### **Ordinary Council Meeting**

28 September 2021



#### ATTACHMENTS DISTRIBUTED UNDER SEPARATE COVER

## CCL 28/09/2021 – COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE PACKAGE EXTENSION

PAGE 3 ITEM-90 Attachment A: Community and Economic Resilience

Package Flyer

# Ordinary Council Meeting 28 September 2021





COVID-19 has posed huge challenges for residents and

businesses, forcing many to reconsider their skill set or explore new ways of operating.

We're funding free or heavily subsidised training courses designed to improve the resilience and adaptability of local businesses, and to assist Novocastrians gain additional skills and talent.

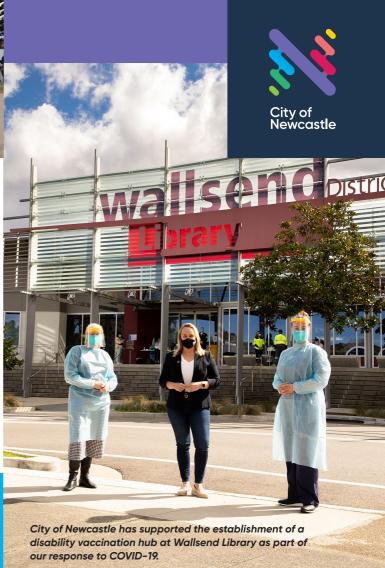
The NewSkills program is funding workshops, self-paced learning, intensive programs and mentorina. The trainina courses will cover a range of topics including developing tourism products, turning a 'side hustle' idea into a fledgling start-up, and providing the digital skills needed

Image: Newy Rides was launched by a local operator in 2020 following participation in our Tourism Product Development Program.

to drive innovation and growth through technology. Visit newcastle.nsw.gov.au/NewSkills for more details.

There's also thousands of e-learning courses and video tutorials with real-world industry experts available from our Libraries. The courses are delivered free via an online learning platform on topics such as resume writing, skills for retraining, and how to start a

Visit newcastle.nsw.gov.au/library for more details.



#### Hardship support extended



We recognise that this is a very challenging time for households and businesses. For those experiencing hardship, we're here to help.

hardship including due to the pandemic can apply for interest-free payment plans for the 2021/22 Rates

Access to free financial planning and counselling assistance is also available to ratepayers through one of City of Newcastle's community welfare partners.

If you are a ratepayer who is experiencing financial hardship please seek assistance by contacting our Rates Team on 4974 2307 or rates@ncc.nsw.gov.au.

### Our response to COVID-19

Targeted support for our community

newcastle.nsw.gov.au



important role to play in providing targeted responses and building confidence in the city's ability to rebound from COVID-19.

When the pandemic was declared last year, we moved quickly to deliver social, economic and well-being outcomes that would support our community through the unknown impacts that were still to come. The result was a \$5.5 million Community and Economic Resilience
Program, which has been formally acknowledged as the best response from a local government in NSW.

It was important to give our community confidence that City of Newcastle was stepping up at a time when there was so much social and economic disruption.

With the latest outbreak of COVID-19 placing further strain on our community, it's clear our job is far from over.

A rapid response grant from City of Newcastle has assisted The Pantry at Hamilton Seventh-day Adventist Church provide support to the community.

We're extending the Community and Economic Resilience Package with initiatives that will provide our community with what it needs now as well as when we move to recovery.

Our resilience package has been informed by experts and seeks to focus on areas where local government has a clear strength and mandate.

In these difficult times please continue to look out for your own health and well-being along with vulnerable members of our community.

Nuatali Nelmes, Lord Mayor of Newcastle

## Targeted response to keep our community strong

City of Newcastle is responding to the latest outbreak of COVID-19 with an expanded and comprehensive Community and Economic Resilience Package.

We're prioritising projects that provide what our community needs now, and targeting gaps in support not currently covered by the NSW and Federal Governments

Our expanded COVID-19 response builds upon last year's \$5.5 million support package and includes rapid response grants aimed at supporting our vulnerable and at-risk community members, business training and mentoring programs, as well as economic development and community grants.



Hardship support will help those under financial strain, while we'll shift the focus of existing sponsorship programs to provide a roadmap to support Newcastle's recovery out of lockdown.



## Keep leaning in Newy!

Local businesses have been hit hard by the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions, but there is a simple way you can help out.

By activating your free Lean in Newy account you can enjoy a wide range of discounts, vouchers and offers from small businesses all over our city in exchange for helping to build resilience and community connection.

Thousands of locals have signed up to the app and are taking part in the targeted acts of community kindness, earning points to be redeemed for benefits at more than 100 participating local businesses.

To find out more or sign up, scan the QR code or visit **newcastle.nsw.gov.au** to find out more.





Google Play

Apple

#### Vaccination the way out of restrictions

We want to safely return to a life with fewer restrictions and know high vaccination rates are the way to make that happen.

City of Newcastle is joining the NSW and Federal Governments in encouraging all residents to consider getting vaccinated as soon as you can to protect yourselves, your family and your community.

To find out more and book an appointment visit the Vaccine Eligibility Checker website at covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au

NSW Health is providing accurate, evidence-based answers to questions about COVID-19 vaccines at

www.health.nsw.gov.au.