

'Sharing the opportunities of growth for all' indicator framework

Measuring social sustainability in City of Parramatta local government area

City of Parramatta's Sharing the Opportunities of Growth for All – Socially Sustainable Parramatta Framework (SSPF), which was adopted in July 2017, sets out a new way of working for Council that puts people first and identifies some specific ways that the opportunities of growth can be shared equitably for all people. The purpose of the SSPF is to outline City of Parramatta Council's commitment to a socially sustainable Parramatta, in response to very significant changes occurring across the City.

The SSPF's eight goals are:

- Children are our future
- Diverse, affordable homes for everyone
- All people can learn, share and grow
- All people can access a job that enables them to live with dignity and security
- Green, inclusive and safe places to share
- All people can live healthy, active lives
- We trust each other, are welcoming, and feel good about being here together
- We lead by example

The SSPF identifies the actions that Council, together with others, will take in the next 1-2 years to move towards being a more socially sustainable community.

Developing the SSPF Indicator Framework

Council has developed an Indicator Framework to support the measurement of the progress being made by the Council and the community towards the Framework's 8 goals and the overarching objective of "sharing the opportunities of growth for all." The Indicator Framework delivers on a key action identified for years 1-2 of the SSPF, which was to "Develop measures and targets for evaluating

the impact of the Socially Sustainable Parramatta Framework."

The SSPF Indicator Framework was designed and developed by City of Parramatta's Social Outcomes Team and other key internal stakeholders, with support from consultants Think Impact as "project coach." We developed the indicators based on internal consultation and research, and consideration of the extensive work already undertaken by City of Parramatta to inform the SSPF. This process was significant and took over six months to complete. You can find out more detail about this process in the SSPF.

For each of the eight goal areas, we have developed subjective and objective measures to understand the social sustainability of our community (Our City) and the experiences of individuals (My Life) in City of Parramatta, and measures to understand Council's contributions to advancing progress towards the SSPF goals. Together, these community and Council indicators will enable us to develop a more holistic understanding of City of Parramatta's progress towards social sustainability. Whilst most of the goals have four indicators, some only have three indicators. This difference in the number of indicators for different goal areas reflects Council's efforts to include only the most meaningful and relevant measures.

Council recognises the inherent challenges in measuring social sustainability, as a socially sustainable community is shaped by complex factors that are difficult to quantify, such as the experience of social inclusion or access to services. Council must understand how our community is progressing towards becoming more socially sustainable in order to promote the overarching goal that our City shares the opportunities of growth for all.



Children are our future

Work towards ensuring every child in Parramatta is healthy, nurtured, happy and will thrive.

The benefits of growth are being shared equitably with all when there is no opportunity gap between children (0-4 years) from low and high income families.

	Our City	My Life
Subjective	Community sentiment regarding the degree to which the City of Parramatta contributes to thriving children	Percentage of people who feel they are able to provide for the basic needs for their family (e.g. food, clothing)
Objective	Percentage of developmentally vulnerable children across one or more domains according to the AEDC	Percentage of residents living within a 2.5min walk of a park or play space
Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of inclusive play spaces Number of ECEC Council enrolments for children from a vulnerable background Percentage of children in Council's ECEC who self-report feeling happy 	

Diverse, affordable homes for everyone

Deliver and expand a diverse range of affordable high quality housing that meets the spectrum of housing needs in the community.

The benefits of growth are being shared equitably by all when all Parramatta residents can afford to pay for housing that meets their needs.

	Our City	My Life
Subjective	Community sentiment regarding the degree to which City of Parramatta offers diverse housing options	Percentage of people who feel secure in their housing situation
Objective	Number of people experiencing homelessness per 10,000 people within City of Parramatta LGA (based on the number of people that are counted in Parramatta Homeless Street Count)	Percentage of households living in housing stress (includes rental and mortgage stress)
Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of new residential flat building developments (10 dwellings or above) that are consistent with development control plan (DCP) dwelling mix requirements Number of affordable rental housing dwellings in Council's Affordable Housing Bank 	

All people can learn, share and grow

Facilitate formal and informal learning opportunities at all ages, to help people improve their circumstances, reach their full potential and share their knowledge, creativity and culture.

The benefits of growth will be shared by all when people have equal opportunity to access formal and informal learning opportunities.

	Our City	My Life
Subjective	Community sentiment regarding the degree to which our City provides opportunities for people of all ages to learn and develop skills at any age	Percentage of people who feel they have the opportunity to participate in learning
Objective	Highest level of education	Percentage of people who report whether in the last 12 months they have been actively involved in a social group or activity they have organised
Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library floor space (against CoP benchmark target) Self-reported community satisfaction with library service provision (whole community survey) Community facility floor space (against CoP benchmark target) 	

All people can access a job that enables them to live with dignity and security

Secure and retain decent jobs and access to enterprise for all Parramatta residents.

The benefits of growth will be shared by all when people have access to the benefits of economic participation.

	Our City	My Life
Subjective	Community sentiment regarding the degree to which our City enables everyone to access a job that allows them to live with dignity and security	Percentage of people who feel they have good job security Percentage of people who report they are satisfied with their job
Objective	Unemployment rate	
Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of people employed by Council living in City of Parramatta LGA Percentage of spend on local procurement by Council Amount of money disbursed through grants category- 'Growing social enterprise in Parramatta' 	

Green, inclusive and safe places to share

Design, build and maintain public spaces and neighbourhoods that are green, safe and inclusive for all.

The benefits of growth are being shared equitably with all when we design, build and maintain public spaces and neighbourhoods that are green, safe and inclusive for all.

	Our City	My Life
Subjective	Community sentiment regarding the degree to which our City provides safe and inclusive places to play and relax	Percentage of people who feel comfortable in public places in our Local Government Area
Objective	Hectares of green space per 1000 people	Percentage of people who report enjoying a local public place in the last twelve months
Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of residents living within areas zoned for High Density (R4 and B4) that are within a 2.5 minute walk of a park or play space Annual visitation to Lake Parramatta 	

All people can live healthy, active lives

Improve physical and mental health outcomes, starting with groups experiencing disadvantage.

The benefits of growth are being shared equitably with all when there is a closing of the health inequality gap and people are living longer with a greater quality of life, regardless of their socio-economic position

	Our City	My Life
Subjective	Community sentiment regarding the degree to which our City provides facilities for me to live an active life	Residents' self-reported health status (mental and physical health)
Objective	Percentage of Western Sydney Local Health District (WSLHD) residents who are overweight and obese (aged 16 and over)	Percentage of people who know how to access the health services they need in their local community
Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of residents that live within a 5 minute walk of a park or playground Satisfaction level of School Holiday program and Health Promotion services 	

We trust each other, are welcoming and feel good about being here together

Facilitate social connections to foster socially and culturally diverse, inclusive and empowered communities.

The benefits of growth are being shared equitably with all when we are willing to welcome a stranger, whether that be a visitor, a migrant, our neighbour, a co-worker, someone who is vulnerable, or someone who is different to ourselves. children (0-4 years) from low and high income families.

	Our City	My Life
Subjective	Community sentiment regarding the degree to which our City is welcoming of diversity	Percentage of residents who feel they belong to the local community
Objective	Number of Australian Citizenships granted in the City of Parramatta in the last year	Percentage of respondents who have helped a neighbour in the last 12 months
Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our City Your Say membership reflects the diversity of our community demographics (Country of birth) Skills and confidence levels of participants in community capacity building programs Percentage of people who rated Council's events 7 or above for overall experience (on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is "very poor" and 10 is "very good") 	

We lead by example

Improve Council's policies and practices to enable a more socially sustainable City of Parramatta.

The benefits of growth are being shared equitably with all when social responsibility is embedded in the core business strategy of Council, local organisations and businesses, and they consider how their actions affect our people.

	Our City	My Life
Subjective	Community sentiment regarding the degree to which City of Parramatta leads strongly in increasing fairness across our community	Resident satisfaction that Council acts on their behalf
Objective	Percentage of formal votes cast at Local Government elections as a % of enrolments (voting participation)	
Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of Council staff participating in cultural awareness training Percentage increase in procurement for Aboriginal businesses Mean score generated from community members who agreed or strongly agreed that 'Council is genuine about listening to residents/businesses'. This is reported as a mean score of 1-5, where 1 = very dissatisfied and 5 = very satisfied 	

Where to from here?

Council will create a baseline of evidence, compiling new and existing data for each of the indicators. Sources will include Council's inaugural 2019 Our City My Life Survey, internal Council data and external data sources (e.g. Australian Bureau of Statistics).

An analysis of baseline data will be presented in the 2019 Socially Sustainable Parramatta Report,

which will enable Council to begin tracking City of Parramatta's progress towards becoming more socially sustainable and provide evidence to inform Council's decision-making.

Council will also review and refine existing indicators based on the experience of implementation and the relevance and meaning to our community.