

Annual Report snapshot

2022 to 2023



Strong foundations.

Each year, we compile our Annual Report. This report is designed to share our highlights, challenges and performance between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2023. It also provides a guide for the year ahead.

The theme of our 2022 to 2023 report is Strong Foundations.

In Port Stephens, we're proud of our strong sense of identity and community spirit. It's our strong foundations that have allowed us to endure several years of frequent lockdowns and natural disasters. This year has been about building on these foundations, continuing to make them stronger as we set a path for the future.

Our ongoing commitment to securing long term financial sustainability and ensuring services across Port Stephens were retained. During this time, we reviewed our Delivery Program, Operational Plan and Resourcing Strategy – the nuts and bolts of what we do. Making sure the structure of our organisation was stable and strong.

With this strong foundation, we've been able to enjoy the character and design of our community. It's the community's values and priorities that underpin the work that we do to make Port Stephens a great place to live, work and visit. While our teams have been working hard to deliver core services and facilities – with a willingness and perseverance, to get the job done.

We hope you'll enjoy reading about how we've reinforced our Strong Foundations in preparation for a new year. We proudly present our Port Stephens Annual Report 2022 to 2023.

Read the full report

We're committed to a transparent reporting process with a plain English, honest and authentic approach. We want our community to understand the organisation, and our opportunities and constraints that help guide decision making. Scan the QR code or go to portstephens.nsw.gov.au/annual-report



Our community highlights



114,222

CHILDCARE PLACES



provided throughout Port Stephens. Places takes into account the total number of sessions delivered across the year. For example, if a child attended OOSH every morning and afternoon for 40 weeks of the year it would be counted as 400 places filled.



1,602

NEW LIBRARY MEMBERS



296,365

LIBRARY
COLLECTION ITEMS



127,011

AQUATIC CENTRE VISITS



21,452

CUSTOMER
REQUESTS RAISED

with 82% closed within 21 days

Our place highlights



59,000+

POTHOLES REPAIRED



827

DEVELOPMENT
APPLICATIONS

determined with a median turnaround time of 22 days and a total capital investment value of \$326 million



86

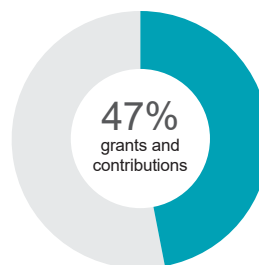
IT'S ON! ACTIVATIONS

held across the LGA



\$39

MILLION
OF CAPITAL
EXPENDITURE



including amenities, depot upgrades, shared pathways, and significant road upgrades for Clarence Town Road, Tanilba Road and Gan Gan Road (this does not include Newcastle Airport, dedicated assets or land under roads)



\$10M

FUNDING FOR ROADS

Commitment secured through
NSW Election

Our environment highlights



5,664
TREES PLANTED

with the help of volunteers



32,000
GARDEN ORGANIC
BINS ROLLED OUT



5,930
TONNES OF
RECYCLING



200m³
OF EXPANDED
POLYSTYRENE
RECYCLED

and converted into 500KG of reusable plastic.



Stage 3
COASTAL MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM (CMP)
ENGAGEMENT
COMPLETE

With letters delivered to 4,500+ impacted residents

Our Council highlights



8,000
PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

in our Rate Rise Options community engagement campaign
Special Rate Variation application approved as part of our financial sustainability strategy



5
AWARDS WON

from place planning to PSCare



\$19
MILLION
OPERATING GRANT
FUNDING

received mostly from State and Federal Governments



AT LEAST
645
COMMUNITY
MEMBERS ENGAGED
FACE TO FACE

through 28 formal community engagement opportunities

Our favourite stories

Read our favourite stories that highlight key achievements across the 4 main focus areas as identified in the Port Stephens Community Strategic Plan 2022 to 2032: Our community | Our place | Our environment | Our council.



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Mobile library refresh and refurb

After 15 years of service the mobile library has undergone a revitalisation funded by a grant from the State Library of NSW.



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Mayoral Academic Scholarships

Seventeen local businesses joined forces, contributing \$40,000 altogether, creating 20 scholarships to help students with their studies.



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Bringing events back to life

Through the It's On program, we've been working to build vibrancy and connections in our community, delivering 86 events and activations across our LGA.



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Stronger emergency management plans

We've worked hard to strengthen our resilience by reviewing and updating some key emergency management plans.



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Green light for green bins

With the new waste collection service endorsement residents can separate their garden organics and reduce the amount of general waste collected.



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Sustainably safeguarding our future

Our efforts to reduce our carbon footprint are ongoing as we outline what is needed to achieve our goal of being carbon neutral by 2025.