

## **Targeted Earlier Intervention Program**

### **Hunter and Central Coast District**

#### **Central Coast Local Priorities**

##### **We will take a local approach**

We know that every local community is different and has distinct needs and priorities. Local knowledge is crucial to identifying and addressing these needs. That's why we're taking a local approach to recommissioning for Targeted Earlier Intervention.

The new TEI program will focus on collecting data so you can learn more about your local community. This will help you to identify needs, as they change, in your area. As the evidence grows, you'll be able to adapt your service to what works in your community. This is crucial to supporting children, young people, families and communities experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, vulnerability in NSW.

DCJ Districts will work with you to identify the needs and priorities of your community. We will look at:


- local priority groups – who needs the services most in your community?
- location – where in your local area are the services needed most?
- service type – what kinds of services will work in your area?

This evidence-based snapshot outlines the main priority groups in your District. This will help you to plan services that can make a real difference in your local area.

##### **Local Priorities for Central Coast**

Please note, local priorities are not listed in order of importance.

1. Young parents experiencing vulnerabilities
2. Families experiencing domestic violence
3. Families with multiple risk factors
4. Young people and families affected by substance misuse
5. Young people at risk of disengaging from school
6. Children, young people and families experiencing mental health issues
7. Aboriginal children and young people are engaged in school and with their community and culture

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- 8. Aboriginal children, young people, families and communities have access to culturally safe services
  - 9. Children, young people and families who are socially or geographically isolated

## Evidence

### 1. Young parents experiencing vulnerabilities

- 2.7% (n=101) of mothers who gave birth were aged 19 and under. This is higher than the state average of 1.9%.<sup>1</sup>
- Wyong ranked much higher than Gosford on the State of Australia's Mothers index, (106/34 respectively). This means mothers in Gosford experience more hardship than those in Wyong.<sup>2</sup>
- Of the vulnerable children in the Central Coast district, 17% of children aged 0-5, and 19% of children aged under 15 and affected by mental illness, had mothers aged 21 and under at childbirth.<sup>3</sup>

### 2. Families experiencing domestic violence

- There were 1,661 domestic violence related assaults in 2018 in the Central Coast district. This is a rate of 489.7 per 100,000 of the population.<sup>4</sup>

### 3. Families with multiple risk factors

- In 2016-17, 6.3% (n=4,838) of children and young people aged 18 and under were reported at risk of significant harm in the Central Coast district.<sup>5</sup>
- In 2016, 6.4% (n=21,083) of people in the Central Coast district needed assistance for core activities, compared to the NSW average of 5.4%.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> NSW Healthstats: [http://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/Indicator/mab\\_mbth\\_age/mab\\_mbth\\_age\\_lgamap](http://www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au/Indicator/mab_mbth_age/mab_mbth_age_lgamap)

<sup>2</sup> State of Australia's Mothers, Save the Children, Sydney: <https://apo.org.au/sites/default/files/resource-files/2016/05/apo-nid63692-1201431.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Their Futures Matter

<sup>4</sup> Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research: [https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar\\_crime\\_stats/bocsar\\_lgaexceltables.aspx](https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar_crime_stats/bocsar_lgaexceltables.aspx)

<sup>5</sup> FACS Datacube

<sup>6</sup> ABS, 2016 Census Community Profiles: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016+Census+Community+Profiles>





#### 4. Young people and families affected by substance misuse

- There were 1,292 recorded drug offences in 2018 in the Central Coast district.<sup>7</sup>
- In 2018, 65 recorded drug offences were committed by 10-17 year-olds.<sup>8</sup>

#### 5. Young people at risk of disengaging from school

- In 2018, 5.3% of students in the Central Coast district had short suspensions from school, 2.1% of students had long suspensions from school.<sup>9</sup>
- 21 students were expelled for misbehaviour. This represents 17.2% of the total expulsions for misbehaviour in the state.<sup>10</sup>
- 1,727 crimes were committed by 10-17 years old. This accounted for 16% of all crimes in the Central Coast district for 2018.<sup>11</sup>

#### 6. Children, young people and families experiencing mental health issues

- In 2018, 37% of children under 5 were identified as vulnerable in the Central Coast district.<sup>12</sup>
- 15% of children under 15 were affected by mental illness in the Central Coast district.<sup>13</sup>
- 19% of children and young people aged 15-18 were affected by mental illness in the Central Coast district.<sup>14</sup>

#### 7. Aboriginal children and young people are engaged in school and with their community and culture

- 17% of children under 5 who were considered vulnerable were Aboriginal in the Central Coast district.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research:

[https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar\\_crime\\_stats/bocsar\\_lgaexceltables.aspx](https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar_crime_stats/bocsar_lgaexceltables.aspx)

<sup>8</sup> Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research:

[https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar\\_crime\\_stats/bocsar\\_lgaexceltables.aspx](https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar_crime_stats/bocsar_lgaexceltables.aspx)

<sup>9</sup> NSW Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation: <https://data.cese.nsw.gov.au/data/dataset/suspensions-and-expulsions-in-nsw-government-schools>

<sup>10</sup> NSW Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation: <https://data.cese.nsw.gov.au/data/dataset/suspensions-and-expulsions-in-nsw-government-schools>

<sup>11</sup> Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research:


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<sup>12</sup> Their Futures Matter

<sup>13</sup> Their Futures Matter

<sup>14</sup> Their Futures Matter

<sup>15</sup> Their Futures Matter



- 20% of children under 15 affected by mental illness were Aboriginal in the Central Coast district.<sup>16</sup>
- 15% of young people aged 15-18 affected by mental illness were Aboriginal in the Central Coast district.<sup>17</sup>
- Toukley Public School and Wyong Public School have the highest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students (both 20%), followed by Gorokan Public School and The Entrance Public School (19%). Toukley Public Schools has a 91.1% attendance rate and Wyong Public School has a 93.1% attendance rate.<sup>18</sup>

## 8. Aboriginal children, young people, families, and communities having access to culturally safe service

- 3.8% (n=12,492) of people in the Central Coast district identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander in the 2016 Census.<sup>19</sup>
- 55.4% of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in the Central Coast district are under 25 years old.<sup>20</sup>
- The Central Coast has one of the fastest growing Aboriginal communities in the country. Between 2006 and 2011 the Aboriginal community on the Central Coast grew by 40% according to the 2011 Census.<sup>21</sup>
- There were 78 indigenous community housing dwellings in the Central Coast district in 2018, making up 1.5% of the Community Housing in the district.<sup>22</sup>
- There were 71 Aboriginal housing tenancies in the Central Coast district in 2018, making up 1.9% of public housing tenancies.<sup>23</sup>

## 9. Children, young people and families who are socially or geographically isolated

- In 2016, 6.4% of people in the Central Coast district needed assistance for core activities, compared to the NSW average of 5.4%.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> Their Futures Matter

<sup>17</sup> Their Futures Matter

<sup>18</sup> NSW Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation, Master dataset: NSW government school locations and student enrolment numbers (2017) <https://data.cese.nsw.gov.au/data/dataset/nsw-public-schools-master-dataset>

<sup>19</sup> ABS, 2016 Census Community Profiles: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016+Census+Community+Profiles>


<sup>20</sup> ABS, 2016 Census Community Profiles: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016+Census+Community+Profiles>

<sup>21</sup> ABS Quickstats, 2011 Census

<sup>22</sup> FACS Administrative Data

<sup>23</sup> FACS Administrative Data

<sup>24</sup> ABS, 2016 Census Community Profiles: <https://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/Home/2016+Census+Community+Profiles>

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- The 2016 census shows that 19,899 (16.4%) people in the Central Coast district did not access the internet from their place of residence.<sup>25</sup> This is slightly higher than the state average of 14.7%.
  - 8,388 (6.9%) dwellings did not have access to a motor vehicle in the Central Coast district.<sup>26</sup>
  - A lack of regular public transport and significant travel times has been identified, through local consultations, as a barrier to accessing services.

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<sup>25</sup> ABS Quickstats, 2016 Census

<sup>26</sup> ABS Quickstats, 2016 Census

