



# **CONTENTS**

Recognition of the Cammeraygal People	1
Mayor's Message	2
Acting General Manager's Foreword	3
Our Elected Representatives	4
Introduction	5
Our Community Vision	6
Our Guiding Principles	7
Our Strategic Directions	8
Our Living Environment	10
Our Built Infrastructure	12
Our Innovative City	14
Our Social Vitality	16
Our Civic Leadership	18
Our North Sydney	20
Our Suburbs	22
Our Key Challenges	23
Community Engagement	25
Transformational Projects	29
Working Together	30
Reporting Process	30
Appendix 1. Our Partners	31
Appendix 2. Indicators	32
Appendix 3. Guiding Documents	36





RECOGNITION OF THE CAMMERAYGAL PEOPLE

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters of North Sydney local government area, the Cammeraygal people

We recognise the Cammeraygal as the first owners of the area known today as North Sydney. We acknowledge that the alienation of their country occurred with a land grant in 1794 without consultation, treaty or compensation.

Archaeological evidence shows that Aboriginal people have been in North Sydney at least 5,800 years, probably for thousands more. We treasure and seek to preserve the evidence of their presence here. In 1890, when North Sydney Council was formed through the merging of three boroughs, the word Cammeraygal was included on its coat of arms. Today it holds a central position in the Council's logo as a reminder of the long indigenous heritage of this place.

In recent years the spelling of Cammeraygal has varied to include Gammeraigal and Gai-maragal as our community has sought to more accurately reflect and honour the heritage of our First Nations people.



The Community Strategic Plan is the most important document for any Council and, particularly, for North Sydney Council. It is the centrepiece of all Council decision-making and actions. If it is not in the Community Strategic Plan, this Council cannot pursue it.

Part of the reason that this Community Strategic Plan is particularly important for our Council is that it strives to truly reflect the aspirations and needs of our community. It is, in fact, the Community's Strategic Plan - a contract between you and Council.

This Community Strategic Plan is a statement of where we, as a community, would like to be in 2040. In preparing the Plan, Council has listened to residents, ratepayers, businesses, workers, students, visitors and other agencies. We have reached out to people of all ages and backgrounds to ensure we understand what matters to you.

This Plan affirms the Outcomes and Strategies that are working well and adjusted those that aren't. It also sets a few ambitious targets that we will have to stretch to achieve. You will find these new Outcomes and Strategies under the five Directions outlined in the Plan.

In providing feedback, our community did not focus only on what we should do, but also on what we should be. As a result, we have identified three guiding principles that will underpin all the Outcomes and Strategies in the Plan. These guiding principles are core values which connect and direct all our activities. They are: sustainability, inclusivity and integrity.

While the term sustainability is most often used in the context of the environment, we extend that to cover all aspects of our community life, including economic, social and governance. For example, economic sustainability is not just balancing the budget year by year, but ensuring intergenerational equity is considered in the financial decisions that are made.

Inclusivity is our statement that everyone is important, and our services and facilities should be designed to support all members of the community. Integrity refers to transparency in decision making and showing respect to each other. We are committed to being open and to promoting robust community participation in our decision making.

This is a shared vision. While Council is the custodian of the Plan, working towards the aspirations set out here is a shared responsibility.

I look forward to working with my fellow councillors, Council staff and our community to deliver Outcomes identified here and celebrate our achievements. Working together will help ensure North Sydney is a resilient, thriving, and enjoyable place to live, work, visit and play.

Cr Zoë Baker

Mayor of North Sydney



The North Sydney Community Strategic Plan is a road map for what we want our community to be like in the future. Council has prepared the plan on behalf of the community, to guide us over the long term, by outlining where we want to be, how we will get there and measures to know we've arrived.

The plan has been informed by significant stakeholder engagement. Both representative and opt-in feedback have been used to articulate the long-term aspirations identified in the Plan.

Over the past decade there have been major changes in North Sydney. The population has grown and will continue to do so, increasing demand on our parks, sporting fields, playgrounds, open spaces and pathways - essential infrastructure to leading healthy and connected lives. Not surprisingly, open space - how we create it and manage it - is a priority in this Plan.

The way our community moves about and uses the local government area has also shifted and demand for community support and wellbeing services has increased. Council staff will continue to work hard to deliver high quality services and capital projects that make a difference to quality of life.

The NSW Government's projects, including the Metro and Western Harbour Tunnel (WHT), will continue to have an impact in the coming years. These projects present Council with both opportunities and challenges. We will continue to work with State Government as well as other agencies, to ensure the best outcomes for our community.

The details of how each Outcome will be achieved can be found in Council's Delivery Program and Resourcing Strategy. In accordance with legislative requirements, we will report progress against this Plan via the State of North Sydney Report in 2024.

**Rob Emerson** 

**Acting General Manager** 

# **OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES**

We look forward to working alongside our community to bring this vision to fruition.

#### ST LEONARDS WARD

#### **CAMMERAYGAL WARD**



Mayor Cr Zoë Baker



Cr MaryAnn Beregi



Deputy Mayor Cr William Bourke



Cr Jilly Gibson



Cr Dr Alanya Drummond



Cr Georgia Lamb



Cr Godfrey Santer



Cr Ian Mutton



Cr James Spenceley



Cr Shannon Welch

#### INTRODUCTION

The Community Strategic Plan is a plan to shape the North Sydney LGA's future. It is an evolution of the previous plans, however still recognises that to create the future we want, we need to do some things differently - to think differently and to act differently. It is both an aspirational vision and a practical plan.

At all times, the plan has sought to put environmental, social, economic and governance outcomes on an equal footing. It seeks to value the environment, strengthen our community, grow our economy and deliver strong and transparent leadership.

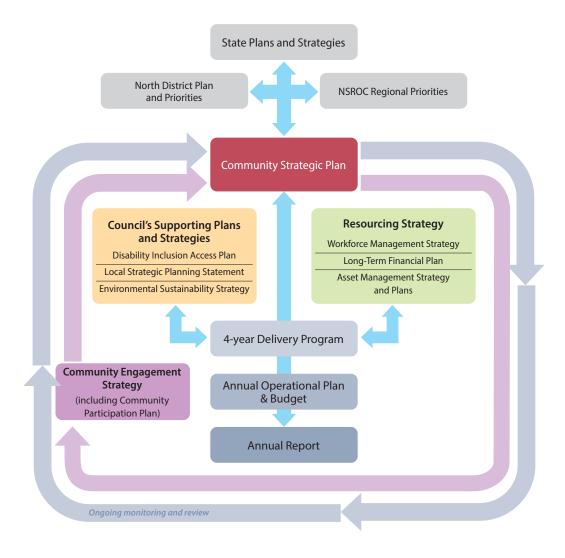
The plan seeks to address four key questions:

- 1 Where are we now?
- 2 Where do we want to be in 10-20 years time?
- 3 How will we get there?
- 4 How will we know we have arrived?

North Sydney Council is the custodian of the plan, collaborating with our stakeholders - residents, businesses and industry groups, workers, students, community organisations and individuals as well as other levels of government - to define and deliver the plan.

The plan calls for all levels of government, as well the community and private sector, to work together to achieve our shared vision. Achieving our vision will build upon the many things we love about North Sydney and help ensure our local area thrives into the future.

The plan has been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*, and the Essential Elements outlined in the IP&R Guidelines and Handbook (2021). The key components of the IP&R process are shown in the diagram below. For its part in delivering the plan, Council has prepared a four-year Delivery Program detailing our projects and services. This aligns with our long-term Resourcing Strategy.





# **OUR COMMUNITY VISION**

North Sydney is a welcoming, connected and resourceful community which acknowledges its past, enjoys the present and plans for our future.

We respect our beautiful harbourside locale, its unique villages and much valued bushland and open spaces. We lead the way in sustainability.

## **OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The guiding principles underpin all five Strategic Directions:

### **Sustainability**

We are stewards of the natural environment. We strive to decrease the consumption of resources and the generation of waste. We are responsible for our built environment and its impact on the natural environment. We minimise our impact on the environment, locally and globally.

We ensure social sustainability through human rights, living conditions, health, safety, wellbeing, diversity, equity, work-life balance, empowerment, community engagement and philanthropy.

We are financially sustainable now and into the future. We support and nurture North Sydney's long-term economic sustainability. We promote the use of renewable energy and clean technologies, protecting the environment, and managing the harmful impacts of climate change.

Sustainability is all-encompassing. Our Community Strategic Plan addresses the quadruple bottom line (QBL) - civic leadership, social, environmental and economic issues - in an integrated manner.

#### **Inclusivity**

We understand that everyone is unique. We recognise our individual differences. We support all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.

We embrace diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, and beliefs. We welcome different cultural, religious and language groups.

We have a strong sense of community, with unique places and villages for people to live, work and visit.

Our Community Strategic Plan is based on the social justice principles of equity, access, participation and rights.

#### **Integrity**

We act with integrity in all we do. Integrity is not just a corporate responsibility, but a personal one as well. It is about choice - choosing to be honest with a commitment to strong moral and ethical principles and values.

The community rightly expects that services will be delivered professionally and with integrity. Resources are managed in a responsible, efficient, and accountable manner in accordance with best value principles.

We respect others, make every effort to understand each other, take responsibility for our actions and decisions, and work together to build mutual trust.

We lead by example. We are transparent in our actions, through our long-standing commitment to 'open government'. We exercise open communication. We listen to the community, actively engaging with them and using these insights to inform our decision making.

Council's Organisational Sustainability Policy recognises that all its decisions and actions have an impact on the quality of life of present and future generations.

# OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

The *Community Strategic Plan* is framed around five Strategic Directions, each with desired Outcomes supported by specific Strategies and Indicators. Each Strategy and Indicator is linked to one of the elements of the quadruple bottom line (QBL).

### **Linking the Vision to Action**

This is how the Community Strategic Plan supports the community's vision and the guiding principles that frames how we get there:

**Community Vision** - outlines the kind of place and community North Sydney aspires to be in the long-term.

**Guiding Principles** - Sustainability, Inclusivity, and Integrity - are the moral values that underpin all five Strategic Directions.

**Strategic Directions** - these are the five big picture results that the community would like to achieve.

**Outcomes** - desired from each Strategic Direction. They are specific, focusing on the end result rather than how to get there i.e. they are the realisation of the Strategic Direction.

**Strategies** - guide the specific actions related to this plan, defining how to achieve the Outcomes. All stakeholders, including Council, are responsible for working towards the vision by achieving the long-term strategies. For its part, Council outlines what it's responsible for and how it will achieve the vision through the provision of projects and services, as outlined in our Delivery Program and Resourcing Strategy.

**Indicators** - help measure progress towards the Outcomes. They are not a measure of Council's performance, rather a gauge for stakeholders to determine if we are moving towards the vision.



Climate change is recognised as a threat to the future of our community, requiring action by all levels of government. Our community minimises waste, maximises use of renewable energy and increases tree canopy to mitigate the impact.

Our natural environment supports biodiversity, through our bushland reserves, wildlife corridors and innovative foreshore management. Recreational facilities including parks, sporting fields and playgrounds support an active lifestyle for residents and visitors.

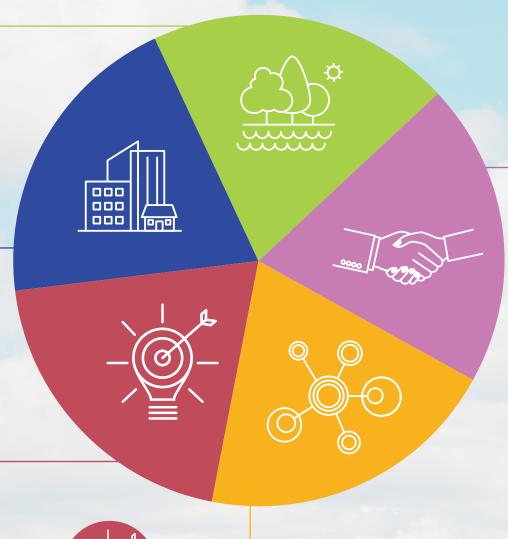
# **Direction 1**OUR LIVING ENVIRONMENT



North Sydney's public spaces and village centres promote their unique character and provide vibrant and safe places for the community to gather and connect. Our built infrastructure and community assets follow sustainable design principles and meet the needs of our growing population.

Our community prioritises walking, cycling and public transport and people of all ages are comfortable riding in the area. Vehicle transport is supported by an effective and integrated transport and parking system.

Direction 2
OUR BUILT INFRASTRUCTURE





Global investment and businesses are drawn to North Sydney because it is a centre of innovation, entrepreneurship and tourism. North Sydney CBD and St Leonards are important part of the Eastern Economic Corridor. The character of our local centres are enhanced to maximise vitality and tourism are balanced with maintaining residential amenity.

Land use planning and contemporary planning controls ensure the protection of historic buildings and places, and that new development respects North Sydney's distinct identity, heritage character and natural environment. Housing is accessible and affordable for all individuals and families.

Direction 3
OUR INNOVATIVE CITY



Our community enjoys a healthy and active lifestyle, improved accessibility, wellbeing and safety, safety, and a life free from violence and crime. North Sydney is known for its vibrancy and cultural diversity, with markets, festivals, art and culture, events that connect the community.

Residents have access to the best health care and support services. Education opportunities are many and varied. Service providers, including Stanton Library deliver facilities that meet the community's changing cultural and educational needs. Local heritage and our First Nations history and culture is preserved, respected and celebrated.

Direction 4
OUR SOCIAL VITALITY



Our community has confidence in North Sydney's strategic direction and trusts Council, along with partner organisations, to lead with integrity and demonstrate good governance. Council provides what the community needs now and plans for the needs of future generations. The community is actively engaged in the future direction of North Sydney in accordance with our long-standing commitment to "open government".

Council demonstrates transparency and leadership in its decision making, is accountable to the community, and respectful in its interactions. Council is the employer of first choice, attracting and retaining highly motivated and skilled employees, committed to providing the community with quality service.

Direction 5
OUR CIVIC LEADERSHIP

# **OUR LIVING ENVIRONMENT**

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Protected, enhanced and biodiverse natural environment

Rehabilitate native bushland areas and fauna habitats to enhance biodiversity **ENV** 

Increase awareness of biodiversity conservation through education and community partnerships **ENV** 

Implement strategies that encourage healthy local waterways **ENV** 

**Environmentally** sustainable community

Reduce strain on natural resources through sustainable energy, water and waste reduction practices **ENV** 

Deliver the declaration to reduce the drivers of climate change and to prepare for the inevitable impacts to come ENV

1.3

Expand urban tree canopy incorporating sustainable native management **ENV** 

places

Clean and green Encourage community gardening and hard surface greening, including rooftop gardens ENV

> Advocate for infrastructure that assists with greening initiatives, including powerline undergrounding ENV

Protect, enhance and expand public open space and foreshore access

Well utilised open space and recreational facilities

Provide infrastructure to encourage and support participation in healthy, physical activity and recreation for all SOC

Attract a variety of sporting and community events to North Sydney, including North Sydney Oval SOC

Advocate for new visionary and quality open and green spaces **SOC** 

Advocate on behalf of the community at all levels of government against negative impacts on our environment arising from development and major infrastructure projects SOC































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Our community prioritises walking, cycling and public transport and people of all ages are comfortable riding in the area. Vehicle transport is supported by an effective and integrated transport and parking system.

Infrastructure and assets 2.1 meet diverse community needs

Expand and adapt our community's infrastructure to meet future needs

Promote resilience and plan for and respond to large scale emergencies SOC

Advocate for and increase community access to public and private infrastructure SOC

Vibrant public 2.2 domains and villages

Enhance public domains and village streetscapes SOC

Improve lighting and surveillance to make public spaces safer **SOC** 

**Prioritise** sustainable 2.3 and active transport

Incentivise use of sustainable and innovative public transport SOC

Provide infrastructure to support sustainable, innovative and active transport SOC

Provide a connected walking and cycling network for people of all ages and abilities SOC

**Efficient traffic** 2.4 mobility and parking

Reduce traffic through improved active and public transport **SOC** 

Integrate on-street and off-street parking options in residential and commercial areas SOC

Better integrate major transport infrastructure into the local built environment soc



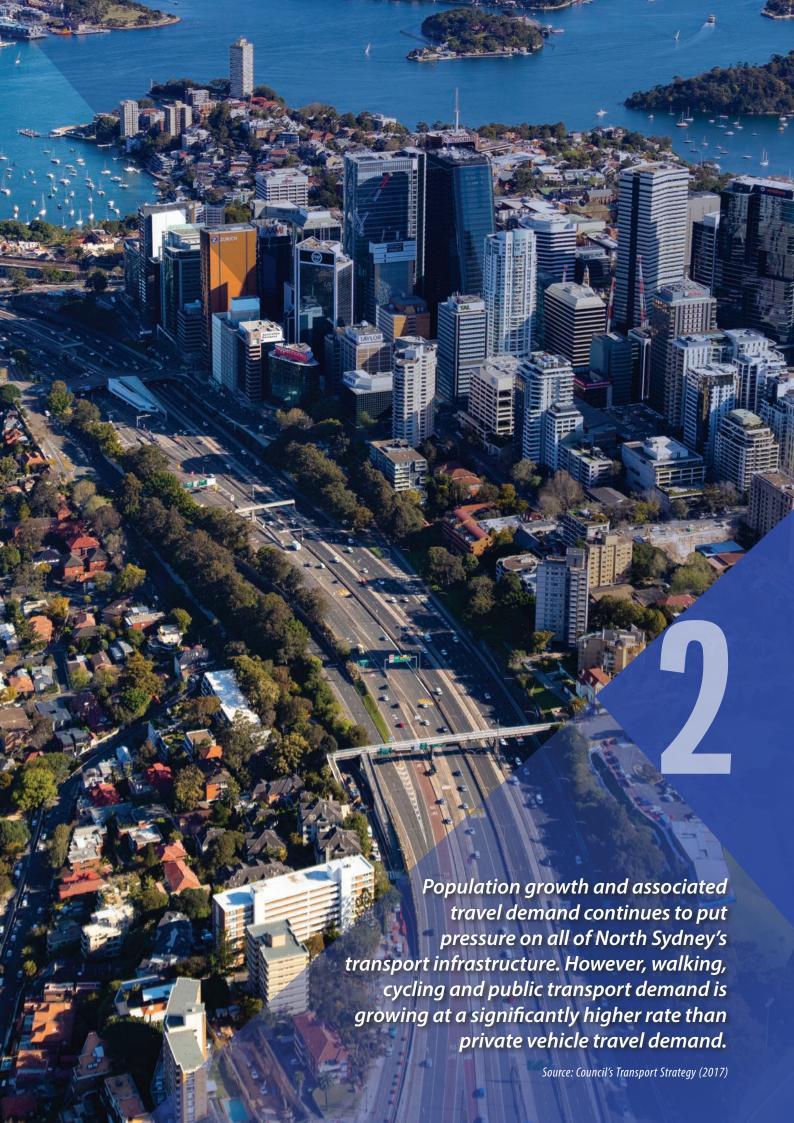














# **OUR INNOVATIVE CITY**

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Land use planning and contemporary planning controls ensure the protection of historic buildings and places, and that new development respects North Sydney's distinct identity, heritage character and natural environment. Housing is accessible and affordable for all individuals and families.

Our commercial centres are prosperous and vibrant Support existing and attract new and diverse businesses **ECO** 

Enhance the night time and weekend economy **ECO** 

Deliver sustainable tourism activity **ECO** 

Strengthen the North Sydney CBD's competitiveness and identity **ECO** 

3.2

3.1

Distinctive sense of place and design excellence

Leading strategic land use planning SOC

Improve urban design, amenity, accessibility, liveability and public domain soc

Advocate for and provide affordable housing **SOC** 

Manage and promote compliance SOC

3.3

**North Sydney** is smart and innovative

Deliver smart city strategies **ECO** 

Deliver and support smart, innovative services to the community **ECO** 

















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Residents have access to the best health care and support services. Education opportunities are many and varied. Service providers, including Stanton Library deliver facilities that meet the community's changing cultural and educational needs. Local heritage and our First Nations history and culture is preserved, respected and celebrated.

North Sydney
is connected,
inclusive,
healthy and
safe

Increase, celebrate and foster community connectedness, health, inclusivity and safety through services and programs **SOC** 

Reduce housing stress and homelessness particularly for vulnerable people and communities at risk, including sexual, domestic and family violence **SOC** 

Utilise and develop community skills and expertise through volunteering **SOC** 

Provide support and funding to not-for-profit community groups and charities **SOC** 

A centre for creativity and learning

Foster, support and increase creative arts **SOC** 

Provide and support a diverse range of events and street life **SOC** 

Provide diverse education and learning choices that meet growing needs  $\emph{SOC}$ 

4.3 North Sydney's history is preserved and recognised

Interpret and promote North Sydney's history and heritage SOC

Protect and maintain historical sites, items and records SOC

Promote awareness of North Sydney's First Nation's heritage SOC

















# **OUR CIVIC LEADERSHIP**

Our community has confidence in North Sydney's strategic direction and trusts Council, along with partner organisations, to lead with integrity and demonstrate good governance. Council provides what the community needs now and plans for the needs of future generations. The community is actively engaged in the future direction of North Sydney in accordance with our long-standing commitment to "open government".

Council demonstrates transparency and leadership in its decision making, is accountable to the community, and respectful in its interactions. Council is the employer of first choice, attracting and retaining highly motivated and skilled employees, committed to providing the community with quality service.

5.1	Lead North	Create effective working relationships between local, state and federal governments <i>GOV</i>
	Sydney's	Plan to deliver the aspirations of our community <i>GOV</i>
	strategic	Lead public debate on the future of local government GOV
	direction	Manage financial resources effectively and responsibly, including explore new revenue streams <i>GOV</i>

Strong civic leadership and customer focussed services Provide accountable, transparent, accessible and participatory decision making *GOV* 

Councillors meet their obligations and excel in their roles as community leaders *GOV* 

Implement best practice governance and risk management GOV

Provide best practice customer service GOV

5.3 Community is engaged in what Council does

Promote Council's activities and achievements through use of enhanced communication methods *GOV* 

Provide best practice community engagement, including the Precinct System  ${\it GOV}$ 

5.4

5.2

Council services are efficient and easy to access Enhance information management and communications technology assets and outcomes *GOV* 

Preserve and provide best practice access to Council records GOV

Implement best practice procurement and contract management GOV

Council is an employer of first choice; attracting, developing, supporting and retaining highly skilled staff **GOV** 











# **OUR NORTH SYDNEY**

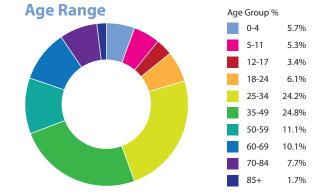
Working Population
Of the 72,224 people who work in North Sydney LGA:
\*14% live in the LGA
\*86% live outside
the LGA

#### **Population Growth (ERP)**

2016	72,037
2021	79,094
2036	84,422
2041	89,900

#### **Population Density - People per hectare (PPH)**

64.50	North Sydney LGA
9.35	NSROC
3.90	Greater Sydney



# Family Structure

North Sydney LGA	18%	28.5%	5.3%	32.4%
NSROC	36.7%	24.5%	7.8%	21.5%
Greater Sydney	35.3%	22.4%	10.4%	20.4%

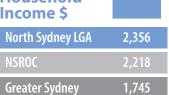
Housing			OWNED	MORTGAGED	RENTED
North Sydney LGA	18%	89.2%	23.3%	19.9%	47.4%
NSROC	36.7%	49.5%	32%	30.7%	30.6%
Greater Sydney	35.3%	43.8%	27.7%	31.5%	32.6%

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2016 and National Economics (NEIR) - compiled by .id (informed decisions). Correct as at 6 April 2021

Note: the 2021 ABS Census data is not available until late 2022

Transport to Work				
North Sydney LGA	32.6%	39.8%	12%	5.9%
NSROC	47.1%	30.5%	5.5%	6.2%
Greater Sydney	56.6%	22.7%	4.8%	4.4%

#### Median Household Income \$ North Sydney LGA



0.3% ATSI origin

115,376 Local Jobs (NEIR 2021)

#### **Job Targets by 2036**

+15,600 to 21,000 North Sydney

+6,900 to 16,400 St Leonards/Crows Nest



#### **Gross Regional Product (GRP)** (NEIR 2021)

\$22.87 billion

15,382 Local Businesses (ABS 2021)

#### **Top 5 Industries**

27.3%

Professional, Scientific and Technical

14.7%

Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services

13.9%

Financial and Insurance Services

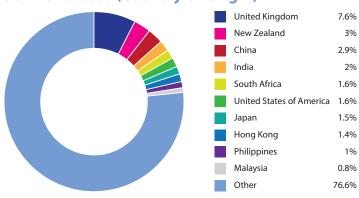
6.9%

Construction

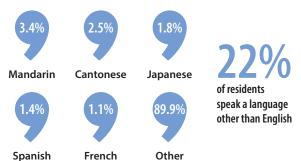
6.8%

Health Care and Social Assistance

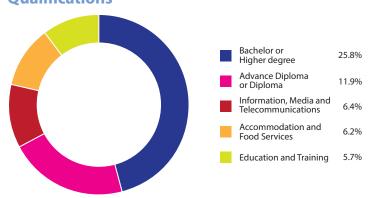
#### **Born Overseas (Country of Origin)**

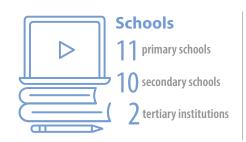


#### **Languages Spoken other than English**



#### Qualifications





# **Volunteering** of the North Sydney

LGA population engage in some form of voluntary work

# **OUR SUBURBS**



**Cammeray** 



Cremorne



**Cremorne Point** 



**Crows Nest** 



Kirribilli



**Kurraba Point** 



**Lavender Bay** 



**McMahons Point** 



**Milsons Point** 



**Neutral Bay** 



**North Sydney** 



**St Leonards** 



Waverton



Wollstonecraft

The North Sydney LGA, on the Lower North Shore, covers approximately 10.9 square kilometres.

Council has two wards: Cammeraygal and St Leonards, which came into effect at the 2021 election

The LGA consists of the above suburbs, each with their unique village character.

### **OUR KEY CHALLENGES**

This section identifies key issues and challenges for North Sydney LGA. Many are interrelated. These have been accounted for in our forward planning.

#### **Growing Population**

The number of people who live, work, study and visit North Sydney will continue to grow. The increase in population places pressure on our infrastructure and open space. Additional housing should be concentrated in existing centres and along key transport routes to maximise use of existing and proposed infrastructure. While we are an ageing population, the 'young workforce' and 'parents and homebuilders' (25-49 years) represent half of the population. We have a higher proportion of lone person and couples without children households, and this is projected to increase by 2036.

Additionally, the North Sydney LGA supports over 19,000 students across 21 primary and secondary schools, with a significant number travelling from outside the area. This is expected to increase, as the demand of education and in turn, campus size increases. North Sydney is also home to a major university campus with 5,500 students.

### **Housing Affordability**

Over 11,000 additional dwellings are projected by 2036, mostly apartments aligning with trends across major Australian cities. In turn, the number of residents living in apartments has increased, particularly single person households and families with children. We are ranked 9th nationally in terms of the highest concentration of children living in apartments, with families taking advantage of proximity to schools, work, transport and amenities. The challenge is about meeting community expectations through the provision of high-quality open space and services.

Affordable housing is an issue. More households are seeking to rent houses with more bedrooms, as the price to purchase becomes more expensive. The demand for rental priorities will remain high. The challenge is to reduce economic and social inequality, and advocate for universal access to housing, to ensure a diverse mix of people can continue to live, work and contribute to community life.

Another trend requiring a comprehensive response is more older persons preferring to age in place (remain in their homes for longer). Whole-of-life issues need to be planned for, including adaptable and accessible housing, and proximity to shops, community facilities and transport to minimise car use.

#### **COVID Pandemic**

The worldwide pandemic has both positively and negatively impacted the North Sydney LGA. We experienced an increase in people walking, cycling and jogging, as well as outdoor fitness training. Usage of our parks and open spaces for passive recreation, including family gatherings and picnics increased, with more people out exploring their local area.

It has changed the way we work, with more of residents working from home. It also changed how people and businesses used our commercial areas with the daily influx of commuters changing to less predictable patterns of use. While many of our small to medium sized businesses have been negatively impacted, some new ventures emerged. Our challenge is support our businesses.

# Equitable Access to Open Space and Recreation

The demand for open space, sporting and recreation facilities continues to increase as our population grows with limited capacity to deliver more physical open space in a dense urban environment. This is a long-standing regional dilemma, with the NSROC Regional Sportsfields Strategy finding the gap between demand and supply will further escalate by 2036. Our precious open space will be negatively impacted by the Western Harbour Tunnel (WHT) project in which 15,000sqm of Cammeray Park will be lost.

Water recreation is a great part of living and visiting the North Sydney LGA. Usage of small watercrafts is increasingly popular and therefore equitable access to the foreshores and waterways is required to ensure the convenience and enjoyment of the wider community. Our challenge is to meet our residential and visitor community demand for active and passive recreation spaces given the limited land supply.

#### **Climate Change**

Numerous natural and human challenges confront North Sydney. There is a clear call to act locally as the global community becomes more aware and concerned about climate change and environmental degradation. We must explore new ways to reduce the community's ecological footprint including reduction and management of greenhouse gas emissions, energy and water consumption.

Natural hazards such as heatwaves, extreme rainfall events and high intensity storms are expected to accelerate as the climate changes. Increasing our community's resilience is key. Our street trees are intrinsic to our local character and our 'green infrastructure'. Ensuring no net loss of our current canopy cover is essential for the planetary health and wellbeing of our community.

North Sydney has a long history of demonstrating leadership in waste management, with landfill diversion rates amongst the highest in NSW. We have been at the forefront of waste processing for many years, however significant investment is required, at a state and federal level, to enable us to continue to meet our aspirational targets for waste diversion from landfill. Our local circular economy is becoming increasingly popular, with increased community commitment to reuse, recycling and responsible manufacture and procurement.

#### **Moving Around**

Our area is well serviced by public transport and Crows Nest and North Sydney stations of the Sydney Metro will be operational in 2024, increasing mode choice. Due to North Sydney's position in metropolitan Sydney's transport network, there are many private motor vehicles travelling within and through the LGA, to be increased by the WHT. This leads to traffic congestion and impacts on pedestrian safety and amenity. There is a high demand for the limited on-street parking around the commercial centres as well as residential areas.

Transport options have expanded in recent years with car and ride options plus ride share options, and there is likely to be further options in the future with the potential for autonomous vehicles and further expansion of the share economy. There is a need to balance car ownership and the demand and supply of parking, and to maximise the benefits of the Sydney Metro. Our challenge is to advocate for improved roads and public transport, encourage greater use of public transport and walking or cycling as alternatives to car use.

#### **Financial Sustainability**

Traditionally, councils focused their activities on maintaining roads, collecting rubbish, and collecting rates to pay for these services. While recent Customer Satisfaction Surveys have shown that these and other traditional services, such as street cleaning, park maintenance and managing development remain important, the list of services that our community believes are important for Council to provide has grown considerably.

North Sydney, like more Australian local government authorities, faces a shortage of funds, with the largest single demand on Council's resources being the renewal and maintenance of infrastructure. This leaves scarce resources for constructing new assets and expanding non-core services. Council's challenge is to continually engage with the community to understand and manage expectations, and to optimise service delivery at an affordable cost to the community.

7 of the top 10 most liveable NSW suburbs are in the North Sydney LGA, based on access to employment, access to public transport, culture, education, shopping, open space, topographic variation, access to restaurants and bars, crime rates and telecommunication... the pressures of population growth and the responsibilities of maintaining such a high standard of aspirational living will remain constant.

Source: 2019 Domain Liveability Study

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The key objective of asset management planning is to provide the required level of service for the community in accordance with the Community Strategic Plan and in the most cost-effective manner. Levels of service are key business drivers for asset and workforce planning.

The linking of service levels and the cost-of-service delivery is an essential component of strategic asset management. It is essential that Council knows the true costs of service delivery, priorities placed by the community on infrastructure, the service levels that are desired by the community and what level they are willing to pay for.

#### **Customer Satisfaction Survey 2020**

Council periodically undertakes a *Customer Satisfaction Survey* to determine community attitudes towards the services and facilities it provides. The survey is conducted on Council's behalf by an independent research company. The randomly selected representative sample consists of 400 residential and 200 business customers (both owners and renters). Full survey results are available from Council's website.

The Customer Satisfaction Survey provides Council with feedback about the appropriateness of each of its key services, and this information assists with prioritising funding of Council activities (services and projects) in the Delivery Program and Asset Management Plans, to ensure areas that are not meeting community expectation are reviewed and ultimately improved. It is clear from the most recent surveys that the North Sydney community expect the current level of service to be retained, and in some areas increased.

The 2020 survey, undertaken by Jetty Research, sought feedback from representative sample of 400 residents and 200 businesses. Key findings from the survey were:

75%	90%	87%	54%	68%
of residents agree North Sydney has a	of residents perceive their	of businesses are satisfied with North	of residents are satisfied with North	of businesses are satisfied with North
strong sense of community	quality of life as very good to excellent	Sydney as place to do business	Sydney's strategic direction	Sydney's strategic direction

The following table details resident's satisfaction with key service areas:

Ranking	Service/Function	2020	2020 v 2016 (%)
1	Maintenance of parks, ovals and bushland areas	91%	1%
2	Feeling safe in North Sydney	90%	1%
3	Way North Sydney as a whole looks and feels	88%	68%
4	Cleanliness of local roads and footpaths	86%	5%
5	Waste and recycling collection services	84%	2%
6	Recreation facilities	82%	n/a
7	Appearance of local village centres	78%	2%
8	Appearance of public spaces in the North Sydney CBD	73%	-4%
9	Maintenance of malls and plazas in commercial areas	73%	2%
10	Maintenance of local roads and footpaths	73%	-2%

Ranking	Service/Function	2020	2020 v 2016 (%)
11	Stanton Library	69%	2%
12	Council run community events	69%	-5%
13	Customer service/information provided by Council staff	64%	-9%
14	Management of traffic flow on local roads	63%	17%
15	Quality of commercial and residential development	58%	-5%
16	Policing of parking	52%	-2%
17	Pedestrian and cycle paths	52%	-1%
18	Range of arts and cultural experiences in North Sydney	51%	-13%
19	Community centres and facilities	50%	-14%
20	North Sydney Olympic Pool	49%	-14%
21	Provision of parking	46%	11%
22	Range of public art in North Sydney	41%	-10%
23	Children's services	26%	-17%

#### The following table details business satisfaction with key service areas:

	Satisfaction with Key Service Areas - Businesses			
Ranking	Service/Function	2020 Result	Change Compared to 2016 (%)	
1	Cleanliness of local roads and footpaths	82%	1%	
2	Way North Sydney as a whole looks and feels	79%	-1%	
3	Look and feel of commercial areas and villages	74%	-2%	
4	Maintenance of local roads and footpaths	73%	-3%	
5	Maintenance of commercial areas	70%	-5%	
6	Quality of commercial and residential development	61%	-10%	
7	Managing traffic flow on local roads	60%	-7%	
8	Customer service/information provided by Council staff	55%	-2%	
9	Policing of parking	45%	-7%	
10	Council's business processes	37%	n/a	
11	Provision of parking	35%	-2%	

### **Liveability Census 2021**

Place Score's 2021 Liveability Census is an independent opt-in survey revealing liveability strengths and best place attributes. 401 residents shared what matters most (care factor/community values) and 380 residents rated their suburb (performance). This achieved a 95% confidence level (+/- 5%) consistent with Council's Community Survey. However, the under 25 years age group was underrepresented and more females than males participated.

The top three liveability strengths (attributes of community importance) are:

#### connectivity

proximity to other neighbourhoods, employment centres, shops

# landscaping and natural elements

street trees, planting, water features

# access to neighbourhood amenities

cafes, shops, health and wellness services

The top three priorities for the North Sydney LGA are:

# protection of the natural environment

quality of public space

traths verges parks etc.

footpaths, verges, parks etc

signage, paths, lighting etc

access and safety of walking,

cycling, public transport

The following table compares the best and worst performing place attributes (strengths and weaknesses) for the North Sydney LGA compared with the national average (shown in brackets):

Top 5 Strengths	Top 5 Weaknesses
Things to do in the evenings - bars, dining, cinema, live music etc (+17%)	Ease of driving and parking (-8%)
Evidence of community activity - volunteering, gardening, art, community organised events etc (+15%)	Range of housing prices and tenures - low to high \$, buy or rent etc (-6%)
Local history, historic buildings or features (+14%)	Child services - child care, early learning, after school care, medical etc (-2%)
Sense of personal safety - for all ages, genders, day or night (+12%)	Physical comfort - including noise, smells, temperature etc (0%)
Access to neighbourhood amenities - cafes, shops, health and wellness services etc (+12%)	Spaces suitable for play - from toddlers to teens (+1%)

### **Community Engagement Strategy**

In accordance with Council's adopted Community Engagement Strategy, Council also invited feedback via a two-stage consultation process:

Stage 1

October to December 2021 - feedback was invited via an online survey seeking to prioritise the Outcomes and Strategies in the 2018 plan, submissions, online map, photo sharing (encouraging our community to what they love most about the North Sydney LGA e.g. favourite location, feature or experience with the hashtag #mynorthsydney), story sharing and children's artwork (12 years and under were invited to visually depicted their vision for the future of the North Sydney LGA).

Stage 2

April to June 2022 - public exhibition of the draft plan for 42 days, during which time submissions were invited and an online information session open to the community provided an opportunity to ask questions about the draft plan.

In summary, the top 10 priorities identified were (not in any priority order):

- 1 Open space/green space
- 2 Sporting facilities indoor, outdoor and water sports
- 3 WHTBL and Warringah Freeway Upgrade impact on Cammeray Park, Berrys Bay, tree loss and unfiltered stacks
- 4 Planning controls/studies managing development to meet growth
- 5 Heritage conservation and promotion including recognition and celebration of First Nation's history and culture
- 6 Traffic and parking issues (various) and cycling/active transport
- 7 Community services and facilities
- 8 Improving connection with the community



# TRANSFORMATIONAL PROJECTS

Over the next 20 years, there are several 'once-in-a generation' opportunities for the North Sydney LGA. The following planned or desired projects have the potential to be transformative for our residents, businesses and visitors. They are not listed in any priority order, and their coming to fruition is the responsibility of numerous stakeholders, not just Council.

#### **Metro Station Developments**

The Sydney Metro City and Southwest project (part of the wider Sydney Metro line) provides convenient new transport links for residents and workers. The two stations located in our area Victoria Cross (North Sydney CBD) and Crows Nest provide opportunities to improve the public domain, pedestrian safety and amenity, street life and economic activity. Council is working with the State Government to minimise the local impacts during construction and maximise the benefits to our community.

#### Miller Place

Additional public space is needed in the centre of the North Sydney CBD to support the expected growth of workers in North Sydney. As outlined in Council's North Sydney CBD Public Domain Strategy (2020), Council has been working with Transport for NSW and other State Government agencies to build on the transformational opportunities that will be delivered by the Victoria Cross Metro in 2024. The creation of 'Miller Place' is proposed by closing Miller Street to traffic between the Pacific Highway and Berry Street to create a pedestrian space of a similar size and proportion as Martin Place. With large trees, publicly accessible lawns and good access to sunlight for extended periods of the day, Miller Place has the potential to become the civic, retail and social heart of a more pedestrian friendly North Sydney CBD.

# Berrys Bay and the Quarantine Launch Depot

Berrys Bay, an area steeped in history, has long been locked away from public use and under threat from massive development. Over the next few years, Berrys Bay will be used as a temporary construction site to support tunnelling work for the NSW Government's WHT project. Once construction is complete, the Berrys Bay foreshore will be returned to the public as open space with facilities. As a starting point, Council recently purchased the Quarantine Launch Depot, which will create a link between Carradah Park and the existing walking tracks in Balls Head Reserve.

### Former Waverton Bowling Club Site

In 2019, the Waverton Bowling Club went into liquidation, providing opportunity to consider future uses of the site that sits in Waverton Park. Council led community consultation to determine preferred community uses for the site. While there were differing views as to whether it should be used for passive or active recreation, it was agreed that the land should be reintegrated into the existing reserve to expand public open space for community use. Use of the site is subject to the outcome of an Aboriginal Land Claim.

#### New Open Space for Crows Nest/ St Leonards

With less open space per person than any other northern Sydney council, North Sydney needs to take every opportunity to extend open space. Two open space projects in Crows Nest are planned to offset the increased demand in this area. They are the expansion of the Hume Street Park (currently underway) and the potential undergrounding of the existing Holtermann Street Carpark to create an urban park, in the heart of Crows Nest, adjacent to the Crows Nest Centre.

### **WORKING TOGETHER**

While Council has a custodial role, on behalf of the community, in initiating, preparing and reporting on progress against the Community Strategic Plan, it is not wholly responsible for its implementation. Our plan identifies many issues and needs in which Council has only a limited role or minimal ability to influence. What Council is responsible for and able to deliver is detailed in our four year Delivery Program and annual Operational Plan.

Many of the issues and concerns facing the North Sydney LGA are complex and beyond the direct control and influence of Council, such as public transport, health, schools, housing, planning and employment. To deliver the community's vision, Council will work 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 - refer to Appendix 1.

### REPORTING PROGRESS

#### **Periodic Reporting**

Council reviews and reports to the community on progress against the Operational Plan and Budget quarterly; and we report biannually against the corporate scorecard within the Delivery Program.

Council periodically undertakes a Customer Satisfaction Survey benchmarking satisfaction with Council services and using the fundings to inform our programs, policies and services.

#### **Annual Report**

The Annual Report is one of the key points of accountability between the Council and our community. It provides a summary of the work completed by Council during each financial year, reporting against the Delivery Program and Operational Plan. The gives transparent insight into our operations and decision-making processes.

### State of North Sydney Report

Council must review and report on the effectiveness of the Community Strategic Plan is in achieving its objectives in line with the local government election cycle. As part of this review, we will prepare a report on the process of implementing the plan (this report was formerly known as the End of Term Report). The report will track the indicators within the plan, allowing us to see whether we are making progress towards the community vision - refer to Appendix 2.



# **APPENDIX 1. OUR PARTNERS**

This matrix details the stakeholders responsible for implementing this Plan.

	Advocate/ Influence	Funder	Provider	Regulator	Partner
Council	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
Businesses	••••	••••	•••		••••
Community groups and organisations	••••	•••	•••		••••
Developers	••••	•••	•••		••••
Neighbouring councils	••••	••••	••••		••••
NSROC	••••		•		••••
Peak bodies	••••				••••
Residents	••••	•			••••
Schools	••••	•••	•••		••••
Students	••••				••••
State/Federal government departments and agencies	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
Visitors	••••				••••
Volunteers	••••		•••		••••
Workers	••••				••••



# **APPENDIX 2. INDICATORS**

These indicators help measure progress towards the Outcomes. They are not a measure of Council's performance, rather a gauge for stakeholders to determine if we are moving towards the vision. Council will periodically report progress via the State of North Sydney Report. The indicators are grouped by QBL link.

ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS					
No.	Indicator	Related Outcome	Previous Actual	Target	
1	% bushland in good condition	1.1	75% (2018)	Increase	
2	No. local native fauna and flora species found	1.1	446 (2010)	Maintain	
3	% compliance with the Australian and New Zealand guidelines for fresh and marine water quality at Council's water quality monitoring sites	1.1	67% (2021)	Increase	
4	% stormwater in North Sydney's catchments treated by stormwater quality improvement devices	1.1	59% (2016/17)	Increase	
5	No. tonnes of rubbish removed by Council's pollution control devices	1.1	539t (2021)	Increase	
6	% reduction in community greenhouse gas emissions levels	1.2	18% (2016/17)	Increase	
7	% reduction in community's potable water use	1.2	7% (2017/18)	Increase	
8	No. tonnes reduction in waste generation per household	1.2	0.359t (2019/20)	Increase	
9	% recycling rate for municipal solid waste	1.2	37% (2018/19)	Increase	
10	% waste diversion form landfill	1.2	39% (2019/20)	Increase	
11	% total canopy cover	1.3	28.2% (2017)	Increase	
12	% residents satisfied with recreational facilities	1.4	82% (2020)	Increase	
13	% residents satisfied with the maintenance of parks, ovals and bushland areas	1.4	91% (2020)	Increase	
14	% dwellings within 400m or less distance of a neighbourhood recreation park (.0.5ha)	1.4	70.9% (2018)	Increase	

SOC	SOCIAL INDICATORS					
No.	Indicator	Related Outcome	Previous Actual	Target		
15	No. third party sporting and community events	1.4	n/a	Baseline		
16	% residents satisfied with the maintenance of local roads and footpaths	2.1	73% (2020)	Increase		
17	% businesses satisfied with maintenance of local roads and footpaths	2.1	73% (2020)	Increase		
18	% residents satisfied with cleanliness of local roads and footpaths	2.1	82% (2020)	Increase		
19	% businesses satisfied with cleanliness of local roads and footpaths	2.1	73% (2020)	Increase		
20	% residents satisfied with appearance of village areas/plazas	2.2	73% (2020)	Increase		
21	% residents satisfied with the look and amenity of North Sydney CBD	2.2	88% (2020)	Increase		
22	% businesses satisfied with the look and amenity of North Sydney CBD	2.2	79% (2020)	Increase		
23	% residents who feel safe in North Sydney	2.2	90% (2020)	Increase		
24	% residents travel to/from work using modes of transport other than sole occupant vehicles	2.3	80% (2016)	Increase		
25	% workers travel to/from work using modes of transport other than sole occupant vehicles	2.3	50% (2016)	Increase		
26	% dwellings within 400m of public transport within regular 30 minute weekday service (7am-7pm)	2.3	86.2% (2018)	Increase		
27	No. cars registered in North Sydney	2.3	24,877 (2021)	Decrease		
28	No. car share memberships in North Sydney	2.3	7,679 (2021)	Increase		
29	% new private vehicles purchased by residents of non-internal combustion engine vehicles	2.3	0.7% (2017)	Increase		
30	% residents satisfied with pedestrian and cycle paths	2.3	52% (2020)	Increase		
31	% residents satisfied with traffic flow throughout North Sydney	2.4	63% (2020)	Increase		
32	% residents satisfied with parking provision	2.4	46% (2020)	Increase		
33	% businesses satisfied with parking provision	2.4	35% (2020)	Increase		
34	% residents who feel a sense of community	4.1	75% (2020)	Increase		
35	% residents self-reporting health as excellent or very good	4.1	84.5% (2014)	Increase		

SOCIAL INDICATORS					
No.	Indicator	Related Outcome	Previous Actual	Target	
36	% residents undertaking adequate physical activity	4.1	70% (2020)	Increase	
37	% adults in NSLHD consuming the recommended daily intake of vegetables	4.1	8.2% (2020)	Increase	
38	Domestic violence related assault rate per 100,000 residents	4.1	113.2 (2021)	Decrease	
39	Ratio childcare places to population of children aged 0-5 years	4.1	0.88 (2021)	Increase	
40	Ratio aged care places per 1,000 older residents	4.1	0.125 (2021)	Increase	
41	Homeless count	4.1	411 (2016)	Decrease	
42	% residents involved in volunteering	4.1	21.5% (2016)	Increase	
43	% residents satisfied with the range of arts and cultural experiences	4.2	51% (2020)	Increase	
44	% residents satisfied with the range of public art	4.2	41% (2020)	Increase	
45	No. Council events	4.2	2,832 (2018- 2021)	Increase	
46	% residents satisfied with Council run events	4.2	69% (2020)	Increase	
47	% residents who are active member of Stanton Library	4.2	24.3% (2020)	Increase	
48	% users satisfied with Stanton Library	4.2	69% (2020)	Increase	
49	No. historical sites	4.3	1,081 (2021)	Maintain	
50	No. Aboriginal cultural heritage sites	4.3	81 (2021)	Maintain	

ECONOMIC INDICATORS					
No.	Indicator	Related Outcome	Previous Actual	Target	
51	Business entries	3.1	591 (2016)	Maintain	
52	Business exits	3.1	334 (2016)	Maintain	
53	% businesses that feel North Sydney is a good place to do business	3.1	88% (2020)	Increase	
54	Value of tourism and hospitality	3.1	1.7% (2019/20)	Increase	

ECOI	ECONOMIC INDICATORS					
No.	Indicator	Related Outcome	Previous Actual	Target		
55	Commercial vacancy rates	3.1	16.6% (2022)	Decrease		
56	Net growth of commercial floor space in the North Sydney CBD	3.1	n/a	Baseline		
57	% vacant A grade and A grade premium office space	3.1	n/a	Baseline		

GOVERNANCE INDICATORS					
No.	Indicator	Related Outcome	Previous Actual	Target	
58	% residents satisfied with North Sydney's strategic direction	5.1	54% (2020)	Increase	
59	% businesses satisfied with North Sydney's strategic direction	5.1	68% (2020)	Increase	
60	% residents aware of Community Strategic Plan	5.1	31% (2020)	Increase	
61	% businesses aware of Community Strategic Plan	5.1	24% (2020)	Increase	
62	% residents who feel Council operates under ethical, open, accountable and transparent processes	5.2	63% (2020)	Increase	
63	% businesses who feel Council operates under ethical, open, accountable and transparent processes	5.2	62% (2020)	Increase	
64	% residents satisfied with customer service/information provided by staff	5.2	64% (2020)	Increase	
65	% businesses satisfied with customer service/information provided by staff	5.2	55% (2020)	Increase	
66	% residents satisfied with communications from Council	5.3	85% (2020)	Increase	
67	% businesses satisfied with communications from Council	5.3	85% (2020)	Increase	
68	% residents satisfied with Council's community engagement process	5.3	47% (2020)	Increase	
69	% businesses satisfied with Council's community engagement process	5.3	42% (2020)	Increase	
70	% residents aware of the Precinct System	5.3	47% (2020)	Increase	

### APPENDIX 3. GUIDING DOCUMENTS

Our Community Strategic Plan is informed by and supports the following overarching documents and programs:

#### **Premier's Priorities**

The following priorities represent the NSW Government's commitment to making a significant difference to enhance the quality of life of the people of NSW:

- a strong economy
- · highest quality education
- well connected communities with quality local environments
- · putting customer at the centre of everything we do
- breaking the cycle of disadvantage

#### North District Plan

We are part of the North District as well as the Eastern Harbour City, and the Eastern Economic Corridor. The North District Plan (2018) provides for managed growth to achieve the A Metropolis of Three Cities - the Greater Sydney Region Plan (2018) and the Future Transport 2056 Strategy (2018).

The District Plan informs local strategic plans and planning instruments, the assessment of planning proposals as well as policies. It assists councils to align their local planning strategies to place-based outcomes, guides NSW Government agencies and informs the private sector and the wider community of approaches to manage growth and change. The plan consists of four pillars:

- Infrastructure and Collaboration
- Liveability
- Productivity
- Sustainability

#### **NSROC** Priorities

We are part of the Northern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC). NSROC investigates opportunities, plans for and leads the implementation of improved service delivery models for the region, across the following areas:

- · Social and Cultural
- Economic
- Transport

#### **Resilient Sydney**

Council is participating in the 100 Resilient Cities initiative, established by the Rockefeller Foundation. The program shares best practice in understanding the pressures that make a city vulnerable and strategies to become resilient. Actions include activities to provide better management and reporting of city-wide data, policy research, emergency response, social connections and community preparedness. We are committed to the following five resilience behaviours of the *Resilient Sydney Strategy* (2018):

- Aware
- Integrated
- Self-regulating
- Adaptive
- Diverse

# United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognise that ending poverty and other deprivations must go together with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth - all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests. Each Strategic Direction within this Plan indicates the related Sustainable Development Goals which the Strategies contribute to.



#### TRANSLATION SERVICE

If you do not understand this information, please ring the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50, and ask for an interpreter in your language to contact North Sydney Council on (02) 9936 8100. This is a free service.

#### **CHINESE**

如果您不明白本信息的内容,请 致电翻译与传译服务(TIS) 13 14 50 ,然后请会说您母语的传译员接 通North Sydney市议会电话 (02) 9936 8100。这是一项免费服 务。

#### HINDI

यदि आप इस जानकारी को नहीं समझ पा रहे हैं, तो कृपया 13 14 50 पर अनुवाद और दुभाषिया सेवा (Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)) को फ़ोन करें, और नॉर्थ सिंडनी काउंसिल से (02) 9936 8100 पर संपर्क करने के लिए अपनी भाषा के एक दुभाषिए के लिए अनुरोध करें। यह एक निः शलक सेवा है।

#### **JAPANESE**

この案内の内容を理解できない場合には、13 14 50 の翻訳通訳サービス (TIS)にかけて、あなたの母国語の通訳者に(02) 9936 8100のノースシドニーカウンシルにつなぐように伝えてください。当サービスは無料です。

#### **PORTUGUESE**

Se você não entender estas informações, ligue para o Serviço de Tradução e Interpretação (TIS) em 13 14 50 e peça um intérprete em seu idioma para entrar em contato com o North Sydney Council em (02) 9936 8100. Este é um serviço gratuito.

#### **SPANISH**

Si no comprende esta información, llame al Servicio de Traducción e Interpretación (TIS), en el 13 14 50, y solicite un intérprete en su idioma para ponerse en contacto con el Concejo Municipal de North Sydney, en el (02 9936 8100). Este es un servicio gratuito

#### **KOREAN**

본 내용이 잘 이해되지 않는 경우에는 통번역 서비스(TIS) 13 14 50번에 전화해서 한국어 통역사에게 노스 시드니 카운슬 전화 (02) 9936 8100 번으로 연결을 요청하시기 바랍니다. 이 서비스는 무료입니다.



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