Community profile - November 2014 Addington / Sydenham / Waltham

(Census area units: Sydenham, Addington, Waltham, part of Middelton)



This profile area fringes the southern central city and stretches from Addington Raceway in the north-west to Waltham Park in the south-west. The northern reaches are dominated by light industry and retail commercial blocks, with mainly lower cost and infill housing to the south. New housing is found in Middleton. Major built features are the railway and State Highway 73 (Brougham Street) running through the middle of each of the three main suburbs. Each day more than 8000 workers travel into Addington and Sydenham to work in the light industry zone adjacent to the railway line and Lincoln Road commercial blocks.

The land is flat and unbroken by major natural features. Cottages and small character villas feature strongly in the residential areas, where more intense dwelling development is now underway. Sydenham Park and the Waltham Lido Pool and skate park are the most notable local outdoor recreation locations. Addington Raceway, CBS Canterbury Arena and Rugby League Park at the former Addington Show Grounds cater to the wider Christchurch public. There are three primary schools, five churches, three medical centres, and seven rest homes. The historic Addington Cemetery is closed to new interments.

The most recent census data shows this profile area has a much higher representation of people aged between 20 and 34 years of age, and significantly fewer residents are married than in Christchurch as a whole. The population over 65 years has dropped close to two per cent in Addington and Sydenham, but remains almost the same in Waltham. Since 2006, the population has increased nine per cent in Addington, two per cent in Sydenham and has not changed in Waltham. The total resident population of this profile area was 12,626 in March 2013.

There are 11 Council social housing complexes, containing 425 units, and four community cottage/resource centres. Community well-being agencies participate in two regular network meetings.



Key demographics

Usually resident population count (Data from Statistics NZ)



Age for usually resident population (number of people) (Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ) Profile Area





Ethnicity for usually resident population (%)

(Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)







Home ownership (%) (Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ) 3.2% 31.1%



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Occupied and Unoccupied Dwellings (Data from Statistics NZ)







Personal income for Profile Area compared to Christchurch City (Data from Statistics NZ)

Median Personal Income for Profile Area compared to Christchurch City (Data from Statistics NZ)



Median Weekly Rent for rented households, in private occupied dwellings

(Data from 2013 Census Statistics NZ)







(Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)







(Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)



Community infrastructure mapping



The above ratings have been based on reach, diversity, and participation. For example, bigger circles tend to be groups that provide a wider range of services, or have large numbers of participants. They also tend to be groups that are well networked within the community.

Organisations identified as active in social and community development based in this sector include 16 community organisations, 12 sport/leisure/recreation groups, and six church groups. There are five residents' groups and two business associations. The Sydenham and Addington commercial areas host community services and agencies that deliver to much wider catchments; for example, Age Concern, Salvation Army, and Kingdom Resources budget and employment services.

Local organisations with wide reach and depth of focus in this sector include two local cottages and a community centre that cater to local neighbourhood needs. Local community organisations participate in four Council information and liaison networks, and there is one community-driven collaboration network.



Community resilience mapping



Scale: 1 = Low **5** = High

15 Measures of resilience

Com 1a 1b 1c	munity Support Organisations # of organisations strength of organisations community development principles	(rating) (5) (4) (3)	Volunt 2a 2b 2c	eering investment in volunteers # of volunteer hours from Fundforce # of volunteer hours from Census	(rating) (4) (5) (3)
Conr	nectedness	(rating)	Partici	pation	(rating)
3a	# of Neighbourhood Support groups	(1)	4a	community events	(4)
3b	# of residents' associations	(3)	4b	Fundforce participation rates	(4)
3c	access to networking groups/forums	(4)	4c	club membership #s	(4)
	Preparedness			(rating)	
	5a # of Neighbourhood Support grou			(1)	
	5b # households in Neighbourhood Support			(1)	
	5c capability of groups	to lead loca	al response	e (3)	

Note: 2b, 4b - These ratings only take into account figures from community projects funded by Council.

2c - These figures are based on 2006 Census data as this information is not yet available for 2013.

3a, 5a, 5b - These ratings are based on groups and households registered with Christchurch Gets Ready as at November 2013.



Community environment

Social environment

Community sector organisations have continued their collaborative and innovative efforts over the past year. Regular locally organised events, such as the Waltham Skate Jam and the Addington St Mary's Church Fair, are well attended. Local groups have continued to expand the fruit and vegetable cooperative distribution initiative in this area and beyond. Addington Action, a voluntary initiative that assisted people with uninsured and damaged properties, has now decided to wind down. Addington Net, a community technology centre, has moved just across the border of Addington into Spreydon due to rent costs. After being displaced into temporary premises in 2011, Sydenham Community preschool is operating successfully in new premises at Waltham School.

Population turnover in this low socio-economic area continues, coupled with an influx of new workers at the western end of the area. Local groups report that low income and beneficiary renters face continuing difficulty accessing affordable housing. Low income single parent families continue to feature significantly in community development initiatives. While the proportion of households receiving domestic purposes benefit income in Christchurch is 4.1 per cent, in Addington, Sydenham, and Waltham the proportions are 6.3, 6.2, and 11.8 per cent respectively.

Compared with the whole of Christchurch, there are more residents of Māori descent, more residents born overseas, and more residents that speak English as a second language. After European, the highest ethnicity represented is Asian, with Addington comprising 21.3 per cent Asian-identifying people compared to 9.4 per cent for Christchurch.

Slightly fewer people in the area have access to mobile phones, line telephones and the internet compared to the rest of the city, with the exception of Waltham, where internet and telephone (excluding mobile) access is much lower.

Built environment

Major office block construction has continued in the commercial part of Addington on Lincoln Road, with several new large complexes now open. In Sydenham, much of the commercial area has been rebuilt or renovated, while the upper half of the Colombo Street shopping area continues to fill gaps with temporary exhibitions, wall art, and interim installations. The demolished Sydenham historic church on the corner of the Brougham Street motorway and Colombo Street has yet to have material salvaged, and the land opposite is awaiting construction. The Waltham neighbourhood contains no significant commercial retail area. Accessing supermarkets in St Martins, Spreydon, and the south central city areas requires transport other than walking.

Housing pressures and change are being experienced across the area as rents rise, older houses are removed and apartments for denser living are built. Higher increases in property prices were evident in Addington compared with Sydenham and Waltham. Social housing resources are filled to capacity, particularly as some Council units, such as in the Brougham Village complex, remain closed.

The city west to east traffic flow now places pressure on the Brougham Street motorway and key adjoining roads, particularly at peak travel times, although the compounding disruption of road repairs is now minimal. Recent infrastructure repair has involved waste water pipe lining, and caused minimal disruption. Significant infrastructure work ahead includes work south of the proposed Nga Puna Wai sports hub in the Canterbury Park / Agricultural and Pastoral Association grounds, and traffic control changes at the east end of Lincoln Road.



Economic environment

While the majority of retail businesses in Colombo Street lost their buildings due to earthquake damage, the area is now facing major redevelopment. Addington in contrast, endured fewer commercial building losses and now hosts a significant number of new businesses and commercial buildings across retail, entertainment, and professional services.

New growth in Sydenham has been boosted with an active business association and brand marketing strategy. Customer growth is most noticeable around the revamped The Colombo mall, which features a new multiplex cinema. Northern Sydenham's Colombo Street has a Council-developed and robustly consulted master plan in place for owners, developers and community interest groups to work towards.

Full-time employment rates are higher than for Christchurch as a whole, while part-time employment rates are lower. Manufacturing, construction, retail trade, and health care and social assistance are the prevalent industries that employ residents. The most common job types are professional in Addington, Middleton and Sydenham, while in Waltham it is technician and trade worker. In the 2013 census Waltham contained the highest proportion of unemployed people in this profile area, at 7.6 per cent. All the neighbourhoods in this profile area have a higher proportion of residents in the under \$50,000 per annum income brackets than in the whole of Christchurch.

Natural environment

Apart from some exposed creek areas and park grounds, there are few natural features of note in this area. Most of the land in this area has been zoned technical category two (TC2), with several patches of technical category three (TC3) land in Sydenham and along the south-eastern borders of Waltham. There are no red-zoned properties in this area.

There are three large sports parks: Addington Park, Sydenham Park, and Waltham Park. Some smaller green spaces have play equipment or developed scenic features, such as Simeon Park and Cornelius O'Connor Reserve, and recreational walkways adjacent to Addington Cemetery. All park grounds and reserves are open.



Key issues identified

	Issue	Progress to date / outcomes
•	In 2011, Selwyn Street and Colombo Street commercial areas had business associations collectively engaged in development planning, while Addington had no business group voice.	 <u>November 2012</u> No change, however it should be noted that Addington business expansions continue, and are attracting favourable publicity. <u>November 2013</u> An Addington Business Association has now started, and has been active in local consultations. <u>November 2014</u> No change. No longer an identified issue.
•	Day-time parking in Addington residential streets created hazardous congestion in 2011.	 <u>November 2012</u> The congestion is being monitored by Council staff. <u>November 2013</u> The Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board, Council staff and community stakeholders identified traffic management priorities, and a parking proposal attracted high feedback. This, and alternative parking initiatives are being implemented for the local workforce. <u>November 2014</u> Parking controls have been implemented. Traffic congestions and some hazardous parking continue to pose problems. Solutions are to be reviewed in the future.
•	The reinstatement of Waltham Lido summer pool was of the highest local priority in 2011 as it provided the key physical community gathering place of the neighbourhood.	 <u>November 2012</u> The Waltham Lido summer pool has been given high priority by the Council and is listed in the first 30 community facility rebuilds for the city. <u>November 2013</u> Cost of repair assessments have been completed. <u>November 2014</u> Repairs are underway and the pool is due to re- open January 2015.
•	In 2012 relocation was proving difficult for Manuka Cottage, Addington, in light of high rents, lack of purchasing capacity, and commercial accommodation shortages.	 <u>November 2013</u> The Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board secured Capital Endowment funding for a new Manuka Cottage property. While new location and design options are being explored, the cottage operations are based at St Mary's Church in Church Square.



Issue	Progress to date / outcomes
continued	 <u>November 2014</u> Current arrangements continue while plans are in action to secure suitable public land and relocate or construct a building.
 Sydenham, Addington, and Waltham organisations have reported major and increasing housing difficulties for low income families through 2013. 	 <u>November 2013</u> City planning now includes increased dense residential development in Addington and Sydenham, and assessment of future options for the extensively damaged Brougham Street social housing complex will be completed in the near future. <u>November 2014</u> While some rental complexes have been rebuilt or repaired, including social housing with increased numbers of dwellings, the demand for low cost housing still exceeds supply.

