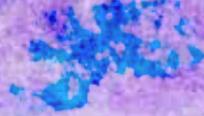
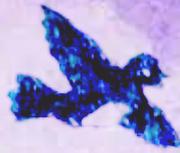
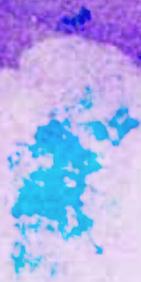
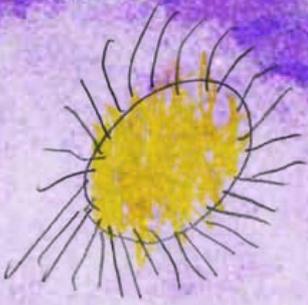


WOLLONGONG 2022... REPORT TO THE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE OF WOLLONGONG



From the mountains to the sea





From the mountains to the sea



IN 2022...

I love Wollongong because...



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Wollongong City Council would like to show their respect and acknowledge the traditional owners of the Land, of Elders past and present, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



IN 2022...



ABOUT WOLLONGONG 2022

In 2011, Wollongong City Council started to talk to the community about developing a community plan to make Wollongong the best place it can be. This plan is called **Wollongong 2022: Community Strategic Plan**. It has a vision for the future of Wollongong and six community goals which will help reach this vision.

The whole community has an important role to play in making Wollongong 2022 a reality. This means you, your family and friends, schools and other places of learning, Council and other government agencies, businesses and community groups.

CREATING WOLLONGONG 2022

To develop this plan, Wollongong City Council asked children and young people:

- What they like most about living in Wollongong
- What things worry them most about living in Wollongong
- What things they would change to make Wollongong a better place to live
- If Wollongong was the very best place to live, what would it look and feel like?

Some children and young people answered a survey, others talked to Council staff and they wrote down their thoughts or recorded them on a digital recorder, while others drew pictures to share what they were thinking about these questions.

This information, along with information from other community members, was used to develop the Wollongong 2022 vision and community goals.



THIS REPORT IS FOR ALL THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR CITY.

IN 2022...



OUR COMMUNITY VISION

From the mountains to the sea, we value and protect our natural environment and we will be leaders in building an educated, creative and connected community.

OUR COMMUNITY GOALS

To make this vision happen we have six community goals, each goal is as important as the others. Our community goals are:

- We value and protect our environment
- We have an innovative and sustainable economy
- Wollongong is a creative, vibrant city
- We are a connected and engaged community
- We are a healthy community in a liveable city
- We have sustainable, affordable and accessible transport



Samara 5



Likes the beach. She Likes building sandcastles and collecting shells.

Jade. Gets scared listening to strange noises.

IN 2022...



I love Wollongong because...

THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OF WOLLONGONG TOLD US

The things they like most about living in Wollongong were:

- Beautiful beaches which are close, clean and safe
- Parks, playgrounds, pools, skate parks, sports fields and places to ride bikes and scooters
- Good shopping and shopping centres
- Trees, flowers, the bush and the escarpment
- People are friendly and happy and their family and friends are here
- Everything is close by
- It's a small city and not congested like other bigger cities

The things they worry most about living in Wollongong were:

- Crime, graffiti and vandalism, drugs, people who are drunk and behave badly
- Safety like stranger danger, as well as being safe on the roads, at night, on their bikes, at the beach and around dogs
- Litter and pollution
- Homelessness and poverty

Asha, 4 Yrs. Likes riding her bike on the bike track.



IN 2022...

I love Wollongong because...

I love the cool beaches around Wollongong. The awesome waves and hot golden sand (Girl, aged 12, Thirroul)

WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

We live in a beautiful city and we care for it. We look after the natural environment, including the trees, bush, sea and wildlife. We work together to solve problems for our environment, like climate change and the sea level rising.

The children and young people of Wollongong told us:

Wollongong would be a better/ the best place to live, if:

- It is a clean city, with no pollution and litter
- There are more trees, plants and grassed areas
- The beaches are kept clean
- We think about how we impact on the environment
- We reduced coal and gas based energy and use renewable energy like wind and solar

To make this happen we need to:

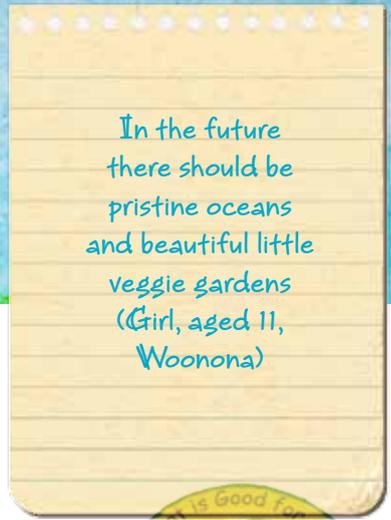
- Improve the natural environment by reducing pollution, protecting wildlife, bushland, escarpment and the sea
- Look after our coastal areas and waterways, and do things to reduce the risk of sea level rising
- Think about the environment, the people and economics when we build new suburbs
- Reduce Wollongong's ecological footprint by reducing, reusing, recycling and reducing green house emissions

How you can help

- Reduce, reuse and recycle
- If you see graffiti report it to the graffiti hotline - phone 4227 7816
- Help plant trees in your local community and at school
- Plant a vegetable garden at home



IN 2022...



WE HAVE AN INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Wollongong is a student-friendly city and we are educated and have jobs. The people of Wollongong are able to work and study in innovative and sustainable ways and there are new opportunities for our future.



The children and young people of Wollongong told us:

Wollongong would be a better/ the best place to live, if:

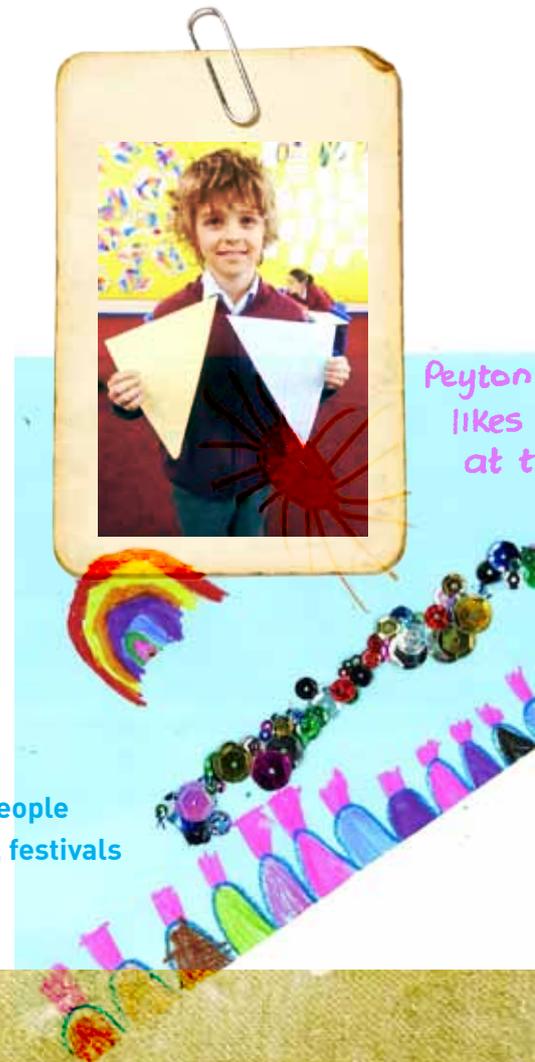
- There are a better range of shops that aren't expensive and they sell more things for children and young people
- There are more schools and better access to all types of education
- There are more jobs
- Wollongong is well known for specialising in industries that are environmentally friendly
- Tourism is improved and promoted

To make this happen we need to:

- Increase local job opportunities, especially for young people, in areas like retail shops, health, entertainment and dining
- Establish Wollongong as a place of learning
- Create new industries and green technologies
- Develop renewable energy products and services
- Support tourism and attract new business to the area
- Develop projects and programs to retain local talent

How you can help

- Shop locally
- Think creatively and don't be afraid to share your ideas with other people
- Tell family and friends who live outside of Wollongong about events, festivals and other things happening in Wollongong



Peyton likes art

IN 2022...



My vision for the future is that there would be more places for people to stay- if it is a tourist attraction people would want to stay. (Boy, aged 10, Wollongong)

My vision is that we move from coal and gas based energy to renewable energy like wind and solar, establish a niche industry base (Nathaniel, Austinmer)

WOLLONGONG IS A CREATIVE, VIBRANT CITY

Wollongong is a creative, vibrant city where our rich cultural heritage is celebrated. All of our communities are working together to build a sense of community and celebrate the diversity of our city. Our public spaces are busy, exciting and attractive at all times of the day. We are known for events and festivals, and an environment that welcomes new ideas and new people.

The children and young people of Wollongong told us:

Wollongong would be a better/ the best place to live, if:

- It is a beautiful and exciting place to live and visit
- People from other countries feel welcome and can express their culture
- It is cosmopolitan with coffee shops and cafes that are open later at night
- There is more live music, live bands, late night venues, entertainment and events for young people
- There are more art and culture programs



To make this happen we need to:

- Increase access to and participation in arts, events and festivals
- Support local groups and communities to hold events and festivals that celebrate cultural traditions and practices
- Provide places for the community to meet, share and celebrate
- Increase employment, mentoring and support for artists and innovators
- Develop and enhance the arts precinct in the heart of the city



How you can help

- Be creative and share your art with other people
- Learn about other cultures and their traditions
- Make people who are new to Wollongong feel welcome
- Attend local events and festivals in Wollongong
- Visit our cultural and arts centres like IPAC, Wollongong City Gallery and museums

IN 2022...



I like the Wollongong Conservatorium of Music.

The COM provides opportunities for kids to learn and develop their musical skills. (Girl, aged 12, Thirroul)

I would like there to be more live music and more live bands (Sophie, Wollongong)

WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

We are a community that is involved with what happens in our neighbourhoods and the whole of Wollongong. We respect the wisdom of age, the energy, enthusiasm and voices of our young people and the diversity of our community. Our Aboriginal community is recognised and valued. The leaders of our city are strong and effective. We have welcomed new technology so we all have access to information, services and each other.

The children and young people of Wollongong told us:

Wollongong would be a better/ the best place to live, if:

- It is a friendly, caring place to live
- People interact with each other, their city and community
- There is a strong sense of community
- There is better communication between the community and government



To make this happen we need to:

- Increase our sense of community by connecting neighbourhoods through activities, programs and projects
- Encourage residents to have their say by providing more engagement opportunities
- Encourage the community to take an active role in decisions that affect our city
- Use social media for engagement with the community
- Create diverse intergenerational projects and programs across the city

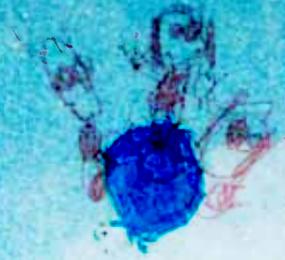
How you can help

- Get to know your neighbours
- Listen to the stories older people tell you and ask them questions
- Share your community spirit with others
- Find out about Council, what it does, how you can contribute to decisions and tell Council what you think



Jade 5yrs. Likes feeding the ducks at the pond.

IN 2022...



I like the fact that most people are friendly and kind to each other (Girl, aged 11, Fairy Meadow).

It would look clean, colourful and kid friendly. It would feel like home when you come back from a holiday or trip (Girl, aged 11, Woonona).

WE ARE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Our community is safe, healthy and happy, and we belong. We enjoy the relaxed pace, being with family and friends, helping our neighbours and meeting new people. There are lots of different recreation and play activities. We encourage everyone to keep learning and share a common goal to make Wollongong a better place for us all. Our basic needs are met and our quality of life improves.

The children and young people of Wollongong told us:

Wollongong would be a better/ the best place to live, if:

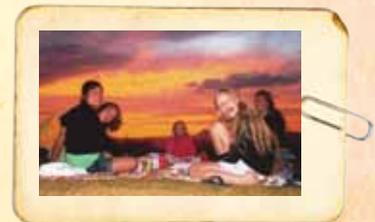
- We feel safe and there is less crime and graffiti
- The people are happy
- Parks, sports fields and recreation areas are well looked after
- There are more houses for people who don't have a home and houses are affordable

To make this happen we need to:

- Improve community safety through crime prevention
- Develop projects that help community members experience personal happiness
- Make sure our public places and facilities are kept clean by reducing litter and graffiti
- Provide a variety of public spaces and opportunities for sport, leisure, recreation, learning and cultural activities
- Improve access to different types of affordable housing for residents and provide services for those in urgent need of shelter
- Make the city more child friendly

How you can help

- Help your family, friends and neighbours
- Volunteer in your community or at school
- Participate in sport, leisure, recreation, learning and cultural activities in your community
- Pick up rubbish at school, beach, the places you play or hang out
- Be a law-abiding citizen
- Be excited and get involved in learning for life



IN 2022...



I like riding my bike with Dad around Mangerton, swimming in beaches, going on swings at parks, climbing on rocks, riding my scooter (Girl, aged 9, Mangerton).

There will be a skate park and a giant playground for adults. (Girl, aged 12, Port Kembla)

WE HAVE SUSTAINABLE, AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT

We have a transport system of buses, trains and cycleways that all work together and are easy to use and affordable. We can get from the north to south and east to west of Wollongong using this transport. Our footpaths and cycle ways are safe and connect to each other so people can choose to walk, cycle, skate or scooter around Wollongong. We are linked to other places like Sydney and Canberra so you can travel easily and safely.

The children and young people of Wollongong told us:

Wollongong would be a better/ the best place to live, if:

- The free Gong shuttle bus extended its route to other suburbs of Wollongong
- Public transport is better
- We have a fast train to Sydney and we had an airport
- Our cycle ways are extended

To make this happen we need to:

- Extend the service of the free Gong shuttle bus
- Create a bike friendly city
- Improve train services and stations across our area
- Reduce travel time between Sydney and Wollongong
- Improve late night transport

How you can help

- Use public transport regularly
- Ride your bike or walk safely in our community



maya 5 likes the l



IN 2022...

My vision for the future would include more scooter and bike tracks where kids can learn road rules for when they are bigger (Boy, aged 10, Wollongong)

THANK YOU ...

To the children and young people who gave their time to share their thoughts and feelings about Wollongong.

Wollongong City Council would like to acknowledge the staff, children and young people from:

- Mt St Thomas Public School
- Towradgi Public School
- Port Kembla Public School
- Western Suburbs Childcare
- Wollongong City Preschool
- Bulli Children's Centre
- Helensburgh Preschool
- St Michaels Catholic School Thirroul
- Fairy Meadow Skoolzout Holiday Program
- Unanderra Skoolzout Holiday Program
- Wollongong Youth Services

We would also like to acknowledge the children and young people who participated in activities at Spring into Corrimal, September 2011.



IN 2022...

There would be smoother roads, improved engineering (Tom, young person, Wollongong)

Contact Details

This plan supports Wollongong 2022: Community Strategic Plan. Wollongong 2022 has been led and facilitated by Wollongong City Council with substantial community input.



I love Wollongong because...



Jade Syas. Likes feeding the ducks at the pond.



Beach

From the mountains to the sea, we value and protect our natural environment and we will be leaders in building an educated, creative and connected community.