

## **Guiding Principles for 'Protecting the Newtown Vibe' Roundtable**

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*What the Newtown vibe means to us*

### **The Newtown Vibe**

As the people who love to live, play and work in Newtown we want to ensure we protect the vibe of our diverse, inclusive, vibrant community.

We want to make sure we keep it weird, open and safe.

The Newtown Vibe is the character and spirit of Newtown – it's not something easy to describe or quantify – it is precious, but it isn't tangible - it is valuable, but isn't something that can be owned.

Sadly, it's also something that can be lost – unless we work together, collectively, to maintain and protect it.

Protecting the Newtown Vibe is all of our responsibility.

It is about respecting each other by being open, welcoming and inclusive. We want people to feel welcome when they visit Newtown and in return we expect them to respect the vibe of our community.

Newtown is unique, but not exclusive.

It is about celebrating difference and diversity – and weirdness. A place full of colourful characters, locally-run initiatives and creative cultural events and experiences.

We want Newtown to remain edgy and interesting. We want it to be a place where people of different means can continue live. We don't want Newtown to become unaffordable.

Our local community is active and engaged – we want to be part of shaping the kind of world we want to live in.

We are a community that looks out for each other, cares about those who are vulnerable, and speaks up against hatred and discrimination.

Everyone in Newtown should be able to walk the streets at any time of the day or night, whoever we are, and feel safe.

Protecting the Vibe doesn't mean resisting change. But it does mean being active in ensuring that as things change around us, we work together to keep our community diverse, inclusive, vibrant, safe, open and weird.

### **What the Newtown Vibe roundtable group intends to do to protect the vibe**

- *Meet 4 times a year as a group of local community members, business people, elected representatives, and organisations to monitor what is happening to the vibe of Newtown*
- *Discuss community concerns, and identify initiatives that will assist in resolving those concerns and protecting the vibe – these initiatives may be collaborations, or may be undertaken by individuals or organisations that bring specific skills or resources.*