Volunteer in our backyard

Help us create a beautiful City that we can live, work and play in for years to come.

Get your local community group, kid’s school or sports club involved and together help keep Lake Mac clean all year round.

We will provide everything you need for your Eco Angel clean up site and will dispose of the waste you collect, free.

Become an Eco Angel
Liveability. It is a word we hear frequently these days, with the media constantly bombarding us with lists of the world’s most liveable cities. Put simply, liveability is a measure of all the factors that contribute to a community’s quality of life. In Lake Macquarie City, we have liveability in spades: a wonderful natural environment, affordable housing, plenty of education and employment options close to home, high-quality infrastructure and community facilities, and many other assets that add up to an enviable way of life.

Liveability has become something of a buzz word in local government because communities are increasingly telling us that they place high value on all the factors that make a city liveable. Communities expect their councils to take a leading role in facilitating a thriving, diverse economy, protecting the natural environment, creating connected, inclusive communities and developing services and facilities that enhance lifestyle and wellbeing.

This is the feedback Council received in 2016 when we asked residents for their opinions through the Shape Your Future campaign, one of the most comprehensive community engagement projects we’ve undertaken. Those ideas have been shaped into a new City Vision and set of Community Values that will guide future planning, including the new Community Strategic Plan, our 10-year blueprint for the future, which Council is in the process of developing in consultation with the community.

You can read more about the Vision and Values and the Community Strategic Plan on pages 8–9 of Your City.

This edition also introduces the elected Council who took office after the local government election in September 2016. I was honoured to be elected Mayor by the people of our City and look forward to working with all Councillors over the next four years to achieve our shared vision of making Lake Macquarie City an even greater place to live, work and visit.

Cr Kay Fraser
Mayor of Lake Macquarie
The Lake Macquarie community elected their new Councillors in September 2016 for the next four years. A mix of familiar and new faces make up the newly elected Council. Learn more about the wards and your local councillor including contact details.

**Mayor**

Councillor Kay Fraser (ALP)
- Phone: 4921 0223
- Email: kfraser@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

Cr Fraser is passionate about social justice and ensuring that everybody has access to necessary services. She believes the people of Lake Macquarie City should have a quality of life that meets their needs, increased opportunities for education and employment, and a lifestyle that promotes a strong connection to the community and the environment.

**North Ward**

Councillor Brian Adamthwaite (ALP)
- Phone: 0417 061 433
- Email: badamthwaite@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

Cr Adamthwaite is a primary school principal and long-term Lake Macquarie resident serving his second term on Council. He is committed to protecting and improving the unique lifestyle of the City while enhancing economic development through the development of strategies that improve employment prospects and support local business growth.

Councillor Kevin Baker (LIB)
- Phone: 0429 867 935
- Email: kbaker@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

Cr Baker is a first-term Councillor with experience in a range of business and industry sectors, including industrial, electrical, automotive, engineering, mining, local government, aged care and not-for-profit. With a background supporting families affected by illness, he is passionate about helping those in need, and has a strong interest in employment issues and skills training.

Councillor Barney Langford (ALP)
- Phone: 0417 137 758
- Email: blangford@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

Cr Langford has spent a lifetime working with and for young people, as a teacher, founder and artistic director of a youth theatre company and manager of a youth arts and cultural centre. He is serving his second term on Council and has a focus on fostering community cohesion and building social capital.

Councillor Colin Grigg (LM IND)
- Phone: 0429 908 747
- Email: cgrigg@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

Cr Grigg has spent most of his working life in the ministry and is serving his first term on Council. He hopes to use his professional knowledge to help the Lake Macquarie community become an even greater place to live, work and visit. He is dedicated to helping local people live better lives.
West Ward

Councillor David Belcher (ALP)
0429 914 623
dbelcher@lakemac.nsw.gov.au
Cr Belcher is a first-term Councillor who has worked widely in disability support and advocacy and understands the need to build inclusive communities where all members are valued and have an opportunity to contribute. Cr Belcher’s focus is ensuring Lake Macquarie is a friendly, vibrant, disability-confident City with universally accessible infrastructure.

Councillor Jason Pauling (LIB)
0417 416 577
jpauling@lakemac.nsw.gov.au
Cr Pauling is an active member of the Hunter business community with a professional background in operations management and boardroom experience with business, education and tourism organisations. He is serving his second term as a Councillor and is committed to easing bureaucratic barriers and making it simpler for people to interact with Council.

Councillor Wendy Harrison (IND)
Deputy Mayor
0409 775 432
wharrison@lakemac.nsw.gov.au
Cr Harrison is a fourth-term Councillor with extensive experience in local government and governance. She has served as Deputy Mayor of Lake Macquarie on four occasions. Cr Harrison is committed to creating a City that embraces diversity, where lifestyle and natural assets are protected and employment opportunities enhanced through sustainable economic development.

Councillor Luke Cubis (LM IND)
0429 939 475
lcubis@lakemac.nsw.gov.au
Cr Cubis is a former teacher now working in the digital economy, managing a technology company and a registered charity. He is serving his first term on Council and wants to see Lake Macquarie become a global leader across all sectors, including innovation, business, investment, technology and governance.

East Ward

Councillor Adam Shultz (ALP)
0429 931 044
ashultz@lakemac.nsw.gov.au
Cr Shultz is a first-term Councillor with a background in small business, financial services, public policy and politics. Cr Shultz is passionate about creating opportunity for all in Lake Macquarie and facilitating policy that will promote economic growth while enhancing the natural environment that residents enjoy.

Councillor Nick Jones (LIB)
0429 889 781
njones@lakemac.nsw.gov.au
Cr Nick Jones is a lifetime resident of Lake Macquarie and local businessman with strong community connections and experience across government, corporate governance and finance. The first-term councillor also served on Lake Macquarie’s Youth Advisory Council and is committed to representing his community and helping shape outcome-focused Council policy.

Councillor Christine Buckley (ALP)
0428 546 549
cbuckley@lakemac.nsw.gov.au
Cr Buckley is a first-term Councillor who has worked extensively in the community sector, including in employment services, disability services, financial literacy and community education. She has a commitment to providing informed, constructive representation that acknowledges and balances the varying needs of a diverse community.

Councillor John Gilbert (LM IND)
0429 945 243
jgilbert@lakemac.nsw.gov.au
Cr Gilbert is a business operator and employer in Lake Macquarie serving his first term on Council. His key policy interests are affordable housing, youth employment and tourism. He is also an advocate for protecting local jobs, public assets and utilities, and supports ‘bigger government’ that provides more services and opportunities for the City.

To find out more, visit lakemac.com.au/council/councillors-and-wards
Let's take a look back at some of the achievements that are bringing good energy to our City, making life here safe and more fun, and building a bright future.

**Good energy**
- 16,480 tonne reduction in greenhouse gases
- 15 Council buildings with solar - capacity to generate 382kW of clean power

**Keeping it safe, making it fun**
- 77,640 more visits to our revitalised swim centres
- 357 life-saving water safety lessons to 8079 kids and performed 93 rescues

**Building a bright future**
- 300 ideas gathered about ways to harness new technologies for a smarter city
- 4 leading futurists helped to shape our City’s future

We ended the 2015-2016 year with our strongest performance in more than ten years.

- 96% targets met
- 93% customer satisfaction
- $+$ budget surplus

Find out more about what we’ve been up to in the past year in our Annual Report and State of the Environment Report, visit lakemac.com.au/how-we-perform
Drop it off for FREE at Awaba CRC

For more information call the Environment Line on 131 555 or visit www.epa.nsw.gov.au/recyclingcentres

This is a NSW EPA Waste Less, Recycle More initiative funded from the Waste Levy. Visit www.epa.nsw.gov.au
Lake Mac’s new City Vision and set of Community Values, developed by the community in 2016, will guide future planning and provide direction for how the City responds to change and growth. The City Vision and Community Values statements, created by a Community Reference Group of 20 Lake Macquarie residents, draws on extensive community input around values and ideas for the future of our City.

This new direction reflects the priorities of our residents and will shape policies and plans prepared by Council, including a new long-term Community Strategic Plan and land-use strategy.

“While there are many similarities to the first City vision developed in the 1990s, the new City Vision and Community Values are more succinct and current, and equip Council to take the City forward,” Mayor of Lake Macquarie, Cr Kay Fraser said.

“Moving beyond the old maxim of ‘roads, rates and rubbish’, the community has told us they expect Council to be a guardian of the environment, a driver of economic growth and diversification, and a provider of services and facilities that enrich the cultural and social life of the community.”

### City Vision

Lake Macquarie is a city with a lake at its heart encircled by distinctive towns and villages. We balance our cherished environments with our need for great spaces to live and visit, smart transport options and a thriving economy; which adapt and strive to be fair for all.

### Community Values

**We value our unique landscape**

A place where the natural environment (bushland, coast, lake and mountains) is protected and enhanced; where our existing urban centres are the focus of our growth, maintaining their unique characteristics.

**We value lifestyle and wellbeing**

A place that encourages safe, active and social opportunities.

**We value mobility and accessibility**

Effective transport systems that provide choices to conveniently move people, goods and services.

**We value a diverse economy**

Resilient and adaptable to change, making the best use of the unique advantages of our location and lifestyle.

**We value connected communities**

That support and care for all and provide a sense of belonging.

**We value creativity**

Working together with creative process and outcomes that bring together history, culture, knowledge and expertise that supports new technologies and ways of thinking.

**We value shared decision-making**

Lake Macquarie communities continue shared responsibility for governance.
Our new City vision

This new City Vision and set of Community Values will come into focus in a new Community Strategic Plan, currently under development. This community plan sets our long-term goals for Lake Mac and actions we can take to make them happen.

It’s a people’s plan. Through this plan we identify our priorities and partner with community, business and government agencies to realise our City Vision and reflect our Community Values in the short, medium and longer term.

Over the past month, community representatives, together with Councillors and staff, have worked through community ideas and feedback to develop draft ten-year objectives and four-year strategies for Lake Macquarie City.

Now it’s time for you to tell us if we’ve got it right.

Your feedback is vital

Community feedback plays a central role in shaping the future of our City, and what we achieve over the next decade.

Is our future in focus? Find out more about our new Community Strategic Plan and be part of the journey at haveyoursaylakemac.com.au/future-in-focus

Lake Mac Grows

Interested in sharing your harvest, your skills and your stories with like-minded locals, community gardeners and urban farmers?

Join our Facebook group Like Lake Mac Grows
Meet Danny creating positive change

Danny is an enthusiastic and dedicated CiviLake supervisor who oversees construction projects throughout our community. Danny’s role allows him to create positive change by helping plan, manage and produce better roads, beautiful parks and enhanced drainage infrastructure to keep our Lake clean.

Part of his responsibility is to ensure we deliver on-the-ground projects that make Lake Macquarie City a better place to live, work and visit.

If you’d like to see some of the great work being carried out by this team, check out the new street improvement works at Cardiff, or head along to The Boulevarde, Toronto and see the new footpath and landscaping works under way.

From streetscapes to local parks, Danny and his team continually strive to create more liveable spaces.

Meet Margo protecting your backyard

Margo is passionate about our environment and works closely with the community to protect local flora and fauna and encourage better sustainable practices at home.

In 2016, Margo encouraged 344 households to sign up to Council’s Backyard Habitat for Wildlife program. By creating a wildlife-friendly habitat in your own backyard, such as building birdbaths or planting native shrubs, you can help strengthen wildlife corridors and increase native bird life, bees and butterflies.

Margo encourages everyone to get outside and see what our amazing natural areas have to offer. And we all know being outside, whether in your backyard or further afield, has benefits for your health and wellbeing!

You can help take care of your own backyard by making sure your litter goes in the bin, volunteering with a community group or simply sharing your great outdoor experiences with family and friends.

Meet Simon all work and play

Simon is lucky enough to project manage the development of parks, playgrounds, sports fields and community facilities across our City.

He is involved in these projects from inception to delivery, and is one of the people you will speak to when enquiring about a project or attending a community engagement event.

Simon’s role allows him to be in the office and out in the field, on any day of the week.

At any time, Simon is overseeing a number of multi-million dollar projects including the Cameron Park Recreation Area and the Thomas H Halton Park upgrade.

Simon is striving to deliver fun and functional facilities for the whole of Lake Macquarie.

Meet Danny creating positive change

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A new Arts, Heritage and Cultural Plan is being developed for our City and we want to hear from you!
Art, culture and heritage helps to engage us as individuals and bring us together as a community.
As culture is the foundation upon which vibrant, resilient and industrious communities are built, Council is committed to supporting the growth and diversity of cultural activities and offerings in Lake Macquarie City.

Council’s vision is to recognise, encourage and develop the City’s diverse cultural life, grow our creative economy, engage and value artistic expression and to protect and promote its heritage.
We want to know what art, heritage and culture means to you, how you experience culture in your daily life and how you think the arts and culture can help create an inclusive, vibrant city.
To share your views on arts, heritage and culture in Lake Macquarie City, visit haveyoursaylakemac.com.au/cultural-plan.

We’re sending a team of talented Lake Mac athletes to Kaunas, Lithuania to participate in the International Children’s Games, in July 2017.

Follow their progress and cheer them on in the fields of swimming, athletics and sailing.

Visit hunteracademy.org.au for more information.
Lake Mac City has a blockbuster series of events coming up that are sure to entertain visitors and residents alike.

What’s on

6-9pm Fridays until 31 March
Music in the Podium
Warners Bay
warnersbay.net.au

25 February to 12 March
Surf Life Saving Championships
Blacksmiths
surflifesaving.com.au/statechamps17

6-9pm Fridays until 31 March
Music in the Podium
Warners Bay
warnersbay.net.au

26 February
Paddlefest
Speers Point
paddlefest.com.au

12 March
Loop the Lake
Charity Bike Ride
Belmont, Morisset or Speers Point
loopthelake.com.au

13 March
Lake Macquarie City Council
Seniors Concert
Warners Bay
lakemac.com.au

2 April
Hunter Arts Bazaar
Warners Bay
artbazaar.com.au

15-16 April
Lake Mac Heritage Festival
Toronto
lakemacheritagefestival.com

27 April
Port to Port MTB
Cooranbong
porttoportmtb.com

13 March
Loop the Lake
Charity Bike Ride
Belmont, Morisset or Speers Point
loopthelake.com.au

27-30 April
World Disabled Water-ski Championships
Myuna Bay
awwf.com.au

Browse our Events Calendar to find an event near you, keep in the loop with our free monthly What’s on eNewsletter or follow us on Facebook.