Want to be more involved in shaping Newcastle’s future?
Over 2,500 residents and businesses from across Newcastle have their say on a wide range of issues from beach patrols, city branding and park upgrades. As a member of Newcastle Voice you will be invited to participate in consultations and engage with Council through some, or all, of the following community workshops • face-to-face meetings • local area surveys • website • Facebook • members’ portal • monthly newsletter

Wildlife Photographer of the Year features showcases 100 striking photographs of wildlife and nature from around the world.

We want you to enter Waste as Art
Create award winning 2D artworks out of waste destined for the landfill. Entries are due at Newcastle Museum on Saturday 9 August 2014.

Waste as Art goes 2D! Artists! Students! Anyone!

You’ll be in the running to win cash prizes ranging from $250 to $5000. Judging will take place on Sunday 10 August and winning artworks will go on display at Newcastle Museum.


The 2014/15 Delivery Program, Operational Plans, Fees and Charges and the key documents that guide the services we provide and projects we will complete throughout the year. They set out the fees we charge and the income we expect to receive.

What is the 103/4/15 budget shows is a significant increase in the city’s finances. Council started 2013/14 with a projected $32.0 million deficit. By the end of the financial year the council projected a $16.3 million surplus. This is due to a range of cost reduction initiatives including an organisational restructuring. The 2014/15 budget is projected to improve even further to $11.6 million.

Excellent progress has been made but more work needs to be done and we aren’t in this alone. Forward estimates within the Delivery plan include a special rate variation of 3.2% above the rate cap. This is necessary to ensure Council can maintain existing public infrastructure values at $1.4 billion and invest in additional facilities to support the growing Newcastle community. Initial consultation commenced last month with the public and hearings on the Delivery Plan and associated public meetings. Further consultation focused specifically on the proposed rates will occur prior to the finalisation of an application to put in place. This conversation will be getting underway soon and I encourage you to get involved.

Ken Goodhurth, General Manager

Make Your Place Grant Applications open
Do you have a great idea on how to enliven your area?
The Make Your Place community grants can help you create a more vibrant and activates public spaces.
Grants of up to $3000 (incl. GST) are available.
More information can be found at www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au or search for placemaking.
A major program of upgrades is planned for the city, one of the priority projects being development of the Riversleigh Reserve. Improvements to existing facilities as well as new infrastructure will provide increased recreational opportunities.

The upgrade to existing facilities in the city is scheduled for completion in September 2010 (weather permitting). The project includes a new larger amenities building to better cater for visitors and construction of a new advertising area along the river with the opportunity to get up close with the river and the birds.

Council will work to ensure the conservation of Riversleigh’s sensitive environment. Access to construction sites will be restricted to ensure visitor safety; however, the nesting season will still cause some disruption of the work. Some disruption for visitors may occur and Council apologises for any inconvenience.

We are working closely with Urban Growth NSW and Transport NSW to progress the truncation of the rail line, the development of the Wickham interchange and the construction of the inner city light rail.

Now that we have information that these projects are going to work, we will be able to progress public domain improvements. A public domain plan technical manual is available on Council’s website for guide public domain on streetscape works in the city centre.

The facade improvement scheme is continuing to help transform the buildings in the city centre with more than 50 successful applications already. The streetscape renewals program will continue working with our city revitalisation partners to deliver projects like the Brickworks, Parking Day and improvement works on Bayview Street.

There will be opportunities to have your say on these major projects, keep an eye on the Newcastle Voice Facebook page for upcoming engagement opportunities.

The prestigious Newcastle City Hall offers several event and conference rooms, from the intimate Wickham Room to the grand scale of the 800 seat Concert Hall, conveniently located in the city and suitable for both corporate and social to public transport, accommodation, the CBD, Honeyeater and parking.

Restoration of the historic City Hall Clock Tower is underway will be completed in approximately 12 months. To help celebrate the clock visual appeal for events, a full-size visual appeal for events, a full-size image of the city hall clock will be printed on the scottish web-shop, which will give the site a unique look.

The historical building that attracts events also offers the venue for its functions will be preserved by years to come.

For more information or to book your great event, call 4924 2988 or visit www.newcastlecityhall.com.au

In conclusion, the Newcastle City Hall has been operational for more than 129 years, during which time it has witnessed many changes and developments. With the recent improvements and upgrades, the City Hall is set to continue its role as a vital hub for the community for many years to come.