

**Presentation by Mayor Logan K Howlett, JP
Emmanuel College - Year 7 Liveability Project
Tuesday, 17 October 2023**

Kaya Wonju (Hello and welcome)

I am very pleased to be here today to interact with the Year 7 cohort on the subject of Liveability.

I acknowledge the Whadjup people of the Nyungar Nation the traditional custodians of the land on which we are meeting today, and I pay my respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to First Nation people who may be with us today.

Liveability – a definition

The sum of the factors that add up to a community's quality of life.

They can include:

- The built and natural environments
- Economic prosperity
- Social stability & equity
- Educational opportunity
- Cultural interaction
- Entertainment experiences
- Recreation opportunities

ie the place is suitable or good to live in.

When I was your age the term liveability was certainly very different to what it is today.

Today people are seeking a good balance between employment opportunities and remuneration, affordable housing options and 'living expenses' such as food, travel costs and services.

Human well-being is central to the concept of liveability.

A high-ranking locality is one where people are supported to enjoy good physical health and mental health, a place where they can fulfil their social relationships and have a high level of life satisfaction and happiness.

Liveability is also different depending on where you live in the world or the impacts of war, conflict, famine, refugee camps, the situation in the middle east at the moment and closer to home whether you live in a city, regional town, remote area or the like.

Some facts about the City of Cockburn:

- Geographical area: 168 square kilometres;
- 23 suburbs;
- Population of 125,000 people and growing to 180,000 by 2040 (you'll be around 30 years of age then);
- Local jobs = 61,000

- Local small to medium businesses = 9,300
- Large scale industry;
- Employed residents = 73,000
- Largest industry = manufacturing

Factors Influencing Liveability

- Access to the natural environment (banksia woodlands, wetlands, walk trails, beaches, the ocean etc
- Access to built environment (Cockburn ARC, Adventure World, Integrated Health Facility etc;
- Road and dual use path networks and connectivity;
- Public transport – buses and trains & their frequency;
- Affordable homes;
- Affordable rent;
- Home security and safety in the community;
- Availability of jobs and careers;
- Access to community groups, sporting clubs, service clubs, faith groups etc;
- Jandakot Airport;

Ability for the local government to:

- Plan for the future include; long term financial plan (10 years), Strategic Community Plan, Workforce Plan, etc
- Work with State and Federal governments;
- Industry;
- Small to medium businesses;
- Developers and investors;
- Engage with the community;

Challenges for the Future

- Climate Change
- Population increase
- Skills shortage
- Materials shortage
- Escalating costs of delivery
- AUKUS developments
- Safety across the community
- Competing priorities across the community

Rate Base

The City of Cockburn rate base is the envy of many local governments.

Why?

- It is a growth council on the outer Perth metropolitan region with greenfield, brownfield and infill opportunities.
- Its revenue base is diverse:
 - Residential;
 - Commercial;
 - Retail;
 - Industry;
 - Jandakot Airport (Federal Government land);
 - Small to medium enterprises

Other sources of income include:

- Interest on funds invested;
- Fees and charges;
- Income from Infringements
- Proceeds from the sale of surplus land;
- Proceeds from parcelling up land in conjunction with developers;
- Federal & State Government grants;

What the City has done to make Cockburn a liveable city, in fact, 'The Best Place to be'.

- Sound financial management
- Low debt
- Planned for the future
- Lobbied for funding
- Positioned itself for grants
- Black Spot Funding (Federal & State)
- Safety Subsidies (Window/Door Security – CCTV Cameras)
- MOU with WA Police Force

Recreation

- Cockburn ARC & Dockers Facility
- Bibra Lake Regional Playground
- WA Wildlife Facility
- Wetlands Centre Cockburn
- Bibra Lake Scouts Facility
- Adventure World
- Cockburn Ice Arena
- Treeby Community Facility
- Hammond Park Community Facility
- Success Sport & Recreation Centre
- Libraries at Success, Spearwood, and Coolbellup
- Integrated Health and Community Centre

- Coogee Beach Surf Life Saving Club

Going forward

- Cockburn Community & Sports Recreation Plan
- Aboriginal Visitors & Information Facility
- Wally Hagan Basketball Stadium
- Cockburn BMX Facility
- Wave Park
- Cockburn Gateways Shopping Centre Expansion
- Thornlie/Cockburn Passenger Train Line

Community Events (mostly free)

Fur Run

Christmas on the Green

Concerts

Bibra Lake Fun Run

Other Influences

Diplomatic Relations

AUKUS (Identifying Social Needs)

Trade delegations (inward and outward bound)

Attracting Investment

Check out:

the City's website including information id's
economic profiles

Catalyse reports – independent feedback on
community and business sectors

Other useful stats.

Events & activities