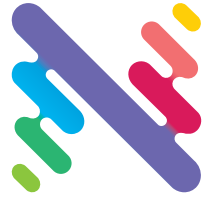


City News



City of
Newcastle



**What's in the
budget for you?**

**Get set for New
Annual's return**



Message from the Lord Mayor

Thanks to everyone who had a say on where we should be focusing our efforts and helping us shape the 2021/22 Budget, which will see investment in projects and initiatives across our city.

We're working to provide tangible benefits for our community, whether it's the first stage of the \$20 million restoration of the Newcastle Ocean Baths, developing an organics facility to recycle residential food waste, or flood mitigation works in Wallsend.

We're continuing to upgrade local centres and suburban main streets, with \$8.1 million marked for the first stage of the revitalisation of the Hunter Street Mall, the next stage of our Wallsend Town Centre upgrade, and the commencement of an upgrade to Orchardtown Road in New Lambton. We'll continue to deliver the construction of the upgrade of Mitchell Street Stockton.

You'll find it safer and easier to navigate your way around Newcastle following \$5 million worth of transport initiatives including local traffic management, pedestrian safety and accessibility projects.

A strong focus on environmental sustainability will see \$10.5 million allocated to a range of projects including coastal protection works at Stockton Beach where we will continue to work with the NSW Government to provide protection against coastal erosion and maintain the sandy beach amenity.

The cornerstone of delivering these projects, activities and services is in collaboration with our community to create a smart, liveable and sustainable global city and ensure Newcastle remains an attractive and inclusive place to live and work, now and into the future.

**Nuatali Nemes,
Lord Mayor of Newcastle**

Front cover: Lord Mayor, staff and Heaton Public School students at a community tree planting day at Jesmond.



Easy and affordable home composting

Have you always wanted to compost your food scraps but didn't know where to start?

Around 30% of the contents in our red-lidded bins is organic and food waste, with each household throwing away an average of 135kg of food waste each year.

To help reduce this waste, you can now get free shipping and 75% off the price of selected composting, worm farming and 'Bokashi' fermenting products.

Visit newcastle.nsw.gov.au/foodwaste for your composting kit. There's a quick online or in-person training program to complete before you purchase to help you learn how to compost successfully.

A four-part podcast and short video series is also available to increase your composting know-how.

We're delivering this initiative as part of our plan to divert organic waste from landfill.



Catch up on what's happening in Your Newcastle

Want to listen to Newcastle personalities share their stories and hear experts discuss major local projects and events?

Your Newcastle is a new podcast dedicated exclusively to what's happening in your community, which is hosted by Lord Mayor Nuatali Nemes with a series of local guests.

A new episode drops every week via your favourite podcast platform. You can also catch up on previous episodes with Merewether surfer Jackson Baker, professional skateboarder Poppy Starr Olsen and ex-MasterChef Australia contestant-turned-Cakeboi extraordinaire, Reece Hignell.

Visit newcastle.nsw.gov.au/yournewcastle for more details.

Everyday benefits from your city's Budget

New community infrastructure

Improved footpaths, new cycleways and stormwater upgrades are on the agenda as part of your city's 2021/22 Budget.

To make Newcastle an attractive and inclusive place to live and work, we're investing \$90.4 million to improve our local infrastructure, which includes upgraded or new community infrastructure and projects such as the Wallsend Town Centre works, which is being coordinated alongside the upgrade of Cowper Street bridge channel as part of our flood mitigation strategy for the suburb.

The Budget is focussed on delivering everyday benefits for the community with more than 300 projects across the local government area, from upgrading and extending cycle and pedestrian networks to refurbishing community centres and halls, while continuing the work to develop an organics facility will lead to food waste being diverted from landfill.



Your City of Newcastle looks after...



871km
of roads



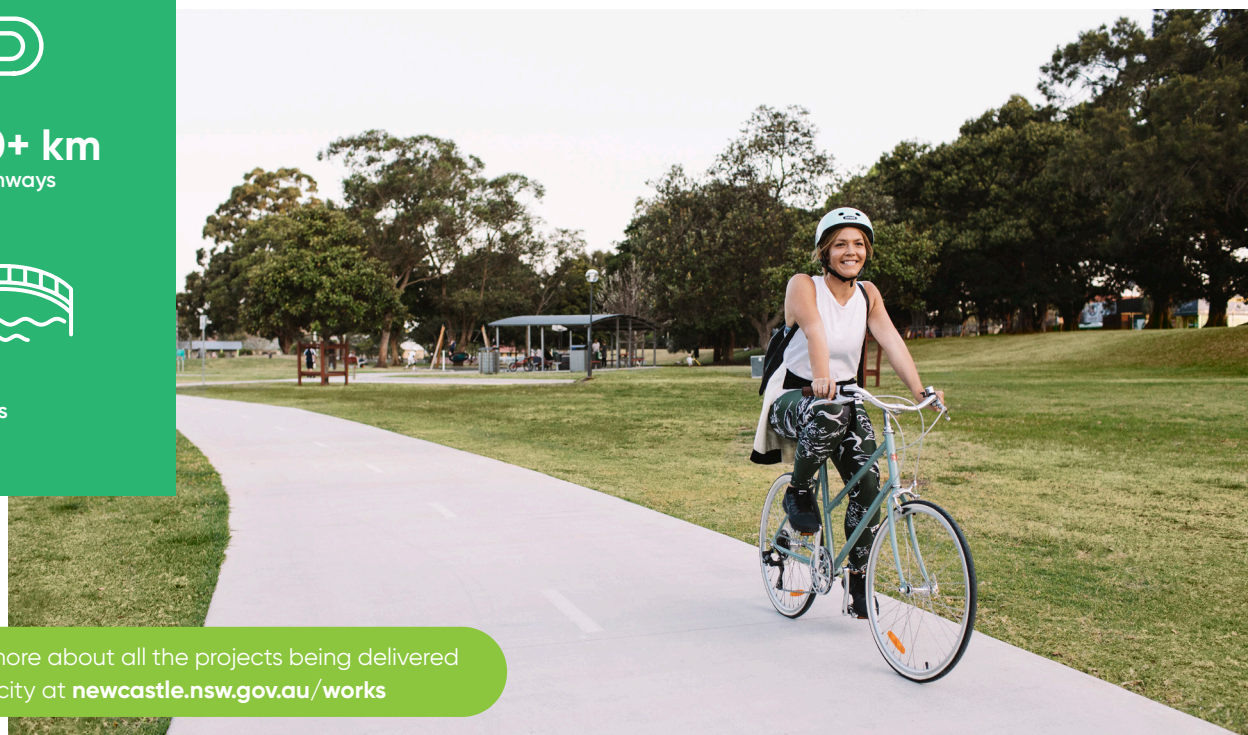
930+ km
of pathways



117
bridges

Making it easier to navigate our city

We're making it easier for you to navigate our city in a car, with a bike or on foot with almost \$10 million in projects underway during the next 12 months. This includes our ongoing city-wide road resurfacing program, as well as the reconstruction of Allowah Street in Waratah West, footpath works in Parkway Avenue at Hamilton South and pedestrian access to a bridge and playground in Mackie Avenue, New Lambton.



Learn more about all the projects being delivered in your city at newcastle.nsw.gov.au/works

Helping

Community plantings to restore Newcastle's green spaces. Each year, with thousands of trees and shrubs, we support native birds and insects. We also plant native plants of maintaining



Works update

Completed

New roundabout, Albert Street and Railway Street, Wickham

New sediment control for environmental improvement, Maryland Creek

Stormwater upgrade and street planting, Power Street, Islington

Wetlands pathway renewal, Warabrook

Underway

No.1 Sportsground upgrade

Bathers Way, South Newcastle upgrade including public space and skatepark

Mitchell Street upgrade, Stockton

City Centre to Merewether cycleway – stage one, Merewether to Junction

Upcoming

Wallsend Active Hub

Shared pathway, Minmi Road, Fletcher

Pedestrian safety improvements, Shortland

Your City of Newcastle looks after...



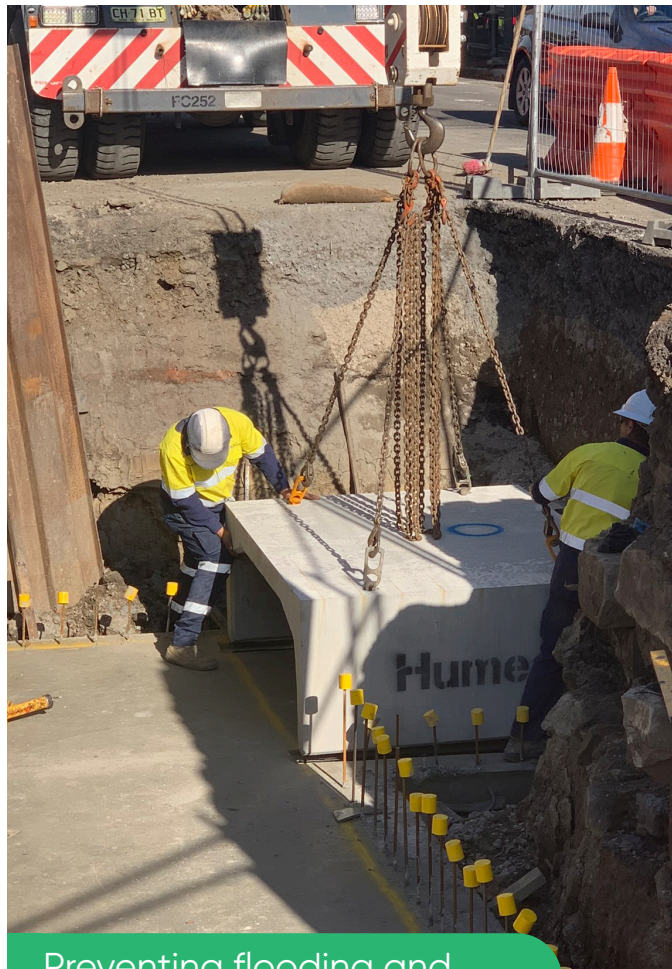
147
Playing fields



54
Sporting amenities



116
Playgrounds



Preventing flooding and improving the environment

We manage hundreds of kilometres of underground pipes and thousands of pits in our city that collect and convey stormwater.

In 2020/21 we are investing more than \$8.5 million on the stormwater system, something that you often can't see – but is vital to maintain safety, access and amenity.

We are also working with experts to improve our understanding of flooding so we can improve safety and better plan for the future.

Sport and recreation goals

Improved floodlighting, better drainage and irrigation, enhanced accessibility and new fencing are some of the projects in the pipeline this year at sports facilities across Newcastle.

People are loving the new basketball courts installed at National Park last year so we're planning to build some more at Waratah Park. Other projects to be delivered include improving the storage facilities for user groups at Alder Park, upgrading the change rooms underneath the grandstand at No.1 Sportsground and delivering better canteen facilities and an accessible toilet at No.2 Sportsground.

In total, we'll invest more than \$9.1 million in new and improved parks, playgrounds, sporting and aquatic facilities, including the commencement of the first stage of the \$20 million Newcastle Ocean Baths upgrade.



Hands for habitats

Planting days are one of the ways we work with locals to care for Newcastle's diverse natural ecosystems, which include 79 creeks, 506 hectares of bushland and 65 wetlands.

With your help, we plant more than 300,000 grasses, shrubs and trees across Newcastle, creating important habitats for native plants and wildlife.

We plant around 1,200 street and park trees every year, as part of a program to plant more than 90,000 trees across the city.

Highlights of your city's 2021/22 Budget

Your city's \$330 million budget for this financial year includes more than 300 projects and \$90.4 million for new or upgraded community infrastructure.



\$13.7m for road, bridge and footpath improvements



\$7.7m to address localised flooding and improved stormwater systems



\$11m for waste management, including \$8m towards an organics facility



\$5m for transport including **\$3.1m** on local traffic management, pedestrian access and mobility



\$10.5m for environmental sustainability projects



\$2m for Bathers Way



\$9.1m for parks, playgrounds, sporting and aquatic facilities



\$2m for preliminary works for Newcastle Art Gallery expansion



\$8.1m for urban centre renewals including East End public domain and Wallsend and Orchardtown Road (New Lambton) local centre upgrades



\$1.1m to plant street and park trees

NEW ANNUAL

RETURNS
24 SEP-3 OCT 2021



National and state award wins

Newcastle Museum's innovative social history exhibition, 1X4, was recently named the overall winner at the 2021 Museums and Galleries National Awards (MAGNA) after first taking out its award category on the night. It is now the first regional, Local Government-run museum to win the national award in its own right.

We also picked up two major accolades at the New South Wales Local Government Awards, with our COVID-19 Community and Economic Resilience Package, and our Community and Civic Hub, which includes the Digital Library, Council Chambers and Customer Service Centre, winning their respective categories.



City of Newcastle's New Annual festival is back! From 24 September to 3 October the city will come alive with a huge program of theatre, dance, music, exhibitions, and everything in between. Building on the success of the inaugural festival, which saw more than 30,000 visitors attend more than 50 events, the festival is set to once again surprise, inspire and delight.

The September program will see the return of a few familiar faces alongside fresh creations and experiences for the whole family to enjoy. To explore the program and plan your visit, check out the New Annual website newannual.com

The Hangar (pictured)

Newcastle's very own pop-up venue is back in Civic Park, featuring a dizzying array of wild and wonderful performances. Keep your eyes peeled for aliens as Fingers Crossed Creative bring their wacky brand of alternative performance to the main stage, this time joined by some special guests.

Passenger

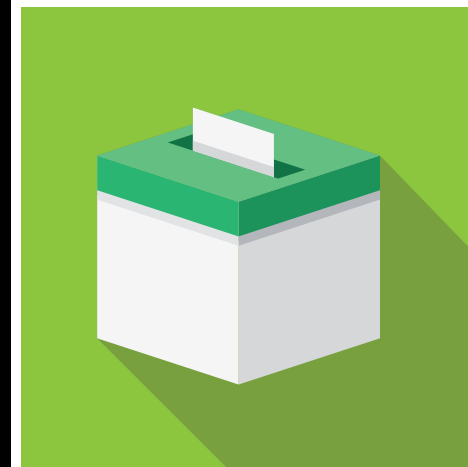
Board a seemingly ordinary bus for this anything but ordinary experience that Arts Hub has called a 'tour de force of immersive theatre'. Taking its cues from classic Hollywood Westerns, the work is uniquely mapped to each city it visits.

Gimbay Gatigaan

Local favourites Curious Legends are back with a special performance in collaboration with the Worimi community. Exploring some of the stories of the land we now call Newcastle, this family-friendly extravaganza at the Carrington Foreshore will feature music, dance, and of course, giant illuminated puppets.

This Land

An explosive night showcasing First Nations music at its best, This Land, presented in partnership with University of Newcastle features multi-award winning headline artist Dan Sultan and some of Australia's hottest up-and-coming and local talent.



Local Government election

The next NSW Local government Election is on Saturday 4 September 2021. Find out more, check your enrolment details and get your election reminder online at elections.nsw.gov.au