

Port Stephens Community Wellbeing Strategy

2024 to 2028

Easy Read information
from Port Stephens Council



February, 2024

We are committed to disability inclusion and to building a community where everyone is able to easily access opportunities and fully participate in their community.



PORT STEPHENS
COUNCIL

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How to read this book



We have written this book in an easy to read way.
We use pictures to explain some ideas.

You can ask someone to help you read it.

In this book, '**we**' means Port Stephens Council.



This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word:

- the hard word is in **blue**
- we write what the hard word means.

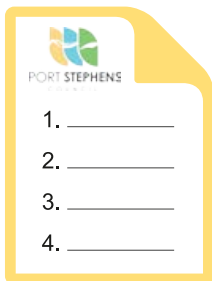
Port Stephens Council's plan



We want Port Stephens to be a place where all people can live with a good state of **wellbeing**.

Wellbeing is when a person or a community can feel healthy, happy and connected.

So we have made a **Community Wellbeing Strategy**. We call it a **plan**.



The **plan** means what Council will do to make sure that Port Stephens has a good state of wellbeing.



This book tells you about the Community Wellbeing Strategy. The whole plan is at www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au/development/strategies-and-planning-guides/community-wellbeing-strategy

It also comes with the **Disability Inclusion Action Plan**.



The **Disability Inclusion Action Plan** means what Council will do to make sure that people with disability can:

- join in all the things that Council offers
- get the same help and information that other people can get.



You can find the easy to read version at

[insert url]

The whole Disability Inclusion Action Plan is at www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au/community/community-services/people-with-a-disability

Wellbeing matters

The Australian Government made a **Measuring What Matters Framework** in 2023.

The **Measuring What Matters Framework** means that the government asked Australians how they can feel healthy, happy and connected. We call it the **framework**.

The **framework** focuses on these 5 things:



- **Healthy:**

This means people feel good in their body and mind. They can use services when they need, and they know how to get the right information.



- **Secure:**

This means people feel safe. It also means they have somewhere to live, and they have enough money.



- **Sustainable:**

This means people care about the **environment**.

The **environment** means the natural world.



- **Cohesive:**

This means connecting with people. This could be family, friends or even different cultures.



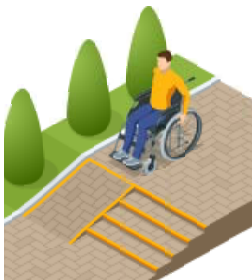
- **Prosperous:**

This means having the right people in the right jobs. People can go to school and work. They have the chance to learn things and make enough money.

We want to make sure Port Stephens is all these things.

We asked the people who live in Port Stephens what they care about the most.

This is what matters to local people:



- having nature around
- good state of public places, including footpaths
- safety
- shops and services run by local people, for local people
- easy access to shops and services so you do not have to drive.



We will work on these things by:

- fixing local problems with local answers
- being **inclusive**



Inclusive means that everyone can join in.

- working together
- making choices when we have the right information.



We will tell you what we plan to do about these things below.



Access and inclusion

This means we will make places where all people feel welcome and included.

We will:



- help people to understand disability better and how some disabilities can't be seen
- teach Council workers and local business people how to make things easier for people with disability and how to include them
- make sure Council workers think about making places and things easy for everyone to use
- help people with disability get jobs, training and volunteer work
- make it easier for people to talk to Council about what they need
- include more good pictures and stories about people with disability



- make more choices for **transport** so local people can get to shops and services

Transport means buses, cars or other ways of moving from place to place.



- plan events and activities for all cultures to share and enjoy.

Safe and secure

This means we will make sure people feel safe in Port Stephens.

We will:



- find out what people are worried about and what makes them feel safer
- make sure there are homes for everybody, and people can afford to live in them



- make sure everyone knows what to do in **emergencies**

Emergencies are things like bushfires, floods and storms.



- help services that give food to people who need it



- teach people how to find help when they have trouble with abuse, alcohol or drugs
- find out where the unsafe places are and work with people and groups to stop crime



- help plan the **Community Connect Day**.

The **Community Connect Day** is when people can learn about all the services in their community and meet people who can help them.



Connect and contribute

This means we will help our community feel strong, skilled and ready to face challenges.

We will:



- make it easier for people to find information and join group activities
- connect people and services so they can share events and activities that are happening
- find out if there are any services missing and try to fill the gaps
- plan events and activities that are easier for all people to join in and enjoy
- show people how to access services and public places to lead a healthy life.

Our goals

Everyone can help make Port Stephens a place with good wellbeing. This includes:

- government and Council
- groups and services
- local businesses
- people who live in Port Stephens.

The Council understands local problems, so we can give them local fixes.

We will know we have made it better when:

- we have a **Liveability score** of more than 66



A **Liveability score** is what we get when we ask local people what they like and dislike in Port Stephens. We take what they tell us and turn it into a number. A number closer to 100 means things are good.

- there are many more jobs in Port Stephens
- we hear from more people in the community about things we can do to help
- more people use public places to be healthy, happy and to connect with other people.

Contact

If you want to tell us what you think of this plan or if you want more information, you can:



- go to our website
www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au
- or call Council on 0 2 4 9 8 8 0 2 5 5
- or email council@portstephens.nsw.gov.au
- or ask someone else to help you.