



January 2022



Cessnock City News

Happy New Year to every resident in the Cessnock Local Government Area. I hope you all enjoyed spending time with your family and friends over the break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the year ahead.

I am certainly looking forward to what we can achieve together in 2022, and with a new Mayor and Councillors soon to be inducted, the future is certainly looking bright for Cessnock. A new Council will bring fresh ideas and renewed enthusiasm, and I look forward to working with the new Council as we continue to deliver actions highlighted in our Operational Plan and look for other opportunities.

We will also soon be reviewing the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) and I encourage you all to take part in the consultation. The purpose of the CSP is to identify the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future, and to identify strategies for achieving these goals. Your input and feedback will ensure we get this right.

I look forward to a productive and successful year ahead and sharing the progress of our projects with you all.

Lotta Jackson
General Manager



A message from your new Mayor



It is an honour to be writing to you as Mayor of Cessnock City and I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your support and encouragement.

I am excited to begin working with our newly elected Councillors to achieve positive outcomes for our community. I also look forward to working with everyone across our Local Government Area (LGA), including the many fantastic community groups and clubs who call the Cessnock LGA home.

We have many challenges ahead of us, but I am committed to listening to local residents to ensure we have the community infrastructure we need as our region grows. As Mayor, my priorities are improving local roads, continuing to upgrade our parks, and providing better connectivity through footpaths and shared pathways.

Our community is already great and together we can make Cessnock City an even better place to live, work and raise a family.

Cessnock City Mayor
Jay Suvaal

Have Your Say today!



We'd love to hear from you about the following projects!

Visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/HaveYourSay to see how you can get involved.

Environmental Sustainability

Council is seeking input from the community to inform the development of an Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy. The Strategy is a key action from the Climate Change Policy and will provide a framework to improve environmental sustainability for Cessnock. It will set our environmental direction by identifying key actions we will take with our community to achieve our goals. We want to understand what issues are most important to our community and your feedback is important to inform the development of the Draft Strategy. Council is also planning to hold drop-in sessions in the coming weeks, so please keep an eye on Council's website for details.



Villages Local Character Statement

Council is also preparing a Villages Local Character Statement and Public Domain Plan. This project will identify characteristics of local villages that contribute to the character of the area and, in consultation with the local community, prepare Local Character Statements (including development controls) for villages where suitable. The project will also seek to identify improvements in the public domain in each village where appropriate. Council is also planning to hold drop-in sessions in the coming weeks, so please keep an eye on Council's website for details.



Community Strategic Plan

The Community Strategic Plan (10 year plan) will soon be reviewed and we'll be asking for your input!

The Community Strategic Plan is the highest level plan that a council prepares. The purpose of the plan is to identify the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future, and to identify strategies for achieving these goals. Thank you to those who have taken part in the various consultations in the lead up to this, we look forward to continuing these conversations to ensure we get this plan right. Please keep an eye on the 'Have your say' section of our website and our social media channels for how you can get involved.



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Disaster Dashboard

In December 2020 Council launched an online Disaster Dashboard that provides localised real-time information to help residents and visitors respond in times of disaster. We're keen to get your thoughts on how robust you think the Cessnock Disaster Dashboard is as an emergency platform. Visit cessnock.disasterdashboards.com and have a look around then go to www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/disaster and take our short survey. Tell us what you think works well and ways you think we can better develop the platform.

Grant wins for our community

We know our community is always happy to see extra improvements, upgrades and maintenance works happening across the LGA, which is why we apply for grants at every opportunity. Since the last edition of Cessnock City News, we've secured grant funding for the following projects:



Local professional BMX rider, Brodie Ritter at the new Millfield Skatepark



Phase 3 of the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program



\$800,000 for pavement rehabilitation as part of the Kurri Kurri CBD Upgrade (Council will contribute an additional \$2,187,717)



\$1,290,798 for the Local Roads Reseal Program (Council will contribute an additional \$1,065,157)



\$40,000 for Cliftleigh and Heddon Greta suburb entry signs



NSW Government's Fixing Local Roads Program



\$1,100,037 for the rehabilitation of Mount View Road, Cessnock



\$457,374 for the rehabilitation of Quorrobolong Road, Kitchener



NSW Government's Resources for Regions Program



\$314,688 for the Millfield Skatepark extension



\$847,701 for Phase 2 of Rotary Park Kurri Kurri Concept Plan, Accessibility and Amenities Upgrades



\$250,000 for the upgrade of Carmichael Park BMX Track, Bellbird



\$105,000 for a business case for Booth Park Netball Facility



\$95,000 for a business case for Weston Bears Park



Hearing loop installed

A hearing loop system has been installed in Council's Customer Service Centre on Vincent Street, Cessnock, to assist customers who have hearing devices fitted with a Telecoil (or 'T-switch'). These customers will now be able to tune in directly to the loop, giving them a vastly improved reception. A hearing augmentation system has also been installed in conjunction with the hearing loop. This amplifies the voices on both sides of the counter within a one metre radius and can be turned on manually when needed.

\$8.8 million airport upgrade set for take-off

Council is looking forward to seeing the \$8.8 million upgrade to Cessnock Airport take place over the coming months. This exciting project was made possible thanks to a \$6,636,100 grant under the Restart NSW Growing Local Economies Fund, with Council contributing \$2,212,097. The purpose of the project is to undertake significant infrastructure upgrades to Cessnock Airport, which are sure to unlock business investment growth. All works must be completed by 30 June 2022, in line with the funding deed between Council and Restart NSW.





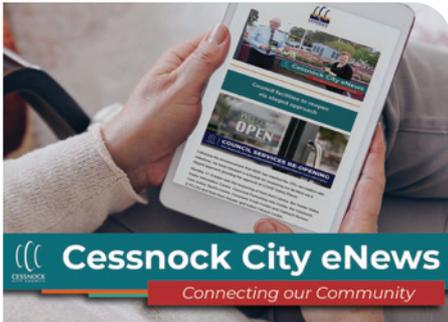
Be Pool Safe this summer

It's summer-time and we'd like to remind residents that taking pool safety seriously saves lives.

294 people drowned in Australian waterways and backyard pools between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021. Tragically, deaths among children aged 0-4 years increased by 108% compared with the previous year.

You must have an approved four sided fence around any pool or spa that can be filled with more than 30 centimetres of water. This includes inflatable and portable swimming pools. Sadly, 20 seconds and a few centimetres of water is all it takes for a child to drown. In the end, nothing can replace the constant supervision of children by a responsible adult.

For more information about pool safety and fencing, visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/BePoolSafe



Subscribe today

Get the latest news, events, projects and services delivered directly to your inbox by signing up to our regular eNewsletter. Simply visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/ **subscribe** to subscribe today!

Shopping local just got easier!

The team at the Hunter Valley Visitor Information Centre have rebranded their gift shop and also launched it online. Shop Hunter Valley showcases the best products from across the Hunter Valley, featuring more than 70 exciting local artisans. From local art, soaps and homewares, to books, jewellery and hampers, there is something for everyone!

Visit www.shophuntervalley.com.au or pop into the Hunter Valley Visitor Information Centre.

Library launches new app



Cessnock City Library has launched a new app, giving members easier access to the library catalogue, 24/7 eBranch, events calendar, online study support, local history collection, library news and more!

Available for download now on all iOS and Android devices, the Cessnock City Library app allows members access to its services and resources with the touch of a button.



WHAT'S ON IN 2022



2022 SEASON

ACT ONE ON SALE NOW!
CESSNOCKPERFORMINGARTSCENTRE.COM.AU

TWENTY TWO SEASON ACT ONE
CESSNOCK PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

CESSNOCK CITY SENIORS FESTIVAL 2022

25 MAR - 3 APR

YOUTH WEEK 2022

4 - 14 APRIL

OUR BUSHLAND FESTIVAL

9th & 10th April 2022

A weekend of fun and adventure to celebrate OUR BUSHLAND areas!

WWW.OURBUSHLAND.COM

MATTRESS DROP-OFF

Drop off your old mattresses and ensembles FREE of charge.

29 JANUARY 2022
18 JUNE 2022
22 OCTOBER 2022

HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL CLEANOUT

Sunday 15 May 2022

Visit cessnock.nsw.gov.au for more information



STAY IN TOUCH



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