routes. Bike paths through parks and scenic areas. Cars and bikes are disentangled, different road networks for different types of traffic, with filtered permeability for bikes and pedestrians.</li> <li>- Shared roads with cars and bikes have a 30 or 40km speed limit, with pedestrian and bike priority over cars at intersections. Protected bike lanes.</li> <li>- Wide bike paths to allow sharing with mobility scooters, pedestrians and bikes.</li> <li>- Kids are able to cycle or walk to school - the more people on cycleways, the more "eyes on the street" making parents feel safer in letting kids get themselves around. This means more independence for kids and less "soccer mum" journeys.</li> <li>- Encouragement through zoning for more local shopping beyond major centers. Community coffee shops and general stores in smaller neighborhoods.</li> <li>- More bike lockups</li> </ul>
<p>Cycling around the city on a connected cycleway</p>
<p>Designated cycleways into the CBD. Tram line extended to mayfield.</p>
<p>ELECTRIC SCOOTERS! Newcastle is the perfect place for the NSW government to trial the use of electric scooters. We already have the infrastructure in place like wide paths for both pedestrians and scooters, it would complement the light rail, and make it so much easier to access parts of the city. And it's sustainable! Loads of people in Newcastle use them already (albeit illegally) so the demand is there!</p>
<p>Ensuring public open space and natural assets such as beaches and bush lands are accessible to the broader community and not locked up by commercial events.</p>
<p>Extending the light rail throughout Darby Street &amp; The Junction with more speed!</p>
<p>Fast, direct public transport to avoid use of private vehicles. Shifting public views on using transport in this city.</p>
<p>Feeling safer at night with more security cameras and more safe bike paths</p>
<p>Foot/Cycle etc Bridges to link suburbs away from roads/cars/trucks.</p>
<p>If interconnected bike and pedestrian pathways were more important than cars we would talk more, live longer, have less stress and more experiences of nature. We can do this now and change the future of our city.</p>
<p>Improved access and facilities for disabled</p>
<p>Improved bike and walking paths. This means under/overpasses and space to move safely without the need to cross roads multiple times on your journey. Where cars are necessary consider parking as a priority. There is no use being able to drive close to your destination if there is insufficient AFFORDABLE parking. In regards to light rail the speed and lack of line means that it is somewhat useless at the moment. Either commit to an improved infrastructure, more lines south bound into the city (perhaps to the start of Beaumont, without the need to change trains, and Darby street) increase the speed which may require the restriction of cars. Again this idea needs to be committed to seriously or remove the line. A half way solution is no solution. In regards to busses and the ferry these services are great. Perhaps the improvement for busses would be small shelters for those exposed stops so people don't need to stand out in the elements. A simple lean to or similar would suffice.</p>
<p>Increased transportation into the city centre. For example, proper bike lanes/paths, extended light rail into surrounding suburbs.</p>
<p>It would mean that you are able to get across Newcastle easily and safely. This would lead to a more robust nightlife, similar to Melbourne</p>
<p>Less break ins, feeling safer within home areas.</p>

Less cars and other options being affordable and accessible for all. Green spaces and spaces that promote and invite outdoor leisure and activity time. Local businesses supported so they can thrive. Also would love to see innovation come from within both planning and the building.
Less focus on bike lanes and more on the way most ppl move - by car. Bike transport is not suitable or appropriate for everyone.
Less pinch zone in high traffic areas, lower public transport fees
Less traffic lights, less traffic congestion, more flow.
Light rail to be extended to cover McDonald Jones stadium
Linked to sustainability and nature based solutions by including all we can to make Newcastle a place for the future generations to enjoy. Not being short sighted. Making Newy a place where all people can access, learn, live and love.
Lots of outdoor events...markets, surf comps, buskers, events on the harbour etc. Vibrant nightlife with atmosphere created with fairy lights and laser lighting. Bike access around the city..not stop and start unlinked sections. Free parking on the city on weekends. Free parking if dining in Cbd.
Low crime rates and ease of movement for all across the city
More bike paths so people can ride safely that are not shared with pedestrians. Think Berlin style and also Canberra. I can ride around the whole of Canberra without once going on the road.
More investment into prioritising and actually constructing a better shared pathway network, including bringing forward already planned construction of shared pathways in the network
More people being able to travel comfortably into the centre of newcastle from outer suburbs. Using the city of Amsterdam as inspiration - a city where whole families can ride into the city from all corners, and safely enjoy everything Newcastle has to offer.
More police stations and active patrols in our communities to keep us safer and have much better response times to crime. Early intervention and an affordable range of programs for childcare, separated parents and women experiencing domestic violence. Safe, active and linked community involves feeling secure in your own neighbourhood and surroundings, where there is accessible transport, safe housing and a real connection to community based programs. We need more infrastructure and forward planning in our outer suburbs in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie in line with the population growth and spread of new housing which has generated ongoing need for more liveable communities. They need to be not only affordable to purchase a home or build a new one, yet it is crucial to provide public transport, adequate roads with schooling, shopping and medical facilities nearby for a complete link to all community interaction.
More tourism and easier transport around the city, more people get out and visit more attractions, restaurants, local shops and less fumes from cars etc due to more and easier transport through the WHOLE of Newcastle
More walkways, cycle ways and family & social friendly spaces to enjoy for markets, play & creativity
My current commute to work is an hour and ten minutes on two separate buses. It is a ten minute drive by car. 'Safe, active and linked movement across the city' would be literally any improvement on this.
No Supercars
Not be ashamed to bring visitors to our to our main st the harbour and beaches are wonderful but no parking on weekends and elderly do not want to get out of cars to get on the under used rail a better bus service
Off road cycle backbones along the Styx, beside the inner city bypass and from Adamstown to the John Hunter via Blackbutt/March st reserve FTTP for all homes in the Newcastle area
People feel safe wherever they are. Reduced number of crimes. Easy transports for everyone to go everywhere.
People would be able to access safe linked pubic transport to get rid of the major polluter of our city, which is cars.

Providing safe separated cycling infrastructure along all major commuter routes so that more people would be encouraged to leave the car home. These would link in with public transport, which would be enhanced to facilitate integration between the two. Cycling, walking and public transport, if facilitated properly, have the power to deliver all of the livability benefits desired by the community.

Slowing traffic speeds is also vital, so as to make streets friendlier and more inviting to pedestrians and cyclists. Of course, this is also good for business.

See how this looks on Darby Street (image attached).

Regular and affordable public transport

Repairing broken street lights, adding bus routes to areas without them, continuing the light rail project.

Safe communities and transport options. Transport that is easily accessible and connected to outer suburbs not just the city e.g. trams and bike lanes/tracks

Safe, active and linked movement means that there is a true sense of community and everyone works together to help each other, be environmentally considered to ourselves and neighbours which creates community and belonging. Linked movement is having the choice of transport to be walking, bike riding, public transport and as a true last option, car. I love this city and the changes I have seen over the last 20 years and look forward to seeing my home evolve over the next 20 years

SAfe, happy, easy to move around for all types of people and lifes challenges. Therefore well maintaied roads, foothpaths and parking. Good interlinked public transport for all suburbs.

Safe, linked, clean cycle ways and walkways from one main interest point to another all the way across Newcastle.

Safer bike paths and more safe routes

Significantly increase: A) the percentage of people that walk/cycle instead of driving for return journeys of 10km or less, B) the percentage of primary + secondary students who walk/cycle/scoot/skate to school. A network of cycle/scooter paths that is within 500m or less of every home and that connects to ALL shops/schools/beaches/parks. A big increase in pedestrian-priority crossings (include speed humps before them). Bike paths that are not in the driver-door zone of parked cars. Secure bike parking. New office buildings to have showers. Reduce the speed limit to 30km/h near schools/shops/beaches/residential areas/Darby St/Beaumont St. The building of traffic calming measures (widening corner curbs/narrowing lanes/ bollards) so that drivers' behaviour is changed; speed limits alone are ineffective, drivers will still exceed them + take corners too quickly. These measures will foster safer streets + give more power to vulnerable road users who are at the bottom of the the hierarchy.

Success to me means places around the city feels connected and accessible with safe public transport

Supercars every year raving around the east end

That cycling safely becomes a priority.

The ability to access inner-city Newcastle without a car and in a timely fashion. The ability to walk between bars and cafes of an evening worth a vibrant streetscape.

There are many safe cycleways for families to use but they're not linked very well. For example to get from the end of the FLT to Bathers Way is challenging with kids and not very safe. Better connectivity for vulnerable road users would encourage better use of the existing network.

There is no doubt in my mind having lived over 75 years in cities both in Australia and abroad that accessible transport is what makes a city connect. Make a huge effort to take public transport to where people want to go and the rest will follow at our fabulous beaches for instance. Hopping of a bus right at bondi beach is a million dollar experience for families who otherwise simply can't get out, same with our parks and lakes. That's what gives buzz to a city in my humble opinion having lived joyously here for 12 fabulous years. The light rail is good but I want to get off at the beach not a huge walk to it. We have buses and roads so let's get cracking

Traffic management and proper road planning before opening new housing estates.

Fletcher/Minmi/Maryland is an ABSOLUTE JOKE!! WHAT A NIGHTMARE AND CASH GRAB!!! RESIDENTS ARE FURIOUS!!!

Transport and all pickups around the harbour.

Transport that is efficient so you can connect with other parts of Newcastle easily. At the moment I can't get a bus from Merewether to the top of town. Such a short trip and I have to get two buses. Of course I take the car.
Updated parks and community facilities. Good affordable transport. Community events.
Welcoming and bright suburb precincts. Good lighting, mixed businesses. Safe pathways and road crossings. Healthy street flora and fauna.
Well lit streets. Local police. Close by regular Transport to/Fri m city and between six burns & Lake Macquarie. Well maintained streets & parks. Cameras and repercussions for crime. Confidence to walk the streets at night.
Where commuter car use is down to 50% or less, where public transport is effective and fast between centres.
would like to see more free parking for high pedestrian areas to make it more appealing EG parking around scratchlys and improved transport such as light rail

<b>Innovative and connected city</b>
Based on the 5% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority
A fast train from Newcastle to Sydney we need this it would open up Newcastle
Better public transport, more bike lanes for safer riding,
Bike stands where you can pick up a free bike and cycle to where you are going. When you arrive you drop the bike at the neatest bike stand. When you want to go home you pick up another bike and off you go.
Build the light rail going down Darby street
Creating easy movements for tourists place to place
Creative National and regional events, more hospitality and European type culture with shared outdoor spaces and socialising. Better public transport and non car ways of connecting.
Every suburb in newcastle being able to get into newcastle , foreshore and beaches with good transportation
Getting more people into the city through the week and over the weekends. Bringing back that buzz around Newcastle!
Good public transport links across the city linking all the cities neighbourhoods A city that embraces the changing world and creates new and challenging jobs.
Industry Transition- This is perhaps the most important part of Newcastle's transition over the next twenty years and was given a single paragraph summary. More support needs to be offered to support this transition as the 'grab' at Hyrdrogen is a gamble that hundreds of other cities around the world are attempting simultaneously. A divestment roadmap needs to be created to attract other alternatives and effectively diversify Newcastle's export potential. Yes, the services sector now makes up a large portion of Newcastle's local economy, however as a state, national and global city the cities exports must be recognised as a priority
Innovative industries, creative shared spaces, connected bike and walking tracks. Shareable gardens. Limited high rise. Inclusive of Awabakal culture and history. Quick rail connection to Sydney, Melbourne. Airport national and international flights with streamlined connection from Newcastle, Port Stephens and the greater Hunter. flights
Leading the country with imaginative technology
Making the whole of Newcastle, look good and function well, suiting business and community alike. A city to be proud of with good services, transport, new development that is not overcrowded (which is happening all too often NOW!!!!!!) I am not referring to high rise so much, it can be 4 townhouses on 1 large block which generates parking needs for 8 cars. On street parking congestion is becoming a major problem. Roads in new estates are too narrow, this cruels livability.
Reduced barriers and interconnectibility with Sydney
Renewable energy infrastructure across council properties. Higher upfront investment but longer term will save costs, create jobs to maintain that infrastructure helping Newcastle spearhead innovation not only for the hunter and NSW but for Australia. Thereby attracting talent and innovators.
Revitalising the CBD area, expanding the tram line, affordable parking, incentives for businesses to open up shop in the CBD
Take on ideas that stem from Brisbane CBD; electric scooter/bicycle hire in designated areas, purpose-built walkways with walking/running paths each side left and right, cycle ways in middle of walking paths, more plant and tree instalments, coloured LED lights on bridges, projected art onto hill faces and sides of buildings, outdoor music in select areas of city (some of this can help deter the homeless persons that move around...Barry Manilow's Copacabana would do the job) and turn the Hunter Street Mall into a more high-end area for retail.
This I envision would create a technology innovative environment that would encourage business and investment in jobs that would normally be based in capitals .This in itself would encourage and fundamentally by itself a cleaner greener environment for all .conjoined with our port and the tax free hub at the old BHP site we could become the techno dare I say Silicon Valley of Australia , however it would appear the bhp site with its trade incentives appears to be out of sight out of mind and almost completely forgotten

### Action on climate change

Based on the 18% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority

0 emissions or a clear plan of reaching it
100% reduction in carbon emissions by 2028. Proper targets on canopy cover. 100% greenhouse gas emissions by 2028
100% reliance on renewable energy Taxation of vehicular traffic into CBD Plantation of trees and greenery to carbon offset high density areas Creation of more green spaces including parks and nature reserves Blanket cigarette smoking ban in CBD and surrounds Adaptation of Indigenous namesake - co-naming of Newcastle as Mulubinba in all council features.
A carbon neutral city
A true commitment to climate action ... renewable energy , increased recycling opportunities for a start!!!
Ability to compost/dispose of food waste for households and businesses
Better rubbish collection (green waste/food waste system) solar on all schools and government buildings. Water capture on these buildings as well. Rebates for home solar and water capture. Encourage/ rebates for battery instal and uptake, better rubbish capture in waterways, more trees planted in city to reduce heat, autonomous cars/buses, encouragement of ride share, more electric car chargers, encouragement to buy electric vehicles, all government building be 100% renewable powered,
By 2040, the City of Newcastle should be almost fully dependant on renewable energy.
Carbon emissions reduced. More green electricity powering the city. Sustainable and self sufficient buildings as a standard. Using corridors for food fruit trees, vegetables and other things for the community to benefit from. Oceans and beaches protected. Less cars in Newcastle more options for connection to the city that don't require seperate vehicles.
Commitment to transition to 100% renewable enery acriss the city abolishing our reliance on fossile fules moving away form being kniw as a cola port. Creating more green spaces for the community to enjoy together. Preventing subdivison of property and devlopmet of multi story units in our city and suburbs dont let the greed of the fissile fule companies and developers runin our city.
Doing all the other things you've listed :)
Free carbon neutral public transport
Household composting. Public transport. Cycleways. But also adaptation measures- addressing urban heat issues, planning for sea level rise, supporting local manufacturing, local supply chains and local agriculture. Empowering communities by deeply engaging them (not simply 'consulting')
I'll think more initiatives from council to introduce sustainable solutions and potentially incentives for businesses (and apartment building) to introduce sustainable measures. I live in an inner city apartment and it's small things like our building has no green waste. Why?
I'm not really sure.
Increased incentives for electric vehicles, smart lighting to reduce unnecessary energy usage (e.g. motion activated street lights), increased promotion of recycling (outside of the typical yellow bin approach) and an emphasis on responsible water use (e.g. working alongside Hunter Water to improve the water use habits of individuals).
Increased renewables energy access and use by the city, access programs to encourage solar uptake and challenge federal and state rhetoric that the hunter is the centre of coal and fossil fuels. Move away from this dirty outdated image by turning towards renewables, solar, wind, tidal, we could be a leader in this arena.
Introduction of household small compost waste bins and bags as many other councils provide
Investment in natural energy and divestment from coal
Investment in renewable energy. Planning for a world beyond coal. Showing workers a pathway to alternative employment will make it a much smoother transition.

It would look like more initiatives that are actually benefitting the environment and not greenwashing the city. More solar, wind and hydro power. More options for recycling. Reduction in food waste
Leaders that pass policy and legislation that ensures the security of ecosystems for generations to come. Investment in renewable energy and subsidising these sources
Less Co2 emissions, better climate and less risk of bush fires and flood and tornados which would decrease insurance premiums.
Less negative environmental impact in all areas, such as increased litter removal from parks and waterways (done regularly), increased green corridors, community gardens and active living spaces integrated with green corridors. Think smarter with infrastructure changes to make them more eco friendly, sustainable, multiuse and community friendly spaces, lots of noxious weed removal with native vegetation regeneration to enable coexisting with native animals, tougher cat regulations and more myna bird removal
Lots of greenery on streets and buildings, cycle paths throughout city, encouraging E-bike rentals, recycling bins
Making sure our future generations have a future. Access to plenty of green space solar power on buildings, more parks accessible to pedestrians. A city that is easy to get around without a car. Urban farming. Reduction of harmful emissions and storage of dangerous chemicals
More bike paths, better footpaths for all (disabled, children etc), more 'townships' or hubs which require less driving or no driving and provide a community for neighbours. More support for local businesses above the giants like coles etc. MORE GREEN SPACES. parks - playgrounds, trees!
More renewable energy infrastructure, less reliance on fossil fuel. Introducing green bin composting similar to the Lake Mac council service
More renewable energy sources.
More sustainable resources being out to use. Maybe solar powered compact bins, increased recycled water use, promotion and support for climate change initiatives, business incentives to go green
More trees, more renewable energy in homes and industry. All new buildings environmentally designed with solar, water tanks, insulation etc. Better public transport and bike and walking tracks.
More trees. More public transport and restrictions on cars incident.
Moving away from relying on coal and bringing in money to Newcastle in other ways such as through young creatives or double income families
Net zero
Net zero emissions by 2030. An increase in electric vehicles to 25% of cars on the road by 2040. To increase renewable energy sources so that coal-powered electricity is no longer required (by 2040).
Net zero emissions in Newcastle by 2030.
Newcastle as a city reaching net-zero emissions by 2030 - includes commercial, residential, private transport and landfill emissions.
Newcastle becoming a city that reduces atmospheric carbon dioxide, not increases it. A world leading, world renowned innovative city with improvements to the environment around our city, and world leading action to reduce the harmful effects of climate change in its people and ecosystem. A city with new, long term, well paid employment in the past carbon economy..
Newcastle has the opportunity to bypass Sydney as the champion of Disaster Resilience and preparedness for the South Pacific. Through our role as a UN city, we can build capacity and offer safety to the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change:
No houses connected to gas. No car parks on street. No petrol stations. No overhead power lines.

No more mining, coal, fossil fuel use. Trees planted on every street to reduce heat- start now so in 20 years we have shade. Reduced housing footprints- build high not wider. Community gardens for food production. sustainable use of water and energy, mandated grey water and solar, real recycling and reuse options- we don't believe current recycling is effective.
no plastic, sustainable & renewable energy, the use of hemp or other similar suitable replacements implemented in products/buildings/materials where otherwise harmful+non natural products are used, more trees & plants, 0 emission transport, more effective energy & water saving guidelines/rules, enticing people to walk/bike more and use buses and cars less, no more coal mining, NO FRACKING EVER, enticing people to be environmentally conscious + friendly, teaching people how to properly recycle + separate trash & how to correctly dispose of different items, more recycling services for things like vapes & dvds etc, encouraging community engagement, encouragement of healthy sustainable eating (less bad/fast food, more veges/fruits + home cooked meals), heftier fines for littering, a paid team of people to pick up rubbish from everywhere, people to monitor certain places for people littering/damaging environments
No Super Cars in our city. With Petrol Pollution, noise pollution. Focus on our nature and our beauty for activities. We don't want petrol cars tearing up around our beautiful beaches and city. Success would look like grass/trees/picnic area/markets/ surfest/ music/families in nature in PEACE!
Option for kitchen/house hold food waste removal that involves composting this waste rather than contributing it to landfill. Other councils across New South Wales have implemented this to successfully divert compostable waste to landfill. This compost could then aid local community gardens to flourish and be a place of sustain Le growth and social activity, helping to support a circular economy. Additionally having Newcastle local centre for e waste helps to recycle electronics in a society of consumerism. This further removed recyclable waste for landfill!
Reduced emissions
Reduction in dependency on fossil fuels & actively engaging in renewable energy sources
Re-enforcing of beach areas for erosion resistance. Community managed public spaces. Penalties for driving and parking in the city (for air pollution reasons) and to be reinvested into public transport. Urban agriculture. Compact and connected university urban design.
Renewable energy is the norm.
Renewable energy, much improved public transport, accessibility for people walking and cycling, including disabled people, car free streets, divestment from coal industry, social housing built and improved near public transport and necessary amenities
Rewilding and protecting more parts of the Newcastle and Greater Newcastle to help reduce emissions, increase biodiversity for flora and fauna, and create additional green spaces for the whole community to enjoy.
Save existing Bush land. Light rail from the Bay to the Beach via the the John Hunter Hospital and City. Investment in renewable energy. More bike lanes.
Shifting transport - active transport in the CBD only
Solar subsidies or free Solar provided to Newcastle residents, opening up the carrington foreshore and removing the heavy industry near residential to reduce coal dust
Stay below 1.5, more recycling, plant more trees, shade cloth over play areas for children, improved bike lanes and alternative transport
Strict rules around building development- no more black roofs and black building because they look good! They creat thermal pockets and heat the surrounding areas. White roofs are needed! Make it mandatory! MORE trees need to be planted now if they are to have any success in surviving! Stop developments from removing established trees native or not! Any new homes should have at least two large trees planted front and bag to allow for natural cooling and shading. Electric buses! Provide water tanks to your constituents at a discounted rate.



Success could come in a range of formats, but a simple index or understanding of Newcastle's net energy consumption from non-renewables, water savings and maybe captured carbon? A reduction in Urban Heat could also be a good measurable.
Success from this priority action on climate change would mean feeling assured that each decision has been well thought through to achieve this goal. Prioritise renewables, subsidise insulation and electrics, educated to decrease reliance on fossil fuels, conserve water and all resources. Make buildings safer for extreme whether. Plant trees for shading and clean air. Think before acting on any matter. Is it necessary, will it help? Reflect and learn from each decision.
Success would begin with stopping Supercars from operating in the City.
Success would mean a full intercepted policy that encourages people to alternatives to driving, such as cycling and strives for excellence across all sustainable initiatives. It's a multifaceted problem, that needs a creative approach. We would be viewed as a leader, and not a follower.
That we have a zero emissions plan and we don't contribute to climate change
The construction of large scale electric battery facilities to improve the effectiveness of solar, solar panels on all public buildings, a good coverage of level 2 EV charging stations, a fully networked cycleway system, electric rubbish trucks replacing the current petrol trucks, council facilitated re-use of house hold items similar to the large waste pickup, increased number recycling facilities, and electric buses replacing the current petrol buses (possibly the extension of the light-rail into a loop that makes it to the Baths, Beach, and Restaurants - San Francisco style).
There is a need for more wooded areas in Newcastle. As well developing areas for wild life to exist.
Using existing resources and infrastructure to regenerate industries and make us a Global leader in green energy and innovation in the hydrogen and electric spaces. Bringing community into this journey also with not just job opportunities but also promotion of electric vehicle use, charging stations. Newcastle council getting on board the green bins like Lake Mac council has and providing incentives and grants for businesses becoming more green both at small and large scale. That's my dream!
We aren't going to leave the planet desolate for our grandchildren
We must take aggressive action to rehabilitate the environment. It would look like building up natural areas, eradicating new fossil fuel projects, like the gas plant in Kurri Kurri.
Zero net carbon emissions and a shift toward sustainable energies throughout the region i.e closure of coal power plants and mines. Additionally, protection of green environment spaces and creation of new ones such as parkland and trees in urban areas to counteract heat pollution and increase biodiversity

Nature based solutions
Based on the 10% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority
Action on Stockton beach erosion
An enhanced natural environment maximising self sustainability and protected and maintained to heritage level
Bring the natural environment into the city scape, no high rises, Plant loads of native trees throughout the city and suburbs to keep shade and keep cool, using renewable energy for all public workplaces and spaces
Green city, not all buildings, now opportune for sustainable living and outdoor advices and festivals for all, support local small busi ness
Green Energy and water conservation. environmentally based building codes. Significant greening of Newcastle. Removal of overhead power. Traffic discouragement and slow down. Community enrichment through building connections.
Greening up the city, and planting more trees around the foreshore, parks, river fronts and generally enhancing and embracing the natural beauty of the city!
Having a city that is sustainably designed for living, working, having enjoyable leisure experiences. Everyone having access to lovely open space that highlights the city's history and natural geography. More integrative, usable public transport around the city to encourage less cars. Give households the opportunity to increase recycling output by introducing a "green bin" in the kitchen. All food waste can be put in a council green bin in green bags and this can be put into the big green garbage bin with green waste for collection.
I feel cities a lot of the time try to set themselves apart from nature, lots of steel and concrete, technology and industry, with busy streets and almost no wildlife. To me, an impotant part of our future is realising the we are in fact a part of nature and that includes the way we design our environments and cities. Incorporating natural solutions to man made problems isn't easy, but imagine if Newcastle could be a world leader at that. The world's first "natural city" so to speak. That's what success would look like for me
I'd like to see incentives for catching public transport, cycling and walking. Encouragement for planting wild gardens everywhere and composting in the green bins. Recycling made easy, solar power worth having. Schools with big wide open play grounds and parks encouraging children to play again. A balanced lifestyle of work and living life
Incorporating better waste disposable, denaturalising creeks and encouraging native and indigenous planting would make a beautiful, cooler and better functioning city as well aligning with the green future that Australia will need. We could see better utilisation of green spaces, creeks/catchments and easements to encourage wildlife and provide shade and thoroughfares. Rethoughtput waste procedure could see food compost and green waste turned into useable products again, all contributing to a greener future.
Integrating sustainability into the council projects and making Newcastle a green and future focused city.
Less carbon emissions, more sustainable modes of transport and natural initiatives
Less development and more green spaces across Newcastle. Prioritising renewable solutions for businesses and residents.
Less units being built, more houses with room for people to grow their own gardens
Lots of inner city greenery, parks and and bushy walks eg:
More community gardens, verge gardens, greening of the streetscapes. Better walkways and cycle ways linking city with other areas. Parks and gardens with more community spaces for outdoor activities. More Coastal planting to stabilise erosion. More nature based city functions to attract tourism to the city.
More emphasis on natural spaces, returning these spaces back to health. Making our natural playgrounds the central focus of newcastle.

More green spaces with habitat suitable for native birds and wildlife. Revegetation of mature treed stands such as older parklands such as Jesmond Park, with endemic species such as spotted gum, to maintain and encourage endemic wildlife.
More high quality public amenities, so that more family's can enjoy the coast.
More investment in keeping the oceans clean as well as the harbour, expanding parks and public leisure areas as well as including different (sustainable) public leisure facilities. Connecting culture and events to nature and the environment we have to work with as opposed to over developing <3
More liveable green spaces. Summers are getting hotter and we need to plan for this. More trees on footpaths for shade, water features and kids playgrounds, pavilions.
More nature within the city
My wish would be as it says. That all things regarding development, learning, economy and culture are nature based to lead to more sustainable and healthy outcomes which would allow our city and neighbourhoods to flourish now and into the future for generations to come.
Nature based playgrounds for kids, updated walking paths and hiking paths
Newcastle doesn't need any more high rise apartments ,, available space should be turned into nature and relaxing atmospheres .. I believe the city area is too much already.!!
No dams and water flowing naturally to restore weather patterns
Not removing trees like in Laman street or the mall. Free compost bins and bags for households like Lake Macquarie. Encouraging sustainable living
Open green spaces. Trees. Creative, nature based play spaces for kids. Community vegetable gardens. Shaded seating. Exercise stations. Clean public toilets.
Planting more trees. Requiring developers to provide street level green space. Make developers improve their purchase within 3 years of purchase. Mandate 8 storey level heights.
public transported that is 100% carbon neutral and more accessible so people use their cars less, more nature reserves and parks. Provide household composting option and allow household waste in green waste bin.
Respecting the natural environment as much as possible.
Rewilding the city: converting storm water drains to natural waterways; creating more greenspaces in the city; planting street trees and including vertical and rooftop gardens to cool down urban areas; improving air quality by reforesting available spaces; participating in initiatives like We Are the Ark (wearetheark.org) to provide habitat for insects and animals, including gardens and ponds that can then be features of Newcastle for residents and visitors to enjoy. <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2021/apr/05/re-wilding-our-cities-beauty-biodiversity-and-the-biophilic-cities-movement">https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2021/apr/05/re-wilding-our-cities-beauty-biodiversity-and-the-biophilic-cities-movement</a>
Sustainable living - Integrate and celebrate elements of the natural environment into urban development. Protect natural flora and fauna from new developments. Build up, not out. Provide incentives for homes to have renewal energy sources. Provide a green-waste service at Newcastle Waste, for home food scraps and compostable material. Make green spaces and renewal energy structures, such as the gardens by the bay in Singapore.
The development of the ever changing city of Newcastle being approached from a sustainable perspective on development, building and architecture. Sourcing local sustainable materials and looking to use renewable energy in our developments would all contribute to success in this goal. Also having a focus on the current natural environment of the city and looking to uphold and improve these areas as the city grows around them and to see them integrated into the new face of the city
The least possible amount of non reusable resources used for new buildings and less plastic rubbish.
We need an Addison road Marrickville style reuse recycle centre. More walking?cycling paths with dog poo bins.Nature reserves kept free of weeds. Creeks rehabilitated,planted and rocks added, toy make water bird and frog friendly. Outdoor events in natural settings. Newcastle any Lake Mac is heavily forrested and people take this for granted using the bush as a dump and allowing weeds to flourish, by keeping these special places weed and rubbish free we can encourage people to act locally and think globally. Newcastle will transform to a clean green economy rather than the dirty old town mindset of last century.
Would like Newcastle to reduce carbon footprint. Move away from dirty coal

<b>Circular economy</b>
Based on the 4% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority
100% renewable energy, negative carbon emissions, recycling or reuse of all building materials, etc
A higher priority placed on reusing and recycling, waste reduction and creative ways to form a circular economy. Big businesses contributing to a circular economy
Bonding green technology with our fantastic natural areas and improving our urban landscapes with the introduction of measures to support and promote mature trees.
Development of composting schemes, urban farming, encouragement of innovative use of recycled materials. Densified developments with greater light rail and public transport links
Expansion of recycling options
Funding and advertising for second-hand shops, bike libraries, market gardens, backyard chicken coops, and a focus on community pride based on community self-sufficiency.
Implementation of small-scale community projects that prioritise CE principles - such as community gardens and composting, building CO2 sequestering storm water systems (such as through Iron Bark Creek), or prioritising construction using recycled materials and of course, introduction of the green bin FOGO collection.
Local business'. Less chain restaurants/stores. Developing our city centre (the mall)
Making the city more affordable to live in with minimum wage, help stop homelessness and creating better jobs
More employment, lower rates, a future for our children, people out and about instead of vegetating in front of the tv.
Recycling
Thoughtful and sustainable development and investment in our local community to support and enrich the lives of future generations
Through my vision of success in this priority, as a community strengthens itself with a common interest - reducing waste - we are sharing more than just resources. We are sharing a mindset: a collective, positive mindset towards the future and the management of our city; we are sharing our goals, our knowledge and our capacity of respect for each other. This success can fundamentally benefit each citizen of Newcastle as we persist in our lives our greatest human ambition – to care for each other. A circular economy can inherently unite us as a community in the face of adversities.
Transitioning from a linear to a circular economy by 2040.
Words are very vague and full of waffle - less waste

Vibrant and creative city Based on the 7% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority
A city bursting with life and people.
A city that creates atmosphere and buzz and know for its culture and vibrancy
A city that has a cultural and public art policy, invests in city shaping public art that goes beyond painting lightboxes and doing murals and mosaics. A city that invests in events that are not simply "major" and celebrates more than just the coastline but leverages the unique mix of a post industrial and being a port city.
A thriving city!! Unfortunately Newcastle CBD / City has seriously deteriorated... Ever since the heavy rail was taken out and the main Newcastle station closed :( Newcastle has gone down hill big time! It would be actually nice to see Newcastle CBD / CITY come back to life with awesome new shops and cafes and I believe it needs something like an attraction to draw people into the cbd / Hunter street and the old mall... these in the late 90s were fantastic! But now no one goes into the cbd because it has nothing going for it and it's dead.... It's very sad.
As we re-emerge from the pandemic, a vibrant and creative city will provide meaningful experiences for the community to engage in, encouraging people to come out of their homes, and engage and enjoy their rich city. Vibrant and creative experiences will provide quality of life for residents who haven't had the opportunity to engage as much as usual. Events, activations, gigs and happenings will also support the creative economy in Newcastle and contribute to the visitor economy.
City assists in enabling and promoting arts activities, bringing people out of their homes to interact while attracting visitation.
Community involvement in cultural and social activities and events focusing on music, food and art. Creating a city with diverse opportunities for building community capacity and capabilities.
Create a sassess waterfront, no more units. Build family friendly playgrounds, cafes and covered music areas. Family friendly areas create business opportunities, more jobs. Example Birkenhead point. The grounds Alexandria. Newcastle is a beautiful city give us a reason to come back in,
Cultural events celebrating our harbour city, that are not outmoded spectacles like Super Cars, but diversity in the arts/industry/people specific to our natural and cultural heritage - imagining new futures.
Gold coloured street lighting. Adding some colour to the monotonous grey ageing apartment buildings around the beach. Rooftop gardens and green living walls on Newcastle Police Stations. Good, clean modern toilet facilities on the beaches. Shade over picnic tables on Newcastle and Bar Beach. More Street and building murals. Re paving the mall.
Having a great city culture, helping the hospitality and entertainment industry recover from the recent pandemic and having a city lively with community events.
Having more things for the community to come together and share stories and items to discuss like having community events, fairs, festivals and events
I'd love to see the city look lit up with colourful lights (similar to Vivid in Sydney) with art and music exhibitions around the city to encourage people to explore. With a big focus on Aboriginal history and culture.
Initiatives for music venues, safe late night options, investment into making Hunter street more activated and artisanal, make it traffic free from certain areas and bring in small hospo + boutique stores to truly make it a creative shopping and dining hub. Invest in the old theatre on Perkins so we can bring big artists and money into the city
interesting public spaces, fascinating galleries / shops, collaborative events, people out exploring during the day, staying out for night events.

More events! More chances to join others at all kinds of cultural and entertainment outings.
More funding for arts and entertainment.
More street art, roof top bars, buskers (Melbourne vibes on the beach!)
More support for the arts
Newcastle at the moment has a lot of empty shops along Hunter st. We have a tram that tracks past and no one on it. If there was more shops along Hunter st it would be great to jump on and off the tram at different shops. Cafes and restaurants, new start ups and pop ups, even op shops worth considering. Bring in some of the big players even better. When David Jones left the heart of the CBD died.
Partnership with the University of newcastle focussing on school of creative industries. Give them experience and showcase their works, or partner up for murals or explore their creativity. Host more hands on markets or weekend events that families can come to the foreshore while students can design and interact the event or help me sort of. Newcastle lacks life in the centre of the city. You took away car parks to sell land to make more money and in return you have no tourism in the heart of newcastle. Bring life back to newcastle with vibrant events and creativity. But you got to bring back car parks! No one wants to drive half way, to then catch a tram they have to pay for or paying for car parks. Everyone just wants to drive to an A and B destination without the added costs because of this newcastle is dull and boring
Port Macquarie has Kolas mapped out through their town. Wish every main city had their themed animals throughout Australia. Couldnt show Aussie pride more then that and to truly be one. If we had colourful artistic 50 versions of Kookaburras as examples. Tourists and locals would love these. Art brings joy to all. Make us a pisitive colourful town.
Public art and general beautification of city and forshore including larger entertainment precincts as well as encouraging a night time economy
Spent some money in Stockton and surrounds
Tourism, arts, gigs, festivals,
Tourist destination recognition
Vibrancy and creative will create an environment where people want to live, visit, and be inspired. Newcastles heritage is rich, and it is great to see projects like east end incorporate an element of our history. Maintaining our heritage, and a creative vibrant city scape will inspire people to do the same for themselves, allowing people to see that our city is thinking outside the box may inspire them to do so as well, fuelling newcastles story.

<b>Opportunities in jobs, learning and innovation</b> Based on the 5% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority
A unique metropolitan city that is modern in terms of its connectivity with other major cities nationally and internationally. All while remembering its roots and ties with history and its aboriginal custodians. A blend of the two would create a cohesive community rather than a sterile divided people.
Attracting tech companies and businesses to have HQ in Newcastle. This would create a lot of jobs for experienced people as well as grads and uni programs. Would encourage small businesses and art spaces as there would be the demographics of people who enjoy those activities
Being a world first innovator in renewable energy, giving opportunities to create new industries and new jobs through innovation.
Continued development of market sectors beyond coal based infrastructure. Focus on retaining young professionals from medium-large business.
Create opportunities through environmentally sustainable businesses, education and travel destinations.
Expanding the university, big innovative companies coming to the city, entrepreneurs staying in Newcastle and not leaving for bigger cities.
Great jobs in diverse sectors that create an innovative and connected city with opportunities for positive growth economically but within a sustainable, green environment. I hope to see a city that uses technology and education to grow and create with outstanding green spaces, cycling ways and shared areas.
Having sizable & diverse industries that allow people to commence & live out rewarding professional careers in Newcastle. Making Newcastle as attractive for its job opportunities as it is for its natural features & lifestyle.
I'd like to see Newcastle become a more creative city with more art projects..
It would just be great to see our town back to normal with the younger generation being able to find and get working our wonderful town, and to see the work in Newcastle to be finished and looking wonderful.
It would look exactly like Yarra Council's creative spaces program, with empty commercial space bought up by council then leased cheaply to artisans and similar small scale manufacturers
Jobs for kids
Like many, the pull to come back home after having a baby was strong. This is a common trend amongst my friends who grew up/ went to uni here and then travelled afar for education, work or other enrichment. As a result, a number of highly qualified people are now looking for growth opportunities in Newcastle. Jobs with flexible working opportunities with competitive salary opportunities would mean that lots of highly skilled people can help boost the competitiveness edge of Newcastle businesses in a worldwide marketplace. Additionally, so that people can also live here and commute to other opportunities - high speed rail is a necessity and should be prioritised.
More educational institutes, multidisciplinary industry, incentives for innovation and start ups, science researching funds
More jobs, job opportunities for everyone not just those who are academically advanced and privileged. Workshops for adults and kids, including arts and crafts, culture.
More jobs more money spent in city, learning creates more diversity, innovation comes from both jobs and learning
Newcastle is experiencing rapid growth in housing and population. It is important that we have a well educated and well trained workforce. Access to TAFE, Uni. And other training platforms is vital to ensure a vibrant and equitable harmonious society in this lovely place I/we call home.
This would include full time jobs. No contracts on jobs. Consistent full time jobs.
To become more job attractive and be safe connected city.
Utilising the existing legacy infrastructure such as the port, high voltage transmission lines, logistics infrastructure to expand the technological and manufacturing sector. Development of innovative technology and smart, sustainable manufacturing will drive a resurgence in the city. Provide incentives and world class facilities along with these emerging and exciting employment opportunities will draw people to the area and allied services such as restaurants, cultural activities, public facilities will all improve.

<p><b>Celebrating culture</b> Based on the 2% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority</p>
A continued support of art and music across this beautiful city
Indigenous festival art and music to showcase Lyne arts in all forms
More arts initiatives, involving the community in art (such as competitions, murals, painting/designing signs etc
More indigeneous families working in their own business.Social activities such as cooking classes to encourage all our community to get together.Art on our walkways.Shops selling clothes ,food etcfor all to enjoy.Regular get together activities to bring us all to part of each other's lives.
Newcastle is filled with so many creatives, many of whom have to leave and travel to larger city's for opportunities. Not only would it be incredible for local artists to be able to contribute and live in Newcastle more commonly it would create such a great community filled with energy brining in that extra tourism to show how incredible Newcastle really is !
Some more art work from the local artists area has I love walking around looking at the ones we have now so far

*City shaping partnerships - no comments*



### Inclusive and integrated planning

Based on the 3% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority

A diverse range of employment opportunities are available to my little grand children in the future in and around Newcastle. Not just the arts and hospitality which seem to be of highest priority at the moment. Council can also assist with affordable housing by the rules, regulations and fees it charges. Don't allow over-development like at the corner of Sunderland St and Rawson St which will lead to ghetto living in the future. Developers must be held accountable and council officers should have to approach local residents when new developments which are quite different to the normal development in an area are planned!

Any progress that doesn't include everyone is not progress, if some people are unable to participate it has no value. Accessibility needs to be at the forefront of city planning and not something that comes after, it's easier and more cost effective to account for this before building something than to put it in afterwards. All infrastructure needs to have this in mind.

For a simple example, a wheelchair user would likely need public transport that is useable with a wheelchair, safe footpaths, door access, ramps, elevators and so on.

As cities are planned and designed by people, all failings in this area are ones that can be negated if they are planned with disabled people in mind. A recent example is the trains in QLD that were inaccessible to disabled people even though they were introduced more than 20 years after the Disability Discrimination Act was introduced. The price of the trains and the later modifications is in the billions.

Better roads and footpaths along with portable ramps supplied to businesses that cannot put a ramp at their door due to heritage listing, inclusion in all areas of the City, not just the shiny new bits. More activities for families along the foreshore and honeysuckle other than food and beverage outlets, markets, fairs, open air cinema, etc, better parking facilities in the inner city, too many people don't come into the city because of the difficulties they have finding parking areas.

I have taken my choose to mean blending the old (heritage / history) with the new (progress) as well as celebrating cultures (Indigenous/ Europeans early history) as well as blending new cultures into modern Newcastle.

I would love to see more community events celebrating inclusivity whilst incorporating local business as a part of the event. Like food markets from local restaurants or pride week events that are interconnected with the uni.

It would allow constructive planning when approvals for new developments are given. Too many new developments around suburbs are approved only for investors instead providing homes for families. We know that a home with a front yard & backyard is not sustainable because of space especially in suburbs but instead of more partments/units why not build more Townhouses. It has enough space for a family together with a small courtyard/garden for the kids & outdoor entertainment which is what most Australians love the outdoors. Older citizes would also benefit smaller home to maintain with a small courtyard/garden to enjoy. Townhouses are more affordable which would allow the young people new starters to get into the market. Integrating families, seniors & young people what a great community it would make especially with a common area to come together like a park/playground. No more high rise buildings as homes. Townhouses offer everything a suburb needs

Make Newcastle the City of Citizen Democracy! Educate the community. Give people data and the evidence that provides justification for the decisions that are made. Proactively engage on decisions and provide feedback to the community who choose to engage, reach out more to those who don't. Take action, based on information from community, this in turn will encourage people to be involved and trust decisions are made deliberately and strategically with long-term vision. More people educated and actively involved will mean a more inclusive city! More ideas and input from various peoples will make for a better city for all.

None of this. You can't do or enjoy any of this if you're not healthy. Public health is a joke. So is the fact there's no law or legislation to protect those who are treated badly and unfairly or in a discriminatory way.

There would be more interactive free and cheaper activities throughout the city . Covers play areas w swings etc . Water parks , or fountains for young children to play in . Putt putt golf , tennis walls . More trees and sitting areas for families to rest under . More outdoor pictures for families to come and sit outside w children to be together . There should be semi permanent craft markets Islington the now closed rail line . A annual Novocastrian festival. A kite festival . A balloon festival . You should be able to by fairy floss everyday in the Cbd .

There would be open meetings in communities about where the council wanted to go in progress and development of the city. Then the communities could help decide how it would affect them good or bad.

You could try listening to the people who use the facilities and take notice that no one wants a concrete capping to the natural rock floor of Newcastle baths. We don't want properties that are unaffordable to the average income earner. Stop trying to attract Sydney people with their big bank accounts to buy in Newcastle. They come cause we don't have traffic and now what have we got... traffic. Stop putting he rates up. Stop the mindless concreting of every last surface. Can you please bring back gardeners and plant the beautiful gardens in tHe parks like we use to have. Instead of continually building new stuff can you do some maintenance like painting the railings along the beach and oiling the picnic tables and benches. They look rubbish and are not that ok'd. Stop wasting my rates on giving nutalie pay rises. She gets enough. Stop the junkets to check out other cities and work for the people instead of only glamour projects with photo opportunities

Trust and transparency
Based on the 3% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority
A lack of corruption in terms of town planning / development
Be honest about decisions and finances. Not what you think the community want to hear
Council actually listening to the concerns of the residents of the inner city suburbs.
Honest, clear planning, to ingage all sectors of Newcastle locals, and not just visitors to our beautiful city. Think outside of just a financial point t of view. Make free parking limited like shopping centres. Will attract others that don't come to Newcastle, to spend there money and enjoy the old ways of Newcastle.
I like Newcastle being Australia's best kept secret. I've lived in my many cities, in many countries, in many continents. Newcastle is perfect the way it is. I know the city will evolve to keep up with the times but i wouldn't want us to push for big business to make Newcastle a bigger city where before we know it people have no time for anyone else but themselves. I think most novocastrians feel the same way. The city has plenty of places where we can relax, chill and take it easy. Newcastle is a priceless gem but become too ambitious we could become like Sydney where traffic is horrendous and at every traffic crossing there is no where to stand. Sure, move with the times and let's keep Newcastle beautiful and friendly.
It would hopefully remove the culture of the council saying one thing and hypocritically doing another. Everyone would have a say in what happens to the city that we live in and live. Not just what achieves the biggest bang for your buck. People could work to a common goal if there was trust and transparency. At the moment there is none.
Keeping our iconic areas eg Newcastle baths and stop pulling down old buildings and instead repurposeos
Nobody ever having to worry about secret deals or corruption or "We can't tell you because it's commercial in confidence." A Council that is happy for everyone to know everything they're doing, and is help accountable if we find anything questionable, not just "Well it's legal and everybody does it."
The council decisions re. Infrastructure would be transparent
Transparency in all matters as a public service. Open meetings including corporate meetings so nothing is hidden, similar to current open plan for all council staff working in the offices, no closed doors. Agendas discussed openly with public forums and online access to all meetings including CEO and Mayoral meetings, all recorded and downloaded for public access.
Uniformity on all building projects and the classification of heritage

Collaborative and innovative approach
Based on the 3% of people who said this was the most important Newcastle 2040 priority
Actually get the cruise terminal built bringing the Newcastle Port Corp, Newcastle Council, State Government and Federal Government working together. A cruise terminal would enhance the economy in Newcastle with tourism and added flow on benefits.
All communities would be engaged in design of change, eg youth - youth centres, homeless - creatives safe sleeping spaces, families - active spaces, disability -accessibility to all events, jobs & buildng. I believe it's not till we all practice equity in all our planning that we will truely be a city caring for ALL residents and visitors
Caring for your neighbor ! A community where we look out for each other to enhance the lives of all to enjoy the lifestyle afforded Novocastrians. Working groups garnered from the community to provide input into shaping mathematics wonderful city. Drawing on the abundance of talent, experience within their realm of expertise to give back. Newcastle has given a lot of people so much I believe there are so many who would be prepared to volunteer their skills and work in a collaborative manner to enhance the progress of this amazing coty
Different community, government and businesses groups work together to make Newcastle a great, safe, cultural, environmentally friendly place to live. It's when we all pull together that anything can be achieved.
Easy access to parking-transport to all beaches for elderly people-bikes -family's.Access to king Edward park parking. All parking spots are taken each work day with no one in the park?How can visitors or locals use this during work days.as well.Safety
Engagement with community is imperative. But listening and acting on feedback are two separate options. I find council listens to feedback and then do what they planned to do internally. A case in point is The Newcastle Ocean Baths.
Engaging with the community pre and post designs. I've found over the years, council will come up with a great design from a designers point of view but isn't always practicable for residence.
having the community be involved in decisions that will effect all aspects of newcastle city and the surrounding suburbs. the people want to be heard and i think if this can be achieved we will be able to live, grow and build a more harmonious and innovative future.
Shared knowledge across multiple industries to reach positive outcomes for Newcastle. Backed by data and assessment of real need. A research backing into what Newcastle needs to flourish and meet the needs of its existing and growing community.
Success in this particular priority, to me would look like a full functioning community, across the board. There are many links to be connected in Newcastle by 2040 that encompass and focus on the entire community including pathways for the youth, and those who are at the cusp of entering our wonderful community on a wholesome level. In short, I would love to see more collaborative and innovative approaches in Newcastle through extra pathways that will benefit our town, our community. This is achievable, it's is something we can all benefit from.
Working together with the public on projects to improve all aspects of the city and to make Newcastle a much more attractive place to live.

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**ATTACHMENTS DISTRIBUTED UNDER SEPARATE COVER**

**CCL 26/04/2022 – ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

**ITEM-34**    **Attachment C:**    Newcastle 2040 – Proposed Changes

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Theme	Priority	Item	Page	Change	Proposed new action	Reason
Achieving Together	4.3 Collaborative and innovative approach	4.3.3. Data innovation and insight Harness the digital transformation of the organisation to drive innovative approaches and insights using quality data to make strategic decisions.	61	Update	<b>UPDATED VERSION</b>  <b>4.3.3 Data-driven decision-making and insights</b>  Harness the digital transformation of the organisation to drive innovative approaches and insights using quality data to make strategic decisions that align with our vision, provide consistency and transparency, and promote continuous improvement.	Current objectives do not highlight the value of using data to inform decision making.
	3.4	3.4.2 Government relations and advocacy Advocate and collaborate across government, industry and business to foster competitive advantages and global opportunities for the city.	55	Update	<b>UPDATED VERSION</b>  <b>3.4.2 Advocacy and partnership</b>  Advocate and collaborate across government, industry and business to foster competitive advantages and global opportunities for the city.	Change of objective heading to ensure that the importance of partnerships is highlighted in the delivery of N2040.
Liveable	1.2 Connected and fair communities	Housing affordability Index - Rental Affordability Index	74	Add	<b>Community Indicator</b> Rental Affordability Index (RAI)  <b>Target</b> Trending down  <b>Baseline</b> TBA  <b>Why is this important</b> Housing affordability has become a major issue across Australia and an indication of the seriousness of the problem is the number of people experiencing housing stress. Renting households on average have lower-incomes, and therefore affordability issues affect renting households more than homeowners. The rental affordability index (RAI) report is an indicator of rental affordability relative to household incomes  <b>Source</b> SGS Economics and Planning <a href="https://www.sgsep.com.au/projects/rental-affordability-index">https://www.sgsep.com.au/projects/rental-affordability-index</a>	Due to the emphasis on affordable housing and feedback received during public exhibition (both internal and external), there is a need for an indicator monitoring this topic.  RAI has been selected as other data sources relating to overall housing affordability referenced Census data from 2016, which does not give an up-to-date picture of the issue.  During initial N2040 engagement, 213 respondents were concerned with affordable housing.



Theme	Priority	Item	Page	Change	Proposed new action	Reason
Liveable		Health	74	Add	<p><b>Community Indicator</b> Potentially preventable hospitalisations</p> <p><b>Target</b> Trending down</p> <p><b>Baseline</b> 2,085.5 per 100,000 population in 2019/20</p> <p><b>Why is this important</b> Potentially Preventable Hospitalisations (PPH) are those conditions for which hospitalisation is considered potentially avoidable through preventive care and early disease management, usually delivered in an ambulatory (walk-in) setting, such as primary health care.</p> <p><b>Source</b> NSW Health Stats</p> <p><a href="https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/#/indicator?name=-pph-cat-hos&amp;location=LGA&amp;view=Trend&amp;measure=DSTRate&amp;groups=Category&amp;compare=Category,LGA&amp;filter=LGA,Newcastle%20LGA,NSW&amp;filter=Category,Total">https://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/#/indicator?name=-pph-cat-hos&amp;location=LGA&amp;view=Trend&amp;measure=DSTRate&amp;groups=Category&amp;compare=Category,LGA&amp;filter=LGA,Newcastle%20LGA,NSW&amp;filter=Category,Total</a></p>	<p>The importance of health and availability of data in this space was raised by the Liveable Cities Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Reintroduction also addresses Feedback received from Hunter Community Forum below.</p> <p>"Hunter Community Forum notes with concern that the third Sustainable Development Goal of Good Health and Well-being has disappeared from the vision. This indicates that Council no longer regards this as a priority for its own program for the city. If this is the case it is highly regrettable."</p> <p>Note - preferred indicator was physical inactivity, however, this data was not available at an LGA level.</p>
Liveable		Crime	74	Add	<p><b>Community Indicator</b> Number of recorded criminal incidents for major offences (12 months to December 2021)</p> <p><b>Target</b> Trending down</p> <p><b>Baseline</b> 9,133 major offences from Jan-Dec 2021</p> <p><b>Why is this important</b> We want Newcastle to be a safe city, both in the public domain and within households. The number of major crimes in Newcastle impacts safety levels, both perceived and actual, of community members.</p> <p>Crime prevention may indicate a reduction in social vulnerabilities that influence crime such as inequality, poverty and lack of opportunities.</p> <p><b>Source</b> NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research</p> <p><a href="https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Publications/RCS-Quarterly/NSW_Recorded_Crime_Dec_2021.pdf">https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Publications/RCS-Quarterly/NSW_Recorded_Crime_Dec_2021.pdf</a></p>	<p>The importance of safety and availability of data in this space was raised by the Liveable Cities Advisory Committee.</p>
Liveable	1.3 Safe, active and linked movement across the city	% of houses that are within 800m (walkable) of a local centre	74	Delete	Indicator deleted	Measure will be reported on in <i>Delivering Newcastle 2040</i> . Does not need to be raised to indicator level in N2040

Theme	Priority	Item	Page	Change	Proposed new action	Reason
Liveable	1.3 Safe, active and linked movement across the city	% and distance of shared pathways network improved % and distance of shared pathways network added	74	Delete	Indicator deleted	Measure will be reported on in <i>Delivering Newcastle 2040</i> .
Achieving Together	4.3 Collaborative and innovative approach	Levels of community volunteering for CN	80	Delete	Indicator deleted	Measure will be reported on in <i>Delivering Newcastle 2040</i> .
Achieving Together	4.3 Collaborative and innovative approach	# of partnerships held	80	Update	<p><b>Service Indicator</b> # of advisory committees and groups, # of organisations represented and # of meetings held</p> <p><b>Target</b> Trending up</p> <p><b>Baseline</b> 8 committees and groups met a total of 39 times in 2021. There were 22 organisations represented in addition to community participants.</p> <p><b>Why this is important</b> CN collaborates with numerous government organisations, businesses, community groups and individuals to deliver positive outcomes for the Newcastle community.</p> <p>A number of Advisory Committees have been established to provide advice and inform decision making on specific areas. The number of committees and the representation on these committees is an indication of the focus on this area and breadth of collaboration occurring between CN and others.</p> <p><b>Source</b> CN Data</p>	Change indicator as consistent data not available on partnerships across CN.
Planning for our future	N/A	Copy	9	Add	<p>Add subheading and copy</p> <p><b>Turning our plan into action</b> <i>Delivering Newcastle 2040</i> and our informing strategies, such as our Environment Strategy and Economic Development Strategy, turn our vision into action. For more information, visit our website (<a href="https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/home">https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/home</a>)</p>	<p>External feedback showed that the community desire to see N2040 put into action, and more information on how this will be achieved.</p> <p>Referring to <i>Delivering Newcastle 2040</i> and informing strategies shows that there is interaction between this plan and other documents and also provides a link to visit the website for further information.</p> <p>Note - When N2040 dashboard is available, this link will be</p>
Our commitments	N/A	Order of commitments	14	Update	<p>Change order</p> <p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Our Planet Inclusion Supporting local Innovation Social justice principles</p>	Response to request to reorder received during public exhibition.

Theme	Priority	Item	Page	Change	Proposed new action	Reason
Our commitments	N/A	Our planet	14	Update	<p>Our global challenge is to meet the human needs and wellbeing of all while simultaneously regenerating our planet and reducing our ecological impact to a sustainable level.</p> <p><b>The planet has been warmed by 1.1 degrees and Newcastle is already experiencing the impacts of climate change. There is an urgency and responsibility to reverse this trend, with climate scientists stating that a 75% reduction on 1990 emission levels is needed by 2030.</b></p> <p>CN commits to respecting our natural environment by minimising our overall impact and protecting our natural resources.</p> <p>CN commits to measuring and understanding the environmental impact of our operations in order to develop ways to mitigate the effects while balancing the needs of our community.</p>	<p>Request to add detail from Cr McCabe.</p> <p>Reference, if required, <a href="https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-working-group-i/">https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-working-group-i/</a></p>
Liveable	All	Liveable icon	9, 10, 40	Update	<p>Update icon</p> 	<p>Feedback received during public exhibition that previous icon did not reflect Liveable theme. In particular, it did not include people.</p>
Liveable	All	Liveable copy	40	Update	<p>Our neighbourhoods are safe and thriving, with diverse and equitable housing and <b>social and urban infrastructure</b> that supports local living. Our public places bring people together for active living and social connection. We plan for areas of identified growth and change. <b>We support the 15-minute neighbourhood concept, where the things we want and need are nearby and easy to access.</b></p> <p>Our city is walkable, connected by safe roads and accessible parking, and options for active transport are available, enabling access to services and facilities.</p> <p>Our community is connected and equitable, and everyone is valued. We use innovation and technology and promote health, wellbeing and equal opportunities to increase residents' quality of life.</p>	<p>Request to include 15-minute neighbourhood received during public exhibition.</p> <p>Aligns to Hunter Regional Plan 2041:</p> <p>"OBJECTIVE 3: Create a 15 minute region made up of mixed, multi-modal, inclusive and vibrant local communities "</p> <p>Internal request to include 'social and urban infrastructure' to align with upcoming Social Infrastructure Strategy.</p>
Liveable	1.2 Connected and fair communities	1.2.3 Equitable communities	43	Update	<p>1.2.3 Equitable communities</p> <p>Support access to affordable, sustainable and inclusive housing, <b>food</b>, services, programs and facilities to improve quality of life and the strength of our community</p>	<p>Food added to objective description in response to feedback received during Public Exhibition.</p>

Theme	Priority	Item	Page	Change	Proposed new action	Reason
Liveable	1.3 Safe, active and linked movement across the city	1.3.1	10, 43	Update	1.3.1 Connected cycleways and pedestrian networks Provide safe and connected networks, making active movement a convenient, accessible way of getting around.	Changed 'walking networks' to 'pedestrian networks' for inclusivity.
Alignment with state and regional priorities		Hunter Joint Organisation Strategic Plan	68	Delete	Delete reference to plan	Deleting the links to this plan as it has not been formulated as yet.
Alignment with state and regional priorities		Hunter Region Plan 2036	69	Update	Update to Hunter Region Plan 2041	Draft plan to 2041 was on public exhibition until 4 March 2022. N2040 objectives alignment updated to reflect Hunter Region Plan 2041
SDG		Localising SDGs for Newcastle	35, 40	Add	<b>Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</b>  CN has a strong focus on the health and wellbeing of the community. We are working in partnership with the health and community sector on identified local priorities, such as mental health and overall wellbeing, while promoting healthy lifestyles.	Updated to respond to feedback received during Public Exhibition from Hunter Community Forum below.  "Hunter Community Forum notes with concern that the third Sustainable Development Goal of Good Health and Well-being has disappeared from the vision. This indicates that Council no longer regards this as a priority for its own program for the city. If this is the case it is highly regrettable."
Images			87	Update	Update some images to reflect western areas of LGA and diversity of community members.	Feedback received during public exhibition that more images from western section of LGA required as well as images that represent the diversity of Different images will be included in updated version

Delete

Update

Add

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**ATTACHMENTS DISTRIBUTED UNDER SEPARATE COVER**

**CCL 26/04/2022 – ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

**ITEM-34**    **Attachment D:**    Newcastle 2040 – Insights Report

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# NEWCASTLE 2040

it's our *future*

**INSIGHTS PAPER**  
March–November 2021



City of  
Newcastle



## Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>7</b>
Where we've been	9
Our commitments	16
Our language	17
<b>Liveable Newcastle</b>	<b>19</b>
Enriched neighbourhoods and places	22
Connected and fair communities	24
Safe, active and linked movement across the city	26
Innovative and connected city	28
<b>Sustainable Newcastle</b>	<b>31</b>
Action on climate change	34
Nature-based solutions	36
Circular economy	38
<b>Thriving Newcastle</b>	<b>43</b>
Vibrant and creative city	46
Opportunities in jobs, learning and innovation	48
Celebrating culture	50
City-shaping partnerships	52
<b>Achieving Together</b>	<b>55</b>
Inclusive and integrated planning	58
Trust and transparency	60
Collaborative and innovative approach	62

## Enquiries

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PO Box 489, Newcastle NSW 2300  
Phone 4974 2000  
newcastle.nsw.gov.au

# Welcome

## Acknowledgement of Country

We all sit on Awabakal and Worimi land  
'Niirun Yalawa Awabakal and Worimi burrei'

City of Newcastle (CN) acknowledges its Local Government Area (LGA) sits within the Country of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples. We acknowledge that Country for Aboriginal peoples is an interconnected set of ancient relationships. We acknowledge the custodianship of the Awabakal and Worimi peoples and the care and stewardship they have performed in this place since time immemorial.

Always was, always will be Aboriginal land  
'Wunyibu wunyibu warra wunyibu wunyibu gkuuba Aboriginal burrei'



**Newcastle 2040** (Community Strategic Plan) represents the highest level of strategic planning undertaken by local government.

Thanks to extensive community and stakeholder engagement, we have a strong sense of our vision, priority areas, and values for Newcastle's future.

Key to this engagement was the commitment to ensure a valid representation of our community was consulted. We wanted to hear from all of Newcastle, young, old, from Bar Beach to Beresfield and everywhere in between.

This insights paper provides details on who we spoke to, what they said and what this means for the formulation of **Newcastle 2040**.

## Community involvement

We listened to over **2,600** people

**550** people have rated satisfaction on current Newcastle 2030 Strategic Directions

**450** survey contributions about our Vision and Values

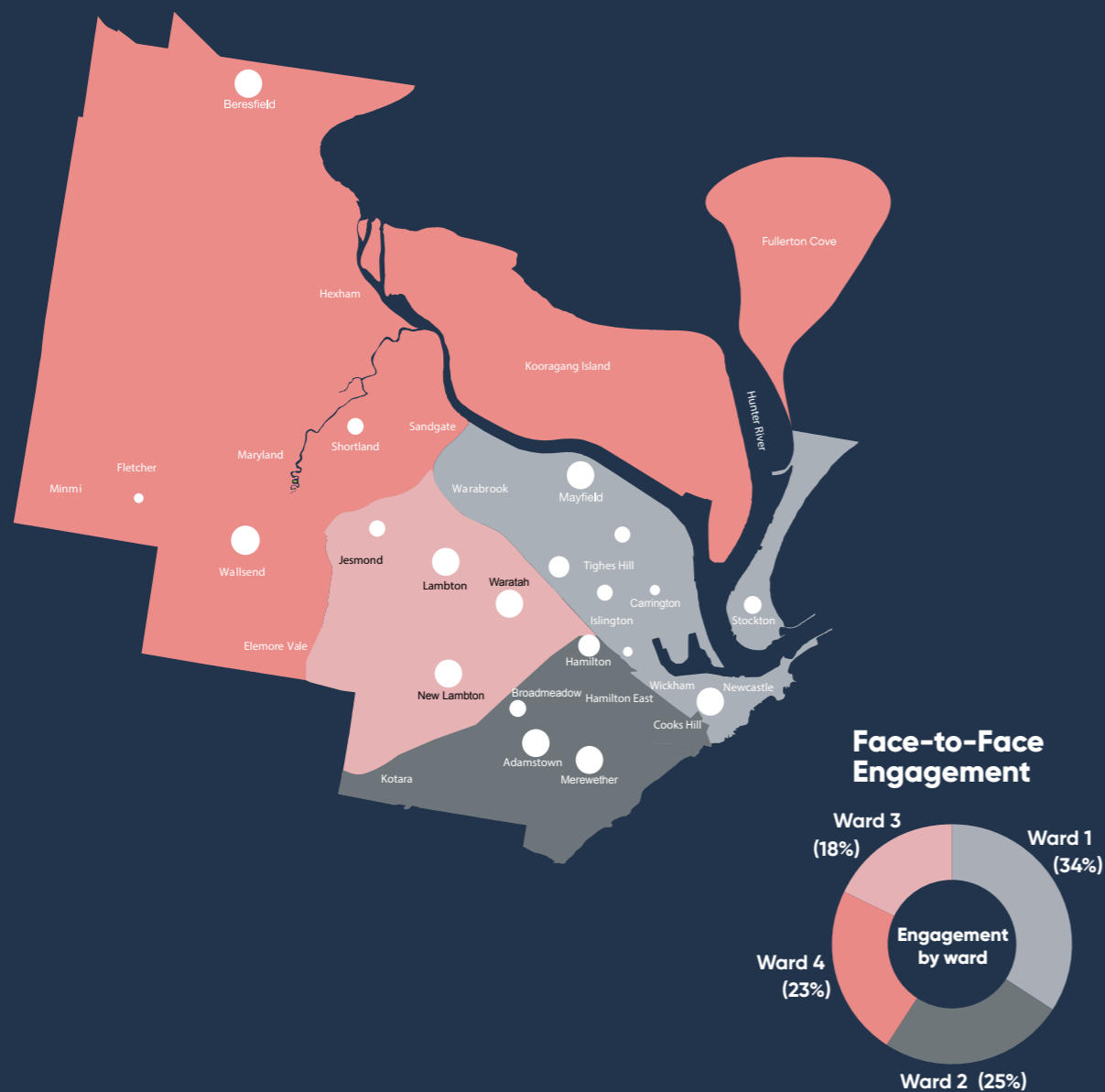
**400** online vision wall Ideas

Prioritising what we heard survey **1000** responses

 **5,000+**  
people engaged

**40+**  
events and activities 

## CSP engagement by ward










## Where we've been

Activities	Engagement type	Internal / External Stakeholders
City Leaders Talk	Face-to-face	External
Councillor Strategic Workshop		
Plattsburg Public School		
Newcastle TAFE		
IQ Innovation Event		
Newcastle Show		
Library summer stories event LGBTQIA+		
Count Us In - Launch		
Count Us In - Multicultural pop-up library		
Guide Dogs Newcastle		
Seniors Week		
Jesmond Harmony Day		
Jesmond Shopping Central		
Blackbutt Indigenous Youth Workshop		
Youth Week - Wallsend Skate Park		
Wallsend Shopping Centre		
Market Town Shopping Centre		
Beresfield Local Centre		
Dixon Park		
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Network Event		
Waratah High School Leaders		
Future entrepreneur Workshop		
New Local Event - Workshop		
Liveable Cities Advisory Committee		
Community and Culture Advisory Committee		
Strategy and Innovation Advisory Committee		
Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee		
Youth Council		
Guraki Aboriginal Advisory Committee		
Newcastle Art Gallery Youth Advisory Group	Face-to-face	Internal
City Administration Centre Wall Takeover		
City Administration Centre		
Works Depot		
Libraries Staff - all branches		
New Local Event - Workshop		
Executive Leadership Team		
Newcastle 2040 Champions - Session 1		
Newcastle 2040 Champions - Session 2		
CSP Survey Feb 2020	Online survey	External
Quarterly Community Survey December 2020		
Quarterly Community Survey May 2021		
Social Pinpoint Survey		
Community online workshop November 2021	Online workshop	External

## Communication and promotion

A communications plan was developed to elevate the profile of the CSP and encourage community and stakeholder participation throughout the engagement program. Overall reach throughout the engagement program is estimated to be about **40,000**. This included:

Channel	Description	Reach
 <b>Have Your Say webpage</b>	Dedicated CN <b>Have Your Say</b> page as the key platform for consultation and engagement.	7,757 visits across 2020 and 2021
 <b>Billboard</b>	Billboard on Hannell Street, Wickham (city bound).	n/a
 <b>Social media</b>	Social media posts predominantly on Facebook.	Reach = 38,446
 <b>Newsletters</b>	e-newsletters were distributed to: CN community panel – 8 Dec 2020 + 29 Apr and 4 May 2021 City e-news – 2 May 2021.	6,000+
 <b>Advertising</b>	Print, digital and social advertising across various publications and platforms including Newcastle Herald, Swell Magazine, Newcastle Live, Newcastle Weekly and Hunter Headline.	n/a
 <b>Media release</b>	A media release was issued on 1 April 2021, <i>City calls on the community to shape 2040 vision.</i>	n/a
 <b>Podcasts and videos</b>	Your Newcastle podcast – Shaping Newcastle’s future (season 1, episode 4). City of Newcastle YouTube channel – Newcastle 2040 and Newcastle 2040 – Lord Mayor with students.	112 downloads 642 views

## In-person engagement activities

We carried out a series of in-person engagement activities including workshops, pop-up information stalls and 'listening posts' in early 2021 across the Newcastle LGA to hear from a broad cross-section of our community about their aspirations for Newcastle's future.

### Questions focussed on:

- What do you want Newcastle to look like in 2040?
- What do you want to see more of in Newcastle?
- What do you love/excites you about Newcastle?
- What's missing or concerns you?
- Have we been on the right track or could we be doing anything better?
- I would like Newcastle to have more...



### Top eight topics

 <p><b>Transport options</b> How we get around for work, school, shopping and entertainment. Includes connected networks and parking</p>	 <p><b>Events and activation</b> Vibrant local neighbourhoods with events that happen day and night that showcase Newcastle's people, places, and culture</p>	 <p><b>Trees and natural spaces</b> Valuing open, green spaces to enhance the beauty and environmental quality of neighbourhoods and to offer recreation space for the community</p>
 <p><b>Deliberate planning</b> Integrated, sustainable long-term planning for Newcastle and the Region using evidence-based decision-making</p>	 <p><b>Parks and playgrounds</b> Spaces for the community to gather, be physically active and interact together</p>	 <p><b>Affordable housing</b> Availability of housing that is appropriate for the needs of a range of households</p>
 <p><b>Climate action</b> A city that is green with trees and plants, and a focus on waste minimisation, optimal use of resources, response to climate change and environmental emergencies</p>	 <p><b>Cycleways and footpath</b> Linked pathways that provide for safe cycling and pedestrian use and encourage people to actively move around their neighbourhoods</p>	

# Targeted engagement

## Youth Workshop – Through your lens

CN partnered with Straight Stick Photography to deliver a workshop aimed at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young peoples.

The purpose was to develop skills in creative photography while capturing visual images that reflect participants views of their community. 11 Aboriginal young people attended and were encouraged to participate in learning basic camera operations and to think of photography as a form of artistic expression and a way to connect to country.



Kyarah Douglas, 12



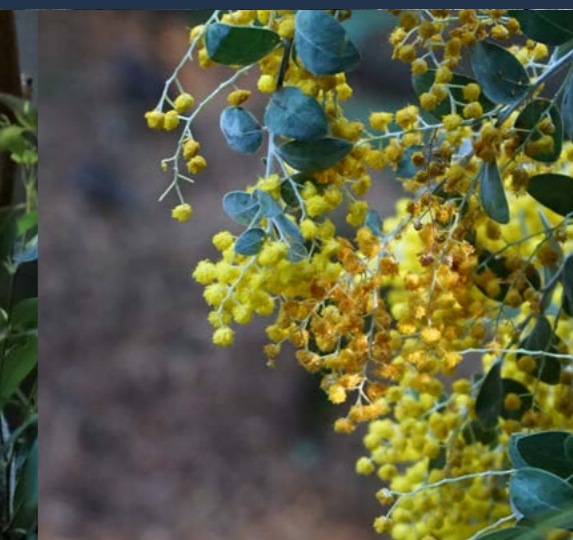
Xander Kapsimallis, 11



Alyssa Kelly, 12



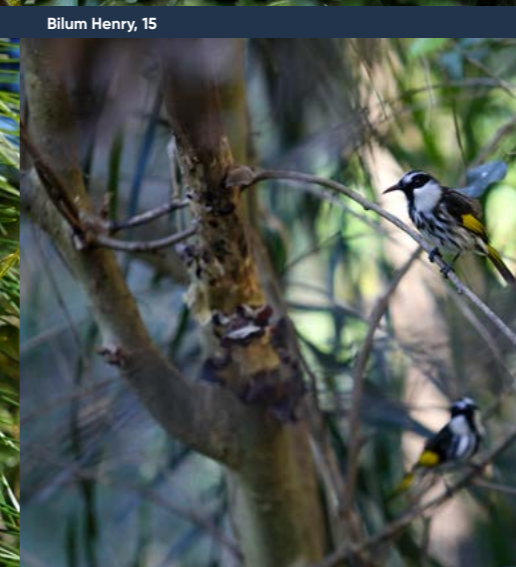
Bilum Henry, 15



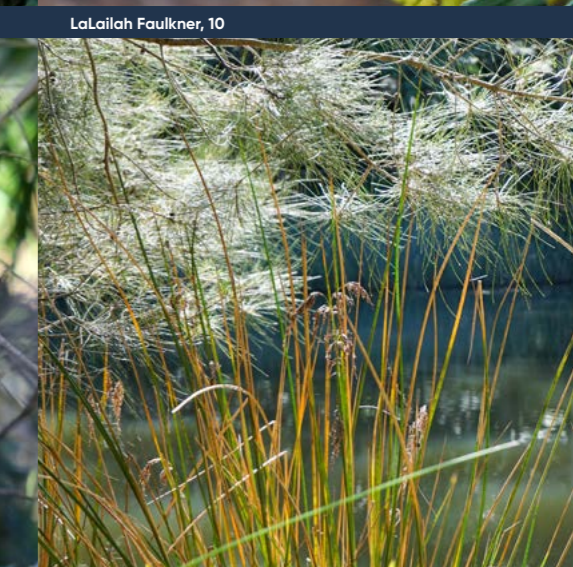
LaLailah Faulkner, 10



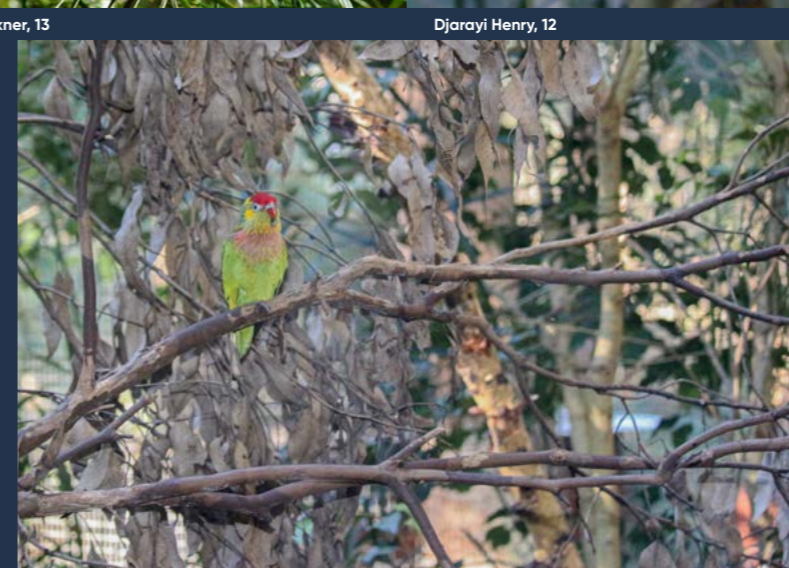
Halle Faulkner, 13



Djarayi Henry, 12



Michaela Faulkner, 14



Dakota Lavelle, 12



Riley Marshall, 12

# Rise from the Embers

Attendance at this community event was a collaborative approach with the Local Social Strategy. The event was a unique 2-day land and cultural festival raising awareness and celebrating the rich Aboriginal Cultural Heritage of the Hunter Region.

Engagement focused on social outcomes and wellbeing with almost 300 survey responses received with 200 of those respondents identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples.



# Harmony Day

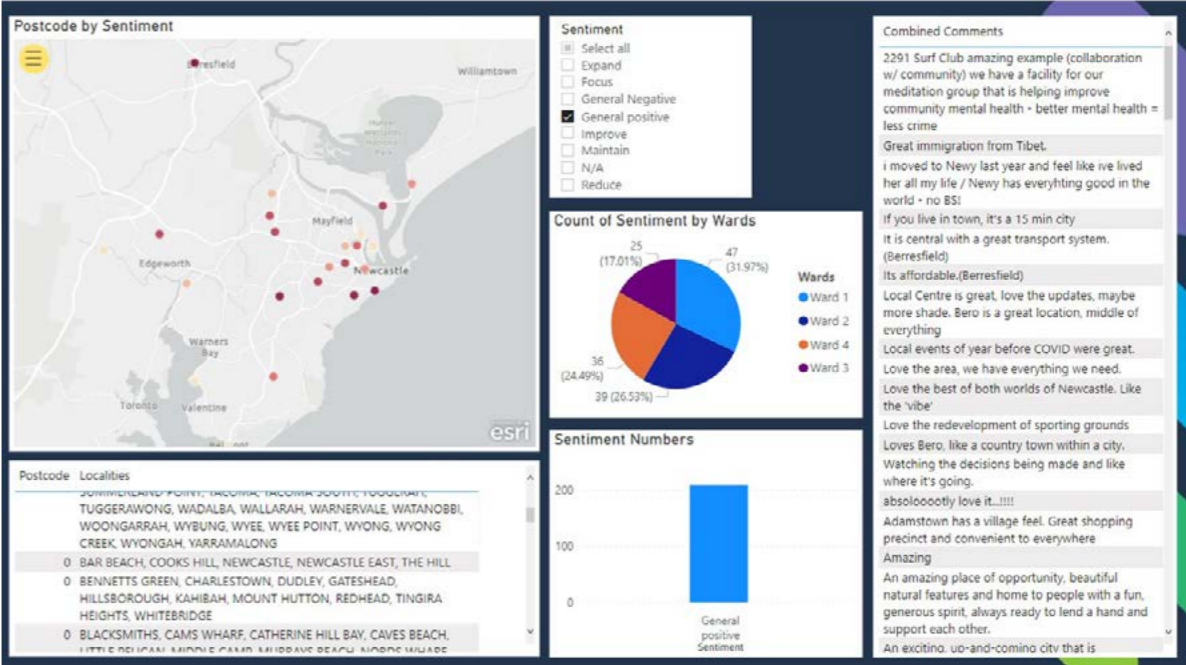
Attendance at this community event was a chance for high level engagement around what people loved about Newcastle and what CN needed to focus on or change for the future of our city.

The outcome was to understand broad priority areas for harder to reach people and groups.



# Analysing the data

Themes and priorities have been identified through analysis of engagement data and testing and refining this data with key internal stakeholders. A Newcastle 2040 Power BI database was built to allow interactive analysis of our data by age, suburb, ward and topic and to collect the language used by our community.



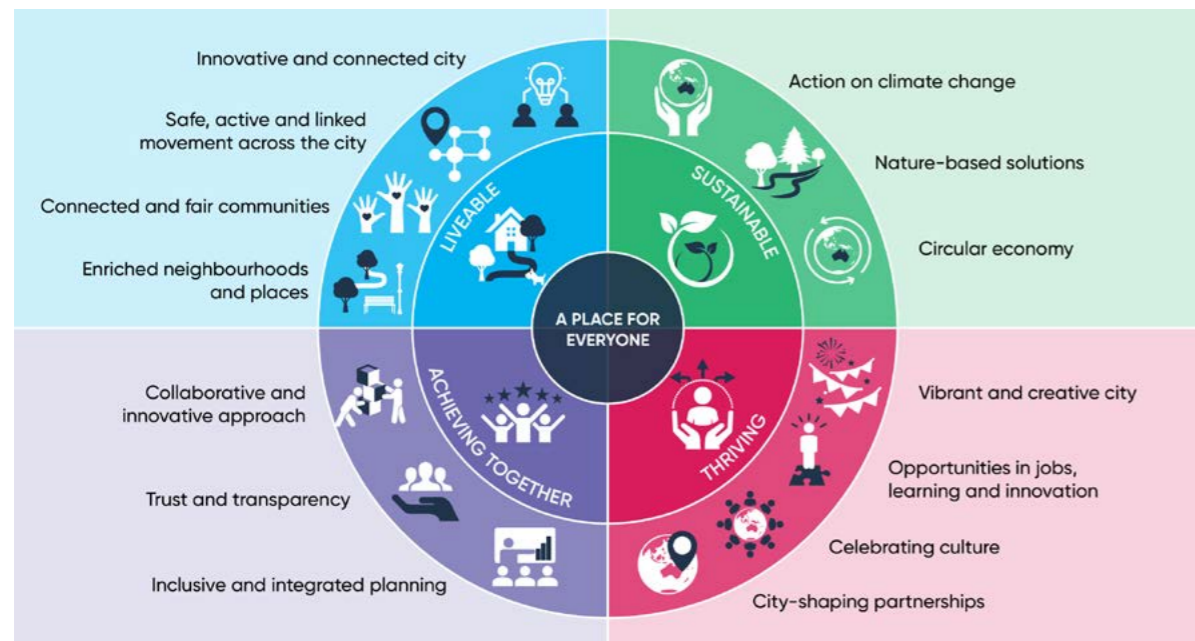
The sentiment of each response received was coded in order to determine respondent attitudes to particular topics. Details of categories used can be found in the table below.

Sentiment	Details	Example
Maintain	acceptable level / it's ok / keep doing what you are doing	"There are a lot of playgrounds now, which is good"
Improve	fix / not good enough	"Lack of parking for people outside of the CBD"
Expand	need more / not enough	"More shade in the main street"
Focus	concentrate on / invest / investigate	"Focus more on connectivity of transport or parking if there isn't a public transport option"
Reduce	too much / too many	"Less development and high rises"
General Positive		"Love quality of life here and the quieter atmosphere"
General Negative		"Worried for the future"

## Our themes and priorities

The diagram below identifies the four themes of Liveable Newcastle, Thriving Newcastle, Sustainable Newcastle and Achieving Together and the subsequent priorities.

Note: engagement and analysis are ongoing and changes to these themes and priorities may occur.



## Our commitments

Some things are non-negotiable. They go above and beyond strategic directions, themes and priorities and are in everything we do. These are our commitments.

CN's commitments underpin Newcastle 2040 and the actions we take, the choices we make, the behaviours we demonstrate, and the interactions that we have.

CN is committed to:

- Inclusion

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- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and culture

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- Supporting local

---

- Our planet

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- Innovation

---

- Social justice principles

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## Our language

We listened and we want to make sure we are using every day language that the community can relate to. Some key words that consistently came up during the engagement were: Community, City, Connected, Newcastle, People and Inclusion.







## Liveable Newcastle

Our neighbourhoods are safe and thriving with diverse and equitable housing that support local living. We have public places that bring people together for active living and social connection. We plan for areas of identified growth and change.

Our city is walkable, connected by safe roads and accessible parking and options for active transport are available, enabling access to services and facilities.

We are connected, equitable and everyone is valued. We promote health, wellbeing and equal opportunities to increase the quality of life of residents.

We use innovation and technology to ensure increased quality of living for all.

# Insights



## What the community said

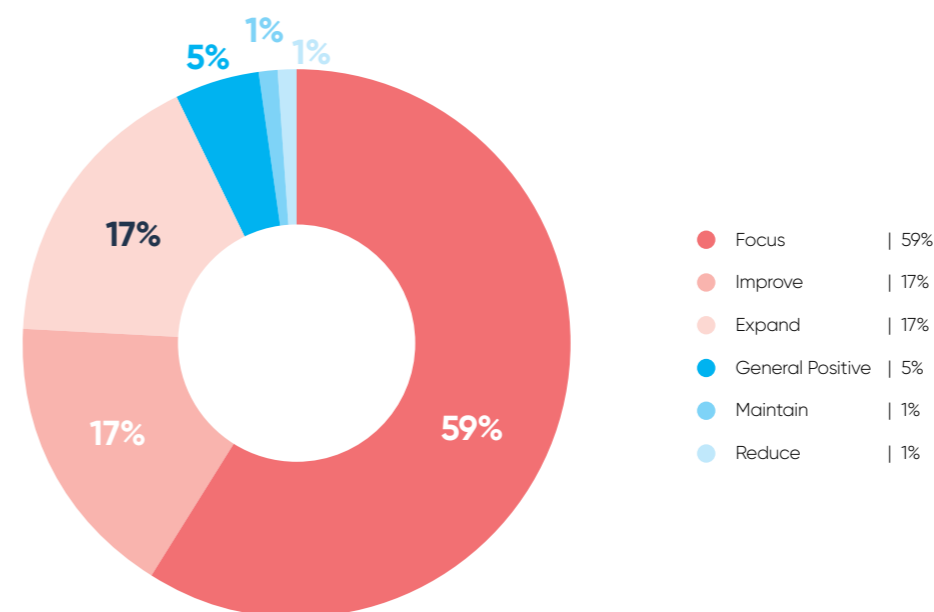
"Newcastle could be the world's greenest, safest, most self-sufficient, innovative and liveable city in Australia"

"There is potential for diverse, lively and vibrant urban areas to cater for people's needs"

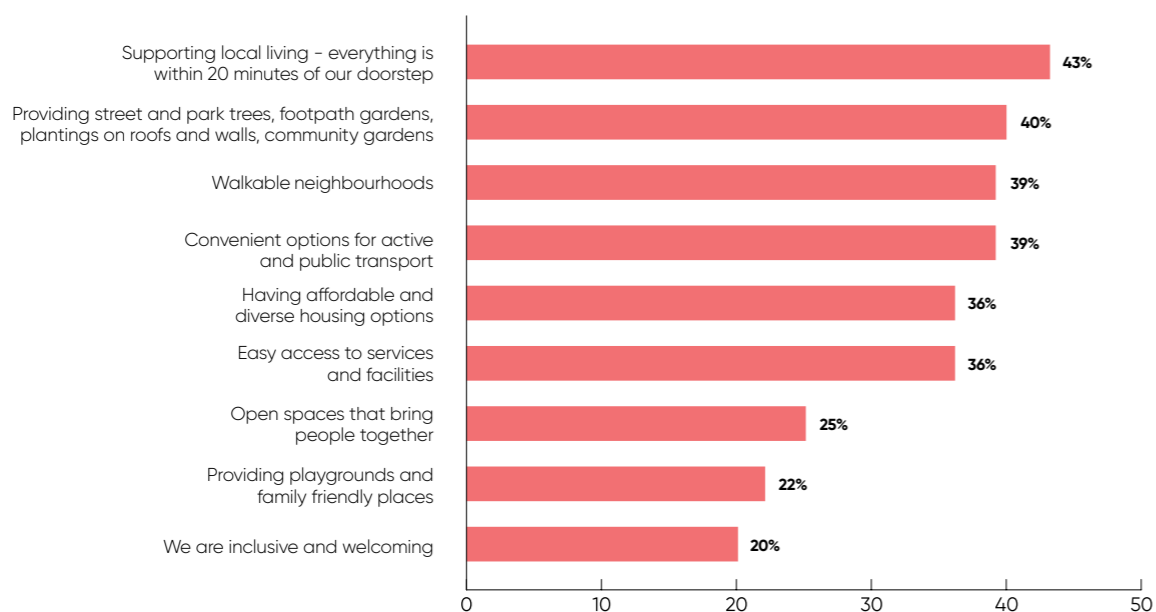
"Newcastle hasn't lost its roots - there's pride in the area. People look you in the eye. People are proud"

 **2,000+**  
responses received on a Liveable Newcastle

Community sentiment for a Liveable Newcastle called for a **focus** on this theme, followed by **improve / expand**.



## We asked respondents to rank the most important things to support a liveable city









## Safe, active and linked movement across the city

Moving around the city with ease is important to the liveability of Newcastle. Transport plays a major role in keeping us physically connected to work, leisure, and services.

674 responses were received on safe, active and linked movement across the city.

### Here is what we learnt:

People overwhelmingly wanted a city that was easy to move around where people could readily get to where they needed to go.

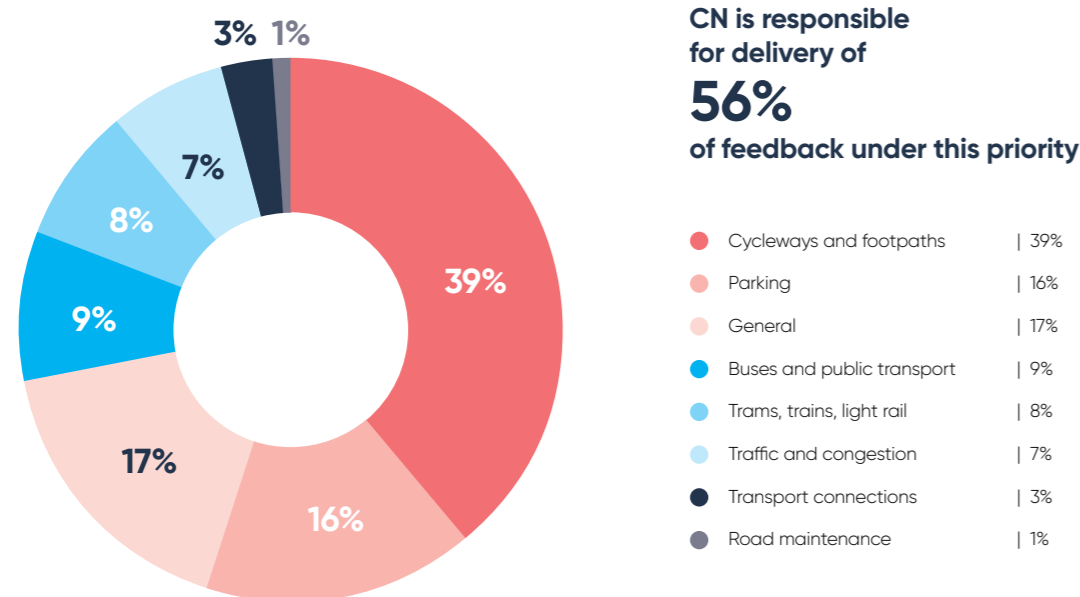
299 respondents wanted **cycleways and footpaths** to be a key focus in a connected city, with the highest respondents being between 35-49. More cycleways, pathways that are completely linked and separated from roads, and safe direct cycleways were just a few of the issues mentioned by respondents.

116 responses were about **public transport** with people wanting to be able to access the city through different transport options. They wanted reliable and direct public transport that was accessible and affordable. CN has an advocacy role in the public transport space, with state government being responsible for its delivery.

110 responses were about **parking**. People wanted more parking, particularly at our beaches, public transport hubs and in the city. They wanted parking to be affordable.

Whilst a small number of respondents specifically mentioned maintenance, it can be implied through the majority of responses referencing safety, connection and cycleways/footpaths.

### Key topics



CN is responsible for delivery of **56%** of feedback under this priority

- Cycleways and footpaths | 39%
- Parking | 16%
- General | 17%
- Buses and public transport | 9%
- Trams, trains, light rail | 8%
- Traffic and congestion | 7%
- Transport connections | 3%
- Road maintenance | 1%



### Top issue

Cycleways / Footpaths

Respondents told us they wanted CN to **focus on (51%), expand (37%) or improve (11%)** them.

All suburbs in the Newcastle LGA identified this as key to a Liveable Newcastle.

Key words used **Safe, connected, and separate**

### What suburbs cared about



Beresfield – Hexham = traffic congestion

Birmingham Gardens = parking at transport / public transport

Bar Beach = public transport and parking



Those aged between 12-17 identified **transport connections** as the key liveability issue.

50-59 year olds were the highest group of respondents that identified **parking** as an issue.



## Innovative and connected city

A city that confidently harnesses innovation and technology will ensure improved quality of living for all. We consider digital infrastructure in our planning and development to future-proof our city and local centres. We utilise digital infrastructure and emerging technologies to better identify and service community needs, improve efficiency and increase city amenity.

**Whilst almost 100 comments were received specifically on innovation, the concept of increasing quality of life by harnessing progress, including technology, was a common topic throughout the engagement.**

### Here is what we need for an innovative and connected city:

Ensure the effective deployment of innovation-enabling and **digital infrastructure** across the city to improve community experience, city sustainability and amenity.

**Emerging technologies** to be embraced and creative ideas and new approaches to address city challenges and improve quality of life for the community.

Support capacity-building and inclusive digital access to **narrow the digital divide** and ensure the benefits of innovation are applied equitably across the community.

## What the community said

A community that fosters and values creativity, progressive thinking and new initiatives to future proof our city and improve our lives.

A city where ideas can come alive quickly.

It's about innovation and how the city can progress.

There is a big aspect of inclusion in the digital space. Need to close the digital divide.

Need better Wifi and tech.

## Community values

To help inform future planning, respondents in the Quarterly Community Survey were asked to rate the performance of values that underpin our work at CN. Innovation was in the top three best performing values.

### The values where CN performs most strongly:

1. Active lifestyle - 47%
2. Innovation - 38%
3. Resilience and diversity - 34%





## Sustainable Newcastle

Our environment sustains our community, economy, health and wellbeing. It is at the heart of all we do.

Our city acts on climate change to achieve net zero emissions and build resilience in our communities, infrastructure and natural areas.

We protect, enhance and connect our green and blue networks, and we're transforming our city through circular economy solutions.

# Insights



## What the community said

"Green with trees and plants, waste minimisation, optimal use of resources, response to climate change and environmental emergencies"

"Focus on individuals, businesses and council being proactive about recycling"

"Let's focus on looking after natural resources and living sustainably"

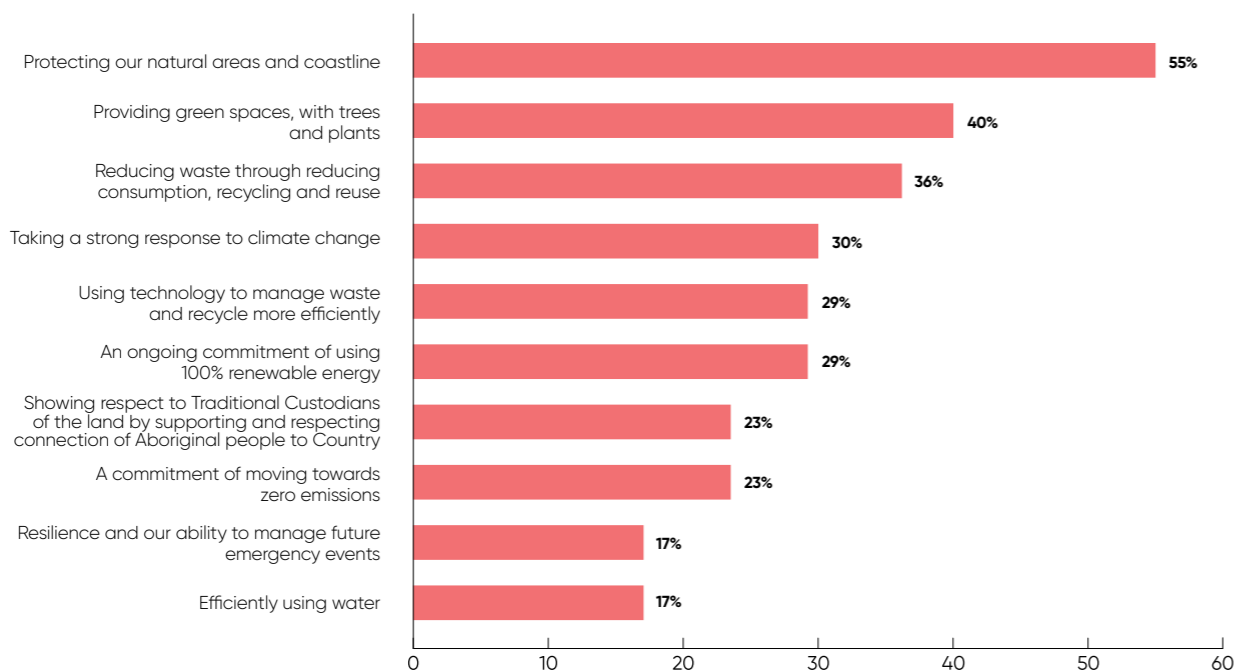


**650+**  
responses received on a  
**Regenerative Newcastle**

'Trees and natural spaces' was the 4th highest topic of all engagement (behind transport, events and activations and thriving neighbourhoods), rating the highest between 24-49 year old respondents, defined as the young workforce.

A green city filled with trees was a common comment.

## We asked respondents to rank the most important things to support a Sustainable city











## Circular economy

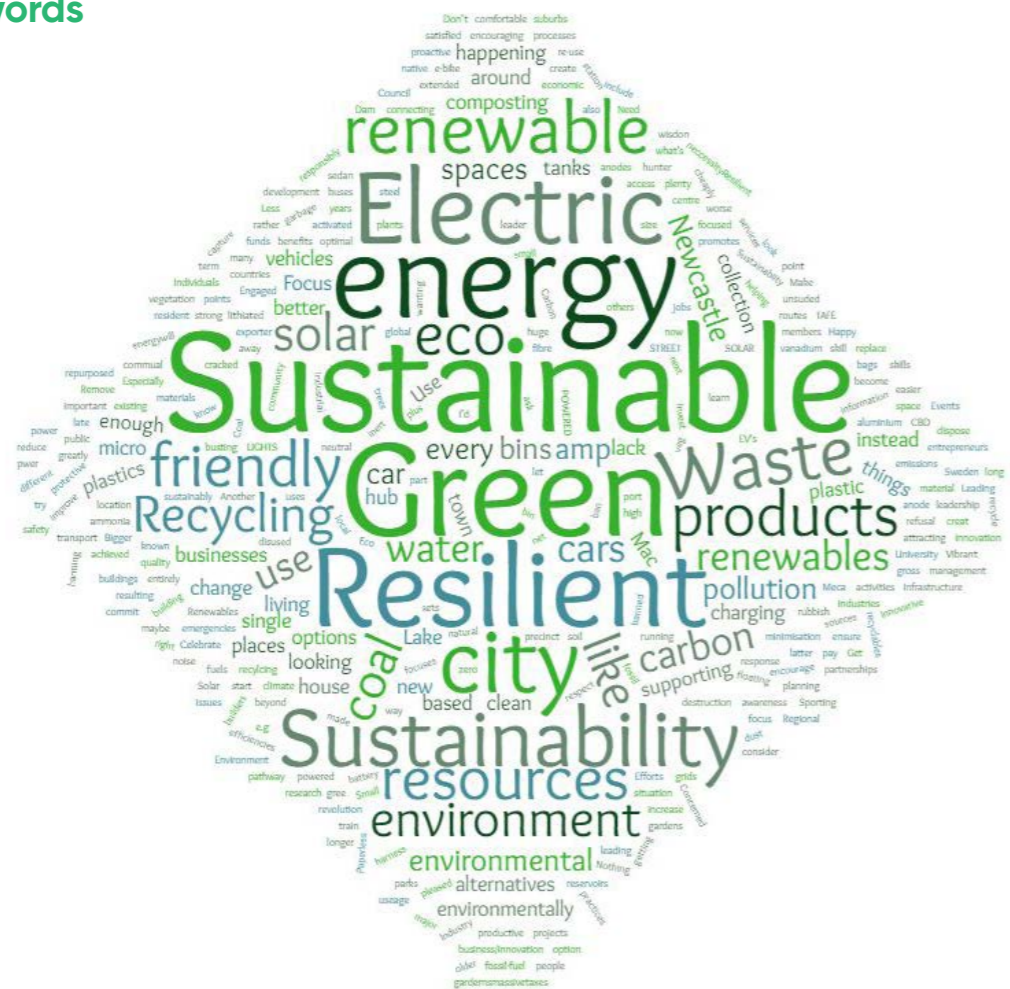
Newcastle will achieve net zero emissions by 2040. We will be sustainable in our waste management and use of resources. A city that recycles and reuses products to reduce our impact on the environment.

150 responses were received on circular economy.

### Here is what we learnt:

People strongly endorsed better waste management with more **recycling, reuse** and **waste reduction**, especially plastic. A global leader in materials recycling and a leading city for **renewable energy** were also topics that came up across our engagement. Resource efficiency was the highest issue for ward 1 and ward 4 respondents.

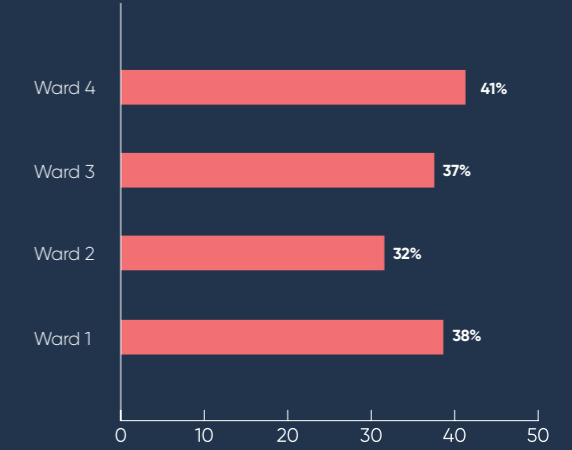
### Key words



### Reducing waste through reducing consumption, recycling and reuse

36% of Quarterly Community Survey respondents ranked this in their top three priorities for a **Sustainable** city.

Whilst this issue was strong across all locations, it was most important to those in ward 4.



### Ideas for a Sustainable Newcastle

"More solar (we ask builders to ensure they have water tanks, why not solar?)"

"Let's be a global leader in materials recycling"

"Solar powered instead of fossil fuels resulting in jobs"

"A renewable energy industrial precinct"

"Single plastics to be banned"

"Focus on renewables"

"We have all the resources and skill sets here to harness and create renewable and better energy"

"Being more productive with respect to recycling and helping community members to access information about resources"





## Thriving Newcastle

Our city is vibrant, inclusive and creative. Newcastle is a destination known for its culture, heritage, entertainment and innovative ideas.

We are excited about the city's opportunities in the areas of jobs, education and the economy.

Multiculturalism, Aboriginal culture, diverse communities and the arts are celebrated. Locals and visitors gather for events and cultural experiences, and to feel part of the community.

Newcastle is driven by city-shaping partnerships that enhance our opportunities and attract people to live, play and invest in our city.

# Insights



## What the community said

"I feel our city is on the verge of something great. Young people and families are relocating to our city and can see the huge potential that perhaps we long term residents take for granted"

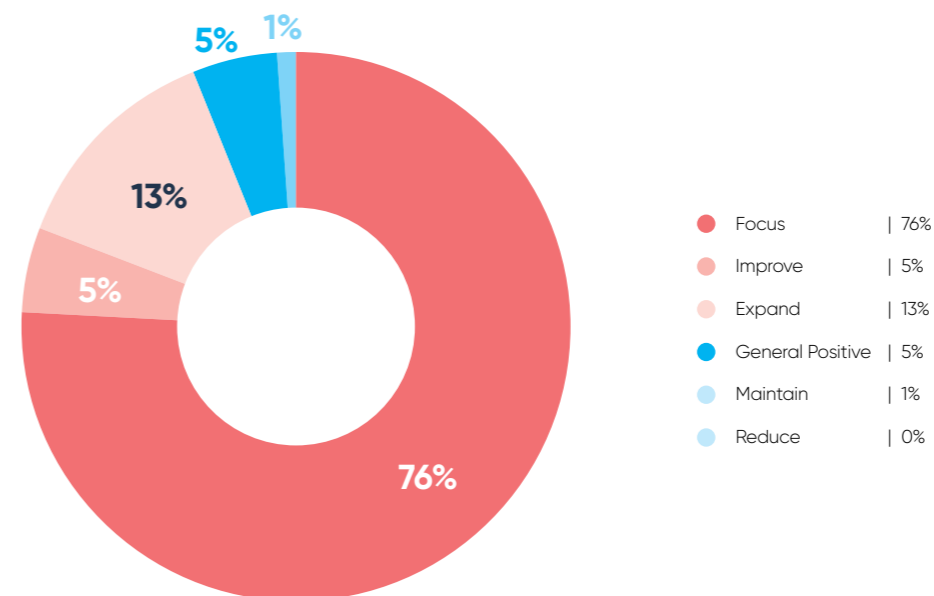
"Newcastle is an amazing place of opportunity, beautiful natural features and home to people with a fun, generous spirit, always ready to lend a hand and support each other"



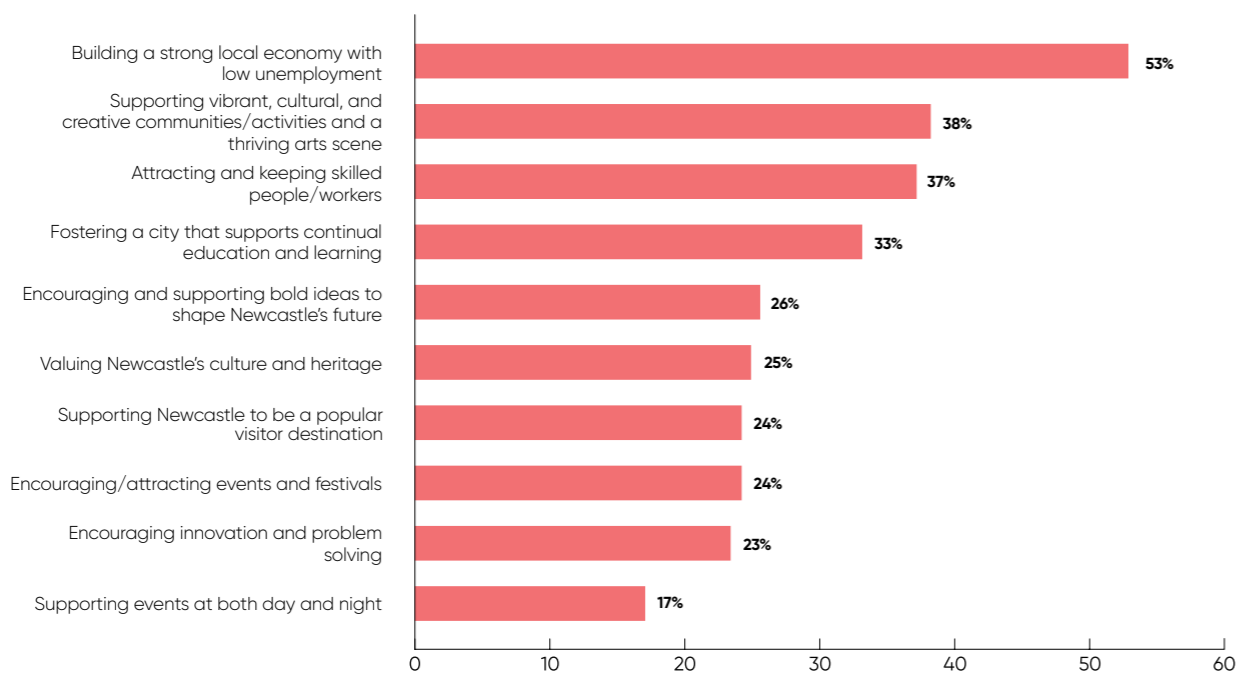
**1,200+**

responses received on a Thriving Newcastle

Overwhelmingly, community sentiment called for a **focus** on the Thriving Newcastle theme.



## We asked respondents to rank the most important things to create a Thriving Newcastle







## Opportunities in jobs, learning and innovation

We are excited about the opportunities the city has in the areas of jobs, education, and the economy. These opportunities will result in skilled and innovative people in our city. We enable and expand human capabilities to strengthen and drive existing and future opportunities.

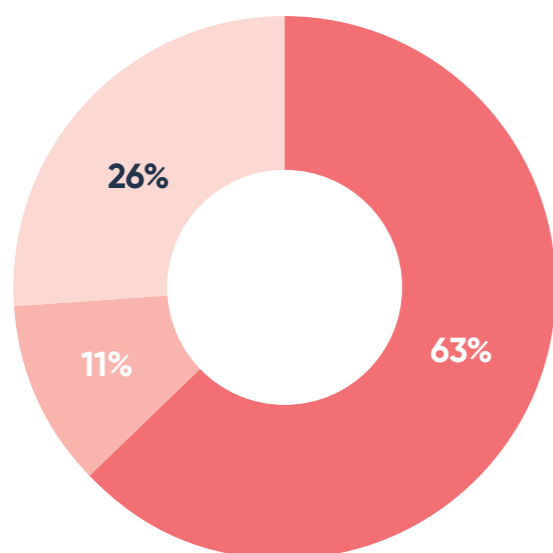
**278 responses were received on opportunities in jobs, learning and innovation.**

### Here is what we learnt:

174 people wanted to focus and expand on **job opportunities**. People wanted us to be a city that grows small business, upskills and educates workers in Newcastle for new jobs and industries, has diverse employment opportunities and encourages large companies/industry to the city. There was a mix between excitement for what's to come, and concern for not embracing the change.

91 people wanted us to be an **innovative city**, a city that fosters and values creativity, progressive thinking and new initiatives that improve our lives.

### Key topics



Almost **95%** of responses wanted to **focus** (80%) or **expand** (14%) job opportunities in Newcastle

- Job opportunities | 63%
- Education | 11%
- Innovation | 26%

**Building a strong local economy with low unemployment** was the most strongly endorsed priority across all suburbs and ages in the Quarterly Community Survey.

For those aged 55 - 74 years and in western parts of the LGA (wards 3 and 4), **attracting and keeping skilled workers** was the second highest priority.

"Big shift in innovation in Newcastle we need to continue this"

"Focus on transition away from mining into new opportunities"

A move from older industries such as mining into new industries was identified as an opportunity by respondents

"Can we create more jobs in health, education and renewables"

"Manufacturing, mines and the port plus the uni may all diminish as employers so let's become a MAJOR online jobs market"







## City-shaping partnerships

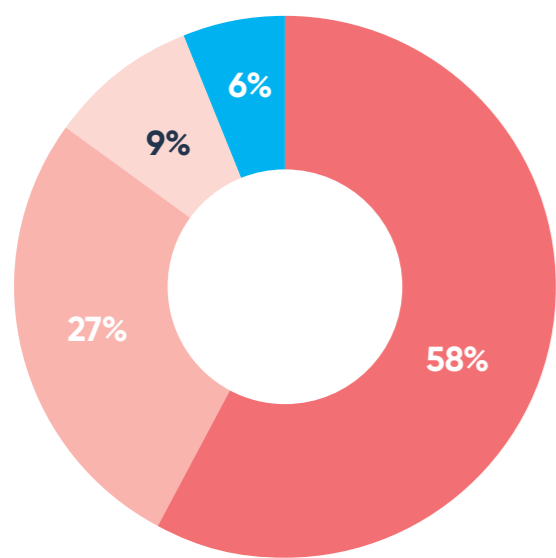
Newcastle is driven by city shaping partnerships that enable success and attract people to live and invest. We leverage the growth sectors of the new economy to allow the city to think global and act local. The identity that makes Newcastle unique is retained whilst innovation and change that will unlock the city's potential is embraced.

**291 responses were received on city-shaping partnerships.**

### Here is what we learnt:

170 responses were on our **city's identity** and 20% were positive statements referring to the love for Newcastle. Newcastle is inspiring, Newcastle is now becoming a 'true city', Newcastle could be the hub of the world, proud Novocastrian, and Newcastle is spectacular. A lot of concern in this priority was becoming like Sydney. People love that we were a city and have all the opportunities of a big city, but we're still relaxed and easy to navigate.

### Key topics



## Responsibility

**97% of responses referred to issues or initiatives that CN does not have direct control over. This highlights the importance of partnerships and advocacy work within this priority.**

● Identity	58%
● Opportunity	27%
● Global	9%
● Digital Transformation	6%

## Newcastle's identity - what do we love about Newcastle

Protecting Newcastle's identity was a common theme throughout the discovery stage of the Newcastle 2040 engagement. To capture this we asked respondents to describe "what do you love about Newcastle and your local area". Here is what they said:





## Achieving Together

Our people come together to collaborate, share great ideas and opportunities, and co-create positive change for our organisation and city.

Our culture is one of trust and understanding, where honest conversations empower our people, customers and community. We value diverse perspectives and deliver what we promise.

Our strength is growing our capability to manage community and customer expectations and continuously improve our service delivery.

# Insights



## What the community said

"Want genuine engagement from Council with the community and for Council to really listen to the community"

"We will create a unified vision to work in the same direction"

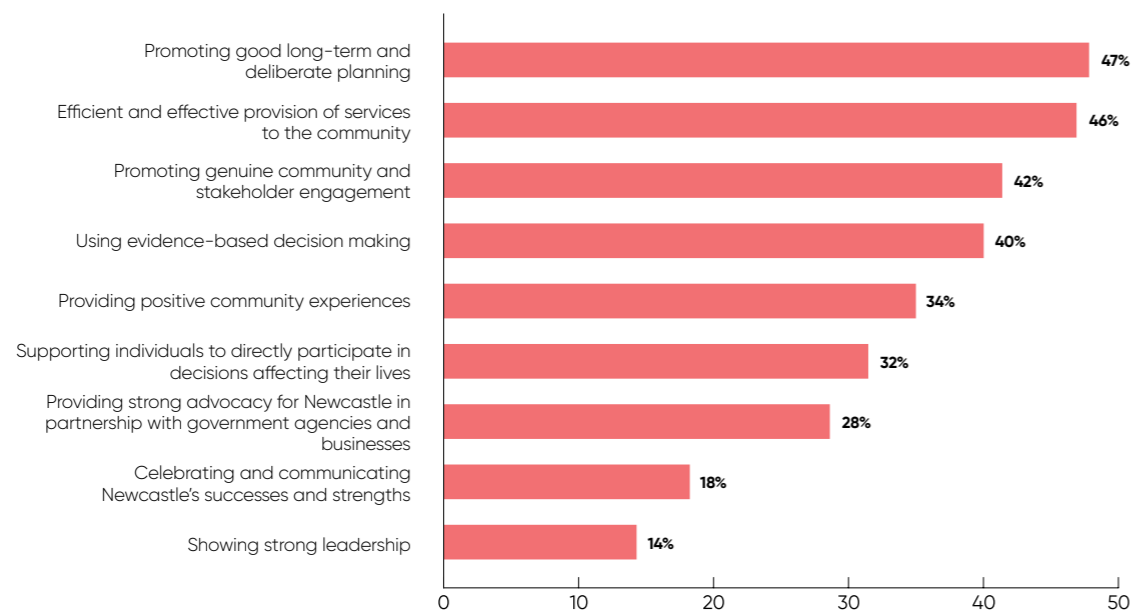
"If planned properly Newcastle could be the best city in the world"



**525**

responses received on Achieving Together

## We asked respondents to rank the most important things to ensure we achieve together







## Trust and transparency

Our culture encourages empathy, understanding and willingness to help each other. We have trust and confidence in the leadership of our city and work together to create better outcomes for our customers and community.

Our culture values integrity and accountability and encourages open, transparent decision-making. We promote our opportunities and celebrate our stories.

**113 responses were received on building trust and transparency.**

### Here is what we learnt:

People wanted to be listened to, they wanted CN to have **genuine engagement with the community**. People wanted us to be leaders in making decision with the community and they want CN to be **accountable and transparent**.

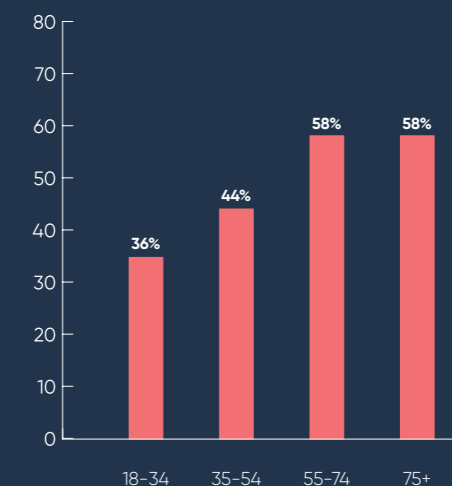
## What does building trust look like



## Efficient and effective provision of services to the community

This was ranked second in the Quarterly Community Survey for Achieving Together. The importance of this increased with age.

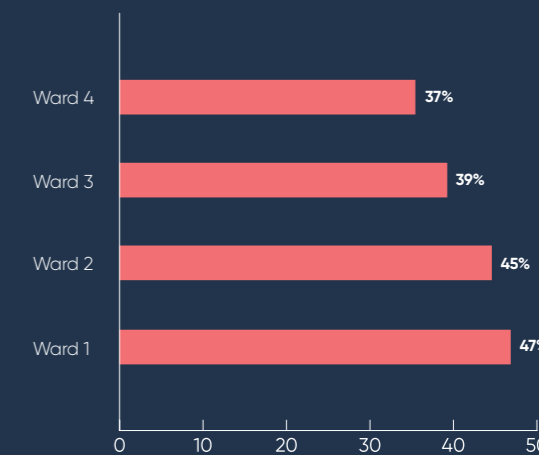
Percentage of respondents that ranked this in their top three priorities by age:



## Promoting genuine community and stakeholder engagement

This was ranked third in the Quarterly Community Survey for Achieving Together.

Percentage of respondents that ranked this in their top three priorities by ward:





## Collaborative and innovative approach

We build strong relationships where knowledge is exchanged. Effective collaboration between our people, our community and government is essential. Collaborative approach was a common topic across many priorities, both internally and externally.

### Here is what we learnt:

The community wanted us to take a **collaborative approach to decision making**. Respondents stated that collaboration with federal and state government and other agencies was needed in order to make sure we are all working together for a **common goal**. This was also a strong topic raised among CN staff.

### What does a collaborative and innovative approach look like?

'Local is the new Superpower', a staff empowerment workshop, was held on Friday May 7th, 2021, with staff from various teams across CN.

The larger group discussion explored aspirations, group agreements and opportunities and challenges and key ideas around creating a "yes" culture in the organisation.



## Here's what we learnt

### Aspirations for CN culture

Develop bold, long-term thinking

Deeper appreciation of culture and more manifestations of it throughout the city

Become more agile i.e., able to fail fast, confidently

Bringing in more community: understanding what they need and how they can contribute more and have their own agency

Greater authenticity

Understand how we can come together to best achieve united goal

### How do we get to a culture of "Yes"?

Top-down; bottom-up advocacy

Small, incremental steps

Work with strengths

Freedom and flexibility within a framework

Connect individuals to purpose

Mentorship

Shared vision

Clear, continual communication

Encourage and support vulnerability

Encourage and reward cross department collaboration

Greater transparency

Long term thinking

Try to uncover unknown skill sets across the organisation

Celebrate success

### What are the blockages to getting to a culture of "Yes"?

Internal communication

Individuals with heavy workloads may have mindset of 'no space for change'

Working in silos

Fixed mindsets

Fear of failure

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