



Member for Sydney, Tanya Plibersek, Deputy Mayor Mat Howard and Cllr Kerrie Fergusson at the launch in Balmain

Soft plastics recycling is here

Soft plastics recycling is returning to key Inner West supermarkets, following sustained advocacy from Inner West Council and the strong backing of the local community.

In a concerted campaign, Inner West Council has been working with state and federal government, industry organisations and supermarkets to return recycling of soft plastics to our community.

A soft plastics recycling trial in Woolworths Balmain has been highly successful.

Council is pleased to announce that Woolworths has confirmed it is rolling out a soft plastics recycling trial across selected Inner West stores at Ashfield Mall, Ashfield North (Bland Street), Leichhardt MarketPlace, Metro Illawarra Road (old Banana Joes), Marrickville South and Marrickville Metro.

The collection points will allow residents to responsibly dispose of soft plastic packaging, which cannot be placed in household recycling

bins. The soft plastics are then recycled at a facility in Warragamba and transformed into a high-quality building product, which can be used to replace less sustainable materials such as plywood, plasterboard and tiles.

Council has committed to improving our procurement practices to incorporate this plastic aggregate in the construction of road bases, play equipment and other products.

This comes after Inner West Council has expanded its doorstep recycling program - accessible by all Inner West residents - to include the unlimited collection of soft plastics.

Scan the QR code for more info:



Our Fairer Future Plan

Inner West Council has released our Fairer Future for the Inner West plan to fix the housing supply crisis in our community.

What changes are we making?

This will be achieved through rezonings that will allow increased residential densities around transport hubs and main streets with 6 to 11 storey buildings in select precincts.

These plans have been developed by independent planning and architectural experts and Council staff, through a block-by-block assessment of where housing can best be located.

Heritage conservation areas are proposed to be protected, with the higher densities in town centres and transport hubs allowing for the necessary new homes.

The plan is underpinned by a detailed commercial viability analysis that demonstrates the increase in densities needed to make development feasible and to ensure that the new homes are actually delivered.



Our Fairer Future for the Inner West plan is designed to deliver more homes



Our Fairer Future for the Inner West plan enables many more homes to be built

Why are we making these changes?

The plan will enable an additional 35,000 homes across the Inner West to be built over the next 15 years, meaning that thousands more essential workers, young people and renters can live in the community they love.

Fairer Future has been developed as an alternative to the NSW Government's housing reforms and achieves more homes across the whole of the Inner West, with a fairer and more even distribution of density across the whole area.

Our *Fairer Future for the Inner West* plan is a blueprint for how we can fix the housing supply crisis in our own backyard. Currently, we simply don't have enough homes here for people to live in. This is driving up the costs of housing, making it unaffordable for many Inner Westies.

This plan is our opportunity to build the homes needed so that our children and grandchildren will have a place to live here in the decades to come.



more homes
more heart



Frequently asked questions

What's changing?

Our alternate approach updates planning controls for land use, building heights and densities in select precincts, while protecting heritage conservation areas. The plan also identifies the new infrastructure and community facilities needed to support an increased population. Through our new Inner West City Architect, we will also ensure that the design of these new homes is high quality and adds to local amenity.

Why is this good for the Inner West?

This plan will provide diverse housing options, including affordable, family-friendly apartments, and create vibrant, walkable communities

while preserving the unique character of our neighbourhoods. By taking action now we can make sure that more young people, renters and essential workers can live here now and that our children and grandchildren will have homes here in the future.

What does this mean for you and how to make a submission?

Want to know if your property is affected? Check our interactive map at yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au. Simply type your address to see the current and proposed planning controls and learn how this proposal impacts you. You can also view draft documents and make a submission here.

Homes for the next generation

The Inner West is an amazing community, made up of people from all walks of life.

But we simply don't have enough homes here for people to live in. This is driving up the costs of housing, making it unaffordable for many Inner Westies, especially younger people, renters, and essential workers.

And if we lose this diversity, we lose what is best about our community.

But the NSW Government's top-down rezoning would have impacted too much on the character of the Inner West without providing enough housing. So, through careful local planning and community consultation, Inner West Council has developed a better plan for our community.

A Fairer Future for the Inner West will allow more people to continue to call the Inner West home while preserving what we love about this place.

As well as ensuring new homes are well-designed, community-focused and sustainable, the plan also includes high-quality public spaces, infrastructure and services needed to cater for a growing population.

By concentrating new homes around town centres and transport hubs, our plan will also revitalise inner west shopping and entertainment precincts. Cafes, bars, restaurants and pubs thrive when there are more people living nearby to them, especially live entertainment and performance venues.



Darcy Byrne

Mayor, Darcy Byrne
Inner West Council

Have your say

Council wants to hear your feedback on the proposed *Fairer Future for the Inner West* plan.

You can make a submission to Council about the proposed approach by:

- ▶ Completing the survey at [Your Say Inner West](https://yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au)
- ▶ Making a written submission at yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/our-fairer-future-plan

When the public exhibition closes, Council will consider all submissions received and make updates to *Fairer Future for the Inner West* as required.

Consultation runs from 22 May until 6 July.

A final *Fairer Future for the Inner West* plan will then be submitted to the NSW State Government for gazettal.

Scan this QR code for more info:





Leichhardt Oval renovation plans

Leichhardt Oval renovation plans revealed

The final design concepts for Leichhardt Oval's renovation have been released.

Federal, state and local government investment has secured the future of our iconic sporting ground.

Check out the new concepts that will make the "Eighth Wonder of the World" a place future generations can enjoy.

Work is scheduled to commence in the second half of 2026.

Scan this QR code for more info:



New Western Grandstand bar



Stadium upgrade



The Eighth Wonder of the World



The Inner West celebrates Professor Richard Scolyer AO

Inner West Citizen of the Year is Professor Richard Scolyer AO

The 2025 Inner West Citizen of the Year has been awarded to Professor Richard Scolyer AO.

This award is in recognition of the impact Professor Scolyer's work has made on the lives of Inner West people and the hope and inspiration he has given to our whole community while facing adversity himself.

There are many Inner Westies alive today because of the breakthroughs that Professor Scolyer and his colleague Professor Georgina Long have made in the treatment of melanoma.

Countless more citizens will have their lives saved and prolonged because of their research in the decades to come.

More than that, the selflessness and compassion with which Professor Scolyer has approached his own very sad diagnosis has touched the hearts of everyone in the Inner West and people across the nation.

Richard's determination to continue experimenting in treating his own cancer, and to keep sharing his story, has demonstrated a profound bravery that we have all found deeply moving.

This award is in recognition that through his work and his example Professor Scolyer has given our people hope that we can keep walking forward through adversity. In doing so he has become an Inner West legend, whose story will be

handed down from generation to generation.

His life's work has been based at the nearby Royal Prince Alfred Hospital where he has dedicated himself to the health and welfare of our citizens.

Richard has been a proud member and volunteer for the mighty Newtown Swans AFL club over many years. He is a regular at the GreenWay Parkrun, along Hawthorne Canal, a community event that he has kept participating in throughout his treatment.

Richard Scolyer is a shining example of what is best about the Inner West. We believe that as citizens we hold a responsibility to contribute to the betterment of our whole society.

We thank Professor Scolyer for everything he has done for us.

The love and respect of the whole Inner West community goes out to Richard and his family in these hardest days.



Richard and Inner West Mayor Darcy Byrne



Book your event in the Inner West

Inner West welcomes more festivals and events at our parks and venues

In response to the City of Sydney's blanket ban on the use of their parks for festivals and live music, the Inner West Council is calling on any displaced

event promoters and organisers to consider holding events in our venues instead.

The Inner West is the beating heart and soul of Sydney's music and cultural scene, and we want to ensure that festivals and events are not lost to Sydney because of the City Council's ban.

Council is encouraging all festival promoters and organisers to consider bringing their events to our parks and venues.

The Inner West has a range of iconic venues and parks, including Enmore Park, Camperdown Memorial Rest Park, Leichhardt Oval, and Henson Park, that we are open to using for live performances and festivals.

We urge anyone in the music industry who wants to hold events in Sydney to contact us directly to explore all options for hosting them in the People's Republic of the Inner West.

Scan the QR code for more information:





The community celebrated the upgrades at Camdenville Park and the Blue Plaque launch

Major upgrade to Camdenville Park now complete

Council celebrated the official opening of the upgraded Camdenville Park with locals on Saturday 17 May, which included the unveiling of a prestigious heritage Blue Plaque.

Council invested in and delivered this major \$8.2 million upgrade to Camdenville Park.

Improvements to Camdenville Park include:

- ▶ Sports field upgrade including new irrigation, turf and sustainable LED floodlighting
- ▶ New playground with additional shaded sails and picnic facilities
- ▶ A new BMX pump track and little kids pump track
- ▶ A refurbished amenities building
- ▶ Stormwater upgrades to reduce the risk of localised flooding
- ▶ New lighting on the shared paths
- ▶ Upgrades to Peter Bulger Wetland including stabilised embankments with native vegetation to filter and enhance water quality.

Council secured \$500,000 in funding from the Federal Government's Urban Rivers and Catchments Program to upgrade the Peter Bulger Wetlands.

Camdenville Park has a rich sporting legacy, and the heritage Blue Plaque commemorates the first NSW Aboriginal Rugby League Knockout (Koori Knockout) held at the oval in 1971.

Founding members of the tournament attended the opening event to celebrate the unveiling of the Blue Plaque including Uncle Bill Kennedy, Professor Bob Morgan AO, Lee Simpson and Christine Corby AM.

Since its inception in 1971, the Koori Knockout has become one of Australia's major sporting and cultural events, growing from seven men's teams to 164 men's, women's and junior teams today.

The park will now also become the Pride Sports Hub of Australia and home to Sydney Rangers Soccer Club, Flying Bats Football Club, and the Sydney Women's Baseball League.

Be sure to head down and check it out.



Road maintenance is ongoing

Looking after our roads

How do we decide which roads need priority work for upgrades and repairs?

It's Council's responsibility to maintain our roads and this includes street sweeping, pothole repairs, refreshing line-marking and re-sheeting. To do this, Council does regular audits every four years.

This information is then used to prioritise road repairs and maintenance.

You can also report a pothole or road damage online and a Council officer will be in touch with you.

We have \$10.6 million budgeted for 2024/25 to spend on our roads.

Scan the QR code to report a pothole:





Celebrating our trainees

Careers in council

Inner West recently celebrated our 29 apprentices, trainees and cadets in the Fresh Start program with Premier Chris Minns and Minister Ron Hoenig visiting our St Peters Depot.

This NSW Government program enables students and school leavers to study and learn on the job while gaining a nationally

accredited qualification. Fresh Start funds their wages so local councils can employ and train a younger generation for careers in council. This program also supports much-needed skills growth in local trades such as plumbing, automotive and mechanical work.

St Peters cycleway completed early

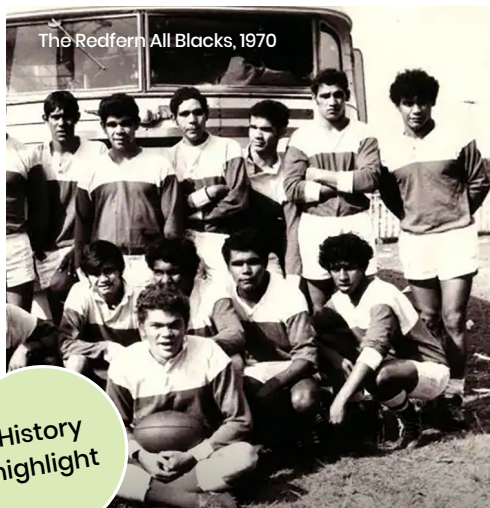
Council has completed work on a much-needed cycleway upgrade from Sydenham Station to St Peters.

This \$1.3 million investment will see improved safety for cyclists travelling between Marrickville and the city.

These improvements have been delivered a month early and aim to create a safer, greener and more accessible corridor for cyclists, pedestrians and residents in the Inner West.



Better safety for cyclists



The Redfern All Blacks, 1970

History
highlight



The heritage Blue Plaque at Camdenville Park

From little things big things grow

From humble beginnings at Camdenville Park in 1971, the Koori Knockout has become a major event in the rugby league calendar.

It was initiated by six men and one woman: Bob Smith, Bob Morgan, Bill Kennedy, Danny Rose, Victor Wright, the late George Jackson, and Barbara Flick. They formed the Koorie United Club with sponsorship from former Marrickville Council, where three of the committee members worked.

In 1971 Koorie United hosted the first Koori Knockout at Camdenville Park to provide an event where talented Aboriginal players could showcase their skills, talent and flair to the talent scouts from professional clubs. However, it was always about more than just footy: it was about family, community and people coming together to enjoy and celebrate culture and connection.

The first Knockout featured seven teams: Koorie United, Redfern All Blacks, Kempsey, La Perouse, Walgett, Moree and a combined Mt Druitt / South Coast side. La Perouse won. The Knockout was played at Camdenville Park until 1975. In the decades that followed, the Koori Knockout has grown from seven men's teams in 1971 to 164 men's, women's and junior teams today. A prestigious Blue Plaque has recently been unveiled at Camdenville Park to honour their legacy.



Street Blitz is coming to your main street



Street blitz begins

Inner West Council has launched a new 'Street Blitz' program to provide intensive maintenance and street cleaning of main streets across the Inner West.

The new Street Blitz program will see Council deploy up to 30 staff on a single day to repair, upgrade and

intensively clean our streets.

Council will expand the program to main streets across all five Inner West wards.

These works will beautify our main streets, including high pressure cleaning of footpaths, hand

cleaning of furniture, removal of posters, maintenance and painting of street furniture, graffiti removal, replacement of all street and traffic signs, street tree and ornamental garden replanting, street tree pruning and mulching and weeding of garden beds.

Get involved at the Inner West Sustainability Hub

Got a few hours to spare? The Inner West Sustainability Hub in Summer Hill is calling for volunteers.

The Bower is on the lookout for friendly faces to help in the boutique, bike workshop, e-waste station, admin office or even behind the socials. Got a skill? They'd love to hear from you. Email info@bower.org.au

Re Place is rescuing fashion from landfill — and you can help. Volunteer for Wednesday afternoon drop-offs (2–6pm) or lend a hand sorting and selling pre-loved clothes. More

information via the Re Place website.

Dress for Success is empowering women with styling and career support. Volunteers are welcome all week (except Fridays and Sundays). Dress for Success welcomes all women, transgender people and non-binary, to register their interest via the Dress for Success website.

Plus — bring your food scraps! The Hub Garden's compost bins are open Mon–Sat, 8am–5pm.

Scan the QR code for more info:



Learn new skills at the Sustainability Hub



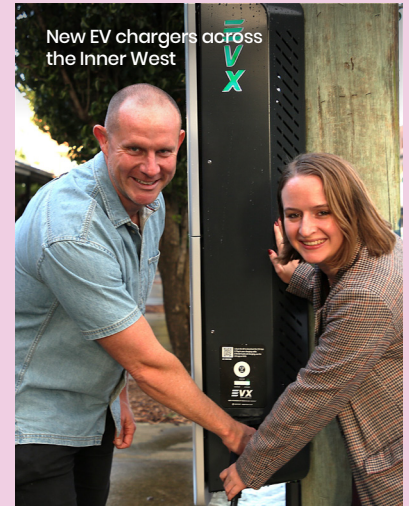
Darling Street gets an upgrade

Council has upgraded the intersection at Darling Street and Elliott Street in Balmain.

We invested \$460,000 to improve this space for locals and road users.

We have put in new paved footpaths and landscaped garden beds.

The upgraded traffic islands, improved pedestrian crossings and smoother road surfaces will also make it safer for pedestrians and drivers.



Over 100 EV charger ports now installed

Inner West Council has hit a major sustainability milestone, with the successful installation of over 100 public electric vehicle (EV) chargers in the Inner West, with more to come.

With figures showing current and projected EV ownership in the Inner West exceeding national averages, Council worked to deliver access to reliable EV chargers for our community.

The rollout of these public chargers was funded by NSW state government grants, with the installation being executed via several public-private partnerships.



GreenWay close to completion

The Cooks to Cove GreenWay is now 80% complete. The biodiversity, walking and cycling route from the Cooks River in Earlwood to the Bay Run at Iron Cove will be completed this year.

The 5.6km shared path will provide public art, ecological restoration and recreational opportunities for the Inner West community.

Premier Chris Minns joined councillors to celebrate the recent works to close the missing links of

this \$42 million project, including the completion of Richard Murden Reserve and a path and lighting upgrade on a section of the Bay Run at Lilyfield.

Work continues at the Hercules Parklands, Constitution Road and Johnson Park, and the Cadigal Reserve and Parramatta Road underpass.

Watch this space for further updates.





Reverse Garbage's 50th birthday

Inner West Council is proud to support the 50th anniversary of Reverse Garbage.

Reverse Garbage is a creative reuse centre making a difference in the world by reducing waste and creating change in the way we look at resources.

Established in 1975, Reverse Garbage is an internationally recognised not-for-profit creative reuse centre dedicated to diverting commercial and industrial waste from landfill and giving it new life. It plays a critical role in both our local and regional circular economy, diverting waste from landfill and draws thousands of visitors from out of area to Marrickville each year.

Reverse Garbage was located at the Addison Road Community Centre for decades before relocating to a warehouse at 30 Carrington Road, Marrickville. Reverse Garbage will host their 50 year anniversary celebration in September this year.

Scan the QR code for more info:



Celebrating diversity

On 17 May, council celebrated IDAHOBIT - the International Day Against LGBTIQ+ Discrimination.

We flew the Progress Pride flag on Council town halls as a reminder that homophobia, biphobia, transphobia and intersexism have no place in the Inner West.

We stand together proudly in support of our diverse community.

Representatives from Council, staff, and our Inner West LGBTQ+ Local Democracy Group came together at the Inner West Pride Centre, the first Council pride centre in NSW, for this group photograph.



Living well with dementia

Did you know there is a free Inner West group for people living with dementia and their carers?

Held by Inner West Neighbour Aid, the group meets monthly to enjoy a range of activities from music therapy to seated dance,

creative activities and guest speakers. Or join for a cuppa and a chat.
















When: First Thursday of the month, 11am-1pm

Where: 5 Senses Garden, Killoola St, Concord West

Bookings and assessment required. Call Maja at Inner West Neighbour Aid on 9799 5099 or email maja@iwna.com.au

Your councillors

Find your ward - innerwest.nsw.gov.au/WardMap

Balmain Ward Baludarrri (Leather jacket)	 Mayor Darcy Byrne (LAB) darcy.byrne@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 02 9392 5248	 Councillor Ismet Tastan (GRN) ismet.tastan@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0481 192 696	 Councillor Kerrie Fergusson (LAB) kerrie.fergusson@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0434 342 041
Stanmore Ward Damun (Port Jackson Fig)	 Councillor Chloe Smith (LAB) chloe.smith@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0412 985 935	 Councillor Liz Atkins (GRN) liz.atkins@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0407 239 951	 Councillor Vicki Clay (LAB) vicki.clay@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0481 194 585
Ashfield Ward Djarrawunang (Magpie)	 Councillor Jessica D'Arienzo (LAB) jessica.darlenzo@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0408 505 622	 Councillor Izabella Antoniou (GRN) izabella.antoniou@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0481 197 286	 Councillor Jo Carlisle (LAB) jo.carlisle@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0481 194 944
Leichhardt Ward Gulgadya (Grass Tree)	 Councillor Philippa Scott (LAB) philippa.scott@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0412 935 713	 Councillor Andrew Blake (GRN) andrew.blake@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0481 193 423	 Councillor Vittoria Raciti (LIB) vittoria.raciti@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0481 193 985
Marrickville Ward Midjuburi (Lillypilly)	 Deputy Mayor Mat Howard (LAB) mat.howard@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0412 645 115	 Councillor Olivia Barlow (GRN) olivia.barlow@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0481 200 044	 Councillor Victor Macri (IND) victor.macri@innerwest.nsw.gov.au 0408 219 260

Contact us

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Request a service
innerwest.nsw.gov.au/Request

Have your say
yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au

Development applications
innerwest.nsw.gov.au/RecentDAs

Council meetings
innerwest.nsw.gov.au/Meetings

Waste and recycling
innerwest.nsw.gov.au/Waste

Libraries 9392 5588
innerwest.nsw.gov.au/Libraries
library@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

Monday – Sunday: Ashfield, Balmain, Leichhardt and Marrickville

Monday – Saturday: Dulwich Hill, Stanmore, Haberfield and St Peters/Sydenham

Aquatics
innerwest.nsw.gov.au/Aquatics

Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre
Marrickville

Ashfield Aquatic Centre

Dawn Fraser Baths
Balmain

Fanny Durack Aquatic Centre
Petersham

Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre

Waterplay Park
Illawarra Road, Marrickville South



What's On Inner West

For more information about what's on,
visit innerwest.nsw.gov.au

Community information sessions on our *Fairer Future for the Inner West* plan

There will be two community drop-in sessions in each ward (weekend evenings and Saturdays) to provide the opportunity for the wider community to be informed about the project.

Community members will also be able to pre-book a time during these sessions to discuss the proposed changes with a Council planner.

Council planners will also be available to speak with members of the community at the Ashfield Service Centre from 9.30am to 11.30am on Tuesday,

Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 22 May to 3 July.

Community engagement closes Sunday 6 July.

Council Planning Team contact

- Phone: 02 9392 5851
- Email: planning@innerwest.nsw.gov.au

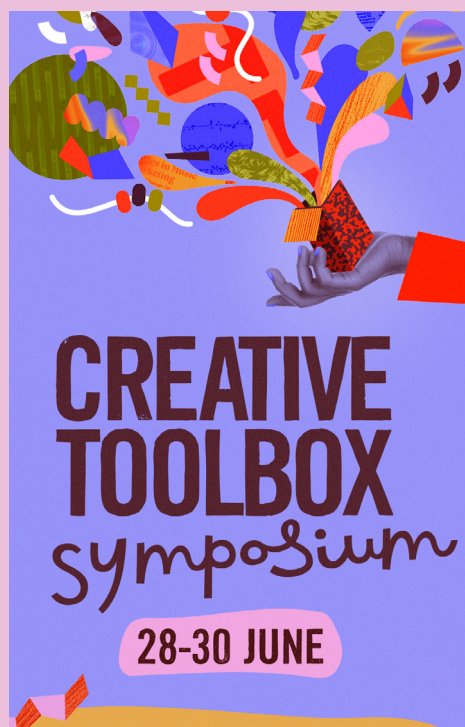
Scan this QR code
for more info:



Our Fairer Future for the Inner West plan is designed to deliver more homes



Visit Council's Your Say page to share your feedback



Inner West presents Creative Toolbox

We are launching a three-day symposium designed to equip artists and creative professionals with tools for sustainable, resilient, and future-focused careers.

Join us for empowering conversations, hands-on workshops and creative experiences. With 25+ expert-led sessions, Creative Toolbox is delivered in collaboration with leading community voices and industry partners.

Hear from inspiring voices including keynote speaker Wesley Enoch AM, Paschal Daantos Berry and Kira Kum-Sing. Explore topics such as care in times of crisis, creating in unconventional spaces, human-centred negotiation and adapting to AI.

Plus, contribute to Nicole Barakat's collaborative artwork, weave with Boomalli artists, experience HOSSEI's joyful Town Hall takeover and laugh along with Queer PowerPoint.

Bookings are essential and spots are limited!

Learn more: www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/creativetoolbox

When: Saturday 28 to Monday 30 June

Where: Marrickville Library and Town Hall, Marrickville