



2025-35

A Safer Randwick City Community Safety Action Plan



Randwick City Council
a sense of community

JUNE 2025



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Acknowledgement of Country

Randwick City Council pays respect to the Traditional Owners of the land, the Bidjigal and Gadigal people, and acknowledges the living and continuing culture of the Traditional Custodians of this land.

We recognise that Traditional Custodians have occupied and cared for this Country over countless generations, and we celebrate their ongoing contributions to the life of this area.





Executive Summary

Enhancing community safety involves more than crime prevention and response. It extends to addressing the broader factors that create optimal conditions for community wellbeing, actual and perceived personal safety, and social inclusion.

The Randwick Local Government Area (LGA) is located in the heart of Sydney's east and is home to over 141,000 people¹. As a core health and education precinct, the area attracts thousands of workers and students daily, along with swarms of day-trippers and travellers drawn to the area's extensive coastline and recreational attractions, including the Randwick Racecourse, sporting venues, cultural sites, and a vibrant arts and hospitality scene.

Randwick LGA has a low crime rate and generally high levels of community safety. Randwick City Council is committed to enhancing the safety and wellbeing of its residents, commuters and visitors.

Background of this Community Safety Action Plan 2025-2035

- Local councils have a key role to play in enhancing community safety. This may occur through the direct provision of services, as a local coordinating body, and/or through working closely with a range of other agencies from the State and Federal Government, not-for-profit, and business sectors.
- Local Government NSW (2023) states that 'Council involvement in community safety and crime prevention initiatives is often in partnership with police and other government and non-government organisations'². This accurately describes the collaborative and intersectional nature of Local Government's role in this space.
- Randwick City Council adopted its Inclusive Randwick Strategy in 2022³. Commitment 3.1 of this informing strategy outlined Council's commitment to undertake a Community Safety Study in 2023, for the purpose of developing a new, 10-year Community Safety Action Plan.

¹ Estimated Resident Population, 2023: .id (informed decisions), Randwick City Council Community Profile, Estimated Resident Population (2023)

² Local Government NSW, Crime Prevention and Safety (2023)

³ Randwick City Council, Inclusive Randwick Strategy (2022)

- Inclusive Randwick (s3.1) included the requirement to '.... incorporate measures to improve safety across community demographics, including Aboriginal, aged, disability, youth, women, families, LGBTQI and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities.'
- Council undertook a Community Safety Study in 2023, in partnership with a technical advisory group comprising a diverse range of internal and external stakeholders. The study explored the concept of 'community safety' through the lens of four key elements: structural, environmental, interpersonal, and individual conditions for safety.
- In combination with a desktop review of literature and existing data, the findings of the Community Safety Study identified key themes related to community safety that informed the development of Safer Randwick City: Community Safety Action Plan 2025-2035.



1. Introduction

Randwick City Council's previous Community Safety Action Plan was endorsed in 2008. It had a relatively narrow focus on crime statistics and prevention. By contrast, the plan to be adopted in 2024 will analyse and respond to safety issues from a holistic perspective, incorporating a strong focus on community wellbeing alongside the traditional notions of safety.

As part of Council's Inclusive Randwick Strategy (2022), Council undertook a Community Safety Study in 2023 to explore residents' experiences and perceptions of safety. The results of this study were combined with relevant data from official sources to inform this report, A Safer Randwick City: Community Safety Action Plan 2025-2035.

1.1 The Concept of Safety

The term 'community safety' tends to conjure up images of street crime, vandalism, and antisocial behaviour in public spaces. While these issues certainly influence the levels of actual and perceived safety in any given location, the concept of community safety in contemporary literature and social policy has a much broader scope, incorporating a range of other factors.

Sydney is recognised internationally as one of the safest cities in the world. It ranked fourth out of 60 cities in the most recent Economist Impact Safe Cities Index⁴. In line with other measures of community safety, this ranking is derived from the city's performance on a diverse range of pillars including crime rates, digital security, health, infrastructure, personal wellbeing, and environmental factors. Emphasis on an intersectional understanding of safety is key to the methodology employed by the Safe Cities Index.

Similarly, Council's approach to community safety considers a wide array of factors that influence how residents and visitors to the area experience actual and perceived safety. These factors are described further in the next section.

⁴ Economist Impact, Safe Cities Index (2021)



1.2 The Quadrants of Safety

Council's Community Safety Study (2023) considered issues and proposed actions through the lens of four focus areas, that were identified as key elements of community safety.

Structural conditions

Institutional and socioeconomic factors that exist outside of individuals' direct control. Examples include governmental and political conditions, labour and housing markets, the economy and the welfare state, and the availability of accessible services and information.

Environmental conditions

Factors related to the physical environment, both natural and built. Examples include the provision, maintenance and accessibility of community infrastructure, the condition of housing and commercial buildings, access to and condition of natural features such as beaches and reserves, and risk management of public spaces and facilities.

Interpersonal conditions

Factors related to human interaction and co-existence. Examples include safe relationships, inclusion and acceptance of diversity, freedom from discrimination, and the levels of trust or social cohesion within communities.

Individual conditions

Factors specific to the individual, which impact on their daily experience and may differentiate it from others living in the same community. Examples include age, gender, cultural background, disability, mental health, education level, financial circumstances, or living situation. It also includes subjective factors such as personality, sense of achievement, or self-esteem. Subjective factors may be influenced by experience, circumstance, biology, or all of the above.

2. The Community of Randwick

The Bidjigal and Gadigal peoples are the Traditional Owners of the land now known as Randwick Local Government Area (LGA), or Randwick City.

Randwick City is home to a diverse population of around 141,800 people. It covers a land area of approximately 36 square kilometres, from La Perouse to Centennial Park, and includes 15 suburbs.

Randwick LGA is divided into five wards, with each ward represented by three elected Councillors.



2.1 Demographic snapshot⁵

DEMOGRAPHIC FEATURE	MEASURE	RANDWICK LGA	NEW SOUTH WALES
Age profile	Median age	37 years	39 years
	Largest age group as a % of population	30 – 34 years (9.2%)	30 – 34 years (7.3%)
Cultural and linguistic diversity	% of residents born overseas	39.6%	29.3%
	% of households using a language other than English	33.8%	29.5%
	% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	1.8%	3.4%
Income	Median income (personal)	\$1,121	\$813
	Median income (household)	\$2,305	\$1,829
Educational attainment	% of residents holding a tertiary degree	43.3%	27.8%
Occupations and employment	% of population in the labour force	63.5%	58.7%
	Unemployment rate	4.3%	4.9%
	Top occupations	Professionals (37.1%) Managers (17.7%)	Professionals (25.8%) Managers (14.6%)
	Top industries	Hospitals (5.6%) Higher Education (3.8%)	Hospitals (4.2%) Supermarket and Grocery Stores (2.5%)
Unpaid care and need for assistance	% of residents providing unpaid care to another person (not including children)	10.2%	11.5%
	% of residents in need of care and assistance with activities of daily living	4.1%	5.8%
Housing tenure and cost	% of tenure types:		
	- Owned outright	26.9%	31.5%
	- Owned with a mortgage	23.7%	32.5%
	- Rented – private	38.6%	32.6%
	- Rented – social	6.1%	4.0%
	% of homeowners in mortgage stress (repayments greater than 30% of income)	18.4%	17.3%
	% of renters in rental stress (rent greater than 30% of income)	31.9%	35.5%
Population growth trends	Change between Census periods (2016 – 2012)	Randwick LGA experienced a net population loss of approximately 10%, based on estimate resident population, between 2016 and 2021. It is likely that this loss was largely attributable to effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on migration patterns.	
	Projected change in population growth	Since the 2021 Census was taken, the ABS projected population growth in the LGA is estimated at approximately 4.5% per annum.	

⁵ Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2021 Census and .id (Informed decisions): Randwick City Council Community Profile. The data above was collected during a Covid-19 lockdown period in 2021. Some demographic features, such as population levels, market rents, and unemployment rates, may have been affected in unpredictable ways due to the pandemic. For example, Randwick LGA is typically home to large numbers of international students and working travellers, whose presence drastically declined during this period.

Key points

In comparison to Greater Sydney, Rest of NSW and Australia, Randwick City is characterised by:

- A slightly younger-than-average adult age profile
- A lower proportion of children and young people aged under 18 years
- A high proportion of residents born overseas
- Above-average education levels, and a higher percentage of residents currently engaged in tertiary study
- High median incomes and labour force participation
- Lower levels of unemployment and youth disengagement
- Above-average representation of professional and managerial occupations, particularly in the health and education sectors
- Very high property prices and market rents, relatively low levels of home ownership, and a high percentage of renting households
- Above-average levels of social housing as a proportion of overall housing stock, predominantly clustered within medium-density to high-density estates
- Significant income inequality, which can be attributed to the contrast between Randwick's generally high levels of advantage and its distinct pockets of extreme disadvantage. This is explained further in the next section.

2.2 Patterns of advantage and disadvantage in Randwick LGA

The Randwick community's high educational attainment levels, above-average median incomes, and highly professionalised workforce are indicators of overall advantage. In accordance with the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) 'SEIFA' Index (Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas), Randwick City falls into the top 5% of LGAs Australia-wide in terms of socio-economic advantage.⁶

However, a closer look at the demographic data demonstrates that these advantages are not evenly distributed across the LGA. When broken down to Statistical Area 1 level – a unit of measurement utilised by the ABS to capture the data of small geographical areas, generally with a population of under 800 people – significant differences emerge at the neighbourhood level.

The image opposite demonstrates the socio-economic contrast between areas within Randwick LGA.

The red patches represent the 'most disadvantaged' category and are correlated with neighbourhoods containing high concentrations of social housing.

The geographical pattern demonstrates higher levels of advantage and less socio-economic diversity within the northern parts of the LGA, including the North, East and West wards.



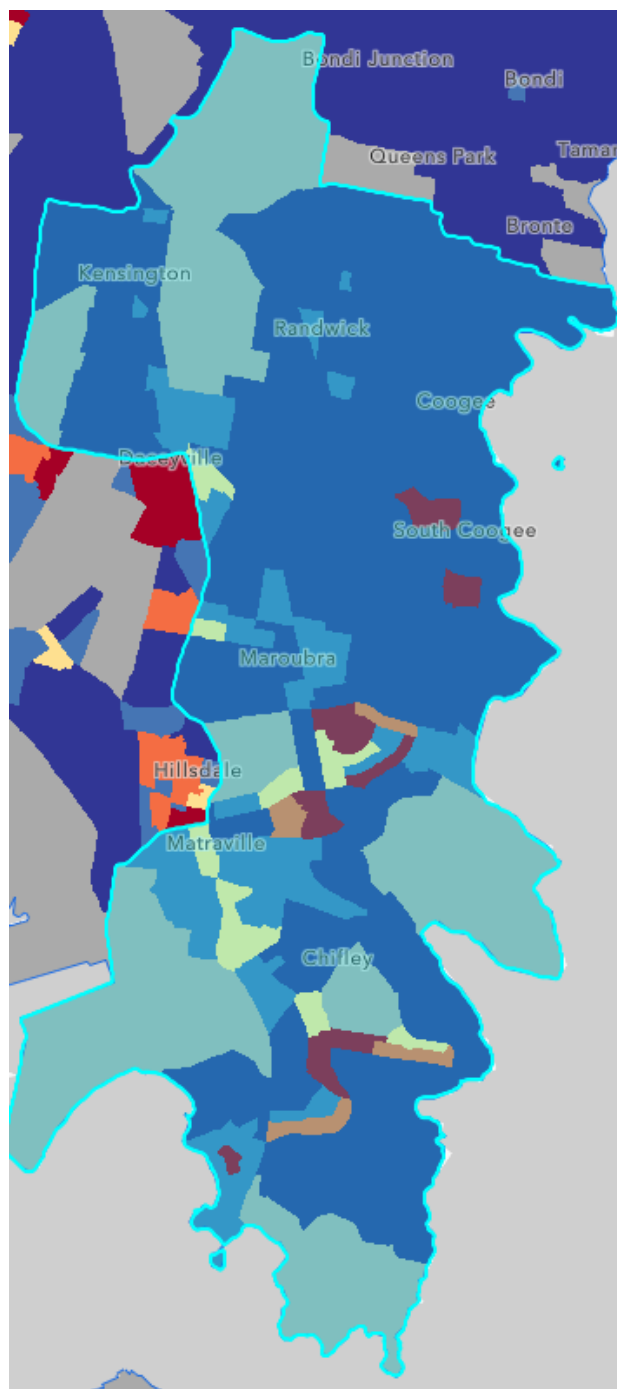
⁶ Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia (2021)

⁷ Image source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia (2021) – Interactive Map

⁸ NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR), NSW Crime Tool (2024)

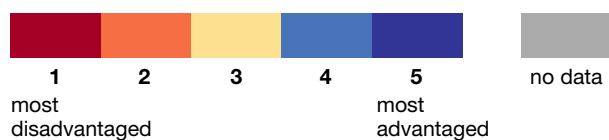
⁹ NSW BOCSAR, Crime Statistics by LGA, Randwick Local Government Area (2014-2024)

Figure B: Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage map for Randwick LGA⁷



Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1) 2021

Quintile



2.3 Crime and community safety in Randwick

Overall, residents of Randwick City enjoy high levels of community safety.

The research and consultation undertaken to inform this Community Safety Action Plan indicate that on an aggregate scale, Randwick LGA is a welcoming, well-served community that offers a high quality of life, with low levels of crime and abundant opportunity for social and economic participation.

There are, however, poignant differences in how safety and wellbeing are experienced by different population groups within the area. Socio-economic status, housing tenure, gender, and geographical location were found to be significant differentiating factors. These findings are outlined further in sections 3 and 4 of this document.

Randwick is a low-crime LGA

As of 2024, the overall rate of reported crime in Randwick LGA is lower than the NSW state average.^{8,9}

Overrepresented offence types

Drug offences

The most notable exception is in the category of drug offence incidents, which are above the state average for the LGA, with significant variation by suburb.

However, it is critical to note that the overwhelming majority of drug offence incidents are concentrated in the suburb of Centennial Park. As a non-residential parkland suburb and landmark Sydney destination, it is regularly used for large-scale public events that attract targeted policing operations specifically intended for the detection of drug offences. The inclusion of Centennial Park in Randwick's crime statistics creates data skew and must be treated with caution.

Looking more closely at the relevant data by suburb, Maroubra and South Coogee have notably high rates of reported drug offences, at approximately double the NSW average. Incident levels in other suburbs range from well below to moderately above the state average.

Figure C: Incidents of drug offences per 100,000 in Randwick LGA compared to all of NSW.



Domestic and Family Violence (DFV)

Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) is a Local Area Priority under Council's Inclusive Randwick Strategy (2022).

As of 2024, the reported DFV incident rate for Randwick LGA is relatively low, ranking 90th out of 128 NSW LGAs, and in the bottom quintile for the state.¹⁰ However, examination of the data reveals significant differences in reported incident rates across the LGA.

Rates of reported 'domestic assault' are highest in South Coogee, which is the only suburb with a recorded incident rate above the NSW average and trending upwards. Rates of reported domestic assault across other parts of the LGA are consistently lower than the state average, with two – and five-year trends either stable or declining. By contrast, statewide data for NSW shows a consistent upward trend in most categories of DFV-related offences.¹¹

Underreporting is a widely recognised issue associated with DFV, making it difficult to determine the actual extent of the problem in any given area. Comparison of crime rate data provides an indication of where Randwick is positioned relative to other LGAs and NSW more widely, but it is inevitable that the actual rates of domestic violence are much higher than reported.



¹⁰ NSW BOCSAR, NSW Crime Tool (2024)

¹¹ NSW BOCSAR, NSW Domestic Violence Quarterly Report (June 2024)

¹² NSW BOCSAR, Crime Statistics by LGA, Randwick Local Government Area (2014-2024)

Crime trends over time

When broken down by offence type, the incident rate for most types of crime in Randwick has declined or remained stable over the most recent five-year period for which data is available.¹²

Notably, rates of sexual assault have increased by nearly 10% over the five years to 2024. The reasons for this are not known, so it is not possible to determine whether it is because of increased rates of actual incidence, or a trend towards more victims reporting this type of offence to the police.

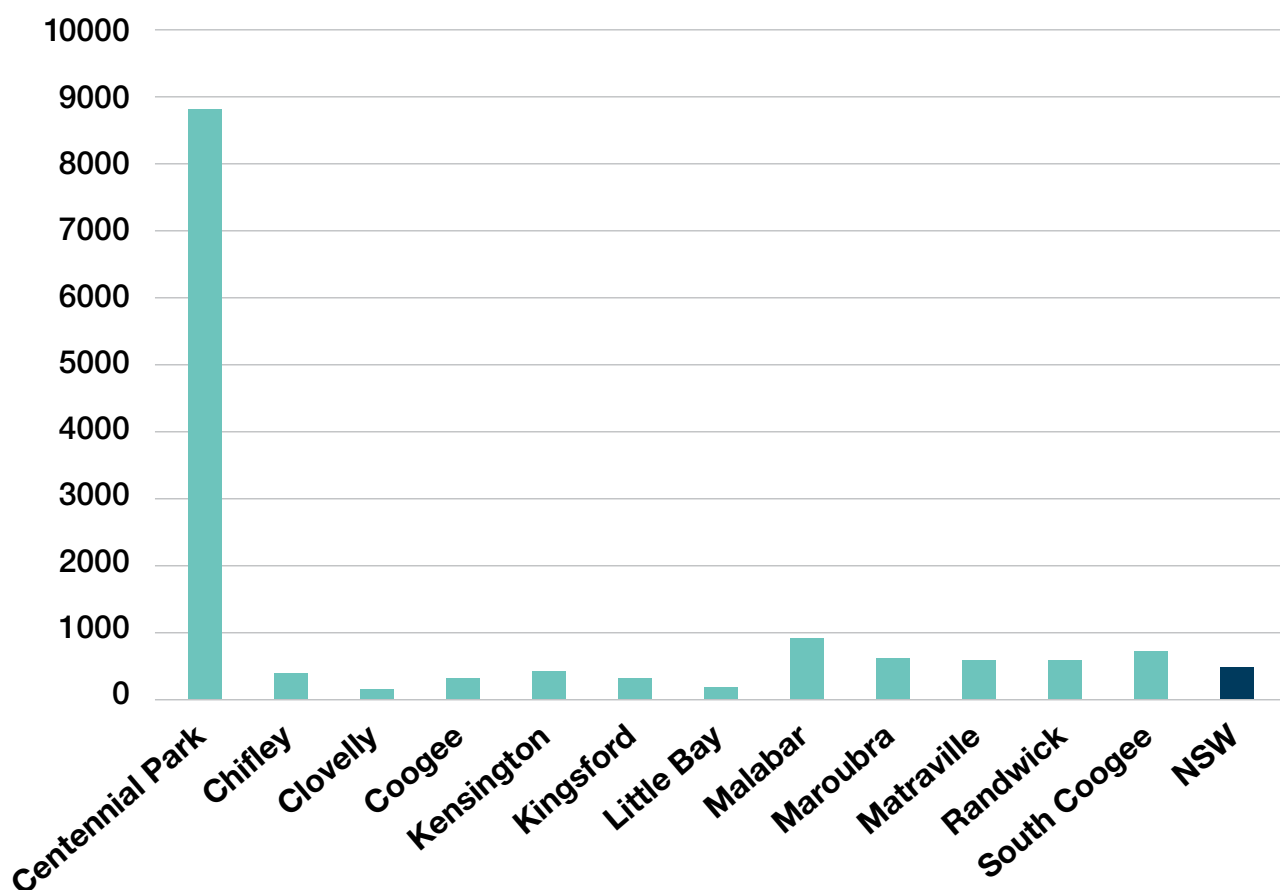
In relative terms, Randwick LGA is ranked 87th out of 128 NSW LGAs for sexual assault incidents, demonstrating a similar pattern to that of DFV.

In summary

Overall rates of recorded offences indicate that Randwick LGA is a relatively low-crime area, with a degree of differentiation by suburb; drug offences being the most significant outlier from the overall trend. Exclusion of Centennial Park data enables a more accurate picture of offence rates of this type across the LGA.



Figure D: Incidents of drug offences per 100,000 by suburb, compared to all of NSW



3. Consultation and Development of the Plan

3.1 How Council engaged the community

The local community was involved in the development of this Action Plan through a comprehensive consultation process. This enabled Council to review the success of the previous Plan and to identify contemporary community concerns, gaps, and emerging needs.

The new Plan was informed by outcomes from consultation, combined with desktop research findings, literature review, and insights provided by members of Council's Community Safety Technical Advisory Group, which provided advice throughout the project.

Key community consultation strategies included:

- A resident survey, available online and in hard copy
- Submission of general comments and feedback via Council's 'Your Say Randwick' page
- Focus group discussions held in person across the LGA

The consultation process included provision of targeted activities intended to capture the voices of 'hard-to-reach' groups and cohorts with specific needs, in line with the requirements of the Inclusive Randwick Strategy (2022).

A detailed summary of engagement and participation data can be found in the Community Safety Study Report, available on Council's website. Our plans - Randwick City Council (nsw.gov.au) > Related plans, studies and reports > Social Inclusion > Community Safety Study.

3.2 Engagement and consultation outcomes

This section provides a summary of consultation feedback under each of the four focus areas, also referred to as the 'Quadrants of Safety', as described in Section 1.2:

1. Structural conditions
2. Environmental conditions
3. Interpersonal conditions
4. Individual conditions

3.3 Key findings

Issues raised during consultation covered a diverse range of topics. To derive meaning and draw conclusions from the data, findings from consultation activities were compiled and considered through a process of thematic analysis to determine priority areas for Council to address in the Action Plan.

Surprisingly, despite some notable differences between cohorts, the high-level themes that emerged from consultation were relatively consistent when analysed against differentiating factors such as location, cultural background, disability, and socio-economic status.

However, it should be noted that certain factors, including gender, age, and housing tenure, were found to be associated with significant differences in perceptions of personal safety and wellbeing.

Areas of concern: The top five

These overarching themes emerged consistently across all demographics as core priorities for community safety, with minimal divergence across cohorts.

- Public amenity and comfort
- Roads and traffic safety
- Access to services
- Housing stress, affordability, and homelessness
- Mental health and social-emotional wellbeing

Points of divergence: Perceptions of safety and security

Several stark differences emerged between certain demographic groups with regard to feelings of perceived safety, security and wellbeing. This was particularly notable in terms of gender identity and housing tenure.

Women respondents were more than twice as likely as men to report feeling unsafe in public spaces at night, while people living in rented accommodation were far less likely than homeowners to report feeling secure about their financial future.

Key strengths: Council and the community

Information was also gathered, both intentionally and unintentionally, regarding components of community safety that respondents considered Council to be managing well. This allowed for consideration to be given to existing activities, services, and initiatives for which resources should be maintained or enhanced.

Areas of strength and community satisfaction:

- Beach safety and lifeguard services
- Daytime neighbourhood safety
- Social cohesion and satisfaction with quality of life in the area

Consultation indicated that the area of least concern, and highest level of satisfaction among the local community, is water and coastal safety. Data also indicated that Randwick residents generally experience high levels of interpersonal wellbeing and social cohesion.



4. Community Safety Action Planning

4.1. Focus area 1: Structural conditions for safety

Structural conditions refer to factors that have a systemic or institutional basis and are outside direct control of the people whose lives they affect. Some examples include government policy, the state of the economy, labour markets, housing systems, the structure of the welfare state, or the availability of information, healthcare, and social services.

In the community's own words¹³

"There's been an increase in incidents of theft recently, especially of things like food, groceries and petrol. This is likely to be connected to the rising cost of living." –

Eastern Beaches Police Area Command officer

"We used to go to [youth service A], they would take us for BBQs and outings in the holidays and stuff, and we could talk to the youth workers if we needed help with anything. [Youth service B] is good, but they're only here once a week. It would be better if there was a place open all the time that we could go to."

– Focus group participant/young person

"There have been squatters in the vacant unit up the hall for months. Housing takes forever to re-allocate units after someone moves out, so this happens all the time because people are homeless and waiting years for a place." –

Kooloora estate focus group participant

Key issues

Housing and homelessness: The crisis is real

"Soon, it will not be possible for me and my family (two kids in government schools, both parents senior nurses) to rent in this area. I simply cannot fathom how people survive on low income. I am involved in local initiatives for food security and we cannot meet demand."

– Survey respondent/local resident

Housing stress and affordability issues

During community consultation, one of the top 'major problems' in the area was identified as housing-related stress, with almost half of all survey respondents indicating this.¹⁴

Demographic data of survey respondents showed a skew towards homeowners – particularly those owning their residence outright – and residents on higher incomes. This may indicate that, even if not personally affected, residents of Randwick LGA are generally concerned about the structural impacts of unaffordable housing. It may also indicate that housing affordability issues are affecting a wider socio-economic cohort, including people with moderately well-paid employment, than typically assumed.

Personal concerns about housing affordability and financial security were markedly higher among renters than homeowners.¹⁵

¹³ All quotes included in this document, unless otherwise indicated, were sourced anonymously from participants in Randwick City Council's Community Safety consultation process, 2023.

¹⁴ Based on the question, 'To what extent do you think the following issues are a problem in your local area?' Respondents were asked to consider the impact on their local community overall, regardless of whether they are personally affected by the issue.

¹⁵ Personal concern was measured through questions about individual housing circumstances and financial security, including the availability of emergency funds.

Homelessness

Though cited as a significant concern among the community, official data shows that rates of homelessness¹⁶ have actually decreased slightly in Randwick between the last two Census periods (2016 – 2021). This may be explained, in part, by substantial investment in initiatives to address primary homelessness implemented by the NSW Government during the Covid-19 pandemic period¹⁷.

The most visible form of homelessness, sometimes referred to as rough sleeping or ‘rooflessness’, is estimated to have halved locally in the last two years¹⁸.

Despite these figures, the high cost of property in Randwick continues to present challenges to housing security. Particularly affected are those on low-to-moderate incomes, the insecurely employed, and residents facing other barriers to the mainstream housing market.



Implications for financial hardship, the socio-economic divide, and patterns of crime

“I think our community is quite stratified in terms of safety and security, with some very comfortable and others experiencing significant financial and other stressors.” – Survey respondent/local resident

Randwick City is, as noted by the resident quoted above, a socio-economically polarised community. Throughout the LGA, neighbourhoods characterised by extremely high socio-economic advantage share borders with those of extreme disadvantage, as demonstrated in Figure B on page 13.

This contrast is particularly notable in the southern suburbs, including Malabar, Maroubra, and South Coogee. There is a corresponding pattern of higher incidence of reported crime across these locations, with specific offence types being more heavily concentrated among areas of high socio-economic disadvantage.

It should be noted that overall crime rates for Randwick City are below average and that crime trends regularly change over time in line with policing activity, demographic shifts, patterns of development (residential and commercial), alongside broader economic and sociological factors.

¹⁶ In line with the ABS definition of ‘homelessness’, which includes a wide array of marginal and insecure housing situations, along with rough sleeping. Full details can be found on the ABS website: Housing > Estimating Homelessness.

¹⁷ For example, the ‘Together Home’ program funded by the NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ).

¹⁸ NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ), NSW Statewide Street Count Technical Paper (2024).

Youth disengagement: Pockets of disadvantage

“Growing up around here, it’s like, you either become a football player or join a gang. Kids don’t see any other options. Sometimes they need help to realise they can follow a different path to what they see around them.” –

Maroubra estate focus group participant/ young person

Youth disengagement refers to the participation level of young people, generally aged between 15 and 24 years, in employment, education, and training. The term ‘disengaged’ indicates complete non-participation in any of these areas.

Randwick LGA has a low overall level of youth disengagement at 5.1%, in contrast with 8.9% for Greater Sydney¹⁹.

However, when broken down by suburb, significant differences emerge. The highest levels of disengagement for young people are in La Perouse (8.6%), Chifley (7.4%) and Matraville (7%). Although the rates in these areas are higher than the LGA average, they remain below the overall rate for Greater Sydney.

Health and social services: Accessing what you need

“I was told I could maybe get support through the NDIS, but I don’t even know where to start with applying for that. The system seems so complicated, and I don’t know who to ask.” – Focus group participant/person with disability

Access to services emerged as an issue of concern throughout all consultation activities. Examples of ‘services’, and associated access challenges, included the ability to conduct general Council business as a resident; finding bulk-billing medical clinics; or receiving the intensive social and allied health support often needed by people living with mental illness or significant disability.

Concern about access to services was significantly higher among residents of social housing estates. This is likely to be attributable to the above-average proportion of residents in these areas living with chronic health conditions, disability, advanced age, and limited income.

¹⁹ id (informed decisions), Randwick City Council Community Profile, Disengagement by age (2021).



Transport: Getting around Randwick and beyond

“Since the bus services near me have all been cut – I have been forced to walk 1-2km to the light rail to use the only public transport available to me. This makes me feel unsafe returning from activities at night in the city.”

– Survey respondent/local resident

Consultation raised concerns regarding recent changes to the Eastern Suburbs bus network. Residents flagged issues such as reductions in services, removal of bus routes and stops, longer wait times and the absence of direct services to the CBD from southern suburbs of Randwick LGA.

The NSW public transport system is managed at the State Government level and is not within Council’s direct jurisdiction. The role of local councils in relation to transport extends to matters such as advocacy for improved State-managed services, implementation of local ‘active transport’ strategies and a reduction in private car use, and the implementation of various compliance and enforcement activities.

Safety and Resilience

Resilience is the capacity of individuals, communities, businesses and systems within a city to survive, adapt and thrive through shocks and stressors. This includes disaster events such as flooding and heatwaves, as well as everyday pressures such as housing affordability, mental health, and climate change. Community safety is an integral part of Randwick’s resilience – our community members need to feel safe in their homes, their neighbourhoods, and their social and built infrastructure in order to deal with these constant challenges. Social cohesion, support networks, inclusivity and access to essential services are the foundations of resilience and are largely based on an individual’s perception of their own safety. A community cannot be resilient in dealing with shocks and stressors without a general foundation of safety.



Structural conditions for safety

KEY OUTCOMES	ACTION	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR/S	REPORTING TIMEFRAME	ACCOUNTABLE DEPARTMENT/S
Outcome 1.1 Randwick City is a safe, inclusive, low-crime area that is welcoming to diverse communities.	Formalisation of a collaborative partnership between Council, Police, and a range of community stakeholders	Formation of a Community Safety Reference Group for Randwick LGA	2025 and annually thereafter	Community Development
	Maximise the cultural competence and inclusivity awareness of Council's workforce	% of Council employees that have completed training focused on inclusion, diversity, and anti-discrimination	Annually	Learning and Development
	Recognise, celebrate, and respect First Nations culture, peoples, and history to foster a culturally safe environment	% of Council employees that have completed training in First Nations history and culture	Annually	Learning and Development
		Increased % of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees at various levels within Council	Annually	Human Resources
Outcome 1.2 Housing in Randwick City is appropriate, secure and affordable to a socio-economically diverse population.	Increase Council's Affordable Housing portfolio to accommodate a greater number of low- to moderate-income residents and key workers	Completion of an updated Affordable Housing Policy, incorporating revised operational procedures and guidelines	2025	Strategic Planning Community Development
		# of properties and occupancy rates	Quarterly	Community Development
		% of sustainable tenancy exits from Affordable Housing, measured at set intervals post-vacate	Annually	Community Development
	Advocate to higher levels of government for increased investment in social housing, improved conditions in the private rental sector	# of relevant submissions made to State and Federal Government agencies or enquiries	Annually	Strategic Planning Community Development
Outcome 1.3 Young people in Randwick City are supported and engaged with equitable access to education, employment, and social opportunities.	Invest in supporting service providers working with at-risk young people in the LGA	% of Community Investment Program funding allocated to youth services and projects	Annually	Community Development
	Establish a dedicated youth space in Randwick LGA for the delivery of social, educational, and recreational services	Allocate use of a Council-owned facility exclusively for youth services	Annually	Community Development Technical Services

KEY OUTCOMES	ACTION	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR/S	REPORTING TIMEFRAME	ACCOUNTABLE DEPARTMENT/S
Outcome 1.4 Residents of Randwick City have access to services and facilities required to maximise quality of life.	Ensure optimal accessibility of Council information and services for residents with diverse needs	Council's website is updated regularly in line with best practice Web Content Accessibility Guidelines	Annually	Information Management and Technology
		Council employees receive training appropriate to their role on improving accessibility of information to a diverse audience	Annually	Information Management and Technology Learning and Development
		A planned accessibility audit is conducted on Council community facilities and events	2025	Corporate Services
Outcome 1.5 Randwick LGA is prepared and equipped to manage the effects of climate change, extreme weather events or other acute shocks.	Development of a Resilience Strategy specific to Randwick LGA	The Strategy is designed and implemented in consultation with community and subject matter experts	2025	Sustainability
	Council facilitates prompt and effective emergency response to crises and shock events	The Local Emergency Management Team is immediately stood up in the case of an unforeseen shock The Local Emergency Management Team continues to meet on a regular basis to facilitate planning and information exchange between Council and local stakeholders	Annually	City Services



4.2. Focus area 2: Environmental conditions for safety

Environmental conditions refer to factors related to the physical surroundings. It includes the condition and management of the built environment: community infrastructure such as roads, pathways and cycleways, housing and commercial buildings; and communal facilities such as playgrounds, plazas and recreational centres. It also includes the natural environment: beaches and coastlines; bays and ponds; trees and green space; management of extreme weather events; and risks presented by domestic and non-domestic animals.

In the community's own words

"I love living in the Randwick LGA and feel very safe here. But compared to my home country, Germany, I don't feel as safe as a pedestrian and cyclist. I'm especially concerned about the lack of crossings and speed of cars. I wish children could walk and cycle safely by themselves!" – **Survey respondent/local resident**

"I've noticed that the street lighting is very poor. Under trees, the lighting is almost non-existent. I frequently walk my dog in the evening, so I am not looking forward to the earlier sunsets of wintertime. I am a female in my early 70s and I feel very vulnerable in the poor lighting. I use a torch so that I can see the pathway." – **Survey respondent/local resident**

"There are no safe outdoor spaces for kids to play in this estate. We get hoon drivers coming up the cul-de-sac, and the nearest park is across a busy road. All the families here live in unit blocks. We'd love to have a playground in the neighbourhood." – **Namatjira estate focus group participant**



Key issues

Public amenity: The spaces we share

"Summer inevitably brings crowds to the beaches, which is not a bad thing in itself, but there is inadequate control of antisocial behaviour and access, and parking for residents is very poor." – **Survey respondent/local resident**

Housing stress and affordability issues

'Public amenity' describes an array of factors that contribute to feelings of safety and comfort in public spaces. These may include:

- Visibility levels, and sensory aids for people with diverse needs
- Accessibility of public spaces and facilities
- Cleanliness
- Maintenance and aesthetic appeal of the environment
- Behaviour of people and animals using public spaces
- The provision of public services and infrastructure

Comments related to public amenity topped the community consultation data across all demographics. While most respondents generally feel safe engaging with their local neighbourhood and community, there are patterns of concern about specific issues that fall under this umbrella. Lighting and visibility was the most commonly cited issue, with other key themes relating to physical access and trip hazards for people with disability, and concerns about antisocial behaviour such as aggression or public intoxication.

Concerns relating to public amenity may overlap significantly with other issues, including those of a structural or interpersonal nature. For example, antisocial behaviour that creates feelings of discomfort or fear may be related to alcohol or other drug misuse, mental illness, or inadequate planning and design of public spaces.

Time of day and gender were found to be significant factors in subjective feelings of personal safety in public. While the survey showed that daytime differences were negligible, female respondents were twice as likely as male respondents to report feeling unsafe while using public spaces at night. This replicates recent findings of the NSW Government (Transport for NSW) 'Safer Cities' community survey, which analysed perceptions of safety in public spaces and transport hubs from a gendered perspective.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

The principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) are used in the assessment of development applications, community infrastructure and public space design, and have been incorporated into urban planning legislation since 2001.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design is based on four key pillars of crime prevention:

- Transport territorial reinforcement
- Surveillance
- Access control
- Space or activity management

Incorporation of these principles into design features reduces the risk of criminal activity by making spaces less attractive to opportunistic offenders, increasing 'activation' and the sense of community ownership of spaces, and creating physical and psychological barriers to the commission of crime.

The role of gender in perceptions of safety

"Think about what you can do to make women feel safer." – Survey respondent

As described earlier in this section, there are significant gender-based differences in how individuals experience perceptions of personal safety, particularly after dark. This finding is not restricted to Council's consultation findings and has been identified in other recent research on public safety and gender²⁰.

Irrespective of actual incident rates, the much higher reports among women of feeling unsafe while using public spaces at night has implications for resident and visitor behaviour, use of public transport, and activation of the nighttime economy. A comprehensive CPTED assessment must include considerations of how gender affects individuals' subjective experiences of community safety.

Roads: Shifting priorities, competing uses

"More attention needs to be paid to road safety" – Survey respondent/local resident

Road safety emerged as a top area of concern for the community during consultation. 'Road safety', for the purpose of this project, includes issues related to traffic congestion, road crashes, pedestrian and cycling safety.

Australia has experienced a recent shift in policy from a 'car-centric' approach to a pedestrian and cyclist-first approach. Government and the wider transport sector, both locally and internationally, are increasingly prioritising 'active transport' infrastructure over private

car use in recognition of the social, economic, and environmental benefits associated with connected cities and reduced dependence on driving.

Transport for NSW, as lead agency for transport policy in NSW, summarises this contemporary shift in priorities through their Active Transport Strategy: 'The NSW Government wants walking and bike riding, known as active transport, to be the preferred way to make short trips and a viable, safe and efficient option for longer trips ... more than 1.5 billion walking and riding trips are taken per year ... we want to double this number in 20 years.'

Coastal safety: Our beaches and waterways

"I value the beach and the bays very highly... these are the spaces I use daily and find it helps my physical and mental health." – Survey respondent/local resident

Beach and water safety emerged from community consultation as the issue of least concern to residents, with lifeguard and beach cleansing services noted as areas of highest satisfaction (relative to other Council services).

Despite minimal evidence of community concern, Randwick LGA's drowning statistics indicate that greater attention to this area is warranted. Randwick was identified as the top 'Local Government black spot' in the state by Surf Life Saving NSW in their most recent Coastal Safety Report (2022), with a total of eight drownings recorded that year.

Randwick has also been identified as the highest-risk location for rock fishing Australia-wide. It was for this reason that Randwick Council was selected as the first in the nation to implement mandatory lifejacket laws in 2016. Council continues to implement direct actions and external advocacy work to increase community awareness of the dangers of rock fishing and to implement risk mitigation measures.

With regard to coastal drowning, certain individual risk factors have been identified by Surf Life Saving NSW and Royal Surf Life Saving Australia. These include being male, aged over 55 years, or having an existing medical condition or injury. For rock fishing specifically, being a migrant or overseas visitor is considered an additional risk factor based on statistical trends. More than 50% of rock-fishing-related deaths across the country in recent years involved individuals born outside of Australia.

²⁰ Transport for NSW, Safer Cities Survey Report (2023); Monash University, YourGround NSW Baseline Insights Report (2024).

Environmental conditions for safety

KEY OUTCOMES	ACTION	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR/S	REPORTING TIMEFRAME	ACCOUNTABLE DEPARTMENT/S
Outcome 2.1 Public spaces in Randwick are vibrant, welcoming, and designed to maximise safety for a diverse range of users.	Increased incorporation of CPTED principles into Council infrastructure and project design	Development of internal CPTED Guidelines setting out requirements and thresholds for when formal (consultant or Police-led) CPTED assessment is required	2026	Technical Services
		% of Council employees in relevant roles that have undertaken CPTED-related training	Annually	Learning and Development Technical Services
	Incorporation of best-practice risk management processes into the planning of Council activities and events to maximise public safety	% of Council employees in relevant roles that have completed Risk Assessment and Management training	Annually	Learning and Development Risk and Safety
	Development of updated governance regarding child protection in Council places and spaces	Development of a Child Protection Policy for Council-managed facilities in line with the NSW Child Safe Standards	2026	Human Resources
Outcome 2.2 Levels of antisocial behaviour and opportunistic crime are reduced in Randwick LGA.	Facilitation of community education regarding best practice in responding to rough sleeping in public places	Update to Council's Homelessness Protocol in line with the current NSW Government (Homes NSW) principles	2025 and annually thereafter	Community Development
	Increase the capacity of Council employees to respond to incidents of challenging behaviour in the public domain	100% of Council employees in customer-facing roles have undertaken training related to de-escalation and managing challenging situations	Annually	Learning and Development Risk and Safety
	Work in partnership with the local Police Area Command to deliver community safety messaging campaigns	# of campaigns delivered across a range of mediums	Annually	Communications Community Development
	Enhancement of CPTED design principles for all new public infrastructure projects	CPTED Guidelines are implemented and reviewed on a regular basis	2026 and annually thereafter	Technical Services
	Expand targeted use of CCTV as a monitoring, crime prevention and investigative tool	Development of an evidence-based Surveillance Systems (CCTV) Policy incorporating best-practice principles for the use of CCTV in public places	2025	Information Management & Technology
	Prompt identification and removal of graffiti or unauthorised public artworks that may reasonably be expected to cause offense, distress, or to incite hostility towards specific groups or individuals	Incidents of offensive graffiti are logged in Council's Graffiti Register for priority action and removed within 24 hours	Annually	Waste, Cleansing and Public Safety

KEY OUTCOMES	ACTION	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR/S	REPORTING TIMEFRAME	ACCOUNTABLE DEPARTMENT/S
Outcome 2.3 Active transport is prioritised in Randwick City, combined with measures to improve the safety of motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists.	Adoption of the Randwick Active Transport Strategy	Strategy is adopted and implemented in 2024	Annually	Integrated Transport
		Increased uptake of walking, cycling and public transport in Randwick LGA		
	Promotion of Council's Child Car Seat rebate program (subject to continued funding from TfNSW)	Increase in # of families accessing accredited car-seat fitting services for infants and young children	Annually	Integrated Transport
	Continued delivery of road safety campaigns in partnership with relevant agencies	# of community safety campaigns delivered, including targeted sessions for high-risk population groups	Annually	Integrated Transport Community Development
	Additional measures to address transport disadvantage and road safety among vulnerable population groups	Continued partnership with Randwick Waverley Community Transport and promotion of its services to eligible residents	Ongoing	Community Development
	Continual review of high-risk traffic locations and priority 'pinch-points'	Reduction in # of crashes resulting in fatality or serious injury across Randwick LGA	Ongoing	Integrated Transport
Outcome 2.4 Randwick's coastline and aquatic centres are safe places to meet, exercise and play.	Continued commitment to the delivery of community education in relation to rock fishing and water safety, including opportunities for distribution of free life jackets	# of awareness-raising activities conducted in partnership with the Surf Life Saving sector about the dangers of rock fishing and risk mitigation	Annually	Beach Lifeguards Aquatic Services Community Development
		Increase in the # of rock fishing and general water safety awareness days targeted to high-risk groups, including the CALD community, in partnership with community stakeholders	Annually	Beach Lifeguards
	Improved maintenance of the coastal 'Angel Rings' program in areas of high risk	Completion of a Memorandum of Understanding to transfer management of the rings to Council's Beach Lifeguard team	2025	Beach Lifeguards
	Continued collaboration with Surf Life Saving NSW to maximise effectiveness of the coastal emergency beacon program	Increase in the # of beacons available along the Randwick City coastline	Annually	Beach Lifeguards
	Continued commitment to the provision of lifeguard services introduced in 2023 at Malabar and Little Bay beaches	Reduction in the # of fatalities and serious incidents along Randwick City's coastline	Annually	Beach Lifeguards
	Implementation of a wayfinding or geo-coordination system along the Randwick coastline to assist emergency services in locating people during crisis callouts in hard-to-navigate areas	An effective wayfinding system is introduced along the Randwick coastline in partnership with the NSW Police	2027	Beach Lifeguards Community Development Technical Services

4.3. Focus area 3: Interpersonal conditions for safety

Interpersonal conditions relate to factors associated with human interaction and relational dynamics. This may include family and intimate relationships, friendship and connection, inclusion and acceptance of diversity, freedom from discrimination, and the levels of trust, belonging, and social connection within communities.

In the community's own words

"Social isolation is a real concern, especially for elderly residents living alone. As neighbours we check in on each other as often as we can, but it's always a worry that they could have a fall or something, and no-one would know." – **Kensington Park focus group participant**

"Social media can be negative and positive – there's lots of bullying, but it's also an opportunity for kids with anxiety or other issues to connect with others and build up their confidence." – **Focus group participant/young person**

"We're lucky in our block, we all look out for each other. If you haven't seen someone for a few days, you go and knock on their door." – **Kooloora estate focus group participant**



Key issues

Domestic and family violence

"Any domestic violence or sexual misconduct is a major problem. Zero tolerance is the only acceptable stance for those matters." – **Survey respondent**

Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) has been previously identified as a Local Area Priority for Randwick City through a Social Study conducted in 2021.²¹ Consultation for this Community Safety Action Plan revealed that over half of respondents (59%) believe DFV to be an issue in their community.²² Of those, most considered the issue to be 'minor' rather than 'major'.

These findings are broadly in line with larger studies on attitudes towards DFV. Recent research commissioned by the Australian Government demonstrated that while the overwhelming majority (91%) of people nationwide believe violence against women to be a problem for Australia, less than half (47%) believe it is a problem within their own community.²³

Research consistently demonstrates that the majority of DFV is committed by male perpetrators, and that women are at much higher risk of becoming victims.²⁴ While specialist services and support for male and non-binary victims of DFV are essential, any analysis would be incomplete without acknowledging the heavily gendered patterns associated with this issue.

Randwick's reported DFV incident rate is relatively low compared to other LGAs across NSW. Rates of 'domestic assault' are highest in South Coogee, being the only suburb with a recorded incident rate above the NSW average. South Coogee excepted, domestic assault incidents across the LGA are below average, with two-year trends either stable or declining as of early 2024.²⁵ By contrast, statewide data for NSW shows a consistent upward trend in most categories of DFV-related offences.²⁶

As discussed in section 2.3, the DFV services sector consistently advises that levels of family violence reported to authorities are much lower than the actual rates experienced by victims. Tendency to report may be influenced by a range of factors, including fear of the perpetrator, levels of social support, cultural factors, access to financial resources and other barriers or enablers. Due to this complexity, it is difficult to determine the actual prevalence of DFV within the community.

Randwick Council coordinates the Eastern Suburbs Domestic Violence Network. Feedback from the local DFV sector indicates that pressure on services to assist victims of DFV is significant and growing, with insufficient resources to meet demand. In addition, the lack of affordable housing in the Eastern Suburbs has compounded the challenges for victims, particularly those with children in their care, in leaving unsafe relationships while maintaining connections to community, schools, and support networks.

Antisocial behaviour

Antisocial behaviour covers a range of acts, from minor annoyances to more serious and potentially criminal activity. The key to defining what is and isn't 'antisocial' generally comes down to the extent to which the behaviour negatively affects other people²⁷.

The most notable finding in relation to antisocial behaviour was the effect of locational factors. Almost half (43%) of all respondents who flagged antisocial behaviour as a problem were residents of Maroubra.

Residents identified potential causes of antisocial activity as factors such as mental ill-health, alcohol and other drug misuse, unemployment, boredom, and a lack of support for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to pursue recreational, educational and employment opportunities.

The need for a structural response, involving improved service provision and opportunities for engagement, is well recognised as a necessary ingredient to addressing these issues. Residents acknowledged that the causes of antisocial activity are complex, and enforcement and regulatory functions alone are insufficient to address problematic behaviours impacting on the community.

Social isolation, loneliness, and the importance of community connection

“Everyone went to the Block Party, it was mad. There should be more events like that instead of just once a year.” – Maroubra estate focus group participant/young person

Social isolation and loneliness are recognised as growing public health issues, with significant implications for physical and mental wellbeing. Interestingly, and in contrast with frequent public perception, the highest rates of self-reported loneliness are typically among young people aged 15-24 years²⁸.

During consultation, residents cited concerns about levels of isolation and loneliness in the community, with more than half indicating they felt this was a problem. No particular socio-economic or cultural pattern emerged in relation to the issue.

Commentary emerged about the risk to elderly and other vulnerable residents living alone and with limited connections to family, community, and service providers. Randwick LGA, in line with an Australia-wide trend, is seeing an increase in single-person households²⁹. The additional vulnerabilities of residents with specific risk factors for isolation (such as a mobility-limiting condition, long-term disconnection from the workforce, or an absence of relationships outside the home) indicates a need for targeted support to these sections of the community.

Randwick's high proportion of rented households, increasingly out-of-reach property prices, and limited affordable housing stock were also identified as contributors to the risk of social isolation. Moving to a more affordable area may be the only housing solution for long-term residents priced out of Randwick, often leading to a severing of ties with community and support networks.

Encouragingly, consultation findings showed a clear willingness on behalf of the Randwick community to foster connections and reciprocal relationships. At the neighbourhood level, 75% of survey respondents indicated they would feel comfortable calling on the resources of others for minor tasks involving trust, such as keeping an eye on their home while on holiday. 96% agreed they would be willing to help a neighbour in need of assistance. This level of willingness to assist is a strong indicator of social cohesion and was a positive finding of the Community Safety project³⁰.

²¹ Elton Consulting, Randwick Social Study (2021).

²² Based on the question, 'To what extent do you think the following issues are a problem in your local area?' Respondents were asked to consider impact on the community overall, regardless of whether they are personally affected by the issue.

²³ ANROWS, National Community Attitudes towards Violence against Women Survey (NCAS), Summary for Australia (2021).

²⁴ For further reading, see the Australian National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS), or the Australian Department of Social Services - National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032.

²⁵ NSW BOCSAR, NSW Crime Tool (2024).

²⁶ NSW BOCSAR, NSW Domestic Violence Quarterly Report (June 2024).

²⁷ Australian Institute of Criminology, Key issues in antisocial behaviour (2009).

²⁸ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Social isolation and loneliness (2024).

²⁹ Australian Bureau of Statistics, QuickStats: Randwick Local Government Area (2021).

³⁰ Randwick City Council, 'Your Say Randwick' Community Safety Survey, 2023.

Interpersonal conditions for safety

KEY OUTCOMES	ACTION	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR/S	REPORTING TIMEFRAME	ACCOUNTABLE DEPARTMENT/S
Outcome 3.1 Residents of Randwick enjoy safe, respectful relationships.	Expand access to the 'Love Bites' Respectful Relationships program for young people aged 11-17	# of trained facilitators servicing Randwick LGA	Annually	Community Development
		# of workshops delivered through schools and youth services	Annually	Community Development
	Continue to convene the Eastern Suburbs Domestic Violence Network as a coordinating body for DFV stakeholders in the area	# of meetings conducted	Quarterly	Community Development
		# of initiatives delivered across the DFV spectrum, from primary prevention through to healing and recovery	Quarterly	Community Development
	Council's Family and Domestic Violence Policy is updated in consultation with internal and/or external subject matter experts	Policy is updated in line with current best practice and reviewed on a regular basis	2026	Human Resources Community Development
Outcome 3.2 Safety in the home is maximised for women, children, and vulnerable residents.	Increase availability of affordable, supported accommodation for victim-survivors of family and domestic violence.	Increase in the # of Transitional Housing Program properties funded by Council	Annually	Community Development
		Occupancy rate of Transitional Housing properties	Quarterly	Community Development
		Strengthened communication with managing Community Housing Providers through quarterly updates	Quarterly	Community Development
Outcome 3.3 Local neighbourhoods and communities are cohesive, connected, and resourceful.	Continued delivery of a range of activities focused on social connection, targeting diverse communities across Randwick LGA	# of activities delivered by Council's Community Connection team	Quarterly	Community Development





STEP OUT SPEAK OUT

**Let's end
domestic violence**

4.4. Focus area 4: Individual conditions for safety

Individual factors are specific to the person. Examples include objective personal characteristics, such as disability, health status, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, cultural background, education level, financial circumstances, living situation, and parental or marital status. Subjective factors such as personality traits, self-esteem, and past experiences also influence the role of individual factors in each person's sense of community safety.

Individual risk factors require a community response

A community-oriented approach is critical to ensuring that all members of society enjoy a sense of safety and equitable access to resources, in recognition of the reality that individual factors differentiate one's experience of the world and ability to fully participate in the community. Factors specific to the individual have a strong connection to structural conditions for safety.

For example, a person with physical disability may require accessible design to enjoy communal facilities, while a person experiencing family violence may require access to a law enforcement response, support services, and affordable housing. Different approaches may be required to accommodate the needs of people of various ages, genders, cultural backgrounds, or with past experiences of institutional trauma.

In the community's own words

"I struggled at mainstream school, and I wish there were more different types of education for high school kids, like TAFE or like a smaller environment." – **Focus group participant/ young person with out-of-home-care experience**

"What services are there for the LGBTQIA+ community – where and how are these promoted?" – **Survey respondent**

"I feel safer when I see the police around. As a lady on my own, it is comforting to know they are in the neighbourhood." – **Focus group participant/woman aged 65+**

Key issues

Mental health and social-emotional wellbeing

"I struggled with issues to do with my son and mental health. It was VERY DIFFICULT to get support at the time." – **Survey respondent/ local resident**

Although listed in this section due to the significant degree of individual variation involved, addressing poor mental health and wellbeing requires a structural response. Access to services is a critical component, including culturally appropriate clinical, acute-care, and non-clinical services.



An individual's ability to access services may be dependent on an array of factors including their geographical location, literacy levels, financial resources, support from family or the community, the extent of their mental ill-health and general knowledge of the services available.

In addition, research demonstrates clear links between mental ill-health, suicide, and factors with a structural basis, such as unemployment or financial hardship³¹ and social isolation or loneliness³². These correlations have been particularly highlighted during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Council has a role to play in supporting the local community to build capacity and improve access to resources that have a protective effect on mental wellbeing, such as opportunities for social connection, increased community cohesion, and access to appropriate services.

Alcohol and other drug misuse

"I usually feel safe everywhere, but am on guard if in Coogee in the late evening, as I am a little wary of people on drugs or drunk." – Survey respondent/local resident

Misuse of alcohol and other drugs (AOD) emerged as a reasonably strong area of concern during consultation. Common themes relating to this topic included risk to young people involved in AOD use, the negative effects of drug-dealing behaviour within residential neighbourhoods, and the reduction in public amenity associated with excessive drinking and the behaviour of intoxicated patrons in the vicinity of licensed premises.

Certain 'hotspots' for public intoxication were identified around the LGA by residents and the Eastern Beaches Police Area Command. These included the Coogee Beach tourism and hotel precinct, and parts of Maroubra associated with public daytime drinking.

Residents of certain communities, including parts of Maroubra and Chifley, specifically identified the problem of drug paraphernalia – such as used needles – being left in public spaces, including playgrounds and parks. A resident stated: "Needles are dumped everywhere. It's a risk to our kids".

Few comments were made about less visible forms of AOD misuse, such as individual addiction and consumption of alcohol or illicit substances within the home. As this form of AOD misuse generally occurs 'behind closed doors', is frequently hidden by the user and may not be obvious to the wider community, this was not unexpected.

Officers from the Police Area Command, however, identified consistent seasonal trends in domestic and family violence incidents, noting that DFV callouts always spike significantly during events involving increased alcohol consumption across the community. Christmas, school holiday periods, and major sporting events such as football grand finals were flagged as the highest-risk times of year for domestic assaults.

³¹ Black Dog Institute, media release (2020).

³² Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Social isolation and loneliness (2024).



Individual conditions for safety

KEY OUTCOMES	ACTION	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR/S	REPORTING TIMEFRAME	ACCOUNTABLE DEPARTMENT/S
Outcome 4.1 Psychological safety and social-emotional wellbeing is maximised for Randwick residents.	Continued rollout of Mental Health First Aid training for Council employees, prioritising staff members in customer-facing roles and senior leaders	% of Council employees in relevant roles that have completed training	Annually	Learning and Development
	Expansion of the 'Operation Readiness' Psychological Risk management program for community-facing Council employees	% of Council employees in relevant roles engaged with the program	Annually	Learning and Development
		Feedback from employees regarding impact of the training on their capacity to respond to crisis situations	Annually	Learning and Development
	Referral of residents in need of support to specialist mental health and wellbeing services	# of referrals made through the 'Hub@Lexo' and 'Pop-Up Community Support Hub'	Quarterly	Community Development
Outcome 4.2 Harms related to alcohol and other drug misuse are minimised in Randwick LGA.	Strengthening of relationship with the local Liquor Accord	Participation in Eastern Beaches Liquor Accord meetings	Annually	Community Development
	Continued collaboration with the South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD) Needle and Syringe Program	Outreach services provided in Randwick LGA	Annually	Community Development
	Referral of residents in need to specialist Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) services	# of referrals made through the 'Hub@Lexo' and 'Pop-Up Community Support Hub'	Quarterly	Community Development
Outcome 4.3 Harms related to gambling and gaming are minimised in Randwick LGA.	Residents in need are referred to specialist services and Council promotes harm minimisation activities via its usual communications channels	# of referrals made for residents in need # of awareness and information sessions conducted # of harm minimisation campaigns conducted	Annually	Community Development Communications
Outcome 4.4 Residents experiencing financial hardship are supported to participate in society and avoid escalation into crisis.	Continued advocacy for income support and services that alleviate poverty and minimise administrative burdens for those in need	Submissions or lobbying work undertaken	Annually	Community Development
	Continued implementation of place-based initiatives in partnership with essential service providers	Progress of the 'Hub@Lexo' business plan	Annually	Community Development
	Referral of residents in need to support services including food, energy and financial relief	# of referrals made through the 'Hub@Lexo' and 'Pop-Up Community Support Hub'	Quarterly	Community Development
Outcome 4.5 Residents of Randwick enjoy safe, responsible, and equitable pet ownership.	Take a pro-active approach to community education about responsible pet ownership	# of educational and awareness campaigns conducted	Annually	Communications Ranger Services
		# of pop-up pet care sessions, conducted in partnership with specialist services, in areas of high need	Annually	Community Development Ranger Services
	Implement a Council-managed free community microchipping program in partnership with a local veterinary service	Program is implemented on a trial basis and reviewed for suitability to continue	2025 and annually thereafter	Ranger Services
		Reduction in the # of non-microchipped pets in Randwick LGA	Annually	Ranger Services



5. Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation

Integrated Planning and Reporting

A Safer Randwick City: Community Safety Action Plan is a 10-year plan, covering the period from 2024 – 2034.

The Plan will be monitored and reported on by Council in accordance with:

- The Integrated Planning and Reporting framework for Local Government, as set out by the Office of Local Government NSW: www.olg.nsw.gov.au.

and

- The integrated planning and reporting principles that apply to councils, as set out in Chapter 3 (s8C) of the Local Government Act 1993: Local Government Act 1993 No 30 - NSW Legislation

Accountability for monitoring the Plan

A Safer Randwick City: Community Safety Action Plan will be assigned to Council's Community Development team as the primary department responsible for its implementation, reporting and review.

Directorate: Community and Culture

Responsible team: Community Development

Accountable officer: Manager, Community Development









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