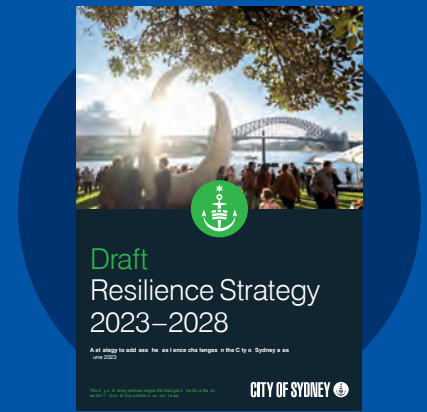


# Draft Resilience Strategy 2023–2028



The City of Sydney’s area is facing more challenges from the impacts of climate change, and social and economic disruptions. These threaten our stability and prosperity.

To address these challenges, we’ve developed a draft resilience strategy.

## What is resilience?

Resilience is “the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, business and systems within a city to survive, adapt and thrive no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience.”<sup>1</sup>

It involves the social, economic and environmental systems that support urban areas, including physical infrastructure. The goal of urban resilience is to create adaptive, robust and secure cities that effectively respond to and recover from challenges.

## Shocks and stresses

In Sydney we’re experiencing increasing shocks and stresses arising from climate change, geopolitical events and economic shifts.

Shocks are sudden, sharp events that threaten a city, such as:



Critical infrastructure failure



Epidemic/pandemic or mass medical emergency



Extreme weather including heatwaves, severe storms and flooding

Chronic stresses weaken the fabric of a city on longer-term basis, and include:



Food insecurity

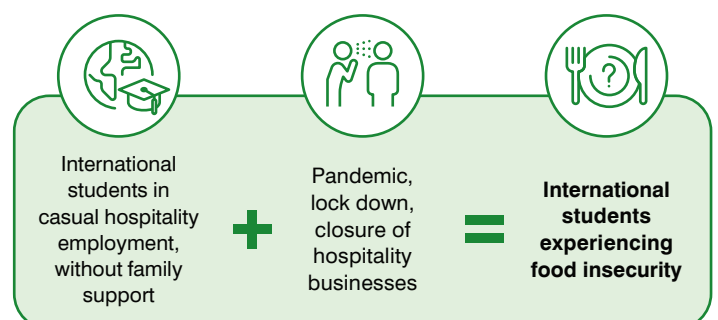


Increasing population, residential density and demand on infrastructure and services



Lack of affordable housing

The impact a shock has on a place depends upon the underlying stresses. This example of shocks and stresses shows how the Covid-19 pandemic impacted international students in Sydney.



## Key actions in our resilience strategy



### Direction 1: An equitable, inclusive & connected community

1. Advocate for safe, healthy, appropriate, climate-proofed crisis, social, affordable and rental housing.
2. Monitor community wellbeing and equality to inform decision making about resilience initiatives.
3. Improve food security and equitable access to food.
4. Increase social connectedness within and between communities to strengthen their capacity to recover.



### Direction 2: A climate resilient city

5. Support our community to cope with increased heat and drought.
6. Update flood and sea level rise planning to prepare the city for predicted climate impacts.
7. Improve the City of Sydney's ability to understand and manage climate risks and equity implications.



### Direction 3: Places, buildings, and infrastructure for resilience

8. Embed resilience principles in asset management.
9. Collaborate with government and councils for accessible waste and recycling facilities with reserve capacity.



### Direction 4: A robust local economy

10. Analyse and communicate changes in the economy to help businesses and communities to adapt to changing conditions.
11. Promote economic diversity and inclusion to strengthen the innovation economy and the skills needed for a resilient future.



### Direction 5: A prepared community

12. Develop disaster preparedness and climate adaptation initiatives with priority communities who require additional support.
13. Enhance community facilities to assist priority communities who require additional support during shock events.
14. Support businesses to become more resilient and to contribute to community resilience.
15. Strengthen the City of Sydney's emergency communications channels, ensuring they are accessible to diverse communities.

## Building resilience means working together

Making our city more resilient requires the City of Sydney and other levels of government, business and community organisations to work together. We want to work with communities to build capacity and reduce the risks arising from the shocks and stresses in our local area.

## Have your say

The draft resilience strategy is on public exhibition from 17 July to 28 August.

We invite you to share your experiences, thoughts and ideas about how our communities can be more prepared for emergencies and cope with the impact of shocks and stresses.



<https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/vision-setting/your-say-resilience-strategy>