

City of Cockburn
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY SUMMARY 2016 – 2020**



Message From The Mayor



The Community Development Strategy 2016 – 2020 sets out the City's Community Development priorities and lists what strategies we will use to achieve positive outcomes for the Cockburn community. With the help of residents we have developed a vision to support and contribute to a community in which people can feel a sense of belonging, connection and contribution; a community that celebrates diversity, embraces difference and supports the most vulnerable; and a community in which people feel able to facilitate positive change in their lives and the lives of others.

To develop this plan, we held a community conversation event as well as a variety of workshops with key community groups and City of Cockburn staff. We were pleased to hear that overall the community is positive about living in the City of Cockburn and the support we provide. Community members told us that it is important to know their neighbours, have more interaction with each other and use local facilities. They expressed the need for community safety programs and the engagement with CoSafe and police. Groups told us that it is important to receive support in running events, community projects, fundraising and volunteering. They also want to see networking opportunities for groups, neighbours and businesses. We also know that the community is concerned about the financial, social and environmental sustainability of Cockburn and would like to work with the City on improvements to parks, streets, facilities, public transport.

Information from our community, together with background research and a review of existing support was used to guide the development of the vision, outcomes and strategies for this plan.

We look forward to working in partnership with our community over the next four years, supporting their projects and facilitating an environment in which volunteering thrives and not-for-profit organisations grow in their capacity to be resilient and sustainable.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Logan Howlett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Logan K Howlett JP
Mayor



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The City of Cockburn is recognised as a leading provider of services for the community and well regarded for responding to community needs. The Community Development Strategic Plan that covered the last four years (2011 – 2014) had five outcomes and the City made significant progress toward achieving these outcomes over this period. Key achievements included:

1. Development of a Community Engagement Framework
2. Establishment of a Community Engagement position
3. Creation of training tools and opportunities for community members
4. Volunteer referral and advocacy service
5. Supporting organisations to engage with their communities
6. Establishment of partnership opportunities between businesses and not-for-profits
7. Local Government Reform – working together to stay together
8. Neighbourhood building – Road shows, Community conversations, Neighbour day.



WHO LIVES IN COCKBURN

Cockburn is a fast growing City with a diverse population.

The information below gives a snapshot of people living in the City of Cockburn (Census 2011 data).

128,000

THE PROJECTED POPULATION BY 2020

107,645

OFFICIAL POPULATION OF COCKBURN (30 JUNE 2015)

32%

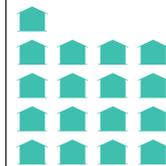
OF CITY RESIDENTS

WERE BORN OVERSEAS AND 18% ARE FROM A NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING BACKGROUND

36%

OF ALL HOUSEHOLDS

ARE COUPLES LIVING WITH CHILDREN, 22% OF HOUSEHOLDS LIVE ALONE



17
RESIDENT GROUPS WITHIN THE CITY

49.8%

OF THE POPULATION IS MALE



50.2%

OF THE POPULATION IS FEMALE



27.5% ARE AGED UNDER 20

31% ARE AGED UNDER 40

26.8% ARE AGED UNDER 60

14.7% ARE AGED OVER 60



WHO WAS CONSULTED

Consultations for the review of the Community Development Strategy occurred between 2014 - 2016 and we spoke with and listened to community members, community groups and City staff, including:



Description	Approach	Number
Workshop	Community Conversations	50
	Community groups	25
	City of Cockburn staff	10
Interviews	Cockburn Inspirational Volunteer Awards	450
	Cockburn Community Roadshows	240

The data collected during community conversations was consolidated into five strategic themes, which were further developed in community group and staff workshops. Additional feedback was sought from community members at a variety of events.

WHAT COMMUNITY MEMBERS TOLD US

Community members told us what they want Cockburn to be like in 10 years' time and what they individually can do to make the vision a reality.

They came up with some great ideas:

Make more use of community space

Attend free events

Support local business

Advocate and engage with Council for improvements

Spend more time in the front yard or host a street party

Work together and take responsibility for your street

Encourage others to join into community activities

Look out for your neighbours

Educate kids about safety

Get involved in sustainability initiatives through volunteering

Pursue community gardens and native verges

Use alternative modes of transport – carpool, cycle, walk.

WHAT COMMUNITY GROUPS TOLD US

Community groups told us what they want Cockburn to be like in 10 years' time and what they as a group can do to make the vision a reality.

They came up with some great ideas:

Businesses can plan spaces better to suit community

Advocate on behalf of the community for suitable spaces

Host social gatherings, like a picnic in the local park or a quiz night

Foster cohesive relationships, share knowledge and promote group activities

Invite community members as guest speakers

Engage with the Safety House program

Look out for your neighbours

Lobby for better traffic outcomes including a better bus system

Collect ideas from the community about actions, share information and fundraise for projects

Partner with other local groups and share information

Listen to the community and act on information

Lead by example

Receive support and networking opportunities

Host recycling events, battery collections, community composting and discussion groups.



VISION

To support and contribute to a community in which people can feel a sense of belonging, connection and contribution, a community that celebrates diversity, embraces difference and supports the most vulnerable, a community in which people feel able to facilitate positive change in their lives and the lives of others.

OUR VISION, OUTCOME AND STRATEGIES

The Community Development Strategy's vision, outcomes and strategies were guided and informed by suggestions and priorities from our community, together with demographic trends across Cockburn, a review of existing services, activities and facilities currently provided by the City of Cockburn and identification of future trends.

Outcome	Strategies
Outcome 1 – Connected Neighbourhoods	
Build strong, vibrant, safe and connected local communities through supporting and creating opportunities for residents to know their neighbours.	1.1 Strengthen networks between residents and neighbours
	1.2 Provide incentives, support and guidelines towards community led neighbourhood level events and projects
	1.3 Advocate for neighbourhood initiative opportunities internally
Outcome 2 – Advocacy and Engagement	
Grow an informed and engaged community by creating opportunities for the community to learn about how the City works and how they can influence City processes to ensure that their community needs and aspirations are considered.	2.1 Support a vibrant Community Engagement Culture at the City of Cockburn
	2.2 Enhance relationships between the City, not-for-profit organisations and residents
	2.3 Clarify, communicate and where possible simplify City processes for community activities



Outcome	Strategies
Outcome 3 – Support and Networking for not-for-profit organisations	
Build strong and resilient community groups by continuing to provide support, funding and subsidies to community groups for running events, community projects, fundraising in Cockburn.	3.1 Strengthen the capacity of not-for-profit organisations, volunteers and residents 3.2 Strengthen networks between not-for-profit organisations and local business
Outcome 4 – Empowering Community	
Growing community leadership capacity and leaders through building on individual and community group gifts, providing learning, volunteering and networking opportunities.	4.1 Grow and support new community leaders and collaborative initiatives 4.2 Support Volunteering in and around Cockburn
Outcome 5 – Safety and Sustainability	
Promote community safety and sustainability by facilitating access to Co-Safe, crime prevention officers, community services, rangers, environmental services, and parks services staff and by providing support for community led safety initiatives.	5.1 Develop partnerships with relevant departments 5.2 Facilitate connection of Community with relevant services

ACTIONS

An implementation plan has been developed to achieve the five outcomes in the strategic plan. This plan contains 70 actions and an annual report will be prepared for the community to update progress.

A total of 10 priority actions have been identified in the strategy order reflecting the key themes that have merged and are as follows:

Top 10 Priority Actions for the Community Development Strategy 2016–2020		Year	Cost
1.1.3	Continue to provide opportunities for residents to meet their neighbours through local networking events such as community conversations and community road shows	2016/17	N/A (Operational)
1.3.1	Advocate the need for support of neighbourhood initiatives across City departments: verge development, community gardens and other relevant initiatives	2016–Ongoing	N/A (Operational)
2.1.9	Host Cockburn Community Development Group meetings with key members of residents associations	2016–Ongoing	N/A (Operational)
2.2.2	Facilitate attendance of key City staff to discuss relevant suburb based information at resident association meetings	2016–Ongoing	N/A (Operational)
3.1.1	Provide a suite of Community capacity building training events	2016–Ongoing	N/A (Operational)
3.1.15	Host networking events such as Sundowners or eat and greet events as opportunities for not-for-profit groups/ volunteers to network	2016–Ongoing	N/A (Operational)
4.1.1	Investigate and implement best practice community leadership initiatives	2017/19–Ongoing	\$5000 allocated to Community Training Budget
4.2.2	Develop and implement an annual promotional strategy growing the profile of volunteering through increased community awareness	2016–Ongoing	N/A (Operational)
5.1.1	Investigate collaborative partnerships and collaborative initiatives to promote community safety and sustainability	2017–18	Community Grants funding and existing resources
5.2.3	Work together with key organisations and community groups to plan and implement community safety and crime prevention initiatives	2016–Ongoing	N/A (Operational)



REVIEW PROCESS

Community members are invited to provide feedback on the Community Development Strategy 2016 – 2020 at any time by accessing comment.cockburn.wa.gov.au or call City of Cockburn **9411 3444**.

An annual review of the plan will be undertaken with a written update available to the community via the website or in hard copy.

A comprehensive review of all components of the Community Development Strategy will be undertaken in 2020.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Copies of the summary of the Community Development Strategy can be downloaded from the City of Cockburn website cockburn.wa.gov.au or hard copies are available at the City of Cockburn.



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