

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This is Ku-ring-gai Council's report to the Ku-ring-gai community on its performance during the 2020/21 financial year.

The Annual Report is one of the key accountability mechanisms between Council and the community and has been prepared in accordance with Section 428 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the Office of Local Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines. This and earlier annual reports are available at www.krg.nsw.gov.au

This report details Council's performance during the 2020/21 financial year including achievements and challenges and provides an overview of the year ahead.

Performance has been assessed against what Council planned to do during the year to progress Council's Delivery Program. This includes how well we delivered projects, programs and services, as well as completing term achievements set by Council in 2018 to progress the community's long term objectives contained in the Community Strategic Plan – Our Ku-ring-gai 2038.

This year Council is also required to report on its progress implementing the community's long term objectives contained in the Community Strategic Plan. This information is contained in Council's End of Term Report 2017 - 2021 and State of the Environment Report 2017 - 2021 which are included as Parts 2 and 3 of this Annual Report and can be found on our website at www.krg.nsw.gov.au

Delivering for our community

COVID-19 infections markedly reduced in NSW during the 2020/21 financial year. As a result, the NSW Government commenced relaxing some health restrictions in late May and early June 2020 and residents of NSW were able to resume many of their normal activities.

While this allowed the majority of affected council services and facilities to resume, they were still required to operate in accordance with government requirements, including restrictions around the number of people gathering, hand hygiene and ensuring adherence to social distancing practices.

The theme of this annual report 'Delivering for our Community' reflects Council's continued priority during 2020/21 to ensure the ongoing delivery of services, projects and programs, while at the same time ensuring the safety and wellbeing of both the community and council staff, through constant monitoring.

Initiatives put in place during the previous year were continued, including supporting our community organisations to assist vulnerable members of the community, helping those groups experiencing hardship, supporting older residents, assisting businesses and continuing to provide many services online.

In mid to late June 2021, infections related to the COVID-19 Delta variant escalated in Sydney and a lockdown was implemented across Greater Sydney and adjoining local government areas. Any impacts of the Sydney lockdown, which commenced in the last two weeks of the 2020/21 financial year, will be included in reporting for the following year's Annual Report.

Acknowledgements

Ku-ring-gai Council would like to acknowledge all staff who contributed to the completion of the 2020/21 Annual Report.

Photography

Photographs featured in this Annual Report include entrants in various Ku-ring-gai Council photography competitions, and contributions from members of the community and staff. Thank you to all photographers.