# Townsville Liveability Study 2024 Report

City of Townsville

December 2024







# **Contents**

Executive Summary	4
Background	10
Engagement Campaign	12
About the Respondents	13
<b>Liveability Survey Results Summary</b>	15
Care Factor – Community Values	16
Liveability Score	18
PX Assessment Attribute Performance	20
Liveability Recommendations	23
Community ideas for change	24
What places do the community enjoy most?	24
Liveability Recommendations By Theme for Townsville and Local Areas	25
Townsville Place Attribute Value (CF), Performance (PX) and Liveability	
Recommendation	36
Thank You	38



## **Executive Summary**

This report provides findings of Townsville City Council's 2024 Liveability Study, undertaken during September and October 2024 with a Townsville Local Government Area (LGA) wide focus.

Conducting a liveability study allows
Council to apply a strong, evidenced-based,
citizen-centric engagement approach to bring
localised understanding of community values
and experiences of living in Townsville. This
evidence-based approach to planning (built
and social infrastructure) supports informing
prioritisation of investment by Council.

The Place Score model applies two sophisticated data collection tools: Care Factor (CF) and Place Experience (PX) Assessments.

Like a 'place census', Care Factor captures what the community really values, while PX Assessments measure the community's lived experience. Together they help to identify what is important, how a place is performing and what the focus of change should be.

An attribute with a high Care Factor but a low PX Assessment should be a priority for investment. In addition to the prescribed survey questions, the survey concluded with two open-ended questions, aimed to learn small or big ideas to make the specific neighbourhood a better place as well as a question asking how likely the respondent is to recommend their neighbourhood to others.

#### How we can use the information

All departments across Council contribute to delivering a more liveable city. The information provided by the study will allow for the alignment of works, projects, programs, partnerships and advocacy roles to achieve liveability goals. This project includes informing the development and measurement of Townsville City Council's Corporate Plan and strengthening strategic alignment of landuse planning, infrastructure investment, environment protection, sustainable design and community development strategies.

The survey will be undertaken again in the future to:

- measure 'outcomes' of the strategies, plans and actions that the study influenced, including the Corporate Plan;
- · monitor change in community values; and
- measure changes in the liveability performance (PX Assessment) for Townsville neighbourhoods.

#### Key learnings from this study - Townsville LGA Strengths and Priorities

- 3,844 residents, visitors and investors completed the survey. A 69% increase in participation compared to 2022.
- Neighbourhoods across the city contributed to Townsville's average Liveability Score of 62 out of 100.
- Our community's ideal neighbourhood is safe, maintained and connected to nature.
- 83% of the community rates their mental health positively (national average 82%).
- The study suggests **PRIORITISED** <sup>1</sup> Sense of neighbourhood safety (from crime, traffic, pollution etc.), Sense of personal safety (for all ages, genders, day or night), and Access and safety of walking, cycling and/or public transport (signage, paths, lighting etc.).
- **NURTURE** <sup>1</sup> *Elements of natural environment (natural features, views, vegetation, topography, water, wildlife etc.)*, the top liveability contributor. This attribute is performing well and highly important to the majority of the community.
- Eight liveability attributes are given a liveability recommendation of **MANAGE** 1, because they are important to the community and not performing as well as they could.
- Townsville's net promoter score is +11 meaning that Townsville's neighbourhoods have more promoters than detractors.
- 5,661 community ideas were raised to make neighbourhoods more liveable. Movement and transport was the common theme amongst submissions.
- 3,061 respondents suggested places in Townsville that they enjoy and provided justification. The Strand was the most common enjoyed place, nominated by 1318 respondents.
- The Liveability Scores of local areas in Townsville range from 50 to 73 out of 100.

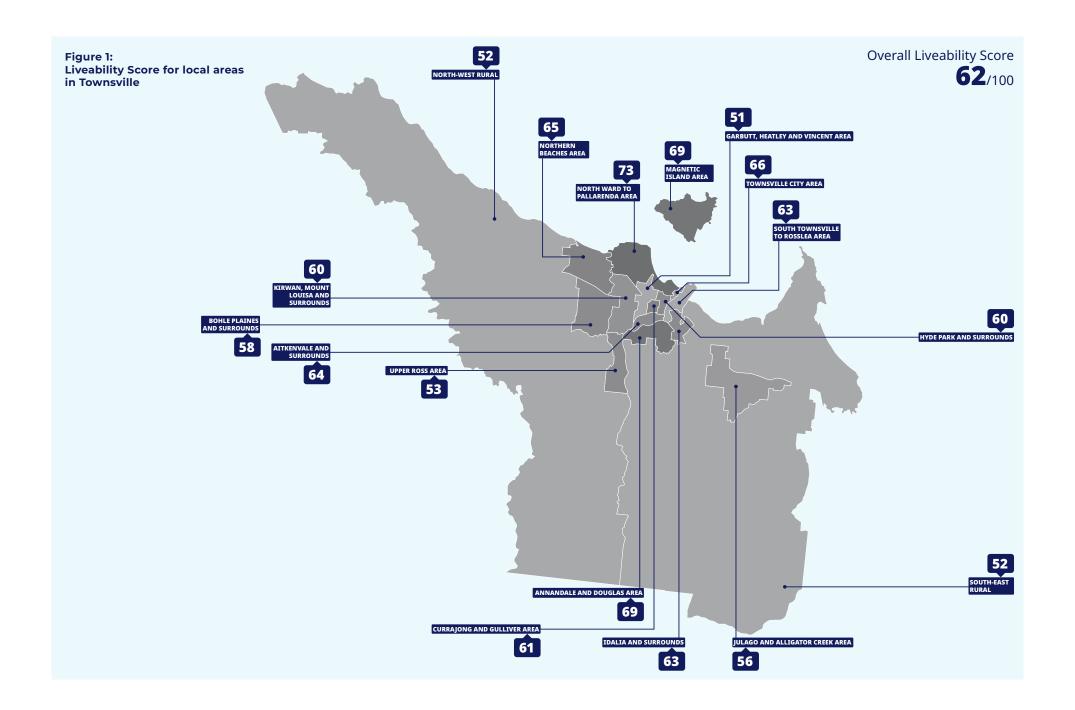
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A liveability priority or liveability recommendation is determined by the value and performance rating of the liveability attribute. Liveability recommendation terms are defined n page 11.



#### **Precinct Limits**

The liveability survey data is collected at the suburb level. For reporting purposes, results are displayed at the LGA level with some additional information provided using 17 local areas.

The following map shows the extent of each local area and the score they received in the 2024 assessment.



#### **Change in Liveability Recommendations**

The priority level of some of our liveability recommendations has changed since the 2022 Liveability Study.

Evidence of Council/government management (signage, street cleaners etc.) has moved from the highest priority level of **PRIORITISE** to **MAINTAIN**. This change is a result of a drop in the community's value of the attribute.

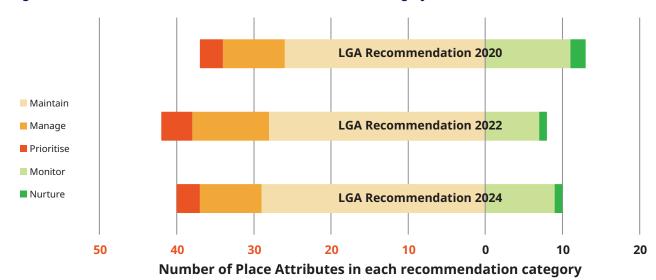
Sense of belonging in the community and Protection of the natural environment have moved from MANAGE to MAINTAIN.

This is due in part to a decrease in how these attributes are valued by the community.

Liveability Recommendations are used with the Overall Liveability Score to evaluate the liveability of an area. Increasing or retaining the number of **NURTURE** recommendations and reducing the number of attributes in the **MANAGE** and **PRIORITISE** categories between studies shows liveability has improved.

The number of Place Attributes in each recommendation category for the 2020, 2022 and 2024 liveability studies for the LGA is displayed below. The latest study shows that there is an increase in the number of attributes having a positive influence (shaded green) on liveability since 2022. Three place attributes are identified as liveability priorities in the 2024 study (shaded red). Compared to the 2022 study, Townsville has less place attributes to prioritise and manage. The change in liveability recommendations between 2022 and 2024 shows that liveability has improved.

Figure 2: Number of Place Attributes in each recommendation category



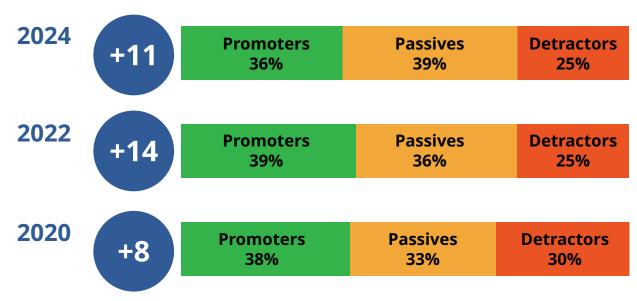
#### **Change in Net Promoter Score from 2020 to 2024**

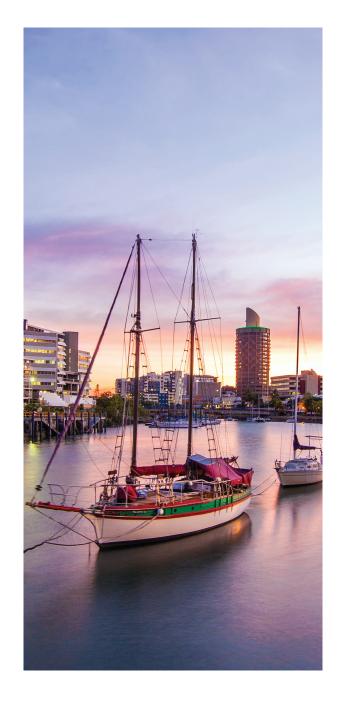
The Liveability survey asked "How likely is it that you would recommend this place to a friend or colleague as a place to live or spend time in?"

The Net Promoter Score (NPS) predicts place attachment. An NPS above 0 is considered good, over +50 is excellent and over +75 is world class.

Since 2022 the NPS for the LGA has decreased by 3 points, suggesting that some promoters have become more passive about recommending their neighbourhood to others to live or spend time in. However, it remains higher than the 2020 score.

Figure 3: Change in Net Promoter Score from 2020 to 2024





## **Background**

Townsville is a diverse and vibrant city with various attributes that make it unique and significantly liveable. Acknowledging and understanding the City's composition is vital in effectively addressing the community's needs and safeguarding the attributes that are important to residents. The Townsville Liveability Study provides insight into the significance and impact these place-making attributes have on liveability in the many neighbourhoods across Townsville.

Since 2019, Townsville City Council has partnered with Place Score to conduct the Liveability Study biannually across the Local Government Area (LGA). These studies have a citizen-centred approach by using social

surveys and other engagement activities to collect information from thousands of people connected to Townsville. This data is used to create liveability metrics which identify trends and present recommendations. By focusing on the perspectives of the residents, visitors and investors in Townsville, the study incorporates the diverse values and experiences of community members. Consequently, the study's findings and recommendations are localised and highly relevant to the community.

The concept of liveability is taught in the Australian Curriculum as "an assessment of what a place is like to live in". Other definitions consider that "liveability is used to describe the combinations of factors that contribute

to a person's quality of life and wellbeing". A person's assessment of a place will change depending on their circumstances and preferences. What is considered liveable and what factors are contributing to liveability will differ from person to person. By surveying Townsville's residents, visitors, and investors, the study captures a local perspective on the most important attributes and the average impact these have on people's lives.

This report documents the findings of the 2024 Liveability Study against the previous studies undertaken in 2020 and 2022. Additionally, a bespoke Liveability Study was completed in 2019 which focused on five suburbs of Townsville.

#### **About Place Score and the Place Attributes**

Place Score offers two sophisticated data collection tools, the Care Factor survey (CF) and Place Experience Assessment (PX Assessment). These are accessible within the survey via an online link and are underpinned by Place Score's 50 place attributes. These 50 place attributes refer to the tangible and intangible features of a space with which a person can interact or experience.

By categorising the features of a place, neighbourhood or city into individual attributes the data collection tools help identify:

- what is important to the community,
- · how a neighbourhood is performing, and
- · what the focus of change should be.

For example, a place attribute highly valued (i.e. a high Care Factor (CF)) but a low performance (i.e. Place Experience Rating (PX)) should be a priority for investment because improving the performance of this attribute will impact the greatest number of people.

Place Score's 50 place attributes have remained consistent throughout Townsville's liveability studies and are also used in similar studies across Australia. As a result, our liveability data collected with Place Score can be used to compare changes over time and differences between Townsville and other cities.

## Townsville Liveability Recommendations

Neighborhood liveability recommendations are a result of the two surveys combining what our community values most with how each attribute is currently performing in particular places. It is these recommendations that have guided the liveability outcomes of this report.

CARE FACTOR (CF) CAPTURES
WHAT ATTRIBUTES YOUR
COMMUNITY 'VALUES'...

PX ASSESSMENT CAPTURES HOW YOUR COMMUNITY 'RATES' EACH ATTRIBUTE...

VALUE + RATING = PRIORITY

#### **Recommendation Categories**

NURTURE	These attributes are highly valued and performing well, they should be celebrated and protected.
PRIORITISE	Prioritise identifies attributes of the neighbourhood that are important to people but are currently underperforming. Improving these attributes will have the most significant impact on our community.
MANAGE	Manage identifies attributes to look out for; they are negatively affecting liveability and can become more significant issues if more people start caring about them more.
MAINTAIN	Maintain attributes are potential threats - they are among the poorest performing, but not the most valued. If values change they can moved up to "prioritise".
MONITOR	These attributes are doing well and positively contributing to liveability. They are among the top performers, but not highly valued compared to other attributes.

#### **Engagement Campaign**

The 2024 Townsville Liveability Survey was conducted between 16 September and 13 October 2024. Residents, visitors, and investors of the LGA were invited to participate in the survey via various methods, including email, social media, posters, flyers and paper surveys. The campaign also implemented a variety of information displays, pop-ups, and outreach efforts to increase participation and engagement opportunities. Survey participation was motivated with a competition where multiple prizes could be won.

One goal of the Liveability Study is to gather responses which represent Townsville's demographic composition and geographic distribution. Previous Liveability Studies were used to identify locations and areas needing greater communication and engagement efforts in 2024. Participation on Magnetic Island increased by creating engagement opportunities alongside the Citylibraries' Mobile Library visits. Partnership with schools boosted the participation of people under 25. Targeted online advertising was also used throughout the campaign.

A stakeholder database was developed to provide details of the survey and invite

responses from the community. Stakeholders were asked to complete the survey and share the survey link in their newsletters and through their networks. The stakeholder database of over 10,000 entries was comprised of previous participants, businesses, government organisations, sporting clubs and community groups.

Community engagement pop-up displays were established across all council divisions to maximise visibility to residents and businesses throughout Townsville. Local Councillors participated in this effort to enhance the survey's visibility.

Additionally, the survey was promoted at the Townsville Indigenous Community Network Forum to engage the local Indigenous community and at the Townsville Multicultural Support Group to engage the local migrant communities.

Survey completions were monitored during the survey period to identify groups and areas with low engagement. In response to this information social media advertising and further stakeholder engagement was used to increase engagement.

#### **About the Respondents**

#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD CARE FACTOR SURVEY**

Which place attributes are most important to you in your ideal neighbourhood? - 3,844 respondents

#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD PX ASSESSMENTS**

How is each place attribute impacting your personal enjoyment of your neighbourhood? -3,564 respondents

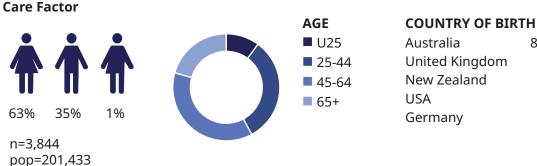
Respondents were asked 'What's your big or small idea to make your neighbourhood better for you?' and 'What's missing in your neighbourhood that would make it better for you?' - 5,661 ideas for change were collected.

#### A total of 13,069 responses were collected during the research period, providing a 90% confidence rating in the data.

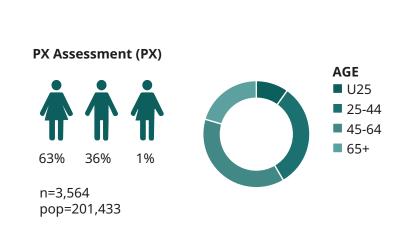
A confidence level of over 90% indicates a high certainty that the views captured in the data reflect those of 90% of the entire community. In other words, if an additional 100 surveys were collected, it is expected that the results of 90 of these would align with the findings presented in this report.

As per the national trends, women are overrepresented in the sample, and men and youth are slightly underrepresented.

Figure 4: Demographic distribution of participants



#### Australia 82% United Kingdom 6% New Zealand 2% 1% Germany 1%



#### Australia 84% United Kingdom 4% New Zealand 2%

1%

1%

USA

Germany

**COUNTRY OF BIRTH** 

Demographic distribution of participants. © Place Score





#### **Care Factor - Community Values**

Townsville Local Government Area Care Factor requires respondents to prioritise different aspects of a neighbourhood to identify what they personally care about most.

The findings from the Care Factor section of the Liveability Survey can help deliver stronger outcomes for all residents and stakeholders. This part of the survey provides an opportunity to align community engagement, strategic planning, and asset planning with the community's top priorities.

Across Australian communities there are two shared values: *Elements of natural environment* and *Sense of neighbourhood safety*. These place attributes are considered important to most survey respondents across Australia. They are also important to Townsville's community.

The Townsville community's ideal neighbourhood is safe, maintained and connected to nature. The 2024 Liveability Study found that 72% of respondents selected Elements of natural environment as being most important to them in their ideal neighbourhood. Other top shared values of the Townsville community are General condition of public open space and Sense of neighbourhood safety.

The Townsville LGA top 15 Care Factors are ranked based on how many people selected each attribute as being important to them in their 'ideal neighbourhood'.

Figure 5: Top 15 Care Factor of place attributes within Townsville

Rank	Place Attribute	LGA CF%
1	Elements of natural environment (natural features, views, vegetation, topography, water, wildlife etc.)	72%
2	General condition of public open space (street trees, footpaths, parks etc.)	67%
3	Sense of neighbourhood safety (from crime, traffic, pollution etc.)	61%
4	Sense of personal safety (for all ages, genders, day or night)	60%
5	Walking/jogging/bike paths that connect housing to communal amenity (shops, parks etc.)	57%
6	Access to neighbourhood amenities (cafes, shops, health and wellness services etc.)	52%
7	Access and safety of walking, cycling and/or public transport (signage, paths, lighting etc.)	50%
8	Local businesses that provide for daily needs (grocery stores, pharmacy, banks etc.)	48%
9	Locally owned and operated businesses	47%
10	Spaces suitable for specific activities or special interests (entertainment, exercise, dog park, BBQs etc.)	45%
11	Landscaping and natural elements (street trees, planting, water features etc.)	43%
12	Quality of public space (footpaths, verges, parks etc.)	42%
13	Sense of belonging in the community	40%
14	Physical comfort (including noise, smells, temperature etc.)	38%
15	Connectivity (proximity to other neighbourhoods, employment centres, shops etc.)	37%

Top 15 Care Factor of place attributes within Townsville. © Place Score

The value of some place attributes has changed since the liveability study was last completed.

Comparing the 2024 liveability study with the 2022 study shows the place attributes that have become more and less important to the community.

#### What is more important to our community?

Place attributes increasing in importance	2024	2022	Change + / -
General condition of housing and other private buildings	36%	36%	+10%
Ease of driving and parking	30%	24%	+6%
Local employment opportunities (within easy commute)	16%	12%	+4%
Access to neighbourhood amenities (cafés, shops, health and wellness services etc.)	52%	48%	+4%
Mix or diversity of people in the area	20%	16%	+4%

Place attributes showing an increase in shared importance between 2022 and 2024. © Place Score

#### What is more important to our community?

Place attributes decreasing in importance	2024	2022	Change + / -
Sustainable behaviours in the community (water management, solar panels, recycling etc.)	23%	33%	-10%
Overall visual character of the neighbourhood	31%	37%	-6%
Evidence of community activity (volunteering, gardening, art, community-organised events etc.)	21%	27%	-6%
Protection of the natural environment	36%	42%	-6%
Sustainable urban design (water sensitive design, transport-oriented design, sustainable building design, density etc.)	33%	28%	-5%

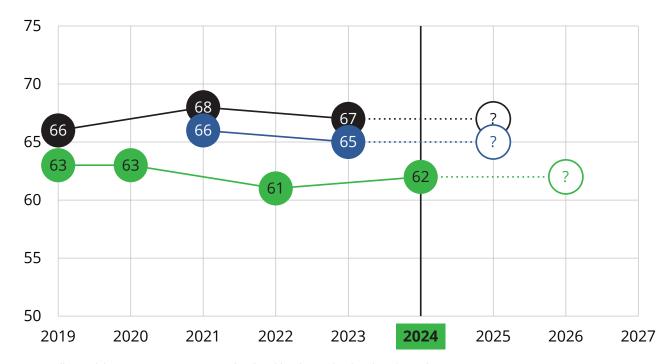
Place attributes showing a decrease in shared importance between 2022 and 2024. © Place Score



#### **Liveability Score**

The community's rating of attributes in their neighbourhood results in a "Liveability Score" that captures the overall neighbourhood's liveability. In 2024, neighbourhoods across Townsville contributed to the LGA average Liveability score of 62.

Townsville's Liveability Score is lower than national and state benchmarks which were recorded by Place Score as part of their biannual liveability census. Townsville's Liveability Score of 62 indicates that Townsville is slightly more liveable than it was in 2022.



Townsville Liveability Score over time, compared to the Qld and Australian benchmarks. © Place Score

© Place Score

#### **Net Promoter Score**

The Liveability survey asked "How likely is it that you would recommend this place to a friend or colleague as a place to live or spend time in?"

The Net Promoter Score predicts place attachment. An NPS above 0 is considered good, over +50 is excellent and over +75 is world class.

With a net promoter of 11, place attachment throughout Townsville is considered good overall.



#### **Liveability Scores Across Townsville**

The study illuminates different demographic groups often experience liveability differently within the same areas. This is understandable, as the same area can offer varied experiences to different groups. Likewise, the same demographic group can have different experiences in different neighbourhoods.

The liveability study found that people under 25 have a better experience of Townsville's neighbourhoods (67) when compared to the average experience of all survey respondents (62).

	n=	All			25 to 44 yearls old	45 to 64 years old	Over 64 years old	
Entire LGA	3,564	62	62	62	67	61	61	63
Aitkenvale and Surrounds	253	64	64	64	69	63	59	69
Annandale and Douglas Area	316	69	67	71	71	67	69	70
Bohle Plains and Surrounds	118	58	57	59	*	61	50	60
Currajong and Gulliver Area	110	61	60	62	60	58	60	69
Garbutt, Heatley and Vincent Area	143	51	48	56	49	49	50	54
Hyde Park and Surrounds	186	60	65	57	60	58	60	67
Idalia and Surrounds	263	63	59	70	74	65	59	61
Julago and Alligator Creek Area	91	56	55	58	*	58	53	*
Kirwan, Mount Louisa and Surrounds	479	60	60	62	68	58	60	63
Magnetic Island	165	69	69	68	*	68	69	69
North-West Rural	201	52	54	52	60	50	50	57
North Ward to Pallarenda Area	288	73	73	74	74	74	72	74
Northern Beaches Area	267	65	64	68	69	65	64	62
South-East Rural	73	50	48	54	*	53	46	55
South Townsville to Rosslea Area	247	63	63	65	66	67	64	62
Townsville City Area	106	66	66	66	*	69	64	66
Upper Ross Area	258	53	53	55	56	55	53	52

<sup>\*</sup>Less than 10 respondents

# PX Assessment Attribute Performance

A PX Assessment asks respondents to rate how different aspects of their current neighbourhood are impacting their 'lived place experience', resulting in a PX Score that captures neighbourhood liveability. By reviewing the performance of each attribute, the issues impacting a neighbourhood most can be identified.

The top and bottom performing place attributes for Townsville are arranged in adjacent table. The PX of all attributes in the LGA can be found on page 36 of this document.

The best performing feature of the LGA is *Ease of driving and parking*. Majority of the surveyed community also rated *Connectivity, Welcoming to all people* and *There are people like me* highly.

As for the attributes negatively impacting Townsville, the community perceives that there is poor contribution of unique features and heritage to our neighbourhoods. *Unusual or unique building and/or public space design* and *Local history, historic buildings or features* are identified as some of the city's worst performing attributes.

The study also indicates that the LGA has limited cultural and community participation options.

The community does not perceive the surveyed neighbourhoods offer a *Cultural and/or artistic community* or providing *Evidence of community activity*.

Sense of neighbourhood safety is also a poorly performing attributes across Townsville.

#### What is impacting our lived experience

The below tables identify the highest and lowest rated attributes that are contributing to neighbourhood liveability on average in Townsville LGA.

Top Performing Attributes	LGA PX/10
Ease of driving and parking	7.6
There are people like me (age, gender, interests, ethnic backgrounds etc.)	7.5
Connectivity (proximity to other neighbourhoods, employment centres, shops etc.)	7.4
Welcoming to all people	7.4
Range of housing types and sizes (houses, terraces, flats; number of bedrooms etc.)	7.3
Neighbourhood spirit/resilience (from external impacts, storms, economic downturns etc.)	7.3

Bottom Performing Attributes	LGA PX/10
Evidence of community activity (volunteering, gardening, art, community-organised events etc.)	5
Cultural and/or artistic community	5
Sense of neighbourhood safety (from crime, traffic, pollution etc.)	4.8
Things to do in the evening (bars, dining, cinema, live music etc.)	4.6
Local history, historic buildings or features	4.6
Unusual or unique buildings and/or public space design	4.6

#### Place Experience in Townsville Compared to the State and National Benchmark

Every two years Place Score conducts a liveability census in cities across Australia. The survey responses allow us to compare the performance of liveability attributes in Townsville with a national benchmark.

#### **State and National Benchmark Comparison**

Place attributes	Our LGA	AUS	+/-	QLD	+/-
Ease of driving and parking	7.6	7.0	+0.6	7.5	+0.1
Range of housing prices and tenure	6.2	5.6	+0.6	5.4	+0.8

Townsville place attributes performing above state and national benchmark. © Place Score

Place attributes	Our LGA	AUS	+/-	QLD	+/-
Sense of neighbourhood safety	4.8	6.7	-1.9	6.2	-1.4
Sense of personal safety	5.5	7.2	-1.7	6.7	-1.2
Evidence of community activity	5.0	6.2	-1.2	6.0	-1.0
Local history, historic buildings or features	4.6	5.6	-1.0	5.3	-0.7
Access to shared community and commercial assets	5.7	6.6	-0.9	6.5	-0.8

Place attributes performing below the state and national benchmark. © Place Score



#### Place Experience in Townsville Comparing 2022 and 2024

The performance (PX) of place attributes across Townsville can be compared to previous studies conducted in our LGA over the years. Tables on this page show the place attributes with the greatest improvements or decline since 2022.

#### What attributes have improved the most between 2022 and 2024?

Place attributes	PX 2024	PX 2022	Change +/-
Landscaping and natural elements	6.6	6.3	+0.3
Access to neighbourhood amenitites	6.5	6.2	+0.3
Sustainable behaviours in the community	6.2	5.9	+0.3
Landmarks, speical features or meeting places	5.7	5.4	+0.3
Sustainable urban design	5.3	5.0	+0.3
Cultural and-or artistic community	5.0	4.7	+0.3
Local history, historic buildings or features	4.6	4.3	+0.3
Unusual or unique buildings and/or public space design	4.6	4.3	+0.3
Things to do in the evening	4.6	4.3	+0.3

Place attributes with most improved performance. © Place Score

#### What attributes have declined the most between 2022 to 2024?

Place attributes	2024	2022	+/-
Range of housing prices and tenures	6.2	6.7	-0.5

Place attributes with largest decline in performance. © Place Score

#### **Liveability Recommendations**

Liveability recommendations are determined by relating the community's value of each place attribute to its performance. The below information reflects how the community value and rated attributes in neighbourhoods across the LGA.

#### **NURTURE**

These attributes are the strongest contributors to local liveability because a significant proportion of our community values them and rated them positively. Consider how to strengthen these attributes, and protect them from potential threats.

 $CF \ge 40\%, PX \ge 7$ 

#### **PRIORITISE**

Increase the performance of these attributes to deliver the biggest benefit to our community. They identify the aspects of our neighbourhoods that are important to most people, but are currently underperforming.

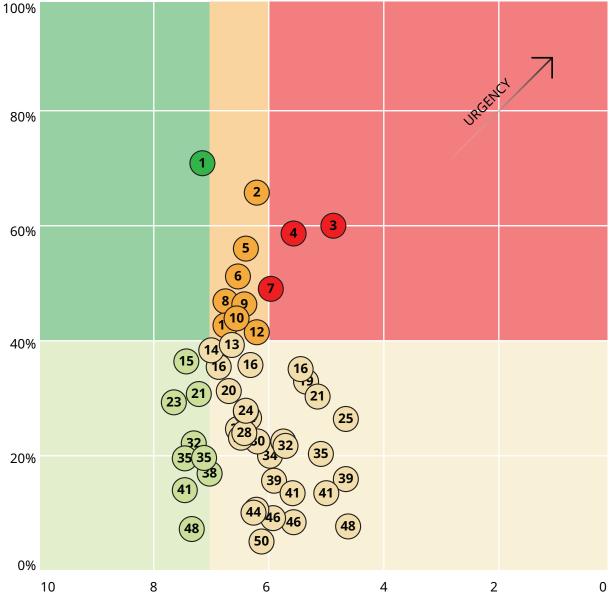
 $CF \ge 40\%$ , PX < 6

#### MANAGE

Not quite an emergency but not performing as well as they could. Increase investment int hese attributes to make them great contributors to local liveability, or maintain the current level of investment to prevent future problems.

 $CF \ge 40\%$ , PX < 7





The PX of all attributes in the LGA can be found at the back of this document.

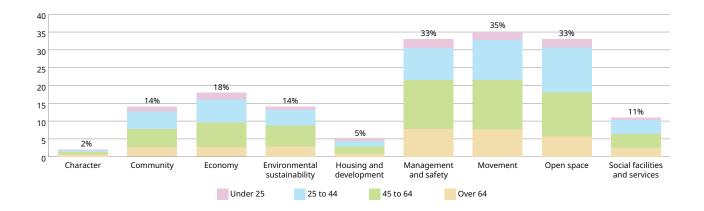
© Place Score

#### **Community ideas for change**

Survey respondents were asks to suggest a big and small idea to make their neighbourhood more liveable or enjoyable for them.

5,661 community ideas were collected. These have been coded into 9 common

themes to illustrate where the community want change. The most common themes found in the community ideas relate to Movement (35%), Open space (33%), and Management and safety (33%).



# What places do the community enjoy most?

The 2024 Liveability Survey presented a new question to discover the places in Townsville that the community most enjoy. 3,061 respondents suggested places and provided justification. The Strand was the most enjoyed place, nominated by 1318 respondents. Riverway was nominated by 256 respondents, Magnetic Island was nominated by 128 respondents and Castle Hill was nominated by 97 respondents.

The responses to the ideas for change and the preferred place questions provide additional insight into the values of community and the experience of neighbourhoods.

## Liveability Recommendations By Theme for Townsville and Local Areas

The 2024 Liveability Study provides survey findings at two geographical scales. The LGA scale considers Townsville as a whole, while the local area scale divides Townsville into 17 local areas by grouping suburbs based on their proximity and shared characteristics. There is a liveability recommendation for each of the 50 place attributes for the LGA and each individual local area.

The liveability recommendations for the LGA provides an average community view of opportunities for better outcomes. These recommendations aim to produce the greatest benefit to the greatest number of people.

In contrast, the liveability recommendations for local areas are more precise to the liveability survey questions which ask about the experience of the "local neighbourhood" and not the "city". The recommendations for local areas reflect local issues that may not be experienced in all neighbourhoods. Therefore, the recommendations capture the different priorities for different neighbourhoods and communities across Townsville. Looking

at liveability data at the LGA level smooths over differences between areas, such as the expected services and maintenance differences between rural and urban areas. Breaking the recommendations into smaller areas can localise our focus. It may also help identify strengths in an area that can be replicated elsewhere.

Using the liveability priorities at the local area scale will benefit all communities because of the local focus. However, with 850 liveability recommendations at the local area scale across Townsville, allocating resources towards each recommendation is difficult. Allocating resources to the LGA's 50 liveability recommendations is more manageable however, finding balance between the recommendations at the two geographical scales will lead to efficient and equitable outcomes for the community.

The following tables provide the liveability recommendation for each liveability attribute at both geographical scales by theme.

#### Using the Liveability Recommendations - example

The recommendations for *Elements of* natural environment is different in some of the liveability areas when compared to recommendation for the attribute for the LGA. The table shows *Elements of natural* environment should be nurtured at the LGA scale but recommends this attribute should be prioritised in the Currajong and Gulliver Area and the Garbutt, Heatley and Vincent Area. While the poor performance of the environment in the Currajong and Gulliver and Garbutt, Heatley and Vincent areas reflects the lack of natural environment features, the different recommendation might suggest that these areas are the focus for environmental programs before others.

#### Liveability Recommendations For Local Areas For Attributes in the Character Theme

	Landmarks, special features or meeting places	Local history, historic buildings or features	Overall visual character of the neighbourhood	Sense of character or identity that is different from other neighbourhoods	Spaces suitable for specific activities or special interests	Unusual or unique buildings and/or public space design
Entire LGA	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Manage	Maintain
Aitkenvale and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Nurture	Maintain
Annandale and Douglas Area	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Nurture	Maintain
Bohle Plains and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain
Currajong and Gulliver Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Garbutt, Heatley and Vincent Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain
Hyde Park and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain
Idalia and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Manage	Maintain
Julago and Alligator Creek Area	Maintain	Maintain	Nurture	Nurture	Prioritise	Maintain
Kirwan, Mount Louisa and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Manage	Maintain
Magnetic Island	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Manage	Maintain
North-West Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain
North Ward to Pallarenda Area	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor
Northern Beaches Area	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Nurture	Maintain
South-East Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Prioritise	Maintain
South Townsville to Rosslea Area	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Manage	Maintain
Townsville City Area	Monitor	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain
Upper Ross Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain

#### Liveability Recommendations For Local Areas For Attributes in the Community Theme

	Cultural and/or artistic community	Evidence of community activity	Local community groups and organisations	Mix or diversity of people in the area	Neighbourhood spirit/ resilience	Sense of belonging in the community	Sense of connection to/feeling support from neighbours or community	There are people like me	Welcoming to all people
Entire LGA	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor
Aitkenvale and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Manage	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor
Annandale and Douglas Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Nurture	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor
Bohle Plains and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor
Currajong and Gulliver Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor
Garbutt, Heatley and Vincent Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Hyde Park and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor
Idalia and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor
Julago and Alligator Creek Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Nurture	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor
Kirwan, Mount Louisa and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor
Magnetic Island	Monitor	Nurture	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Nurture	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor
North-West Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Manage	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor
North Ward to Pallarenda Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor
Northern Beaches Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor
South-East Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Nurture	Nurture	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor
South Townsville to Rosslea Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor
Townsville City Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain
Upper Ross Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain

#### Liveability Recommendations For Local Areas For Attributes in the Economy Theme

	Access to neighbourhood amenities	Local businesses that provide for daily needs	Local employment opportunities	Locally owned and operated businesses	Things to do in the evening
Entire LGA	Manage	Manage	Maintain	Manage	Maintain
Aitkenvale and Surrounds	Nurture	Nurture	Maintain	Manage	Maintain
Annandale and Douglas Area	Manage	Manage	Maintain	Manage	Maintain
Bohle Plains and Surrounds	Prioritise	Prioritise	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain
Currajong and Gulliver Area	Nurture	Nurture	Maintain	Nurture	Maintain
Garbutt, Heatley and Vincent Area	Prioritise	Nurture	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain
Hyde Park and Surrounds	Manage	Nurture	Maintain	Manage	Maintain
Idalia and Surrounds	Manage	Nurture	Maintain	Manage	Maintain
Julago and Alligator Creek Area	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Kirwan, Mount Louisa and Surrounds	Manage	Nurture	Maintain	Manage	Maintain
Magnetic Island	Nurture	Nurture	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain
North-West Rural	Prioritise	Prioritise	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain
North Ward to Pallarenda Area	Nurture	Nurture	Maintain	Nurture	Manage
Northern Beaches Area	Manage	Nurture	Maintain	Manage	Maintain
South-East Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
South Townsville to Rosslea Area	Nurture	Manage	Maintain	Manage	Maintain
Townsville City Area	Nurture	Nurture	Maintain	Nurture	Nurture
Upper Ross Area	Manage	Manage	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain

#### Liveability Recommendations For Local Areas For Attributes in the Environmental Sustainability Theme

	Elements of natural environment	Landscaping and natural elements	Protection of the natural environment	Sustainable behaviours in the community	Sustainable urban design
Entire LGA	Nurture	Manage	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Aitkenvale and Surrounds	Nurture	Manage	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Annandale and Douglas Area	Nurture	Nurture	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain
Bohle Plains and Surrounds	Manage	Manage	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise
Currajong and Gulliver Area	Prioritise	Manage	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise
Garbutt, Heatley and Vincent Area	Prioritise	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Hyde Park and Surrounds	Manage	Manage	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Idalia and Surrounds	Nurture	Manage	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Julago and Alligator Creek Area	Nurture	Manage	Manage	Maintain	Maintain
Kirwan, Mount Louisa and Surrounds	Manage	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Magnetic Island	Nurture	Manage	Manage	Maintain	Maintain
North-West Rural	Nurture	Prioritise	Prioritise	Maintain	Maintain
North Ward to Pallarenda Area	Nurture	Nurture	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain
Northern Beaches Area	Nurture	Nurture	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
South-East Rural	Nurture	Prioritise	Prioritise	Maintain	Maintain
South Townsville to Rosslea Area	Nurture	Manage	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Townsville City Area	Nurture	Nurture	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Upper Ross Area	Manage	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain

#### Liveability Recommendations For Local Areas For Attributes in the Housing and Development Theme

	Evidence of recent private investment	Evidence of recent public investment	Quality of buildings	Range of housing prices and tenures	Range of housing types and sizes
Entire LGA	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Monitor
Aitkenvale and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor
Annandale and Douglas Area	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Monitor
Bohle Plains and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Monitor
Currajong and Gulliver Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor
Garbutt, Heatley and Vincent Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Hyde Park and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Monitor
Idalia and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Monitor
Julago and Alligator Creek Area	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Monitor
Kirwan, Mount Louisa and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Monitor
Magnetic Island	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
North-West Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor
North Ward to Pallarenda Area	Monitor	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Monitor
Northern Beaches Area	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Monitor
South-East Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
South Townsville to Rosslea Area	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Monitor
Townsville City Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Upper Ross Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain

#### Liveability Recommendations For Local Areas For Attributes in the Management and Safety Theme

	Evidence of Council/ government Management	General condition of housing and other private buildings	General condition of private open space	General condition of public open space	Sense of neighbourhood safety	Sense of personal safety
Entire LGA	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Manage	Prioritise	Prioritise
Aitkenvale and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Manage	Prioritise	Prioritise
Annandale and Douglas Area	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Nurture	Prioritise	Prioritise
Bohle Plains and Surrounds	Prioritise	Monitor	Maintain	Manage	Prioritise	Prioritise
Currajong and Gulliver Area	Prioritise	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise	Prioritise	Prioritise
Garbutt, Heatley and Vincent Area	Prioritise	Prioritise	Maintain	Prioritise	Prioritise	Prioritise
Hyde Park and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise	Prioritise	Prioritise
Idalia and Surrounds	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Manage	Prioritise	Prioritise
Julago and Alligator Creek Area	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Prioritise	Nurture	Nurture
Kirwan, Mount Louisa and Surrounds	Maintain	Manage	Maintain	Manage	Prioritise	Prioritise
Magnetic Island	Maintain	Monitor	Maintain	Prioritise	Nurture	Nurture
North-West Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise	Nurture	Nurture
North Ward to Pallarenda Area	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Nurture	Prioritise	Manage
Northern Beaches Area	Maintain	Monitor	Monitor	Nurture	Prioritise	Manage
South-East Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise	Nurture	Nurture
South Townsville to Rosslea Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Manage	Prioritise	Prioritise
Townsville City Area	Manage	Manage	Maintain	Manage	Prioritise	Prioritise
Upper Ross Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise	Prioritise	Prioritise

#### Liveability Recommendations For Local Areas For Attributes in the Movement Theme

	Access and safety of walking, cycling and/or public transport	Connectivity	Ease of driving and parking	Walking/jogging/bike paths that connect housing to communal amenity
Entire LGA	Prioritise	Monitor	Monitor	Manage
Aitkenvale and Surrounds	Manage	Monitor	Monitor	Nurture
Annandale and Douglas Area	Nurture	Nurture	Monitor	Nurture
Bohle Plains and Surrounds	Prioritise	Maintain	Monitor	Prioritise
Currajong and Gulliver Area	Prioritise	Nurture	Monitor	Prioritise
Garbutt, Heatley and Vincent Area	Prioritise	Nurture	Monitor	Prioritise
Hyde Park and Surrounds	Prioritise	Nurture	Monitor	Prioritise
Idalia and Surrounds	Manage	Nurture	Monitor	Manage
Julago and Alligator Creek Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise
Kirwan, Mount Louisa and Surrounds	Prioritise	Nurture	Monitor	Manage
Magnetic Island	Prioritise	Monitor	Maintain	Manage
North-West Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Prioritise
North Ward to Pallarenda Area	Nurture	Monitor	Monitor	Nurture
Northern Beaches Area	Manage	Maintain	Monitor	Nurture
South-East Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Nurture	Maintain
South Townsville to Rosslea Area	Manage	Nurture	Monitor	Manage
Townsville City Area	Manage	Nurture	Maintain	Nurture
Upper Ross Area	Prioritise	Maintain	Monitor	Prioritise

#### Liveability Recommendations For Local Areas For Attributes in the Open Space Theme

	Amount of public space	Free places to sit comfortably by yourself or in small groups	Physical comfort	Quality of public space	Spaces for group or community activities and/or gatherings	Spaces suitable for play
Entire LGA	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Manage	Maintain	Maintain
Aitkenvale and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Manage	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Annandale and Douglas Area	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Nurture	Maintain	Monitor
Bohle Plains and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor	Manage	Maintain	Maintain
Currajong and Gulliver Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Garbutt, Heatley and Vincent Area	Maintain	Maintain	Prioritise	Prioritise	Maintain	Maintain
Hyde Park and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Idalia and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Manage	Maintain	Maintain
Julago and Alligator Creek Area	Maintain	Maintain	Nurture	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Kirwan, Mount Louisa and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Manage	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Magnetic Island	Maintain	Monitor	Nurture	Prioritise	Maintain	Maintain
North-West Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Nurture	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
North Ward to Pallarenda Area	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Nurture	Monitor	Monitor
Northern Beaches Area	Monitor	Monitor	Monitor	Nurture	Maintain	Maintain
South-East Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Nurture	Maintain	Prioritise	Maintain
South Townsville to Rosslea Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Townsville City Area	Monitor	Monitor	Maintain	Manage	Monitor	Maintain
Upper Ross Area	Maintain	Maintain	Manage	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain

#### Liveability Recommendations For Local Areas For Attributes in the Social Facilities and Services Theme

	Access to shared community and commercial assets	Child services	Family and community services	Local education options
Entire LGA	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Aitkenvale and Surrounds	Monitor	Monitor	Maintain	Monitor
Annandale and Douglas Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor
Bohle Plains and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Currajong and Gulliver Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor
Garbutt, Heatley and Vincent Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Hyde Park and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Idalia and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Julago and Alligator Creek Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Kirwan, Mount Louisa and Surrounds	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Monitor
Magnetic Island	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
North-West Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
North Ward to Pallarenda Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Northern Beaches Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
South-East Rural	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
South Townsville to Rosslea Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Townsville City Area	Monitor	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Upper Ross Area	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain



#### Townsville Place Attribute Value (CF), Performance (PX) and Liveability Recommendation

The below table provides the care factor, px score and recommendation for each place attribute for the Townsville LGA

CF Rank	Attribute	LGA CF %	PX /10	Recommendation
1	Elements of natural environment (natural features, views, vegetation, topography, water, wildlife etc.)	72%	7.1	Nurture
2	General condition of public open space (street trees, footpaths, parks etc.)	67%	6.2	Manage
3	Sense of neighbourhood safety (from crime, traffic, pollution etc.)	61%	4.8	Prioritise
4	Sense of personal safety (for all ages, genders, day or night)	60%	5.5	Prioritise
5	Walking/jogging/bike paths that connect housing to communal amenity (shops, parks etc.)	57%	6.4	Manage
6	Access to neighbourhood amenities (cafés, shops, health and wellness services etc.)	52%	6.5	Manage
7	Access and safety of walking, cycling and/or public transport (signage, paths, lighting etc.)	50%	5.9	Prioritise
8	Local businesses that provide for daily needs (grocery stores, pharmacy, banks etc.)	48%	6.7	Manage
9	Locally owned and operated businesses	47%	6.4	Manage
10	Spaces suitable for specific activities or special interests (entertainment, exercise, dog park, BBQs etc.)	45%	6.5	Manage
11	Landscaping and natural elements (street trees, planting, water features etc.)	43%	6.6	Manage
12	Quality of public space (footpaths, verges, parks etc.)	42%	6.2	Manage
13	Sense of belonging in the community	40%	6.6	Maintain
14	Physical comfort (including noise, smells, temperature etc.)	38%	7	Maintain
15	Connectivity (proximity to other neighbourhoods, employment centres, shops etc.)	37%	7.4	Monitor
16	Protection of the natural environment	36%	6.3	Maintain
16	General condition of housing and other private buildings	36%	6.9	Maintain
16	Evidence of Council/government management (signage, street cleaners etc.)	36%	5.4	Maintain
19	Sustainable urban design (water sensitive design, transport-oriented design, sustainable building design, density etc.)	33%	5.3	Maintain
20	Amount of public space (footpaths, verges, parks etc.)	32%	6.7	Maintain
21	Overall visual character of the neighbourhood	31%	7.2	Monitor
21	Evidence of recent public investment (roads, parks, schools etc.)	31%	5.1	Maintain
23	Ease of driving and parking	30%	7.6	Monitor

CF Rank	Attribute	LGA CF %	PX /10	Recommendation
24	Sense of character or identity that is different from other neighbourhoods	28%	6.4	Maintain
25	Things to do in the evening (bars, dining, cinema, live music etc.)	27%	4.6	Maintain
27	Free places to sit comfortably by yourself or in small groups	25%	6.5	Maintain
28	General condition of private open space (verges, driveways etc.)	24%	6.4	Maintain
28	Sense of connection to/feeling support from neighbours or community	24%	6.4	Maintain
30	Access to shared community and commercial assets (library, bike/car share, sport facilities/gyms etc.)	23%	5.7	Maintain
30	Sustainable behaviours in the community (water management, solar panels, recycling etc.)	23%	6.2	Maintain
32	Neighbourhood spirit/resilience (from external impacts, storms, economic downturns etc.)	22%	7.3	Monitor
32	Landmarks, special features or meeting places	22%	5.7	Maintain
34	Spaces suitable for play (from toddlers to teens)	21%	5.9	Maintain
35	Welcoming to all people	20%	7.4	Monitor
35	Evidence of community activity (volunteering, gardening, art, community-organised events etc.)	21%	5	Maintain
35	Mix or diversity of people in the area	20%	7.1	Monitor
38	Quality of buildings (design and construction of homes, shops, schools etc.)	17%	7	Monitor
39	Local employment opportunities (within easy commute)	16%	5.9	Maintain
39	Local history, historic buildings or features	16%	4.6	Maintain
41	There are people like me (age, gender, interests, ethnic backgrounds etc.)	14%	7.5	Monitor
41	Cultural and/or artistic community	14%	5	Maintain
41	Local community groups and organisations	14%	5.5	Maintain
44	Range of housing prices and tenures (low to high \$, buy or rent etc.)	11%	6.2	Maintain
44	Local education options (from elementary to adult education)	11%	6.2	Maintain
46	Family and community services (aged, disability and home care, protection and support services etc.)	9%	5.5	Maintain
46	Evidence of recent private investment (renovations, landscaping, painting etc.)	9%	5.9	Maintain
48	Range of housing types and sizes (houses, terraces, flats; number of bedrooms etc.)	8%	7.3	Monitor
48	Unusual or unique buildings and/or public space design	8%	4.6	Maintain
50	Child services (child care, early learning, after school care, medical etc.)	5%	6.1	Maintain

### **Thank You**

Townsville City Council thanks the 3,844 participants who took part in the 2024 Liveability Survey. The survey collects valuable information for Townsville from the people choosing to live, work, visit and invest here. Community participation is essential to the study and greatly appreciated.

The liveability data is used by all sections of Council and can also be used by community members, organisations and businesses for various purposes. Please contact Townsville City Council for further information about the Liveability Study.





townsville.qld.gov.au