



Newcastle Show Holiday 2025

Community engagement report

December 2024

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Table of contents

Executive summary	3
1. Background	5
2. Engagement objectives	5
3. Communication and promotion	6
4. Engagement activities	7
5. What we heard	8
5.1 Theme coding rationale	8
Survey results	16
Who we heard from	18
6. Next steps	20
Appendix I – Promotional materials	21
Have your say webpage	21
Social media	21
CN Facebook and LinkedIn	21
Newcastle Show Facebook.....	22
The Business Centre LinkedIn.....	22
Newsletters	23
Economic Development database	23
Tourism database.....	24
Email to schools, banks and union groups	25
Union groups	25
Schools.....	25
Banks	26
Media release.....	27
Paid advertising.....	28
Newcastle Herald.....	28
Newy with Kids	29
HUNTERhunter.....	30
Newcastle Live	31
Appendix II – Online survey	32
Appendix III – Other submissions	35

Executive summary

City of Newcastle (CN) sought feedback from people who live, work and run businesses in Newcastle on whether they support holding a local public holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025. Feedback was gathered between Wednesday 9 October and Tuesday 5 November 2024.

Every year, CN makes an application to the NSW Government for the Newcastle Regional Show Day to be declared a local public holiday or local event day, given its significance to the local community.

In August 2024, CN received correspondence from the Premier's Department in relation to applications under the *Public Holidays Act 2010* for the declaration of local public holidays and local event days for 2025 and 2026 and the relevant guidelines.

CN is applying for a local public holiday on **Friday 28 February 2025** for the Newcastle Show, with a local event day as an alternative if not supported.

Applications are made to the Minister for Industrial Relations under the Public Holidays Act 2010 for the declaration of local public holidays and local event days for 2025 and 2026.

When making an application it is expected that a council will undertake a public consultation process in accordance with the Guidelines for Local Public Holiday and Event Day Applications.

The Guidelines require councils to assess community sentiment as well as the costs and benefits to regional businesses and local communities of declaring a full or part-day public holiday or local event day, including consultation with chambers of commerce, banks, major employers, schools and transport arrangements for students likely to be impacted by the declaration.

What we heard

CN received **952** unique survey responses on the Newcastle Show Holiday 2025 Have Your Say webpage and **815** individual comments were posted as part of this survey. **Six** pieces of feedback were received by email and as attachments to the online survey. 75% percent of respondents **live** in the Newcastle LGA, 77% of respondents **work** in the Newcastle LGA, and 27% of respondents **own a business** in the Newcastle LGA.

Feedback across the consultation activity revealed the following:

Those in support of the local public holiday

- The proposal received general support from the community with **68%** of respondents supporting Newcastle Regional Show Day being declared a **local public holiday** on Friday 28 February 2025.
- **47%** of respondents support the day being declared a **local event day**.
- Key themes from those who support the proposal for a local public holiday include greater attendance, economic benefits, importance to the community, pride and tradition, cultural and historical significance, and importance of the show for families.
- Of the 68% of respondents who support the local public holiday, 73% live in Newcastle, 79% work in Newcastle, and 10% own a business in Newcastle.

Those not in support of the local public holiday

- **31%** of respondents were not in support of the Newcastle Regional Show Day being declared a **local public holiday** on Friday 28 February 2025.
- **39%** of respondents do not support the day being declared a **local event day**.
- Key themes from those who don't support the Show being declared a local public holiday include impacts on local businesses including increased wages and loss of trade, and impacts to casual workers and schools.
- Of the 31% of respondents who do not support a local public holiday, 78% live in Newcastle, 71% work in Newcastle, and 62% own a business in Newcastle.
- Of the respondents who work for educational institutions, 80% were not in support of the Newcastle Regional Show Day being declared a **local public holiday** on Friday 28 February 2025.

Next steps

CN used the feedback received to inform Council at the Ordinary Council meeting of Tuesday 26 November 2024.

The elected Councillors voted to make an application to the Minister for Industrial Relations, seeking the proclamation of Show Day for Friday 28 February 2025 as a **Local Public Holiday**, and if that is not approved by the Minister, request their approval for it to be proclaimed as a Local Event Day as set out in the Public Holidays Act 2010 (NSW).

We will keep the community updated as the application progresses.

1. Background

The Newcastle Show is an important historical, social and cultural event for the community within the Newcastle Region that dates back to 1901 when the first Show was held.

Every year, CN makes an application to the NSW Government for the Newcastle Regional Show Day to be declared a local public holiday or local event day, given its significance to the local community.

CN recently consulted with people who live, work and run businesses in Newcastle to assess whether they support a local public holiday for the Newcastle Show in 2025. The community was also asked whether they support a local event day as an alternative if a local public holiday is not supported.

Consultation with the community involved an online survey on the CN Have Your Say webpage, which was promoted widely.

If approved, the Local Public Holiday will fall on a Friday providing locals with a long weekend and an additional day outside of work to enjoy and celebrate the Show and unite as a community.

A Local Public Holiday is considered a public holiday for all employees whose place of work is within the Newcastle Local Government Area.

The Newcastle Show will be held from Friday 28 February until Sunday 2 March 2025 at the Newcastle Regional Showground at Broadmeadow.

The feedback received from the community on whether they support a local public holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025 is detailed in this report.

2. Engagement objectives

We heard from the community through our engagement activities from Wednesday 9 October to Tuesday 5 November 2025.








The purpose of the engagement was to:

- Inform the community of the official process of applying for a local public holiday through the Premier's Department as set out in the Public Holidays Act 2010 (NSW).
- Consult with the community on whether they support a local public holiday for the Newcastle Show in 2025, or a local event day as an alternative if the public holiday is not supported.
- Deliver authentic engagement opportunities for the community to have their say.
- Reach a diverse group of community members and encourage them to participate in the consultation.
- Use the information collected to inform Council, and subsequently the application to the Premier's Department.

3. Communication and promotion

During the engagement period, a communications campaign was implemented to raise awareness of the *Newcastle Show Holiday 2025* and promote the opportunity for community members to provide feedback.

Key communications activities are summarised on the following page, and key pieces of communications collateral are available in **Appendix I**.

Channel	Description	Reach
 Have Your Say webpage	A dedicated project webpage was created on CN's Have Your Say website. The page provided information on the Newcastle Show Holiday and application process and encouraged participation via the online survey.	2,106 page views
 Social media	The engagement was promoted via a post on CN's Facebook and LinkedIn pages on 9 October 2024. The posts raised awareness and encouraged people to have their say.	6,371 reached 40 engagements
 e-newsletters	<p>An e-newsletter was distributed to stakeholders to promote the engagement and encourage submissions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An email was distributed to CN's economic development business database which includes Business Hunter. An email was distributed to CN's tourism industry database 	7700 recipients 402 recipients
 Partner campaign	A feature blog post, email marketing and social advertising collaboration with <i>Newy with Kids</i> , <i>HUNTERhunter</i> and <i>Newcastle Live</i> was delivered.	52,258 impressions, readers and views
 Emails	An email to schools, banks, and union groups was sent to promote the engagement and encourage submissions.	52 recipients
 Councillor Memo	A memo was distributed to CN Councillors on 9 October 2024, advising of the engagement and providing information on how constituents can provide feedback and comment.	n/a
 Media coverage	A media release was issued on 9 October 2024, and was subsequently reported by NBN, Inside Local Government, 2HD, and the Newcastle Herald.	n/a

4. Engagement activities

The community was invited to provide feedback on whether they support a local public holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025, from Wednesday 9 October to Tuesday 5 November 2025.

The community was able to provide feedback in a number of ways:

- **Survey**

A survey was made available on the CN Have Your Say website. In total, **952** people provided feedback via the online survey. Findings are presented in section **5. What we heard**

- **Other submissions**

Community members were also able to provide feedback by mail, email or phone. In total, **six** submissions were received via these channels. De-identified copies of submissions received are included in **Appendix III**.

5. What we heard

5.1 Theme coding rationale

When large amounts of feedback are provided, CN uses themes to break down and further analyse data. A copy of the coding rationale for each of the comments is available below.

Theme	Summary of theme	Sample comment
General support	General support for the show holiday being declared a local public holiday	<p>"Newcastle is a BIG small town. We thrive when we support each other and why not take the opportunity to celebrate the amazing place that we live with a public holiday. How could it be a bad thing?"</p> <p>"I have very fond memories of attending the show in my youth and would love to see today's younger generation be able to do the same. Allocating a public holiday for this event will afford the time and opportunity for more people to attend."</p> <p>"Whilst Newcastle is now a large and vibrant city in its own right, we have been blessed enough to remain a small, close-knit community at heart. Re-instating show day holiday is a great why to celebrate who we are as a city!"</p> <p>"It promotes community bonding through events and activities, fostering a stronger sense of unity, also boost tourism, drawing visitors to local festivities and attractions."</p> <p>"The Newcastle Regional Show is an important day in the calendar for the community of Newcastle, and it should be celebrated. A public holiday would allow Novocastrians across all the region to attend the day."</p>
Attendance	Comments about the local public holiday allowing for more people to attend, participate in and support the show	<p>"As the mother of a child in kindergarten (year 1 next year), it is difficult to find time to take him to the show outside of the busiest times where there are long queues and wait times. It will enable us to attend and participate in the show."</p> <p>"A local public holiday would enable more people to attend & support the Newcastle Show, helping to ensure this event continues for future generations to enjoy."</p> <p>"Unable to attend the show on weekends due to sporting and work commitments. Public holiday on Friday would allow our family to attend the show."</p>

Community	Comments about the Show being an important community event	<p>"The Newcastle show is becoming more and more popular. This would provide increase sense of community and belonging."</p> <p>"It helps build a sense of community, what unifies us all as Novocastrians."</p> <p>"An opportunity for all in the community to enjoy the social connection this type day brings."</p> <p>"It's a community event. Having a local public holiday brings back the local town community feel that Newcastle really is. Back in the day it was a day off to enjoy the show with my family, it would be great to be able to do so again."</p>
Pride	Comments about the Show instilling a sense of pride in the community	<p>"Events such as these present an opportunity to reinforce a regional location's identity and a public holiday can be used (with the right messaging) to remind residents as such, cementing a sense of civic pride."</p> <p>"Newcastle is a location with a great sense of Civic Pride. Having this as a public holiday for the Newcastle Region would only increase this."</p>
Tradition	Comments about the Show being an important tradition for our region	<p>"Declaring Newcastle Show Day a public holiday boosts community spirit, promotes cultural heritage, & stimulates the local economy through increased tourism & spending. It honours the region's traditions and identity."</p> <p>"The day will allow my family and I extra time to attend the Newcastle show and thereby support an important 100+ year community event and tradition."</p> <p>"It's a local tradition and provides an opportunity for all to celebrate the Show and our local produce."</p>
Family	Comments around the importance of the Show for families	<p>"Gives an opportunity to spend the day together as a family."</p> <p>"Having a public holiday will allow more families to experience the show and support local businesses and communities."</p> <p>"It's an iconic event, that has a direct and conscious connection with the people of Newcastle. It remains well supported but could do with an improved level of support from parents sharing the event with their children."</p>

Social cohesion and connection	Comments about how the Show is important for connection and cohesion in our community	<p>"Great initiative. More than ever it's important to connect with people."</p> <p>"I think it's a great community event that helps provide opportunities for culture and social cohesion."</p> <p>"I support the local public holiday as it provides an opportunity for the community to connect with one another over the holiday which would increase community bonds and social cohesion."</p>
Cultural and historic significance	Comments about the cultural and historic significance of the Show	<p>"The Newcastle Show is a culturally and historically significant event for the people of Newcastle. I have very fond memories of show holidays from my childhood and am disappointed that today's children are missing out."</p> <p>"The Newcastle show is a massive part of the town's history and culture. Everyone should have the chance to attend!"</p> <p>"I believe that Newcastle Regional Show Day is an important historical, social and cultural event for all of Newcastle. Everyone should have the right to enjoy it without taking an Annual Leave Day."</p>
Agricultural significance	Comments about the Show being important for the local agricultural community	<p>"Occurs in many other local government areas across Australia. Facilitates consideration and celebration of our local area and economy, particularly the local agricultural sector."</p> <p>"An opportunity to celebrate the agriculture industry (fun excursion for family) and attend the show. We attended the show this year and loved it."</p> <p>"Allows our family to attend the regional show day which has been an iconic day in Newcastle for so many years. It allows us to boost the economy and see some of the region's best agriculture and farming culture life."</p>
Public holiday shortage	Comments on the lack of public holidays in Newcastle compared to other cities / states	<p>"Other local areas hold these public holidays, it makes sense for us to acknowledge our community and encourage more people to attend the show."</p> <p>"Show days have traditionally been a public holiday in capitals and major towns. About time Newcastle shows that it's an influential regional hub and deserves a day off for the show."</p>

		"Encourage locals to visit the show. In 2024, there were 16 regional areas in NSW with Local public holidays to celebrate their respective events and sadly Newcastle was not one of them."
Economic benefits	Comments about the economic benefits of the Newcastle Show, including increased tourism	<p>"I think this is a great community event, supporting local businesses and the greater community, and brings visitors to our beautiful city."</p> <p>"Opportunity to attend a regional community show. A public holiday will generate new revenue for the city through public spending, spending in the city. A public holiday will also allow the show to boost attendance numbers and create a significant event."</p> <p>"Encourages tourism within the area and gives people the opportunity to get involved in the Newcastle show and attend."</p> <p>"Encourages more people to attend the show and more money being spent in the area as a result."</p>
Benefit to businesses	Comments on how the Show Holiday will benefit local businesses	<p>"I think it would bring locals together to celebrate our wonderful town and we would frequent local businesses."</p> <p>"Great way to support local business by have more people that work in the city spend more time and money at the show and surrounding businesses."</p> <p>"A public holiday gets people out of their homes and into the streets, so it would be supporting those small businesses who choose to stay open, plus we can avoid the crowds of people at the show on the weekend."</p>
Health and wellness benefits	Comments about the Show being important for the health and wellness of locals	<p>"Giving people more opportunities to relax would be very good for reducing the rates of burnout being seen recently across Australia. Also gives more incentive to go visit the show, as many people including myself miss out in favour of work/study."</p> <p>"Brings the community together and improves mental health and wellbeing."</p>
General non-support	General comments not supportive of the Show being declared a local public holiday	"Businesses are struggling with the cost-of-living crisis following COVID, we need to support them. There are lots of Public Holidays already during the year. People are not as interested in shows as they used to be."

		"I think it's an outdated concept. A day off work to attend a show that costs a lot of money to get into and to eat at, drink at, go on rides at? People who want to attend will do so regardless. We don't need to disrupt work and school for it."
Impact on business	Comments on how the local public holiday will impact local businesses	<p>"It significantly adds to the cost of maintaining a business. A long weekend encourages people to leave the city and hence damage other trading days. Casual staff loose employment and further adds to the cost-of-living stresses."</p> <p>"Local business owner - would mean I would need to close my business for the day and still pay my staff. In this economic climate this would add more burden to my business."</p> <p>"Loss of revenue to other local businesses, due to closures due to increase cost to trade. Public holidays see regular or even quieter trade for local businesses, however the increase costs associated with the public holidays results in closures or running at loss."</p> <p>"Businesses are already under significant cost pressures and employees already have mechanisms to take leave in show day. Adding an extra public holiday will represent another cost that businesses will need to pass on to customers, adding to Inflation."</p> <p>"It would result in a significant increase in costs for small business who are already disadvantaged in many economic scenarios. An extra public holiday will disproportionately disadvantage small business."</p>
Cost to small businesses	Comments around the increased costs for businesses if a local public holiday was granted	<p>"Because the actual dollar cost of the Public Holiday is funded by local business. As a small business owner, we simply cannot afford to pay staff for another day off work. Those who vote yes, have no financial cost to themselves personally."</p> <p>"I employ 7 casual staff in the hospitality industry in the CBD and like most hospitality we don't have the margins to absorb the penalty rates we would need to pay staff. We would have to close for the day, losing about a third of the week's income."</p>
Negative impact on local economy	Comments on how a local public holiday would	"It is not significant an event to warrant this declaration. It has significant negative economic impacts across the region."

	negatively impact the local economy	"I feel it's of no benefit to the local economy and a burden to small business employers."
Too many public holidays	Commentary around there being too many public holidays already	<p>"I am a small business owner. There are several public holidays in the first third of the year as it is - New Year's Day, Australia Day, Easter, Anzac Day."</p> <p>"Small business already have to absorb the costs of a large number of public holidays. A regional show is of not significant enough importance to warrant a public holiday."</p> <p>"There are too many public holidays. We cannot expect businesses to fund another non-productive work day. In any case I do not believe that people would support the show by attending if they had a day off."</p>
Wages	Comments around the impact of increased wages to local businesses	<p>"I do not believe it will increase participation at the show, all it will do is put more pressure on local businesses to either close and lose a day of trading, or be required to pay public holiday wages."</p> <p>"My business (healthcare) does not stop for a show. I would still need to have all my staff working but have to pay them double. This is a significant cost impact to my small business and is not justified for a social event."</p> <p>"I think it would be too much of an impact on smaller businesses who need to pay the extra public holiday rates if they choose to remain open or impact them financially if they opt to close."</p>
Trade	Comments on the increased cost of trading / loss of trade	<p>"Loss of trade, increased cost of trading, loss of school day for students."</p> <p>"Try running a business in Newcastle, the Show is a group that comes and generally takes money from the local economy of businesses."</p> <p>"That's what weekends are for. To attend the show. There are so many small business already struggling with keeping doors open and paying staff. This will most definitely impact on their ability to stay open and trade."</p>

Impact on casual workers	Comments on how the local public holiday will impact casual workers	<p>"I work as a casual in a small business. Because of public holiday pay rates, the business will close, and I will lose a days wages. With today's cost of living, I can't afford the loss of income."</p> <p>"I run a local small business - we could not afford paying staff for a public holiday, to have the day off or give penalty rates. Also my staff are not even interested in attending the event and casual staff would lose shifts."</p>
Impact on schools	Comments on how the local public holiday will impact schools	<p>"Additional burden on parents if schools and daycare's close."</p> <p>"Another public holiday is more impact on businesses and schools. Given most have just returned from the long school break and other public holidays. Is there any correlation in the public holiday actually having an increase on attendance at the show???"</p> <p>"Has anyone considered how this would affect schools? If parents are off for a public holiday, they probably aren't going to go to the show without their children. This would disrupt learning in the first 4 weeks of school."</p>
People leaving town	Comments about a long weekend encouraging people to leave town, and not support the show	<p>"I believe giving Newcastle residents a 3 day weekend will encourage people to leave Newcastle for the weekend rather than attend the show"</p> <p>"As a Small business owner this creates an enormous extra cost of Wages. This coupled with the fact that people will use the public holiday to have a long weekend and leave town which means turnover in our business will be fine anyway."</p> <p>"I don't believe that employees would attend the show on that particular day anyway. It provides an excellent opportunity to "go away for a long weekend" instead."</p>
Doesn't support local	Comments about the Show not supporting local business	<p>"The show is not supporting Newcastle. The vendors aren't even from Newcastle. Also we are an Australian wide business and if you want business to trade in Newcastle adding another public holiday is not fair on struggling businesses."</p> <p>"There's no local business involved in the show (food vendors) why should we have a public holiday for outsiders. It's also a basic show."</p>

People don't attend	Comments about the lack of attendance to the Show regardless of a public holiday	<p>"In my experience, not many people actually go to the show. The lost economic activity hardly seem worth it. People wanting to go to the show have the weekend for this."</p> <p>"Over the last several years we do not know of any of our 20-30 employees who attend this show & merely treat the day as an additional public holiday thereby increasing the overheads of local businesses."</p> <p>"The day off is meant to enable local workers to attend the show however the numbers of attendees at the show do not seem to correspond with this."</p>
Quality of the Show	Comments about the quality of the Show as an event	<p>"The show is a very underwhelming event. The tradition of a regional showcase has died, and Newcastle should create an event that is unique to our city. Expanding Surfest to make it a long weekend and a whole of city event."</p> <p>"This event has lost its way. I don't take my family to this event. It does not reflect enough of the values i would want to celebrate. Rides that cost too much, junk food, show bags, animals that sit in cages."</p> <p>"The Newcastle show is repetitive/has been the same for the last 10+ years and doesn't deliver continued value to the community."</p>

Please note- The sample comments provided are raw data with changes to spelling mistakes where necessary to support readability.

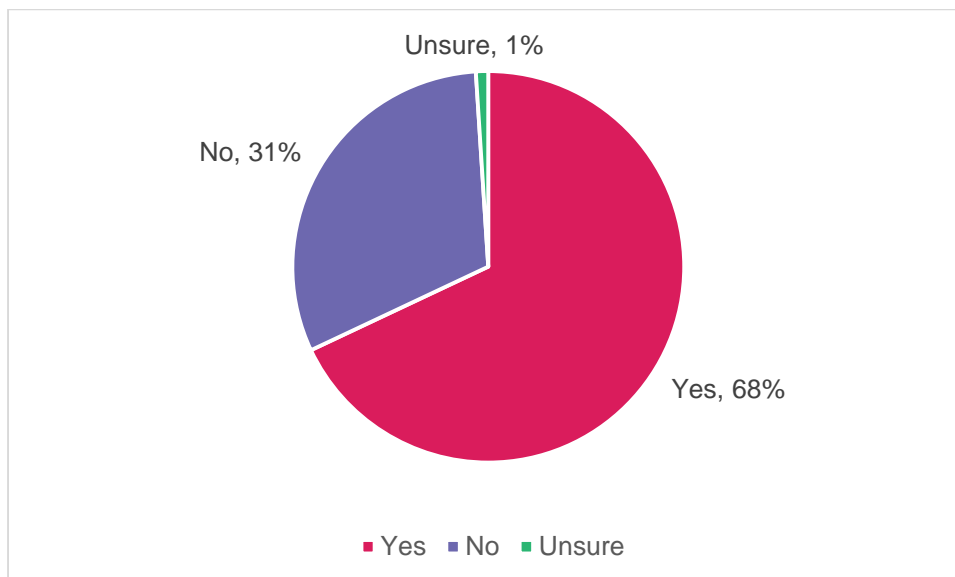
A note about sampling bias: The online feedback form was 'opt-in', which means participants proactively sought to provide feedback as opposed to a sample or respondents being selected to more accurately reflect and represent the population makeup of the Newcastle community.

Survey results

Between 9 October and 5 November 2024 an online survey was launched to understand sentiment and seek feedback on holding a local public holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025.

A total of **952** survey responses were received during the consultation period.

Figure one: Do you support Newcastle Regional Show Day being declared a local public holiday on Friday 25 February 2025?



Overall results across the survey showed 68% of participants were supportive of a local public holiday being declared, 31% were not supportive and 1% were unsure.

Figure two: What are the benefits to the community of having a local public holiday or local event day?



Figure three: Which, if any, of the following would negatively impact you if a local public holiday was granted?

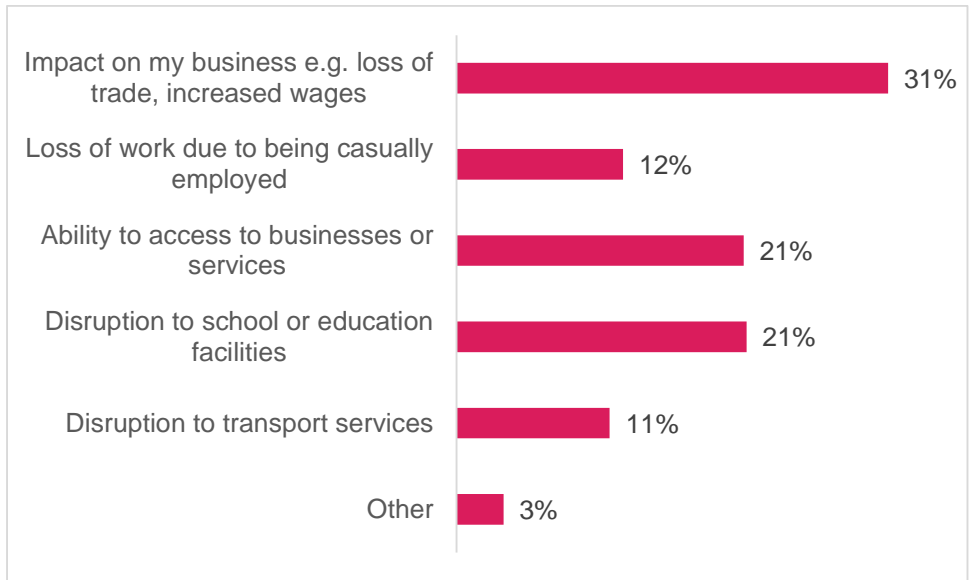
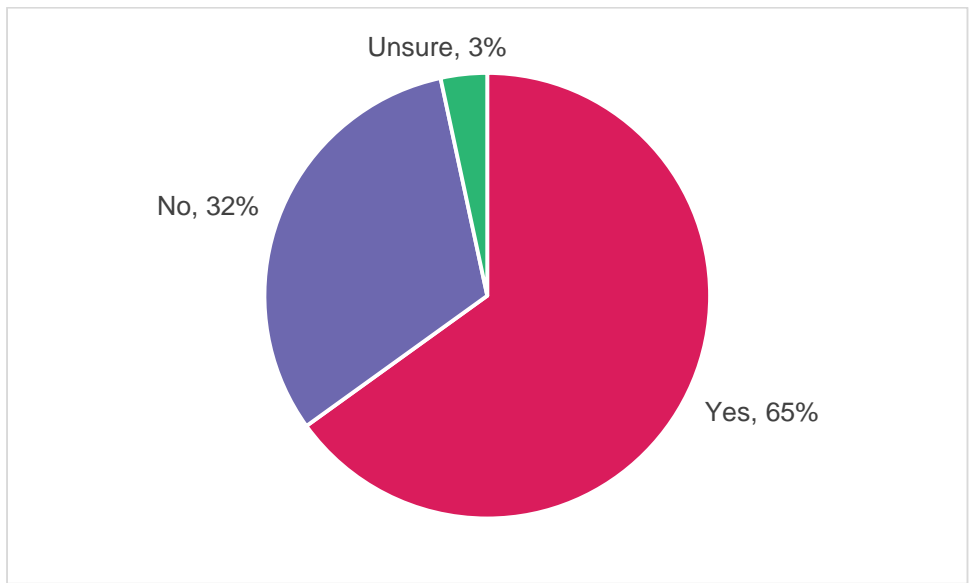


Figure four: Would you be more likely to attend the Newcastle Show if a public holiday was granted?



Who we heard from

Figure five: Age

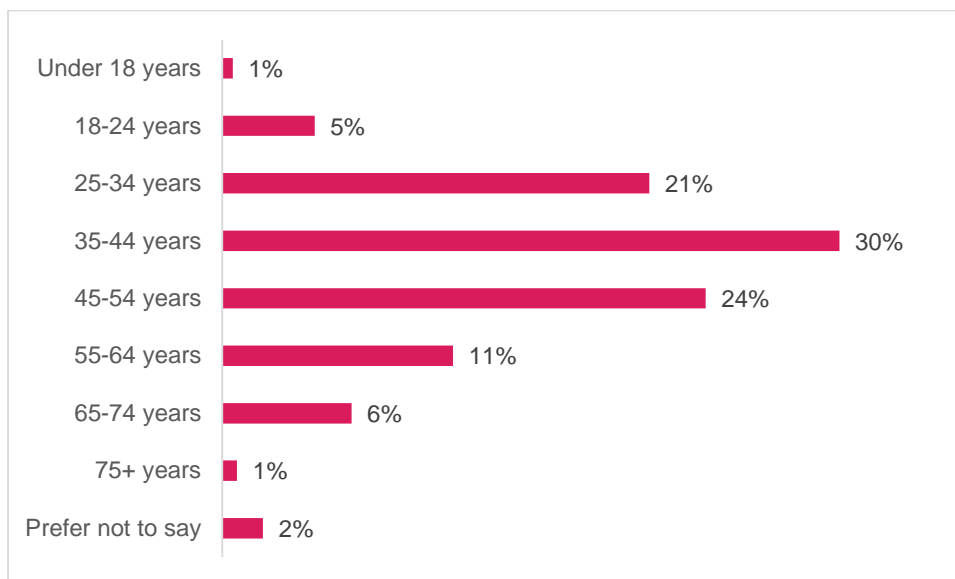


Figure six: Are you the guardian of any children under 18 years?

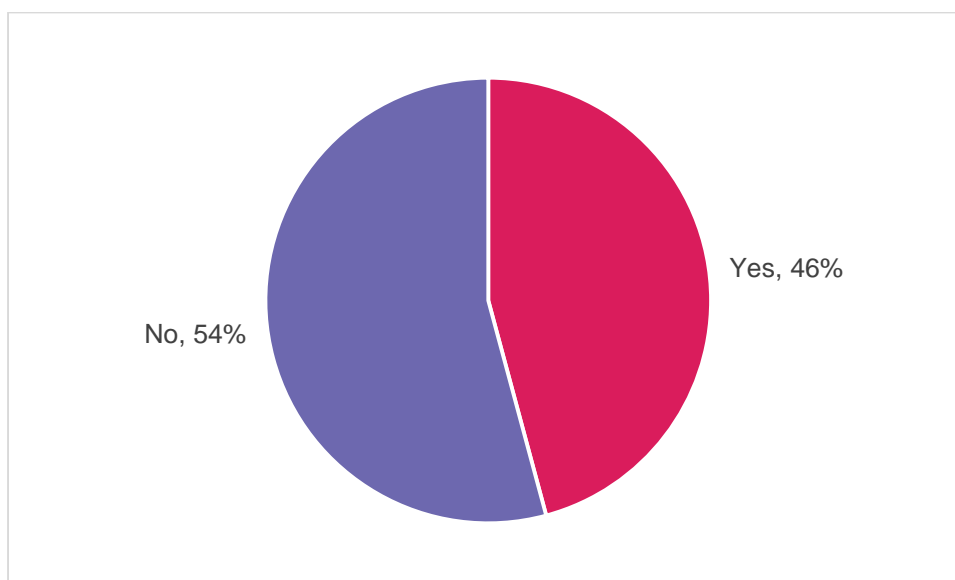
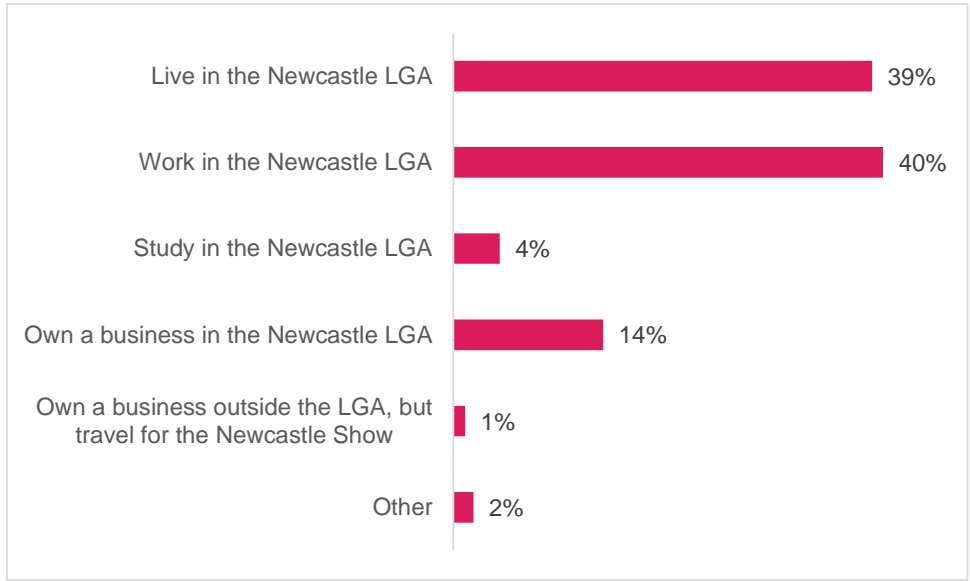


Figure seven: Which, if any, of these describe your relationship to the Newcastle local government area (LGA)?



6. Next steps

CN used the feedback received to inform Council at the Ordinary Council meeting of Tuesday 26 November 2024.

Councillors voted to make an application to the Minister for Industrial Relations, seeking the proclamation of Show Day for Friday 28 February 2025 as a **Local Public Holiday**, and if that is not approved by the Minister, request their approval for it to be proclaimed as a Local Event Day as set out in the Public Holidays Act 2010 (NSW).

We will keep the community updated as the application progresses.

Appendix I – Promotional materials

Have your say webpage

Newcastle Regional Show Day 2025
Have your say on whether you support a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025.

Newcastle Regional Show Day 2025
We are seeking feedback from people who live, work, and run businesses in Newcastle on whether they support holding a **Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025**.
Every year, City of Newcastle (CN) makes an application to the NSW Government for Newcastle Regional Show Day to be declared a Local Public Holiday or Local Event Day given its significance to the local community.
Over the past few years, Show Day has been declared either a Local Public Holiday or Local Event Day for the Newcastle and Lake Macquarie Local Government Areas.
The Newcastle Show is an important historical, social and cultural event to the community within the Newcastle Region that dates to 1908 when the first Show was held.
If approved, the Local Public Holiday will fall on a Friday providing locals with a long weekend and an additional day outside of work to enjoy and celebrate the Show, and unite as a community.
A Local Public Holiday is considered a public holiday for all employees whose place of work is within the Newcastle Local Government Area.
Have your say on whether you support a local public holiday for Newcastle Show Day 2025 by completing the online survey.
The Newcastle Show will be held from Friday 28 February until Sunday 2 March 2025 at the Newcastle Regional Showground at Broadmeadows. For more information visit www.newcastleshow.com.au.

Have Your Say
Submissions are open to people who live or work in Newcastle, and those who own or operate local businesses or organisations. Provide your feedback by completing the online form below by **5pm, Monday 4 November 2024**.

Online form

Contact Us
Have questions or want to learn more about a project, contact us below:
Name: Engagement team
Phone: 024742000
Email: engage@nc.nsw.gov.au

Social media

CN Facebook and LinkedIn

City of Newcastle
21 hours ago

Have your say on the Newcastle Regional Show Day 2025!
We're seeking feedback from people who live, work and run businesses in Newcastle on whether they support holding a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025.
Every year we make an application to the NSW Government for Newcastle Regional Show Day to be declared a Local Public Holiday or Local Event Day given its significance to the local community.
A Local Public Holiday is considered a public holiday for all employees whose place of work is within the Newcastle Local Government Area.
Have your say by completing our online survey by 5pm, Monday 4 November 2024
<http://haveyoursay.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle...>


City of Newcastle, Australia
23,760 followers
21h


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A Local Public Holiday is considered a public holiday for all employees whose place of work is within the Newcastle Local Government Area.
Have your say by completing our online survey by 5pm, Monday 4 November 2024.
<https://lnkd.in/gg5b1hd>

Have your say on the Newcastle Regional Show Day 2025

Newcastle Show Facebook

The Newcastle Show
19h





Have your say on the Newcastle Regional Show Day 2025

City of Newcastle
October 9 at 1:31 PM

Have your say on the Newcastle Regional Show Day 2025!

We're seeking feedback from people who live, work and run businesses in Newcastle on whether they support holding a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025.

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A Local Public Holiday is considered a public holiday for all employees whose place of work is within the Newcastle Local Government Area.


Have your say by completing our online survey by 5pm, Monday 4 November 2024
<http://haveyoursay.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle...>

1 share


The Newcastle Show's Post


The Newcastle Show
4 days ago

YES



NO





NBN NEWS YOUR SAY

NBN Television
4 days ago

YOUR SAY: Should the Newcastle Show have a public holiday?

A survey from the City of Newcastle is asking the community whether the first day of the 2025 Newcastle Show should be declared a local public holiday.

The results of the survey will be presented to Council and will close November 5. #NBNNews

131 likes • 2 comments • 1 share

Like Comment Share

The Business Centre LinkedIn

The Business Centre Newcastle
2,020 followers
1w

Have your say!

City of Newcastle, Australia is seeking feedback from people who live, work and run businesses in Newcastle on whether they support holding a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025.

The Newcastle Show is an important historical, social and cultural event to the community within the Newcastle Region that dates to 1901 when the first Show was held.

If approved, the Local Public Holiday will fall on a Friday providing locals with a long weekend and an additional day outside of work to enjoy and celebrate the Show, and unite as a community.

A Local Public Holiday is considered a public holiday for all employees whose place of work is within the Newcastle Local Government Area.


We invite you to have your say on whether you support the Local Public Holiday by completing our online survey by 5pm, Monday 4 November 2024.

Have your say <https://lnkd.in/gqSbJhcd>

City of Newcastle, Australia
23,811 followers
1w

Have your say on the Newcastle Regional Show Day 2025.

We're seeking feedback from people who live, work and run ...more



Newsletters

Economic Development database

Do you support holding a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show?

No images? [Click here](#)



Have your say on the Newcastle Regional Show Day 2025

We're seeking feedback from people who live, work and run businesses in Newcastle on whether they support holding a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025.

Every year we make an application to the NSW Government for Newcastle Regional Show Day to be declared a Local Public Holiday or Local Event Day given its significance to the local community.

The Newcastle Show is an important historical, social and cultural event to the community within the Newcastle Region that dates to 1901 when the first Show was held.

If approved, the Local Public Holiday will fall on a Friday providing locals with a long weekend and an additional day outside of work to enjoy and celebrate the Show, and unite as a community.

A Local Public Holiday is considered a public holiday for all employees whose place of work is within the Newcastle Local Government Area.

We invite you to have your say on whether you support the Local Public Holiday by completing our online survey by 5pm, Monday 4 November 2024.

[Have Your Say](#)



City of Newcastle

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[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Tourism database



Have your say on whether you support a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025.

City of Newcastle is seeking feedback from people who live, work and run businesses in Newcastle on whether they support holding a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025.

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City of Newcastle invites you to have your say on whether you support the Local Public Holiday by completing our online survey by 5pm, Monday 4 November 2024.

[Have your say](#)




www.visitnewcastle.com.au
visitorinformation@ncc.nsw.gov.au

NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

Email to schools, banks and union groups

Union groups

Have your say on the Newcastle Regional Show Day 2025

 Engagement Team
 To
 Bcc admin@hunterworkers.com.au; secretary@sdan.org.au

Hi all,

We're seeking feedback from people who live, work and run businesses in Newcastle on whether they support holding a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025. Every year we make an application to the NSW Government for Newcastle Regional Show Day to be declared a Local Public Holiday or Local Event Day given its significance to the local community. The Newcastle Show is an important historical, social and cultural event to the community within the Newcastle Region that dates to 1901 when the first Show was held. If approved, the Local Public Holiday will fall on a Friday providing locals with a long weekend and an additional day outside of work to enjoy and celebrate the Show, and unite as a community. A Local Public Holiday is considered a public holiday for all employees whose place of work is within the Newcastle Local Government Area. We invite you to have your say on whether you support the Local Public Holiday by completing our online survey by 5pm, Monday 4 November 2024.


<http://haveyoursay.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle-regional-show-day-2025>

Please feel free to pass this information on to people within your organisation, and encourage them to have their say via the link above.

Kind regards,


Community Engagement Team
 City of Newcastle | Creative & Community Services
 Media Engagement Economy & Corp Affairs | Media & Stakeholder Relations
 E: engage@ncc.nsw.gov.au | T: 49742000



 City of Newcastle acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land of the Newcastle LGA, the Awabakal and Worimi peoples.

Schools

Have your say on the Newcastle Regional Show Day 2025 - Schools

 Engagement Team
 To
 Bcc awabakal-e.school@det.nsw.edu.au; jesmondcc-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au; wallsend-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au; waratah-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au; glendore-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au; hamiltonn-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au; heaton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au; islington-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au; jesmond-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au; maryland-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au; mayfield-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au; mayfieldw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au; minmi-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au; plattsburg-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au; +26 others

[Reply](#)

Hi everyone,

We're seeking feedback from people who live, work and run businesses in Newcastle on whether they support holding a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025. Every year we make an application to the NSW Government for Newcastle Regional Show Day to be declared a Local Public Holiday or Local Event Day given its significance to the local community. The Newcastle Show is an important historical, social and cultural event to the community within the Newcastle Region that dates to 1901 when the first Show was held. If approved, the Local Public Holiday will fall on a Friday providing locals with a long weekend and an additional day outside of work to enjoy and celebrate the Show, and unite as a community. A Local Public Holiday is considered a public holiday for all employees whose place of work is within the Newcastle Local Government Area. We invite you to have your say on whether you support the Local Public Holiday by completing our online survey by 5pm, Monday 4 November 2024.


<http://haveyoursay.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle-regional-show-day-2025>

Please feel free to pass this information on to staff within your school, and encourage them to have their say via the link above.

Kind regards,


Community Engagement Team
 City of Newcastle | Creative & Community Services
 Media Engagement Economy & Corp Affairs | Media & Stakeholder Relations
 E: engage@ncc.nsw.gov.au | T: 49742000



 City of Newcastle acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land of the Newcastle LGA, the Awabakal and Worimi peoples.

Banks

Have your say on the Newcastle Regional Show Day 2025 - Banks in the Newcastle area

 Engagement Team
To

Bcc: DanielPaul.Taylor@cbs.com.au; enquiries@newcastlepermanent.com.au; Branch.Hamilton-2670@anz.com; contactus@greater.com.au; vanesa.vaka@gsb.com.au; matthew.murdock@nab.com.au; danielle.oneill@nab.com.au; stephanie.marcollini@imb.com.au; madeline.quinlan@imb.com.au; rwilson@tmbank.com.au

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#)

Hi all,

We're seeking feedback from people who live, work and run businesses in Newcastle on whether they support holding a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025. This includes people such as yourself who work at banks within the Newcastle area.

Every year we make an application to the NSW Government for Newcastle Regional Show Day to be declared a Local Public Holiday or Local Event Day given its significance to the local community.

The Newcastle Show is an important historical, social and cultural event to the community within the Newcastle Region that dates to 1901 when the first Show was held.

If approved, the Local Public Holiday will fall on a Friday providing locals with a long weekend and an additional day outside of work to enjoy and celebrate the Show, and unite as a community.

A Local Public Holiday is considered a public holiday for all employees whose place of work is within the Newcastle Local Government Area.

We invite you to have your say on whether you support the Local Public Holiday by completing our online survey by 5pm, Monday 4 November 2024.


<http://haveyoursay.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle-regional-show-day-2025>

Please feel free to pass this information on to staff at your bank, and encourage them to have their say via the link above.

Kind regards,

Community Engagement Team
City of Newcastle | Creative & Community Services
Media Engagement Economy & Corp Affairs | Media & Stakeholder Relations
E: engage@ncc.nsw.gov.au | T: 49742000



 City of Newcastle acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land of the Newcastle LGA, the Awabakal and Worimi peoples.

Media release



9 October 2024

Community invited to share feedback on Newcastle Show public holiday

City of Newcastle is inviting Novocastrians to help determine whether the first day of the 2025 Newcastle Show should be declared a local public holiday.

A community survey will gather feedback from people who live, work and run businesses in Newcastle to gauge support for the proposal, with specific questions about the economic and social benefits as well as tourism industry promotion of the region.

Executive Director Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer David Clarke said the community has traditionally supported the idea of a local public holiday.

"City of Newcastle conducted community consultation in 2023 and 84 per cent of respondents supported a local public holiday for the Newcastle Show," Mr Clarke said.

"The Newcastle Show is an important historical, social and cultural event that dates back to 1901, and visitor numbers have continued to increase since the interruption of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"As part of the community survey City of Newcastle will consult with chambers of commerce, banks, major employers and schools that would likely to be impacted, should the day be declared a local public holiday."

"If the day was to be declared a local public holiday it would apply to all employees whose place of work is within the Newcastle Local Government Area."

Alternatively, a local event day may be declared, as has been the case in recent years. A local event day is not a public holiday, but can be considered as one, for those employees in the area who have agreed to observe the day in their relevant industrial agreement and any other employers who want to participate.

The community survey is now open and will close at 5pm on 5 November.

Feedback will then be presented to Council for consideration, prior to an application being made to the NSW Government.

You can have your say by completing the online survey here before 5pm on 5 November <http://haveyoursay.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Newcastle-regional-show-day-2025>

The 2025 Newcastle Show will run from Friday 28 February to Sunday 2 March.

Paid advertising

Newcastle Herald

PUBLIC EXHIBITION


**PUBLIC HOLIDAY FOR
NEWCASTLE SHOW 2025**


City of Newcastle (CN) is currently seeking feedback from people who live, work and run businesses in Newcastle on whether they support holding a Local Public Holiday for the Newcastle Show on Friday 28 February 2025.

Every year, CN makes an application to the NSW Government for Newcastle Regional Show Day to be declared a local event day or local public holiday, given its significance to the local community.

CN is seeking community feedback via public exhibition prior to making an application to the NSW Government. Have your say at:
<http://haveyoursay.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/newcastle-regional-show-day-2025>

Written comments are invited to be addressed to:
 City of Newcastle, Attention
 Linda Woodbury, PO BOX 489,
 Newcastle NSW 2300 or by
 email to: engage@ncc.nsw.gov.au
 by 5pm on Monday
 4th November 2024.

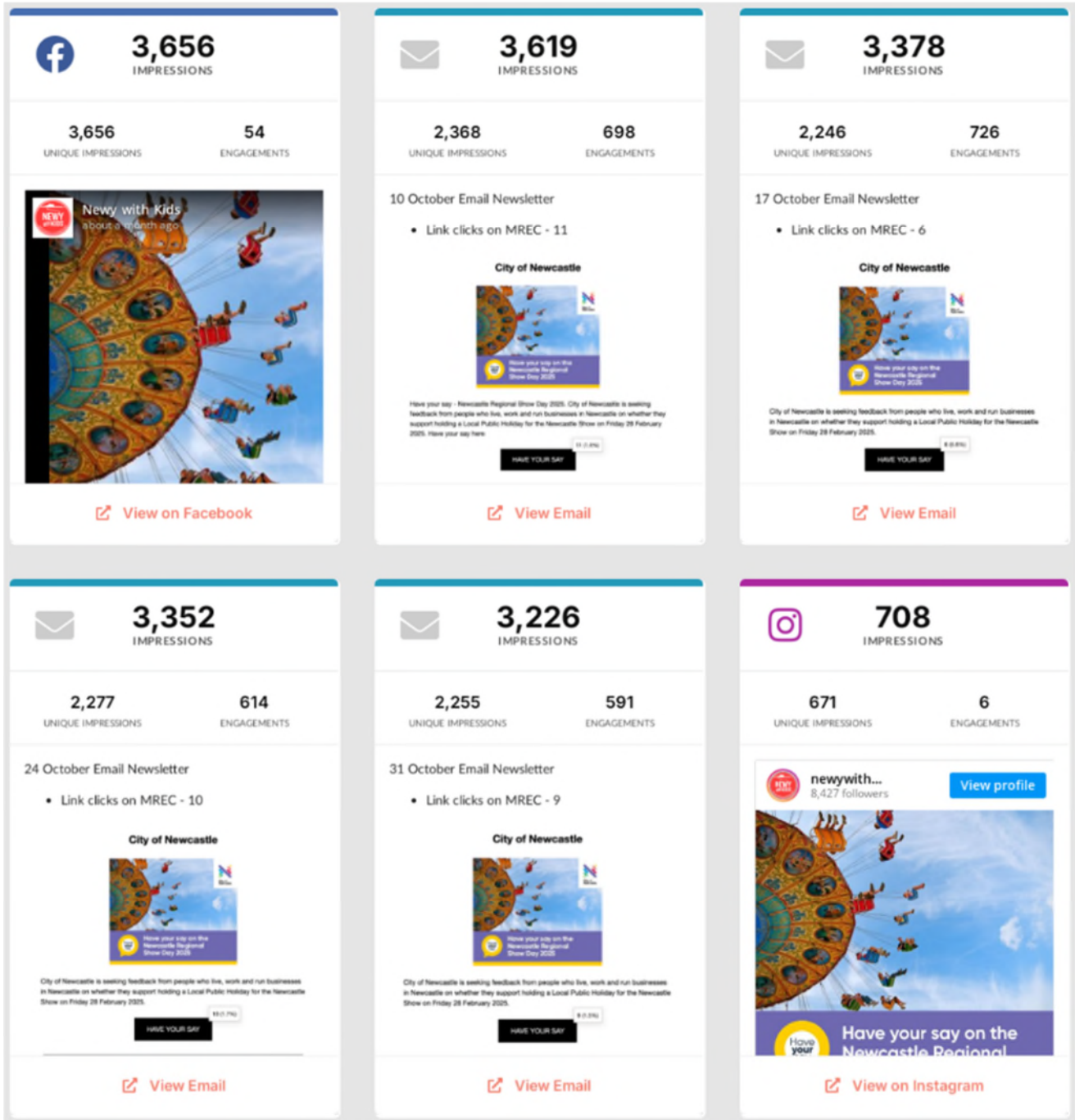




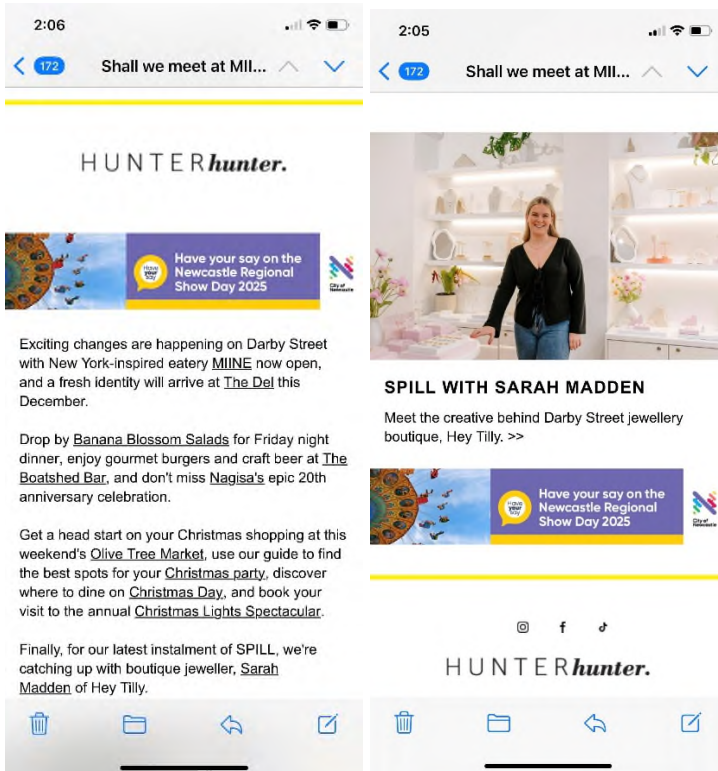
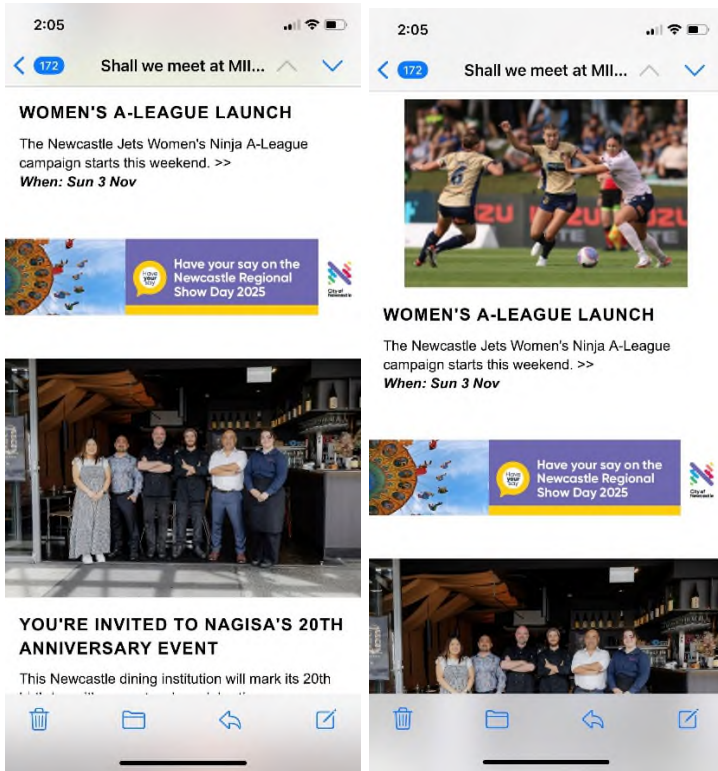
**City of
Newcastle**

AW7423209

Newy with Kids



HUNTERhunter



Have Your Say X HUNTERhunter - Campaign Report

E-NEWSLETTER TAKEOVER SUMMARY											
Campaign Title	Date	Cost	Total Opens	Total Opens %	Total Clicks	Total Clicks %	Total Link Clicks	Total Link Clicks %	CPM	CPC	
Have Your Say	30/10/2024	\$1,000.00	13,993	35.8%	4,770	7.8%	101	2.1%	\$71.46	\$9.90	

Data as at 07/11/2024

Newcastle Live



SOCIAL POST

DISPLAY ADVERTISING A post on our Instagram profile shared across the Meta network with a Call-to-action link to your own website or online store.	REACH How many people saw your post on our Instagram profile or in their feed across the Meta network.	ENGAGEMENT Total clicks, likes, comments and shares on your posts on our Instagram profile and across the Meta network.
	17,208	24

Appendix II – Online survey

Online form

Open

Do you support Newcastle Regional Show Day being declared a Local Public Holiday on Friday 25 February 2025?

Required

A Local Public Holiday is considered a public holiday for all employees whose place of work is within the Newcastle Local Government Area.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Please provide your reasons for supporting or not supporting the Local Public Holiday

Do you support Newcastle Regional Show Day being declared a Local Event Day on Friday 25 February 2025? Required

A Local Event Day is not a public holiday, but can be considered as one, for those employees in the area who have agreed to observe the day in their relevant industrial agreement and any other employers who want to participate.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Please provide your reasons for supporting or not supporting the Local Event Day

What are the benefits to the community of having a local public holiday or local event day?

Select as many as apply

- Bringing the community together
- Enabling more people to attend, participate in or support the Show
- Celebrating the agricultural industry and its importance to our region
- Supporting jobs, employment and local businesses
- Encouraging visitors/tourists to the region
- Other (please specify)

Which, if any, of the following would negatively impact you if a local public holiday was granted?


Select as many as apply

- Impact on my business e.g. loss of trade, increased wages
- Loss of work due to being casually employed
- Ability to access to businesses or services
- Disruption to school or education facilities
- Disruption to transport services
- Other (please specify)

Would you be more likely to attend the Newcastle Show if a local public holiday was granted? Required

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

If you would like to provide more detailed feedback, upload a Word or PDF document here (optional)

A button with a cloud icon and the text "Choose file...".

Allowed file types: pdf,doc,docx,txt,xls,xlsx,rtf,png,gif,jpg,jpeg Size limit: 1.00 MB

First name Required**Last name** Required**Email** Required**Suburb** Required**Which of the following age groups do you fall into?**

- Under 18 years
- 18-24 years
- 25-34 years
- 35-44 years
- 45-54 years
- 55-64 years
- 65-74 years
- 75+ years
- Prefer not to say

Are you the parent or guardian of any children under 18 years?

- Yes
- No

Which, if any, of these describe your relationship to the Newcastle local government area (LGA)?

Select as many as apply

- Live in the Newcastle LGA
- Work in the Newcastle LGA
- Study in the Newcastle LGA
- Own a business in the Newcastle LGA
- Own a business outside the LGA, but travel for the Newcastle Show
- Other (please specify)

Submit

Appendix III – Other submissions



Newcastle NSW 2300

14/10/2024

Dear Members of the Local Council,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal to designate a Friday as a public holiday for the Newcastle Show. As a local hospitality business owner, I believe that this change would have several unintended negative consequences for our community and our industry.

Firstly, creating a three-day weekend for Newcastle may actually detract from the intended support for the Newcastle Show. Many residents may choose to leave town to take advantage of the extended holiday, resulting in lower attendance at the event itself. With the show being held over three days, there are ample opportunities for residents to participate without the need for an additional public holiday.

Moreover, the hospitality industry is already facing significant financial challenges. Implementing a public holiday will only exacerbate these issues. Friday nights are among our busiest times, and closing for the day would not be feasible. This would not only mean lost revenue but also additional wage costs, as we would be required to pay staff who would not be able to attend the show due to their work commitments.

Furthermore, the introduction of a holiday surcharge to cover the additional costs incurred will ultimately be passed on to our customers, placing an extra financial burden on them and potentially discouraging patronage during what is meant to be a celebratory time.

I urge the council to reconsider this proposal and explore alternative ways to support the Newcastle Show that do not place an additional strain on our local businesses and community members. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



8:46



< Notes



I am a supporter of the Newcastle Show and have attended the last 25 years- even when it was embarrassingly terrible- and found the time to go around work commitments, either day or night.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, 31 October 2024 11:39 AM
To: Engagement Team <engage@ncc.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Newcastle Show Holiday 2025 (and any other year)

You don't often get email from [redacted]. [Learn why this is important](#)
Hi,

I run a business that entails 3 shops, one in Newcastle LGA, one in Maitland LGA and one in Lake Macquarie LGA.

The confusion surrounding a public holiday in one jurisdiction is enough. Incurring public holiday rates is another. The show holiday was originally established for bank staff and Council staff.

It shows how out of touch NCC is with the world to seek feedback. Business is the toughest I have seen in over 30 years, yet you want to incur greater costs on local businesses for the sake of benefitting gypsies.

Kindly get in touch with reality.

Regards,



Councillors
Newcastle City Council
15/10/24

This is a repeat letter that I sent on 10/11/15 & it is still relevant today.

Re Discussion on Show Holiday

Benefits & Costs of Implementing a Show Day Holiday(Local Event Day)

Newcastle is a major industrial & economic region in the state. Commerce does not stop.

A Show Day Holiday (local Event Day) is a cost to business that has no corresponding benefit to the regional economy.

Gone are the days of the little coal town of Newcastle.

The Carnival people run the Newcastle Show, as was shown, some years ago, when the Show Association tried to rearrange the layout and costs in relation to the rides & side show alley. The Carnival Membership boycotted the show and attendances were abysmal.

This personifies the fact that no rides no people. It also highlights that the majority of money spent by attendees goes to the Carnival businesses who, after 3 days pack up and take our money with them.

Benefits ??

On Local Event Day employees can get the day off, this is no help to business as we all must open & probably be understaffed.

Newcastle is a major industrial & economic region in the state & is cojoined to the surrounding LGAs LMCC, MCC & CCC. Commerce does not stop, in fact many businesses are open 7 days a week.

Cost to business.

A Local Event Day is a cost to business that has no corresponding benefit to the regional economy.

Gone are the days of the little coal town of Newcastle.

Newcastle is a Major industrial & economic region in the state. Commerce does not stop for the Newcastle Show.

Our customers also have to work on this day so we have to work.

What is the cost to every other businesses? - Huge

It seems incomprehensible that the whole business community suffers this impost so Side Show Alley has a good day.

When Roger Geary was president of the Newcastle Show Association he said **“the replacement of the traditional public holiday with a “local event day” had not made a huge difference to numbers” (NMH march 8th 2015).**

I have searched NSW Industrial Relations Web site for council areas that have a Local Event Day There are only 8 Councils in the whole of NSW, and they are small country areas. No major economic region like Newcastle or Lake Macquarie Councils.

You will note, there is a glaring absence of any major important City Councils that request the gazettal of a Local Event Day.

Newcastle Council knows how hard it is to turn a surplus. It is no different for business in fact it is harder.

The community & businesses complain about increases in statutory costs and here we have the potential of the Councillors imposing what is in affect a statutory cost that is impossible for business to recover.

If I were to come to your home and tell you had to subsidise the Newcastle Show to the tune of \$1000 or even \$100. I would suggest that you would refuse. Yet a gazetted Show Holiday Or Local Event Day, is in effect imposing that, on business.

Is that fair? When the costs outweigh the benefits.

If you want to support the Newcastle Show, then the Council should subsidise the Newcastle Show. After all, by requesting a Local Event Day you are by default, imposing on my business and every other business, a statutory cost.

Why make business the fall guys.

If council wants to assist, all you need to do is levy \$1.00 on all rate payers and this would more than prop up the Newcastle Show. Or better still just take \$1.00 from Council coffers for every rate payer and give it to the Newcastle Show Association.

Please use your money not ours.

Important reference Data

Show Attendance figures

2010 – 57,000 –reference -NMH (show holiday)

2011 – 60,000 - reference –NMH (show holiday)

2012 – 60,000 reference -Anne Morris Show Association (no show holiday)

2013 – 35000 – Bad weather (NMH march 8th 2015). (No show holiday)

2014 – 35000 – Bad weather (NMH march 8th 2015). (No show holiday)

2015 – 50000 plus, - Good weather (NMH march 8th 2015) (No show holiday)

Attendances fluctuate wildly in line with the weather. So, if a bad weather Friday occurs, attendance is down.

The Lower Hunter has a population bordering on 600,000 (Hunter Research Foundation)

So on average less than 10% of the population (men, woman, & children) attend the Newcastle Show

The hunter has a labour force of some 324,000 participants (Hunter Research Foundation)

Assume that half the attendees to the Show are in the work force therefore only 10% (34,000) go through the gates. This is regardless of a show day holiday or an event day.

So, for 10% of the paid work force to attend the Show, Newcastle Councillors are burdening 100% of the Newcastle businesses with the costs. Is this equitable???

Let's assume that a show holiday or an Event Day does increase attendances. History says it doesn't. So based the range of ticket prices and calculation that 50% of gate takings are from adults, children & concession & 50% are families, then roughly the average ticket price would be \$30.

Now let's say there is an increase of 6000 through the gates, (10% of the best ever attendance).

Therefore this would raise an extra \$180,000. Is this worth the hundreds of thousands of dollars that will cost businesses if a Local Event Day is gazetted?

I respectfully ask again that no Local Event Day be applied for.

Yours Faithfully

BUSINESS NEWCASTLE

Mr David Clarke

Executive Director, Corporate Services, and Chief Financial Officer

City of Newcastle

12 Stewart Avenue

PO Box 489, Newcastle 2300

Dear Mr Clarke,

On behalf of our membership, the small businesses located in Newcastle, we write to ask Council to discontinue its ill-advised plan to have Newcastle Show Day declared as a Public Holiday.

As you are aware from the statistical data to which Council has access, the majority of businesses in Newcastle are small and staffing costs are a significant element of those businesses.

Sometimes it is not fully recognised in real terms just how many people are employed by the city's small businesses. These businesses are the backbone of the Newcastle economy and community. At the moment, they are doing it particularly tough.

I wonder just how many businesses will have to close on that Friday should Council be successful in this strategy? At what cost?

How much will be stripped out of the local economy?

What will the wages bill be for the non-productive time that has to be paid for?

How many casual staff will lose a day's pay because trade for the day will not cover the increased costs, meaning that services will not be offered?

And indeed, what evidence is there that the Friday show attendance reflects the number of people who are, in effect, being paid by their employer to attend - over and above what the attendance would be without that measure?

Whatever the income generated by those numbers, it represents cost-shifting from small business and casual workers' wages to the Show's bottom line.

That is surely NOT the job of local government.

We ask, on behalf of our members, that Council desist with this damaging idea of a Public Holiday for Newcastle Show.



Business Newcastle - PO Box 770, Hamilton NSW 2303



15 October 2024

City of Newcastle Council
282 King Street
Newcastle NSW 2300

Dear members of the Newcastle City Council

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposal to declare a public holiday for the first day of the Newcastle Show. While I understand the cultural and historical significance of the Newcastle Show, I believe that declaring a public holiday would have several negative economic impacts on our local businesses and overall economy.

This issue has been raised by the Newcastle Show Society and Newcastle City Council for many years with the same result year after year.

Economic Impact on Local Businesses

Public holidays can significantly disrupt business operations, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that form the backbone of our local economy. An additional public holiday can impose substantial financial burdens on businesses due to lost productivity and the need to pay additional wages for holiday work.

Impact on Maxim Business Advisors

As an example, I am the COO and my employer is a business that employs 48 staff in the Newcastle LGA. The impact of loss of salary I have calculated would be \$22,500 and missed productivity on average for a single day to the value of \$59,400.

Let's say there was an average that was far lower of a \$2000 loss for all the businesses in Newcastle, that would equate to \$30 million.

Alternative Solutions

Instead of declaring a public holiday, I propose that the council cease applying to the government every year and put this issue to a final conclusion. As a city of over 170,000 people with 15,000 businesses, the loss equates to millions of dollars in lost salaries and productivity, making it a waste of everyone's time to apply.

As with every year for over a decade, the council should apply for a local event day and stop trying to poll the community for a public holiday, also a waste of time and taxpayers money.

The former Hunter Business Chamber, now Business Hunter, has consistently represented that the economic impact does not stack up. For instance, in a [2015 article](#) in the Newcastle Herald, it quotes: *'The chamber's statement said that of the 20 local holidays declared in NSW in 2015, none were in a metropolitan area. The two full-day holidays were in Gilgandra and Coonamble local government areas, which have populations of 4368 and 2998 respectively, according to the 2011 Census.'*

Not much has changed since 2015. According to the [NSW Government website](#) in 2024, there are 16 local public holidays designated, of which there are again none in the metropolitan

area. There are still only two full-day holidays, this time in Bogan LGA and Coonamble LGA with a population of 2692 and 3918 respectively.

In conclusion, while the Newcastle Show is an important cultural event, those who wish to attend on a Friday can choose to take a day off work to attend, alternatively on the Friday night or weekend. I took my two nephews after work on Friday last year and intend on going again next year.

I urge the council to consider the significant economic impact that a public holiday would have on our local businesses. I believe that designating the day as a local event day is a more balanced approach that respects both the cultural significance of the event and the economic realities faced by our businesses.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Yours faithfully

A rectangular box with a black border, used to redact the signature of the author.