



Cessnock Council Mayor Jay Suvaal.

A message from your Mayor

It has been an absolute honour to serve the Cessnock City community as Mayor for the past two years, and I would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support.

Meeting many remarkable individuals has been a highlight, and I've been inspired by the wonderful community spirit displayed by all throughout the year.

2023 was a record setting year for the delivery of capital projects. There is a renewed positivity around Council, and we've seen the growth of a culture that is ambitious to deliver more for its residents and ratepayers, nurtured by General Manager Ken Liddell.

Over the past year, we celebrated the completion of many exciting projects, as well as the beginning of even more. We've seen the opening of the new and refurbished Performance Arts Culture Cessnock, including its new exhibition space,

completion of significant upgrades to Wollombi Road, Millfield, Oakey Creek Road, Pokolbin, Kline Street Bridge, Weston, the reopening of Old Maitland Road and further progress on the visionary project to deliver a new town centre at Kurri Kurri.

Council also completed an updated Cessnock LGA Traffic and Transport Strategy. The bold blueprint outlined in the strategy sets out the requirements for a future transport network that can accommodate our rapidly growing community.

Looking ahead, I am eager to continue delivering the essential initiatives and infrastructure we need for our vibrant and growing community. I look forward to what we can achieve together in 2024 and beyond, and continuing to share updates with you.

Jay Suvaal
Mayor

New Digital Waste Vouchers are here!

Waste and resource recovery vouchers are available to property owners with a domestic waste service digitally through our Waste App, or downloadable via our website.

Vouchers are issued in January and July of each year and expire on 31 July the year after they are issued. Each voucher shows a visible expiry date. (For example, vouchers issued in July 2024 and January 2025 will expire on 31 July 2025.)

The easiest way to get your waste vouchers is through our Waste App. Printed vouchers are no longer sent out with rates notices, which means no more lost or forgotten waste vouchers – and less waste!



How to access your waste vouchers:

1. Download the free Cessnock Waste App from the Apple App store or Google play.
2. Go to the Waste Vouchers section on the menu.
3. Add your name, contact number, address, assessment number, and tick the box to accept the terms and conditions of use.
4. Your waste vouchers will then appear.
5. When you get to the waste centre, show the operator your voucher on the way in to check it's valid and on the way out click on redeem and our friendly staff will scan the voucher.

Note: Each voucher contains a unique and individual barcode that can only be redeemed once (even if multiple copies and screenshots are made).



If you'd prefer not to use the app, you can download your vouchers from our website by scanning this QR code.



Connect with the Mayor & Councillors in the Cessnock LGA

Wednesday 28 February, 2024

3pm - 4.30pm, Abermain/Weston

Wednesday 27 March, 2024

10am - 11.30am, Bellbird

Wednesday 22 May, 2024

3.30pm - 5pm, Aberdare (North End)

Wednesday 26 June, 2024

10.30am - 12pm, Kurri Kurri

Follow us on
Instagram and Facebook
for more information
and future dates.



CessnockCityCouncil



CessnockCityCouncil



Since joining Cessnock City Council in 2022, I have refocused Council to be more strategic, agile and responsive as we deliver good outcomes for the community.

Following strong feedback in community sentiment reporting, we have placed a high priority on upgrading community infrastructure and improving local roads, footpaths, and bridges over the past 12 months.

We are already starting to see the results of these efforts. Cessnock City Council delivered its highest annual roads investment on record in FY22/23 across both maintenance and capital works.

Our adopted Operational Plan allocates \$44.9 million for road and infrastructure improvements, including road renewal programs, drainage and bridge construction. In addition, it allocates \$5.5 million for facilities and support services. There will also be an emphasis on maintaining and renewing existing infrastructure and facilities as part of the council's plans. And all this follows a record setting year for capital delivery by Council in Financial Year 2022/23.

In accordance with the Operational Plan, we continue to meet our commitments. We place a high priority on the timely and cost-effective completion of these projects. As a Council, we are committed to providing the highest quality services and will work hard to achieve our goals.

As we look forward, we are confident that our commitment to excellence will ensure our success. Our collective efforts will ultimately lead to positive outcomes for our community.

Ken Liddell
General Manager

Works Update

RECENTLY COMPLETED

- **Wollombi Road, Millfield:** Road Rehabilitation
- **Cessnock CBD to Cessnock West Public School:** Shared Pathway
- **Murrays Run Road, Murrays Run:** Road Rehabilitation
- **Kline Street, Weston:** Bridge Replacement
- **Nelson Street, Greta:** Shared Pathway
- **Old Maitland Road, Cessnock:** Road Rehabilitation
- **Crawfordville Park, Millfield (Rosehill Estate to Crawford Park):** Pathway Construction
- **Cessnock CBD:** Library Laneway Revitalisation
- **RFS Facility Upgrades:** Improvements to 10 RFS Stations across the LGA

CURRENTLY UNDERWAY

- **Kurri Kurri CBD:** Town Centre Upgrade
- **South Cessnock Bund Wall:** Flood Mitigation Construction
- **Mount View Road, Cessnock:** Road Rehabilitation / Water Main Relocation
- **Sandy Creek Road, Quorrobolong:** Road Rehabilitation
- **Bridges Hill Park to Wine Country Drive:** Pathway Construction
- **Traffic Facilities Program:** Bus Stop Upgrades for DDA Compliance – Various Locations

UPCOMING PROJECTS

- **Branxton to Greta Cycleway:** Stage 3 – Continuation of the Shared Pathway to Link Branxton and Greta
- **Log of Knowledge Park and Neath Street, Pelaw Main:** Shared Pathway
- **Orange Street, Abermain:** Road Rehabilitation
- **George Downes Drive, Bucketty:** Road Safety Improvements
- **Branxton Town Centre Program:** Church Street to Anvil Creek Bridge North Side
- **South Cessnock:** Flood Mitigation Construction



You can keep up-to-date with Council's works at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/works



Kline Street Bridge is Officially Open

Cessnock City Council was pleased to open the upgraded \$3.75 million Kline Street bridge at Weston, months ahead of schedule.

Cessnock City Mayor Jay Suvaal was joined by Federal Member for Paterson Meryl Swanson and Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr to mark the momentous occasion at an official ribbon cutting ceremony (pictured right).

In addition to \$1,350,000 in council funding, the project also secured \$1,750,000 in grant funding from the NSW Government's Fixing Country Bridges Program, and \$650,000 from the Federal Government's Bridges Renewal Program.

Compared with the existing bridge, the upgraded bridge is one metre higher. This height increase will reduce the number of flooding closures. There is now also a wider footpath along with wider travel lanes on both sides of the bridge. The opening of the bridge has greatly improved accessibility in the area and will provide a safer and smoother commute for local residents.

The major project began in April 2023, and was completed in December.



Mayor Jay Suvaal with Federal Member for Paterson Meryl Swanson, Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr, and Councillors Watton, Jackson, Hill and Sander at the opening of Kline Street Bridge.

Santa Takes Flight to Cessnock

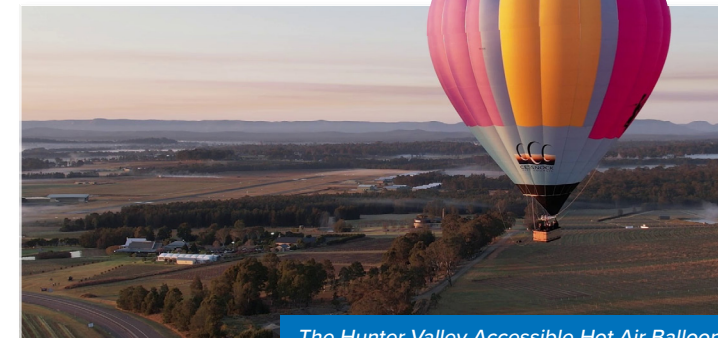
We kicked off the holiday season with our highly anticipated Carols in the Park event on Friday, 1 December. The weekend event drew a fantastic crowd, with local performers filling the air with carols. The atmosphere was magical, as people celebrated the holiday season together. The performers were incredibly talented and the audience was captivated by their performances.

Despite a rain threat, the weather held out, allowing local families to enjoy the festivities. A special thank you to Aero Logistics for transporting Santa and his elf to the celebrations via helicopter. Santa and the elf were met with a warm applause and cheers from the crowd. Families lined up to take pictures with Santa, and Santa's elf was delighted to hand out lollies to all the children. The surprise certainly created a lot of excitement among the children, which was heart-warming to see.

In the evening, Cessnock was treated to a magnificent fireworks display! The fireworks were the perfect way to end the evening, with thousands of people lining the field to watch the show. The event was a fantastic way to celebrate the holiday season and everyone had a great time.



Up, Up and Away!



The Hunter Valley Accessible Hot Air Balloon

A new accessible tourism offering has been launched in the Hunter Valley and is now taking bookings following a successful launch!

This accessible hot air balloon employs a specially designed seat and harness to ensure that passengers with limited mobility are not only comfortable during the flight, but that they are also safe.

The wheelchair accessible hot air balloon is only the second in the nation and allows passengers with limited mobility, wheelchair users and other mobility aide users to get into the balloon basket via a customised door. An accessible minibus with a wheelchair hoist transports passengers to and from the accessible flights, ensuring an inclusive experience throughout.

This project was made possible by funding provided by the NSW Government.

For more information or to make a booking, please visit: <https://balloonaloft.com/locations/hunter-valley/accessible-flights/>

Make a date WITH YOUR LIBRARY IN 2024

Sign up for your FREE Library Card
in January or February and go into the draw to win!



Did Santa leave a new pet under the Christmas tree?



With great love comes great responsibility, and what better way to show you care than to microchip your pets and make sure they never lose you?

Council offers **free microchipping** of cats and dogs for residents of the Cessnock LGA. To arrange this service, please contact Council on **4993 4100**. We can also assist if you are unsure whether your pet is already microchipped by attending and verifying.

Recently moved or have a new phone number? You can update your pet's information on an existing microchip by scanning the QR code below and completing the form.



For more information on responsible pet ownership, visit <https://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/Residents/Pets-and-animals/Keeping-animals>

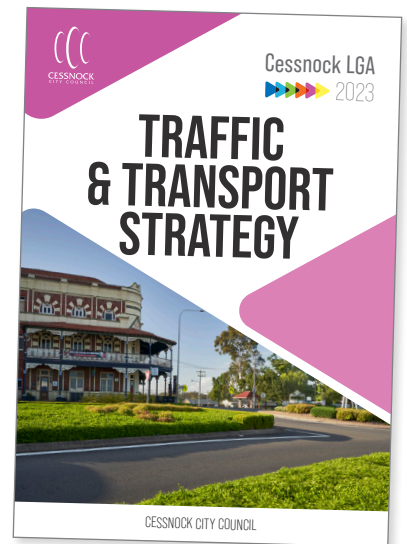
Traffic and Transport Strategy

Our draft Traffic and Transport Strategy is on exhibition, and your feedback is crucial! Dive into the details and have your say on creating a more sustainable and accessible transport network for Cessnock.

The exhibition period will run until **5:00pm on Monday, 19 February 2024**.

Access the strategy online at <https://together.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/cessnock-tats> or in person at Council's Administration building, or at either of our local libraries.

If you are interested in attending a face-to-face information session, please visit the link above to view upcoming dates.



Have Your Say at Together Cessnock

We have a number of projects open for feedback and would like to hear from you! Visit together.cessnock.nsw.gov.au to read more and have your say.



WHAT'S ON IN 2024



FREE BBQ AND POOL ENTRY

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS CEREMONY

Celebrate Australia Day
with Cessnock City Council

26 JANUARY, 2024

Keep an eye on our Facebook and Instagram for more information!

Michael Bell's PARADE
Artworks from 1993 - 2023

Showcasing the remarkable journey of this Newcastle-based artist, spanning over four decades of prolific artistic creation, including work for Triple J Radio and Mambo.

From Saturday 24 February 2024
PACC Art Gallery opening hours
Tue to Fri 9am - 4.30pm | Sat & Sun 10am - 2.30pm

pacc GALLERY 198 Vincent Street Cessnock NSW 2325
02 4993 4266 mypacc.com.au

CESSNOCK LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

SENIORS FESTIVAL 2024
11-24th March

Reach beyond in this annual festival for the community.

CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL

cessnock.nsw.gov.au/Seniors2024

A SOFT TREAD CLASSIC

THE WHARF REVUE
PRIDE IN PREJUDICE

"The Wharf Revue is a sea of hilarity"
★★★★ - Limelight Magazine

TUE 27 FEB - 7:30PM
PACC | PERFORMANCE ARTS CULTURE CESSNOCK

198 Vincent Street Cessnock NSW 2325
02 4993 4266 mypacc.com.au

CESSNOCK CITY YOUTH WEEK 2024
8 - 24 APRIL

CONNECT ~ PARTICIPATE ~ CELEBRATE

Join us for a range of fun, inclusive activities

For more information, visit:
www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/YW2024

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FIND OUT WHAT'S ON AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY!

Cessnock City Library

Find out what's on at your local library! Cessnock and Kurri Kurri Libraries host a fantastic program of events. Find out more at cessnock.nsw.gov.au/libraries/Whats-on

CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL SUSTAINABILITY EVENTS IN 2024

VIEW OUR CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS AT:
[WWW.CESSNOCK.NSW.GOV.AU/SE2024](https://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/SE2024)
OR SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE



STAY IN TOUCH
www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au



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