

End of

Term

Report

2012-2017





# Acknowledgement of Country

Stratfield Council would like to show respect and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Land, Elders past and present, and to extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



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# Strathfield LGA



Total Population **40,963**



**36.7%**



**10%**



**10.9%**



**7.7%**



# Mayor's Message



I am extremely proud of the achievements we have made as a Council over the past term. It has been a challenge, particularly in an environment of reforms of local government and the planning system. However, despite these challenges, Council has remained focused on delivering priorities identified by our community at the start of this term.

It has been an honour to serve our community as your Mayor. I would like to acknowledge the councillors who have served in this term: Daniel Bott, Raj Datta, Stephanie Kokkolis, Helen McLucas, Sang Ok and Gulian Vaccari. I particularly wish to thank councillors Vaccari, Bott and Ok, who have served as Mayor during this term.

In the last 5 years, the local population has increased by an estimated 5,000 people and Council has been focused on providing new and upgraded facilities and infrastructure for the current and future communities. In addition, we have continued to deliver an extensive range of services, initiatives for residents including roads and footpath upgrades, community services, events, environmental initiatives and support for local business and community groups.

This report provides a snapshot of the achievements we have made during this Council term in line with our 'Strathfield 2025' Community Strategic Plan.

I would like to thank the Acting General Manager and Council staff for their dedication in providing quality services to the community of Strathfield.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Soulos'.

Cr Andrew Soulos  
Mayor of Strathfield


# General Manager's Message

I would like to thank the Councillors for the leadership and support they have given the organisation during this term. With their vision, Council has provided a high level of service to the community as well as delivering improvements to infrastructure to meet the needs of a growing and diverse local community.

Council's achievements are reflected in a recent independent community survey which indicated high levels of satisfaction with Council's performance and services.

In this term, Council has placed a strong focus on ensuring financial sustainability while maintaining existing service levels. In particular, I am proud that Strathfield Council has improved its financial sustainability and the capacity of the organisation to deliver significant improvements in local infrastructure projects.

On behalf of the Executive and staff, I would like to thank all the Councillors and Mayors for their direction and support during this term.



Henry Wong  
A/General Manager



# Councillors



**Cr Stephanie Kokkolis**

*Deputy Mayor of Strathfield (2016-17)*



**Cr Daniel Bott**

*Mayor of Strathfield (2013-14)*



**Cr Raj Datta**

It has been an honour to serve as an elected Councillor since 2012 and as Deputy Mayor over the past year.

I am proud that Strathfield Council continues to deliver improvements to our local community, including the maintenance of our footpaths, roads, libraries, as well as the major improvements to our sporting fields at Strathfield Park and Mason Park. Council has also been committed to supporting our sporting clubs and local community groups, such as Strathfield Rotary. Earlier this year, I also had the pleasure of opening the new Strathfield Town Centre – a place which no doubt will be enjoyed by locals and visitors for many years to come.

Thank you to all residents for their support during this term.

It has been an honour to represent Strathfield as Mayor and Councillor and I am pleased with what has been achieved under challenging circumstances. The greatest achievement this term, may be the greatest achievement in our history. Stopping the forced amalgamation of Strathfield Council is something every resident should be proud of.

Also, this term we negotiated one of the largest land transfers in Strathfield history and thus provided our community with much needed green space at Arnott's Reserve. We opened our first community garden at Laker Reserve, which is thriving. We have new fitness stations at Airey Park. We have new eco-friendly lighting up the main street of Homebush West. We upgraded our libraries, so we have the latest technology for all our residents. We have seen improvements brought to all our town centres.

These, and other improvements, are things that Strathfield Council should be proud of.

I am proud of Council's achievements in this Council term. A big focus has been on public safety. We initiated trials and then the installation of CC TV in identified key areas to make Strathfield a safer place. Council and community action saw a great result with the rebuilding of Flemington Station, which is now open to the public and the process to install an ATM in the precinct has begun. Council stood shoulder to shoulder with local residents to fight against the proposed overdevelopment of the Australian Catholic University. But our biggest battle was fighting the State Government attempts for the forced Council amalgamation.

I am proud of the successful public rally against amalgamation which involved various union leaders and parliamentarians and I and the council will continue to fight unabated against forced amalgamation.





**Cr Helen McLucas**

Great things happen when we work together as a community and I have had the privilege and pleasure of serving as your Councillor for the last 7 years. I have enjoyed working with you across an enormous range of issues such as the fight against forced Council amalgamations right through to smaller, but no less impactful, individual issues. I have always aimed to amplify your voices and working together we succeeded in ensuring that Council's focus was firmly based on the residents' needs and wants. I acknowledge the contribution of time, skills and knowledge of those community members who have fought issues such as the ACU redevelopment, Council amalgamation, Enfield Intermodal Terminal etc. This level of engagement and feedback has put Council in a great position to develop workable Community Strategic Plans that ensure that Strathfield is a great place to live now, and in the future.



**Cr Sang Doo Ok**

*Mayor of Strathfield (2015-16)  
Deputy Mayor of Strathfield (2013-14)*

It has been a great pleasure to serve the Strathfield residents.

During this term as a Councillor, I have had the great honour of being elected as Mayor, and also Deputy Mayor. In particular, I have enjoyed the memorable moment of welcoming new citizens to our country and sharing in their joy at receiving their certificates. Having received my own Australian citizenship certificate 15 years ago, I recognise the importance of this council ceremony. I commend Council and my fellow Councillors for managing the affairs of Council and continuing to serve the community at great capacity during the uncertainty of the last 2 years. It has been a valuable and unforgettable experience to serve the Strathfield community and residents as a Councillor with Korean cultural heritage.



**Cr Gulian Vaccari**

*Mayor of Strathfield (2012-13)  
Deputy Mayor of Strathfield (2014-15)*

It's been my immense pleasure to serve on Strathfield Council for the past 5 years, as Councillor, Mayor and Traffic Committee Chair.

Some of our Council's achievements include a commitment to the renewal of 24 children's playgrounds, and of over 20kms of footpaths, including 3km just in Strathfield Park alone. Also, support for our multicultural community and small businesses, the ongoing success of Council events, the renewal of Strathfield Square, and increased safety and security measures in shopping districts. I am immensely proud of these accomplishments and look forward to their continued success.

I'd like to thank residents for the support they have provided not only to myself but to all Councillors and staff, and I would particularly like to thank our dedicated staff on the job they have done day in and day out in looking after the needs of our community.

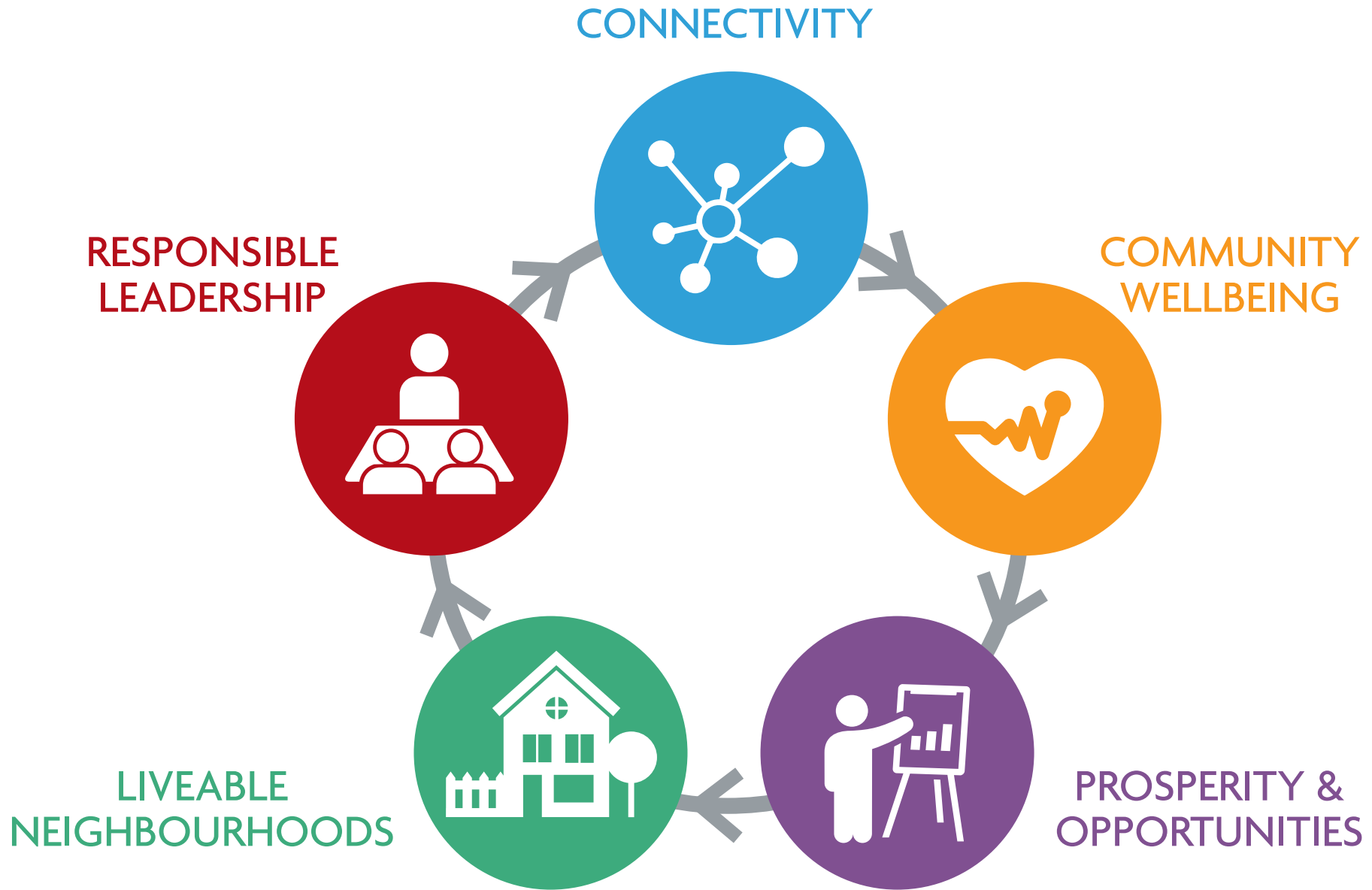
# About the End of Term Report

In 2012 following extensive community consultation, Strathfield Council adopted 'Strathfield 2025', a plan that sets out goals and strategies to meet the community's aspirations and needs for the area they live and operate in. This report outlines key achievements of this plan over the 2012-2017 council term.

'Strathfield 2025' is based on five broad themes:

- **Connectivity** - understanding how Strathfield connects and integrates with the broader Inner West and Sydney region. This is critical to providing transport that is easy and safe to use, planning infrastructure that is adequate for growth and improving information and communication technologies to connect local community to the world.
- **Community Wellbeing** - the wellbeing of the local community is supported and enhanced by providing safe, clean, healthy and attractive environments, access to public spaces and community facilities, and opportunities to participate in programs and activities.
- **Prosperity and Opportunities** - providing opportunities for prosperity through innovative business development, improving regulatory systems and promoting a sense of civic pride.
- **Liveable Neighbourhoods** - supporting high quality, well planned and sustainable urban and natural environments that balance well designed and innovative development with existing local character.
- **Responsible Leadership** - commitment to making improvements to infrastructure and delivering and facilitating better services by responsible management of community assets and consistent delivery of efficient and effective services.

The key goals and strategies that stem from these five themes identify the priorities for the future of the Strathfield community. Effective implementation of these strategies depends not only on the actions of Council but collaboration with governments, educational institutions, community organisations and businesses.





## State and Regional Strategies

Delivery of a community strategic plan involves consideration of state and regional plans and strategies, and the ability to collaborate with other levels of government, the community and businesses.

This Council term has been affected by significant change and reform, particularly in the state and local government sectors, which has involved Council constantly responding to its changing environment. In particular, the following plans and strategies have influenced actions undertaken by Strathfield Council over this term.

- NSW 2021/Premier's Priorities
- State Infrastructure Strategy
- NSW Long Term Transport Master Plan
- A New Planning System for NSW Green Paper
- A Plan for Growing Sydney Metropolitan Plan for Sydney 2036
- Regional Plan for Sydney Inner West Sub-Regional Strategy
- Draft Central District Plan
- Independent Local Government Review Panel/Local Government Act Review
- Destination 2036/Better Stronger Local Government/Fit For the Future



# Major Regional Projects

A number of major projects at regional level have both positively and negatively impacted Strathfield Council, including:

## Public Transport

Improvements to public transport, to cater to the growing population, has resulted in upgraded rail services at Flemington, Homebush and Strathfield Rail stations under the NSW Government's Transport Access Program.

## WestConnex

The WestConnex project involves extension of the M4 Motorway, which formerly terminated at Homebush, to Sydney City, Sydney Airport and the Botany Bay Port.

## Parramatta Road Urban Transformation Strategy

The revitalisation of the Parramatta Road Corridor involves new development with an additional 70,000 residents and commercial areas.





## Fit for the Future

In September 2014, the NSW Government released its 'Fit for the Future' program and proposed that Strathfield Council be merged with Ashfield, Burwood, City of Canada Bay, Leichhardt and Marrickville Councils. Council submitted its preferred position to stand alone.

As required by the NSW Government, Strathfield Council considered the terms of the proposed merger of six Inner West Councils as recommended by the Panel and consulted with the Strathfield community. Consultation with the Strathfield community indicated that over 80% supported Strathfield remaining a stand-alone council. On the basis of the views of the community and the ability of Council to meet all financial benchmarks, Council submitted a proposal to stand alone.

In December 2015, the NSW Government announced their proposal to merge Strathfield with Burwood and City of Canada Bay Councils and in January 2016, a Delegate was appointed to review the proposal and make recommendations to NSW Government for decision. Council presented its submission to the Delegate strongly arguing against forced amalgamation.

In May 2016, Strathfield Council submitted a court challenge against the merger. In September 2016, Justice Moore of the Land & Environment Court upheld the Council's case and ruled that the Delegate failed to address two mandatory requirements in his report and as such did not comply with the requirements under the Local Government Act.

In July 2017, the Land and Environment Court upheld Strathfield Council's appeal.

On 27 July 2017, the State Government announced they would be abandoning the forced council merger proposals.





Strathfield



Plan your trip  
Slow down  
in wet spots,  
trips and falls  
SLOW DOWN





# Connectivity



This theme is concerned with how Strathfield connects and integrates with the broader Inner West and Sydney region. It is critical to provide transport that is easy and safe to use, planning infrastructure that is adequate for growth and improving information and communication technologies to connect the local community to the world.



## GOAL 1.1

Movement to and from Strathfield is easy and safe.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Consulted with state agencies and organisations regarding state and regional transport planning:

- Lobbied for improvements and upgrades to public transport services, which resulted in upgrading of access and facilities at Strathfield, Homebush and Flemington Rail Stations.
- Made representations with state agencies regarding improvement of traffic movement at Arthur Street/Centenary Drive intersection and traffic/pedestrian access at Marlborough Road Homebush West.
- Made submissions regarding the proposed construction of the M4/WestConnex project.
- Made representations concerning impact of works associated with freight transport on local roads from Enfield Intermodal and Sydney Markets.
- Consulted with Urban Growth and the Greater Sydney Commission concerning Parramatta Road Transformation and District Planning.

Council prepared plans, reviewed and implemented controls and enforcement activities to address the issues of local transport mobility and accessibility and:

- Prepared and adopted the Strathfield Active Transport Plan.
- Prepared the Parramatta Road Transport and Mobility Study.
- Implemented Residential Parking Schemes (RPS) and scheduled regular patrols by Regulatory Officers in areas identified with parking and enforcement issues, such as town centres and school areas.
- Operated the Strathfield traffic committee, which includes representation from state agencies and local MP's.



Council increased expenditure for roads and footpaths asset renewal and maintenance and delivered significant improvements to Strathfield's local roads, traffic controls and footpaths:

- Received grant funding from Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and the Commonwealth Government's 'Blackspot' and 'Roads to Recovery' programs, upgraded and repaired local roads, installed traffic controls and pedestrian refuges, built roundabouts and restored and replaced footpaths across all parts of the Strathfield Council area. A selection of works completed in the council term include:
  - Roundabouts and traffic calming works at Bridge Road/The Crescent, Subway Lane/The Crescent, Rochester/Abbotsford Roads, Loftus Crescent/Crane St and Abbotsford/Meredith Streets, Cosgrove/Cleveland Street, Cosgrove/Pilcher Street, Cosgrove/Hope Street, Wallis/High Street, Henley/Tavistock Road and Homebush/Albert Rd;
  - Footpath restoration in Bede St, Albert Road, Bridge Road, Churchill Ave, Knight Street, Newton Road, Ismay Ave, Burlington Road, Dickson Street, Underwood Road, The Crescent, Knight Street, Amarina Ave, Chisholm Street, Bridge Road, Birnam Grove and Drew Street;
  - Installation of speed cushion in Drew Street Greenacre and pedestrian refuges at Underwood Rd, Wallis Ave and Dickson Street and raised pedestrian crossings in Carrington Avenue.
- Over the council term, over 3,000 potholes were inspected and made safe, over 2,500 footpath trippers were repaired and over 3,000 signs repaired or replaced.

## GOAL 1.2

Infrastructure and development is integrated, planned and sustainable.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Consulted with state agencies and organisations regarding impacts of growth on local infrastructure and services including:

- Transport proposals and strategies involving transport such as WestConnex and Light Rail.

- Proposals regarding the Parramatta Road Transformation Strategy and draft District Action Plan strategies.

Planned for projected population and development growth through:

- Included controls incorporating regional planning strategies in the review of the Strathfield Local Environmental Plan (LEP).
- Reviewed and amended Council's Consolidated Development Control Plan (DCP) and Council's Development Contribution Plan to set out planning controls and proposed capital works for projected growth.

Contributed to multi-council catchment planning groups to support healthy urban ecosystems and:

- Participated in the Cooks River Alliance (CRA), participated in the Parramatta River Catchment Group (PRCG) and the 'Living River' program.
- Worked with Sydney Water to naturalise the Powells Creek river bank.



Information and digital technologies connect local to global.

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Delivered library and information services at Strathfield Library, High Street Community Library and via online library services:

- Over 1 million in-person library visits.
- 18,365 library members.
- Provided services and programs such as school holiday programs, baby bounce, storytime, author talks, book clubs, home library service delivered to housebound community members, seniors computer classes, reading clubs and exhibitions.

Improved digital services:

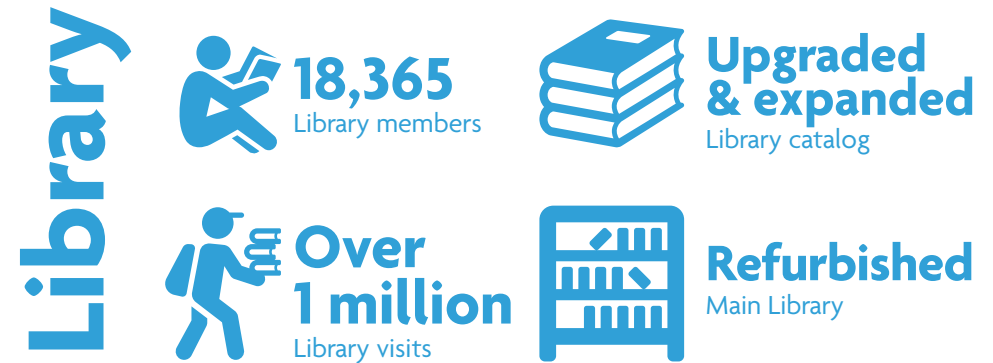
- Launched Council Library Facebook page.
- Upgraded and expanded the library online catalogue and services for direct access to databases and eResources such as eBooks, eAudiobooks and electronic magazine subscriptions.
- Upgraded technology at Main Library and High Street to implement a self-service system to manage borrowing and print management.
- Implemented electronic monitoring and retrieval of collections via RFID system.
- Refurbishment and reorganisation of Main Library (Homebush).
- Installation of video screens to support and facilitate online communications.

Council's communications informed the community on issues, events, programs, exhibitions, major projects and initiatives using a wide range of communication methods including media, social media, flyers and print publications:

- Published Council's eNews to an estimated 10,000 persons on a weekly basis.
- Received over 2 million website visitors over the Council term.
- Online services were improved to enable online payment of rates, book waste

services, property inquiries and lodge, view and track Development Applications.

- Launched new social media sites including Council, Library and Event Facebook Page, Twitter and Instagram and video and on-call conferencing facilities at Council and Libraries.







# Community Wellbeing



The Community Wellbeing theme ensures the local community is supported and enhanced by providing safe, clean, healthy and attractive environments, access to public spaces and community facilities, and opportunities to participate in programs and activities.



## GOAL 2.1

Strathfield is a safe and healthy place.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Implemented initiatives to improve the safety of the community through collaboration with the Police and community groups, these included:

- Worked in co-operation with Flemington Police Local Area Command (FLAC) and other authorities to monitor crime trends, initiate and deliver in collaboration a range of community safety and crime prevention initiatives.
- Facilitated annual White Ribbon Day program with local high schools, implemented initiatives from the Strathfield Community Safety Plan, prepared and adopted a new Strathfield Community Safety Strategy (2016-2020) with endorsement from the NSW Attorney-General.
- Installed CCTV in the public domain areas of Strathfield Town Centre with further installations rolling out at Homebush and Homebush West Town Centres in 2017.

Implemented programs to maintain and improve public safety and minimise hazard including:

- Conducted local law enforcement including parking patrols, undertook building inspections, investigated unauthorised buildings.
- Implemented the Swimming Pool Program.
- Increased the number of Council Regulatory Officers and their spread of hours to include day and night patrols to provide a more comprehensive service and target illegal or unauthorised activities in the Strathfield Council area
- Investigated complaints relating to air and noise pollution, sedimentation and erosion controls and public safety.
- Investigated complaints and incidents involving animals such as dangerous dogs, feral cats, barking dogs, dogs off leash, strays and lost animals.
- Processed Tree Preservation Orders and investigated complaints, breaches and incidents of tree vandalism.

- Removed graffiti vandalism from public areas, assessed street lighting in partnership with Ausgrid, with improvements installed in key Council areas (streets, parks, car parks).
- Promoted road and child restraint safety.



### More Regulatory Officers and patrols

To provide a more comprehensive service and target illegal activities



### CCTV cameras installed

in the public domain areas of Strathfield Town Centre





## GOAL 2.2

Strathfield community is healthy, active and inclusive.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Upgraded community and recreational facilities in local parks and sportsgrounds to support community demand for recreation and leisure activities.

#### Community facilities

- Opened the Dutton Centre Augusta Street (Strathfield) built the new Begnell Park Amenities Building (Belfield) and developed plans for construction of an additional building expected in late 2017.
- Demolished Melville Community Hall (Homebush West) and designed a replacement community centre with construction expected in late 2017.
- Addition of landscaped outdoor area at Bates Street Community Centre (Homebush).
- Upgraded Strathfield Town Hall and Supper Room.

#### Sportsfields

- Planned and installing synthetic sportsfields (to be completed in September 2017), fencing, paths and landscaping at Strathfield Park (Strathfield) and Mason Park (Homebush) and the construction of 2 international level clay tennis courts at Southend Tennis Centre.
- Installed irrigation at Begnell Field (Belfield), and Cloudmaster system in major sportsgrounds to remotely control and monitor energy and water use.
- Installed drought resistant turf (Local Government NSW Award Finalist) at Hudson Park Golf Course reconfigured sportsgrounds and installation of lighting at Cooke Park (Belfield).
- Installed outdoor fitness equipment in Airey Park (Homebush).



## Playgrounds

- 25 new and upgraded playgrounds designed and being installed include: Austin Park (Homebush West), Drew Street (Greenacre), Augustus Loftus Reserve (Homebush), Strathfield Park (Strathfield), Ford Park (Strathfield South) and Cooke Park (Belfield) Melville Reserve (Homebush West).

## Parks and open space (acquisition and embellishments)

- Established Augustus Loftus Reserve, a new park in Loftus Crescent Homebush.
- Acquired and decontaminated land for a new park, Arnotts Reserve, in the Powells Creek corridor (Homebush).
- Embellished parks at Henley Reserve (Homebush West), Tavistock Reserve (Homebush West), Dean Reserve (Strathfield South) and relocated pathways in Coronation Reserve (Strathfield South).

## War Memorials

- Refurbished and upgraded the Homebush War Memorial in Davey Square, including the construction of the Memorial Wall.
- Relocated Servicemen's plaques from the former Homebush RSL site in The Crescent, Homebush.

Provided facilities, parks and open space to support a range of recreational and community activities and:

- Managed access for community, cultural, sporting organisations and clubs to community halls, meeting rooms, and sportsfields.
- Maintained facilities, parks and open spaces to a high standard.
- Provided two off-leash areas in Elliott Reserve (Belfield) and Allen St Reserve (Homebush) and promoted responsible animal ownership.



**25 new  
playground upgrades**

Installed and upgraded from 2012-2017



## GOAL 2.3

Strathfield is a harmonious community with a strong sense of community cohesion.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

To meet the needs of Strathfield's highly culturally and linguistically diverse community, the following services and events were provided:

- International Food and Jazz Festival, Spring Festival and Harmony Day included Asian, Indian, African, Indigenous, Australian, Mediterranean, Middle Eastern, Central and South American cultures.
- Assisted learning and improvement of resident English verbal language skills, through programs such as ESOL classes, Conversation Cafe and Chatterbox.
- Provided Library collections of materials for children and adults in languages other than English including books, newspapers, magazines, music CDs and DVDs in Chinese, Korean and Tamil languages.
- Provided access to Road to IELTS (International English Language Testing System) both General and Advanced Training.
- Provided translation services and language assistance.
- Promoted and facilitated services and programs in partnership with family service providers to meet the needs of children, youth and families in Strathfield.
- Provided support for local playgroups, children's week, youth week, school holiday and after school programs and included programs for children with a disability.
- Provided support for older people, people with a disability and carers living in the community.
- Adopted and implemented Council's first *Strathfield Community Access Plan (2015-2019)*.



# PLAYGROUND UPGRADES



Strathfield Park playground





KEEP LEFT

John Shum 1/14

# Prosperity and Opportunities



The Prosperity and Opportunities theme ensures opportunities for prosperity through innovative business development, improving regulatory systems and economic benefits promoting a sense of civic pride.



## GOAL 3.1

Strathfield supports innovative business development.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Supported Strathfield's business community and supported development of skills and training of the local workforce and:

- Liaised with and provided information to local businesses and potential new business operators through workshops and other forums.
- Provided online data and decision making tools to assist local or prospective businesses understand the planning and business environment of the Strathfield area.
- Delivered job readiness programs for the local workforce.
- Facilitated programs to support local business development and promote networking opportunities.

## GOAL 3.2

Sustainable development of industrial and commercial areas.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Maintained a comprehensive program of regulatory inspections and complaint investigation for local businesses:

- Carried out food premises inspections biannually on high risk food businesses and annually on low risk food premises.
- Implemented the Scores on Doors Program to promote high levels of food safety in food-related businesses.
- Investigated complaints and carried out 56 health related inspections on water cooling towers.
- 





## GOAL 3.3

Strathfield is a highly desirable place.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Improved appearance of retail areas and promoted a sense of place and civic pride by:

- Upgraded Strathfield Square in the Strathfield Town Centre in 2016-2017 to improve amenity and facilities for residents and visitors to the area.
- Expanded the Christmas Festive Decoration program to include decoration of town centres over the Christmas/New Year period.
- Maintained town centres to a high level and kept free of waste and obstructions.
- Ensured Strathfield streets were well maintained.



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Promoted awareness of the Strathfield area and acknowledged and celebrated the achievements of the Strathfield community through recognition and award programs which included:

- Conducted annual ceremonies on Australia Day including awards for Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year.
- Conducted Australian Citizenship ceremonies at Strathfield Town Hall with 2,180 residents receiving citizenship.
- Upgraded and improved the quality of signage in town centres and Council owned facilities, including Council Chambers, Community Centres and parks.

Provided and promoted a wide and diverse range of community based events through the Strathfield area:

- Delivered major events including the Strathfield Spring Festival, National Tree Day, Strathfield Food and Jazz Festival, Strathfield Christmas Carols, Movies in the Park program, Australia Day, HSC Art Show, Clean Up Australia Day activities, Harmony Day and the Cooks River Fun Run which attracted over 200,000 people to the area.
- Council was recognised for excellence in event communications as a finalist in the Government Communications Australia awards for the Strathfield Spring Festival in 2013.
- Quarterly Events Calendar delivered to all households.





# Liveable Neighbourhoods

The Liveable Neighbourhoods theme is concerned with supporting high quality, well planned and sustainable urban and natural environments that balance well designed and innovative development with existing local character, whilst protecting and enhancing the natural environment.



## GOAL 4.1

Strathfield has high quality sustainable urban design combining innovative development with existing local character.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

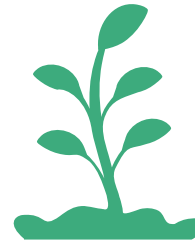
- 798 Development Applications processed.
- Council established the Strathfield Independent Hearing and Assessment Panel (IHAP).
- An Internal Development Assessment Panel (IDAP) was established.
- The Strathfield Local Environmental Plan was gazetted in 2013 and replaced the Strathfield Planning Scheme Ordinance.
- New Development Control Plans (DCPs) were adopted for heritage and urban design principles while the DCPs for waste, trees and notification processes were substantially amended.
- Studies and plans concerning flood management were finalised including Powells Creek Flood Risk Management Plan (2016).

## GOAL 4.2

Strathfield's neighbourhood areas are clean, attractive and well maintained.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Managed and maintained an estimated 11,796 street trees and 45,000 trees in parks and reserves.
- Operated Council's Nursery and propagated over 77,000 local native plant species, primarily for planting in parks, roadways, natural areas and gardens.
- Adopted the Tree Vandalism Policy to address vandalism of trees in public areas.



# 77,000 native plants

Were propagated by Council's nursery



Maintained effective and efficient domestic waste and recycling services:

- Provided weekly garbage and fortnightly recycling and green waste collection to households.
- Annual collection of an estimated 460,000 domestic waste bins, 350,000 recycling bins, and 330,000 green waste bins.
- Provided access to the on-call waste collection service, with 6,000 on-call collections per year.
- Developed multilingual signage for Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUD) education and erected 169 signs in MUD properties across Strathfield.
- Initiated a Bin Inspection Program of co-mingled recycling bins.

## GOAL 4.3

Strathfield's natural environment is protected and enhanced.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Reviewed and updated Strathfield's Flora and Fauna Study.
- Implemented bush regeneration programs.
- Continued ecological restoration work.
- Delivered volunteer Bushcare programs.
- Worked with the Southern Sydney Regional Fox program.

Delivered environmental education programs covering many topics including:

- Holding over thirty Trading Lightly workshops in Strathfield to promote sustainable living.



**Over 30,000**

On-call waste collections



STRATHFIELD  
COUNCIL

STRATHFIELD  
COUNCIL

This vehicle is fitted with GPS for tracking surveillance  
in accordance with the Workplace Surveillance

# Responsible Leadership

The Responsible Leadership theme aims to achieve the goals of the plan by making improvements to infrastructure, delivering and facilitating better services by responsible management of community assets and consistent delivery of efficient and effective services.



## GOAL 5.1

The Strathfield community trusts Council and is informed, valued and heard.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Promoted regular and timely engagement and community participation in decision making through activities and provision of information:

- Provided online public access to meeting agendas, business papers and minutes of Council meetings as well as plans, policies, strategies and information sheets concerning Council's activities.
- Maintained advisory committees with community and/or agency representation including Traffic Committee, Youth Committee and Internal Audit Committee.
- Promoted community access to councillors through attendance at meetings, events and 'meet your councillor' sessions.
- Commenced legal action to defend Council's decisions on a variety of issues including planning and heritage conservation matters and action against forced amalgamations.

## GOAL 5.2

Council is ethically and responsibly managed.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Align corporate planning and organisational arrangements to deliver 'Strathfield 2025' and plan for future workforce challenges.
- Council's Workforce Management Plan sets out the resources and actions to implement the Community Strategic Plan.
- Development of annual workplans to align adopted plans with resource allocations and assessment of staff performance.
- Review of plans, policies and procedures.







## GOAL 5.3

Council is efficient, sustainable and delivers value for money services.

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

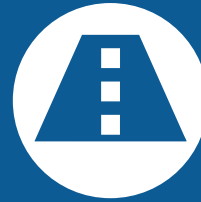
- Consistent with Council's Customer Service Charter and service standards, Council provided multiple access points for customer services including in-person counter functions, call centre, and an after-hours 24/7 service.
- Implemented an interactive telephone menu which automated the handling of common enquiries and transactions.
- Extended the business hours of customer services operation to 5pm.
- Improved availability of online services including an on-call household waste management system, planning and mapping tools and land uses of properties.
- Reviewed and monitored Council's complaints handling processes and monitored and implemented remedies concerning complaint data.
- Reviewed and improved the efficiency and effectiveness of its business practices.
- Implemented Council's asset management system.
- Completed a comprehensive audit of parks assets to ensure the replacement programs for parks facilities is up to date.
- Commenced an audit of all of Council's footpath and road assets to ensure that the upkeep is to the community standards and expectations.
- Continual review of policies and strategies.
- Ongoing risk management and review of business continuity strategies and disaster recovery plans for critical functions.
- Prepared a climate change assessment and adaptation report.
- Implementation of a Development Application (DA) tracking system and introduction of an automated system for production of S.149 certificates.

Council reviewed its operating processes to identify cost efficiencies:

- Monitored utility use and implemented projects from Council's Water Efficiency Plan and Energy Management Plans to reduce expenditure and usage of energy, water, gas and fuel, as well as output of greenhouse emissions.



# Total Spend Infrastructure and Land Acquisition **\$22.299 million**



**\$9.479 million**

Roads/Bridges/Footpaths/Drainage



**\$5.145 million**

Recreational Assets (Parks/Sporting Fields)



**\$4.931 million**

Buildings



**\$0.667 million**

Land Improvements



**\$0.332 million**

Other Infrastructure



**\$1.745 million**

Operating Land



65 Homebush Road, Strathfield NSW 2135  
P 02 9748 9999 | [www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au](http://www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au)



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