

# Cessnock 2020 Community Plan

## Indoor Council Staff Workshop Summary

Cessnock - 22 March 2010

19 participants

CESSNOCK 2020 WORKSHOP SUMMARY	
<p><b>Cessnock in 2020 – the future</b></p> <p><i>Workshop participants were asked to think about the Cessnock local government area in the year 2020. They were asked to presume that Cessnock in 2020 is an ideal community – somewhere that they want to live, with the services they need and the environment they want.</i></p> <p><i>Keeping this in mind, participants were asked to describe what Cessnock would be like in 2020. These points offer a vision of the future as participants saw it.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easy access for people</li> <li>• Improved public transport</li> <li>• Adequate health services / Hospital with maternity ward</li> <li>• Low cost/family friendly activities</li> <li>• Support for elderly</li> <li>• Services grow with community</li> <li>• Access to further education and training</li> <li>• More jobs in the area for young people</li> <li>• Adequate retirement villages</li> <li>• Adequate child care</li> <li>• Better facilities for kids with disabilities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Our Environment</b></p> <p><i>Workshop participants were asked to think about the “ideal” Cessnock they described in the exercise above.</i></p> <p><i>In thinking about Our Environment, participants were asked to <b>identify the challenges</b> to achieving the “ideal” – that is, the things that the Cessnock 2020 Community Plan needs to address.</i></p> <p><i>NB: Points in <b>bold</b> were identified by participants as being the top priorities in each theme</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rehabilitating old mine sites</b></li> <li>• <b>Maintaining village landscape</b></li> <li>• <b>Pollution control – omissions and air quality</b></li> <li>• Development of grazing and agricultural land instead of utilising non-agricultural land</li> </ul>
<p><b>Our Community</b></p> <p><i>Workshop participants were asked to think about the “ideal” Cessnock they described in the exercise above.</i></p> <p><i>In thinking about Our Community, participants were asked to <b>identify the challenges</b> to achieving the “ideal” – that is, the things that the Cessnock 2020 Community Plan needs to address.</i></p> <p><i>NB: Points in <b>bold</b> were identified by participants as being the top priorities in each theme</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Improved traffic flow in CBD at peak times</b></li> <li>• <b>CBD parkland for local workers and tourists passing through</b></li> <li>• <b>Youth facilities including sporting pursuits, art spaces, motorbikes, support services for kids in distress</b></li> <li>• Improved phone coverage</li> <li>• Rehabilitation of ex-mine sites</li> <li>• Walking surfaces – better footpaths</li> </ul>

<p><b>Our Economy</b></p> <p><i>Workshop participants were asked to think about the “ideal” Cessnock they described in the exercise above.</i></p> <p><i>In thinking about Our Economy, participants were asked to <b>identify the challenges</b> to achieving the “ideal” – that is, the things that the Cessnock 2020 Community Plan needs to address.</i></p> <p><i>NB: Points in <b>bold</b> were identified by participants as being the top priorities in each theme</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Communications – internet, mobile, etc</b></li> <li>• <b>Transport links – railways, roads, planes, cycleways</b></li> <li>• <b>Encourage diverse business opportunities, community support to sustain these</b></li> <li>• Better employment opportunities</li> <li>• Retirement villages generating income</li> <li>• Supporting big local industries</li> <li>• Increase aerodrome services to cater for tourism</li> <li>• Promoting local shopping for residents</li> <li>• Improved security to the CBD</li> </ul>
<p><b>Our Services</b></p> <p><i>Workshop participants were asked to think about the “ideal” Cessnock they described in the exercise above.</i></p> <p><i>In thinking about Our Services, participants were asked to <b>identify the challenges</b> to achieving the “ideal” – that is, the things that the Cessnock 2020 Community Plan needs to address.</i></p> <p><i>NB: Points in <b>bold</b> were identified by participants as being the top priorities in each theme</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Buck passing by state and federal government / state and federal government funding for health and aged care, education, emergency services</b></li> <li>• <b>Marginal seat to attract more attention/funding</b></li> <li>• <b>Integrated transport</b></li> <li>• <b>Health and Aged Care Services</b></li> <li>• <b>Transport Infrastructure – road, rail, air / integrated transport</b></li> <li>• <b>Education and Training</b></li> <li>• Sporting and recreational facilities</li> <li>• Community and cultural facilities</li> <li>• Creating employment</li> <li>• People need to vote for the future rather than by tradition</li> </ul>
<p><b>Our Leadership</b></p> <p><i>Workshop participants were asked to think about the “ideal” Cessnock they described in the exercise above.</i></p> <p><i>In thinking about Our Leadership, participants were asked to <b>identify the challenges</b> to achieving the “ideal” – that is, the things that the Cessnock 2020 Community Plan needs to address.</i></p> <p><i>NB: Points in <b>bold</b> were identified by participants as being the top priorities in each theme</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Communication – need diverse consultation / accountability</b></li> <li>• <b>Encouragement of diverse representation from the community for leadership / mentoring</b></li> <li>• <b>Remuneration to make leadership attractive</b></li> <li>• Swinging Seat</li> <li>• Drop State/Council - encourage regional centres</li> <li>• More females/youth represented in leadership roles</li> <li>• Clear communication and relationship links</li> <li>• Mentoring programs</li> </ul>

Thank you for taking the time to attend this workshop and contribute to the development of the Cessnock 2020 Community Plan and to the future of the Cessnock local government area.

More information about the Cessnock 2020 Community Plan – including an online Community Survey – is available on the Cessnock City Council website at [www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au)

You can also participate in online discussion forums at [focusonourfuture.com.au](http://focusonourfuture.com.au)

