

Chapter Ten





2009 COMMUNITY SURVEY

Prepared by Cessnock City Council in conjunction with the
Local Area Planning Team

February 2009

Cessnock City Council is currently working in partnership with the Local Area Planning Team to review its Social and Community Plan. To enable the team to better meet the needs of the community, we require a snapshot of the social and community issues of concern. Your assistance in completing this survey is appreciated and will provide the Local Area Planning Team with valuable information in planning for future services.

Who should fill out this survey?

Any person who resides in the Cessnock Local Government Area.

Filling out the survey.

Please answer all questions to the best of your ability.

- Where written answers are required – PLEASE PRINT.
- Use a pen rather than pencil.

Confidentiality.

This survey is anonymous. No identifiable information about individuals or groups will be released to any person, organisation or government authority. All information returned to Cessnock City Council will be treated as per the NSW *Privacy and Personal Information Act 1998*.

Help is available.

If you need assistance completing this survey, please telephone Council's Social Planner, Natalie Drage, on (02) 4993 4118. If you find the writing on the survey too small, we will be pleased to send you a large print form.

Generalist Community Survey

DEMOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Q1. What is your age? (please circle)

12-17	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-59	60-69	70-84	85+
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Q2. Are you: Male **Female**

Q3. What town do you live in? (please circle)

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Aberdare | 18 East Branxton | 35 Neath |
| 2 Abermain | 19 Ellalong | 36 North Rothbury |
| 3 Abernethy | 20 Elrington | 37 Nulkaba |
| 4 Allandale | 21 Four Mile Creek | 38 Paxton |
| 5 Bellbird(incl Heights) | 22 Greta | 39 Paynes Crossing |
| 6 Bishops Bridge | 23 Heddon Greta | 40 Pelaw Main |
| 7 Branxton | 24 Kearsley | 41 Pelton |
| 8 Brunkerville | 25 Keinbah | 42 Pokolbin |
| 9 Buchanan | 26 Kitchener | 43 Quorrobolong |
| 10 Buttai | 27 Kurri Kurri | 44 Rothbury |
| 11 Cessnock | 28 Laguna | 45 Sawyers Gully |
| 12 Cessnock East | 29 Lovedale | 46 Spion Kop |
| 13 Cessnock South | 30 Loxford | 47 Stanford Merthyr |
| 14 Cessnock West | 31 Millfield | 48 Stockrington |
| 15 Cliftleigh | 32 Mount View | 49 Sweetmans Creek |
| 16 Congewai | 33 Mount Vincent | 50 Weston |
| 17 Yango Creek | 34 Mulbring | 51 Wollombi |
| Other _____ | | 52. Bucketty |

Q4. Are you a person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

Yes

No

Q5. Who do you currently live with?

Partner	Family	Shared House	Alone	Other
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Q6. In which country were you born?

Q7. Do you need help with self care activities (for example eating, showering, dressing, toileting)?

Yes, always

Yes, sometimes

No

Q8. What is the main reason you choose to live in the Cessnock Local Government Area? (please circle)

Work

Hometown

To be near family

Educational Studies

Attributes of the community

Other _____

IDENTIFYING COMMUNITY NEEDS AND STRENGTHS

Q9. Rate the quality of the following: (Please circle unsatisfactory, satisfactory, good, very good, or excellent. If you are unsure, please circle not known.)

Public Transport (availability, affordability etc)

Not Known	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
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Availability of Recreation/Community Facilities (parks, basketball stadium, cricket pitches, public pools, community halls etc)

Not Known	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
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Availability of Natural Outdoor Areas (national parks, reserves, walking tracks etc)

Not Known	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
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Availability of Cultural Facilities (local libraries, Cessnock Performing Arts Centre, Marthaville etc)

Not Known	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
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Availability of Community Support Services (women's services, men's health programs, counselling, family support services etc)

Not Known	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
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Availability of child care services

Not Known	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
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Availability of services that offer support to people who are aged or in need of practical personal care assistance

Not Known	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
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Availability of residential aged care facilities

Not Known	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
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Availability of youth services and programs

Not Known	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
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Availability of employment options within the Cessnock Local Government Area

Not Known	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
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Please Comment (if required)

ACCESS TO A LOCAL DOCTOR

Q10. How would you rate the availability of General Practitioner (Local Doctor) Medical Services within your community?

Not Known	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Excellent
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Q11. If you cannot get a timely appointment with your Doctor what do you do? (You may tick more than one.)

Make an appointment despite the wait time

Attend a local hospital

Attend a GP after Hours Service

Do nothing

Ask the pharmacist at the chemist

Other (please specify).....

If you would like, please make further comments.

Q12. Is your General Practitioner (Local Doctor) located in the Cessnock Local Government Area?

Yes

No

If no what town are they located in?

.....

Q13. Do you think we need more General Practitioners in the Cessnock Local Government Area?

Yes

No

Unsure

IDENTIFYING A DIRECTION FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

Q14. What do you enjoy about your community?

Q15. What are the main issues facing your community?

Q16. What could be done to make your community better?

**Q17. In the past 12 months has there been a service that you needed but could not find?
(For example, a support service, children services, transport, health services etc.)**

Yes

No

If yes, what type of service?

Q18. What sort of entertainment or recreational activities would you like to see in your community?

IDENTIFYING COMMUNITY INTERESTS

Q19. What kind of activities do you undertake for relaxation or personal interest? (You may tick more than one.)

Groups/Activities	Tick if Yes	In Cessnock Local Government Area (Please Tick if Yes)	Elsewhere (Please Tick if yes)
Reading			
Listening to music			
Playing a musical instrument			
Performing (e.g singing, acting, music)			
Going for walks			
Participating in sport			
Going to performances, e.g concerts, plays, shows, outdoor events			
Going dancing			
Going to restaurants			
Going to markets			
Going to sporting events			
Going to the movies			
Going to galleries/exhibitions			
Going bush, eg bushwalking, camping			
Pursuing a hobby			
Being creative, eg craft making, painting, woodturning, etc			

Q20. If you ticked “Elsewhere” above, where do you go?

Maitland

Newcastle

Sydney

Other (Please specify) _____

ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

Q21. How do you find out about things relating to you and your community?

(You may tick more than one.)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Word of mouth | <input type="checkbox"/> Local MP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Councillors | <input type="checkbox"/> Magazines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flyers/Handouts | <input type="checkbox"/> Internet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Television | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers (Local) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio (local) | <input type="checkbox"/> Noticeboards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio (commercial) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community or School Newsletters | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | |

Q22. Do any local businesses provide you with information about what is happening in your community? (You may tick more than one.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Video Shop | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Takeaway Outlets | <input type="checkbox"/> Supermarket |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Service Station | <input type="checkbox"/> Restaurant/Cafes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Post Office | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsagency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Shops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel/Pub | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Food Store |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hair Salon | <input type="checkbox"/> Chemist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charity Shop | <input type="checkbox"/> Butcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bottle Shop | <input type="checkbox"/> Bakery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | |

Q23. What kind of community groups or clubs are you a member of?

(You may tick more than one.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children and Youth Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Playgroup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Craft Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dance Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> History Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Groups (theatre, visual, music etc) | <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Group (training, pony club etc) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)..... | |

Q24. What other kinds of community groups would you like to see established?

Q25. Name a public place that is an asset to your community? (For instance could be a park, sporting complex, natural reserve area, a public building.)

Q26. Please provide any additional comments that you would like to contribute towards the Social and Community Plan.

THANKYOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. It would be greatly appreciated if you could return the survey to Cessnock City Council or by post to

**Cessnock City Council
Po Box 152
Cessnock, NSW 2325**