

FUTURE FOR YOUTH SURVEY RESULTS

In 2022, our local young people told us how they find life in the Sutherland Shire and what they want for the future. Young people shared what they like, or would improve, about their local area and how COVID-19 has impacted their lifestyle.

159

respondents
aged 12-25
years

- 4% Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander
- 6% Refugee or migrant background
- 10% LGBTIQ+
- 5% A person with disability

Top ways COVID-19 has impacted lifestyle:



Social isolation **82%**



Ability to exercise **64%**



Access to education **48%**



Financial **35%**

Where do young people find support if they have a problem?

1. Parent **80%**
2. Friend **71%**
3. Doctor/GP **25%**



Top 3 personal concerns for the immediate future:

1. Study pressure **37%**
2. Affordable housing **32%***
3. Health/mental health **14%**



**Higher compared to our 2019 Survey*

Favourite things to do here:

- Visit the national park
- Bushwalk and bike ride
- Hang out and swim at the beach



Like to see more of:

- Live music, concerts, outdoor festivals
- Community and food markets
- Support for youth culture and creatives
- LGBTQIA+ recognition

What they would improve in Sutherland Shire:

Public transport, Roads and parking, Housing affordability, Nightlife, Mental health services in schools/community.



How important is ... ?

Mental Health



96%

said important
or very important

Top 3 mental health
services aware of:

1. Kids Helpline
2. Headspace
3. Lifeline



Sexual Health



73%

said important
or very important

Where do young people go
for help and information?

1. Doctor/GP
2. Parents/Family
3. Internet



What they told us

“The natural beauty is staggering and the sporting facilities are great”

“We need more youth programs to connect schools and community/mental health services”

“I wish people were more accepting of neuro-diversity and alternative lifestyles”

“We need more LGBTQIA+ awareness in schools”

“Amazing opportunities and ability to meet people from different walks of life”

“It’s the best place in the world to grow up”

“The inability to afford property now or even in the future is very scary”

“Study support groups would be a great way to connect”

The 2022 Youth Survey findings inform Council’s strategic direction and planning for youth programs, events and services. A full report has been provided to Council and local youth services. For more information contact Holly McCreery in our Communities Team on hmccreery@ssc.nsw.gov.au