

# Priority area

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## Social cohesion

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Social cohesion is the ‘glue’ that holds communities together. It’s about people being connected and included and feeling part of their community. It refers to the sense of trust within neighbourhoods and people’s willingness to help their neighbour.

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### What we know for Cardinia Shire

- 76% of adults living in rural areas felt their community had a positive atmosphere, compared to 69% living in the growth areas.
- 71% of adults living in rural areas felt there are a range of community groups, compared to 55% living in the growth areas.
- 78% of adults living in rural areas felt a sense of belonging within their community, compared to 69% living in the growth areas.
- 76% of adults living in rural areas believe cultural diversity enriches community life, compared to 84% living in the growth areas.
- 78% of adults living in rural areas felt they could turn to their neighbours for help in times of need, compared to 70% living in the growth areas.
- 70% of adults living in rural areas talked to their neighbours regularly, compared to 66% living in the growth areas.
- 70% of adults living in rural areas felt it was easy to get to know neighbours and meet other residents, compared to 64% living in the growth areas.
- 61% of residents living in rural areas and 41% of residents living in growth areas participated in unpaid volunteering.
- 61% of people had attended a local community event, compared to the Victorian average of 56%.
- 55% of people feel valued by society, comparable to the Victorian average of 53%.
- 37.5 % of people believe other people can be trusted, compared to the Victorian average of 39%.

### Cardinia Shire Liveability Plan 2017-29

Cardinia Shire’s Liveability Plan 2017-2029 identifies seven health and social priorities impacting the wellbeing of Cardinia Shire residents. These are identified as the long term goals within the plan.

### Contact us

For more information contact Social and Community Planning on **1300 787 624** or email [mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au](mailto:mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au).

Year prepared: 2017 For a list of data sources or a copy of this information please contact Social and Community Planning