



CITY OF CANADA BAY  
COUNCIL

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## **Social Infrastructure (Community) Strategy and Action Plan**

September 2019

Proudly funded by



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*Cover Image - Ben Williams Photography for City of Canada Bay Council*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Canada Bay acknowledges the Wangal clan, one of the 29 tribes of the Eora nation and the traditional custodians of this land.

Council pays respect to Elders past and present and extends this respect to all Aboriginal people living in or visiting the City of Canada Bay.

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# Executive summary

## BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The Canada Bay Local Government Area (LGA) is growing and changing with an additional 32,000 people forecast to live here by 2036. To ensure our diverse community can access the community facilities, services and programs it needs to live happy and healthy lives, City of Canada Bay Council (Council) has prepared this Social Infrastructure (Community) Strategy and Action Plan.

For the purposes of this Strategy and Action Plan, social infrastructure refers to community facilities, including community centres, libraries, arts and cultural centres, schools, early education and care, health facilities, and meeting rooms, as well as the services and programs that activate these facilities. This Strategy and Action Plan does not consider recreation facilities (indoor or outdoor) which are the subject of a separate Social Infrastructure (Open Space and Recreation) Strategy.

Council, in partnership with other government agencies and the private and community sectors, is a key provider of social infrastructure that helps to build inclusive, connected and resilient communities and activated centres.

This Strategy and Action Plan provides the evidence and analysis for Council's planning over the short (2019-2021), medium (2026) and longer (2036) term to support social wellbeing and a strong and cohesive community. It delivers recommendations that will inform future priorities for social infrastructure and deliver facilities, spaces, programs and services that reflect community needs.

## OUR STRATEGIC CONTEXT

YOUR Future 2030, Council's Community Strategic Plan (CSP), prioritises that residents will have "full access to high quality services that facilitate inclusive participation in community life" and "a diverse range of opportunities to engage in lifelong learning that promotes health and wellbeing."

Regional and district plans including the Greater Sydney Region Plan, the Eastern City District Plan, and Resilient Sydney have identified the need to deliver new and enhanced community facilities, services and programs in our area that will service existing residents and workers but also to respond to the demands of the growing population and to create a more cohesive city. A priority for the Eastern City is to provide services and facilities to meet people's changing needs. This includes optimising the use of available public land for community facilities.

In addition to the urban renewal areas of Rhodes and North Strathfield, our area is adjacent to Wentworth Point and Sydney Olympic Park, which are also expanding rapidly with an additional 40,000 residents connected to key centres. There are also major infrastructure drivers across the LGA that may impact on increased demand for social infrastructure, including the Sydney Metro West Project which includes a concept plan for an existing suburban station, with Concord West, North Strathfield, and Burwood North (Concord) noted as potential candidates, and Transport for NSW is considering Five Dock as a potential station site.

## OUR COMMUNITY IS GROWING AND CHANGING

Between 2011 and 2016, our population grew by more than 12,000 people due mostly to urban development occurring in Rhodes West. The key population trends of our population in 2019 are:

- We have an increasing population and increasing population density in urban renewal areas.
- There is a diversity of age, ethnicity, language and income distributed across the area. The suburbs of Strathfield Triangle, North Strathfield and Rhodes differ to the rest of LGA, being younger, more culturally and linguistically diverse and having lower median incomes compared to other areas.
- While we have an emerging and increasing population of Chinese and Korean language speakers living here, we still have a high proportion of residents born in Italy, particularly in our more established areas of Abbotsford-Wareemba, Chiswick, Concord, Concord West, Five Dock-Canada Bay and Russell Lea-Rodd Point.

Internal Council forecasting indicates that our population will increase from 88,000 in 2016, to 101,000 in 2026 and to 120,000 in 2036, an increase of 32,000 people. The planning catchment areas forecast to have the greatest increase to 2036 are:

- Rhodes (East and West) +8,784
- Five Dock and Canada Bay +8,472
- Concord +5,744, and
- North Strathfield/Strathfield Triangle +3,297



## COUNCIL OWNS 41 OF 138 LOCAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES

There are a total of 138 community facilities located in our area. They are owned by Council, NSW Government agencies, community organisations, and the private sector.

Council owns 41 or 30% of community facilities including:

- 2 staffed multipurpose community centres (The Connection in Rhodes staffed by Council, the Drummoyne Community Centre leased to Drummoyne Community Centre to deliver services and programs)
- 11 early education and care centres (2 Council operated, 9 leased)
- 2 libraries (1 in Five Dock, 1 in Concord. Additionally, Council owns The Learning Space which is part of The Connection multipurpose community centre)
- 2 seniors centres (Concord Seniors Centre and Drummoyne Seniors Centre which is leased to the Drummoyne Seniors Centre to operate)
- 4 local level arts and cultural spaces (all leased to community groups to operate)
- 1 aged or disability facility (leased Meals on Wheels)
- 3 Early Childhood Health Centres
- 5 scout/guide hall buildings (although the buildings are on Crown Land and these are leased to scout/guide groups to manage), and
- 11 unstaffed venues for hire (2 are leased to other providers).

Regionally, existing community facilities accessible in neighbouring LGAs are mostly local. However, a new 3,000m<sup>2</sup> library and community centre is being constructed in Wentworth Point in proximity to residents in Rhodes West.

## BELOW BENCHMARK FLOOR SPACE AND INEQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION AND ACCESS

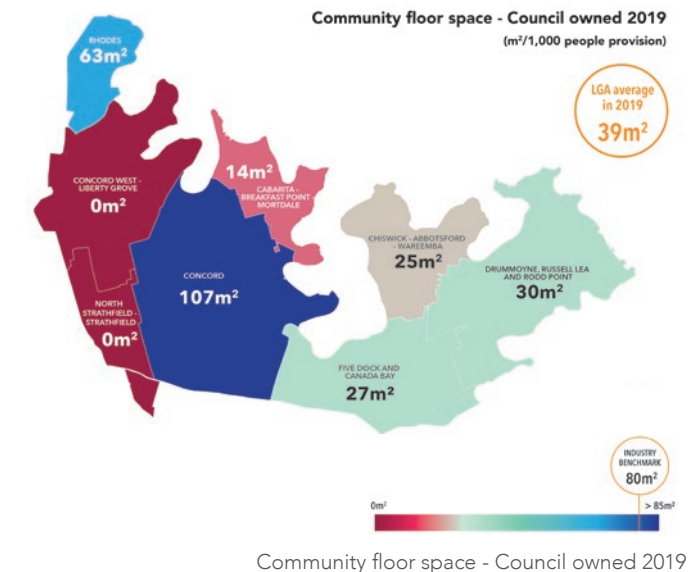
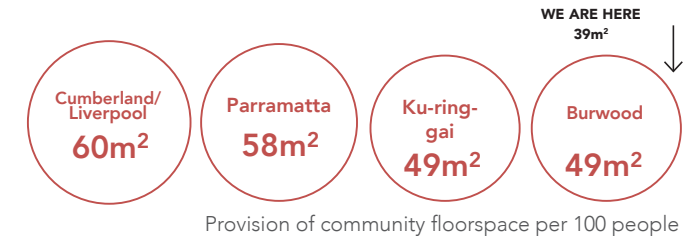
Council owns 15 community centre (either unstaffed or staffed halls or venues). While we have double the benchmark number of community centre spaces, they are small (mostly under 200m<sup>2</sup> and we have significantly below benchmark provision of community centre floor space, which will continue to decline as our population grows. This is because our existing community facilities are single purpose, unstaffed venues for hire for small events, meetings and gathering, as opposed to best practice multipurpose community hubs.

In 2019, we are 3,052m<sup>2</sup> below benchmark supply of community centre floor space. By 2026 we will need an additional 4,553m<sup>2</sup> of community centre floor space, and by 2036, 6.075m<sup>2</sup> of new floor space to meet benchmarks

For libraries, we are currently 302m<sup>2</sup> below the benchmark floor space supply. By 2026 this will increase to 806m<sup>2</sup> and 1,298m<sup>2</sup> by 2036. There is a currently a gap in library services in within the Five Dock catchment impacting particularly on residents in Drummoyne.

There is also inequitable distribution of community centre floor space (as shown in map to the right) with a lack of facilities in North Strathfield, Strathfield Triangle, Abbotsford-Wareemba, Russell Lea-Rodd Point, and Concord West (North Strathfield and Concord West have no Council facilities within the suburb).

Given the high number, limited capacity and that they are unstaffed, our smaller venues for hire have lower utilisation rates 30% to 40%) as compared to our larger and staffed facilities (such as the Concord Community Centre Hall, Civic Hall, and The Learning Space) which are utilised between 65% and 90% capacity.



Community floor space - Council owned 2019

## BENEFITS OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Libraries, community centres, childcare centres, arts and cultural centres, and other community facilities (and the activities within them) deliver significant social outcomes to individuals and groups and are places where people can meet (formally and informally), participate in community programs, learn, attend community events, and create social capital. The co-location or combination of community facilities and programs and services can play a significant social and cultural role for local neighbourhoods and can act as a local destination to bring people into an area. Such centres can become the cultural, entertainment and social focus of the community, creating a hub for social connection and social capital.

## OUR SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Across our area, there are 78 groups providing community or cultural services to our community. 57 of these are early education and care services for children aged 0 to 11 years. Council's 6 services include:

- 3 library services at Five Dock, Concord and The Learning Space at the Connection
- 1 Home Library Service
- 2 early education and care services for children aged 0 to 5 years (Wellbank Children's Services and Victoria Avenue Children's Centre).

The majority of regional services are located in City of Parramatta or Inner West LGAs and provide outreach services to Canada Bay's residents. For example, while Canada Bay clients make up approximately 50% of all Commonwealth Home Support clients in the Inner West region all of these services (other than Meals on Wheels) are based in neighbouring LGAs and provide outreach services in the area.

## WHAT OUR COMMUNITY TOLD US

Community engagement to inform the development of the Community Strategic Plan and the Local Strategic Planning Statement, as well as stakeholder engagement to inform this Strategy and Action Plan told us that we need:

- Increased social infrastructure to meets the needs of our growing and changing population and provide opportunities to participate in community life
- Social infrastructure to support community diversity, social inclusion and wellbeing, in particular for the ageing population, people with disability, children's services, youth, people from diverse cultural backgrounds and sporting and leisure activities.
- Social infrastructure that supports community cohesion and connections, including to reduce social isolation for older people
- Social infrastructure that helps build community capacity, including through provision of resources, technology and programs
- Community facilities that are adaptable and multipurpose to meet diverse community needs
- Community facilities and services that are accessible and affordable to ensure parity of participation.
- Community facilities located in proximity to public transport, town centres and other community facilities to improve accessibility
- Cultural and creative facilities and spaces to address regional gap
- Ease of booking to support community access
- Greater partnership and collaboration between Council, tenants and local services is needed
- Improve utilisation of existing assets, and
- There is a need to look at new funding and delivery models for existing and future social infrastructure.

## OUR COMMUNITY'S PRIORITY NEEDS

By 2036, we need to respond to the following needs:

- New community facilities to address existing gaps in established areas, and to accommodate forecast population growth in urban renewal areas (see needs by planning catchment in Figure 1).
- Work in partnership with schools, and existing community groups to share and activate the facilities we already have, including underutilised facilities.
- Move toward a suite of larger multipurpose community facilities as opposed to small single purpose venues. Multipurpose facilities can adapt with changing community needs, can be staffed and activated and reduced ongoing costs to Council. Council should consider opportunities to recycle ageing and underutilised facilities as new multipurpose facilities are built.
- Improve accessibility to our social infrastructure by co-locating it in accessible locations in town centres, near public transport, and other facilities and services.
- Provide more community facilities with larger capacity (200+), that can support big events, gatherings and meetings.
- Facilitate the delivery of programs and services that respond to our diverse community, and build social cohesion and wellbeing. This includes for our increasing population of children, young people, seniors, and culturally diverse residents including from Chinese, Korean and Italian backgrounds.
- Work with developers to deliver public benefits for our community through communal facilities onsite or contribution to facilities offsite.
- Respond to community demand for more opportunities for our community, arts and cultural groups to connect and collaborate.
- Support our ageing community to remain living in the area through increased senior's housing connected to centres.

## SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE PRINCIPLES

The following principles should drive the design and delivery of future community facilities, services and programs to 2036:

### 1. Diverse and activated

We will have a diverse range of community facilities that are activated with services and programs that respond to the interests and needs of our culturally, socially, age, and gender diverse community.

### 2. Inclusive and equitable

Our social infrastructure will be financially and physically accessible. Its delivery will be prioritised for communities in need, including those who are disadvantaged, and for emerging communities who don't yet have support networks.

### 3. Connected and co-located

Community facilities and services will be connected within a network, located near public transport, visible and easy to find, and co-located with other services and shops.

### 4. Collaborative and shared

We will work in partnership with the private sector, government agencies, and community groups, to share what we have and deliver new social infrastructure.

### 5. Multipurpose and future-proofed

Our future community facilities will be well-designed and managed to be multipurpose, flexible and future-proofed to adapt to population growth, changing interests, and environmental impacts.

## STRATEGIES

This Strategy and Action Plan includes three strategies with associated actions outlined at Section 11.

Figure 1 overpage shows social infrastructure priorities per catchment.



### Strategy 1

Enhance and share our existing community facilities to improve their capacity to host community and cultural activities for all in our community.



### Strategy 2

Facilitate delivery of new community facilities that are inclusive and adaptable for our current and future community's diverse needs.



### Strategy 3

Support the delivery of programs and services that are responsive to a range of local interests and create more cohesive and resilient communities.

RHODES EAST AND WEST CATCHMENT	
2026	2036
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 900m2 multipurpose community centre in RPP</li> <li>- 540m2 new library floor space (increasing to 730m2 by 2036)</li> <li>- Consolidation of future library services into 1 space - potentially co-located with community centre</li> <li>- New primary school with co-located OSHC</li> <li>- Affordable co-working and creative spaces</li> <li>- Programs and services for students, seniors and culturally diverse residents (from China and Korea)</li> <li>- Communal facilities within high density</li> </ul>	

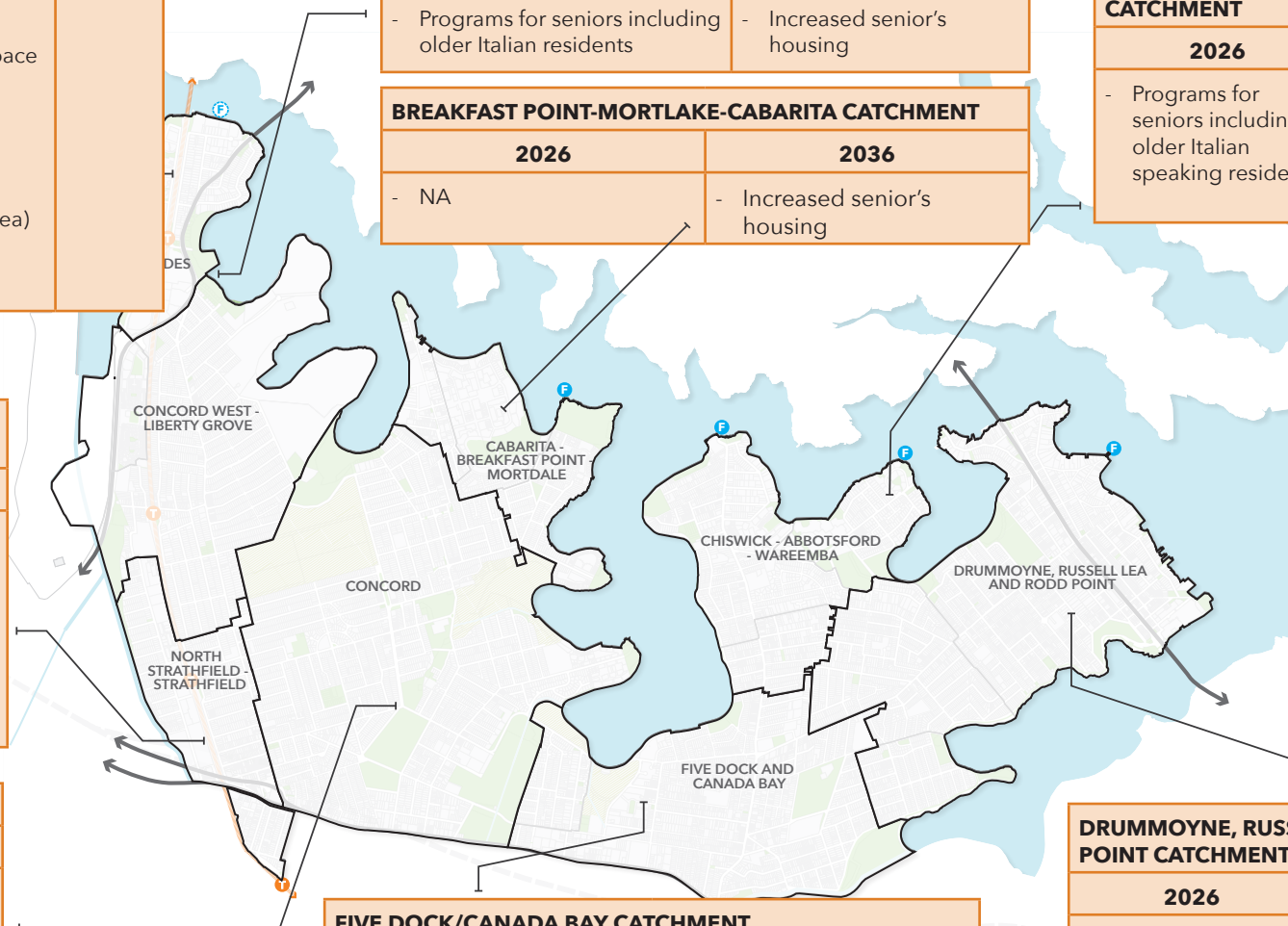
CONCORD WEST - LIBERTY GROVE CATCHMENT	
2026	2036
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improvements to DAS57 cultural facility</li> <li>- Programs for seniors including older Italian residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased primary and high school capacity</li> <li>- Increased senior's housing</li> </ul>

ABBOTSFORD-WAREEMBA-CHISWICK CATCHMENT	
2026	2036
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Programs for seniors including older Italian speaking residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased seniors housing</li> </ul>

BREAKFAST POINT-MORTLAKE-CABARITA CATCHMENT	
2026	2036
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased senior's housing</li> </ul>

NORTH STRATHFIELD - STRATHFIELD CATCHMENT	
2026	2036
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Communal facilities within high density</li> <li>- Programs and services for youth, students and culturally diverse residents (from China and Korea)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 400m2 multipurpose community centre (near future metro)</li> </ul>

CONCORD CATCHMENT	
2026	2036
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased capacity of Concord High School</li> <li>- Creation of an arts and cultural group network</li> <li>- Programs for seniors including older Italian residents</li> <li>- Communal facilities within high density</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1,200m2 district staffed multipurpose community hub, with large hall near future metro station (also servicing Five Dock-Canada Bay catchment)</li> </ul>



FIVE DOCK/CANADA BAY CATCHMENT	
2026	2036
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Affordable programs and services for children, families and young people</li> <li>- Communal facilities within high density</li> <li>- Programs for seniors including older Italian residents</li> <li>- Shared use of underutilised facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 400m2 community centre in town centre (near future metro)</li> <li>- Increased senior's housing</li> </ul>

DRUMMOYNE, RUSSELL LEA AND RODD POINT CATCHMENT	
2026	2036
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Programs and services for seniors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New multipurpose community centre + co-located library-link (to address 600m2 gap in Five Dock library catchment)</li> </ul>

Figure 1 - Social infrastructure priorities by catchment





*Ben Williams Photography for City of Canada Bay Council*

# PART A BACKGROUND

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. BACKGROUND

The City of Canada Bay Local Government Area (LGA) is situated alongside the Parramatta River, approximately 6 kilometres west of the Sydney CBD. Our LGA covers 20 square kilometres and is predominantly residential, also including commercial centres and some industrial areas.

Through urban renewal in areas such as Rhodes West, our community has experienced growth and change over the past five years and is projected to be home to an additional 24,000 people by 2036. We are also adjacent to Wentworth Point, and Sydney Olympic Park which are expanding rapidly with a forecast additional 40,000 residents.

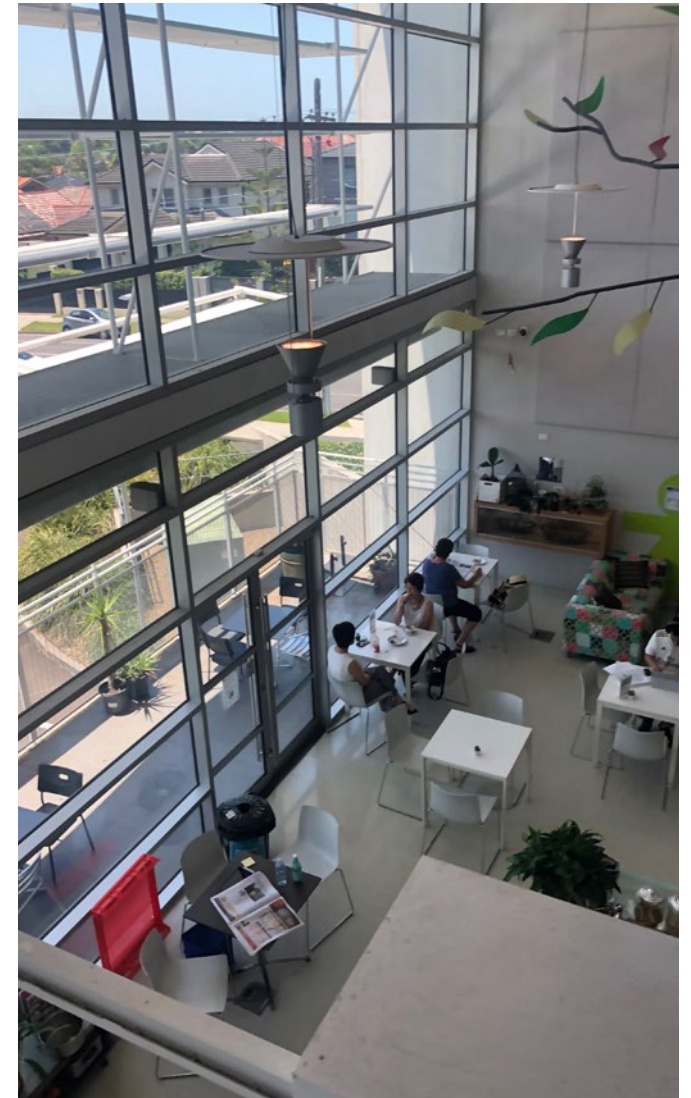
YOUR Future 2030, Council's Community Strategic Plan (CSP), prioritises that residents will have "full access to high quality services that facilitate inclusive participation in community life" and "a diverse range of opportunities to engage in lifelong learning that promotes health and wellbeing." Council recognises that communities with access to quality and appropriate community facilities and services experience greater social wellbeing, connectivity, and resilience.

To ensure our diverse community can access the community facilities, services and programs it needs to live happy and healthy lives, City of Canada Bay Council (Council) has prepared this Social Infrastructure (Community) Strategy and Action Plan. This Strategy and Action Plan provides the evidence and information to support Council's planning over the short, medium (2026) and longer (2036) term.

## 1.2. PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

This report provides a Strategy and Action Plan for social infrastructure (community) to 2019, 2026 and 2036. This Strategy and Action Plan delivers recommendations that will inform future priorities for social infrastructure and deliver facilities and spaces that reflect community needs.

The Strategy and Action Plan has been developed alongside a suite of other focus area strategies - open space and recreation, housing, economic productivity, biodiversity, traffic and transport - as part of a significant review of Council's planning framework. This review includes the development of the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS), the land use strategy for the next 20 years and implementation through a revised Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP).



Canada Bay Library (Source: Cred Consulting)



### 1.3. OUR APPROACH

Our approach to assessing the need for social infrastructure takes into consideration multiple indicators including:

- Demographics and research - What are the characteristics of the existing and future community and what social infrastructure needs does this indicate?
- Strategic context - What's the big picture planning and thinking that will shape the character of local areas and the LGA into the future?
- Auditing, utilisation and quality assessment - What social infrastructure currently exists or is planned? What is the existing utilisation of social infrastructure? How do people access it?
- Benchmarking - What do population benchmarks and best practice trends indicate we need in terms of community facilities, services and programs for the LGA and each planning catchment area?
- Community/stakeholder engagement - What has the community told us about what they need?

One of the above indicators is not more important than the other, instead all of these five indicators need to be read together to determine the future social infrastructure needs for the Canada Bay LGA.



Figure 2 - Approach to social infrastructure needs assessment  
(Source: Cred Consulting)

## 1.4. WHAT IS COUNCIL'S ROLE?

Council, in partnership with other government agencies and the private and community sectors, is a key provider of social infrastructure that supports the delivery of services and programs within it, and builds inclusive, connected and resilient communities, urban centres, streets and suburbs.

Council has a number of roles in relation to the planning, facilitation, delivery, and advocacy for the delivery of social infrastructure for our community as shown in Figure 2 to the right.

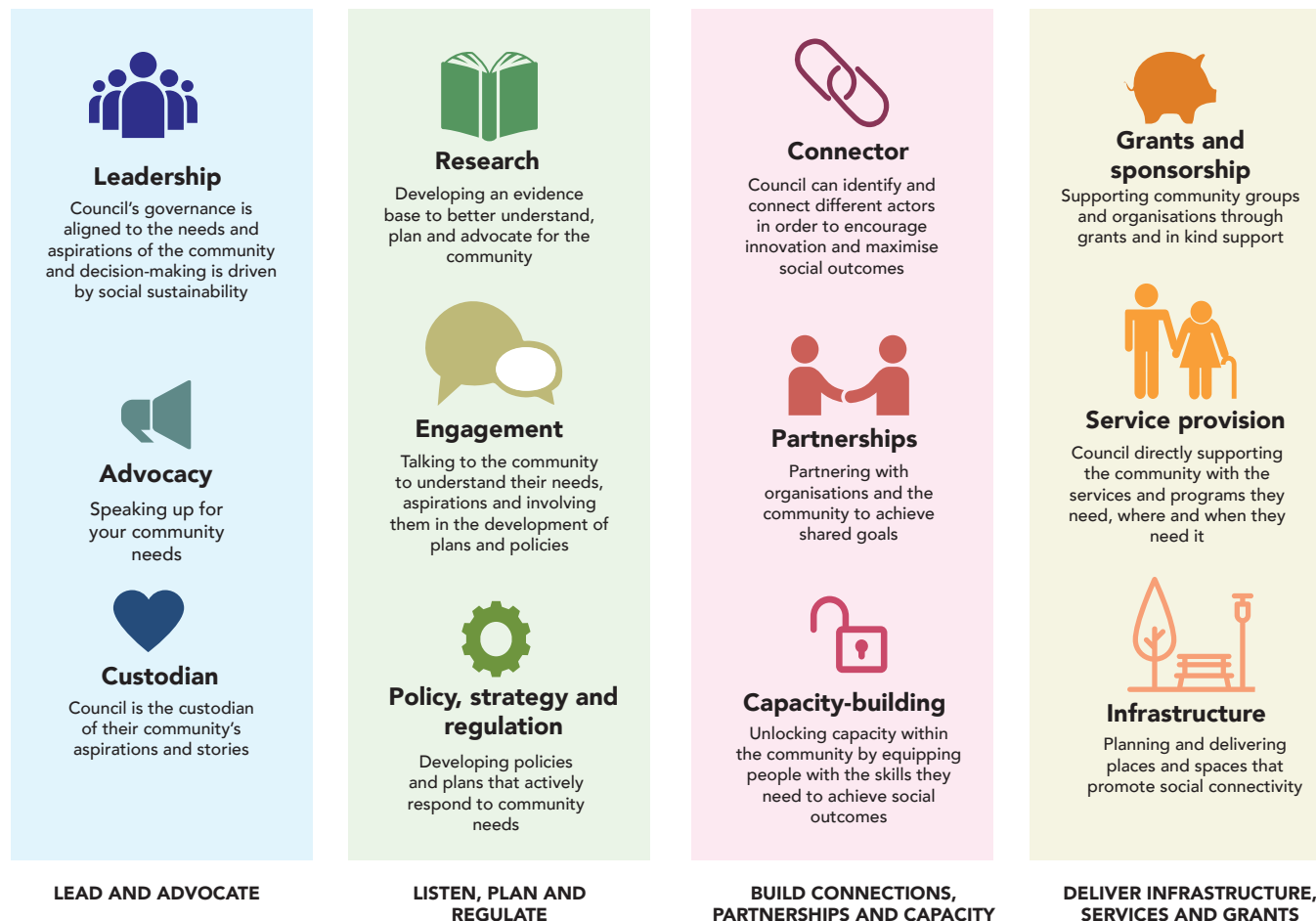


Figure 3 - Council's role in planning for the delivery of social infrastructure (Source: Cred Consulting)

## 2. Social infrastructure and its benefits

### 2.1. WHAT IS SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE?

Social infrastructure includes community facilities, services and programs.

Quality social infrastructure plays an important role in the social fabric of a community by supporting and facilitating community harmony and social cohesion. Social infrastructure provides places, programs, and opportunities for people to meet each other and interact, engage and participate in community events, co-work, and learn new skills. These opportunities are central to the development of social capital, and result in greater community cohesion.

To work well, social infrastructure must meet the changing needs of a community. Like all communities across Sydney, the Canada Bay LGA is continually changing and so too are the social infrastructure needs of our population.

#### Community facilities

For the purposes of this Strategy and Action Plan, community facilities have been defined to include publicly accessible built spaces for program delivery and community use. Community facilities include libraries, multipurpose community centres, cultural and performing arts facilities, venues for hire, community support service facilities and facilities leased to community organisations and groups.

Recreation uses have been excluded from this scope as they are the subject of the *Social Infrastructure Strategy and Action Plan (Open Space and Recreation)*.

#### Services and programs

Services and programs are generally hosted within these facilities (or in public spaces) which support the community.

Indoor leisure centre, indoor courts and community gardens are included in a separate Social Infrastructure (Open Space and Recreation) Strategy and Action Plan.



The Connection (Source: Cred Consulting)

## 2.2. COMMUNITY FACILITY DEFINITIONS

### Community floor space

'Community floorspace' refers to any community accessible floorspace with community facilities including community centres, meeting rooms, halls or hubs.

### Integrated multipurpose community hub (staffed)

An integrated multipurpose community hub (community hub) typically includes a range of different facilities/functions such as library, community centre, arts and cultural space or an early education and care centre.

### Multipurpose community centre (staffed)

A multipurpose staffed community centre includes a range of flexible community spaces (hall, meeting room, lounge area) for delivery of community programs.

### Libraries

Libraries are important spaces for the community to access resources such as technology, the Internet, printers, photocopyers and scanners, books, as well as programs and classes such as computer skills, English conversation or homework help. The role of the traditional public library is shifting, as people change the way they seek information and much of their daily lives require an online presence and digital literacy. Libraries are increasingly seen as community spaces, where connections are built, and where people can learn, find information, use technology and access a broad range of lifelong learning programs.

### Community venue for hire

#### Community halls

Community halls are generally single-use spaces that can be hired by the community for events. They can often include a stage or sprung floor.

#### Meeting rooms

Meeting rooms are hireable spaces typically with a capacity of 10 to 20 people. They are spaces that can be used for small community workshops, education and training such as English conversation or computer classes as well as areas for quiet study or collaboration.

#### Town halls

Town halls are generally large civic halls with capacity to cater for large events such as Council community meetings, functions, events and performances.

#### Sports and park halls available for community hire

Sports and park halls and meeting rooms are typically co-located with sporting amenities blocks that are part of larger sporting precincts, or within parks. For the purpose of this Plan, only sports and park halls that are available for community hire have been included in the total community floorspace for each catchment.

### Facilities leased to community organisations

Facilities leased to community organisations and groups are Council-owned buildings that are leased to community groups or community service providers that provide services to the community. Facilities leased to community organisations and groups can be open to the public, or targeted towards different groups such as youth services, men's sheds or scout halls.

### Early education and care facilities

Early Education and Care facilities (ECEC) is a more contemporary and broader term than child care for children aged 0 to 12 years. It reflects the understanding that all child care services also provide early education and that care is implicit in education. The following service types are defined as early education and care:

#### Centre Based Day Care (CBDC)

CBDC is early education and care provided in centres aimed primarily at under 5 year olds. CBDC services provide all day or part time care or flexible care for short periods of time.

#### Preschools

Preschools are usually provided at a centre staffed by a qualified and other staff in a dedicated Preschool centre. These services are primarily aimed at children 3 to 5 years.

#### Outside School Hours Care (OSHC)

OSHC provides care before and after school hours and during school holidays for children aged 5 to 11 years.

### Arts and cultural facilities

#### Creative art space & maker spaces

Maker spaces are creative, DIY spaces where people can gather to create, invent, and learn. They provide the community with access to equipment that may otherwise be inaccessible or unaffordable such as 3D printers, software, electronics, craft and hardware supplies and tools, sewing machines, creative print machines, and more.

#### Art gallery/exhibition space

Art galleries provide exhibition spaces, and may offer educational programs, as well as meeting and workshop space for artists. Galleries are often co-located with libraries, civic facilities and museums.

#### Artist's studios

Subsidised rental space for artists to create such as visual arts, music and writing.

#### Performance space

A large community venue that is equipped for performances e.g. including a stage and seating (can be fixed or not fixed).



### 2.3. SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE HIERARCHY

Social infrastructure can be delivered, owned, or managed by a range of agencies including local government, State Government agencies, the private or community sectors. Social infrastructure is categorised into the following hierarchy, based on population size:

#### Sub-regional (LGA)

Sub-regional facilities usually serve populations of one LGA of around 100,000 people. Regional facilities may serve two or more LGAs (100,000+). Sub-regional facilities can include major cultural or civic facilities such as civic centres, performing arts centres (around 400+ seating capacity), major libraries, exhibition space, and higher order entertainment facilities. These facilities service a radius of more than 15km and travel time of 30 minutes.

**Sub-regional: The Concourse, Chatswood**  
(there are no regional facilities in Canada Bay LGA)

10,000m<sup>2</sup>: Concert hall, theatre, civic pavilion and studio, Chatswood library (5,000m<sup>2</sup>)



#### District (planning catchment area)

District level facilities are more specialised and operate on a geographic planning catchment area, usually for about 30,000 to 50,000 people. District level facilities are most often located in activity centres, ideally linked to public transport and in locations where people have a cause to gather and visit. District facilities provide a range of activity and program space and often accommodate community organisations and service providers. District level facilities would usually have a staff presence whether that is a local government or service provider personnel and could include: multipurpose community centres; civic and cultural facilities, including a district or branch library; community arts spaces; and entertainment facilities and services. They service a catchment of 5 to 15km and a travel time of 15 to 30minute drive or cycle.

**District: The Connection, Rhodes**

1,050m<sup>2</sup>: space include The Meeting Space, The Event Space and The Learning Space



#### Local (neighbourhood)

Local level services and facilities are focused on neighbourhood needs and are usually planned to serve a catchment of about 5,000 to 20,000 people. Local level facilities provide a basis for community involvement and the development of social capital through opportunities to build social networks and community connections. Local level facilities typically include multi-purpose community centres providing flexible spaces for local activities and programs and may also offer access to family support, health and other support services. They service a local catchment of 1 to 5km and a 5 to 15minute walk or drive.

**Local: Chiswick Community Centre**

128m<sup>2</sup>: Spaces include: Kitchen, Toilets, Small hall (capacity 60 to 70 people)



## 2.2. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE?



### **Liveability of Canada Bay**

Liveable places are those that have great access to essential social infrastructure that enable life-long learning and creative expression; create team-players and healthier communities; and bridge social networks and supports. Liveable places attract not only higher rates of wellbeing, but also social capital, ensuring a great quality of life for residents.

The availability of social infrastructure, both Council and non-Council owned, enables the presence of social supports and essential community services that are necessary to help people thrive. Social infrastructure also enables 'place making,' creating spaces for people to meet, connect and participate in meaningful and healthy activities. Social infrastructure and open space strengthens local and community identity, and helps meet the essential needs of the community, including our social and recreation needs.

Community spaces contribute to the vitality of urban centres and local identity. They are ideally situated on landmark sites and have distinctive architecture and quality design. Local stories and culture can be ingrained in the building fabric to assist in fostering community identity and ownership.



### **Social sustainability and resilience of Canada Bay & creation of social capital**

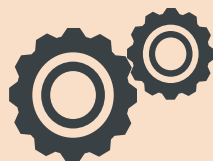
Access to social infrastructure is key to both the social and environmental sustainability in the LGA. Social infrastructure is also vital to encourage the community to come together, share resources, access services and meet each-other and learn about the different cultures living in the area, building community cohesion.

Access to social infrastructure helps to build healthy, strong and empowered communities who have more resources and support to draw on when dealing with chronic stresses. Community programs deliver multiple benefits, which can be understood in terms of social (and cultural) and economic terms. Social benefits include improved community cohesion, capacity building, and wellbeing (physical and mental). Community programs establish networks, safety and trust which are the fundamentals of social capital. Feelings of trust in a community are an established measure of social capital, a key social indicator used internationally. They further provide additional benefits to Council through positive public relations for Council, happier and safer communities, reducing workloads, and activation of Council's currently unstaffed community venues and public places.

Social capital focuses centrally on our many social connections, and the benefits and resources these bring to the wellbeing of individuals and of the community. Planning for social capital can facilitate opportunities for communities to develop neighbourliness, a welcoming attitude, cooperation, and trust. These factors contribute to the development of resilience within and amongst communities which supports the ability to adapt and respond to change (such as population growth, demographic trends, environmental challenges and economic conditions). These considerations can increase local social capital and social and economic outcomes for all. Planning for liveable and socially sustainable communities can be created in four ways by enabling:

- Spaces that enable incidental connections
- Spaces and events that enable connections between groups
- Opportunities for shared value and community life, and
- Voice and influence.





### **Productivity of Canada Bay and economic growth**

Investment in social infrastructure and open space not only has social and physical wellbeing benefits, but also significant economic benefits for the community. Social infrastructure such as libraries, work hubs, subsidised office spaces, child care and open spaces such as cycling and walking tracks provide much needed spaces to learn, engage in or access the workforce to enable everyone to achieve their full potential. SGS Economics has found that equitable access to facilities, programs and services can lead to:

- Improved employment opportunities, increased workforce participation and an increase in human capital
- Increased learning opportunities – help people to innovate and express themselves, improve personal satisfaction and wellbeing
- Increased social interaction, cultural appreciation and community cohesion/identity, and
- Opportunities for local ownership, entrepreneurship, employment, opportunities for partnerships, increased capacity to attract further investment.

A study by SGS Economics and Planning, 'The Library Dividend' (2012) found that every \$100 invested by Local or State Government in Queensland public libraries delivers \$230 worth of value back to the community. Providing these important spaces for lifelong learning and study means that children have opportunities to succeed at school and university. Women can more easily return to work when childcare is high quality, accessible and affordable. Individuals and families, especially new migrants and refugees, can access employment when they have the training and support that they need to access and thrive in new jobs. Social infrastructure enables people of all ages and abilities to access resources, programs and services and be included within events and activities that support lifelong learning and contribute to the wider community. The economic benefits of community programs include enabling people to engage in further learning and work, through volunteering, foundation skills courses and breaking down the barriers to participation. Volunteer contributions through community programs and services are significant and diverse, and are both social benefits and economic benefits.

# 3. Strategic context

This Strategy and Action Plan sits within a strategic framework and is informed by strategies and plans at the State, regional and local government level, including major infrastructure projects. This section provides an overview of key strategic documents that have informed the development of the Strategy and Action Plan.

## 3.1. NSW GOVERNMENT

### Better Placed (NSW Government Architect)

Better Placed is an integrated design policy for the built environment of NSW and seeks to place good design at the centre of all development processes from project definition to concept design through to construction and maintenance. Better Placed is based around seven distinct objectives that together seek to create a 'well-designed built environment that is healthy, responsive, integrated, equitable and resilient':

- Better fit: contextual, local and of its place
- Better performance: sustainable, adaptable and durable
- Better for the community: inclusive, connected and diverse
- Better for people: safe, comfortable and liveable
- Better working: functional, efficient and fit for purpose
- Better value: creating and adding value, and
- Better look and feel: engaging, inviting and attractive.

### NSW Government Education and Communities: five-year strategic plan 2012-2017

The Strategic Plan acknowledges the role of education and training in building strong, cohesive communities, and the level of influence the Department of Education and Communities (DE&C) has on an individual's life through its role in delivering early childhood education through to adult learning and training. The long term priorities over 2012-2017 were to:

- Improve literacy and numeracy for all children
- Develop leaders in education and increase their capacity to deliver outcomes
- Close gaps in achievement in areas of disadvantage
- Innovate and undertake continual improvement to respond to changing needs of the population
- Develop staff and support them delivering excellence, and
- Form strong partnerships with parents and families, industry, and non-government education providers.

The Plan does not provide any strategic guidance on the location of new or extensions to existing educational institutions. DE&C is preparing an updated strategic plan for 2031 and a School Cluster Asset Plan, which aligns with the Department of Planning and Environment boundaries.

### Sydney Local Health District Strategic Plan 2012-2017

The Sydney Local Health District (SLHD) services the Canada Bay LGA as well as the City of Sydney, Inner West, Canterbury-Bankstown, Burwood and Strathfield LGAs. The SLHD provides tertiary, acute, primary care and health improvement services. The District includes principal teaching hospitals at Royal Prince Alfred (RPA) and Concord Repatriation General Hospital (CRGH) and district hospitals in Balmain and Canterbury which are complemented by a range of community-based health services.

By 2021, the SLHD population is expected to reach 642,000 people. It has an ageing population, with the number of residents aged 70 years old and above expected to increase by 30% over the next decade. Population growth, ageing and increasing births are projected to result in increased health care demands in the district. Cultural and socio-economic diversity will also continue to pose a challenge of equitable service delivery and require collaborative engagement with local communities and health providers. To keep up with the District's health needs, SLHD will work with NSW Health to establish the required capital and asset infrastructure.

### 3.2. GREATER SYDNEY AND REGIONAL PLANNING

#### Resilient Sydney – A strategy for city resilience 2018

The 100 Resilient Cities initiative – pioneered by the Rockefeller Foundation – helps cities around the world become more resilient to the physical, social and economic challenges that are a growing part of the 21st century. Resilient Sydney Strategy recognises no single organisation can solve our problems and instead looks at how we can work together, across boundaries to protect and champion the needs and interests of communities for the Sydney metropolitan. This Strategy sets the direction to strengthen our ability to survive, adapt and thrive in the face of increasing global uncertainty, local shocks and stresses and calls for business, government, academia, communities and individuals to lead and work as one city.

Direction 3, Connect for Strength, aims for every Sydney-sider to feel they belong in our community and city. This is to address Sydney's declining social cohesion and result in an outcome where people have equal access to engage in society, the economy and all the city has to offer.

#### Greater Sydney Region Plan: A Metropolis of Three Cities and the Eastern City District Plan (Greater Sydney Commission)

The Greater Sydney Region Plan: A Metropolis of Three Cities is built on a vision where people live within 30 minutes of their jobs, education and health facilities, services and great places. The Plan seeks to transform Greater Sydney into a metropolis of three cities – the Western Parkland City; Central River City and the Eastern Harbour City (of which the City of Canada Bay is located), guided by ten strategic directions. Relevant directions include:

- A city for people. Celebrating diversity and putting people at the heart of planning. This includes services and infrastructure that meet communities' changing needs and to create healthy, resilient and socially connected communities. The arts, creative industries and innovation is highly supported.
- A city of great places. Designing places for people.
- A collaborative city. Working together to grow a Greater Sydney.
- A city supported by infrastructure and supporting new developments.

The Eastern City District includes the Canada Bay LGA along with Bayside, Burwood, City of Sydney, Inner West, Randwick, Strathfield, Waverley and Woollahra LGAs. The Plan aims to:

- Nurture quality lifestyles through well- designed housing in neighbourhoods close to transport and other infrastructure.
- Create sustainable communities through vibrant public

places, walking and cycling, and cultural, artistic and tourism assets.

- Align growth with infrastructure, including transport, social and green infrastructure, and delivering sustainable, smart and adaptable solutions.
- Through collaborative approaches, increase the use of public resources such as social infrastructure.

The planning priorities, which align to the objectives of the regional plan, and associated actions that aim to increase community cohesion and social connectedness include:

- Planning Priority E3: Providing services and social infrastructure to meet people's changing needs (A Metropolis of Three Cities: objective 6). This includes optimising the use of available public land for social infrastructure.
- Planning Priority E4: Fostering healthy, creative, culturally rich and socially connected communities (A Metropolis of Three Cities: objective 7, 8 and 9) through the delivery of healthy, safe and inclusive places for all ages and abilities, supporting active, resilient and socially connected communities and facilitating opportunities for creative and artistic expression and participation.
- Planning Priority E6: Creating and renewing great places and local centres and respecting the District's heritage (A Metropolis of Three Cities: objective 12). Actions including using a place-based approach to deliver great places and integrating social infrastructure to support social connections and provide a community hub.

### 3.3. CANADA BAY COUNCIL

#### Community Strategic Plan

Council's Community Strategic Plan has five key themes that inform social infrastructure planning:

- Theme 1: Inclusive, involved and prosperous
  - Goal 1.1: All residents have full access to high-quality services that facilitate inclusion and participation in community life
  - Goal 1.2: The community has a diverse range of opportunities to engage in recreation and lifelong learning that promotes health and wellbeing, and
  - Goal 1.3: Our sense of place and of belonging is strong with our diversity respected and celebrated and local heritage and character promoted in friendly village neighbourhoods and vibrant and prosperous centres.
- Theme 2: Environmentally responsible.
- Theme 3 Easy to get around.
- Theme 4: Engaged and future focussed.
- Theme 5: Visionary, smart and accountable.

#### Draft Local Strategic Planning Statement

The Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) sets out the 20-year vision for land use in the local area, the special character and values that are to be preserved and how change will be managed into the future.

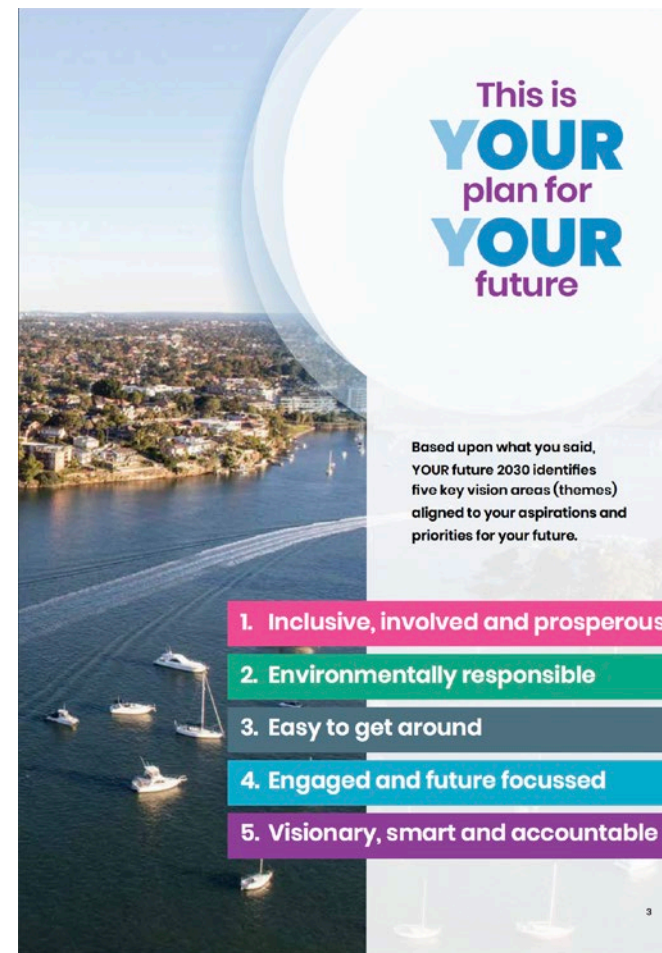
#### City of Canada Bay Community Facilities Blueprint (2011-2031)

The Blueprint outlines the following vision for community facilities: The City of Canada Bay will have a range of sustainable, strategically located and accessible multipurpose community facilities that support community connections and promote community wellbeing. The Blueprint is driven by the following 7 Principles:

1. Sustainable
2. Multipurpose and flexible
3. Accessible
4. Equitably and appropriately located across the City
5. Safe and of high quality
6. Provided and managed in partnership with key stakeholders and communities, and
7. Promote a positive local identity.

The Blueprint set three key directions:

1. Rationalise the number of single purpose community facilities to a smaller number of multipurpose community centres. This would include disposal of some facilities, redevelopment of others and change of use for some community centres to venues for hire
2. Create three strategically located community hubs in Rhodes/Liberty Grove, Five Dock and Drummoyne Activity Hubs, in sites that are well connected to public transports commercial, retail and community activity, and
3. Staff and provide neighbourhood functions within future community centres.



Canada Bay Community Strategic Plan Outtake

### City of Canada Bay Positive Ageing Strategy (2010)

The Positive Ageing Strategy 2010 is a plan for older people aged 55 years+ in the area to remain healthy, active and supported. Relevant actions include:

- Host regular health forums on a variety of topics related to ageing
- Investigate the possibility of broadening the use of the Hydrotherapy Pool at Lucas Garden's School to include older people
- Resource the Access Committee sub-committee to continue to review development applications to ensure that disabled parking and access is adequate in community buildings
- Continue to support Senior Leisure Bus Trip outings, and
- Continue to monitor options for funding a Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) Capital Facility in the area.

### City of Canada Bay Community Harmony Strategy (2010)

The Community Harmony Strategy identifies the way in which we can assist people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities to access Council's services and facilities. Key actions identified in this Strategy that relate to the Community Facilities Resourcing Strategy include:

- Promote and advertise Council's structure, programs, services, facilities and funding opportunities through local and regional CALD groups, forums, network and ethnic media
- Continue working with multicultural groups and relevant service providers to ensure that newly arrived residents are welcomed and integrated into the community
- Facilitate exhibitions from CALD artists and communities, and
- Continue funding for Drummoyne Community Centre to run English classes.



Source: City of Canada Bay Council



## Canada Bay Library Services Strategic Plan 2012 to 2017

The Library Services Strategic Plan's vision is to bring people and knowledge together. This will be achieved by enabling free access to information, sharing knowledge, providing inclusive and accessible services for all, improving the popular traditional services while adapting to innovations, striving to be ethically, financially, socially and environmentally sustainable as a resilient community resource, providing adaptable and flexible spaces and services, and reflecting and enhancing the culture of the LGA. The Plan includes the following outcome areas:

1. Bringing our community and library services together
2. Relevant and responsible collections
3. Knowledgeable and skilled staff, and
4. Delivering through technology.

## Child and Family Needs Strategy (2013)

The Child and Family Needs Strategy responded to the increasing population of children and families living in the area. Relevant strategies include:

- Encourage the expansion of child care places for under two-year olds through existing Council services, not for profit providers, and the private sector
- In partnership with the Department of Education and Communities, develop community/educational facilities that reflect the needs of children and families
- Assess the feasibility of expanding the number of children's library programs in order to address the high demand demonstrated for these activities
- Continue to assist with promotion of local parenting programs and resources, including their inclusion in the new child and family website, and

- Facilitate the development of supported playgroups in partnership with appropriate organisations such as Playgroups NSW and Sydney Day Nurseries (SDN) for targeted communities.

## Fair use of Council facilities

In 2012, Council and New Democracy Foundation worked with a single Citizens' Panel of 36 randomly selected participants to agree the priority services and funding for the LGA.

Twelve of the recommendations of the 2012 Citizens' Panel related to the subsidised use of Council facilities and the desire of the panelists to maintain the fabric of existing local services while balancing the need for equitable and careful use of resources.

Many of their recommendations related to services, programs and facilities for children, families and seniors. The Citizens' Panel specifically recommended that certainty needed to be provided to community based early childhood services around rental lease agreements. Services were to be consulted and engaged with on an individual basis with the aim to preserve the fabric of community based early childhood services.



Inside City of Canada Bay Library (Source: Cred Consulting)



## City of Canada Bay Cultural Plan 2015-2021

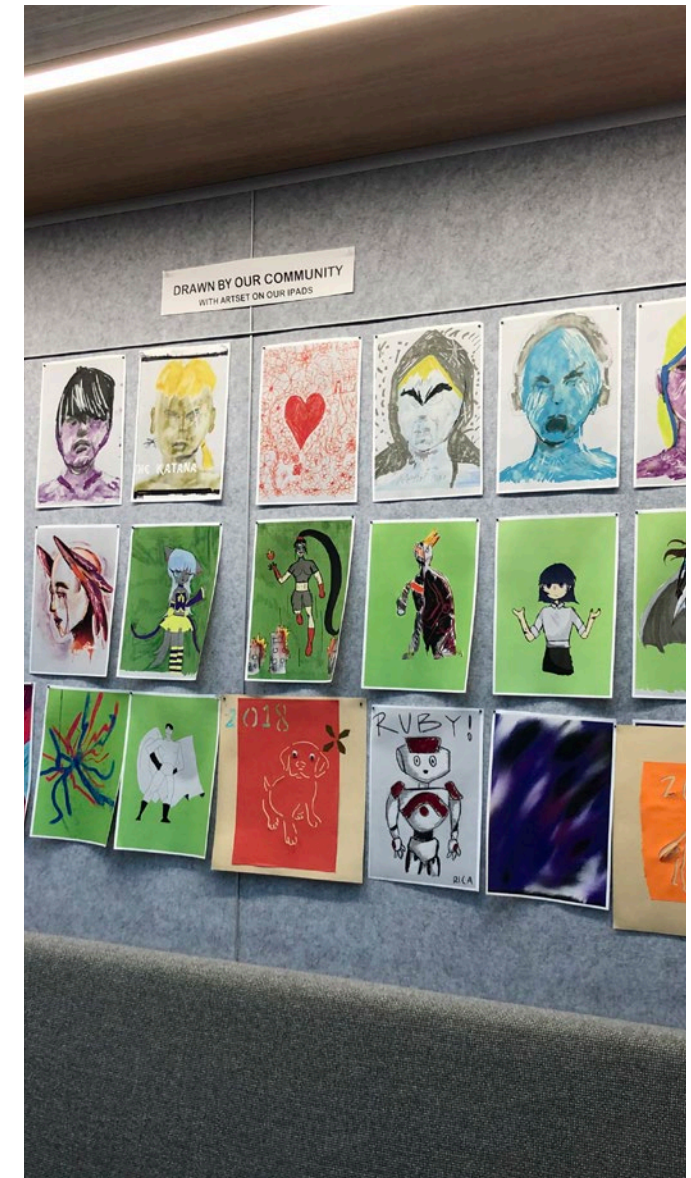
The purpose of the Plan is to “create stronger and more strategic relationships with people around identifiable activity hubs .... focus on place management for cultural development .... [and] discovering what makes a place distinctive, authentic, and memorable. It is about the experience they have as individuals and communities. Cultural markers, public art and interpretive features can inform residents, visitors and future generations about the significance and meaning of special places, people and stories” (pg.4). To achieve this, the Plan aims to ensure the development of appropriate infrastructure, support of creative industries and ensuring that the links between cultural identity and community wellbeing are energetic.

Relevant directions include:

- Cultural Infrastructure is about the venues, sites and mechanisms that enable cultural activity to take place – art galleries, performance spaces, libraries, community cultural centres, outdoor event venues and studios – and includes staffing and servicing capacity internal and external to Council. Recognising and responding to the diverse needs for cultural space, taking into account local and regional existing provision and needs; provide cultural programs in existing facilities and responding to emerging technologies through programs and services, particularly in local libraries.
- Creative Industries is about the design, production or servicing of creative or knowledge based products. Supporting local creatives and communities seeking opportunities to enjoy a cultural experience in traditional creative spaces (i.e. galleries) or other spaces (i.e. small bars and retail spaces). Providing adequate physical spaces (i.e. building size, clustering,

accessibility) in the right locations is also an important consideration.

- Place Making in town centres and the urban environment is about understanding the role of the town centre in fostering a distinctive cultural identity and is an important destination for everyone – families, people working from home, seniors and young people – and a place to enhance civic pride and community identity. Cultural interventions play an ongoing role in urban development and renewal and providing quality people places.
- Community Cultures is about building cultural capacity to improve the quality of life and sense of belonging for individuals and the wider community. Strong communities have sustainable connections, trust, cooperation and common purposes, which can be nurtured through opportunities to tell stories, build creative skills and be active participants. This could include the extension of cultural programming, support intercultural and intergenerational community-led projects and providing cultural information and programs.



Inside City of Canada Bay Library (Source: Cred Consulting)



### Disability Inclusion Action Plan (2017 to 2021)

We recognise that improved access and inclusive practices will benefit all our residents and visitors including people with disability, families with young children, older people, and those experiencing temporary injury or illness. The Plan's strategies and actions aim to help reduce barriers and provide guidance to those who advocate for equity of access for people of all abilities.

The DIAP recommends that the needs of people with disability should be considered when planning for future places and spaces, and that people with disability should be encouraged to participate in mainstream programs.

### Five Dock Town Centre Strategy and Urban Design Study

The Five Dock Town Centre Strategy and Urban Design Study recommends providing a community focus in Five Dock including a community cluster of activity. As a centre that provides the "heart" of the local community, it needs a mix of local services and uses including retail, civic, and recreation. Clustering attractors such as supermarkets, libraries, banks, schools, clubs and car parks is a strategy for long-term prosperity; and identifying opportunities for Council owned land.

In relation to the Five Dock Library, the Study recommends seeking opportunities to open up private landholdings for community events and/or public use, such as the forecourt of St Albans Church or the terrace in front of Five Dock Library.



Source: City of Canada Bay Council

### 3.4. INFRASTRUCTURE DRIVERS

#### Sydney Metro West

The Sydney Metro West project has a concept plan for a new metro station under an existing suburban station on the T1 Northern Line east of Sydney Olympic Park, with both Concord West and North Strathfield noted as potential candidates.

Transport for NSW is investigating three areas within the LGA – North Strathfield, Burwood North (Concord), and Five Dock areas. A key criteria influencing the final station locations is the urban renewal potential to deliver housing and jobs close to the station and leading to an intensification of land use activities where new stations are constructed.

Metro West would significantly improve the public transport connectivity but could create population pressure and alter the existing character in the areas where the stations are located. For example, Five Dock is already anticipated to increase from the current 11,583 to 16,387 in 2036 (or 41.46%).

#### WestConnex

The M4 East - The Legacy Project aims to redevelop residual land, following the construction of WestConnex, to open space and recreational facilities. This project includes areas surrounding the Motorway in Strathfield and Concord which previously were not utilised. In relation to social infrastructure, the following is proposed:

*Powells Creek and Green Links Enhancement Plan, Strathfield*

- Further facilities including a community centre and creek landscaping are visualized but are not within the scope of the legacy project.

#### Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy (Landcom)

The Transformation Strategy sets out the vision, land use and transport principles to accommodate the Corridor over the next 30 years. The Strategy aims to provide more housing, including the provision of diverse and affordable housing, a series of well-serviced and well-connected communities, a diverse range of spaces, places and links, and coordinate and deliver land use change in an orderly and efficient manner.

Eight 'Precincts' have been identified along the Corridor. Three precincts, Kings Bay, Burwood-Concord and Homebush Precincts are within the Canada Bay LGA and Homebush, which is just outside the LGA boundary. In terms of social infrastructure provision within the precincts, the Parramatta Road Open Space and Infrastructure Study (2015) designates the following projects:

- Kings Bay Precinct: a long day childcare centre; a community meeting space (minimum 300sqm); approximately six additional primary school teaching spaces and associated support facilities; and approximately four additional secondary school teaching spaces and associated facilities.
- Burwood-Concord Precinct: a long day childcare centre; a community meeting space (minimum 300sqm); upgrade/rebuild of the Concord Community Centre as a regional multipurpose facility approximately two additional primary school teaching spaces and associated support facilities; and approximately nine additional secondary school teaching spaces and associated facilities.
- Homebush Precinct: (located outside the LGA): five long day childcare centre; three community meeting spaces (minimum 300sqm and potentially co-located within an existing or new multipurpose facility or a school); community health centre; approximately 44 additional primary school teaching spaces and associated support facilities; and approximately 42 additional secondary school teaching spaces and associated facilities.



## Revised draft Plan for Rhodes

Rhodes was identified as a Planned Precinct in 2015 by DP&E focusing on the existing opportunities and future potential of the peninsula. In 2017, Council and DP&E released a draft precinct plan, which established a vision and objectives for land east of the railway line (Rhodes East). The vision for the precinct is: Rhodes will be a great place to live, work and visit.

The follow planning principles relevant to this work are:

- Theme 1: Place
  - Ensure the quality of the public domain is considered in future planning.
- Theme 4: Landuse
  - Provide for a local school that can accommodate up to 1,000 students. Co-locate new community facilities near walking and cycling routes.
- Theme 5: Movement
  - Ensure strong pedestrian and cycling connections to promote active transport within the precinct, including the upgraded Cavell Avenue and Blaxland Road cycling path linking the train station and foreshore and pedestrian bridge to McIlwaine Park.

As the precinct has been expanded and revised character areas have been defined the Department is currently investigating the capacity of future development to pay a SIC contribution. A potential SIC rate will be determined through an analysis of the value uplift of the different character areas, infrastructure needs and costs and development feasibility to ensure any change does not impact on the ability of the development to be delivered.

The following are community facilities that have been identified in the Draft Plan to be provided to support the proposed growth in Rhodes:

- Additional facilities recommended for Rhodes East as upgrades to the existing community centre, an alternative site or a mixed-use scheme, and
- A primary school site for up to 1,000 students in consultation with School Infrastructure NSW on the corner bounded by Blaxland Road, Leeds Street and Cavell Avenue. The minimum land requirement is 1 hectare, subject to detailed design. Advice from NSW Department of Education is that the school is most likely to be 800 student capacity given the limited.



Ben Williams Photography for City of Canada Bay Council

## Sydney Olympic Park Masterplan

Sydney Olympic Park has been identified as a “lifestyle precinct” as part of the Greater Parramatta and Olympic Park growth area identified by the Greater Sydney Commission. The Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2030 (2018 Review) is a comprehensive plan guiding the long-term development of Sydney Olympic Park. It is a plan for the revitalisation of Sydney Olympic Park with a vibrant new town centre, educational facilities, shopping precinct, new homes, more jobs and increased open space and community facilities.

The plan identifies 10,700 new dwellings in the Sydney Olympic Park Town Centre by 2030. The Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2030 proposes to provide social infrastructure in accordance with the recommendations of the Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan Community Facilities Strategy, including a library and multipurpose community centre.

## Concord Community and Recreation Precinct Strategy

The Concord Community and Recreation Precinct is one of the most strategically important recreation precincts in Sydney's Inner West, providing approximately 40 hectares (including public indoor space, i.e. Five Dock Leisure Centre) of continuous recreational open space and approximately 780 metres of bayside frontage. The Concord Community and Recreation Precinct Strategy (August 2018) whilst not adopted by Council includes a plan for the redevelopment of Concord Oval.

## What does the strategic context tell us about our future social infrastructure needs?

### *State-level strategic context tells us that:*

- Planning for social infrastructure should include a focus on creating functional facilities and spaces that people want to visit, feel comfortable within, that are fit for purpose and provide opportunities to build social capital.

### *Regional-level strategic context tells us that*

- There is a need to deliver new and enhanced community facilities, services and programs in our area that will service existing residents and workers but also to respond to the demands of the growing population and to create a more cohesive city. A priority for the Eastern District Plan is to provide services and facilities to meet people's changing needs. This includes optimising the use of available public land for community facilities.

### *City of Canada Bay Council local strategic context tells us that:*

- Social infrastructure is a key priority for our community as highlighted within the Community Strategic Plan, including a focus on the provision of social infrastructure to facilitate inclusion and participation in community life and to foster a sense of place and belonging.
- Social infrastructure plays a vital role in building and sustaining community cohesion and harmony within our increasingly socially and culturally diverse community, with a need to continue to support people of all ages, genders, incomes and cultural backgrounds to access and participate in social infrastructure that meets their needs
- Social infrastructure facilitates health and wellbeing outcomes for our community, including through providing opportunities for social connection; for recreation and for lifelong learning.
- Major infrastructure projects may impact on increased demand for community facilities, services and programs, including the Sydney Metro West Project which includes a concept plan for an existing suburban station, with Concord West, North Strathfield, and Burwood North (Concord) noted as potential candidates, and Transport for NSW is considering Five Dock as a potential station site.



## 4. Our people and places now

In order to plan for and deliver social infrastructure in our areas, we need to understand our community, how it is growing and changing, and what are our unique needs. By assessing current and future trends around how we live, we are better equipped to deliver services that will enhance social cohesion, inclusiveness and community harmony. This section provides an overview of our community and neighbourhood now. Population data in this section reflects 2016 ABS Census data sourced from profile.id.

### 4.1. ABOUT THE CANADA BAY AREA

Our LGA covers 20 square kilometres that is predominantly residential, including both established, low density and new, high density suburbs, as well as commercial centres and some industrial areas. We are a vibrant and interesting City in the heart of the inner west of Sydney.

Our LGA is located on the banks of the Parramatta River, approximately 6 kilometres from the Sydney Central Business District (CBD) and is bound by the neighbouring LGAs of the Inner West; Burwood, Strathfield and Parramatta. The 36 kilometres of Parramatta River defines the LGA which includes the suburbs of Abbotsford, Breakfast Point, Cabarita, Chiswick, Concord, Concord West, Drummoyne, Five Dock, Liberty Grove, Mortlake, North Strathfield, Rhodes (East and West), Rodd Point, Russelli Lea, Strathfield (Triangle) and Wareemba.



Canada Bay LGA (Source: City of Canada Bay Council)



## 4.2. GROWTH AND CHANGE

In 2016, the Usual Resident Population of Canada Bay LGA was 88,015, an increase of 12,253 people from 2011. The average household size was 2.5 with a population density of 47 people per hectare. As shown in Figure 3, the recent growth of our area can be attributed to the significant urban development occurring in Rhodes West.

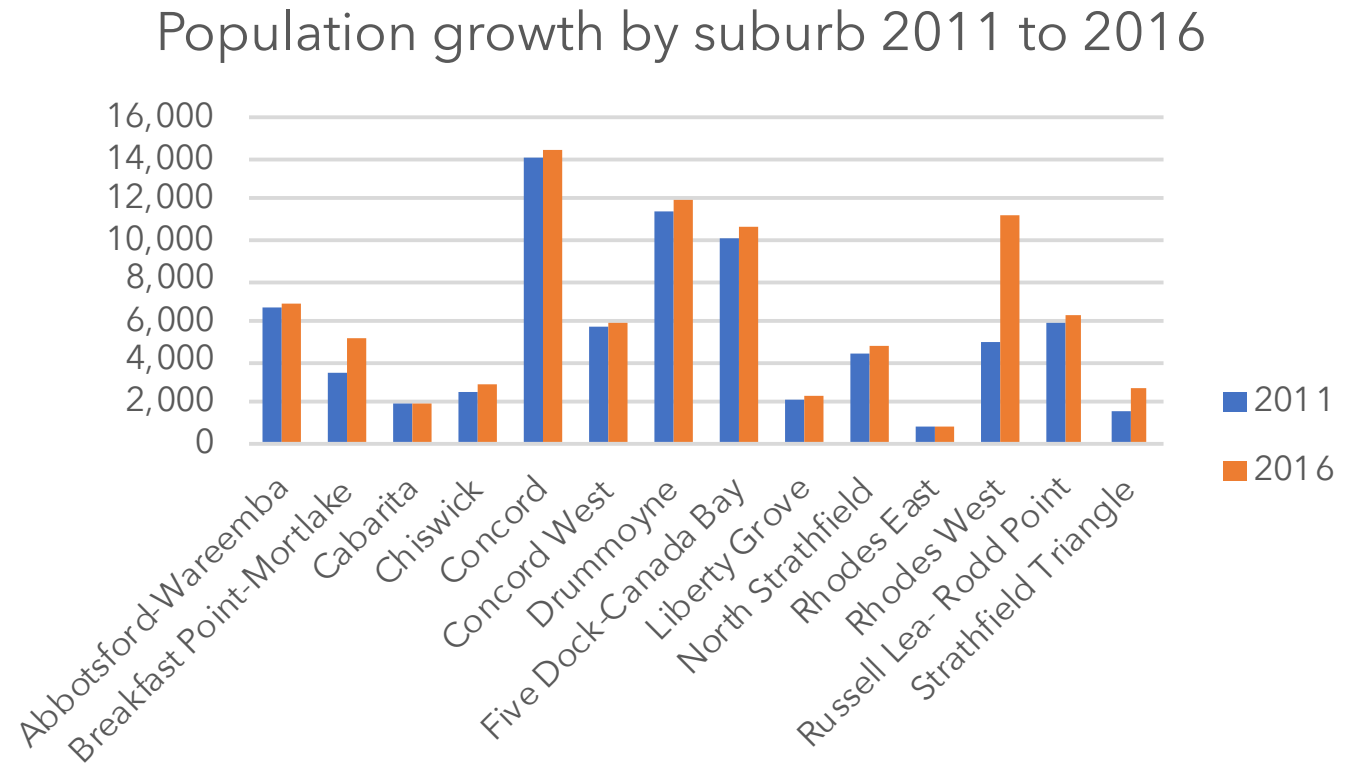


Figure 4 - Population growth by suburb 2011 to 2016

### 4.3. OUR SERVICE GROUP AGE PROFILE

Table 1 shows a service group age profile and shows that between 2011 and 2016 our largest increase by service age group (with both a population and proportional increase) was:

- Children aged 5 to 11 years +1,156
- Young people aged 18 to 24 years +1,434
- Working age people aged 25 to 34 years +3,389
- Older people 60 to 69 years +1,389
- Older people 85 and over +512.

**TABLE 1 - CANADA BAY AGE PROFILE 2011-2016 (SOURCE: PROFILE.ID)**

Age	2016		2011		Change
	#	%	#	%	
0 to 4	5,463	6.2	5,198	6.9	+265
5 to 11	6,551	7.4	5,395	7.1	+1,156
12 to 17	4,459	5.1	4,294	5.7	+165
18 to 24	8,106	9.2	6,672	8.8	+1,434
25 to 34	16,685	19	13,296	17.5	+3,389
35 to 49	19,143	21.8	17,502	23.1	+1,641
50 to 59	10,416	11.8	9,014	11.9	+1,402
60 to 69	8,221	9.3	6,832	9.0	+1,389
70 to 84	6,948	7.9	6,051	8.0	+897
85 and over	2,020	2.3	1,508	2.0	+512

### 4.4. OUR DIVERSE NEIGHBOURHOODS

There is a diversity of age, ethnicity, language, and income distributed across our suburbs. While overall, we are a relatively advantaged community, there are also pockets of disadvantage within some of our suburbs such as Wareemba, North Strathfield, Strathfield Triangle, Five Dock and Concord.

The spatial distribution of age groups across the LGA is extreme with high density suburbs such as North Strathfield and Rhodes containing much younger populations than lower density suburbs such as Abbotsford and Chiswick with much older populations.

Figure 4 overpage provides a snapshot of each of our unique neighbourhoods.

Figure 5 overpage provides more details demographic and place characteristics of each of our neighbourhoods and planning catchments.

## OUR DIVERSE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Our neighbourhoods are socially, culturally and geographically diverse. These factors influence how our communities connect with each other and access community facilities, programs and services.



### RHODES

Very high density mixed use residential and commercial precinct based around Rhodes Station. Very highly culturally diverse (Mandarin, Korean, and Cantonese languages) and younger median age of 29 year. Forecast growth in Rhodes East precinct.

### BREAKFAST POINT-MORTLAKE-CABARITA

Riverfront higher density suburbs with extensive frontage to the Parramatta River. Cabarita has a much older population (median age of 48) and much higher incomes than our LGA, but Breakfast Point/Mortlake is younger (median age of 40). Sydney Ferry stop at Mortlake but there are limited public transport connections to regional centres.

### ABBOTSFORD-WAREEMBA-CHISWICK

Riverfront suburbs with a mix of housing densities. Served by 2 ferries and the Bayrider community bus shuttle, but lacking fast public transport to regional centres. Chiswick has a younger population as compared to Abbotsford-Wareemba which has more older residents, and an older median age of 44. Some small pockets of disadvantage.

### DRUMMOYNE, RUSSELL LEA - RODD POINT

Established residential area with a diverse population of families, languages, and age groups. Higher household incomes with households living in mostly low to medium density housing. Ferry stops and buses to CBD, but poor local connections for residents to other areas.

### FIVE DOCK - CANADA BAY

Currently low density but with high density zoning in the area's south likely to increase the population by around 9,000 new residents with a potential metro station. Family area with higher proportions of children and young people, pockets of disadvantage and high non-English speaking population.

### CONCORD

Currently low density suburb but the southern end zoned for future high density residential as part of PRCUTS with resulting forecast population growth. A family area with a higher proportion of people from non-English speaking backgrounds than LGA, and small pockets of disadvantage.

### CONCORD WEST AND LIBERTY GROVE

High income area with a higher proportion of residents from non-English speaking backgrounds, and a high proportion of families with children households. Liberty Grove is a higher density community. Concord West is currently lower density but with land around the Concord station zoned for future high density and forecast population growth.

### NORTH STRATHFIELD/STRATHFIELD TRIANGLE

High density area located near Strathfield and North Strathfield stations. Young (young professionals, students, children and families), very highly culturally diverse residents with lower median household incomes. High forecast population growth will increase density.

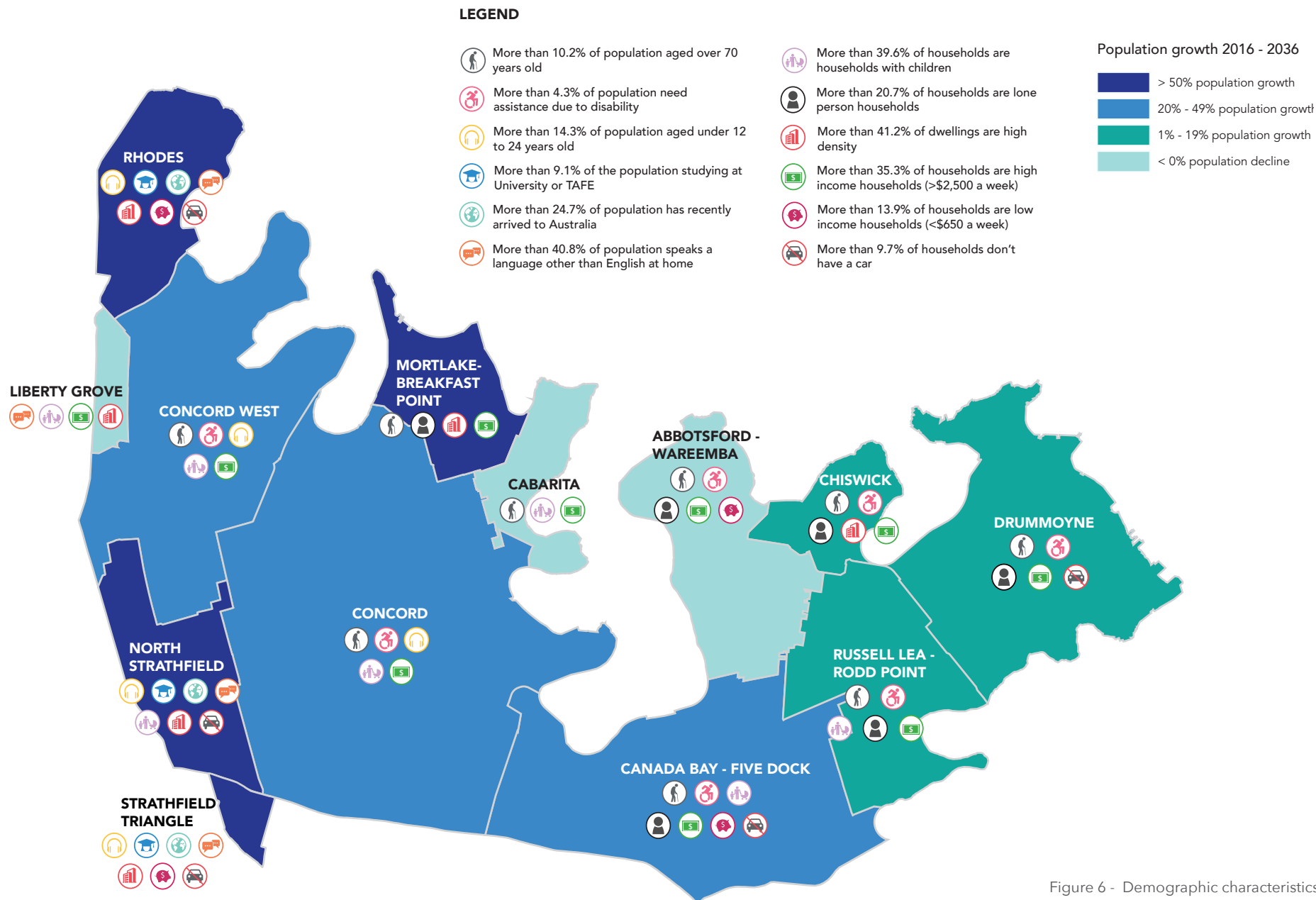


Figure 6 - Demographic characteristics by suburb

## 4.5. POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

### An increasing proportion of people born overseas, particularly from China, Italy and South Korea

Our area continues to be increasingly culturally diverse, encompassing older migrant populations from Italy alongside newer migrant populations from China and Korea. 40.5% of the population was born overseas, 38.2% in non-English speaking countries. The number of people born overseas from non-English speaking backgrounds increased by 35.3% (+8,691 people) between 2011 and 2016. During this period, the number of people born in China doubled and there was a significant increase in people from South Korea and India moving into the area. The five areas with the highest percentages of people who were born overseas were:

- Strathfield (Triangle) (77.9%)
- Rhodes (West) (77.6%)
- Rhodes (75.5%)
- Liberty Grove (56.4%), and
- North Strathfield (50.7%).

Of people who were born overseas, around a quarter arrived in Australia between 2011 and 2016: 24.7% or 8,806 people. The areas with the highest proportion of people who recently arrived in Australia (as a proportion of total overseas born population) were:

- Strathfield (Triangle) (52.2%)
- Rhodes (West) (46.2%)
- Rhodes (45.2%)
- North Strathfield (25.9%), and
- Liberty Grove (22%).



Tai Chi at The Connection (Source: Cred Consulting)



An increasing proportion of residents who speak a language other than English, particularly Chinese languages, Italian and Korean

In 2016, 40.8% of the population spoke a language other than English in comparison to 35.8% in Greater Sydney. Chinese languages, Korean and Italian are the most prevalent languages spoken in the LGA. Table 2 shows the main five non-English languages and shows a significant increase in the number of people speaking Mandarin between 2011 and 2016.

Proportions of non-English speaking residents varied across the LGA ranging from a low of 21.1% in Drummoyne to a high of 79.2% in Strathfield (Triangle). The five areas with the highest percentages of people speaking a language other than English at home were:

- Strathfield (Triangle) (79.2%)
- Rhodes (West) (78.7%)

- Rhodes (76.3%)
- Liberty Grove (59.1%), and
- North Strathfield (51.9%).

Some suburbs have high numbers of residents identifying as not fluent in English, with 16.8% of Strathfield Triangle residents and 15.4% of Rhodes residents not fluent in English. This aligns with numbers of recent overseas arrivals in the City of Canada Bay, where these people also tend to be located in Strathfield Triangle and Rhodes, 52.2% and 45.2% respectively.

While Chinese languages are our emerging commonly spoken language, we also have a high number of residents who were born in Italy. 6.7% of residents in Abbotsford-Wareemba, 4.1% in Chiswick, 6.4% in Concord, 4.1% in Concord West, 8.1% in Five Dock-Canada Bay, and 7.3% in Russell Lea Rodd Point were born in Italy (compared to 0.8% in Greater Sydney).

Highly educated population, with areas with high proportions of students

The proportion of people with a tertiary qualification was significantly higher than Greater Sydney (38% v 28.3%) and the LGA had a lower proportion of people with no qualification than Greater Sydney (31.5% v 37.7%).

In 2016, 7.5% of the LGA's population were attending a University compared to 6.1% in Greater Sydney. While the LGA had a higher proportion of people attending a University, it is important to note that this varied across the City. Proportions ranged from a low of 4.6% in Chiswick to a high of 19.2% in Rhodes (West). The five areas with the highest proportions of students were:

- Rhodes (West) (19.2%)
- Rhodes (18.4%)
- Strathfield (Triangle) (17.3%)
- North Strathfield (8.9%), and
- Rhodes (East) (7.6%).

TABLE 2 - TOP 5 NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING LANGUAGES (SOURCE: PROFILE.ID)

LANGUAGE (EXCLUDES ENGLISH)	2016		GREATER SYDNEY %	2011		GREATER SYDNEY %	CHANGE 2011 TO 2016
	NUMBER	%		NUMBER	%		
Mandarin	8,657	9.8	4.7	3,831	5.1	3.0	+4,826
Italian	6,207	7.1	1.3	6,671	8.8	1.6	-464
Korean	3,546	4.0	1.2	2,384	3.1	1.1	+1,162
Cantonese	3,466	3.9	2.9	2,803	3.7	3.0	+663
Greek	1,948	2.2	1.6	2,113	2.8	1.8	-165

### High and increasing median household incomes, however some income inequality

The median weekly household income of residents was \$2,058, which increased by \$242 since 2011 and is higher than the Greater Sydney median income of \$1,745. However, there is some income inequality throughout the LGA. The areas with the highest median weekly household incomes are:

- Cabarita: \$2,660
- Drummoyne: \$2,358, and
- Chiswick: \$2,278.

The areas with the lowest median weekly household income are:

- Strathfield (Triangle): \$1,605
- Rhodes (West): \$1,677, and
- Rhodes: \$1,695.

Some areas also have a high proportion of low income households (median weekly income lower than \$650 per week), specifically:

- Rhodes (West) (19.4%)
- Rhodes (19.1%)
- Strathfield (Triangle) (18.2%)
- Five Dock – Canada Bay (15.4%), and
- Abbotsford – Wareemba (14.9%)

### Lower than average unemployment

In 2016, 5.0% of the City of Canada Bay's labour force was classed as unemployed compared to 6.0% in Greater Sydney. However, proportions ranged from a low of 2.6% in Cabarita to a high of 9.5% in Rhodes (West) which may be due to the high numbers of newly arrived residents living in the area. The five areas with the highest unemployment rates were:

- Rhodes (West) (9.5%)
- Rhodes (9.3%)
- Strathfield (Triangle) (9.1%)
- Rhodes (East) (6.4%), and
- North Strathfield (5.8%).

### Relatively advantaged, however with pockets of disadvantage

The SEIFA Index of Disadvantage measures the relative socio-economic disadvantage based on a range of data including income, education level, unemployment and jobs in unskilled occupants. The lower the score, the higher the disadvantage.

The LGA's SEIFA Index in 2016 was 1,068, indicating that the area as a whole has a low level of relative disadvantage. All suburbs are less relatively disadvantaged compared to Greater Sydney (1,018) and the Inner West area (1,032.5), apart from Strathfield (Triangle) which is significantly relatively disadvantaged with a SEIFA index of 982.8.

### Lower rates of disability, however some areas with high proportions of people needing assistance

The LGA reported a lower proportion of people who reported needing assistance with core activities compared to Greater Sydney, 4.2% as opposed to 4.9% for Greater Sydney. As is expected, disability increases with age and the highest rates of disability were in the older age groups: 85 and over and 80 to 84. Some areas had very high rates of disability and this corresponds to areas with older populations:

- Rhodes (East) (9.6%) (this likely reflects people completing the Census while in hospital)
- Concord (5.9%)
- Five Dock – Canada Bay (5.6%)
- Abbotsford – Wareemba (5.5%), and
- Chiswick (5.5%).

### Varying levels of housing stress

Residents are predominantly homeowners with 57% of households either purchasing or fully owning their home. 32% were renting privately and a very low proportion (2.7%) were in social housing.

Across the LGA, 9.7% of households are in housing stress, lower than Greater Sydney at 12%. However, some areas were in higher than average housing stress, and these areas also have higher than average (more than 43% of residents) who rent:

- Strathfield (Triangle) (24%)
- Rhodes (West) (23%)
- Rhodes (22%), and
- North Strathfield (12.4%).

### Increasing group and couples without children households

Given its previously low density housing, our area has traditionally been a family household area. However, increasing density in some areas means that in 2016 there was a lower proportion of couples with children households than Greater Sydney (31% compared to 35%). However, Concord West (46%), Concord (43%), Liberty Grove (43%), Russell-Lea-Rodd Point (41%), and Cabarita (37%) had higher than average couple with children households. In terms of household type, we have:

- A higher proportion of couples without children  
Couples without children made up 26% of all households and experienced highest proportional increase between 2011 and 2016
- A higher proportion of group households (6% compared to 5% in Greater Sydney) with a high of 23% in Strathfield (Triangle) and 14% in Rhodes/Rhodes West, and
- A similar proportion of lone person households (20%) with a high of 28% in Cabarita, 26% in Drummoyne, and 25% Abbotsford/Wareemba (where there more residents aged 70 years and over), 24% in Rhodes East (with higher proportions of students).

### Internet access at home

In 2016, 83.1% of the City of Canada Bay's households had an internet connection compared to 81.4% in Greater Sydney, however this varied across the City. Proportions ranged from a low of 79.6% in Abbotsford - Wareemba to a high of 89.3% in Cabarita. The five areas with the lowest percentages were:

- Abbotsford-Wareemba - 79.6%
- Five Dock-Canada Bay - 79.7%, and
- Russell Lea-Rodd Point -79.8%.

## 4.6. ACCESS TO TRANSPORT

### Slightly higher proportion of people traveling by public transport to work

Compared to Greater Sydney 28.7% used public transport to travel to work, while 53% used a private vehicle, compared with 22.7% and 58.1% respectively in Greater Sydney. 1,722 people rode their bike or walked to work in 2016.

### Some areas with high proportions of households without a car

In 2016, 42% of households in the LGA had access to two or more motor vehicles, compared to 46% in Greater Sydney.

9.7% of households did not have a car (compared to 10.7% Greater Sydney). Households located along the western and northern railway including Strathfield Triangle, North Strathfield and Rhodes were most likely to not have a car as opposed to households located closer to Parramatta River, including Cabarita (1%) and Liberty Grove (4%). This is perhaps due to these suburbs' level of access to Sydney's railway network and the prevalence of lower income residents, students, and people who have recently arrived in Australia. The five areas with the highest percentages of households without a car were:

- Strathfield (Triangle) (24.7%)
- Rhodes (West) (17.8%)
- Rhodes (17.3%)
- North Strathfield (11.8%), and
- Five Dock - Canada Bay (9.9%).



Bay Link Shuttle Bus (Source: Cred Consulting)

## 5. How are we going to change?

Canada Bay is one of Sydney's fastest growing areas. This is due to population growth, urban renewal initiatives, infrastructure projects and the flow on effect from similar growth in our neighbouring areas. These forces will ultimately change the way we live and the needs we have in relation to community facilities, services and programs.

### 5.1 POPULATION GROWTH TO 2036

Internal Council forecasting indicates that our LGAs population is forecast to increase from 88,015 in 2016 to 120,164 in 2036, an increase of 32,149 people.

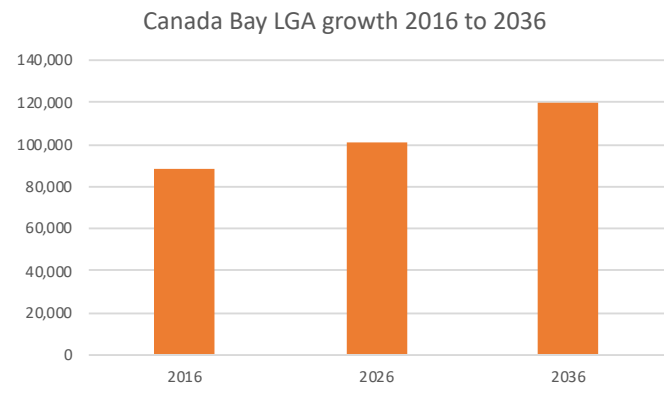


Figure 7 - Canada Bay LGA Growth 2016 to 2036



Ben Williams Photography for City of Canada Bay Council



## 5.2 POPULATION FORECASTS BY PLANNING CATCHMENT

Planning for social infrastructure is based on local (neighbourhood), district (planning catchment area) and sub-regional (LGA) needs and a place-based approach to the design of local neighbourhoods and centres. As supported by the Greater Sydney Commission and Government Architect's Office, place-based planning reflects an appreciation of cultural and environmental diversity and a sense of belonging.

For the purpose of this study, place-based planning is across seven 'planning catchment areas.'

Detailed population characteristics of each of these planning catchments is provided in Appendix 1.

As shown in Table 3 and Figure 7, the planning catchment areas forecast to have the greatest increase to 2036 are:

- Rhodes (East and West) +8,784
- Five Dock and Canada Bay +8,472
- Concord +5,744, and
- North Strathfield/Strathfield Triangle +3,297.

While the majority of growth is concentrated in these catchments, other catchments such as Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point and Chiswick-Abbotsford-Wareemba remain static.

TABLE 3 - POPULATION FORECASTS BY PLANNING CATCHMENT (SOURCE: SGS, 2019)

CATCHMENT	2016	2026	CHANGE 2016-2026 (#)	2036	CHANGE 2016-2036 (#)
Abbotsford - Wareemba - Chiswick	10,376	11,330	954	11,812	1,436
Breakfast Point - Mortlake - Cabarita	7,700	8,023	323	8,291	591
Concord	13,718	15,222	1,504	19,462	5,744
Concord West - Liberty Grove	7,379	8,436	1,057	9,584	2,204
Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point	19,563	20,441	878	21,184	1,621
Five Dock - Canada Bay	10,978	14,324	3,346	19,449	8,472
North Strathfield - Strathfield	6,471	7,988	1,517	9,768	3,297
Rhodes (East/West)	11,830	15,371	3,542	20,614	8,784
LGA	88,015	101,135	13,120	120,164	32,149

## Population change by planning catchment 2016 to 2036

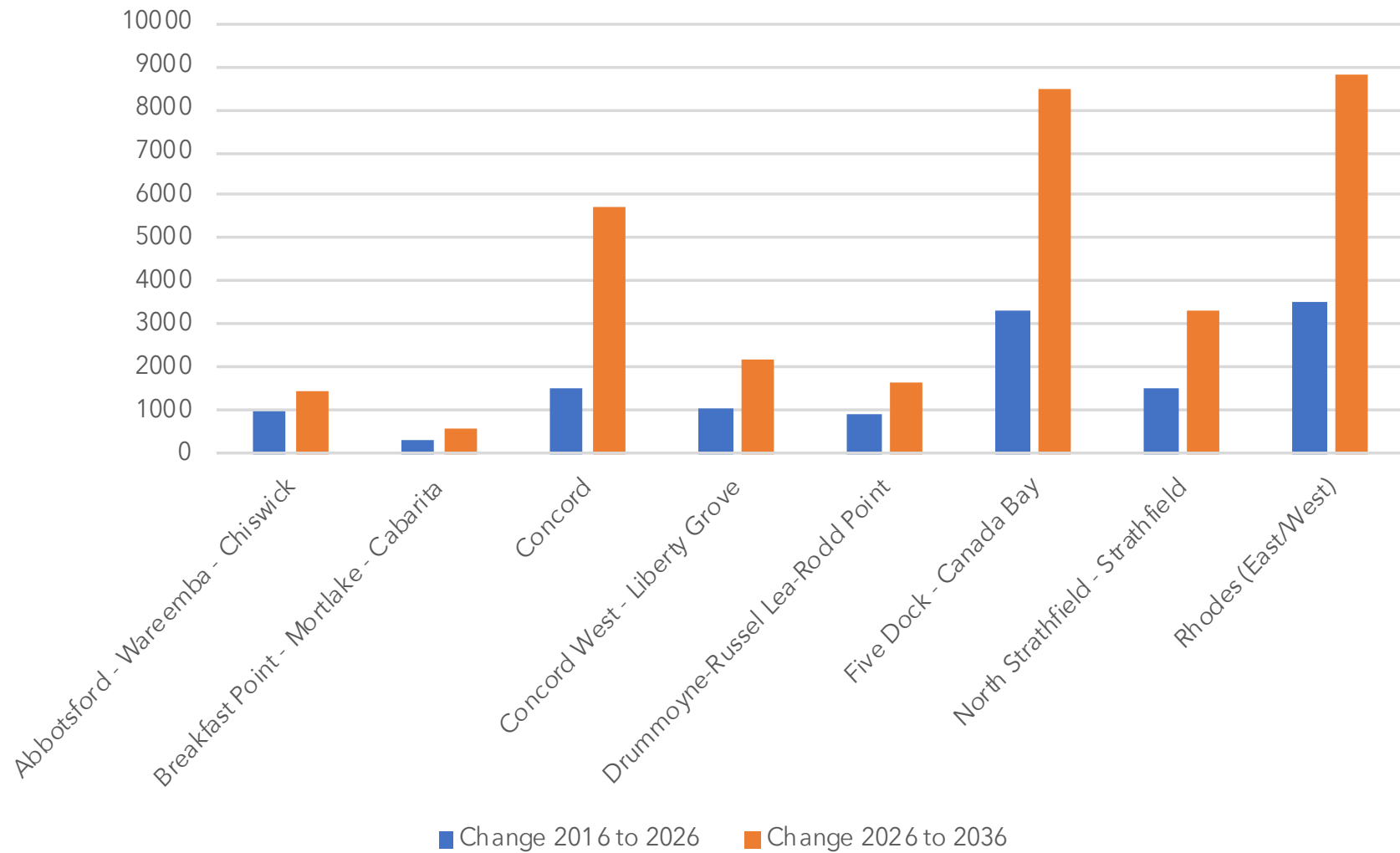


Figure 8 - Population growth by planning catchment 2016 to 2026 and 2026 to 2036.

### 5.3. POPULATION FORECASTS BY SERVICE AGE GROUP

As shown in Table 4, between 2016 and 2036, increases are forecast across all service age groups but most significantly for young people (12 to 24) and older people (60 years and over):

- Seniors 85 and over (68% growth) from 1,936 to 3,227
- Seniors 70 to 84 (84% growth) from 6,777 to 12,412 residents
- Empty nesters and retirees 60 to 69 (42%) increasing from 8,097 to 11,514
- Secondary school 12 to 17 years (42%) increasing from 4,313 to 6,169
- Tertiary aged 18 to 24 (42%) increasing from 8,449 to 11,182.

TABLE 4 - CITY OF CANADA BAY POPULATION FORECASTS BY SERVICE GROUPS (SOURCE: FORECAST.ID 2019)

AGE GROUP	2016	% POP.	2026	% POP.	2036	% POP.	CHANGE 2016-36 #
Babies and pre-schoolers (0 to 4)	5,633	6.4%	6,068	6%	7,170	6%	1,577
Primary schoolers (5 to 11)	6,425	7.3%	6,574	6.5%	7,615	6.4%	1,265
Secondary schoolers (12 to 17)	4,313	4.9%	5,461	5.4%	6,169	5.1%	1,815
Tertiary education and independence (18 to 24)	8,449	9.6%	9,406	9.3%	11,182	9.3%	2,726
Young workforce (25 to 34)	17,163	19.5%	18,407	18.2%	22,329	18.6%	5,188
Parents and homebuilders (35 to 49)	18,923	21.5%	21,137	20.9%	24,744	20.6%	5,831
Older workers and pre-retirees (50 to 59)	10,298	11.7%	11,934	11.8%	13,496	11.3%	3,281
Empty nesters and retirees (60 to 69)	8,097	9.2%	9,911	9.8%	11,514	9.6%	3,439
Seniors(70 to 84)	6,777	7.7%	9,810	9.7%	12,412	10.4%	5,720
Elderly aged (85 and over)	1,936	2.2%	2,427	2.4%	3,227	2.7%	1,308

## Children

The number of 0 to 4 year olds will increase from 5,633 in 2016 to 7,170 in 2036. Five Dock-Canada Bay (336), Concord (314), and North Strathfield/Strathfield Triangle (224) will experience the greatest growth in the number of children aged 0 to 4 to 2036.

The number of 5 to 11 year olds will increase from 6,767 in 2016 to 7,615 in 2036. Rhodes (336), Concord (264), and Five Dock-Canada Bay (194) will experience the greatest growth in the number of children aged 5 to 11 years to 2036.

## Young people

The number of 12 to 17 year olds will increase from 4,313 in 2016 to 6,169 in 2036. The areas with the highest number of 12 to 17 year olds in 2016 were:

- Concord – 1,176
- Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point – 1,082, and
- Five Dock-Canada Bay (734).

Rhodes (348), North Strathfield, Strathfield Triangle (230) and Five Dock-Canada Bay (+190) will experience the greatest growth in the number of young people to 2036.

## Seniors 70+

The number of older people 70 years and over will increase from 8,713 in 2016 to 15,741 in 2036. Rhodes (1,192), Concord (875), and Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point (756) and Mortlake-Breakfast Point-Cabarita (+749) will experience the greatest growth in the number of seniors aged 70 + years to 2036.



Concord Community Centre (Source: Cred Consulting)



## **What do our current population characteristics and forecast growth and change tell us about our future social infrastructure needs?**

### *More and adaptable facilities to support growth and change*

Growth and change of Canada Bay LGA's population will place increased demands on existing social infrastructure and pressures for increased community floor space, and access to social, cultural, and creative/artistic services and programs. Based on population forecasts this pressure will be felt the most in Rhodes (East and West), Five Dock and Canada Bay, Concord, and North Strathfield/Strathfield Triangle planning catchments. Given the diversity of age groups in our area, we need intergenerational spaces where different age groups can feel comfortable to cross paths and be creative. They make incidental opportunities with other community members that contribute to positive wellbeing and a sense of community belonging.

### *Programs and services for our culturally diverse community to connect within their community*

North Strathfield/Strathfield Triangle, Rhodes (East and West) and Liberty Grove (suburb) have the most highly culturally diverse residents, many of whom are recent arrivals, and with an increasing proportion speaking Mandarin, Cantonese and Korean. Culturally diverse residents, including newly arrived residents need access to social infrastructure facilities, programs and services to connect with their community and build relationships, access government services, learn English language skills, and participate in culturally appropriate activities.

### *Accessible programs and services for our ageing population to stay healthy and happy*

While there has been a move away from age specific single purpose facilities, seniors need places to socially connect, participate in health and wellbeing

activities, and access social support services. Spaces within multipurpose facilities that enable access to low cost programs are important for older people as is availability of senior's housing in the local area; and facilities, services and programs that are accessible by public transport. The areas with the highest priority needs based on current population of seniors aged 70 years and over are Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point, Concord, and Abbotsford-Wareemba-Chiswick. Future high growth areas needing improved social infrastructure for seniors are Rhodes, Concord, Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point, and Breakfast Point-Mortlake-Cabarita.

### *Supporting our children and families to grow and learn*

Children and families need access to early education and care (childcare), Out of School Hours Care, primary schools, vacation care and holiday programs, library services, and family support services and programs. Five Dock-Canada Bay, Concord, and North Strathfield/Strathfield Triangle will experience the greatest growth in the number of children aged 0 to 4 to 2036, and Rhodes, Concord, and Five Dock-Canada Bay will experience the greatest growth in the number of children aged 5 to 11 years to 2036. Children and Families- need access to multipurpose spaces such as community hubs for parenting support classes, spaces that challenge children and create community connections opportunities spend time with intergenerational members in the community.

### *Providing places, programs and activities for our young people and tertiary students to study and hang out*

Young people aged 12 to 17 years need access to high school and places to study and access technology and Wi-Fi, to gather with friends away from the home, and to participate in healthy and creative activities with their peers. Concord, Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point, and Five Dock-Canada Bay have the highest number of young people currently who need access to these facilities and services. Rhodes, North Strathfield,

Strathfield Triangle and Five Dock-Canada Bay will experience the greatest growth in the number of young people to 2036.

### *"Third places for our residents living in high density*

Areas such as Rhodes West (241 persons per hectare), Strathfield Triangle (167 persons per hectare), and Breakfast Point-Mortlake (102 persons per hectare), have significantly higher population densities than the LGA (44 persons per hectare) and Greater Sydney (3.9 persons per hectare). Residents living in high density apartment living need access to indoor hireable spaces to hold celebrations and events, family parties, to participate in community life in "third places" away from the home, and for children and students to study away from the home. Areas such as Rhodes East and Strathfield Triangle will see increasing density to 2036.

### *Affordable and inclusive facilities, programs and services for our vulnerable community members*

While generally residents of Canada Bay are employed, educated and moderate to high income earners, there are areas with higher disadvantage where access to social infrastructure services and programs needs to be low cost or free. These areas include: Rhodes, North Strathfield, Strathfield Triangle. Additionally, some areas have poor access to public transport to access facilities, programs and services that are not in walking distance of their homes, including: Drummoyne (where there are also higher proportions of older residents) and North Strathfield, Strathfield Triangle.

Young people, women, culturally and linguistically diverse people, people with disabilities and LGBTI people in the community need to feel safe and empowered to access community facilities and feel a sense of belonging and community connection.



Inside City of Canada Bay Library (Source: Cred Consulting)

## PART B WHAT DO WE HAVE NOW?



## 6. Our community facilities

This section provides an audit of all community facilities located within our area and owned by Council, NGOs, private sector, and Government agencies.

### 6.1. WHAT DO WE HAVE

As shown in Table 4, there are a total of 138 social infrastructure facilities across the LGA. Council owns 41 or 30% of social infrastructure facilities in the area.

Table 5 summarises all community facilities regardless of ownership.

Figure 8 maps the distribution of community facilities by type across our suburbs. The map shows:

- There are no Council owned community centres, venues or libraries in Concord West or North Strathfield.
- There is a lack of facilities in North Strathfield, Strathfield Triangle and Abbotsford-Wareemba, Concord West, and Russell Lea-Rodd Point.

When planning, delivering and operating community facilities throughout Canada Bay, Council must ensure equitable access for all people in our community. Unfortunately, there are current gaps in the provision of social infrastructure that affects disadvantaged people in our community.

TABLE 5 - COMMUNITY FACILITIES BY TYPE

TYPE	NUMBER
Church hall	6
Community centre	1
Early Childhood Health Centre	3
Aged or disability facility	3
Health facility	3
High school	4
Long day care/preschool	44 (7 preschool centres)
Library (+ The Learning Space at The Connection)	2
Multi-purpose community centre (The Connection, includes library)	1
Arts and cultural	7 (+ 1 space within the Connections - Harry's Shed)
OSHC	13
Primary School	16
Proposed primary school	1 (Rhodes East)
Scout hall	10
Seniors centre	2
Venue for hire	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>138</b>

TABLE 6 - COMMUNITY FACILITIES BY OWNERSHIP

OWNER	TYPE	NUMBER
Council	Community centre, Commonwealth Home Support Program, facility, LDC, Libraries, Museums and Galleries, Preschool, OSHC, Seniors Centre, Venue for hire, Work and creative space	41
Private	Halls, Health facility, High School, Primary School, Long Day Care, OSHC, Preschool, Venue for hire	60
Faith Based Organisations	Church halls, Schools (primary/high)	15
NGO	OSHC, Work and creative space	3
DET	High school, LDC, Primary school, Proposed primary school (1)	15
NSW Health	Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP), health	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>138</b>

# What do we currently have?

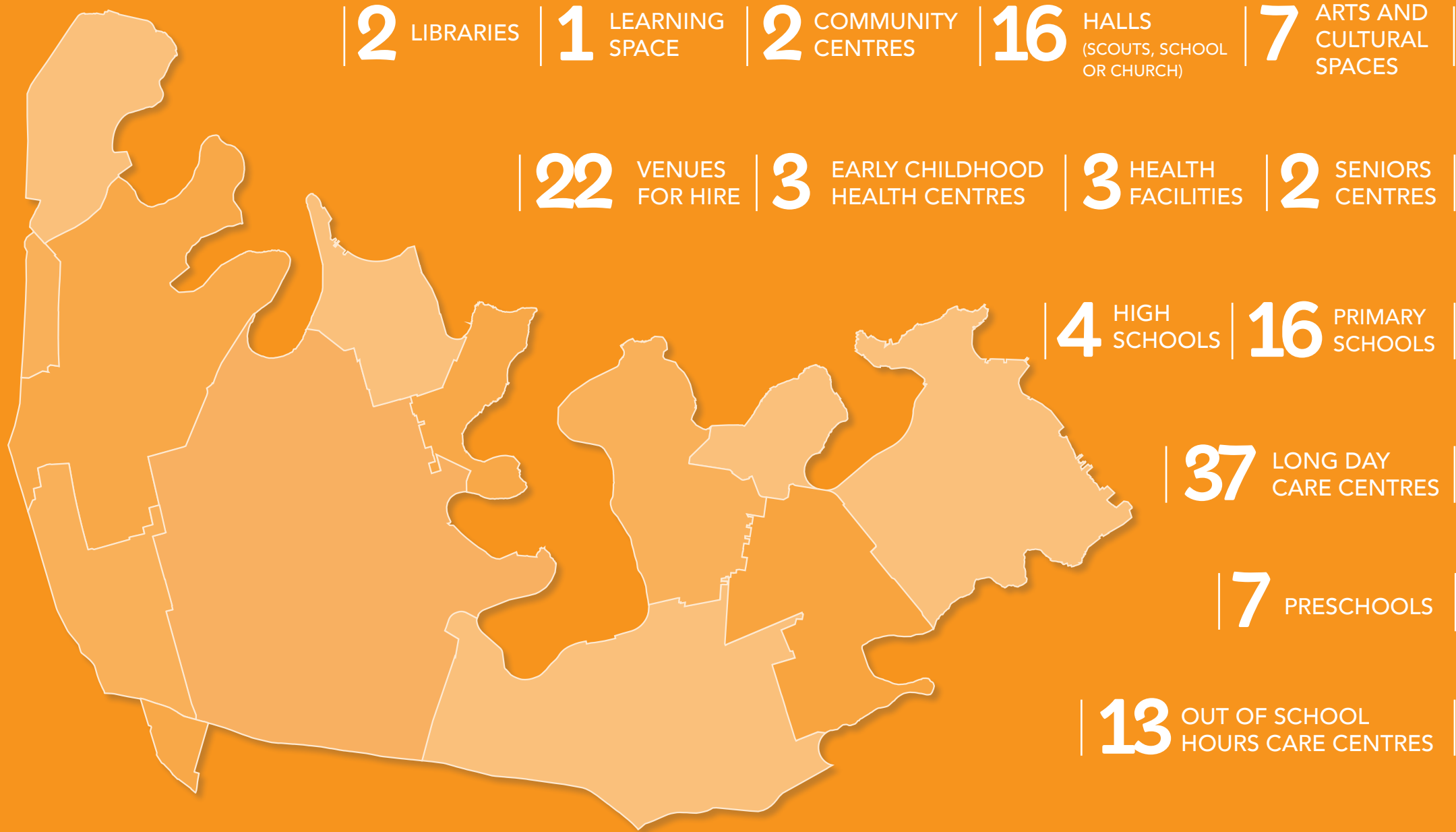







Figure 9 - Map of all social infrastructure (hard) in Canada Bay LGA

## ALL COMMUNITY FACILITIES

### LIBRARIES

-  L1 - Concord Municipal Library
- L2 - Five Dock Public Library

### MULTIPURPOSE COMMUNITY CENTRES

-  N1 - The Connection & Learning Centre
- N2 - Drummoyne Community Centre


### VENUE FOR HIRE - COUNCIL OWNED

-  C1 - Rhodes Community Centre
- C2 - Concord Community Centre
- C3 - Chiswick Community Centre
- C4 - City of Canada Bay Civic Hall
- C5 - Concord Memorial Hall
- C6 - Drummoyne Oval Community facility and Pavillion
- C7 - Concord Community Recreation and Bowling Club
- C8 - Conservatory at Cabarita
- C9 - Tigers at Five Dock (privately operated)
- C10 - Campbell Park Community Hall
- C11 - Cabarita Swimming Centre meeting room (privately operated)
- C12 - Rothwell Park (room)

#### Privately owned:

-  C10 - Canada Bay Club
-  C11 - Barnwell Park Golf Club Function Centre
-  C12 - Club Five Dock
-  C13 - Concord RSL and Community Club
-  C14 - Concord Golf Club - Bowling Club
-  C16 - Drummoyne Sailing Club
-  C17 - Massey Park Golf Club
-  C18 - Sydney Womens Rowing Club
-  C19 - Breakfast Point Country Club
-  C20 - Dobroyd Aquatic Club Hall
-  C21 - Abbotsford Public School Hall
-  C22 - Victoria Avenue School Hall


### ARTS AND CULTURE

-  M1 - City of Canada Bay Museum
- M2 - Ralph Honner Kokoda Education Centre
-  M3 - DAS gallery57 (privately operated)
-  W2 - Woodworkers Association of NSW
- W3 - Harry's Shed/Tech Shed
- W4 - Lapidary Club
- W5 - Embroidery guild

### SCOUT HALLS

-  S2 - 1st Yaralla Sea Scouts
- S3 - Girl Guides Hall
- S4 - Abbotsford Sea Scouts Building
- S6 - 1st Cabarita-Mortlake Scout Group
- S7 - Drummoyne Girl Guide Hall
- S10 - Five Dock Scout Hall


#### Privately owned (Scouts NSW):

-  S1 - Concord Scout Hall
- S5 - Mortlake Scout Hall
- S8 - Drummoyne Scout Hall
- S9 - 2nd Abbotsford "Port Neptune" Scout Hall




### SENIORS CENTRE

-  T1 - Concord Senior Citizens Centre
- T2 - Drummoyne Senior Citizen's Centre

### AGED AND DISABILITY FACILITIES

-  A1 - Concord Food Services Building
- A2 - Kalparrin Dementia Day Centre - HA
- A3 - Kindalin Frail Aged and Respite Day Centre -

### HEALTH FACILITY




-  H1 - Concord Repatriation General Hospital
-  H2 - Canada Bay Private Hospital
-  H3 - Centre for Digestive Diseases

### HIGH SCHOOL

#### Public:












-  D1 - Concord High School

#### Private:







-  D2 - Rosebank College
-  D3 - The Domremy College
-  D4 - The McDonald College

### PRIMARY SCHOOL

#### Public:








-  P1 - Abbotsford Public School
-  P3 - Concord Public School
-  P4 - Concord West Public School
-  P5 - Drummoyne Public School
-  P6 - Five Dock Public School
-  P7 - Lucas Gardens School (recently upgraded)
-  P8 - Mortlake Public School
-  P10 - Russell Lea Public School (new school - almost complete)
-  P15 - Strathfield North Public School
-  P16 - Victoria Avenue Public School (new school - complete)
-  P17 - Rhodes East Public School (proposed/planning)

#### Private:

-  P2 - All Hallow Primary School
-  P9 - Our Lady of the Assumption
-  P11 - St Ambrose Primary School
-  P12 - St Marks Primary School
-  P13 - St Marys Primary School
-  P14 - St Patrick's Catholic School

### CHURCH HALL

#### Privately owned:

-  Z1 - Concord Uniting Church
-  Z2 - St Andrew's Anglican Church Abbotsford
-  Z3 - St Marks
-  Z4 - St Bede's Anglican Church
-  Z5 - Drummoyne Presbyterian
-  Z6 - St Albans Anglican Church
-  Z7 - St Andrew's Anglican Church Strathfield

### LONG DAY CARE & PRE-SCHOOLS

-  F1 - Abbotsford Long Day Care Centre
- F3 - Cabarita Mortlake Kindergarten
- F9 - Concord Kindergarten
- F13 - Drummoyne Preschool Kindergarten
- F24 - Kiddies on First Early Learning Childcare Centre
- F27 - KU Concord Children's Centre
- F38 - St Andrews Kindergrten
- F41 - Victoria Avenue Children's Centre
- F42 - Wellbank Children's Centre
- F44 - Concord Occasional Care
- F45 - Victoria Avenue Early Childhood Health Centre
- F46 - Chiswick Early Childhood Health Centre
- F47 - Five Dock Early Childhood Health Centre

#### Privately owned:


- F2 - Breakfast Point Child Care Centre
- F4 - Caring 4 Kids
- F5 - Caring 4 Kids Five Dock
- F6 - Cherry Bridge Station Five Dock Early Learning and Childcare Centre
- F7 - Cherry Bridge Station Rhodes
- F8 - College Street Child Care Centre
- F10 - Concord West Child Care Service
- F11 - Concord West Rhodes Preschool
- F12 - Cubby College
- F14 - Explore and Develop Breakfast Point
- F15 - Five Dock Public School Preschool
- F16 - Garfield Street Children's Centre
- F17 - Greenwood Early Education Centre Concord
- F18 - Greenwood Five Dock
- F19 - Happy Little Campers Early Childhood Learning & Development Centre
- F20 - Headstart Early Learning Centre Five Dock
- F21 - Integricare Ardill House North Strathfield
- F22 - Integricare Christian Preschool Drummoyne
- F23 - Jennys Kindergarten and Early Learning Centre - Mortlake

- F25 - Kids @ Play Early Learning Centre
- F26 - Kids @ Play Adams Lane
- F28 - Laugh and Learn Children's Centre
- F29 - Learn and Play Children's Centre (Rhodes)
- F30 - Little Pines Early Childhood Education and Care
- F31 - Montessori Child Care Centre
- F32 - Only About Children Concord
- F33 - Only About Children Rhodes Corporate Park
- F34 - Papilio Early Learning North Strathfield
- F35 - Papilio Early Learning North Strathfield
- F36 - Rhodes Central Preschool Kindergarten
- F37 - Rhodes Children's Centre
- F39 - St Marys Multicultural Child Care Centre - Rhodes
- F40 - ToBeMe Early Learning - Five Dock
- F42 - Wellbank Children's Centre
- F43 - Yaralla Child Care Centre
- F44 - Concord Occasional Care

### OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OSHC)

-  G2 - Concord Out of Hours Care

#### Privately owned:

-  G1 - Abbotsford Community Centre
- G2 - Concord Out of Hours Care
- G3 - All Hallows Out of School Hours Child Care Service
- G4 - Cubbyhouse at Victoria Avenue
- G5 - Five Dock Public School Parents and Citizens Association
- G6 - Gowrie NSW Drummoyne Outside School Hours Care
- G7 - Gowrie NSW St Marks Outside School Hours Care
- G8 - Mortlake Before & After School Care Out of Hours
- G9 - North Strathfield Kids Out of School Hours Care
- G10 - Russell Lea Kids Out of School Hours Care
- G11 - Shiny Star Play Centre OSHC
- G12 - St Mary's Concord Out of Hours Child Care
- G13 - St Patrick's OSHClub Mortlake



## 6.2. COUNCIL OWNED COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Council owns 41 community facilities including:

- 2 staffed multipurpose community centres (The Connection in Rhodes staffed by Council, the Drummoyne Community Centre leased to Drummoyne Community Centre to deliver services and programs)
- 11 early education and care centres (2 Council operated, 9 leased)
- 2 libraries (1 in Five Dock, 1 in Concord. Additionally, Council owns The Learning Space which is part of The Connection multipurpose community centre)
- 2 seniors centres (Concord Seniors Centre and Drummoyne Seniors Centre which is leased to the Drummoyne Seniors Centre to operate)
- 4 local level arts and cultural spaces (all leased to community groups to operate)
- 1 aged or disability facility (leased Meals on Wheels)
- 3 Early Childhood Health Centres
- 5 scout/guide hall buildings (although the buildings are on Crown Land and these are leased to scout/guide groups to manage)
- (11 unstaffed venues for hire (2 are leased to other providers).

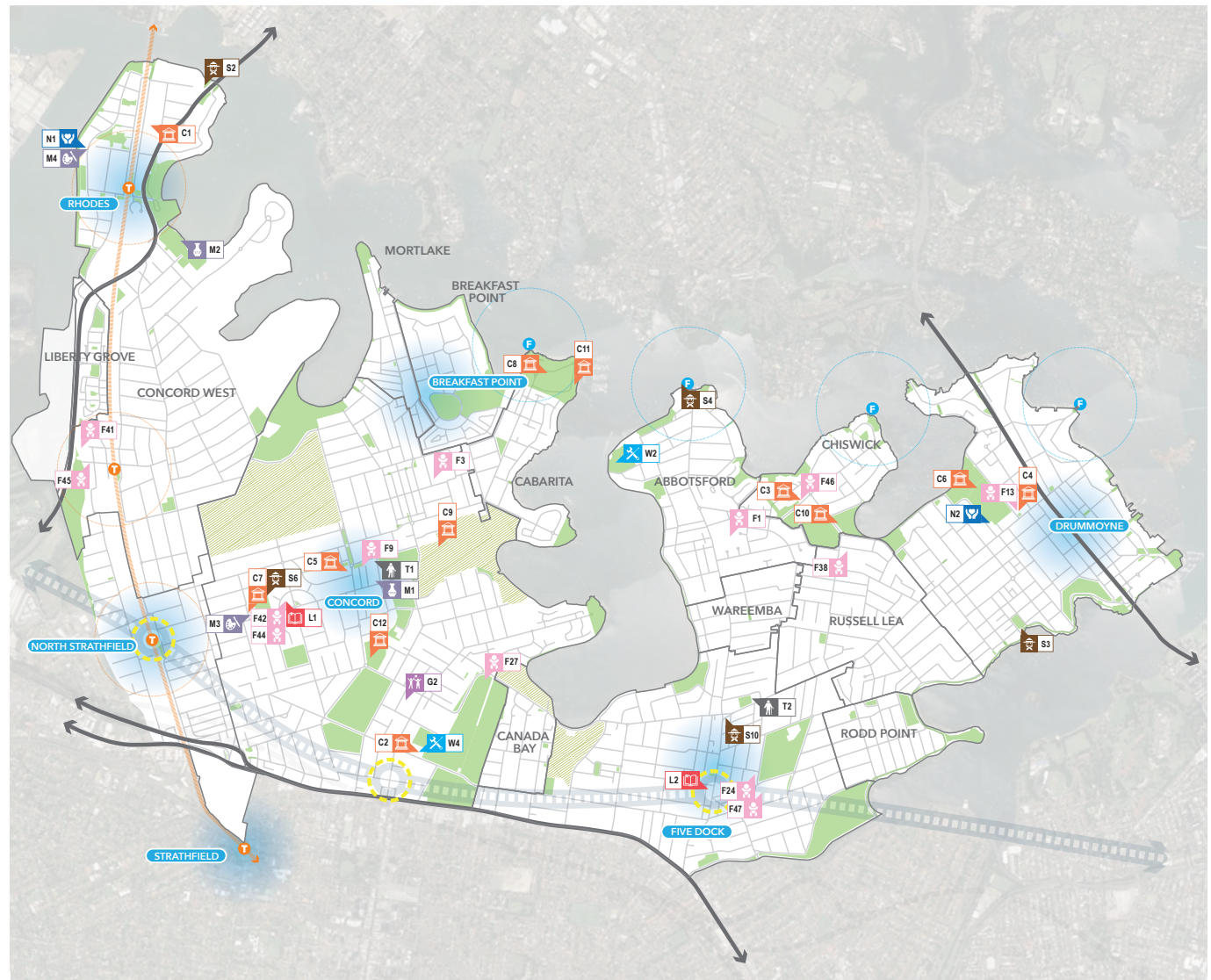


Figure 10 - Map of all social infrastructure (hard) in Canada Bay LGA

### 6.3. COUNCIL COMMUNITY FACILITY DISTRIBUTION BY PLANNING CATCHMENT

As shown in Figure 10, The majority of social infrastructure facilities in the LGA are concentrated in Concord planning catchment which has a total of 16 community facilities located within the catchment. The only staffed community centres are located in Rhodes and Drummoyne. There is a gap within the centre of the LGA for a staffed community centre (Concord/Five Dock area).

- Concord West has no Council community centres or venues for hire.
- North Strathfield/Strathfield has no Council community centres or venues for hire.
- Libraries are accessible across the LGA in Concord, Rhodes, and Five Dock catchments.
- There are no arts and cultural spaces in Five Dock-Canada Bay, Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point, or Cabarita-Mortlake-Breakfast Point, or Concord West.

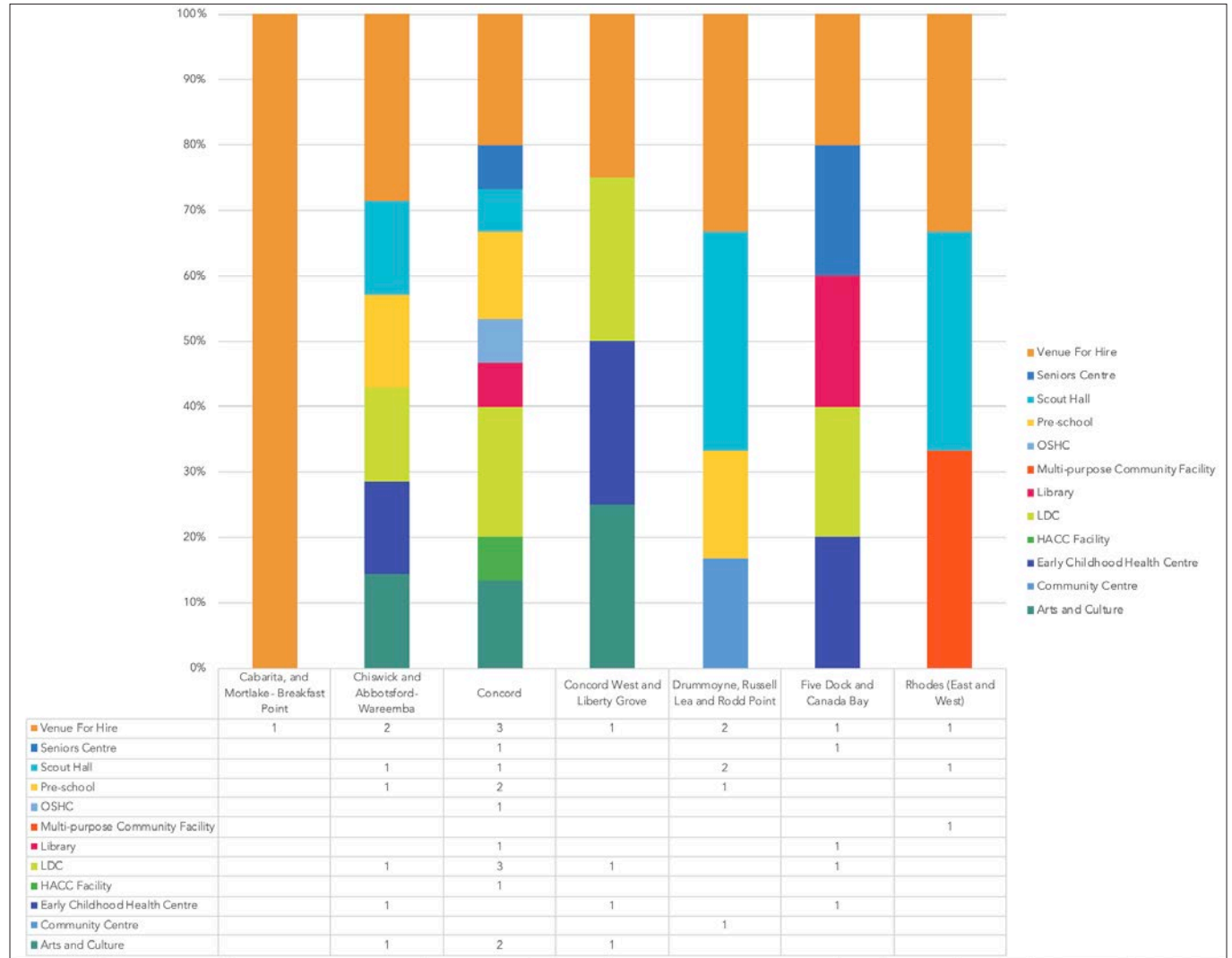


Figure 11 - Council facilities by planning catchment



## 6.4. FACILITIES IN NEIGHBOURING LGAS

Community facilities in neighbouring LGAs that are accessible to Canada Bay residents are mostly local level facilities that are highly used by communities in that location. Facilities near suburb borders are shown in Figure 5 and include:

- New Wentworth Point Library and Community Centre (district facility)
- Ashfield Library (local facility)
- Burwood Pavilion (local facility)
- Haberfield Library (local facility)
- Club Burwood (Local Performance space being delivered)
- SOPA (regional facility)
- Burwood Library and Community Hub (district facility), and
- Strathfield Library (local facility).
- Sydney Olympic Park (regional and at capacity with elite uses), and
- Club Burwood (proposed theatre) (local).

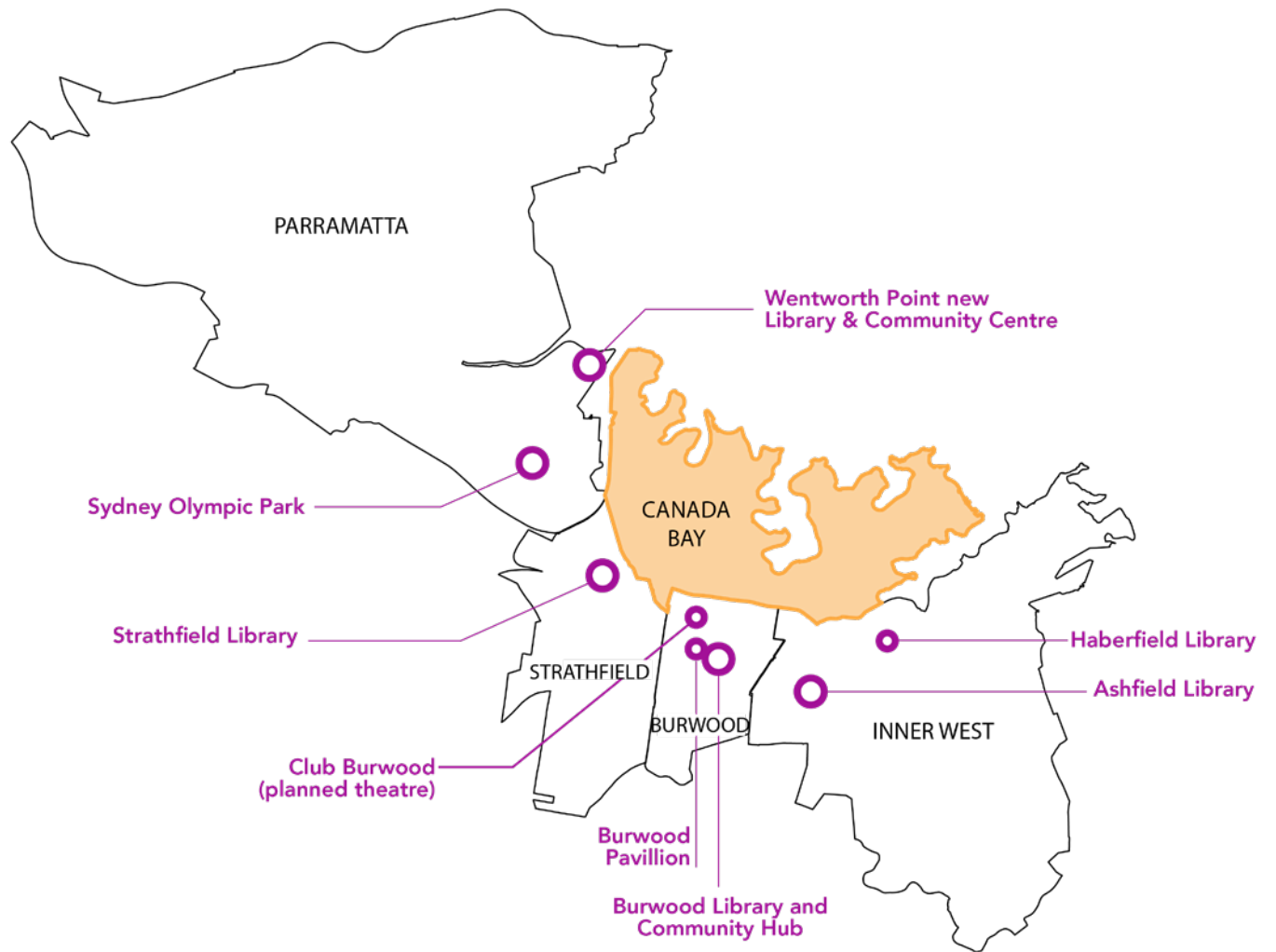


Figure 12 - Social infrastructure in neighbouring LGAs accessible to Canada Bay LGA

## 7. Our community services and programs

This section provides an overview of the existing services and programs that are provided for our community by a range of community, government and private providers. By identifying what we have now, we are able to better understand what gaps there are in the area and how we can deliver more facilities and services that will support our community.

### 7.1. OUR EXISTING COMMUNITY SERVICES

Across Canada Bay LGA, there are 78 groups providing community or cultural services to our community. These include:

- 37 long day care services for children aged 0 to 5 years (see audit in Figure 3)
- 7 preschools
- 13 Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) services for primary school aged children (see audit in Figure 3)
- 1 Meals on Wheels Service (Concord Meals on Wheels located within Council premises)
- 5 social and support services
- 2 cultural and linguistic diversity services
- 1 transport service
- 2 senior services
- 3 health services
- 1 disability and inclusion service
- 5 arts and cultural services
- 1 domestic violence service, and

Table 7 shows Council's 6 community services including:

- 3 library services at Five Dock, Concord and The Learning Space at the Connection
- 1 Home Library Service
- 2 childcare services, Wellbank Children's Services and Victoria Avenue Children's Centre.

Outside of the LGA, other social services accessed by the community include:

- Access Sydney Community Transport
- Inner West Neighbour Aid
- Participate Australia
- The Society for Providing Services for Neglected or Needy Children In
- Ethnic Community Services Cooperative

The majority of regional services are located in City of Parramatta or Inner West LGAs and provide outreach services to Canada Bay's residents.

- There are very few regional social services located in the LGA. For example, while Canada Bay clients make up approximately 50% of all Commonwealth Home Support clients in the Inner West region all of these services (other than Meals on Wheels) are based in neighbouring LGAs and provide outreach services in the area.
- The area is well serviced with hospitals with the Concord General Hospital (in Concord West) and Canada Bay Private Hospital (Concord) located in the LGA.



Victoria Ave Community Precinct (Source: Cred Consulting)

**TABLE 7 - COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL SERVICES IN THE LGA (SOURCE: COUNCIL, INTERVIEWS, GOOGLE)**

SERVICE/FACILITY NAME	SERVICE TYPE	LOCATION
Concord Food Services	Food services	Concord
Chiswick Community Activities Group	Social and support	Chiswick
City of Canada Bay Heritage Society	Social and support	Concord
City of Canada Bay Men's Shed	Social and support	Concord
CoAslt	Community Services	Concord
Sir Roden and Lady Cutler Foundation	Community transport	Concord
Drummoyne Community Centre	Social and support	Drummoyne
Rotary Club of Concord	Social and support	Concord
Concord Senior Citizens Club	Seniors	Concord
The Infants Home	Health	Ashfield
Touched by Olivia Foundation	Disability and Inclusion	Drummoyne
Drummoyne Arts Society Inc.	Arts and Cultural	Concord
Drummoyne Seniors Citizens Club	Seniors	Five Dock
Burwood Community Welfare Services	Domestic Violence	Burwood
Sydney Local Area Health District	Health	Concord
Western Suburbs Lapidary Club	Arts and Cultural	Concord
Woodworkers Association of NSW Inc	Arts and cultural	Abbotsford
Ralph Honner Kokoda Education Centre	Arts and cultural	Concord
Embroiders Guild	Arts and cultural	Concord
Canada Bay Private Hospital	Health	Concord
Rhodes Multicultural Association	Community group	Rhodes
44 child care centres (under 5s)	Children and family	Across LGA
3 Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) services	Children and family	Across LGA

**TABLE 8 - COUNCIL RUN SERVICES IN THE LGA (SOURCE: COUNCIL, INTERVIEWS, GOOGLE)**

SERVICE NAME/FACILITY	SERVICE TYPE	FACILITY/LOCATION
The Connection	Education and learning	Rhodes
Five Dock Library	Education and learning	Five Dock
Concord Library	Education and learning	Concord
Home Library Service	Seniors and disability	Across LGA
Wellbank Children's Centre	Children and family	Concord
Victoria Avenue Children's Centre	Children and family	Concord



Concord Library Knitting Club (Source: City of Canada Bay Council)



## 7.2. OUR EXISTING PROGRAMS

Table 9 provides an audit of the community programs that are provided for our community (as at January 2018). This audit does not include sports or recreational programs which have been audited as part of the Social Infrastructure (open space and recreation) Strategy.

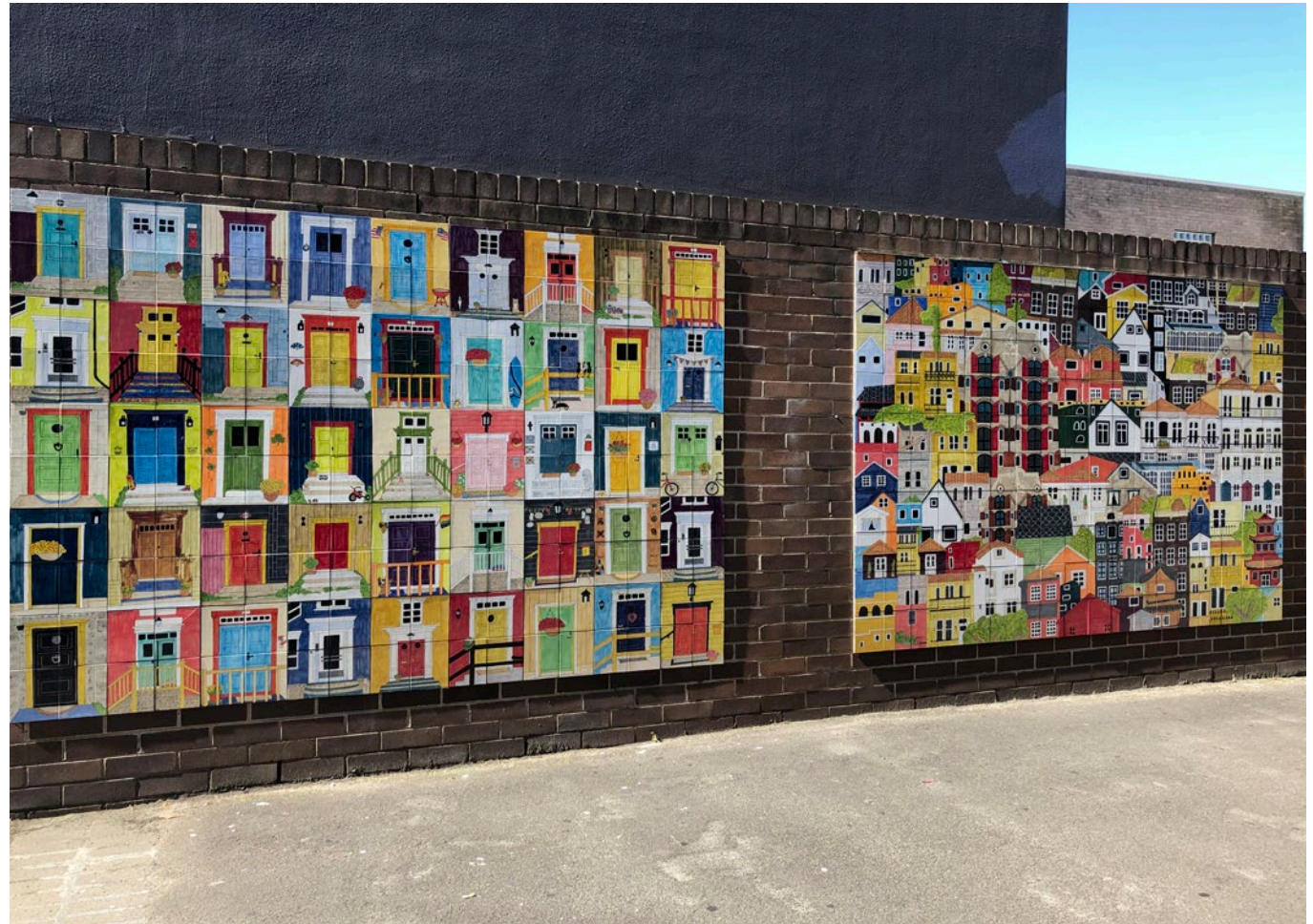
Across the LGA there are:

- 5 children's and family programs (three of these are provided at Council libraries, see below).
- 1 disability program
- 10 programs that target the general community (including health and wellbeing and arts and cultural programs)
- 1 multicultural specific program, and
- 10 senior's programs

Council directly delivers 8 of these programs. These are:

- 1 Kids Holiday Program
- 3 children and family programs at Five Dock and Concord libraries (Baby Rhyme Time and Toddler Time are held in Mandarin, Korean and English at The Learning Space)
- 2 youth programs at Five Dock and Concord libraries, and
- 2 bus trips for seniors programs

Across Sydney's emerging culturally diverse communities, particularly in older Chinese and Korean communities and with seniors - public spaces, forecourts, sheltered spaces are being used as informal community spaces for dance, exercise and meet-ups. Knitting, conversation and other groups also meet in free and informal spaces in Council libraries.



Outside Five Dock Library (Source: Cred Consulting)



**TABLE 9 - COMMUNITY PROGRAMS IN THE LGA (SOURCE: COUNCIL, INTERVIEWS, GOOGLE)**

PROGRAM NAME	TARGET GROUP	OPERATED BY	FACILITY/LOCATION
Home Visiting Program for new mothers	Children and family	The Infants Home	Across the LGA (service based in Ashfield)
Bayside Kids Holiday Program	Children and family	Council	Five Dock Leisure Centre
Baby Rhymetime (Library)	Children and family	Council	Five Dock and Concord Library & The Learning Space
Storytime (Library)	Children and family	Council	Five Dock and Concord Library & The Learning Space
Toddler Time	Children and family	Council	Five Dock and Concord Library
Fitness programs – young people with disability	Disability	Participate Australia/FRANS	NGO
Salsa, art classes, guitar classes, ukulele classes, movies under the stars	General community	Chiswick Community Activities Group	Chiswick
Heritage exhibitions	General community	City of Canada Bay heritage society	Concord
Children's art classes, English Conversation, Exercise (yoga, tai chi), women's groups, peer support, walking groups, craft and handicrafts, games, men's group, information, outings.	General community	Drummoyne Community Centre	Drummoyne Community Centre Inc.
Exercise programs, ballet, tap, yoga, dancing, handicraft, quilt making, table tennis for seniors	General community	Concord Senior Citizens Club	Private and community providers
Drawing, watercolours, and Acrylics/oils (beginners to advance)	General community	Drummoyne Arts Society	Five Dock and Concord Library
3 hour weekly self managed art groups	General community	Drummoyne Arts Society	DAS 57
Martial Arts	General community	The Connection	The Connection
Dance Classes (latin)	General community	The Connection	The Connection
Multicultural groups	Private and community providers	The Connection	The Connection
Woodworking courses and exhibition	General community	Woodworkers Association of NSW Inc.	Woodworkers Guild

PROGRAM NAME	TARGET GROUP	OPERATED BY	FACILITY/LOCATION
Introduction to embroidery; Contemporary stitch and design course; Judges accreditation course; summer school; exhibitions; one off events	General community	Embroiders Guild	Embroiders Guild
Beginner English classes & conversation practice (The Connection)	Multicultural	Rhodes Multicultural Association	Rhodes Community Centre, Rhodes
Concord Drummoyne Food Services	Seniors, Disability	Concord Food services	Drummoyne
Harry's Men's Shed	Seniors, Men	Concord Men's Shed	Concord Community Centre, Concord
Harrys Tech Shed	Seniors, Men	Concord Men's Shed	The Connection, Rhodes
Sir Roden and Lady Cutler	Seniors, Disability	Sir Roden and Lady Cutler	Concord
Senior Social Group	Seniors	CoAslt	Concord
Concord Italian Community Bingo Group	Seniors, multicultural	CoAsit	Concord
Bayrider Service	Seniors	Drummoyne Community Centre	Drummoyne
Seniors Citizens Lunches (Thursdays) & monthly outings	Seniors	Drummoyne Senior Citizens lunches	Drummoyne Senior Citizens Club
Active Adults	Seniors	Council	Bus Trips
Bay Connection bus trips	Seniors	Council	Bus Trips
Home Library Service	Seniors, Disability	Council	LGA
Youth Space at Concord Library	Young People	Council	Concord Library
Youth Space at Five Dock Library	Young people	Council	Five Dock Library

### 7.3. ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Council's libraries delivered 957 programs in 2017/18.

Attendees at events have increased from 14,791 in 2011/12 to 21,484 in 2016/17. There is an emerging trend and emphasis on lifelong learning particularly in assistance with setting up small businesses and gaining employment skills. The top five attended events include:

1. Rhymetime – 8,452
2. Storytime – 5,803
3. Toddlertime – 5,377
4. Authortalk – 1,284, and
5. Special events – 1,053.

The large attendance at children's events suggest the library is an important asset for parents seeking educational and social opportunities for children.

TABLE 10 - PROGRAMS IN COUNCIL LIBRARIES (SOURCE: INTERNAL COUNCIL RESEARCH)

EVENT	QUARTER 1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
After School Book Group	11	9	9	10	39
Author Talk	7	10	5	11	33
Book Group	8	6	6	6	26
Group Visit (visits to library from early education and care)	11	7	2	6	26
Multicultural programs	4	4	10	6	24
Rhymetime	29	30	25	30	114
School Holiday	7	1	10	3	21
Special Event	9	2	3	5	19
Storytime	35	44	45	48	172
Toddlertime	26	29	23	30	108
Youth Space	4	8	67	11	90
School Visit			2		2
Partnerships w/ community groups	19	13	11	13	56
HSC		3		2	5
Individual Visit (Home Library)	9	19	22	36	86
Nursing Home Visit (Home Library)	6	12	14	23	55
Youth Outreach		2			2
Workshops and Masterclasses	7		5	17	29
Drop-in session	16	12	13	9	50
Grand Total	208	211	272	266	957



Ben Williams Photography for City of Canada Bay Council

## PART C WHAT DO WE NEED?



## 8. What our community told us we need

This section provides an analysis of social infrastructure needs based on what the community has told us about the kinds of community facilities, services and programs that they need, or aspire to, through a range of engagement processes including:

- Community Strategic Plan Community Engagement (2017)
- Local Strategic Plan Community Engagement (2019)
- Stakeholder engagement with local community services providers and groups completed for this study (2019).

### 8.1. WHAT DOES COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TELL US WE NEED?

Findings from community engagement (detailed over the following pages) indicate that we need:

- Increased social infrastructure to meet the needs of our growing and changing population.
- Social infrastructure to support community diversity, social inclusion and wellbeing, in particular for the ageing population, people with disability, children's services, youth, people from diverse cultural backgrounds and sporting and leisure activities.
- Social infrastructure that supports community connections, including to reduce social isolation for older people.
- Services and programs that provide opportunities for people to participate in community life.
- Social infrastructure that helps build community capacity, including through provision of resources, technology and programs.
- Community facilities that are adaptable and multipurpose to meet diverse community needs
- Community facilities and services that are accessible and affordable to ensure parity of participation.
- Community facilities located in proximity to public transport, town centres and other community facilities to improve accessibility
- Cultural and creative facilities and spaces to address regional gap.
- Ease of booking to support community access.



Source: City of Canada Bay Council

## 8.2. KEY FINDINGS FROM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO INFORM THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

1,200 community members to inform the Community Strategic Plan 2030. Key findings from the engagement (Community Strategic Plan 2030, Community Engagement Report, Elton Consulting) included a desire for infrastructure and services for a growing population including:

- There was a widespread feeling across all activities that the provision of infrastructure and services is not keeping pace with population growth.
- Public transport, schools, open space, recreation and health infrastructure and services were commonly identified as priorities for increased focus.
- Many community members expressed a desire for Council to work with the State Government to ensure infrastructure is delivered in a timely manner.
- Providing services in accessible local centres was also frequently mentioned as important for the area's ageing population.

In relation to community facilities and services the community indicated that they were highly valued including:

- Libraries were consistently the highest valued community facilities.
- The Connection at Rhodes was identified as an excellent facility that gives the community access to leading technology. The 'learn to code' lessons were considered an important program to build community capacity. Ensuring facilities remain technologically relevant by providing contemporary programs and

adequate power/recharging points was a high priority for many, especially young people.

- Providing services for older residents was also widely identified as a key priority. Many noted that community facilities and programs play an important role in building community connections and reducing social isolation for older people.
- Ensuring services are provided locally, improving community and public transport and access to key services and facilities were high priorities for many.

Social infrastructure (facilities, services and programs) priorities through engagement included:

- Provide community services to support community diversity, social inclusion and wellbeing, in particular for the ageing population, people with disability, children's services, youth, people from diverse cultural backgrounds and sporting and leisure activities.
- Provide community facilities that cater for pedestrian and cycle paths, libraries, sporting fields and centres, swimming pools, childcare centres, community centres and other leisure activities.
- Maintain community safety around local centres, on roads, for pedestrians and cyclists and for people with disability to enable them to get around.
- Provide more opportunities for people to participate in community life through community events and providing services and programs.
- Provide opportunities to recognise and celebrate the diversity of the community through artistic expression, cultural programs and cultural events.



City of Canada Bay Community Strategic Plan Engagement Outcomes Report

### 8.3. KEY FINDINGS FROM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO INFORM THE LSPS

Council engaged Place Design to complete community engagement to inform the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS). Around 400 people completed the survey. The following key findings emerged relating to social infrastructure:

Community engagement for LSPS tells us that:

- 56% of residents surveyed would like to see more community facilities in their town centres, and
- 61% would like to see more community facilities in their neighbourhoods as they grow.
- Libraries, community halls/function centres and early childhood centres all rated as highly important with strong use.

#### As Canada Bay changes, what would you like to see in your local centre?

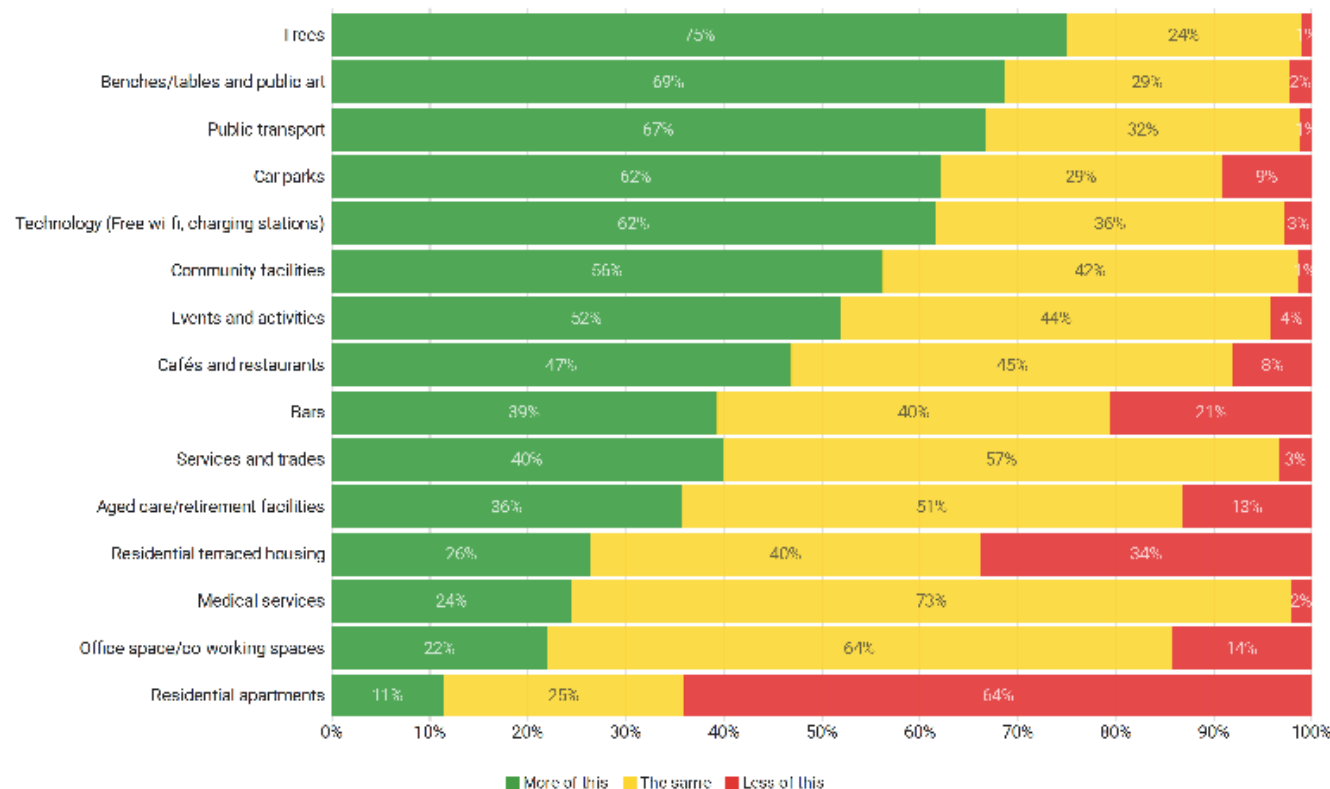


Figure 13 - Community preferences for their local centres (source: Place Design Group, Community Survey, 2019)

This section provides an analysis of social infrastructure needs based on what the community has told us.

## 8.1. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMPLETED

Our community has told us the kinds of community facilities, services and programs that they need, or aspire to, through a range of engagement processes including:

- Community Strategic Plan Community Engagement (2018)
- Local Strategic Plan Community Engagement (2019)
- Stakeholder engagement with local community services providers and groups completed for this study (2019).

## 8.4. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT FOR THIS STUDY

Stakeholder engagement activities to inform the development of the Social Infrastructure (Community) Strategy took place in December 2018 and January 2019. This engagement targeted local community organisations and State Government Agencies. General community consultation was completed by Council and is summarised in section 7.3. This engagement included:

- Targeted online stakeholder survey (32 respondents between 6 December 2018 and 16 January 2019)
- 14 stakeholder interviews including with neighbouring councils, and
- 10 x Staff workshops / interviews.

### Key findings for community facilities

#### *Facilities are needed to enable community connections*

- Across engagement activities, people indicated the importance of having community facilities and spaces that provide opportunities for social and cultural connections, particularly in light of increasing population density and high-rise living in the LGA. Stakeholders identified a need for facilities to cater to the needs of young people, older people, workers in the area, and culturally and linguistically diverse and newly arrived communities.
- The majority of survey respondents think the provision of “general community multipurpose hireable space” and “places for groups to meet” will be the most important facilities into the future. Stakeholders also

highlighted a need for larger spaces for bigger groups to meet.

#### *Adaptable and multipurpose facilities*

- Across engagement activities, stakeholders indicated that, while they experience high rates of satisfaction with the facilities they use, the limited capacity of facilities puts high pressure on their organisations and restricts their expansion of programs and services.
- Facilities should be adaptable and suitable for a wide range of uses.

#### *Accessible and affordable facilities*

- Across engagement activities, the accessibility of facilities was a high priority (in terms of physical access). Stakeholders also emphasised the importance of ease of booking and customer services for these target groups.
- Council staff highlighted the important role that Council-facilities play in providing affordable spaces.

#### *Connected facilities*

- Stakeholders also identified that best practice facilities should be located in proximity to public transport, town centres and other community facilities. Some identified a lack of public transport as an obstacle to accessing some facilities throughout the LGA.

#### *Cultural, creative and workshop spaces*

- Key stakeholders, including neighbouring councils and community organisations, indicated a regional gap in the provision of cultural and creative facilities. In addition, stakeholders identified an increased need for workshop space due to increased high density living



(e.g. men's sheds), including on weekends and at night.

## Key findings for services and programs

### *Changing and increasing levels of participation*

- Across engagement activities, stakeholders indicated that there is a need to further understand the services and program needs of the community in light of the growing and changing population.
- The majority of survey respondents indicated that their organisation has seen the number of people they support increase over the past five years (65.5%), and expect to see this trend continue in to the future (58.6%).

### *Stakeholders identified a wide range of opportunities for services and programs*

- Survey respondents think the top priorities for community services and program needs are aged-friendly facilities, services and programs (including community transport, accessible facilities, aged care), followed by support for people with disability and carers.
- Programs for parents and families, including newly arrived and culturally and linguistically diverse residents, were identified as a key priority by stakeholders. Places for children and young people to play were also prioritised.

### *Funding, resourcing and staffing are key pressures on delivery of services and programs*

- The majority of survey respondents indicated that the strongest pressure on their organisation is funding (62%). 35% of survey respondents indicated that

resourcing and staffing is the strongest pressure on their organisation.

## Key findings for partnerships and engagement

Surveyed community organisations have had mostly positive experiences sharing facilities, services and resources. Survey respondents that share facilities, services or resources indicated mostly positive experiences in doing so, with benefits including capitalising on shared strengths and positive interaction and communication.

Stakeholders would like to see more collaboration across organisations, and across levels of government

- Most stakeholders indicated having a positive relationship with Council and would like to see Council continue their support through ongoing facility use and community grants.
- Stakeholders would like to see more and improved collaboration with Council and across community organisations in order to deliver better community outcomes.
- Council staff and neighbouring councils also indicated a desire for increased regional collaboration and partnership with regards to delivering community facilities, services and programs. Staff identified opportunities to work with Department of Education to improve the effectiveness and use of shared school facilities as community assets. Staff also identified opportunities for partnership around future regional facilities (e.g. regional cooperation for arts and cultural facility needs).
- Staff identified need to create a narrative and principles to enable clear discussions about the social infrastructure priorities and needs (i.e. with developers).

## Key findings for resourcing and operations

Staff identified there is a need to adequately resource facilities and management thereof, and manage community expectations:

- Staff identified that budget constraints, coupled with high expectations - "The Connection has set the standard for the rest of facilities" - balancing implement-ability and financial sustainability as key considerations
- Staff identified need to optimise existing assets to improve access for community programs and activities and maximise use/usability
- Staff identified need to look at new funding and delivery models in terms of existing and future facilities, services and programs.

## 9. What facility benchmarking tells us we need

This section provides an analysis of community facility needs based on population and proximity benchmarking. Benchmarking is a term to describe a best practice standard to aim for. For this strategy various benchmarks commonly used by neighbouring Sydney councils and NSW Government planning have been applied.

### 9.1. COMMUNITY CENTRES

Council owns 14 buildings that, for the purposes of this study, are classified as community centres. These include including staffed community centres, venues for hire, senior citizens centres, Concord Food Services buildings, and leased maker spaces as detailed in Table 11.

Community centre floor space calculations do not include function centres/venues leased to clubs for primarily commercial uses or scout/guide halls which are not accessible to the general community.

Overall, there is 3,538m<sup>2</sup> of Council owned community centre floor space across the LGA.

The planning catchments with the highest provision in 2019 are:

- Concord with 1,461m<sup>2</sup> of floor space
- Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point, with 594m<sup>2</sup> of floor space, and
- Rhodes, with 740m<sup>2</sup> of floor space.

The planning catchments with the least Council owned community floor space are:

- North Strathfield/Strathfield with 0m<sup>2</sup>, and
- Concord West with 0m<sup>2</sup>.

TABLE 11 - TOTAL COMMUNITY FLOOR SPACE BY CATCHMENT (SOURCE: INTERNAL COUNCIL RESEARCH)

EXISTING FLOOR SPACE (2019)	FACILITY	SUBURB	FLOOR SPACE (M2)	TOTAL SUBURB FLOOR SPACE (M2)
<b>Abbotsford-Wareemba-Chiswick</b>	Chiswick Community Centre	Chiswick	156	
	Woodworkers Association of NSW	Abbotsford	100	
	Campbell Park Community Hall	Chiswick	80	<b>256</b>
<b>Breakfast Point-Mortlake-Cabarita</b>	Conservatory at Cabarita	Cabarita	100	<b>100</b>
<b>Concord</b>	Concord Senior Citizens Centre	Concord	314	
	Concord Memorial Hall	Concord	190	
	Concord Community Centre	Concord	630	
	Concord Community Recreation and Bowling Club	Concord	142	
	Lapidary Club	Concord	185	<b>1,461</b>
<b>Concord West-Liberty Grove</b>			0	<b>0</b>
<b>Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point</b>	Drummoyne Community Centre	Drummoyne	450	
	Drummoyne Oval Community Facility	Drummoyne	144	<b>594</b>
<b>Five Dock-Canada Bay</b>	Drummoyne Senior Citizens Centre	Drummoyne	300	<b>300</b>
<b>North Strathfield, Strathfield</b>			0	<b>0</b>
<b>Rhodes</b>	Rhodes Community Centre	Rhodes	210	
	The Connection (not including library)	Rhodes	530	<b>740</b>
			LGA TOTAL	<b>3,538m2</b>

Quantity of community centre facility floor per 1,000 residents

Benchmarking approach

This study applies the benchmark of 80m<sup>2</sup> per 1,000 people to determine the floor space required per 1,000 people by LGA and by planning catchment.

This benchmark is consistently used in social infrastructure planning including for the City of Parramatta Social Infrastructure Strategy 2018.

Across the LGA there is currently 39m<sup>2</sup> of Council owned community centre floor space per 1,000 people. This is low compared to other Greater Sydney LGAs (where data is available).

As shown in Table 12, there is inequitable distribution of floor space across the LGA and the provision of floor space will decline across the LGA's planning catchments as the population increases. The areas with the least provision of floor space per 1,000 residents to 2036 are:

- North Strathfield: 0m<sup>2</sup> to 0m<sup>2</sup> in 2036
- Concord West: 0m<sup>2</sup> to 0m<sup>2</sup> in 2036
- Breakfast Point-Mortlake-Cabarita: 14m<sup>2</sup> declining to 12m<sup>2</sup> in 2036, and
- Five Dock-Canada Bay: 27m<sup>2</sup> declining to 15m<sup>2</sup> in 2036.

Figure 13 shows how Canada Bay compares to other LGAs (where data was available).

TABLE 12 - TOTAL COUNCIL OWNED COMMUNITY FLOOR SPACE (M2) 2019 TO 2036 BY PLANNING CATCHMENT

CATCHMENT	FLOOR SPACE (M2) PER PERSON 2019	FLOOR SPACE (M2) PER PERSON 2026	FLOOR SPACE (M2) PER PERSON 2036
Abbotsford-Wareemba-Chiswick	25	23	22
Breakfast Point-Mortlake-Cabarita*	14	13	12
Concord	107	96	75
Concord West - Liberty Grove	0	0	0
Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point	30	29	28
Five Dock-Canada Bay	27	21	15
North Strathfield, Strathfield	0	0	0
Rhodes	63	48	36
LGA	39	34	29

\*Breakfast Point is on community title and has onsite private facilities for use by residents.

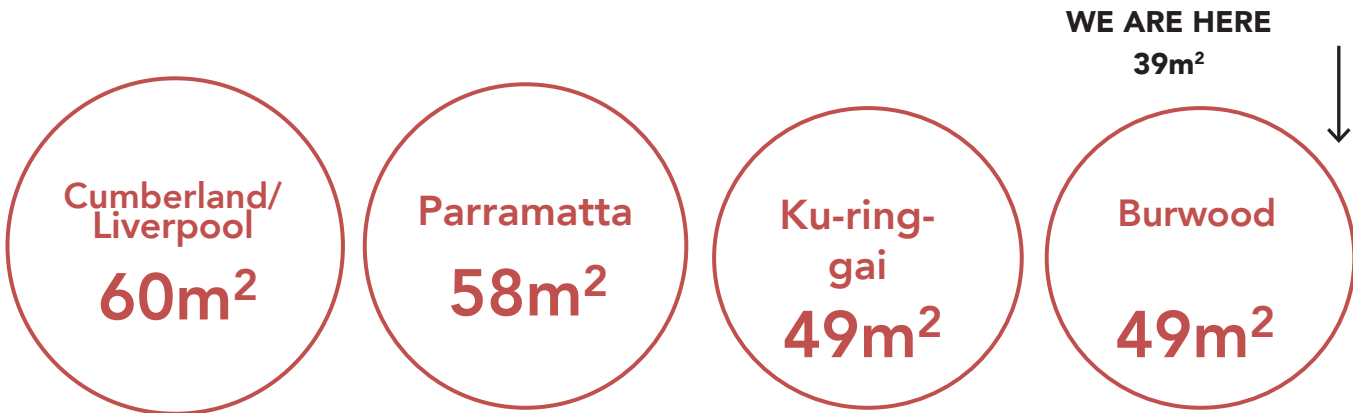


Figure 14 - Provision of community floorspace per 100 people - comparison



## What does benchmarking tell us?

As Table 13 shows, we are currently experiencing a significantly below benchmark provision of community centre floor space. However, based on a number of facilities per person benchmark of 1 for every 15,000 people, we have more than double the benchmarked number of community centres (we would need 6 community centres).

To meet the benchmark of 80m<sup>2</sup> per 1,000 people, by 2036 Council would need to deliver an additional 6,075m<sup>2</sup> of community floor space. The catchments of highest need are:

- Rhodes with a demand of 206m<sup>2</sup> in 2019 increasing to

909m<sup>2</sup> in 2036

- Five Dock-Canada Bay with a demand for 578m<sup>2</sup> in 2019 increasing to 1,256m<sup>2</sup> in 2036
- North Strathfield, Strathfield, with a demand of 518m<sup>2</sup> in 2019 increasing to 1,101m<sup>2</sup> by 2036, and
- Concord-West-Liberty Grove with a demand for 590m<sup>2</sup> in 2019 increasing to 767m<sup>2</sup> by 2036.

Despite having a significant gap in community floor space, Canada Bay has a surplus of smaller (below 200m<sup>2</sup>), single purpose community spaces or venues for hire.

Council could consider moving toward a network of larger multipurpose community facilities as opposed to small single purpose venues. Multipurpose facilities can adapt with changing community needs, can be staffed and activated and reduced ongoing costs to Council. Council should consider opportunities to recycle ageing and underutilised facilities as new multipurpose facilities are built.

**TABLE 13 - COMMUNITY FACILITY FLOOR SPACE BENCHMARKING - FLOORSACE (80M2/1000PEOPLE)**

PLANNING CATCHMENT	CURRENT M2 (2019)	FLOOR SPACE NEEDED BASED ON 80M2 PER 1,000 BENCHMARK			GAP 2016 TO 2036		
		2016	2026	2036	2016	2026	2036
Abbotsford-Wareemba-Chiswick	336	830	906	945	-494	-570	-609
Breakfast Point-Mortlake - Cabarita	107	616	642	663	-509	-535	-556
Concord	1,461	1,097	1,218	1,557	364	243	-96
Concord West - Liberty Grove	0	590	675	767	--590	-675	-767
Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point	594	1,565	1,635	1,695	--971	-1,041	-1,101
Five Dock - Canada Bay	300	878	1,146	1,556	-578	-846	-1,256
North Strathfield - Strathfield	0	518	639	781	-518	-639	-781
Rhodes	740	946	1,230	1,649	-206	-490	-909
LGA	3,538	7,041	8,091	9,613	-3,503	-4,553	-6,075

### Proximity and access to our community facilities

As shown in Figures 14 and 15 there is inequitable distribution of local and district level community centres and venues for hire across the LGA's catchments. Figure 14 shows a 400m catchment around local community venues for hire, and a 2km catchment around multipurpose or district level staffed facilities. It shows:

- There are no local community venues in the Concord West North Strathfield/Strathfield or Five Dock catchments
- There are no local community venues in high growth areas such as Five Dock and in proximity to the potential Five Dock metro station
- The Connection is mostly servicing Rhodes and

potentially residents of Wentworth Point.

Figure 15 shows a 2km radius around existing Council owned staffed community facilities including The Connection in Rhodes (Council's only multipurpose community centre) and the Drummoyne Community Centre in Drummoyne. Figure 12 shows:

- There are no district level multipurpose community centres servicing the Concord, Concord West, North Strathfield, Five Dock catchments.
- There no district level multipurpose community centres in proximity to the proposed future metro stations in North Strathfield, Concord and Five Dock where future population growth is likely.

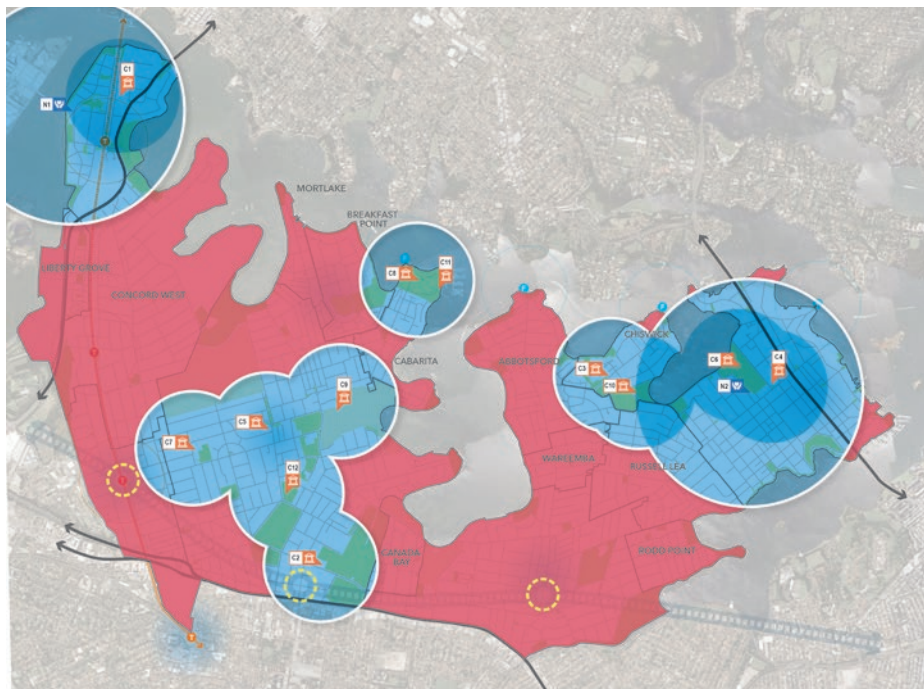


Figure 15 - 400m catchments (local facilities) and 2km catchment (district facilities)

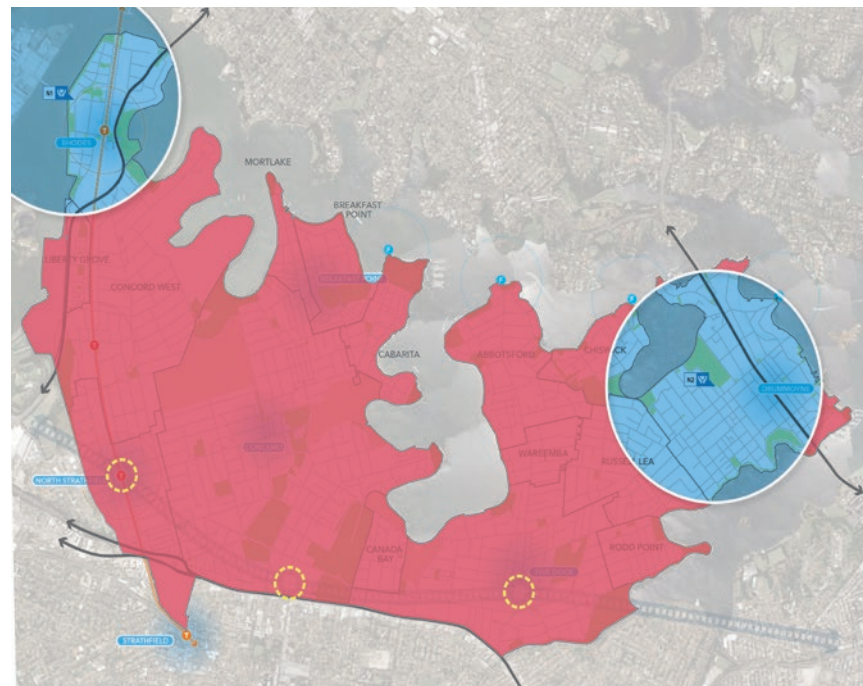


Figure 16 - 2km catchment district level staffed community centres

## What is the utilisation and capacity of our community centres?

Available utilisation data as shown in Table 14 tells us that:

- There is a high use of Council's larger community spaces, with facilities in the town centres recording high occupancy rates including the Concord Senior Citizens Auditorium (98.63%) and Drummoyne Civic Hall (81.64%) and Chiswick Community Hall (81.92%).
- The utilisation of available smaller community spaces and meeting rooms is low and there may be capacity to increase use through a review of management models and programming (28.37%)

Future population growth in the LGA may impact the future demand on community facilities. The location of Council community facilities across the LGA may not be accessible to residents within those areas, such as Strathfield, North Strathfield and Five Dock, which are forecast for significant growth.

**TABLE 14 - OCCUPANCY RATES COUNCIL'S HIREABLE COMMUNITY FACILITIES (2017-18) (SOURCE: COUNCIL, DOES NOT INCLUDE LIBRARY ROOMS FOR HIRE))**

FACILITY	CAPACITY	DAYS OCCUPIED	OCCUPANCY RATE (%)
<b>The Connection</b>			
Rhodes – The Connection – Meeting Space	48 to 151	NA	90%
Rhodes – The Connection – Event Space	128 to 410	NA	90%
Rhodes – The Connection – Learning Space (Limited availability due to storage of equipment and tools used for library and scheduled programs).	24 to 43	NA	100%
<b>Unstaffed venues for hire</b>			
Chiswick Community Centre	Theatre - 60 Cocktail - 70	299	81.92
Concord Community Centre - Function Room	Theatre – 120 Dinner - 100	Theatre – 120 Dinner - 100	31
Concord Community Centre - Meeting Room	50	341	93.42
Concord Memorial Hall	30	108	29.59
Concord Senior Citizens Centre - Auditorium	Theatre – 100 Dinner - 80	360	98.63
Concord Senior Citizens Centre Meeting Room	20	25	6.85
Canada Bay (Drummoyne) Civic Hall	Theatre - 150	298	81.64
Drummoyne Oval Greg Davis Stand	Meeting – 80 Dinner - 100	134	36.71
Rhodes Community Centre - Small Meeting Room	Theatre – 40 Dinner - 30	59	16.16
Rhodes Community Centre - Large Room	Theatre – 60 Cocktail - 100	245	67.12



### Drummoyne Community Centre and Senior Centres utilisation

Drummoyne Community Centre is operated by the Drummoyne Community Centre Inc. and is a highly utilised and important staffed community centre for the community, particularly for older people, children and families and people with disability. Drummoyne Seniors Centre is operated by the Drummoyne Seniors Centre Inc. . Although contacted for information on utilisation, none was available.

### The Connection

Since January 2017, there have been over 1,500 bookings. The main types of users are classified into five groups:

- Milestone celebrations
- Regular hirers
- Internal uses
- Corporates and community groups, and
- Not for profits.

One off bookings are for: birthday parties; weddings/ engagement parties; social gatherings/parties; graduation ceremonies; conferences; meetings; seminars; training; performances.

The facility has a pool of around 30 regular bookers who utilise the meeting space on a weekly basis. The types of classes that they run including: dance classes; yoga/ meditation; church services; senior meet-ups; playgroup; children's music class; art classes; English classes; prayer groups; and book clubs.



The Connection (source: Urbis)



9.2. LIBRARIES

Library floor space by catchment

As shown below in Table 15, Council has 2 library facilities (Five Dock and Concord) and the Learning Space (part of The Connection). Across the LGA there is a total of 4,082m2 of library floor space.

TABLE 15 - LIBRARY FLOOR SPACE BY CATCHMENT

LIBRARY	LIBRARY CATCHMENT	FLOOR SPACE
Concord Library	Breakfast Point, Mortlake, Cabarita, Concord, The Connection (source: Urbis), Concord West, Liberty Grove, North Strathfield, Strathfield Triangle	2,031m <sup>2</sup>
Five Dock Library	Five Dock, Canada Bay, Abbotsford, Wareemba, Rodd Point, Drummoyne, Russell Lea, Chiswick	1,531m <sup>2</sup>
The Learning Space, The Connection	Rhodes	520mm <sup>2</sup>



Five Dock Library (Source: Cred Consulting)

### Proximity to our library facilities

As shown in Figure 16, library facilities are spread across the LGA, however, there is no library servicing the Drummoyne suburb where there is high older population and limited public transport options for residents to access other library facilities.



Figure 17 - City of Canada Bay Library provision by library planning catchment



## What does benchmarking tell us?

### Benchmarking approach

The commonly used approach to benchmarking for libraries is the State Library of NSW People Places. New benchmarks were released in April 2019 and have been applied to forecast demand for future library space.

### What does benchmarking tell us?

Table 16 shows the following library demand to 2036:

- Concord library catchment currently has an above benchmark provision of library floor space in 2019 but due to forecast population growth, there will be an under supply of library floor space of 121m<sup>2</sup> by 2036
- Five Dock library catchment has a current below benchmark floor space provision of 311m<sup>2</sup>, this will increase to 387m<sup>2</sup> by 2026 and 684m<sup>2</sup> in 2036.
- Rhodes library catchment has a current (2019) under supply of library floor space of 286m<sup>2</sup>, and due to forecast population growth in Rhodes East, this will increase demand for an additional 736m<sup>2</sup> of library floor space by 2036.

A new library is under construction in Wentworth Point across the bridge from Rhodes West. Given the forecast need for an additional 736m<sup>2</sup> of library floor space by 2036 for the Rhodes library catchment, there may be an opportunity to review library service delivery in Rhodes to deliver future library services within one facility as part of a new multipurpose community hub within the Rhodes Planned Precinct.

TABLE 16 - CANADA BAY LGA LIBRARY FLOOR SPACE BENCHMARKING BY PLANNING CATCHMENT

LIBRARY PLANNING CATCHMENT	CURRENT FLOOR SPACE	FLOOR SPACE NEEDED BASED ON PEOPLE PLACES STATE LIBRARY BENCHMARK			GAP 2019 TO 2036		
		2019	2026	2036	2019	2026	2036
Breakfast Point - Mortlake - Cabarita/Concord/Concord-West-Liberty Grove/North Strathfield/Strathfield Triangle	2,031	1,762	1,909	2,152	+269	+122	-121
Five Dock/Canada Bay/Abbotsford/Wareemba/Rodd Point, Drummoyne, Russell Lea	1,531	1,842	1,918	2,215	-311	-387	-684
Rhodes	520	816	1,061	1,344	-286	-541	-736

## Library membership & trends

Council's library services have a total of 39,471 library memberships (to September 2018). Concord Library accounting for 49.4% (or 19,497) Five Dock for 45.5% (or 17,969), Rhodes for 5.1% (or 1,994), and Home Library for 0.3% (or 101) of memberships.

While Concord and Five Dock have seen falling membership levels since 2013-14, the new library at Rhodes has rapidly increased its membership since opening in January 2017, now being at 1,994 in September 2018 (up from 864 in September 2017). It is anticipated that membership at Rhodes Library would steadily increase as community awareness of the service grows and combined with the suburbs steady population growth.

Library loans have increased across the City of Canada Bay library network by 4.39% between 2010/11 and 2015/16. This increase is significant when compared to the rest of NSW where rates have decreased by 13%. Online collections are dramatically increasing in usage, including an increase in streaming and almost doubling of all other formats. The digitisation of content including E-Books, streaming services and web based information services is changing the way the community is using library services.

There has been a large increase in the use of library Wi-Fi services, with Wi-Fi access increasing from 39,162 (2012/13) to 95,505, in 2016/17. However, computer terminal bookings have decreased. This may indicate that in the future, libraries may require more informal public spaces, including study quiet zones and informal meeting spaces, where users can access Wi-Fi on their own devices, rather than traditional computer stations.

The Home Library service has seen individual membership decreasing, and institutional membership (aged care facilities) increasing.

## Library Utilisation

As shown in Table 17, library meeting rooms are highly utilised by the community – most likely because they are staffed/ supervised spaces and free to hire.

**TABLE 17 - UTILISATION OF COUNCIL FACILITIES (JULY 2017 TO MAY 2018) (SOURCE: INTERNAL COUNCIL DATA)**

FACILITY	CAPACITY	DAYS OCCUPIED	OCCUPANCY RATE (%)	FEES PER HOUR (COMMUNITY RATE)
Five Dock Library - Bay Room	40	204	55.89	\$34 weekdays \$37 weekends
Concord Library (Function Room)	50	218	59.73	\$34 weekdays \$37 weekends
Concord Library 3 (Study Room) (not available for public bookings – used for internal staff bookings)	50	NA	NA	\$34 weekdays \$37 weekends

## Library visits

There were 170,240 visits to Concord Library in 2017-18 and 165,035 to Five Dock Library.

**TABLE 18 - LIBRARY VISITS**

	2017-18	2016-2017	2015-16
Concord	170,240	177,080	182,011
Five Dock	165,035	167,690	148,424
The Connection	NA	NA	NA



### 9.3. EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE FOR CHILDREN 0 TO 5 YEARS

#### What do we have now?

Centre-based education and care services (childcare) for children aged 0 to 5 years include Long Day Care and Preschool. These services are all regulated under National Regulations. Occasional Care Centres (OCC) for children aged 0 to 5 years is regulated under NSW Regulations.

Table 19 shows that there are currently 2,585 places in 44 centres in our area. Of these 1 is an occasional care service, 7 are preschools and 36 are long day care services. 2 of these services also cater for school children before and after school. 75% of these services are rated as meeting or exceeding the National Quality Standard which is in line with services across NSW.

**TABLE 19 - EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE FOR CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 5 YEARS BY CATCHMENT (AS AT DECEMBER 2018)**

CATCHMENT	NO. OF SERVICES	NO. OF PLACES
Cabarita, and Mortlake- Breakfast Point	4	234
Chiswick and Abbotsford- Wareemba	2	95
Concord	7	310
Concord West and Liberty Grove	5	333
Drummoyne, Russell Lea and Rodd Point	5	221
Five Dock and Canada Bay	12	611
North Strathfield and Strathfield Triangle	3	273
Rhodes (East and West)	6	508
<b>TOTAL LGA</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>2,585</b>

#### What do we need?

##### What does the benchmarking tell us?

A benchmark of 1 place for every 3.8 children aged 0 to 5 years has been applied based on utilisation of childcare by children in NSW in 2018 released by the Productivity Commission in January 2019. (Report on Government Services, Productivity Commission, Canberra). For 0-5 year olds this utilisation data shows that:

- Average weekly hours of attendance at long day care by a child in NSW is 28.4 hours per week .
- Commonwealth approved childcare (Long Day Care, Family Day Care, Occasional Child Care, Out of School Hours Care) in NSW is used by:
  - 8.8% of 0 year olds
  - 41.2% of 1 year olds
  - 57.9% of 2 year olds
  - 67.5% of 3 year olds
  - 63.2% of 4 year olds, and
  - 39.6% of 5 year olds.

The benchmarks show that there is no current or forecast gap in supply of early education and care places for children aged 0 to 5 years across the LGA. However, at a planning catchment level, there is a current and forecast under supply in Chiswick-Abbotsford-Wareemba, and Drummoyne-Russell Lea-Rodd Point which are more established areas.

There is also a high supply of places in renewal areas such as Rhodes, where it is common for developers to include childcare centres as part of their community benefit offer, even though childcare is a commercial use of a site. Future reviews of DAs for new childcare centres should provide advice on supply and demand for care. Five Dock is also showing an oversupply, however the area has a high number of workers which could impact on demand.

### What did providers tell us?

Benchmarks are only one indicator of demand, interviews with participating childcare providers tells us that occupancy across the LGA ranges from 35-40% at the service with the most vacancies (a for-profit long day care centre in Five Dock) to 100% (most preschools).

For much of the LGA, occupancy is not an issue with services in areas like Abbotsford and Concord West reporting occupancy of 100%. Perceptions generally were that it is getting harder to achieve 100% occupancy but the majority of centres have achieved it in most areas of the LGA with the exception of Five Dock and parts of Rhodes and Drummoyne.

89% of long day cares in the LGA provide spaces for children from 0-5 and 92% provide places for children over 12 months. (Only 4 long day care centres don't provide places for the full age range before school). None of the long day care centres contacted reported huge waiting lists for under 2 year olds.

Five Dock has 11 long day care centres, the majority of which are for profit centres. They vary in size from 132 places to 23 places. The perception of almost all operators is that "there are many new centres opening around us" and as such it is getting harder to fill centres, especially on Mondays and Fridays. It appears like there is an oversupply in Five Dock – one service is offering a 4 week free period on enrolment.

Drummoyne services also have lower occupancy – one operator put this down to the difficulty in competing with the cost of council services. Rhodes services are mostly full but they all say there is plenty of choice for families and one service spoke of the number of families that leave the area after their second child is born or conceived. Preschools in the LGA are full and generally fill their sports for next year by the middle of the year before, although some speak of drop out towards the end of the year prior as families realise they need hours longer than preschools are offering.

**TABLE 20 - EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE PLACES REQUIRED (0 TO 5 YEAR OLDS) BASED ON BENCHMARK**

	DEMAND FOR PLACES			GAP		
PLANNING CATCHMENT	2019	2026	2036	2019	2026	2036
Cabarita - Mortlake - Breakfast Point	166	151	152	-68	-83	-82
Chiswick - Abbotsford - Wareemba	155	169	161	60	74	66
Concord	238	244	322	-72	-72	12
Concord West-Liberty Grove	145	163	184	-188	-170	-149
Drummoyne - Russell Lea - Rodd Point	343	336	326	122	115	105
Five Dock - Canada Bay	198	205	286	-413	-406	-325
North Strathfield - Strathfield Triangle	133	158	193	-140	-115	-80
Rhodes (East and West)	247	264	306	-261	-244	-202
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,627</b>	<b>1,688</b>	<b>1,928</b>	<b>-958</b>	<b>-897</b>	<b>-657</b>

## 9.4. OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE FOR CHILDREN AGED 5 TO 11 YEARS

### What do we have now?

Education and care services for children aged 5 to 12 years include Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) which provide before and after school care and school holiday (vacation) care. There are 11 dedicated before and after school services in the LGA and at least one long day care service that also cater to this group. 72% of these services are meeting or exceeding the National Quality Standard which is in line with State averages.

There are currently 1,320 OSHC places within 13 centres.

**TABLE 21 - OSHC PLACES 5 TO 12 YEAR OLDS**

CATCHMENT	NO. OF SERVICES	NO. OF PLACES
Cabarita, and Mortlake-Breakfast Point	1	56
Chiswick and Abbotsford-Wareemba	1	150
Concord	3	260
Concord West and Liberty Grove	1	100
Drummoyne, Russell Lea and Rodd Point	3	355
Five Dock and Canada Bay	2	260
North Strathfield and Strathfield Triangle	2	139
Rhodes (East and West)	0	0
<b>TOTAL LGA</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1,320</b>

### What do we need?

#### Benchmarking approach

A benchmark of 1 place for every 14 children aged 5 to 12 years has been applied based on NSW utilisation data of Commonwealth approved childcare by children in NSW in 2018 released by the Productivity Commission in January 2019. (Report on Government Services, Productivity Commission, Canberra). For 5 to 12 year olds 21.4% of 5-12 year olds each require access to 0.32 places average weekly hours of attendance at long day care by a child in NSW is 28.4 hours per week. This equates to 1 place for every 14 children.

The benchmarks show that supply is currently meeting demand.

However, as a new school is planned for Rhodes it will be important that a purpose built OSHC facility is provided onsite to address future needs.

**TABLE 22 - OSHC PLACES REQUIRED BASED ON BENCHMARK**

Planning catchment	OSHC PLACES REQUIRED			NO. OF PLACES
	2019	2026	2026	Total places 2019
Cabarita, and Mortlake- Breakfast Point	41	40	38	56
Chiswick and Abbotsford-Wareemba	31	38	39	150
Concord	98	89	111	260
Concord West and Liberty Grove	56	56	54	100
Drummoyne, Russell Lea and Rodd Point	90	92	89	355
Five Dock and Canada Bay	61	66	77	260
North Strathfield and Strathfield Triangle	31	43	51	139
Rhodes (East and West)	26	43	55	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>1320</b>

### What did providers tell us?

Only 1 of the services that cater to this age group reported having a waiting list (Five Dock Public School). The OSHC service at Five Dock Public School reported that they are unlikely to be able to expand because to do so would infringe on the school's, and teacher's use of space outside of school hours. (For each additional child enrolled in an OSHC service an additional 3.25 square metres of indoor space and 7 square metres of outdoor space must be found.)

Although Five Dock Public school has a small waiting list, the OSHC service at Abbotsford public school has vacancies in both morning, afternoon and vacation care and reports that it is willing to take children from other schools. It is noted this service is rated as Working Towards the National Quality Standard whereas the Five Dock Public School service is rated as exceeding the NQS. The schools are only 5 minutes' drive from each other but it is unknown if Abbotsford has a bus at its disposal. Generally parents show a preference for before and after school care to happen at a child's own school, especially where that school has an OSHC service on the grounds.

There are several innovative models in use in the area. Gowrie NSW operates two services in 2 separate schools in Drummoyne, one opened for 3 days a week and one opened for 2 days. They report neither school is seeking extra days. A bus picks up children from 4 schools (North Strathfield, St Ambrose, St Martha's and Our Lady of Assumption) and delivers them to Papilio Early Learning in North Strathfield. Papilio reported that 2 of these schools are opening up their own OSHC services in the coming year but this was unable to be confirmed. Papilio report having vacancies for before school and after school.





## 9.5. ARTS AND CULTURAL

### What do we have?

As shown in Figure 17, there are currently 7 arts and cultural facilities within the LGA that include arts and cultural uses including:

- The Embroiders Guild - a purpose built privately owned and operated space within Concord Town Centre
- The Lapidary Club - a purpose built space owned by Council and leased to the Western Suburbs Lapidary Club in Gipps Street Concord
- Harry's Shed (Concord), and the Woodworkers Association of NSW lease creative and workers space from Council
- There are three museums and galleries owned by Council - City of Canada Bay Museum, Ralph Honner Kokoda Education Centre and DAS Gallery 57 in Concord West (leased to DAS 57).
- Harry's Tech Shed operates out of The Connection in Rhodes.

There is no LGA-wide cultural centre/civic space in the Canada Bay LGA or purpose built performance space. There are also no purpose built performance spaces in neighbouring Inner West, Strathfield or Burwood council areas.

### What does benchmarking tell us?

There are no commonly used benchmarks for arts and cultural facilities. However, applying the Growth Centre Commission's benchmark of one LGA-wide major civic/performance space, there is demand for 1 major civic/performance space by 2036.

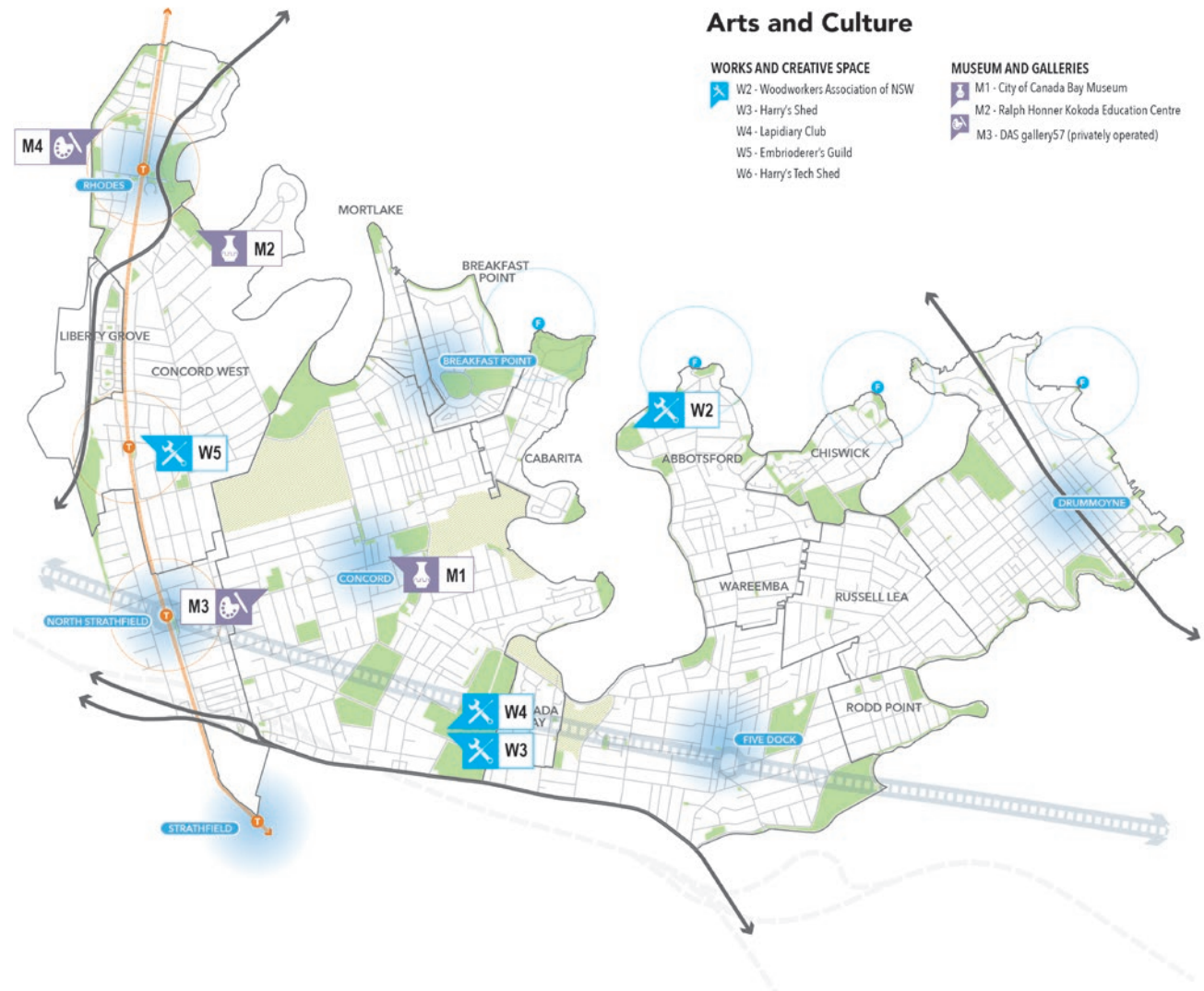


Figure 18 - Arts and cultural spaces in the LGA

## 9.6. SCHOOLS (PRIMARY AND HIGH SCHOOL)

### What do we have now?

Within the Canada Bay LGA, there are currently:

- 4 high schools (1 public and 3 private)
  - Domremy College (private)
  - Concord High School (public)
  - Rosebank College (private), and
  - The McDonald College (private).
- 16 primary schools (10 public and 6 private), and
- 1 planned public primary school in Rhodes East. Given that the identified site will be 1ha, it is unlikely that the school will have capacity for more than 800 students as students will require 10m2.

Additionally, there are 6 public schools located in adjoining LGAs which have catchments that include suburbs within the Canada Bay LGA. These are:

- Ashfield Boys High School (760 capacity)
- Burwood Girls High School (1,150 capacity)
- Homebush Boys High School (1,220 capacity)
- Strathfield Girls High School (1,280 capacity)
- Sydney Secondary College Balmain Campus - years 7 to 10 (820 capacity)
- Sydney Secondary College Blackwattle Bay Campus - years 11 to 12 (740 capacity).

### What do we need?

NSW Department of Education (DoE) does not currently have benchmarks to assess demand for new primary or high school places. New schools and school places are planned for based on growth and capacity of school facilities to accommodate this.

#### Primary schools

Table 23 shows Department of Education's projected future school enrolments and shows the main increases will be in:

- Victoria Avenue Public School in Concord West – 179% increase in enrolment.
- Russell Lea Public school in Russell Lea – 160% increase in enrolments.

Figure 15 shows the catchments with the most significant forecast growth in the number of primary school aged children to 2036 will be:

- Rhodes - which will have 844 children aged 5 to 11, an increase of 307 from 2016 (and there is currently no primary school in Rhodes)
- Concord - which will have 1,544 children, an increase of 264 children from 2016, and
- Five Dock - Canada Bay, which will have 1,162 children, an increase of 194 children from 2016.

#### High schools

Table 23 shows Department of Education's projected future school enrolments and shows the main increases will be in:

- Concord High School in Concord – 53% increase in enrolments

Figure 15 shows the planning catchments with the most significant forecast growth in the number of high school aged children to 2036 will be:

- Rhodes - which will have 658 young people aged 12 to 17 years, an increase of 348 from 2016
- Five Dock - Canada Bay, which will have 924 young people aged 12 to 17 years, an increase of 190 young people from 2016
- North Strathfield, Strathfield, which will have 606 young people an increase of 190 from 2016, and
- Concord, which will have 1,332 an increase of 156 young people by 2036.

There are no publicly available plans for new high schools or increased high school places servicing the Canada Bay LGA.

Priority areas for future primary schools or classrooms are:

- Rhodes/Rhodes East
- Concord West

Priority areas for future new high school classrooms are:

- Rhodes/Rhodes East
- Concord
- Concord West-Liberty Grove, and
- North Strathfield.

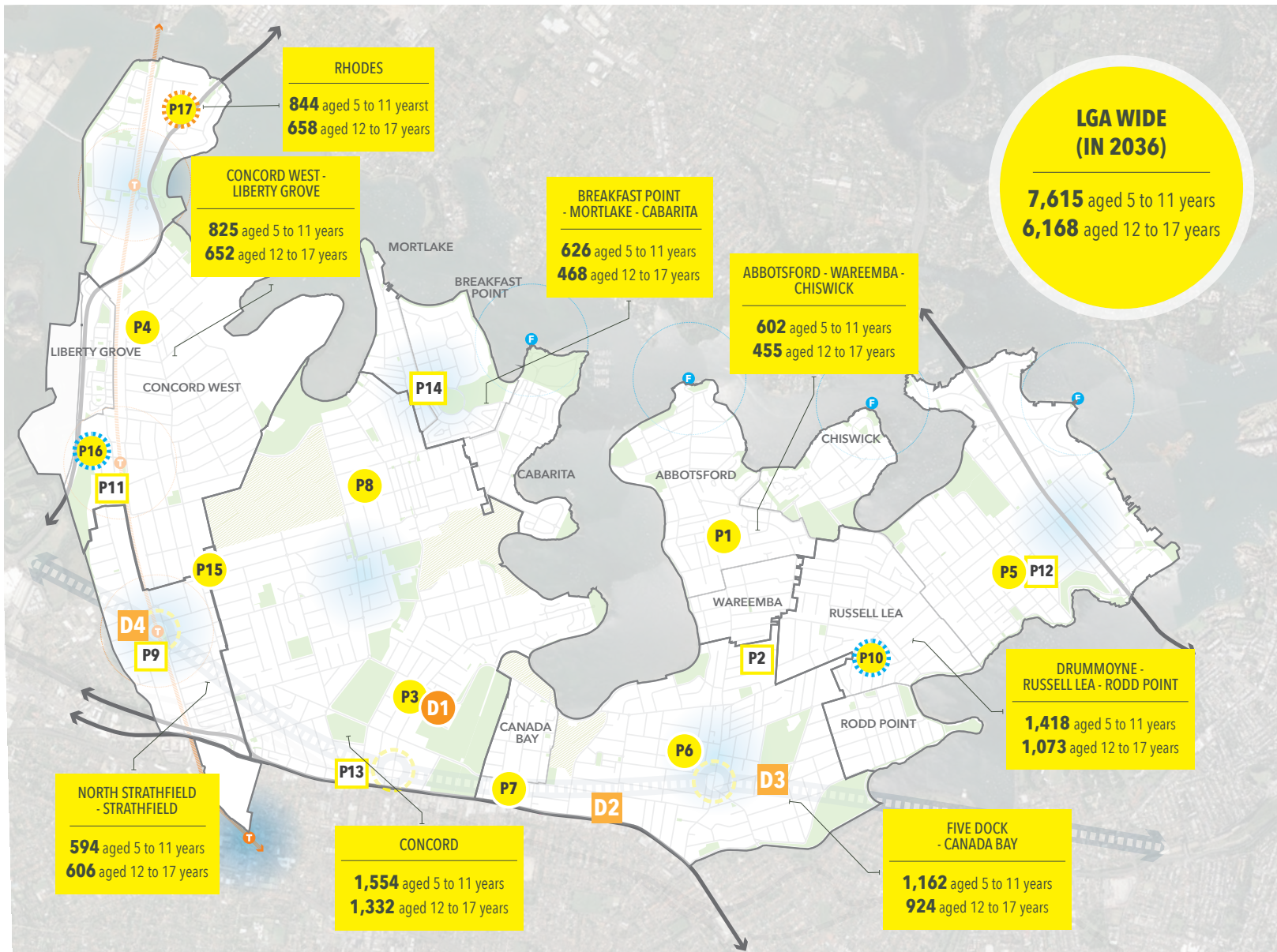


Figure 19 - Number of children forecast to be living in the LGA

**TABLE 23 - DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ENROLMENT PROJECTIONS**  
(SOURCE: DOE, 2018)

SCHOOL NAME	2017 ENROLMENTS	PROJECTED 2031 ENROLMENTS	SCHOOL SITE AREA (M2)
Abbotsford PS	639	600 (decrease 6%)	25,086
Concord HS	1137	1740 (increase 53%)	33,765
Concord PS	280	305 (increase 9%)	11,643
Concord West PS	382	485 (increase 27%)	13,662
Drummoyne PS	687	555 (decrease 19%)	9,291
Five Dock PS	412	580 (increase 41%)	17,860
Lucas Gardens School	32		7,466
Mortlake PS	380	505 (increase 33%)	15,711
Rivendell School	53		
Russell Lea PS	177	400 (increase 160%)	11,790
Strathfield North PS	599	630 (increase 5%)	15,526
Victoria Avenue PS	238	665 (increase 179%)	13,554



## 9.7. YOUTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES

### What do we have?

There are no youth specific community facilities or spaces in the LGA. (this study does not look at outdoor recreation facilities).

Five Dock and Concord Libraries run youth programs after school. The youth program at Five Dock Library is a youth drop-in program run by contractors with youth work qualifications and experience - and was in response to a need to engage young people in the library. This temporary service is successful and now a permanent program. This is the only youth service in the LGA and should continue to be provided in this area given increased growth of young people in Five Dock, and the higher proportion of lower income and disadvantaged families living in the area.

### What do we need?

There are currently 5,220 young people aged 12 to 17 in the LGA. By 2036 there will be an additional 948 young people aged 12 to 17 years. The catchments with the highest forecast growth are:

- Rhodes +348
- Five Dock - Canada Bay + 190
- Concord +156
- North Strathfield, Strathfield +120.

Through the delivery of any future new libraries or multipurpose community centres, Council should consider the provision of spaces appropriate for the delivery of youth services and programs. Best practice indicates that this includes spaces that are connected indoor and outdoor and with access to WiFi for study. There may also be opportunities to partner with high schools for use of school premises for delivery of youth programs and services.



Youth in Canada Bay

## 9.8. SENIORS SPACES AND SERVICES

ABS Census data shows that the number of older people in City of Canada Bay is increasing. By 2036, the total population aged over 65 in the LGA will be 21,092, representing 17.5% of the total City of Canada Bay population. The largest increase in persons between 2016 and 2026 is forecast to be between the ages 75 to 79, which is expected to increase by 1,245 people and account for 3.4% of the population of City of Canada Bay.

Residential aged care spaces and expanded senior's services, including new centres and services for older people with higher support needs will be required in the City of Canada Bay to meet the growth of the LGA's aging population.

### Seniors centres

We currently have two "seniors centres" – Concord Senior Citizens Centre is operated by Council and leased out for general community use, and Drummoyne Senior Citizens Centre is managed by a seniors committee. This centre is under utilised. Council leases the Concord Food Service Building to Meals and Wheels and there are two dementia specific facilities/services located in the LGA.

TABLE 24 - GOVERNMENT-OWNED RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE

NAME	QUALITY	OWNER	DESCRIPTION
Concord Senior Citizens Centre	Centrally located venue within Concord Town Centre close to public transport connections.	Council	A busy centre that runs a regular program of activities including Computer Pals for Seniors, ballet for seniors, table tennis, chess, exercise, pilates and art classes. The City of Canada Bay Museum is also located onsite.
Drummoyne Municipality Senior Citizens Club	Building is dated and the current condition is poor. The building is not located close to shops, services and public transport and the pedestrian environment is poor.	Council	A small centre located on Great North Road. The Club host Thursday luncheons and regular monthly outings.
Concord Food Services Building	Good	Council	Leased to Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) service
Kindalin Frail Aged and Respite Day Centre	NA	NSW Government	Dementia day centre
Kalparin Dementia Day Centre	NA	NSW Government	Dementia day centre

### Residential aged care

There are 876 residential aged care beds across the LGA. The National Planning Benchmark for seniors housing is 1 bed for every 88 people 70 years or over. Based on this benchmark there is currently sufficient supply of residential aged care beds across the LGA, however by 2036 there will be a need for an additional 500 residential aged care beds. Table 25, details the forecast gaps in residential aged care beds supply for 2026 and 2036.

**TABLE 25 - RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE BEDS BY CATCHMENT (AS AT JANUARY 2019)**

PLANNING CATCHMENT	TOTAL BEDS RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE 2019	GAP 2019	GAP 2026	GAP 2036
Cabarita, and Mortlake- Breakfast Point	0	-80	-138	-161
Chiswick and Abbotsford- Wareemba	199	79	50	30
Concord	215	52	20	32
Concord West and Liberty Grove	0	-76	-101	-108
Drummoyne, Russell Lea and Rodd Point	341	135	73	30
Five Dock and Canada Bay	59	-50	-69	-114
North Strathfield and Strathfield Triangle	0	-27	-46	-66
Rhodes (East and West)	62	42	44	80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>-235</b>	<b>-500</b>

# 10. What do best practice trends tell us we need?

From the information above we can predict certain key trends and principles in how community facilities are being used or operated within Canada Bay. These trends and principles should inform the future kinds of social infrastructure that is funded and developed within Canada Bay, as well as how they are delivered.

## 10.1. CO-LOCATED & SHARED SPACE

Co-location of Council social infrastructure can occur with other service providers, including health, education, recreation or social service facilities, or within commercial or retail space. This can create efficiencies and synergies for service delivery, as well as enabling people to have their community, health, housing, education and recreation in one venue or precinct. It increases activation and leverage of visitation, as well as cross-promotion of services. The risks of co-location relate to the need to negotiate carefully between stakeholders for shared responsibility, as well as the need for co-located services to be complementary to one another but also interdependent for mutual success. There is a trend toward partnerships in the delivery and management of community facilities and a demand from non-government community service providers for low cost accommodation. There is an increasing trend to providing shared community facilities on school sites. Some of the benefits of this approach include a reduction in the land needed for community facilities and, ideally, sharing ongoing maintenance and management costs. However, it is important to acknowledge the variety of challenges that arise when securing these spaces for community use, including the uncertainty of long-term tenure, child protection concerns, and restricted community access during the day.

### CO-LOCATED AND MULTI-FUNCTIONAL: BLACKMAN PARK SCOUT HALL

Blackman Park Scout Hall is a 1,200m<sup>2</sup> multi-functional community and sporting facility co-located with sports fields including synthetic surfaces, as well as senior's exercise area, playground and BBQ area, and natural areas with walking paths.

The building is designed to have a simple, flexible shell that can also serve a variety of sporting and community uses. The large and small halls are available for hire for various community or family events and celebrations, while the facility also caters for sporting events through its change rooms, storage spaces and canteen. It also features solar panels and a solar hot water system to assist with the ongoing maintenance costs of the facility.

#### The sports uses include:

- Change rooms and toilets
- Sports storage sheds divided by code
- Referee room
- Canteen, and
- Covered viewing terrace.

#### Community uses include:

- Large hall
- Small hall
- Meeting room
- Kitchen and storage, and
- Toilets.



Image: AJA Architects



Image: AJA Architects



## 10.2. MULTIFUNCTIONAL AND ADAPTABLE SPACE

Multi-functional and adaptable spaces are particularly important in new and changing places, and there is a move away from single use facilities for single user groups to adaptable facilities. Adaptable spaces mean that the use and function can change over time as community needs change and/or grow. Co-located, multi-functional and multipurpose community hubs become focal points for the community, improving cohesion and connection rather than separating groups into different buildings by use or demographic (e.g. youth centres and senior's centres).

### SOCIAL AND MULTI-FUNCTIONAL SPACES: BERALA COMMUNITY CENTRE

Berala Community Centre is a 600m<sup>2</sup> (not including outdoor spaces) multi-purpose centre designed to encourage people to meet, socialise and learn new skills and recreate. The centre is staffed Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm and, like AC4C, has a diverse range of spaces available for hire including:

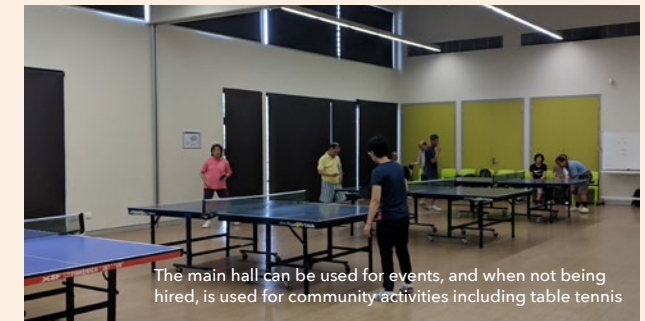
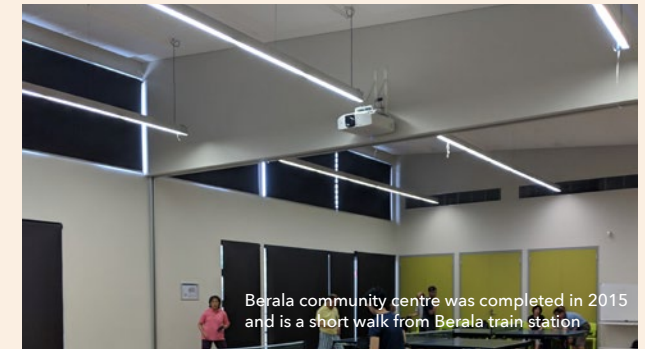
- Activity/training room (capacity for 30 people)
- A multi-functional room for around 20 people that can be divided into 2 rooms for up to 10 people
- Main hall for up to 144 people that can also divide, and is frequently used for table tennis, and
- Outdoor patio and outdoor veranda.

The centre is a living room for the community, it has spaces for students to drop in an study, tennis table facilities for the community to use when the hall is not booked, access to technology and easy to move furniture to allow quick set-ups for meetings and programs. Each room also has a kitchenette and storage.

### WHAT COULD THIS LOOK LIKE IN CANADA BAY?

Berala Community Centre is an example of a vibrant and well-loved community centre that has a small footprint, however is multi-functional and can easily adapt to suit the needs of different groups and different activities.

By responding to the diverse demographics of the community, the centre is constantly used as a place to learn, get active, meet each-other, study and have fun. The development of a new community centre in Canada Bay Place should demonstrate similar multi-functionality, ensuring high utilisation of the facility.



### Harold Park Community Hall

The Harold Park Community Hall is located on level 1 within the Tramsheds complex in Forest Lodge. The former tram depot has been transformed to an accessible and sustainable community venue. The site preserves its heritage significance while providing modern facilities for contemporary events.

The Hall was delivered through a VPA as part of the Harold Park redevelopment.

The venue is available for hire 7 days a week from 7am to 10pm. The venue is used by a variety of groups including Jujitsu classes, children's birthday parties, dance groups, and community meetings.



Harold Park Community Hall

### Kensington Park Community Centre

After the closure of the Kensington Bowling Club Randwick City Council engaged with its community to redevelop the site as the Kensington Park Community Centre, co-located with recreational facilities. Kensington Park Community Centre is located adjacent to the Kensington Park Oval. The venue features two individual halls catering for groups of 100 and 130 people and offers space for dance or yoga classes, forums, meetings, birthday parties and workshops. With modern kitchen facilities and toilets, restricted parking, undercover awning areas and tables and chairs, the facility represents a high quality venue suitable for all types of events. Situated adjacent to the centre is a children's playground, half basketball court and outdoor gym exercise equipment.



Kensington Park Community Centre

### 10.3. A "THIRD PLACE" - AWAY FROM HOME AND WORK

The nature and purpose of social infrastructure, and particularly libraries, is changing to become a destinational or a 'third place' (after home or work). This is important in high density apartments, where people are living in apartment and need space away from the home to connect with their community, learn, study, or co-work. Community spaces are places for training, cultural activities and collaborative learning, incubation of new ideas, social enterprise, and exhibition space, as well as some specialised spaces for specific target groups, such as young people, children and seniors. Lounges and cafes are also becoming an integral part of community spaces. Design considerations include:

- Maker-spaces where people can work on projects, network and create, such as art or music studios
- Specialised spaces for specific target groups such as young people, children and seniors
- Lounges and cafes
- Meeting and training rooms for collaborative learning, and
- Exhibition space for community art.

Libraries are also an important part of the civic fabric of centres and suburbs. New library facilities should be located to promote visibility and accessibility and to support visibility within the site. Accessibility and visibility through main street locations with a ground floor presence can be important to maximising utilisation and enhancing accessibility.

#### LIBRARIES AS A THIRD SPACE: WHITLAM LIBRARY, CABRAMATTA

Whitlam library is an example of how the boundaries of the traditional library can be pushed to deliver services that actively respond to community needs. Within the footprint of a 3,000m<sup>2</sup> library, recent renovations and creative re-use of spaces has seen the inclusion of 'the workery,' 'Studio 2166' and a VR technology space. These editions provide space for the community to make best use of the library's resources to develop business ideas, get creative in the studio to produce music and video, as well as learn and trial the very latest in technology. Access to these resources is important, particularly in areas of socio-economic disadvantage where residents may not be able to access their own VR technology, recording equipment or be able to rent office space. In addition the library has also extended its opening hours to midnight, enabling students who may not have a dedicated quiet study space in their own home to be able to stay at the library into the evening.

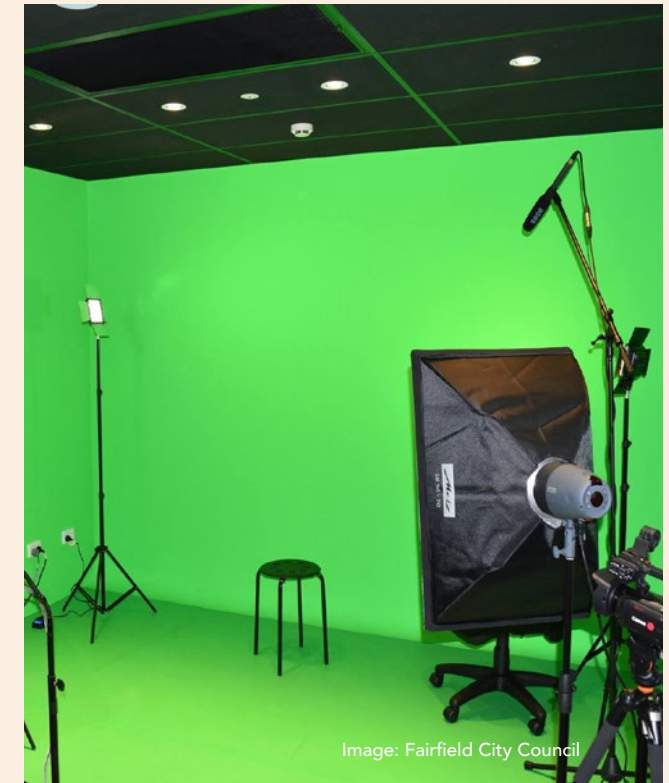


Image: Fairfield City Council



## 10.4. TEMPORARY, POP-UP AND ADAPTIVE REUSE

In areas experiencing change, including redevelopment sites and commercial areas (such as Rhodes East), there are opportunities for pop up social infrastructure (including cultural spaces, event space, and community office space) to be located as a temporary use of under utilised commercial spaces, or spaces planned for renewal and redevelopment.

Community kiosks that are adaptable and movable are also an emerging trend that can be utilised particularly in growth areas, while permanent infrastructure is being delivered.

### GREEN SQUARE COMMUNITY KIOSK

The Green Square Community Kiosk is located in Joynton Avenue in Green Square. The Kiosk is located in the park and provides a small multipurpose community space including a kitchen, storage space and awning to support community and Council community development programs. The facility engages with outdoor seating and tables and is used for community meetings, the Infohub, English language classes and other community activities. The facility is compact and low cost.



Green Square Community Kiosk

### THE FRONTYARD, INNER WEST COUNCIL

Frontyards is a former early childhood health centre that was unutilised in Marrickville and owned by Inner West Council. Council leases the space for a subsidised rent as a "Not-Only-Artist Run Initiative". A pro-active, flexible space for practical skills-sharing, community cultural engagement and critical research. The aim is to challenge, facilitate and nurture collaborations between people with a passion for culture and to build a more resilient and sustainable independent arts community for the future.



The Frontyard, Inner West Council



## 10.5. CREATING TEMPORARY SPACES FOR CO-WORKING AND INCUBATOR SPACE

- The vacancy rates of commercial/office space and the limited market demand in Rhodes (as indicated by the employment strategy) provides the opportunity for the temporary use of these spaces for community and/or cultural uses
- The typically large commercial floorplate sizes would be ideal for a multiple use either by various smaller organisations or one or two larger organisations
- Opportunity for activation of commercial spaces that are sitting vacant while increasing the available spaces for community and cultural uses. It also diversifies the uses within the area creating more experiences for the local community to connect and interact.

### TWT CREATIVE PRECINCT, ST LEONARDS

In August 2014, local property developer TWT Developments appointed Brand X to manage the activation and creative programming of a number of empty commercial buildings that make up the newly created TWT Creative Precinct in St Leonards. Together, this partnership has transformed space into artist studios, rehearsal space, gallery and creative retail for a proposed six year period before redevelopment.

In 2015, office space on Chandos St was provided to Brand X for the purposes of creating as an Arts Incubator. This facility brings together visual artists, filmmakers, graphic designers, theatre producers and start-up business under one roof. The opening of the Arts Incubator increased the floor-plate of the TWT Creative Precinct over 3 blocks – making it the largest re-purpose creative precinct in Australia.

In March 2016, Brand X opened its first social enterprise cafe in Chandos St, St Leonards as part of the growing TWT Creative Precinct. X&Co serves the local business and residential community for breakfast and lunch 6-days a week, with proceeds from sales supporting the on-going costs of managing the TWT Creative Precinct.

From 2013 to 2014, Brand X partnered with Fraser Property Australia and Sekisui House Australia to create a 1,000sqm space for community cultural use within the retail space at Central Park, Broadway, Chippendale.

The activation includes galleries, workspace for visual arts, creative retail, events space and rehearsal space for performing artists. During the 15-month tenancy, over 30,000 artist and members of the public used the space.



## 10.6. EASY TO ACCESS

Social infrastructure should be equitably distributed across the Canada Bay LGA so that it can be accessed by a diverse range of residents (including older people, young people and transport disadvantaged). Community spaces should be in central locations, co-located with other compatible land uses such as shops, services or schools, meet universal design standards and be within easy walking distance (eg. 400m) to public transport along safe active transport and/or green links.

A networked approach to the planning and delivery of social infrastructure ensures that duplication of services, programs, spaces and amenities is avoided, while ensuring that needs are met in the spaces and places where it is most convenient for the community.

## 10.7. CO-LOCATED CULTURAL AND CREATIVE SPACES

Culture and creativity brings significant knock-on benefits for urban activation in town centres including economic benefits to local shops and restaurants as cultural activity pulls in audiences, as well as significant social benefits. In addition to building social capital and social cohesion through expression and the sharing of stories. There is a move to increase access to arts and creative spaces at the local and district level. This includes places to perform, exhibit, create and learn new skills. There is a rise in demand and interest for men's sheds, community sheds, and maker spaces. A new approach is to lease facilities to creative groups to manage, for example Brand X who manage the City of Sydney's new City East Creative Arts Centre (which is located as part of a multi-purpose community centre connected to a park in Darlinghurst).

## 10.8. COMMUNAL LIVING

Increasing numbers of Canada Bay residents will be living within high density apartments into the future, there will be an increase in demand for shared community facilities. Communal internal spaces are becoming more common within private developments, providing spaces for neighbourhood gatherings, children's parties among other activities and contribute to the development of community within the building. Best practice is to locate these spaces near high activity areas (such as near communal laundries and mail rooms), and open spaces. The Social Isolation in Residential Flats Study (Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning, The University of Sydney, 2012) identified that communal facilities should be "welcoming, activated and stimulating, as such spaces are more likely to be used." Such places are likely to contain elements, which are perceived by users as:

- Functional and useable
- Of a size that is adequate, and proportional to the number of residents living in the building
- Adaptable, providing spaces in which a range of activities can be taken, public and private – such as indoor fitness classes, music practice, or small family birthday parties
- Accessible and inclusive to all
- Account for amenity and have access to natural light where possible
- Safe (during the day and in the evening), and
- Encourage ownership through quality of design.



The new music practice room at Green Square library is bookable by the local community who cannot practice piano or other instruments in their apartments due to noise impacts. Private developers can also include communal rooms, such as practice rooms, within their residential development to provide additional amenity for residents and take pressure off public community facilities.

## 10.9. YOUTH SPACES AND SERVICES IN LIBRARIES

Libraries are an important, free space for young people to access and simply hang out, study or access resources they may not have at home such as books, computers, Internet or gaming devices. Subsequently, libraries are creating dedicated zones for young people, differentiated by youth friendly features such as lounge furniture (beanbags etc.) gaming console availability, vending machines or other signals that food and drink is ok, as well as tiered seating and performance space.

Key to ensuring that library youth spaces and programs are attractive to young people is by involving them directly. Some libraries establish a special youth advisory committee to ensure that youth spaces are reflective of what young people need and want, details are important, with youth input on furniture, resource and programing vital to the success of the space.



Watford Reading Hackers, Hertfordshire Library UK





## PART D STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN



# 11. Strategy and Action Plan

This section provides a Strategy and Action Plan driven by 5 principles and 3 strategies and a time-frame for delivery to 2036.

The Strategy and Action Plan should be delivered in partnership with a range of Government and community providers, as well as the private sector.

Council has a range of roles to play in realising the Strategy and Action Plan including advocacy, facilitation, planning and direct delivery.

There are a range of pathways for funding and resourcing the recommended actions as shown overpage.

## PRINCIPLES

The following principles should drive the design and delivery of future community facilities, services and programs to 2036:

### 1. Diverse and activated

We will have a diverse range of community facilities that are activated with services, programs and events that respond to the interests and needs of our culturally, socially, age, and gender diverse community.

### 2. Inclusive and equitable

Our social infrastructure will be financially and physically accessible. Its delivery will be prioritised for communities in need, including those who are disadvantaged, and for emerging communities who don't yet have support networks.

### 3. Connected and co-located

Community facilities and services will be connected within a network, located near public transport, visible and easy to find, and co-located with other services and shops.

### 4. Collaborative and shared

We will work in partnership with the private sector, government agencies, and community groups, to share what we have, and delivery new social infrastructure.

### 5. Multipurpose and future-proofed

Our future community facilities will be well-designed and managed to be multipurpose, flexible and future-proofed to adapt to population growth, changing interests, and environmental impacts.

## STRATEGIES

There are three strategies with associated actions:



### Strategy 1

Enhance and share our existing community facilities to improve their capacity to host community and cultural activities for all in our community.



### Strategy 2

Facilitate delivery of new community facilities that are inclusive and adaptable for our current and future community's diverse needs.



### Strategy 3

Support the delivery of programs and services that are responsive to a range of local interests and create more cohesive and resilient communities.

## TIMEFRAME

Actions will be delivered within the following time frame:

Short term: 2019 to 2021

Medium term: 2021 to 2026

Long term: 2026 to 2036

## PATHWAYS TO DELIVERING SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

**This Strategy and Action Plan acknowledges the challenges of delivering new social infrastructure in urban areas with limited space, high land values and limited resources.**

It recommends a range of actions based on local and State strategic directions, research of local demographics (both now and into the future), existing provision (strengths and challenges), and ideas for capital works projects. Using a range of funding pathways available to Council, will support the delivery of positive social, economic and cultural outcomes for the Canada Bay community.

There are a number of ways that community facilities and open space can be delivered to the community, either on their own or in combination.





## **STRATEGY 1 ENHANCE AND SHARE OUR EXISTING COMMUNITY FACILITIES TO IMPROVE THEIR CAPACITY TO HOST COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES FOR ALL IN OUR COMMUNITY.**

### **WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?**

As the Canada Bay LGA community grows and we live in increasingly high density urban environments, there will be more demand for community facilities that enable local residents and workers to engage in social, cultural, health and learning activities. Delivering on this increased demand within the same land area and with limited resources is a challenge for our community.

We have a high number of small facilities in our area, many that are underutilised and have the capacity to increase use and activation, including more equitable approaches to leasing facilities for services and programs that are based on our emerging needs.

Enhancing and sharing what we have is more sustainable - environmentally, financially and socially - and responds to best practice trends, including providing shared community facilities on school sites. Some of the benefits of this approach include a reduction in the land needed for community facilities and, ideally, sharing ongoing maintenance and management costs.

### **WHAT ARE OUR PRIORITY NEEDS?**

Our priorities in terms of sharing and enhancement are:

- Increasing access to existing undersutilised spaces as opportunistic venues to participate in arts and cultural activities as identified as a priority through community engagement. DAS 57 provides a high number of highly utilised arts and cultural programs from within a Council facility. There is a need to improve this facility for continues and enhanced program delivery.
- Maintaining access to affordable community spaces for our disadvantaged residents, and community groups with limited resources, and ongoing program and service delivery to respond to existing needs and emerging community needs.
- Our existing Council owned community facilities are inequitably distributed, we currently have no community centre or library floor space in Concord West, North Strathfield, or Strathfield Triangle. Opportunities to share school or non-Council facilities in these areas will be important particularly when new facilities may not be delivered for up to 10 years. We also have an existing gap in community centre floor space that could be addressed by sharing the facilities that already exist, such as schools, scout halls, and seniors centres.
- Increasing free and accessible spaces for co-working and business incubation in Rhodes and other areas is important given that the Connection is already at capacity. There may be opportunities to utilise existing unleased commercial spaces in a temporary capacity.
- Council leases a number of buildings to community groups, based on historical leases and peppercorn rents. These arrangements are not currently linked to emerging community needs and or equitably allocated. There is a need to develop a policy around our future leasing of community facilities, that is linked to our Community Strategic Plan and emerging needs.

STRATEGY 1: ACTIONS	LOCATION	COUNCIL'S ROLE	PARTNERS	TIMEFRAME
<b>Action 1.1</b> Investigate shared use or temporary uses of underutilised Council owned buildings for temporary or pop up arts and cultural uses	LGA-Wide	Deliver services, infrastructure and grants	Community and cultural groups	2021 - 2026
<b>Action 1.2</b> Address community need for creative spaces by working with DAS57 to improve 57A Wellbank Street for delivery of enhanced creative and cultural programs, for example, opportunities for better use of this facilities outdoor space.	57A Wellbank Street, Concord	Deliver services, infrastructure and grants	DAS57	2021 - 2026
<b>Action 1.3</b> Develop a Subsidised Community Leasing Policy to facilitate equitable arrangements for access to Council owned community facilities that are available to community groups at a subsidised rental. The Policy would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identify existing community facilities that are leased to community groups for a subsidised rental</li> <li>• align future subsidised rentals with community priorities as identified through Council's CSP, and</li> <li>• support the delivery of programs and services responding to emerging needs and interests.</li> </ul>	Across LGA	Listen, plan and regulate	Community groups	2021 - 2026
<b>Action 1.4</b> Work with Department of Education and School Principal to improve governance and implementation of the existing shared use arrangements for use of community hall at Victoria Avenue Public School.	Victoria Avenue Public School, Concord West	Lead and advocate	Victoria Avenue Public School	2019 - 2021
<b>Action 1.5</b> Work with local schools to unlock their potential as publicly accessible community facilities in areas with current gaps and future growth.	North Strathfield, Strathfield Triangle, Five Dock, Concord West, Rhodes	Lead and advocate	NSW Department of Education, Independent Schools, Catholic Schools	
<b>Action 1.6</b> Implement actions to create accessible community facilities for people with disability as identified through the DIAP.	LGA-Wide	Deliver service, infrastructure and grants	-	2019 and ongoing
<b>Action 1.7</b> Advocate for increased capacity at local primary and high schools to address forecast population growth.	Primary: Russell Lea Public School & Victoria Avenue Public School  High: Concord High School	Lead and advocate	NSW Department of Education	2021 - 2026





## STRATEGY 2 FACILITATE DELIVERY OF NEW COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL FACILITIES THAT RESPOND TO A DIVERSITY OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL NEEDS FOR OUR CURRENT AND FUTURE COMMUNITY

### WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

As our area changes, access to a range of high quality, multipurpose community facilities will be vital to ensuring the health and wellbeing of our residents. Libraries, community centres, leisure centres and other community facilities have significant social benefits and are places where people can meet (formally and informally), participate in community programs, learn, attend community events, and create social capital. This is particularly important for people living in high density who will need to access “third spaces” outside of their apartments.

Ensuring new community facilities are multipurpose, flexible and sustainable, and respond to the diverse needs of our community is a priority, including to ensure parity of participation for people of all ages, abilities genders, cultural backgrounds and income levels.

We have a significant current and forecast undersupply of community centre floor space, but an oversupply of small ageing community centre buildings. Best practice and community engagement tells us there a strong desire for more multipurpose and staffed facilities across our area, co-located with other services in our town centres. Council should consider recycling its smaller facilities as new multipurpose ones are delivered over the next 20 years.

### WHAT ARE OUR PRIORITY NEEDS?

- To deliver new multipurpose community centre space to address population growth. By 2036, the following planning catchments will have the highest priority need for community centre floor space:
  - Rhodes: demand of 206m<sup>2</sup> in 2019 increasing to 909m<sup>2</sup> in 2036
  - Five Dock-Canada Bay: demand of 578m<sup>2</sup> in 2019 increasing to 1,256m<sup>2</sup> in 2036
  - North Strathfield, Strathfield: demand of 518m<sup>2</sup> in 2019 increasing to 1,101m<sup>2</sup> by 2036
  - Concord-West-Liberty Grove: demand for 590m<sup>2</sup> in 2019 increasing to 767m<sup>2</sup>
- Provide larger multipurpose community centres in the future as opposed to smaller (under 200m<sup>2</sup>) venues. Benchmarks indicate there is a current gap of 1 district level multipurpose community centre to service the Concord, North Strathfield, Concord West and Five Dock planning catchments. Over time, recycle our large number of smaller, underutilised and ageing facilities by delivering a network or larger multipurpose community facilities connected to our town centres.
- Address the forecast undersupply of library space for delivery of quality best practice library services. The forecast undersupply for the Five Dock library catchment is 387m<sup>2</sup> by 2026 and increasing to 684m<sup>2</sup> by 2036. This could be delivered through a new library link or space in Drummoyne where there is currently a gap, and would service resident who are old and transport disadvantaged.
- Increase library floor space and services in Rhodes which are already at capacity including an additional 541m<sup>2</sup> by 2026 increasing to 736m<sup>2</sup> by 2036. The Connection reports very high use of The Learning Space for free co-working hub and/or working spaces.
- Work with developers in the delivery of new public and communal community facilities through VPAs, developer contributions and provision of communal rooms within residential development (located on rooftops and/or at podium level) to take pressure off Council owned community facilities.
- Address demand for larger spaces for hire to respond to the under supply of large halls/ event space for groups of 200+ and for large cultural events, as identified through stakeholder engagement and the high utilisation of Council's large venues for hire.

STRATEGY 2: ACTIONS	LOCATION	COUNCIL'S ROLE	PARTNERS	TIMEFRAME
<b>Action 2.1</b> Deliver a new 400m2 multipurpose community centre as part of a mixed use development to support high density communities and population growth.	Concord West Town Centre or North Strathfield Town Centre in proximity to North Strathfield Metro Station	Lead, Plan and Regulate	Developers	2021-2026
<b>Action 2.2</b> Investigate opportunities for use of the circulation space below the future Rhodes Recreation Centre within Rhodes Planned Precinct for low-cost co-working spaces and or/creative studios.	Rhodes Planned Precinct	Lead, Plan and Regulate	Developers	2021-2026
<b>Action 2.3</b> Deliver a feasibility study to assess options to address the need for a new 1,000m2 multipurpose community hub, to service the existing and future needs for the Drummoyne/Russell Lea/Rodd Point catchment, including a high proportion of older residents, children and families. This facility would include office space for Drummoyne Community Centre, community meeting rooms, kitchen, 200 capacity hall to replace existing Drummoyne Community Centre Building, and a Library Link (see Action 2.4).	Drummoyne Town Centre either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drummoyne Community Centre</li> <li>• Drummoyne Civic Centre site.</li> </ul>	Deliver infrastructure, partnerships and capacity	Drummoyne Community Centre	2021-2026
<b>Action 2.4</b> Address the need to deliver an additional 684m2 of library floor space by 2036 to service the Canada Bay/Abbotsford/Wareemba/Rodd Point/ Drummoyne/Russell Lea library planning catchment through new space for library programs or a library link in future new community facilities in Drummoyne or Five Dock.	Rhodes Planned Precinct	Deliver infrastructure, services and grants	-	2026 to 2036
<b>Action 2.5</b> Address the existing lack of a staffed district level multipurpose community centre to service the Five Dock-Canada Bay and Concord catchments, through the delivery of a 1,200m2 community centre. This facility could include a 200+person hall, community office space, and arts and cultural facility space to support a range of age groups, and additional library program space (see Action 2.4)	Through redevelopment of Concord Community Centre (if there is a metro station located within walking distance) or within a new facility in proximity to the future Five Dock metro station.  Explore opportunities to deliver the community centre as part of a redevelopment.	Deliver infrastructure, services and grants	Developers	2026 - 2036

STRATEGY 2: ACTIONS	LOCATION	COUNCIL'S ROLE	PARTNERS	TIMEFRAME
<b>Action 2.6</b> Deliver a new 900m2 multipurpose community centre in Rhodes Planned Precinct to provide a place for residents living in high density and from culturally diverse backgrounds to connect, learn, and socialise. This facility could include space to address the forecast undersupply of library floor space to service the Rhodes community.	Rhodes Planned Precinct	Lead, Plan and Regulate	Developers	2021 - 2026
<b>Action 2.7</b> Review the delivery of library services in the Rhodes (East and West) areas to address an undersupply of 541m2 of library floor space by 2026 and 736m2 by 2036 and consolidate future services within one facility.	Rhodes	Deliver infrastructure, services and grants	Developers	2021 - 2026
<b>Action 2.8</b> Continue to work with the NSW Government for delivery of a new 800 student school in Rhodes East with co-located Out of School Hours Care facility located onsite.	Rhodes Planned Precinct	Lead and advocate	NSW Department of Education	2019 - 2021
<b>Action 2.9</b> Require developers to undertake a community benefits analysis study to inform their planning proposals and identify how they will contribute to social infrastructure needs for the existing and incoming community through contributions to communal or public social infrastructure on their sites, or through contributions off-site.	High density growth areas including Rhodes, North Strathfield, Strathfield Triangle,	Listen, plan and regulate	Developers	2019 and ongoing
<b>Action 2.10</b> Investigate opportunities to incorporate Aboriginal cultural heritage/interpretation of significance in our social infrastructure.	LGA-Wide	Deliver infrastructure, services and grants	Developers	2021 - 2026



## STRATEGY 3 SUPPORT THE DELIVERY OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT ARE RESPONSIVE TO A RANGE OF LOCAL INTERESTS AND CREATE MORE COHESIVE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITIES.

### WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Our community is increasingly socially and culturally diverse. Providing programs and services that respond to a range of local interests can promote community resilience, cohesion and productivity and support the most vulnerable people within our area.

40% of our community were born overseas, including older migrant populations from Italy, newer migrant populations from China and Korea and newly arrived to Australia. Our culturally and linguistically diverse residents may require access to services that are culturally appropriate and provide opportunities for (inter)cultural connections, intergenerational learning and to learn English skills.

Our community is ageing, with a need to provide programs and services that support the wellbeing of older people, including through providing social connections to address isolation. We also have an increasing population of children and young people with a need for services to meet their needs, particularly in high density and disadvantaged areas.

While our community is overall relatively advantaged, there are still pockets of disadvantage across our area requiring access to low-cost or free programs and services.

### WHAT ARE OUR PRIORITY NEEDS?

- There are 7 arts and cultural spaces within Council and non-Council buildings who have expressed a desire to collaborate, which can address the emerging need for access to arts and cultural program
- We have emerging Korean and Chinese communities in North Strathfield, Strathfield Triangle and Rhodes and Liberty Grove who need access to programs and services to build local relationships, feel part of their community, learn English and access services. This includes Korean and Chinese Seniors to that list as they are also feeling isolated. Many older people in these areas care for their grandchildren while their children are at work and need groups to meet to reduce social isolation.
- We have traditional older Italian communities in Abbotsford-Wareemba, Chiswick, Concord, Concord West, Five Dock-Canada Bay and Russell Lea-Rodd Point.
- Our community has indicated a need for more access to technology and programs that improve their technological skills. There are opportunities to address this through our existing and future library services and within staffed multipurpose community centres, through the provision of technology services and programs.
- There is a need for programs and services for young people in areas with high and growing youth populations including Rhodes, Five Dock-Canada Bay, North Strathfield and Concord. This will also mean working with Department of Education to ensure there is access to high school places in these areas.
- There is a need for programs and services for children of primary school age particular in areas with high forecast growth in the
- Benchmarking and engagement with local early education and care providers (children aged 0 to 5 years) and Out of School Hours Care services (children aged 5 to 11 years) tells us that there is no current gap in provision of early education and care services. Childcare (0 to 5 years) providers report (2019) occupancy across the area from 35-40% at the service with the most vacancies to 100% (most preschools). However, we need to ensure that there are sufficient OSHC services to support the growing Five Dock area and that a future new service is provided as part of the new school in Rhodes. Council services, given their lower fees and high quality have much higher wait lists to other services.
- Ageing in place is important for older people and our ageing population will need places to live that are connected to their local neighbourhood. Benchmarks tell us that we will need an additional 500 residential aged care beds across the GLA by 2036. Highest priority areas including Cabarita, and Mortlake- Breakfast Point, Concord West, and Five Dock-Canada Bay.



STRATEGY 3: ACTIONS	LOCATION	COUNCIL'S ROLE	PARTNERS	TIMEFRAME
<b>Action 3.1</b> Support community-led programs and groups through the continued provision of free spaces for community members to gather and meet in Five Dock and Concord Libraries, the Learning Space, and Rhodes East Community Centre. Continue to provide non-transactional spaces within future facilities for the community to activate.	All Council community facilities	Build connections, partnerships and capacity	Community	2019 and ongoing
<b>Action 3.2</b> Facilitate the delivery of programs for emerging cultural groups within increasingly high density suburbs, that respond to the interests of our multicultural community and support community cohesion and inclusion.	Rhodes, North Strathfield	Build connections, partnerships and capacity	Community and cultural groups	2019 - 2021
<b>Action 3.3</b> In addition to youth programs run out of Five Dock and Concord Libraries, facilitate delivery of new youth programs and activities in areas with increasing youth populations.	Rhodes, North Strathfield	Deliver infrastructure, services and grants	Community and cultural groups	2021 - 2026
<b>Action 3.4</b> Establish and lead a Canada Bay Cultural Network to provide opportunities for local arts and cultural groups within Council venues to connect and collaborate to deliver increased cultural programs across the LGA.	LGA-Wide	Build connections, partnerships and capacity	Arts and cultural groups	2019 - 2021
<b>Action 3.5</b> Prepare a Social Sustainability Strategy to inform future services and programs for delivery within our community facilities, public spaces and parks that aligns with our community's changing needs and interests.	LGA-Wide	Listen, plan and regulate	Community and cultural groups	2021 - 2026
<b>Action 3.6</b> Facilitate delivery of programs for culturally diverse seniors, including emerging communities of Chinese and Korean seniors in North Strathfield, Rhodes, and Liberty Grove; and Italian seniors in Abbotsford-Wareemba, Chiswick, Concord, Concord West, Five Dock-Canada Bay and Russell Lea-Rodd Point.	LGA-Wide	Delivery infrastructure, services and grants  Build connections, partnerships and capacity	Community and cultural groups	2021 - 2026
<b>Action 3.7</b> Support community-led programs and groups through the continued provision of free spaces for community members to gather and meet in Five Dock and Concord Libraries, the Learning Space, and Rhodes East Community Centre and provide non-transactional and lounge spaces within future facilities for the community to activate.	All Council community facilities	Build connections, partnerships and capacity	Community	2019 and ongoing

STRATEGY 3: ACTIONS	LOCATION	COUNCIL'S ROLE	PARTNERS	TIMEFRAME
<b>Action 3.8</b> Support our ageing population by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitating programs and partnerships to increase social activities outside of the home for frail aged residents, and that support older people to age in place.</li> <li>Facilitating programs and partnerships that support active ageing through access to health, fitness, cultural programs and community development activities.</li> </ul>	LGA wide	Build connections, partnerships and capacity	Community and cultural groups	2019 - 2021
<b>Action 3.9</b> To support health and wellbeing for our children, facilitate delivery of programs for children and families in communities with disadvantaged children or in high density areas.	Rhodes, North Strathfield, Five Dock, Concord	Deliver infrastructure, services and grants	Community and cultural groups	2021 - 2026
<b>Action 3.10:</b> Plan for increased supply of seniors housing to support older people to age in place within the neighbourhoods where they are connected.	Cabarita, and Mortlake-Breakfast Point, Concord West, and Five Dock-Canada Bay.	Lead, Plan and Regulate	Developers	2026 - 2036



# APPENDICES



# Appendix 1 - Catchment profiles

## ABBOTSFORD-WAREEMBA-CHISWICK

Chiswick, Abbotsford and Wareemba are riverfront suburbs, home to 10,400 residents in 2019.

The catchment area is a high-income area, with a median household income of \$2,278 in Chiswick and \$2,038 in Abbotsford-Wareemba. This is higher than the median income across the LGA (\$2,058) and significantly higher when compared to Greater Sydney (\$1,745).

The age profile characteristics differ significantly across suburbs within the catchment. Chiswick is primarily a suburb of young professionals, with almost half (47.5%) of Chiswick residents aged 25 to 49 years old and lone person households (28.5%) making up the largest proportion of households, closely followed by couples without children (28.1%). Abbotsford-Wareemba, on the other hand, has a high proportion of residents post retirement age, being 60+ years (27%) compared to the LGA (19.5%), and a lower proportion of 18 to 24 year olds (6% vs 9.2%) and 25 to 34 year olds (11.7% vs 19%).

The catchment is serviced by two Sydney Ferries stop at Chiswick and Abbotsford wharves. However, access to quality, frequent public transport services is lacking, reflecting the modest number of households without a car (6.8% in Chiswick and 7.9% in Abbotsford – Wareemba compared to 9.8% across the LGA). However, the 'Bayrider' community bus shuttle does service this area. Overall, the area lacks effective public transport connections to other centres and services, especially outside peak hour.

The Chiswick suburb is home to Chiswick Community Centre, a council run multi-function space with a high occupancy rate (81.92%). However, there are no Council-

owned community facilities located within Abbotsford – Wareemba suburb, while non-council facilities including Abbotsford Sea Scouts Building, St Andrews Anglican Church and Woodworkers Association of NSW may provide alternate local hubs for meeting spaces and services.

### Population snapshot

Population growth	2016	2026	2036
	10,376	11,330	11,571
Median Age	37 years old (Chiswick), 44 years old (Abbotsford-Wareemba)		
Household	- Couples with children 27.1% - Couples without children 27.8% - Lone person 26%		
Types of dwellings	- Separate house 28.1% - Medium density 27.6% - High density 43.2%		
Language other than English at home (28.9% total residents)	Chiswick  - Italian 7.6% - Mandarin 5.5% - Cantonese 2.7%	Abbotsford-Wareemba  - Italian 10.9% - Mandarin 2.5% - Greek 2.0%	
Median weekly household income	\$2,278 (Chiswick), \$2,038 (Abbotsford-Wareemba)		
Low income households	13.6%		
SEIFA Index of disadvantage	1092 (Chiswick), 1059 (Abbotsford-Wareemba)		



## BREAKFAST POINT-MORTLAKE-CABARITA

Cabarita, Mortlake and Breakfast Point are riverfront suburbs, with extensive frontage to the Parramatta River. In 2019, the Cabarita & Mortlake-Breakfast Point Catchment Area population was 8,944. The area is home to 8,944 in 2019.

With a median age of 40 years in Mortlake-Breakfast Point and 48 years in Cabarita, residents of this catchment are older compared to the LGA-wide median age of 36 years. The area has a significantly higher median weekly household income (\$2,660 in Cabarita and \$2,166 in Mortlake-Breakfast Point) compared to Greater Sydney (\$1,745) and the LGA (\$2,058).

While overall the catchment has a much higher proportion of high-density dwellings (70.5% compared to 41.2% across the LGA and 23.5% in Greater Sydney) this is primarily concentrated in Mortlake-Breakfast Point (80.4%), with Cabarita having only 39.1% high-density dwellings. The catchment has a much higher proportion of households without children (35.7%) compared to the LGA (26.2%), however Cabarita has a much higher proportion (36.7%) compared to Mortlake-Breakfast Point (24.1%).

Overall, the catchment lacks high frequency public transport connections to regional centres and services, especially outside peak hour, although the location of a Sydney Ferries stop at Mortlake offers direct access to Sydney CBD. The lack of accessibility to effective public transport along with the high median weekly income of households, may be a contributing factor to the catchment having a low proportion of households without a car (1.1% in Cabarita and 3.8% in Mortlake – Breakfast Point) when compared to the LGA (42%).

There are three key parks along the river foreshore – Cabarita Park, Prince Edward Park and Wangal Park.

Cabarita Park is a large waterfront park with children's play facilities and is the backdrop to Cabarita Park Beach. Prince Edward Park is a small local park with play equipment and BBQs and is a popular wedding location in the area. Wangal Reserve is a peninsula bushland feature, located north of the Mortlake Ferry wharf. The Breakfast Point Community Hall and Village Green are a dominant feature of the southern end of the Wangal Reserve area.

### Population snapshot 2016 to 2036

Population growth	2016	2026	2036
	7,700	8,023	8,291
Median Age	48 years old (Cabarita), 40 years old (Mortlake-Breakfast Point)		
Household	- Couples with children 27.1% - Couples without children 35.7% - Lone person 20.6%		
Types of dwellings	- Separate house 14.1% - Medium density 14.9% - High density 70.5%		
Language other than English at home (35.4% of total residents)	<b>Cabarita</b>  - Italian 6.3% - Cantonese 4.9% - Mandarin 4.8%	<b>Mortlake-Breakfast Point</b>  - Mandarin 10.7% - Cantonese 4.5% - Korean 3.6%	
Median weekly household income	\$2,660 (Cabarita), \$2,166 (Mortlake-Breakfast Point)		
Low income households	9%		
SEIFA Index of disadvantage	1116 (Cabarita), 1100 (Mortlake-Breakfast Point)		

## CONCORD

The Concord catchment area was home to 15,223 people in 2019.

Concord residents have a median household income of \$2,093 which is similar to the median for the LGA (\$2,058) but higher than Greater Sydney (\$1,745). The catchment has a lower proportion of residents speaking a language other than English at home (30.6%) compared to Greater Sydney (35.8%), with the most common languages being Italian (11.1%, down from 12.3% in 2011), Chinese Languages (Mandarin: 5.8% and Cantonese 3.4%), and Greek (3.4%, down from 4.1% in 2011).

The majority of Concord is zoned low density residential however a significant portion of land at the southern boundary of Concord has been zoned high density residential as part of the Parramatta Road Urban Transformation Precinct. Significant change to urban form is likely in this area however the character of the suburb is likely to remain low density suburban.

Concord has a moderate rate for households without a car (8.2%). The suburb lacks high frequency public transport connections to Sydney CBD and other regional centres, however stations connected to the Sydney Trains Northern Line are located in the adjacent suburbs of North Strathfield and Concord West. Public transport connectivity would dramatically improve with the anticipated delivery of the Metro West project through the suburb.

Concord has a large amount of open space within the catchment containing large parks including St Lukes Park, Ron Routley Oval and Concord Oval.

Concord is the service hub for the LGA with a large

municipal library and function centre with numerous council and non-council community facilities including Concord Uniting Church, Concord Scout Hall. The Meeting Room within the Concord Community Centre has an occupancy rate of 93.42% and the auditorium in the Concord Senior Citizen's Centre was used 360 days in 2017/18 with an occupancy rate of 98.63% which suggests facilities in Concord are used by residents and groups across the LGA.

### Population snapshot

Population growth	2016	2026	2036
	13,718	15,222	19,462
Median Age	41 years old		
Household	- Couples with children 43.2% - Couples without children 23% - Lone person 16.5%		
Types of dwellings	- Separate house 68.9% - Medium density 18.1% - High density 10.1%		
Language other than English at home (30.62% total residents)	- Italian 11.1% - Mandarin 5.8% - Cantonese 3.4%		
Median weekly household income	\$2,093		
Low income households (earning less than \$650 a week)	12.3%		
SEIFA Index of disadvantage	1064		

## CONCORD WEST AND LIBERTY GROVE

In 2019, the Concord West and Liberty Grove Catchment Area was home to 8,699 residents. The catchment is a high-income area, with a median average weekly household income of \$2,110 in Concord West and \$2,230 in Liberty Grove, compared to \$2,058 across the LGA. The age profile differs across the catchment, with a median average age of 41 years in Concord West and 33 years in Liberty Grove (compared to 36 across the LGA).

While the Liberty Grove suburb is predominantly zoned medium and high density residential, the majority of the Concord West suburb is zoned low density residential however a significant portion of land around Concord West Station is zoned high density residential.

The majority of residents in the catchment are located within walking distance of Concord West Station which is located on the Northern Line with fast connections to Sydney CBD and other regional centres. The potential connection of Concord West Station to the Sydney Metro West project would dramatically increase transport connectivity in the catchment and would lead to increased high-density development.

Concord West suburb has a number of community facilities including Concord RSL and Community Club, Lapidary Club and Concord Uniting Church, however there are no facilities located in Liberty Grove suburb.

### Population snapshot

Population growth	2016	2026	2036
	7,379	8,436	9,548
Median Age	41 years old (Concord West), 33 years old (Liberty Grove)		
Household	- Couples with children 45.8% - Couples without children 20.4% - Lone person 15.5%		
Types of dwellings	- Separate house 59.9% - Medium density 18.2% - High density 21.4%		
Language other than English at home (41.6% total residents)	Concord	Liberty Grove	
	- Italian 7.8% - Mandarin 4.8% - Cantonese 3.8%	- Korean 13.1% - Mandarin 10.39% - Cantonese 8.3%	
Median weekly household income	\$2,110 (Concord West), \$2,230 (Liberty Grove)		
Low income households	11.7%		
SEIFA Index of disadvantage	1061 (Concord West), 1085 (Liberty Grove)		

## DRUMMOYNE, RUSSELL LEA, AND RODD POINT

The Drummoyne, Russell Lea and Rodd Point catchment area was home to 20,028 residents in 2019. While the majority of Drummoyne is zoned medium-density residential, Russell Lea – Rodd Point is predominantly low density residential.

The catchment is home to a high-income population, with a median weekly household income of \$2,358 in Drummoyne and \$2,161 in Russell Lea – Rodd Point, compared to \$2,038 across the LGA. The population is on average older, with a median age of 40 years in Drummoyne and 41 years in Russell Lea - Rodd Point.

There are a number of community facilities located in Drummoyne (including the City of Canada Bay Civic Hall, Girl Guides Hall and Drummoyne Community Centre), however there are no council facilities in Russell Lea and Rodd Point.

The catchment is well serviced in terms of public transport, with a Sydney Ferries stop located at Drummoyne Wharf and Victoria Rd providing frequent bus connections to Sydney CBD and other regional centres.

### Population snapshot

Population growth	2016	2026	2036
	19,563	20,441	21,184
Median Age	40 years old (Drummoyne), 41 years old (Russell Lea-Rodd Point)		
Household	- Couples with children 33% - Couples without children 27% - Lone person 28%		
Types of dwellings	- Separate house 40% (72% Russell Lea & 29% Drummoyne) - Medium density 26% - High density 21% (Drummoyne 36% & Russell Lea 7.6%)		
Language other than English at home (41.6% total residents)	Drummoyne	Russell Lea - Rodd Point	
	- Italian 3.8% - Greek 3.0% - Mandarin 1.9%	- Italian 11.7% - Greek 3.8% - Cantonese 2.2%	
Median weekly household income	\$2,358 (Drummoyne), \$2,161 (Russell Lea-Rodd Point)		
Low income households	10.8%		
SEIFA Index of disadvantage	1096 (Drummoyne), 1078 (Russell Lea-Rodd Point)		



## FIVE DOCK-CANADA BAY

In 2019, the Five Dock-Canada Bay Catchment Area had a population of 11,605. In 2016, 13.4 % of Five Dock-Canada Bay residents spoke Italian at home (down from 15.6% in 2011).

The southern boundary of the catchment is zoned high density residential as part of the Parramatta Road Urban Transformation Precinct. Significant change to urban form including the development of high density residential is likely in this area.

Transport for NSW is investigating two areas within Five Dock-Canada Bay as potential sites for a Sydney West Metro station, Kings Bay and Five Dock. A key factor governing the locations will be the potential for urban renewal and the delivery of housing and employment close to the station. If either of these stations are realised, significant urban change, including high density residential development would be anticipated.

There are a number of regionally significant community resources located in Five Dock including Five Dock Library, Canada Bay Club and Drummoyne Senior Citizens Centre. The catchment accommodates three primary schools and 13 childcare centres. The Draft Parramatta Road Urban Transformation Strategy designates new social infrastructure for Kings Bay as part of the project which would be located in close proximity to Five Dock residents. This includes 1 new long day care centre, 1 community centre, and the provision of new primary and secondary school facilities. These facilities could be used by residents in Five Dock.

### Population snapshot

Population growth	2016	2026	2036
	10,978	14,324	19,449
Median Age	40 years old		
Household	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Couples with children 35.6%</li> <li>- Couples without children 22.1%</li> <li>- Lone person 22.4%</li> </ul>		
Types of dwellings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Separate house 48.1%</li> <li>- Medium density 31%</li> <li>- High density 19.5%</li> </ul>		
Language other than English at home (41.6% total residents)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Italian 13.4%</li> <li>- Mandarin 3.4%</li> <li>- Cantonese 2.4%</li> </ul>		
Median weekly household income	\$2,096		
Low income households	15.4%		
SEIFA Index of disadvantage	1051		

## NORTH STRATHFIELD & STRATHFIELD TRIANGLE

The North Strathfield & Strathfield Triangle Catchment Area was home to 7,991 residents in 2019. While Strathfield Triangle suburb is a medium to high-density residential precinct located near Strathfield Train Station, the North Strathfield suburb is a medium-density mixed used residential and commercial precinct based around North Strathfield Train Station.

Residents of the catchment are young, highly diverse and highly educated. A high proportion of residents speak a language other than English at home (62.9% compared to 35.9% in Greater Sydney). The catchment has a low median weekly household income (\$1,988 in North Strathfield and \$1,605 in Strathfield Triangle) compared to the LGA at \$2,058. The majority of residents are located within walking distance of a train station, with fast connections to Sydney CBD and other regional centres. The potential connection of North Strathfield Station to the Sydney Metro West project would dramatically increase transport connectivity in the suburb and would lead to increased high-density development in the suburb.

The Draft Parramatta Road Urban Transformation Strategy designates new social infrastructure for Homebush as part of the project which would be located in close proximity to catchment residents. This includes 5 new long day care centres, 3 community meeting spaces of a min 300m<sup>2</sup>, provision of primary and secondary school facilities and a Community Health Centre. These facilities could be used by residents in the Catchment.

### Population snapshot

Population growth	2016	2026	2036
	6,471	7,988	9,768
Median Age	31 years old (North Strathfield), 28 years old (Strathfield Triangle)		
Household	- Couples with children 43.1% - Couples without children 21.3% - Lone person 16.5%		
Types of dwellings	- Separate house 24.9% - Medium density 13.9% - High density 59.6%		
Language other than English at home (62.9% total residents)	North Strathfield  - Mandarin 11.9% - Korean 9.2% - Cantonese 5.6%	Strathfield (Triangle)	
Median weekly household income	\$1,988 (North Strathfield), \$1,605 (Strathfield Triangle)		
Low income households	13.5%		
SEIFA Index of disadvantage	1052 (North Strathfield), 983 (Strathfield Triangle)		

## RHODES (EAST AND WEST)

The Rhodes Catchment Area is a high density mixed used residential and commercial precinct based around Rhodes Train Station. In 2019, Rhodes had a population of 12,728. The population is highly diverse and highly tertiary educated. Across the catchment, 78.7% of residents speaking a language other than English at home (compared to 35.8% in Greater Sydney) with 46.4% speaking a Chinese language. On average, residents are young with a median age of 29 years, compared to 36 years across Canada Bay.

A very high proportion of households in Rhodes do not own a car (17.3%) compared to 9.8% across the LGA. The majority of residents are located within walking distance of Rhodes Train Station which is located on the Northern Line with fast connections to Sydney CBD and other regional centres. There are six childcare centres in Rhodes but no schools. A new primary school is proposed for Rhodes however a time frame has not yet been set with the closest facilities being located in Concord West.

Rhodes Community Centre and The Connection are new multi-function spaces in Rhodes. Bennelong Bridge opened in 2016 connecting Rhodes and Wentworth Point enabling pedestrian and public transport access across Homebush Bay. This may see increased use of Rhodes facilities by residents of Wentworth Point.

The NSW Government has earmarked Rhodes East as a Priority Precinct with up to 3,600 new homes to be delivered east of Concord Rd. This would see increased use of community facilities and services in Rhodes in the future.

### Population snapshot

Population growth	2016	2026	2036
	11,830	15,371	20,614
Median Age	29		
Household	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Couples with children 20.6%</li> <li>- Couples without children 33.6%</li> <li>- Lone person 18.7%</li> </ul>		
Types of dwellings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Separate house 3.8%</li> <li>- Medium density 3.6%</li> <li>- High density 92.6%</li> </ul>		
Language other than English at home (76.4% total residents)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mandarin (36.6%)</li> <li>- Korean (11.8%)</li> <li>- Cantonese (8.2%)</li> </ul>		
Median weekly household income	\$1,695		
Low income households	19.1%		
SEIFA Index of disadvantage	1,058		