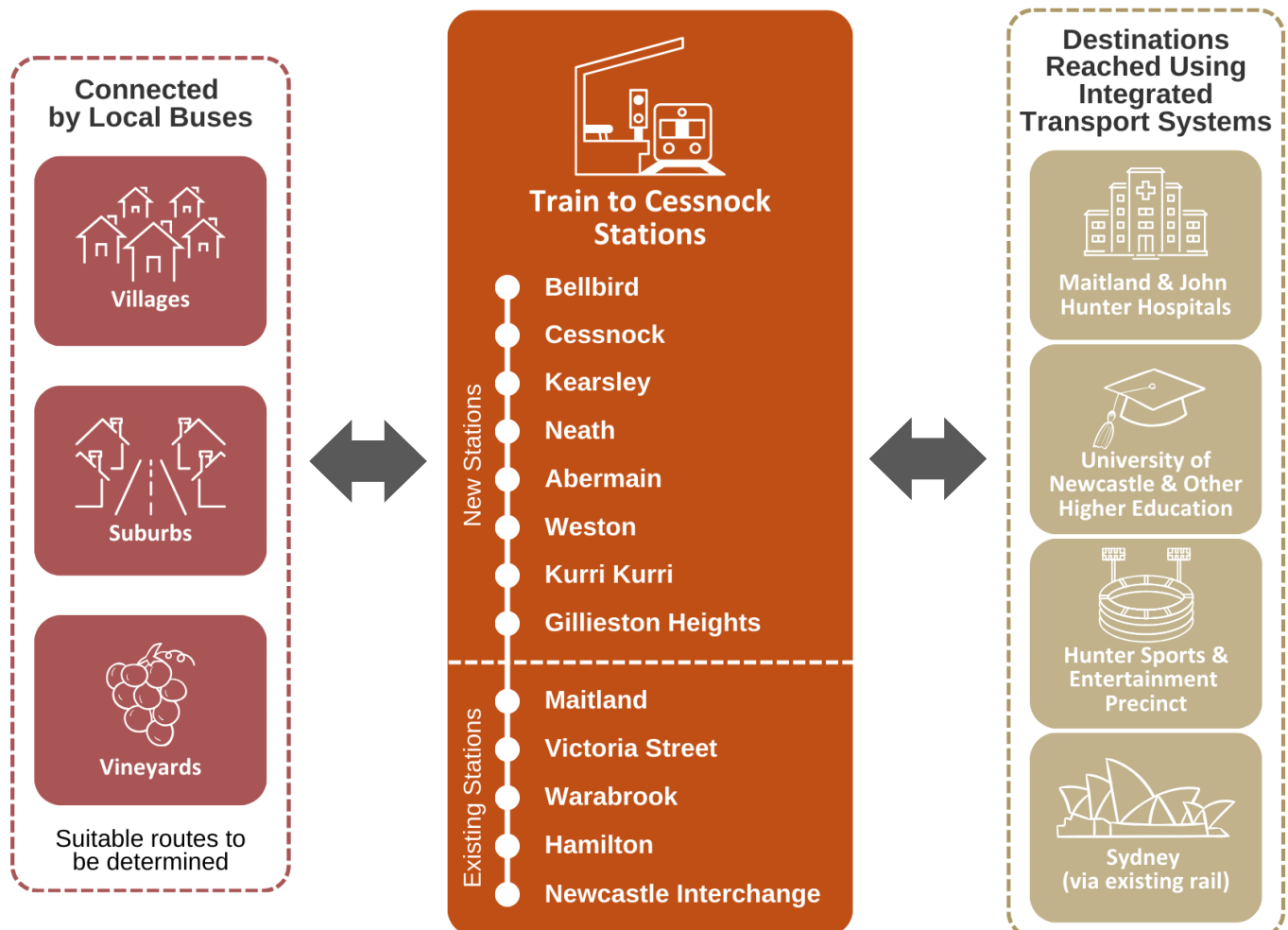


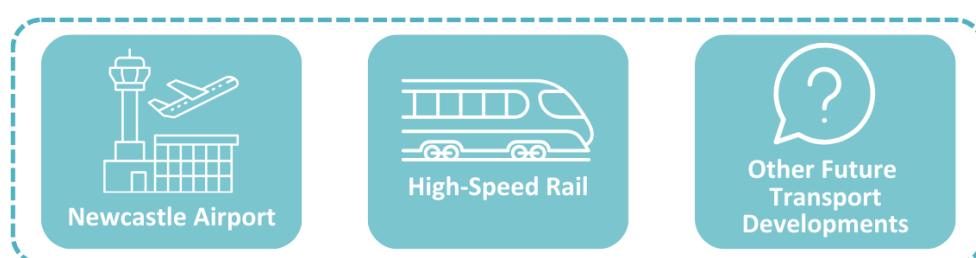
The Train to Cessnock as part of an integrated transport solution

Establishing Connections for Now ...



45% of trips out of the Cessnock LGA, for work, recreation or visiting family, are to either Maitland or Newcastle. The Train to Cessnock, integrated with other public transport facilities, would provide a vital connection.

... & Into the Future



Introducing the Train to Cessnock as part of the Hunter's integrated transport solutions, will mean that communities are already connected as new infrastructure and facilities are delivered.



Figure 1: Facebook post by Premier Chris Minns, 15 March 2024.

“Everyone deserves access to good public transport – regardless of where you live.”

Premier Chris Minns, March 2024

Just like the people in Parramatta, the communities in and around Cessnock and Kurri Kurri deserve good public transport. The Train to Cessnock would form part of an integrated transport solution to connect houses and localities with workplaces, facilities and other destinations.

The Train to Cessnock would provide a direct and convenient link between Cessnock, Kurri Kurri, Maitland and Newcastle, along with the numerous smaller centres along the corridor, including Bellbird, Neath, Abermain and Gillieston Heights. In providing rapid connection between these centres, the train would link these communities with those already serviced by passenger trains.

Rail services would integrate with existing public transport, such as the Newcastle Light Rail and buses. Not only would this enhance access to more effective, reliable and efficient public transport, but would also broaden opportunities for education, employment, recreation and health service.

Cessnock Council’s 2018 ‘Traffic and Transport Strategy’ reported that 55% of those living in the Cessnock LGA travel beyond Cessnock for work, the vast majority travelling to either Maitland or Newcastle. The Train to Cessnock would enable enhanced transport options for these journeys. Further, the train would provide additional options for those who travel to the University of Newcastle, the various TAFE campuses in the region, the selective Merewether High School, Hunter School of Performing Arts, and Hunter Sports High. Aside from increasing access to the Hunter region residents, the train line would also allow for improved public transport access to job opportunities in Cessnock and Kurri Kurri.

Integration with buses would provide direct links to Cessnock, the Hunter Valley region and other communities along the corridor, for residents of Newcastle and Sydney. These direct and rapid connections would act as an additional option for visitors and increase the accessibility of the region.

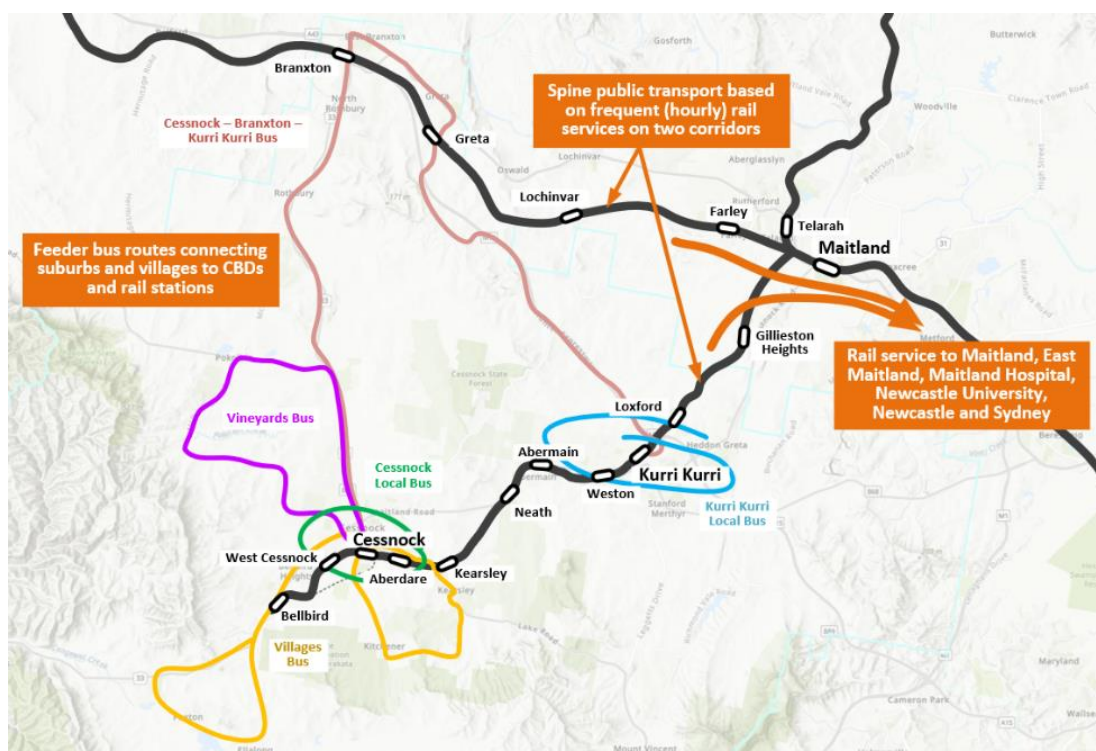


Figure 2: Illustration of potential local bus routes, to augment and integrate with Train to Cessnock rail services