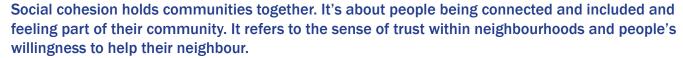
Cardinia Shire's Livability Plan: Outcome 2

Improve social cohesion



Social cohesion and connection is an important aspect of creating a healthier and more liveable Cardinia Shire.

Key statistics



73% of residents agreed people in their neighbourhoods were willing to help each other. (1)



12% don't have someone outside their household **they can rely on to care for them** or their children in an emergency. (2)



32% growth area residents say they are **not connected** enough with the community. (2)



12% of residents **participate in volunteering.**(3) (A 6% decline since 2016)



44% **felt a moderate to strong** connection to community. (2)



69% agreed that people in their neighbourhood can be trusted. (1) (Compared to 72% across Victoria)



6 in 10 residents felt they live in a close-knitneighbourhood. (1)

Health considerations in priority populations

- In 2021, more residents volunteered in North and East regions compared to the South and West regions.
- Older adults, low-income households and vulnerable populations less often have household internet access.
- Those who speak a language other than English and single parents less often have someone outside of their household to rely on in an emergency.
- Those aged over 60 and those who speak English only, more often reported the 'right level' of connection to the local community.
- Some groups within the LGBTIQA+ community experience greater discrimination and challenges to participating fully in life including older people, young people, non-binary and transgender people.

Impact of climate change on social cohesion

- Communities with strong social cohesion tend to have a greater commitment to climate action and after climate events have more coordinated emergency response and support among community members and services.
- Effects of climate change reduce the quality of green spaces, resulting in a reduction of recreation space utilisation, impacting where community members congregate.



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References

- 1. VicHealth. Indicators Survey. 2015
- 2. Cardinia Shire Council. Liveability Survey, 2023
- 3. Australian Bureau of Statistics. Census of Population and Housing. 2016 and 2021
- 4. Icons: Giorgi Gogitidze

