

With the significant growth in South West Sydney's population, key emerging issues are social and affordable housing, outreach and planning. We need to ensure there is enough housing at the social and affordable end of the market. Our planning system should cater for that, and also the services and infrastructure needed by a rapidly growing population. With this growing population, we also need investment in services and outreach to ensure community needs are met.

The cost of living

- Latest figures show the average annual personal income in the region was \$45,646, which was over \$5,000 less than the state average
- In the year to July 2015 an average yearly electricity bill cost \$2,100
- Latest median weekly rental figures for 2 bedroom dwellings range from \$333 in Fairfield, \$350 in Campbelltown and the Southern Highlands, to \$380 in Liverpool
- Latest figures show Local Government rate assessments in the region ranged from \$671 in Fairfield, \$792 in Campbelltown, \$866 in Blacktown, \$900 in Liverpool, to \$1,010 in Wollondilly, against a state median of \$672

Children and young people

- In 2014-15, over 38 in every 1000 children were involved in risk of significant harm reports and 9 in 1000 were in out-of-home care
- The Sustaining NSW Families nurse home-visiting program is currently available in Fairfield and Liverpool and is being implemented in Campbelltown. But there are children in need throughout the district. In Bankstown almost 1 in 10 children are developmentally vulnerable according to the Australian Early Development Census
- 14,587 children in the region living below the poverty line, with a child poverty rate averaging over 15%. The Campbelltown LGA has a child poverty rate of 20.21% that is nearly double the state average
- In 2014-15, 366 young people aged 15-24 were hospitalised due to intentional self-harm

“ Access to acute mental health services is key – there needs to be a greater focus on services for younger age groups. ”

Dental wait list

- 1333 children and 20548 adults are on the NSW public dental waiting list
- Only 61.1% of children age 5-6 years are free of dental caries
- On average, children age 5-6 years have 1.47 decayed, missing or filled teeth

Social Housing wait list

- Latest figures show there were 20,690 social housing units in South Western Sydney, with a further 12,764 people still waiting to be housed
- In the 12 months to 30 June 2015, 1,307 people were housed, with expected waiting times for those still on the list averaging between 5-10 years in most places, and exceeding 10 years in Liverpool, Bankstown, and Fairfield