

DETAILED ACTION PLAN

Youth Action Plan

2026-2030



7

destinations



Safe & Strong

A proud inclusive community that unites, celebrates and cares

Safe & Strong documents cover such themes as being a child friendly city, social justice, children's services, community safety and crime prevention, inclusiveness, community services, universal access, reconciliation, ageing, community harmony and youth.



Clean & Green

A cool, clean and sustainable city with healthy waterways and natural areas

Clean & Green documents cover such themes as managing our catchments and waterways, natural resources, environmental hazards and risks, weather/climate emergencies, biodiversity, climate change, resilience, and corporate sustainability.



Prosperous & Innovative

A smart and evolving city with exciting opportunities for investment and creativity

Prosperous & Innovative documents cover such themes as economic growth and employment, investment, art, culture, heritage preservation, pursuing digital solutions and being creative.



Moving & Integrated

An accessible city with great local destinations and many options to get there

Moving & Integrated documents cover such themes as accessibility, pedestrian and cycling networks, pedestrian and road safety, transport hubs, and asset management.



Healthy & Active

A motivated city that nurtures healthy minds and bodies

Healthy & Active documents cover such themes as lifelong learning, active and healthy lifestyles, open spaces, passive parks, play spaces, and providing quality sport and recreation infrastructure and programs.



Liveable & Distinctive

A well-designed, attractive city which preserves the identity and character of local villages

Liveable & Distinctive documents cover such themes as preserving the character and personality of centres and revitalising them, affordable housing, well-managed development, and complying with local laws.



Leading & Engaged

A well-governed city with brave and future focused leaders who listen

Leading & Engaged documents cover such themes as open government, managing assets, improving services, long term funding, operational excellence, monitoring performance, being a good employer, civic leadership, and engaging, educating and communicating with our community.

Strategic Planning Framework Summary

The Strategic Planning Framework (SPF) maps out the role of all current and future Council strategies and plans that work to deliver the vision for the City. The Framework works from the highest level of strategic direction from the Community Strategic Plan through to more detailed plans that will eventually drive works, projects and programs on the ground. The Framework is comprised of the following levels:

The **COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN (CSP)** is our highest level plan and translates the community's desired outcomes for the city into key destinations. The CSP includes community suggested actions which can be tested in the development of all other plans.

1

SUPPORTING PLANS

break down broad theme areas discussed in LEAD STRATEGIES into smaller themes providing high level actions. SUPPORTING PLANS identify broad works, projects and programs required to deliver on these actions. Supporting plans include indicative costing and resourcing requirements and delivery timeframes.

2

DETAILED ACTION PLANS

take actions from SUPPORTING PLANS and identify specific works projects and programs required to deliver on these actions. These plans include detailed costing and resourcing requirements and delivery timeframes.

3

GUIDELINES, POLICIES AND CODES

provide detailed information, rules for activities or guidance for specific works on Council or other lands.

Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Canterbury Bankstown acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, water and skies of Canterbury-Bankstown, the Darug (Darag, Dharug, Daruk, Dharuk) People.

We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge of the First Peoples' continuing importance to our Canterbury-Bankstown community.







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01 Mayor's message

The Youth Action Plan is underpinned by our Community Strategic Plan: CBCity 2028, which outlines a vision for the future of the city as Thriving, Dynamic and Real.

The Youth Action Plan is structured around objectives that contribute to building the resilience of young people and improving their connection to the community and Council.

The City of Canterbury Bankstown is home to around 65,000 young people aged 12 to 24, making up about 17% of the total population. Young people are a valuable part of our community and contribute to our city in a range of ways; they are active members of local community, cultural, creative and sporting groups, volunteers, students and workers.

Young people are not only our City's future, they are our present, and it is important that we have a plan that supports them to reach their full potential and reflects their needs, priorities and ambitions as our city continues to grow and change.

The Youth Action Plan highlights Canterbury-Bankstown's youth as highly culturally diverse, open-minded and supportive of each other, focusing on what unites and connects them. They have enormous talent, great ideas and a broad range of skills. They are resilient and bounce back quickly in the face of challenges.

They are optimistic and excited about the future, and the future of our City. As such, this plan emphasises the need for Council to work together with young people, local stakeholders and government to take a holistic approach, and the need to take a strategic leadership role in seeking the best outcomes for young people in our City.





Your City

385,242
population in 2024



17 kilometres
southwest of
the Sydney CBD



41 suburbs



110
square kilometres



156,400+
employed
residents



99,000+
local
workers



\$17.75 billion
gross regional
product



42,700+
businesses



2,237,700+
international visitor
nights (2023/24)

YOUR ASSETS



3
river catchments



250+
playgrounds



600+
parks



75+
sporting complexes



18
train
stations



416+
Council
buildings



900+
kilometres
Council roads



1,200+
kilometres
footpaths



5,200+
traffic
management
devices

Community profile



28,102
young people
aged 12-17 years

34,048
young people
aged 18-24 years

0.73%
of the population
are Aboriginal
and Torres Strait
Islander people

17%
of the total
population
are young
people

16%
69,195 children
aged 0-11 years

45%
born
overseas



1
art centre



126
schools



1
university



2
TAFE campuses



2
hospitals



9
libraries



91
Gross
Pollutant Traps



680km+
drainage
conduits

02 Context

Vision

A City where young people are empowered, resilient and supported to shape their future.

Our commitment

- Ensure young people have a meaningful voice in shaping local decisions and community priorities.
- Champion youth led initiatives that celebrate diversity and encourage participation across the City.

Purpose

The Youth Action Plan aims to guide the City of Canterbury Bankstown, young people, community members and youth service providers to respond to the needs of local young people and help create a city that is inclusive, empowering and supportive.

Development of the Youth Action Plan

Community engagement played a key part in the development of this Youth Action Plan with close to 1000 young people, community members, youth service providers and council staff providing input. This was done through:

- Community Connect conference
- Youth Summit
- Online Have Your Say surveys
- Youth program surveys
- Youth led consultations held during Youth Week



5.6%

Born overseas



10%

Ages 20-24



31%

Speak a different language



34%

Ages 12-14



56%

Ages 15-19





Strategic context

The NSW Strategic plan for children and young people

This Plan, created by The Advocate for Children and Young People (ACYP), aims to:

- Elevate the voices of children and young people
- Identify the key issues and needs communicated by children and young people and provide them with opportunities to influence solutions
- Provide a roadmap that responds to their stated needs by identifying relevant Government priorities and initiatives.

NSW Child Safe Standards

At CBCity, we are committed to being a Child Safe Organisation that leads and promotes child safety within our community.

The Youth Action Plan aims to develop a strong, protective culture in our organisation and in our community that will reduce the risk of harm to children and prevent abuse and neglect.

Community Strategic Plan

The Youth Action Plan aligns with CBCity's Community Strategic Plan 2036 for our City and its seven destinations.

The Community Strategic Plan 2036 outlines a set of priorities that contribute to the vision of making our City a thriving and dynamic place.

The Youth Action Plan 2026-2030 directly aligns with actions from the safe and strong components of the strategic and operational plans.

CBCity acknowledges that to achieve the best outcomes for our young people, we are responsible for leading actions listed in this Plan.

It is also important to acknowledge the collaborations and partnerships with all levels of government, the community and other stakeholders to ensure young people who live, work, and play in our City are empowered, resilient and supported.



03 What we know

Close to 1000 young people, community members, youth service providers and council staff provided input into this plan through surveys, face to face consultations and more. We also considered data from the Mission Australia Youth Survey 2025, which included input from young people in our City.

What local youth services told us

Youth services described local young people in our City as culturally diverse, resilient, passionate and with a broad range of talents, skills and aspirations.

Their main concerns for young people and the Youth sector in our City are:

- Social media ban
- E-bikes
- Vaping
- Knife and performance crime
- Drugs and theft (crime for hire)

Opportunities identified

- Develop career and future pathway initiatives to support young people to gain meaningful employment
- Work with partners to address limited resources and secure access to ongoing funding
- Improve relationships between schools and the community to increase school attendance and educational achievement

What young people told us

The things that make our City a great place to live include:

- rich cultural diversity
- vibrant food scene
- a strong sense of community

Their main concerns in our City are:

- School or study concerns
- Further education and employment opportunities
- Racism and discrimination
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Environmental concerns

Opportunities identified

- Workshops to upskill young people to pursue their educational and career aspirations
- Cyber bullying awareness programs in schools
- Initiatives that address environmental sustainability and climate change
- Education about gender equality, racism and cultural diversity





"Young people see everything you see. We know what is going on and we are as worried, if not more than adults. It is our future and our lives"



"We are capable of choosing our own paths and making our own choices"

"Young people should be able to pursue what they love"



"It is great how diverse the community is. You get to learn about others "



04 What we will do



How the Plan will work

The Youth Action Plan includes five key priorities which respond to the needs of young people in our City as identified through community engagement and background research.

Each priority has its objectives. These objectives are supported by several actions that will be delivered by CBCity, local service providers and other key stakeholders.

For each action, the following has been identified:

- A Council unit is responsible for delivering the action. It is worth noting, however, that most actions will require the involvement of a range of stakeholders, including several Council teams and external partner organisations
- A timeframe indicating the priority of actions within each objective. Actions are categorised as: annual, ongoing, short term (0-2 years) and medium term (3-4 years)

Key Priorities

1. Youth friendly programs, places and spaces
2. Health, safety and wellbeing
3. Education and employment
4. Diversity and inclusion
5. Civic participation



Youth friendly programs, places and spaces

Young people thrive when they have access to safe, welcoming and engaging environments that reflect their diverse interests and needs.

This Plan prioritises the creation of youth friendly programs, places and spaces that foster connection, creativity and belonging, and by ensuring young people can access the programs and services to help them feel valued and supported in their communities.



Objective		Action		Delivery Responsibility	Time Frame
1.1	Deliver youth programs, events and services that respond to the needs of local young people.	1.1.1	Coordinate programs and drop-in services at Belmore Youth Resource Centre and investigate opportunities to improve existing service delivery.	Community and Cultural Services	Ongoing
		1.1.2	Coordinate affordable school holiday programs, including the Bus to Beach program.	Community and Cultural Services Customer Experience and Recreation Local service providers	Ongoing
		1.1.3	Coordinate the CBCity Youth Week program in partnership with local services.	Community and Cultural Services Local service providers	Annual
		1.1.4	Coordinate Learn to Swim and water safety programs.	Leisure and Aquatics Services	Ongoing
		1.1.5	Support the delivery of accessible and affordable programs for young people through CBCity's Community Grants and Events Sponsorship Programs.	Community and Cultural Services Customer Experience and Recreation	Ongoing
1.2	Improve youth awareness of local services and how to access them	1.2.1	Create and promote youth friendly directories and digital platforms connecting young people to local services, opportunities and events	Community and Cultural Services Customer Experience and Recreation Communications City Business and Engagement	Ongoing
		1.2.2	Convene networking and collaboration forums (e.g., Canterbury-Bankstown Workers with Youth Network [CBWWYN] linking schools, government and services to coordinate referrals and joint programs).	Community and Cultural Services Local service providers	Ongoing
1.3	Create welcoming and inclusive youth-friendly public places throughout the City	1.3.1	Support initiatives where young people can meet and connect with others, including after hours and weekends.	Community and Cultural Services City Business and Engagement Local service providers	Medium
		1.3.2	Include young people in the participatory co-design of public places, facilities and CBCity's major public projects (e.g., co-design panels, youth surveys).	City Plan and Transformation City Business and Engagement	Medium
		1.3.3	Activate community facilities and public spaces with programs that build community connection (e.g., arts, music, sports).	Community and Cultural Services City Business and Engagement	Short

Health, safety and wellbeing

Supporting the health, safety and wellbeing of young people is essential to building resilient communities. This Plan focuses on promoting mental and physical wellbeing, ensuring access to support services and creating safe environments where young people can grow, feel secure and reach their full potential.

Objective		Action		Delivery Responsibility	Time Frame
2.1	Improve physical health outcomes for young people	2.1.1	Coordinate accessible and affordable sport and recreation programs, including the Twilight Sports program.	Community and Cultural Services Customer Experience and Recreation	Ongoing
		2.1.2	Support initiatives that provide guidance on the importance of exercise, and how to access and confidently use local fitness facilities, leisure and aquatic centres, cycle paths and other services.	Community and Cultural Services Customer Experience and Recreation Leisure and Aquatics Services	Short
		2.1.3	Support initiatives that provide education on issues such as alcohol and drug use, vaping, sexual and reproductive health, and access to healthcare services.	Community and Cultural Services Local service providers	Medium



Objective		Action		Delivery Responsibility	Time Frame
2.2	Improve emotional wellbeing outcomes for young people	2.2.1	Support initiatives that address mental health concerns including bullying, stigma and suicide.	Community and Cultural Services Local service providers	Medium
		2.2.2	Support initiatives that foster meaningful peer connections and promote inclusive activities to reduce social isolation and loneliness.	Community and Cultural Services Local service providers	Short
		2.2.3	Provide information to parents to assist them to better connect with their children and manage expectations.	Community and Cultural Services	Medium
		2.2.4	Coordinate evidence-based parenting programs to build skills and understanding.	Community and Cultural Services	Short
2.3	Improve safety outcomes for young people	2.3.1	Support initiatives that address domestic and family violence, with an emphasis on healthy relationships (e.g., Love Bites).	Community and Cultural Services Local service providers	Short
		2.3.2	Provide information to young people and their families about safe technology use, with a focus on cyberbullying and other online/ digital threats.	Community and Cultural Services	Short
		2.3.3	Support initiatives that address youth homelessness in the City.	Community and Cultural Services Office of the CEO	Short
		2.3.4	Support initiatives that raise awareness of gambling harm and addiction.	Community and Cultural Services Local service providers	Medium
		2.3.5	Support initiatives that address current trends or concerns (e.g., E-bike usage, social media ban for under 16s).	Community and Cultural Services Local service providers	Medium
		2.3.6	Maintain Child-Safe Organisation status through regular review and implementation of CBCity's child-safe framework and training.	Community and Cultural Services Human Resources Children Services	Ongoing

Education and employment

Education and employment are key pathways to independence and opportunity. This Plan aims to empower young people through access to learning, skills development and meaningful employment opportunities, and through helping them build confidence, capability and a strong foundation for the future.

Objective		Action		Delivery Responsibility	Time Frame
3.1	Support the success and wellbeing of students	3.1.1	Support initiatives that improve study and life skills, including homework help.	Community and Cultural Services	Short
		3.1.2	Review technology resources and activities at Library and Knowledge Centres to ensure it is adequate, relevant and accessible.	Community and Cultural Services	Ongoing
		3.1.3	Support initiatives that improve school engagement and attendance, including targeted workshops in schools.	Community and Cultural Services	Medium
		3.1.4	Provide pathways information beyond university/TAFE (e.g., apprenticeships, cadetships, traineeships).	Community and Cultural Services City Business and Engagement Human Resource People Transformation	Short
		3.1.5	Support initiatives that strengthen relationships with tertiary institutions (e.g., events, mentoring, access to facilities).	Community and Cultural Services Tertiary educational institutions	Ongoing
		3.1.6	Support initiative for young people to obtain their driver's license.	Community and Cultural services Local services	Medium
3.2	Support access to employment	3.2.1	Support employment initiatives that increase access to employment opportunities, (e.g., Youth Careers Expo, Youth Futures workshops).	Community and Cultural Services City Business and Engagement Human Resources Local service providers	Short
		3.2.2	Coordinate training and employment opportunities at CBCity, including an annual work experience program and Trainee, Apprentice and Graduate program.	Human Resources People Transformation	Annual

Diversity and inclusion

Every young person deserves to feel respected, represented and included. This plan celebrates the diversity of our youth and commits to creating inclusive programs and spaces that embrace different cultures, identities and lived experiences—ensuring equity and belonging for all.

Objective		Action		Delivery Responsibility	Time Frame
4.1	Support for underrepresented groups of young people including: - First Nations - Refugees - People living with disability - LGBTIQ+	4.1.1	Coordinate programs and resources that align with CBCity's Accessible Event Guide, Disability Language Guide and CBCity Social Justice Charter.	Community and Cultural Services Customer Experience and Recreation City Business and Engagement	Ongoing
		4.1.2	Coordinate youth related programs which celebrate First Nations culture.	Community and Cultural Services	Ongoing
		4.1.3	Support initiatives that provide targeted support for young people from refugee backgrounds.	Community and Cultural Services Local service providers	Medium
		4.1.4	Support capacity building of the Canterbury-Bankstown First Nations Youth Group.	Community and Cultural Services	Ongoing
		4.1.5	Support capacity building of the Canterbury-Bankstown Pride Youth Group.	Community and Cultural Services	Ongoing
4.2	Celebrate the diversity of young people in Canterbury-Bankstown	4.2.1	Support initiatives that enable young people to share their diverse stories and celebrate their culture (e.g., showcases, exhibitions, digital storytelling).	Community and Cultural Services	Medium
		4.2.2	Support initiatives that address racism and promote cross-cultural connections, acceptance and understanding.	Community and Cultural Services	Medium
		4.2.3	Coordinate the CBCity Children and Youth Awards.	Community and Cultural Services	Annual

Civic participation

Young people are active contributors to their communities and deserve a voice in shaping the future. This Plan encourages civic participation by creating opportunities for youth leadership, volunteering, advocacy and decision-making, and by ensuring their ideas and perspectives are heard and valued.

Objective		Action		Delivery Responsibility	Time Frame
5.1	Provide opportunities for young people to be involved in decision-making.	5.1.1	Coordinate a biennial Youth Summit.	Community and Cultural Services	Medium
		5.1.2	Support capacity-building of CBCity's Youth Advisory Working Group.	Community and Cultural Services	Ongoing
		5.1.3	Support youth-led initiatives which enable young people to voice their thoughts and work collaboratively with community.	Community and Cultural Services Local service providers	Short
5.2	Provide opportunities for young people to volunteer in their local communities.	5.2.1	Coordinate structured volunteering pathways in programs/events with training and recognition.	Community and Cultural Services Open Space and Building Operations	Ongoing
		5.2.2	Support initiatives that enable young people to lead and participate in environmental sustainability and climate change (e.g., heat preparedness and waste education).	Community and Cultural Services Sustainable Future	Medium





