

City people's neighbourly knowledge

By **EAMONN DUFF**

SYDNEY residents are neighbourly and community minded, a report suggests.

The research, presented at a Property Council of Australia function, also indicates strong support for sustainable and environmentally friendly property development. The report's author, Nicole Smith, said: "It's clear that Sydneysiders are a neighbourly bunch. We are not as self-centred as popular perception would have you believe.

"Despite our busy lives, over 70 per cent of people surveyed in Sydney actually know their neighbours."

Ms Smith said the likelihood of knowing neighbours was greater on Sydney's fringes but decreased the closer people lived to the city. However, people living in high-rise buildings were just as likely to know their next-door neighbour as people in freestanding residences.

The survey identified the water shortage as the main issue facing Sydney in the next 12 months. "People are concerned about the environment," Ms Smith said.

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