



PENRITH

PENRITH SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY

[penrith.city](https://www.penrith.city)



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The Penrith Sport and Recreation Strategy is a blueprint for the future development and enhancement of our community spaces throughout the wider Penrith Local Government Area.

The Strategy reflects the needs and expectations of our growing community while setting a framework for the creation of an active, safe, healthy and vibrant city that enhances Penrith's reputation as a liveable city.

While Council is driving this Strategy, a community wide approach is needed to deliver the program. Penrith Council will be working with all levels of Government, as well as state and local sporting and community organisations, to create a city with space to work, rest and play.

This strategy would not be possible without the invaluable feedback and input we received from the wider community. A wide range of individuals, community groups and sporting groups have participated in community consultation sessions and stakeholder discussions.

Many of the ideas, opinions and suggestions put forward by our residents and organisations are now contained within this Strategy.



COUNCILLOR ROSS FOWLER OAM
MAYOR, PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Penrith Council recognises the importance of providing organised and passive sport and recreation opportunities. This strategy guides our continuing commitment to provide residents with a wide range of sporting activities within the local area as well as opportunities for unstructured recreation in our open space network.

Penrith Council will continue to experience growth. This strategy prepares us for the future and will provide our existing and future residents with the infrastructure and open space to continue living active and healthy lives.

We will continue to work with our community and stakeholders to ensure our vision of diverse, accessible, safe and appealing open spaces are provided for the whole community to enjoy.

The Sport and Recreation Strategy is the tool that informs our future planning and delivery of Recreation and Open Space infrastructure that meets the needs of our community.

The Strategy will ensure we manage the growth and continue to provide our community with services and facilities they want and need. It sets a clear direction and vision for the creation of one of the state's most liveable cities.



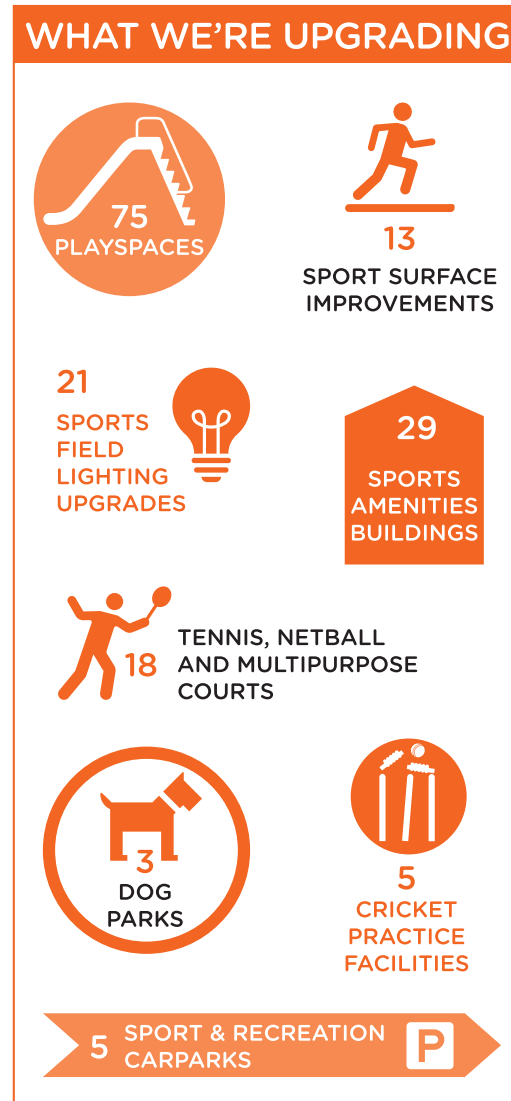
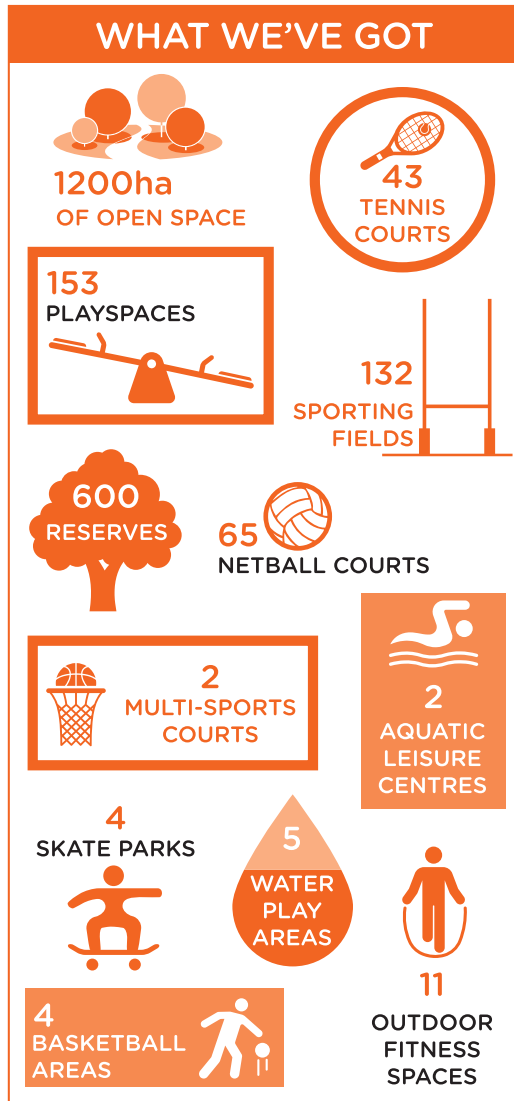
WARWICK WINN
GENERAL MANAGER, PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

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THE STRATEGY AT A GLANCE

More details and years for project delivery are included on pages 61 to 85, or alternatively you could visit the online map at :penrith.city/sportandrecreationstrategy



THE STRATEGY IN CONTEXT

A TRANSFORMING CITY

Penrith's population is expected to grow to 258,195 by 2036 (Source: Profile id Dec 2017, subject to change), an increase of almost 60,000 people based on today's population figures. Therefore, an additional demand for 24,300 homes are needed to support our growing and diverse population. New housing will be delivered in new residential areas in Caddens, Glenmore Park, Jordan Springs, Orchard Hills, Western Sydney University and Luddenham (Sydney Science Park). It is anticipated that there will also be changing housing types, as well as mixed-use and high-density residential developments in the Penrith City Centre, St Marys Town Centre, and around stations on the T1 Western Line and Sydney Metro Greater West. Further strategy work will be undertaken to understand the housing needs and diversity for our transforming City.

DEMOGRAPHICS

In planning for the growth of the City, the Penrith Sport and Recreation Strategy recognises the changing composition of our communities and identifies the requirement to provide services and infrastructure that meets their needs through different stages of life. The demographic snapshot is as follows:

- There is almost an even split of male and female residents.
- 64-75-year-olds are the fastest growing age group in the LGA.
- Median age of residents is 34 years old with life expectancy being 82.6 years.
- 34.9% of residents are under 25 years old.
- More households in Penrith have children (51.4%) when compared to Greater Sydney (45.8%) and Australia (40.7%).
- There is an average of 2.9 people per household.
- There is a growing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, 3.9% of people.
- More people born overseas, increasing 19.9% between 2011-2016.
- More people are speaking languages other than English at home, this has increased 43% since 2011, with almost 1 in 5 speaking a language other than English.
- Penrith's Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) for relative socio-economic disadvantage is 999. Leonay is the highest at 1,044 and North St Marys the lowest at 833. Greater Sydney is 1,018 and NSW 1,001.
- Penrith has a higher median income (\$1,655) to that of Australia (\$1,431) but slightly lower than Greater Sydney (\$1,745).
- 63.9% of labour force is employed full time and 5.7% is unemployed.
- 35.9% of people, 15 years and over, have completed secondary education to year 10 or above.
- 5.2% of people report needing help day to day because of a disability.
- 66.5% of Penrith residents commute an average of 21 kms to work.
- 80% of dwellings are low density (separate houses), 15.2% are medium density and 3.9% (i.e. apartments) are high density.
- 33% of Penrith adults are overweight and 37% are obese.
- 17% of children (2-17 years) are overweight and 8.6% obese.
- 71% of people over 18 years old undertake no or low exercise (less than 150 minutes) over the course of a week.

THE STRATEGY IN CONTEXT

INFRASTRUCTURE GROWTH

There are major initiatives that will continue to impact on open space planning provision into the future. This plan, while seeking to anticipate future development, will need to be reviewed periodically as new initiatives emerge and progress. It should be noted that many of these proposals are in early planning phases and may not be realised for a number of years.

These include:

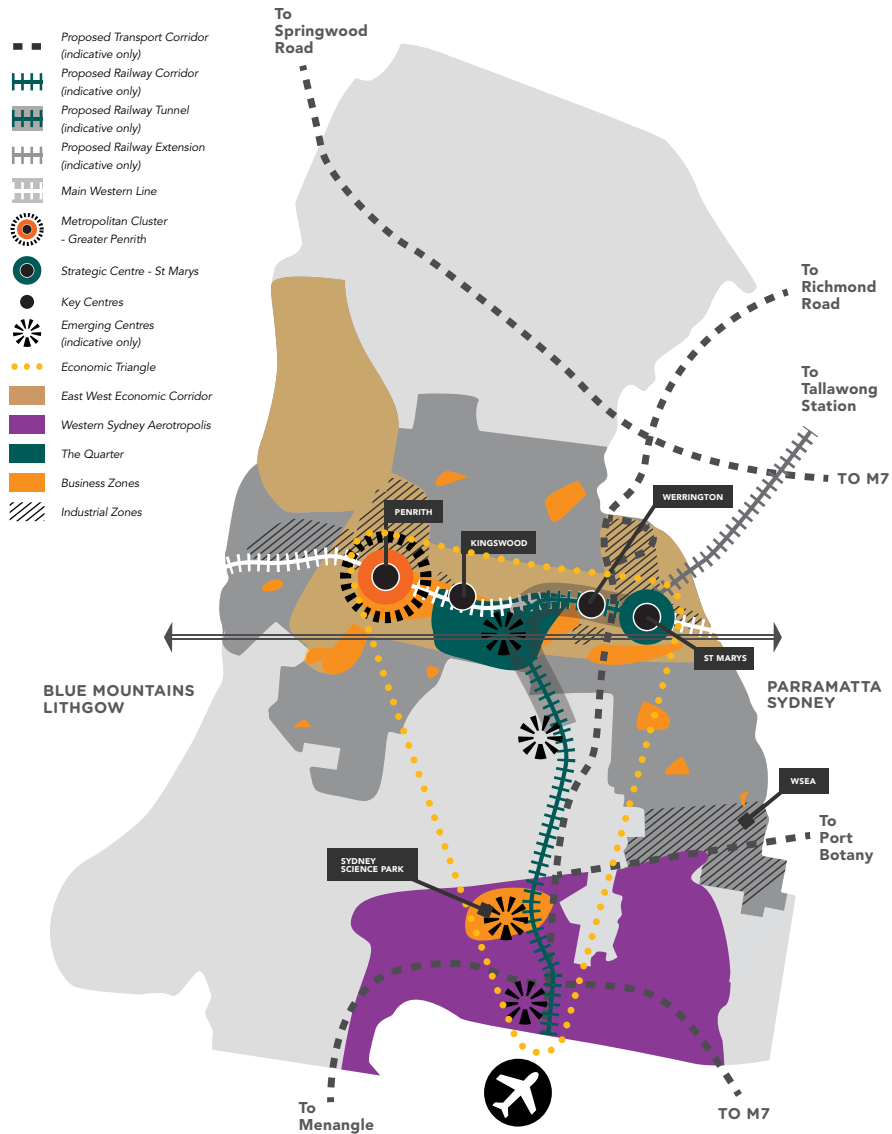
- Implementation of the Western City District Plan Planning Priorities (Western Parkland City) including:
 - Western Sydney Airport Growth Area; Greater Penrith Collaboration Area; Greater Penrith to Eastern Creek Growth Area; Horsley Park and Mount Vernon Urban Investigation Area; Orchard Hills Investigation Area.
 - The Greater Sydney Green and Blue Grid as part of District Plans.
- Future Transport 2056; focusing on decisions the NSW Government needs to make to address major road and rail infrastructure to service Western Sydney and the Airport.
- State Infrastructure Strategy 2018-2038; sets out the NSW Government's priorities for the next 20 years and, combined with Future Transport Strategy 2056 and A Metropolis of Three Cities, brings together infrastructure investment and land-use planning for cities and regions.
- Western Sydney City Deal; a 20-year agreement between the Australian and NSW Government and Councils to deliver major transformation in Sydney's Outer West.
- Growth in service provision in the health and education corridors east of the Penrith CBD.

- Employment lands expansion.
- Expected progressive opening of the Penrith Lakes Scheme for public recreation.
- The development of the Sydney Science Park, Luddenham.

PRESERVING THE BALANCE

In accommodating this growth, Council recognises how important it is that sport, recreation, play, open space, the environment, rural lands and other green infrastructure is preserved and maintained. It is vital that present and future residents have access to spaces and places that provide social, economic and environmental benefits.

In striving to achieve this, the Penrith Sport and Recreation Strategy includes clear guidelines to ensure future developments provide the appropriate type, quantity and quality of open space recreational areas and facilities. The strategies and actions outlined in this document define the specifications for use by developers and other agencies when considering infrastructure provision in the city.



Note: This map reflects Council's advocacy position for the location of emerging centres. The corridors identified in this map are adapted from Transport for NSW's Future Transport Strategy 2056 and may be subject to change.



THE ENVIRONMENT

WATER WAYS

Our City is within the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment, with 60% of land draining to South Creek and the remaining 40% draining directly to the Nepean River. Penrith's other major waterways include Mulgoa Creek, Cosgrove Creek, Kemps Creek, Blaxland Creek, Ropes Creek and Rickabys Creek as well as Cranebrook Wetlands and Yarramundi Lagoon.

These waterways are an important ecological, hydrological, recreational and cultural resource. They provide habitat for native species and support groundwater dependent ecosystems. They provide for movement of water through the landscape, including stormwater, flood waters and wastewater. They support recreational activities and are appreciated for their aesthetic quality within the landscape. They also provide a sense of place in the community.

As the City continues to grow there will be increased pressure on the water ways and riparian corridors. New development and investment in infrastructure can provide opportunities for increased health of the waterways and riparian corridors such as linking green spaces and restoring degraded bushland and banks. Council's planning framework applies W1 Natural Waterways, W2 Recreation Waterways and E2 Conservation zones to major waterways and riparian corridors. In a few locations the RE1 Public Recreation zone is applied. These zones, together with local planning and development controls, help protect these important environmental assets.

The Greater Sydney Region Plan's Vision for the South Creek Corridor is to transform its water management, while using the creek corridor to form the spine of the Western Parkland City. Its catchment will experience major and sustained growth, including the Western Sydney Aerotropolis development. The Vision proposes a green corridor that provides sites for parks, walking and cycling trails, community facilities and ecological services, including nutrient capture to improve water quality, urban cooling and local habitat.

BIODIVERSITY

Penrith has a diverse range of native species and vegetation communities, with at least 132 species of native fish, amphibians, reptiles and mammals, over 200 native bird species and over 500 plant species. There are also 13 distinct vegetation communities, most of which are threatened and listed for protection under Commonwealth and NSW legislation.

Bushland and remnant vegetation is important to provide habitat for native species, help cool the environment and support cleaner waterways and air. It also provides green space for community enjoyment, contributes to the City's identity and is irreplaceable.

The major threats to bushland and diversity are vegetation clearing, illegal dumping, feral animals, pollution and nutrients from storm water run-off, weeds, and unmanaged recreation trails. The City contains about 17% of the remaining bushland of the Cumberland Plain. This is the highest proportion of any Local Government Area and Council has a responsibility to ensure its conservation. Some of this bushland is already protected in conservation areas such as Blue Mountains National Park; Agnes Banks, Castlereagh, Wianamatta and Mulgoa Nature Reserves and Wianamatta Regional Park. There are about 1,370ha of land within the Orchard Hills Defence Establishment included on the Commonwealth Heritage list for natural heritage values, particularly its native vegetation.

The Department of Planning and Environment is preparing a Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan. The purpose of the Conservation Plan is to guide the development of Western Sydney over the next 38 years, including the development of the Western Parkland City, by identifying the most important areas of biodiversity and putting plans in place to protect those areas for the long term.

The City's 'biodiversity network' comprises land within conservation reserves and zoned E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves, land zoned E2 Environmental Conservation and Natural Resource Sensitive Land in the current LEP.

As much of the information about the City's bushland and biodiversity is at a broad landscape scale and has not been confirmed by a systematic ground survey, a biodiversity study will be required to detail areas of high conservation value in the short-medium term, informed by the Cumberland Conservation Plan.

THE ENVIRONMENT

SCENIC AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

The protection of high-value scenic and cultural landscapes is important to the community as well as to people visiting and working in the City. It is therefore important to document where these landscapes are, what is important about them and identify how best to protect and manage the landscapes so that their inherent values are retained.

A Scenic and Cultural Landscapes Study is being prepared to identify high value landscapes within the City. Seven landscapes of high value have been identified. Three landscapes have significance at a regional or higher level:

- The Mulgoa Valley, including the villages of Mulgoa and Wallacia.
- The Western Forested Hills along the western edge of the Mulgoa Valley.
- The Nepean River Corridor from Wallacia in the south to Yarramundi Crossing in the north.

Four landscapes have significance at a local level:

- Three landscapes at different locations along Castlereagh Road.
- The Northern Road landscape from Park Road to the M4 Motorway.

In addition, large tracts of vegetation and major creeks have been identified as having local scenic and cultural significance. Regional vistas and view corridors to major landscape features like the Blue Mountains Escarpment and the Nepean River are also recognised.

COOLING THE CITY

Taking action to cool the city, in conjunction with supporting the community to adapt to a changing climate, is increasingly important, given the consistent projections of increasing heatwaves and the number of extreme temperature days for the Western Sydney region.

Council has developed the 'Cooling the City Strategy' which has a range of actions to increase green infrastructure, Water Sensitive Urban Design, policy development and ongoing community engagement across the City. These actions include planting within road reserves and public spaces, and establishing tree canopy cover targets for new and existing urban areas, particularly those vulnerable to urban heat.

Penrith currently has 14% urban tree canopy cover. The NSW Government has set a target to increase tree canopy cover across Greater Sydney to 40%. The urban tree canopy mitigates the urban heat island effect, with a 10% increase in tree canopy cover reducing the land surface temperature by 1.13 degrees Celsius. At present, 25% of Penrith's suburbs have 0-10% tree canopy cover. This strategy both integrates the relevant actions of the 'Cooling the City Strategy' and includes others which will contribute to mitigating the urban heat island effect.

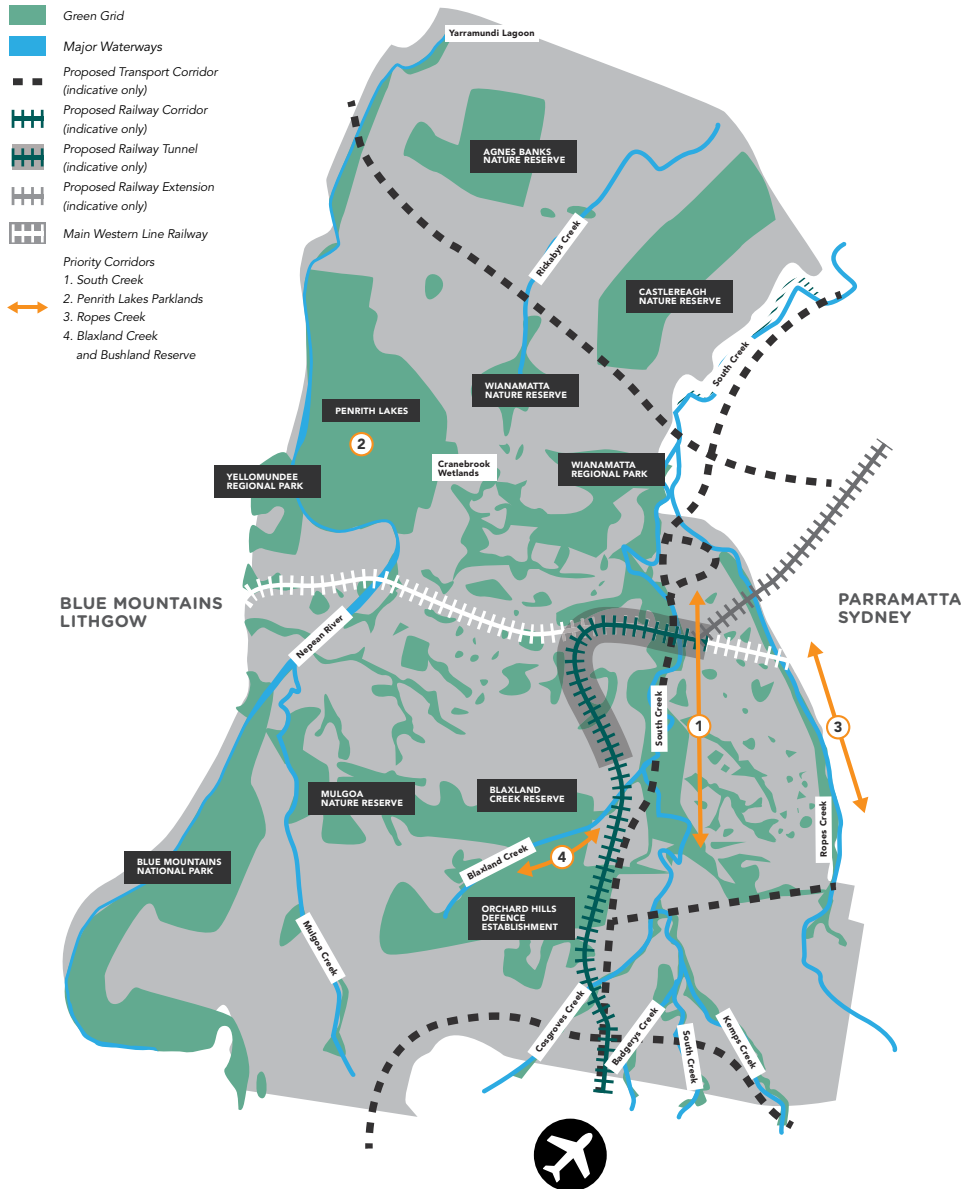
BLUE AND GREEN GRID

The Western City District Plan, informed by the Sydney Green Grid, identifies a number of priority corridors and projects for Penrith to promote a connected Green and Blue grid for the City.

Priority Corridors for Penrith:

South Creek – creating a continuous open space corridor along all of South Creek that provides ecological protection and enhancement, better stormwater treatment and a regionally significant corridor for recreation uses.

Penrith Lakes Parklands – creating diverse open space parklands and waterway facilities around the lakes and along the Nepean River with pedestrian and cycle links from Penrith and important links with the Great River Walk Project.



Ropes Creek – protecting and enhancing ecologically valued lands, improving water quality and stormwater run-off, and providing a diverse and connected sequence of recreational open spaces, walking and cycling trails.

Blaxland Creek and Bushland Reserve – protecting important future open spaces for the Western Sydney Aerotropolis Growth Area.

Nepean Creeks – Peach Tree, Mulgoa and Surveyors Creeks, enhancing and protecting these assets and increasing access and recreational opportunities.

Cranebrook – Windsor Nature Reserve Corridor – planning for the Wianamatta Nature Reserve, Castlereagh Nature Reserve and Windsor Downs Nature Reserve to protect and enhance regionally significant ecological communities and connect them to improve resilience, improve water quality and stormwater treatment along Rickaby’s Creek and provide open space links to other areas.

Eastern Escarpment Open Space Trails (with Blue Mountains) – connecting a series of recreational and tourist open space facilities along the escarpment to maximise the unique landscape and views.

Great Western Highway Penrith to Blackheath Corridor – creating a safe and separated east-west walking and cycling connection from Penrith to Blackheath.

Shanes Park and Wianamatta Regional Park – protecting important areas of biodiversity that also provide connections to Ropes Creek and South Creek.

Warragamba Pipeline Open Space Corridor – considering use of surplus easement lands for recreation open space, urban greening and walking and cycling trails.

URBAN GRID

The Urban Grid comprises major road and rail corridors with capacity to include cycle and associated pedestrian paths. While few will use these corridors for long walks or cycle trips, these corridors form critical connective roles, linking disparate elements of the Blue and Green Grid.

SPORT AND RECREATION TRENDS

Understanding trends in both society, and more specifically people's recreational activities, has a direct and indirect impact on the way sport and recreation is managed and provided by Council. The following is an overview of some modern trends in Australian society:

Awareness: There is increasing recognition of the benefits of open space, sport and recreation in improving quality of life, health and wellbeing. This has led to higher expectations for future facilities, programs and services.

Culture: Penrith is a multi-cultural community where people recognise the value of celebrating diversity as well as requesting activities and facilities not traditionally catered for in mainstream recreation.

Sedentary Lifestyles: The link between the benefits of physical activity and an individual's physical and mental health and wellbeing is well documented.

Currently, 56% of all Australian adults are insufficiently active and 75% of adults 65 and over are not meeting the national guidelines for physical activity. Nearly two-thirds (63%) of people living in socio-economic disadvantaged areas are not sufficiently physically active, compared with 40% with no socio-economic disadvantage.

Walking for exercise remains the most popular national physical recreational activity, with 19% of people aged 15 years and over doing so at least once in the 12 months. Females were more likely to walk for exercise than males (25% and 14% respectively). Fitness and gym were the next most popular activity (17%), again with more females than males participating (19% and 16% respectively).

Longevity: Our ageing society is shifting the priorities in sport and recreation to include the need to ensure physical access is addressed when considering the range of programs provided for older adults.

Australia and other countries of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) face an aging population. This will change the types of sports we play and how we play them. There are indications that Australians are embracing sport into their old age. To retain strong participation rates, sports of the future will need to cater for senior citizens. They will also need to cater for the changing cultural make-up of Australia.

Volunteers: Decreasing personal time has led to a decline in volunteers. This is relevant with our aging society that, unlike their parents, have the flexibility and often greater resources for travel and a range of leisure time activities. Volunteer numbers in Penrith have increased between 2006-2016, however are still lower when compared to Greater Sydney and NSW.

Litigation: Increased awareness of safety, public liability and child protection have added to the legal responsibilities and liabilities providers and community groups are subject to.

Young People: Increasingly for this age cohort there is a preference for individual and unstructured / informal activities rather than team or group activities. Younger children are also being encouraged to reconnect with nature through nature play and experiencing the outdoors. The design of playspaces is therefore changing and the traditional playgrounds design model is being challenged.

Work Patterns: Working hours extend outside the traditional 9-5 resulting in people seeking activities during times not traditionally catered for. The need for greater flexibility in the management and structure of sport and recreation is required, including access to open space.

Individualised sport and fitness activities are on the rise, with people fitting sport into their increasingly busy and time-fragmented lifestyles to achieve personal health objectives. Participation rates in fitness training, running, walking and gym memberships have all risen sharply over the past decade, while participation rates for many organised sports have held constant or declined.

Public Realm: Consideration for the public realm and the significance placed on the spaces between buildings, streetscapes and public places has changed dramatically over time in response to developmental and lifestyle factors.

Technology: Greater access to technology, the internet and longer opening hours of entertainment venues has seen these elements as key competitors to sport and recreation for people's time. Positively, access to technology provides clubs with a range of marketing tools aimed at their members as well as avenues for people to engage and understand opportunities and opportunities for management and operations to be more effective.

Community Sport: The administration of sporting clubs has become more complex with the increased emphasis on risk and optimising use. As a consequence, administrators are required to manage clubs in a professional, almost business-like manner.

Infrastructure: Much existing sport and recreation infrastructure is the legacy of a surge in development witnessed in the mid to late 1970s – in many cases it is over 40 years old and nearing its useable life. Modern planning methods and demands on open space and sport now mean Councils are taking stock of their facilities and looking at design and location to ensure optimal use and access.

Climate: Climate change has impacted on sports fields, play facilities and open space provision as well as the community's recreation patterns and demands and biodiversity in our open spaces. This has led managers to look at innovative ways to maintain and develop new management practices to balance access and risk, whether that is irrigation, new turf technology, no mow areas, increasing shade cover, increasing tree canopies, species diversity, succession planting or provision of water play.

Urban Development: An increasing population and housing density within our cities and town centres (and the appreciation that this will continue into the future) has resulted in a decrease in private and public open space. Trends acknowledge that higher value must be placed on public realm and greater investment made into quality spaces for use by people to spend time, connect with nature, interact and recreate.

The broader benefits of sport are being increasingly recognised by governments, business and communities. Sport can help achieve mental and physical health, crime prevention, social development and international cooperation objectives.

Lifestyle and Adventure Activities: This captures the rise of lifestyle, adventure and alternative sports popular with younger generations. These sports typically involve complex, advanced skills and have some element of inherent danger and/or thrill-seeking. They are also characterised by a strong lifestyle element and participants often obtain cultural self-identity and self-expression through them.

Commercial Cost: Market forces are likely to exert greater pressure on sport in the future. In some sports, elite athletes have had considerable pay rises and large sponsorship deals. Sports with higher salaries may draw athletes away from those with lower salaries. Loosely organised community sports associations are likely to be replaced by organisations with corporate structures and more formal governance systems in light of market pressures. The cost of participating in sport is also rising and this is a participation barrier for many people.



OPEN SPACE

VISION

"An accessible and connected network providing for a range of active, passive, structured and unstructured needs.

Open space in Penrith will offer a range of opportunities and will be managed in a sustainable manner for current and future generations."



OPEN SPACE

OPEN SPACE PLANNING

Recently published studies, policies, strategies and guidelines give us a more contemporary approach to open space provision.

Greener Places: Government Architect NSW Policy green infrastructure document Greener Places, is supported by three sets of draft guidelines published in 2018:

- (DRAFT) Open Space for Recreation
- (DRAFT) Bushland and Waterways
- (DRAFT) Urban Tree Canopy.

Key strategies from the Government Architects NSW Policy include:

- Improve the provision and diversity of open space for recreation.
- Understand the demands on existing open space and plan for open space in new growing communities.
- Improve the quality of open space for better parks and facilities.
- Use open space to connect people to nature.
- Link to network of green space.
- Encourage physical activity by providing better parks and better amenity.
- Provide open space that is multifunctional and fit for purpose.
- Design versatile flexible spaces.
- Consider life cycle costs, management and maintenance.

In addition, Landcom's Open Space Planning and Design Guidelines 2016 include principles for the provision of open space which:

- Are meaningful to place and community - The planning and design of any setting should be responsive to its natural and cultural context.
- Are multi-functional and adaptable - Public open space needs to be adaptable to a range of uses and users and meet changing recreational needs over time.
- Provide diversity - Our diverse communities have equally diverse recreational needs. Diversity of opportunity ensures that most needs will be met.
- Encourage Social interaction - The main reason most people participate in recreation activities, including sport, is for social interaction. It is therefore essential that every setting actively encourages, promotes and caters for social interaction.
- Promote health and wellbeing - A sense of wellbeing is supported by access to places to meet people, to walk and run about, play sport or to have contact with nature.
- Provide equity and accessibility - Proximity and accessibility are key determinants of the use and enjoyment of parks and reserves. While the distribution of public open space in established communities is largely fixed, the opportunity exists to maximise accessibility.
- Embody environmental sustainability - Parks and open spaces play a pivotal role in maintaining a healthy natural environment. Whether through the protection and extension of natural habitat, the conservation of natural resources or design for low embodied energy.
- Ensure financial sustainability - The key to long term financial sustainability of open space lies in its relevance to its community as well as the effective design of the site's layout, its orientation and functional relationships, both within and adjoining the site.

Everyone Can Play - A NSW State Government program to improve accessibility of all play spaces for children.

5 Million Trees – A NSW State Government program seeks to achieve the planting of 5 million trees across the Sydney Metro area.

TYPE, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF OPEN SPACE

The importance of maintaining significant open space to meet the existing and future needs of the community is critical to Penrith City. Access to open space and recreation provides numerous social, environmental and economic benefits, including the promotion of healthy lifestyles and the improved wellbeing of residents.

TYPES

Currently, open space in the City is provided within the following setting types:

Passive parklands - Unstructured open space with no formal active recreation component. Reserves which have their physical character or vegetation modified to support community recreation / community development needs and wellbeing uses.

Outdoor sports - Venues designed to support organised sports, including training and competition. Indoor sports such as swimming pools or sports halls would categorise as civic and urban spaces.

Civic and urban spaces - Spaces that accommodate social gatherings and events for general community use. For example, a plaza, squares, shopping centre forecourts and public building forecourts.

Natural areas, bushland and biodiversity networks - Reserves created to protect and enhance natural and/or cultural resources. Also have a passive recreation / leisure function, for example walking, cycling, tourism.

River foreshore - Foreshores include spaces within tideline including access to waterway. May include open water body itself where this has a recreational use, for example sailing / rowing, launching ramps, protected wildlife areas.

Creeks and wetlands - Water bodies that form part of our Blue Grid, for example lake, pond, creek.

Ancillary - Spaces not zoned for public open space, primarily with an amenity function for example road reserves, wide medians, reservoirs, rail corridors, service easements, ornamental garden beds, LGA gateways.

Informal - Spaces not zoned for public open space, with another primary function, but which are used periodically for recreation with permission by the owner, for example school grounds, community gardens, car parks, building roofs.

Scenic and cultural landscapes – landscapes that are valued for their scenic quality, natural conservation values and because they provide attractive vistas from public places.



QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION

Our community values access to open space, appreciates being close to natural and rural landscapes and is strongly supportive of environmental protection and enhancement.

The Penrith LGA is bordered by open space which offers significant recreational value and opportunities, including the Blue Mountains and the Western Sydney Parklands.

Significant opportunities exist for our community to access open space into the future with the as-yet unrealised potential of Penrith Lakes; the recently opened Wianamatta Regional Park; South Creek to be the centre of the new Western Parkland City; the ongoing implementation of the Our River Masterplan; the realisation of the Green Grid; and potential for other locations to offer recreational benefits, subject to the direction of the NSW Government.

In the Penrith LGA, there are more than 600 reserves covering over 1,200ha of open space. Around 8,000ha of the City is zoned for nature reserves or national park. Most residents enjoy open space within 500m of home, and the median amount of local open space across all Aggregated Area planning precincts is around 5ha/per 1,000 people (some precincts have significantly higher ratios).

While this quantum and distribution provides opportunity, there are current challenges presented by the current open space network and a strategic approach is required to ensure the community is best placed to enjoy the benefits of integrated greenspace provision into the future.

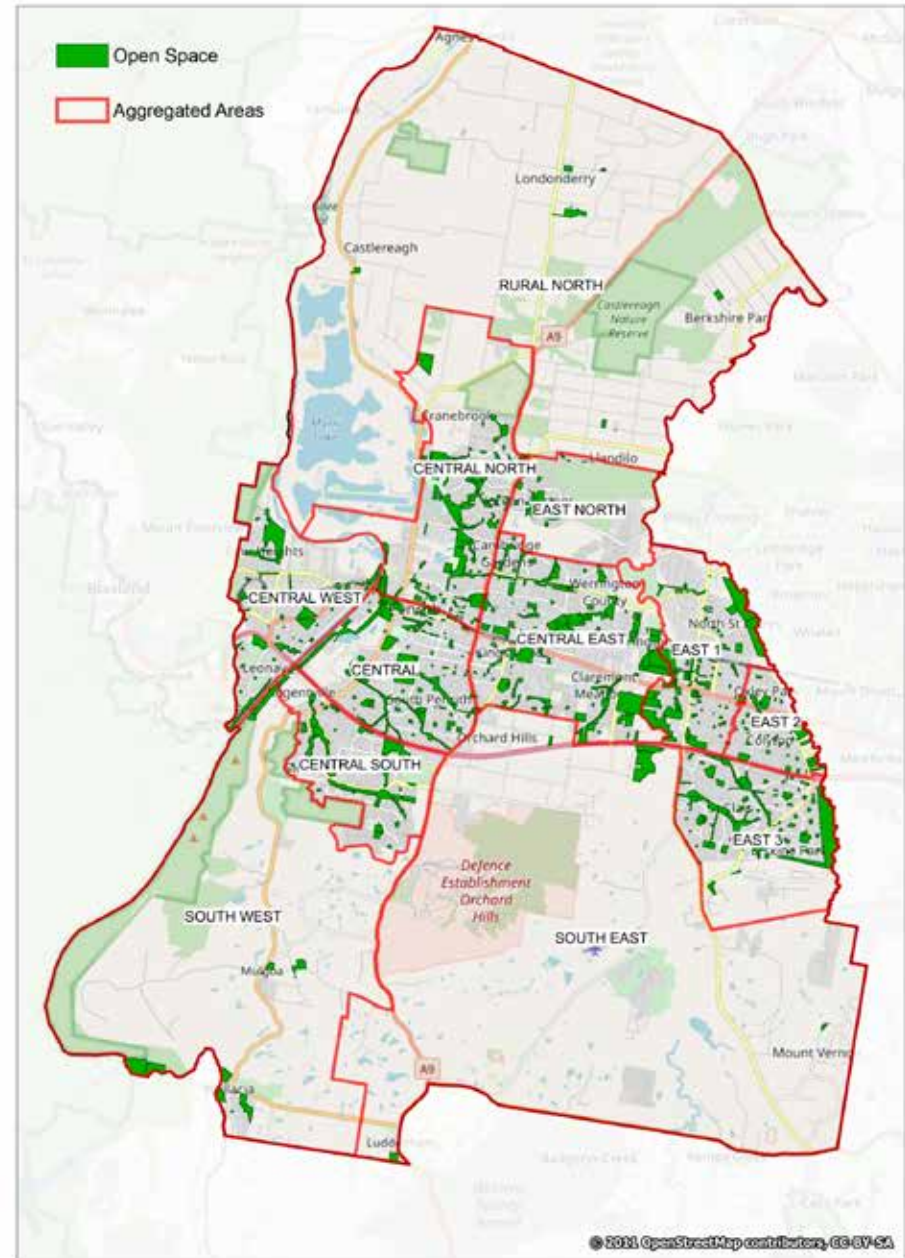
Key challenges include:

- The Aggregated Areas with the highest population forecasts to 2036 (e.g. Central North, Central South, Central East, South East and South West) will witness a significant drop in amounts of open space per head of population if; new release areas are not planned to provide appropriate quality and quantity of open space, no new open space is acquired in this timeframe in these precincts, or an alternative open space response is not identified.
- The potential for the loss of open space or fragmentation of natural systems dependent on the provision of new transport infrastructure.
- Many significant recreation and corridor creek corridors and trails are discontinuous and lack connection, limiting community benefit. Connection from residential and urban areas to these trails and corridors and between open space is limited.
- Climate in Penrith is extreme in summer and winter, with climate change an ongoing challenge in terms of cooling the city, while maintaining and operating open space provision.
- Planning, design and maintenance of open space with respect to objectives, quality and service level needs to be more closely aligned.

A more specific assessment indicates:

- 10% of all parks have an area of less than 0.1ha, a critical issue with current best practice suggesting that a local reserve should optimally be 0.5ha or at a minimum 0.3ha in established inner urban areas.
- 22.5% of parks are less than 0.2ha and 46% are 0.5ha or less, a statistic that also reflects the high level of duplication of small precincts in some aggregated areas (often in close proximity, less than 0.5kms apart, hence within 200-250m of many residences, for example East 1 and East 2).
- Existing sportsground and sport facility provision will not meet demand from expected population growth with an additional 84ha of active open space required. This will increase by up to an additional 60ha dependent on future NSW Government transport infrastructure planning.
- There is the opportunity to make more of the City's existing open space to better meet current and future needs.
- Existing reserve layout and design should be revisited to increase carrying capacity and meet a range of recreation needs becoming multi-use.
- Future proposed new release areas will increase pressure on open space unless appropriate quantity, connections, and distribution is managed. Early planning in the urban investigation areas is critical to securing the most appropriate open space (for example South East).
- There is an opportunity to improve access to and between public open spaces at a local level to encourage more regular day-to-day incidental use of open space.

- While there are significant recreation and creek corridors and trails, many are discontinuous and lack of connection limits community benefit.
- Our community values access to open space and appreciates being close to natural and rural landscapes and has a strong desire for environmental protection and enhancement, however, infrastructure (roads, rail) provides barriers.
- There is the opportunity to consolidate the Green Grid to support ecological services and complete recreational links that draw on the City's significant river, creek and bushland landscapes.
- There is the opportunity to integrate contact with nature into all reserves even at the most basic level (for example natural elements in urban play spaces).
- There is a need to ensure that new transport infrastructure does not result in loss of open space or fragmentation of natural systems.
- There are opportunities to offer an increased diversity of experience and landscape character in all open space, as well as better recognition of cultural diversity in the City through planning and design that reflect local variations in environment, heritage and the community.
- Continuing to adopt place-based approaches to engagement will allow open space design and facility infrastructure provision that continues to meet the needs of the local community.





FUTURE OPEN SPACE STRATEGY AND ACTIONS

The Open Space Strategy provides a cornerstone for future open space provision through the planning, design and management of the physical environment in which recreation and leisure takes place. It balances quantity provision metrics, open space performance, spatial planning frameworks and distribution to provide direction by:

- Creating equitable access
- Supporting an increasing diversity of activity
- Integrating the network
- Connecting open space
- Establishing multi-functional open space
- Encouraging participation

Access to existing and future public open space is to be provided through an integrated network of local, district, citywide, linear, sporting and regional spaces.

Local open space – provides convenient access to passive and some active recreation for nearby residents of all ages within walking distance.

Typical uses, functions and facilities include; passive un-irrigated area, low key planting, shade, seating (natural or bench), play equipment catering for predominantly 0-6 years, paths only as required to access park and seats/play, play spaces, some isolated sports facilities, some picnic/low key BBQ facilities and shade/tables, informal active areas, passive areas for family recreation including small kick-about areas.

District open space – is larger and provides for a variety of active and passive recreation needs of the residents with a catchment across two or more suburbs. These spaces can accommodate large group activities, organised sports and offer opportunities for cultural expression and environmental education.

Typical uses, functions and facilities include; playspaces for all ages; sports facilities that accommodate multiple sports and hard courts with supporting infrastructure such as car parking, floodlighting, seating, amenities buildings; cultural and civic spaces for events or ceremonies;

specific areas of interest including natural areas, bushland and riverside settings; single and group picnic areas; park amenity buildings; other possible uses may include community gardens, community/public art and other interpretive items, youth and mixed recreation spaces, walking/cycling loops, dog off leash areas, on and off street parking, boat ramps, river jetties and access to the river for watersports.

Citywide open space – will provide a variety of active and passive recreation opportunities for residents across the whole of the LGA and the catchment may extend across other neighbouring LGA boundaries. These spaces may provide unique recreation opportunities or landscape settings.

Typical uses, functions and facilities include; large children's play areas that may include adventure play and inclusive all abilities play; sports facilities that accommodate multiple sports and hard courts (indoor and outdoor) with supporting infrastructure such as car parking, floodlighting, seating, amenities buildings; cultural and civic spaces for large community events and/or ceremonies; large areas of natural significance, including river frontage; areas of open space for specific events that attract visitors and tourism; other possible uses include community and sports centres, kiosks, cafes and restaurants; community/public art and other interpretive items; walking/cycling loops; youth and mixed recreation spaces, walking/cycling loops, dog off-leash areas, on and off street parking, boat ramps, river jetties and access to the river for watersports.

Sporting spaces – relates to areas where the primary role is for the purpose of supporting organised sport, including training and competition. Such a space could provide sportsgrounds, athletics tracks, courts and other sports surfaces, and may include buildings where there is a recreation function (for example sports halls, aquatic centres etc.)

Linear open space – relates to areas where the primary role may not be public open space but where recreation can occur and is often associated with movement oriented recreation (walking and cycling) for example creek lines, storm water channels, linear trails, native vegetation corridors, river foreshores, rail corridors etc.

Linear open space provide additional green links between existing parks and reserves and are particularly important in suburbs deficient in open space as well as new developments. They include include the river, creek walks, trails, wildlife corridors with trails and a network linking local reserves.

Regional open space - serves the local LGA, surrounding LGAs, the Sydney Metropolitan Area and has the capacity to attract visitors from other regions. Regional Parks also provide local access and regional access. A regional open space could be managed by state agencies, trusts, local governments and/or other public bodies.

Establishing a connected Green and Blue Grid - a network of waterways, bushland, urban tree canopy, parks and other open spaces – is important for a sustainable city. Connected bushland and waterways are essential for habitat and ecological health. They are also important for managing water quality, stormwater flows and flood risks. An urban tree canopy is important to help adapt to and mitigate the effects of heat. It can also help to reduce air and noise pollution, provide local habitat and improve the urban landscape. Parks and open spaces are important for recreation, exercise and social interaction. By providing a connected grid, the City can support walking, cycling and better access to these green spaces to promote a healthier and more active community.

The City's growing population and need for housing and employment land will present both challenges and opportunities for connecting our Green and Blue Grid. Some of those challenges include protecting existing bushland and urban trees from increased development; providing connections across existing and planned transport infrastructure; and funding new green spaces in locations close to where people live, particularly with the long-term trend towards higher density housing.

With growth, however, there are also opportunities to provide green spaces or 'green infrastructure' that delivers multiple social, environmental and economic benefits through careful planning and design. For example, by integrating green spaces with new water management or transport infrastructure, ecological health as well as community health outcomes can be delivered. By creating quality green spaces and connecting them, the City can also deliver economic benefits by catering for visitors as well as residents.

KEY STRATEGIES

1. Optimise open space for existing populations where access is not optimal and significant growth is expected.
2. Improve the quantity and distribution of open space in established urban areas to better match current and future population needs.
3. Acquire land to compensate any category and classification of open space land lost through future development of transport corridors and any other infrastructure development.
4. The open space network in undeveloped greenfield growth areas (i.e. South East) is planned to ensure a strategic approach to a sustainable open space network framed around natural values.
5. Access to existing and future public open space will be provided through an integrated network in a hierarchy of local, district, citywide and regional.
6. Open space in the City will contribute to the value and understanding of place.
7. Open space will be provided in the appropriate configuration to ensure the capacity of the open space accommodates a range of recreation activities and needs.
8. A network of open space will be provided and designed to accommodate multi-use inclusive participation opportunities for different recreation types.
9. Open space connectivity will link recreational, cultural, heritage and natural values.
10. Open space will promote the awareness and recognition of Penrith's Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage.
11. The open space network will have quality public realm in its centres including squares, plazas, and active streets.

12. An integrated action plan that includes all modes of access will create better access to existing and future public open space.
13. A network of open space will be provided to create green infrastructure for climate adaptation and resilience.
14. Maintenance of open space will support environmental sustainability.
15. The natural geography of the Penrith LGA is to be integrated into the planning, design and management of open space.
16. Compliment, conserve, extend and promote the appreciation and enjoyment of bushland throughout the Penrith LGA.
17. Enhance recreational and natural systems connectivity through the continual upgrade and embellishment of all river and creek open spaces.
18. Create economic returns from public open space and reinvest to provide higher quality open space outcomes which meet community need.
19. Improve the liveability of the City through the presentation and maintenance of open space and the quality and quantity of infrastructure provided.
20. Maintenance and management of open space provides an effective and efficient level of service.
21. A Strategic Asset Management Plan and Asset Renewal Plan will guide the future infrastructure development in public open space.
22. Ongoing engagement with a range of open space stakeholders will be used to extend the reach and capacity of the open space network.

23. Use of technology will broaden recreational value, enhance operations, extend information and communication and enhance administration.

24. Planning and management of public open space will be governed by contemporary Open Space Design and Planning Guidelines, contemporary Plans of Management and Masterplans, and an open space inventory.

Table 1 (below) outlines the strategies and associated implementation actions for the Penrith LGA as a whole. Open space strategies and actions specific to each Aggregated Area are included in the section *Aggregated Area Open Space, Play, Sport and Recreation Strategic Actions*.

TABLE 1: STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS FOR OPEN SPACE PLANNING

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
<h2>PLAN FOR GROWTH</h2>	
<p>Ensure the quantity and distribution of open space in established urban areas better matches current and future population needs.</p> <p>Optimise open space for existing populations where access is below optimal and significant growth is expected.</p>	<p>Priority 1: Optimise and extend capacity of existing open space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a place-based approach to establishing the needs of the community, prioritising areas of highest socio-economic needs. • Design more efficient reserve layout, clearly define spaces and plan for multi-use. • Improve access to and between public open spaces at a local level to encourage more day-to-day incidental use of open space (for example linking paths and cycleways to parks that are on daily routes to transport, schools, work, shops etc.) • Integrate open space planning, design, urban design and community facility planning. • Address open space in its wider public realm expression to include streets, urban spaces, the natural environment and cultural spaces in the City (for example extending and linking existing natural corridors through parks and streets, allied to walking and cycling links). <p>Priority 2: Acquisition and consolidation, addressing identified shortages and duplication of public open space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify locations for new parks where gaps exist in current network (i.e. residences well outside 500m from any open space) or for new growth areas. • Prioritise consolidation of open spaces to achieve larger more useable local reserves in areas currently serviced by under-sized reserves (i.e. those with extensive numbers of reserves under 0.3ha). • Prioritise the Aggregated Areas of Central, Central East, East 1 and East 2 for the next phases of the Open Space Reinvestment Strategy before growth starts to limit options. • Continue the Open Space Reinvestment Strategy in established urban areas with first focus on areas of socio-economic disadvantage. <p>Priority 3: Divestment to occur once duplication has been addressed by consolidation or reconfiguration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise reserves that do not and cannot meet basic recreation needs, once alternative open spaces or better connections have been put in place, using Erskine Park Open Space Reinvestment Plan criteria.

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
<p>Start planning for preferred open space network in undeveloped future greenfield growth areas (for example South East) to ensure a strategic approach to a sustainable open space network framed around natural values.</p>	<p>Minimum outcome performance measures for greenfield and infill development open space should be:</p> <p>Local parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of residents to have access to a local park within a safe walking 400m distance from their home, and 100% of residents within 500m of their homes. • Minimum size to be 0.5ha. • General rate of provision 1:2,500 pop. • 0.2ha/1,000 residents. <p>District parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of residents have access within 800m safe walking distance from home, and 100% of residents within 1,500m of their homes. • Average size to be >5ha and minimum size 2ha. • 1:5,000 pop. 1ha/1,000 residents. <p>Sporting space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of residents have access to at least 2 formal sports spaces within 2km and must be accessible by public transport • Average size >10ha. • Minimum size 10ha. • 1:12,500 pop. 1.4ha/1,000 residents. <p>Linear parks and other multi-use open space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of residents have access within 800m of home. • Minimum 20m wide. • 1ha/1,000 residents. <p>Citywide park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% can access and must be accessible by public transport. • Minimum size 20ha. • 1:20,000 pop. 1ha/1,000 residents. <p>These are not exclusive outcomes and will not be the only approach used. Open space detailed planning and design will locate spaces and places that meet criteria for recreation opportunities and have capacity to accommodate expected demand. Employment uses within development sites are expected to generate 10% of open space demand. This will be considered accordingly in precinct planning.</p> <p>Specific tables for low, medium, high and infill development are seen in the tables on page 26.</p>
<p>Open space within the City is to contribute to the value and understanding of place</p>	<p>Engage with as many different government departments and agencies and community groups as possible in designing and planning green infrastructure projects, prioritising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early liaison with Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E) and Greater Sydney Commission (GSC) should focus on securing best open space land in Ropes and South Creek corridors before development. • Penrith Lakes Development Corporation (PLDC) at Penrith Lakes, Western Sydney University (WSU) at Kingswood and Werrington, National Parks Wildlife Service (NPWS) Wianamatta Park and the other Western Parkland City Councils on cross boundary connections. • The community and stakeholders in established urban areas, particularly Neighbourhood Renewal areas and the urban centres of Penrith, St Marys and Kingswood. <p>Revise and contemporise existing Plans of Management for Community Land.</p>

A SUMMARY OF OPEN SPACE PROVISION RATES:

Greenfield development (all forms of housing in greenfield areas)			
OPEN SPACE TYPE	MINIMUM RATE	ACCESS FROM HOMES	LAND SIZE
LOCAL PARK	0.2ha/1,000 pop	80% within 400m 100% within 500m	Min 0.5ha
DISTRICT PARK	1ha/1,000 pop	80% within 800m 100% within 1.5km	Min 2ha, Average >5 - 10ha
SPORTING SPACE	1.4ha/1,000 pop	80% access to 2 space within 2km	Min 10ha, Average >10ha
LINEAR PARK	1ha/1,000 pop	100% within 800m	Min 20m wide
CITYWIDE PARK	1ha/1,000 pop	100% within public transport	Min 20ha
TOTAL	4.6ha/1,000 pop		

Infill development – medium density (<60 dwellings/ha)			
OPEN SPACE TYPE	MINIMUM RATE	ACCESS FROM HOMES	LAND SIZE
LOCAL PARK	0.2ha/1,000 pop	100% within 400m of local or district open space	Min 0.5ha
DISTRICT PARK	1ha/1,000 pop	100% within 400m of local or district open space	Min 2ha, Average >5 - 10ha
SPORTING SPACE	1.4ha/1,000 pop	80% access to 2 space within 2km	Min 10ha, Average >10ha
LINEAR PARK	1ha/1,000 pop	100% within 800m	Min 20m wide
CITYWIDE PARK	1ha/1,000 pop	100% within public transport	Min 20ha
TOTAL	4.6ha/1,000 pop		

Infill development – low density (<20 dwellings/ha)			
OPEN SPACE TYPE	MINIMUM RATE	ACCESS FROM HOMES	LAND SIZE
LOCAL PARK	0.2ha/1,000 pop	100% within 400m of local or district open space	0.5ha – 2ha
DISTRICT PARK	1ha/1,000 pop	100% within 400m of local or district open space	Min 2 ha, Average >5 - 10ha
SPORTING SPACE	1.4ha/1,000 pop	80% access to 2 space within 2km	Min 10ha, Average >10ha
LINEAR PARK	1ha/1,000 pop	100% within 800m	Min 20m wide
CITYWIDE PARK	1ha/1,000 pop	100% within public transport	Min 20ha
TOTAL	4.6ha/1,000 pop		

Infill development – high density (60-100 dwellings/ha)			
OPEN SPACE TYPE	MINIMUM RATE	ACCESS FROM HOMES	LAND SIZE
LOCAL PARK	0.2ha/1,000 pop	100% within 200m of local or district open space	0.3 – 0.5ha
DISTRICT PARK	1ha/1,000 pop	100% within 400m of local or district open space	Min 2ha, Average >5 - 1ha
SPORTING SPACE	1.4ha/1,000 pop	80% access to 2 space within 2km	Min 10ha, Average >10ha
LINEAR PARK	1ha/1,000 pop	100% within 800m	Min 20m wide
CITYWIDE PARK	1ha/1,000 pop	100% within public transport	Min 20ha
TOTAL	4.6ha/1,000 pop		

These are not exclusive outcomes and will not be the only approach used. Open space detailed planning and design will locate spaces and places that meet criteria for recreation opportunities and have capacity to accommodate expected demand. Employment uses within development sites are expected to generate 10% of open space demand. This will be considered accordingly in precinct planning.

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
PROMOTE ACCESS AND INCLUSION	
<p>Improve community access to existing and future public open space through provision of an integrated network of open space classified as local, district and citywide parks.</p>	<p>Open space distribution to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For a high density area >60 – 100 dwellings/ha, 2-3-minute walk/200m walking distance to local, district, citywide or regional park. • For a medium to low density neighbourhood 20-40 dwellings/ha, 5-minute walk/500m to local district citywide or regional park. • Workplaces and schools within 500m of open space. • 25-minute walk/2km to any district park. • Up to 30-minute travel time/5-10km on public transport or by vehicle to either citywide or regional open space.
<p>Open space is to be provided in the appropriate size and shape to ensure that the capacity of that space meets and accommodates a range of recreation activities and needs.</p>	<p>Open space sizes to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum size of a local park 0.5ha – 2ha • Minimum size of park in high density area to be 0.3 – 0.5ha • Minimum size district open space 2-5ha • Minimum size of city wide open space >20ha
<p>Open space is to be provided and designed to accommodate multi-use inclusive participation opportunities for different recreation types.</p>	<p>Minimum outcome performance measures for different recreation types should be the following for:</p> <p>Playgrounds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 5-minutes safe walking • Medium and low density within 400m for 80% of homes and within 500m for 100% of homes • For higher density, within 200m for 80% of homes and 300m for 100% of homes. <p>Youth Space (10-20 years)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 10 minutes safe walking and cycling • Access to at least one youth space within 800m for 80% of houses and within 1500m for 100% ideally within 500m of public transport stop. <p>Outdoor recreation facilities for passive enjoyment of outdoors and nature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within five minutes safe walking • Medium and low density within 400m for 80% of homes and within 500m for 100% of homes. For higher density, within 300m for 80% of homes and 500m for 100% of homes. <p>Active recreation space (group based active recreation such as social sporting activity)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 15-minutes safe walking, or 10 minutes cycling – or less than 1500m walking distance. <p>Trail and path based recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 10-minutes safe walking or within 800m of 100% of houses. In high density areas multi-user path networks with linking access to extended trail or path opportunities within 500m should be considered. <p>Organised sport and recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to at least two of the following within 20-minutes safe walking or 15-minutes safe cycling or public transport: field sports, outdoor sports courts, indoor sports, aquatic sports.

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
<p>Enhance open space connectivity through an integrated strategy that links recreational, cultural heritage and natural values.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate open space investment that aligns with the Sydney Green Grid - West District Project Priority Opportunities List (2019). • Establish or extend walking and cycling trails and corridors, especially river, creeks and bushland trails (as per Sydney's Green Grid). • Link natural corridors to minor road on-street connections where continuity of recreation corridors to key recreation destinations does not exist. • Map major missing links in riparian or other corridor trails identified as priority corridors and develop a priority implementation program. Priorities should include connections to the river along creek systems, and overcoming critical north-south barriers (e.g. along M4, Great Western Highway and Rail Corridor). • Prioritise open space corridor links: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Missing links in corridors that would significantly extend open space access. - In areas with limited open space and high populations. - In already heavily used recreation corridors. - Where creating links would enhance natural values. - Where it overcomes major barriers (roads etc.) - Where establishing links would benefit children (for example off road paths to school, sports venues etc.). - Where it assists in developing longer routes to the City, particularly from East to West. - To major destinations for example district open space, town centers and major employment areas. - Glenmore Park, Mulgoa and Surveyors Creek. - Creating a series of destination parklands along the corridor between Penrith and Penrith Lakes.
<p>Promote the awareness and recognition of Penrith's Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Heritage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with the Aboriginal community and the wider community to establish the means through which Aboriginal cultural heritage can best be recognised within the City's open spaces. This could include, but is not exclusive to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation of sites and potential sites. - Interpretation through landscape design, planting, public art and performance in public open space. - Participation in implementing works and managing landscapes with cultural associations. - Education programs for local schools and the community recognising and interpreting the City's agricultural, industrial, social and river history within appropriate reserves and open spaces. - Reflect local history in each suburb through specific responses in associated reserves. - Identify and categorise any open space with strong associations as such in the open space inventory settings.
<p>The Open Space network is to have quality public realm at the centre including squares, plazas and active streets creating opportunities for social interaction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate City Centre open space planning into the network of open space. • Deliver City Park (Penrith) as a priority. • Key civic spaces to be integrated with public transport opportunities and existing development with the focus to be Penrith, Kingswood, Werrington and St Marys. • South Creek and Ropes Creek to be developed as major open space recreation destinations to support the development in the Werrington, Kingswood and St Marys Precincts. • Explore opportunities to create incidental and organised open space activities via, pop up parks, use of roof tops/car parks, laneways and other urban spaces.

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
<p>Community access to existing and future public open space is to be improved through an integrated action plan that involves all modes of access.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve pedestrian and cycle connections from areas of renewal around stations at Penrith, Kingswood, Werrington and St Marys with the open space network and the green corridors of South and Ropes Creek and the Penrith Health and Education Precinct. • Improve pedestrian and cycle connections across the M4, Great Western Highway and the Northern Road to facilitate access to major parks and open space. • Review accessibility to all reserves by public transport. • Ensure access and parking at reserves is efficient in circulation and adequate for needs, prioritising where public transport access is currently poor. • Design entries, circulation and parking to promote access and optimum used of space. • Review and update the Council's PATHS Strategy (cycling and walking plan) connecting opportunities to access open space and recreate within them, for example new shared paths, cycle circuits. • Conduct healthy built environment audits for suburbs to identify opportunities for improved access to open space. • Integrate all parks and open space into a walking network for the City which links paths with attractors (shops, public transport, work, schools etc). • Provide integrated access of all forms to Western Sydney University developments and proposed airport rail corridors. • Enhance access from Penrith City Centre to the Nepean River Foreshore and open space network. • Update access audits of all public open space across the LGA, focusing on key outcomes for parks and reserves including ease of access to park entries off streets; provision of circuit paths that can be walked or wheeled; ample seating with shade and shelter; numbers and locations of accessible parking spaces; and optimising inclusive play. • Prepare a Wayfinding Plan in keeping with the Walking and Cycling Strategy, with an emphasis on off-road routes which link key destinations; recreational circuits with distance and walking times identified; routes that can readily be undertaken by people with a disability; links between walking routes and public transport stops.

STRATEGY

ACTIONS

SUPPORT ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

<p>A network of open space is provided that provides green infrastructure for climate adaptation and resilience.</p>	<p>Continue with actions to implement Council's Cooling the City Strategy with the open space network including streets, river foreshores, creek corridors, parks, sport facilities and play areas, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise increasing canopy cover in priority hotspot areas across the City and where existing coverage is lower than 10%. • Investigate and support grants for projects that encourage shade and cooling strategies. • Develop an appropriate tree species list for urban heat mitigation and climate change resilience in Penrith. • Consider heat impacts on the community in the choice and provision of open space infrastructure. • Audit key parks of different classifications to determine where shade can be better provided and where drinking fountains are required. • A heat analysis is to be completed to inform any future stages of the Public Open Space Reinvestment Program and events in public open space are to be utilised to promote 'Cooling the City'. • Participate in and promote National Tree Day and other tree planting initiatives, including the NSW Government's 5 Million Trees project, and align with priority hotspot areas. • Increase available tree shade in both sports and play reserves. • Identify opportunities to showcase water sensitive urban design (WSUD) and integrate into projects where possible. • Educate and engage with the community about the design of landscapes into the future and the benefits of open space and trees. • Adapt to flooding with use of natural systems management and minimal necessary built form. • Integrate best practice storm water management through WSUD techniques into all open spaces and reserve design, maximising green infrastructure assets.
<p>The natural geography of the Penrith LGA is to be integrated into the planning, design and management of open space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the Scenic and Cultural Landscapes Study, including statements of significance for high value landscapes. • Review mapping and planning controls for land with scenic and landscape values to protect and enhance identified high value landscapes. • Complete the Rural Lands and Villages Study. • Commission a biodiversity study that details areas of high conservation value. • Promote and integrate the natural environment as a core value of all open spaces no matter what the setting. • Capitalise, where possible, on natural ridges for walking, and potential off-road cycling routes maximising district views.
<p>Maintenance of open space is to support environmental sustainability.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review mowing regimes and water harvesting options to reduce unnecessary mowing of areas that may be better replanted and extended irrigation to enhance carrying capacity and amenity. • Integrate best practice stormwater management through WSUD techniques into reserve design, maximizing green infrastructure assets (vegetation, natural materials etc).
<p>Compliment, conserve, extend and promote the appreciation and enjoyment of bushland throughout the Penrith LGA.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with the Department of Planning and Environment on the preparation of the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan. • Review mapping and planning controls for E2 Zones and Natural Resources Sensitive Land in Penrith LEP 2010 to ensure consistency with the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan. • Incorporate bushland conservation, restoration and fabrication in all classifications of reserve as a key part of Council's Open Space and Planning Guidelines. • Enhance native fauna habitat connectivity through extending the natural and recreational corridors enhancing bushland viability and diversity. • Identify locations for exotic species planting and species selection that does not compromise natural bushland values. • Identify selected streets for walking and cycling routes that provide continuous native tree canopy. • Develop and implement a communications plan to promote awareness and enjoyment of bushland. • Identify short, medium and long walks in all localities with priorities on circuits and routes that link to day-to-day destinations. • Increase community knowledge of its natural environment through targeted interpretation and wayfinding signage within reserves.

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
<p>Continue to upgrade all river, and creek open spaces to enhance recreational and natural systems connectivity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a Green Grid Strategy for the City to refine and prioritise the corridors and projects identified in the Western City District Plan for Penrith. • Use the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan data to inform Green Grid Strategy for the City. • Prepare masterplans for 3 priority corridors identified in the District Plan Green Grid and explore opportunity for funding through the Metropolitan Greenspace Program. • Investigate opportunities for Development Contributions to fund new open space to support Blue and Green Grid Development. • Optimise riparian vegetation along river foreshores and creek corridors (ensuring key views to creeks and rivers are identified and maintained). • Maintain or restore natural river banks and creek profiles wherever practicable. Encourage access to the water's edge and recreation by and on the water. • Monitor and interpret water quality changes to increase the community value of natural waterways. • Conserve and promote the natural hydrology of the sub-catchments.



STRATEGY**ACTIONS****CREATE ECONOMIC BENEFITS**

Explore a range of opportunities for gaining economic return from public open space.

- Focus on cost recovery or returns from leases, licenses and concessions; events; tourism (sports, nature, water based and heritage).
- Review need for Public Open Reinvestment Program in the next 5 years.
- Economic gains made from use of public open space to be returned for improvements or enhancements to the City's open space network.
- Plan open space provision and protection of natural assets to support growth of the City's tourism industry and promote it as an 'adventure capital'.
- Prioritise the ongoing implementation of the 'Our River Masterplan'.

STRATEGY**ACTIONS****MANAGE THE CITY'S ASSETS**

Improve the liveability of the City through the presentation and maintenance of open space, and the quality and quantity of infrastructure provided.

- Implement Open Space Planning and Design Guidelines for all existing and future open space in the city. Design guidelines, including:
 - Seating and shelter.
 - Toilets.
 - Amenity and safety.
 - Microclimate.
 - Lighting.
 - Planting.
 - Art and interpretation.
 - Technology.
- Engage with the community to establish service delivery standards.
- Review facilities at and service standards for all parks as part of the above guidelines including numbers of buildings, duplication of facilities (especially play) and extent of mowing, application of irrigation etc.
- Whole of life costs and maintenance standards to be considered in provision of upgraded and new infrastructure.
- Effective management and service delivery standards to be developed and regularly reviewed through customer engagement and benchmark tools e.g. Yardstick, industry standards and guidelines.
- New and existing planning proposals to integrate and include open space provision that meet quantity, policy and facility provision guidelines.

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
Assets are to be managed considering life cycle costs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement a holistic management strategy for all open space with a focus on cost savings, cost recovery and new funding. • Prioritise doing 'simple things well' versus major capital investment including e.g. provision of seats, shade (natural and manufactured), pathways, landscaping, and playground upgrades. • Capital investment to be prioritised at facilities that will support increased use and participation by the community. • Facility provision priorities must meet criteria of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High functionality. - Multi use/purpose. - Value for money. - Ease of ongoing supply. - Adaptability to customisation. - Strong design aesthetic. - Facilitates cultural diversity. - Environmentally sensitive design. - Regularly cited in community satisfaction and importance surveys. - Ensure maintenance and service delivery programs meet core outcomes and are reviewed periodically.
Maintenance and management of open space provides an effective and efficient level of service.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and update all service levels that relate to management and maintenance of open space. • Consider maintenance intensity levels relative to the setting type and park hierarchy.
Develop a partnership strategy for ongoing engagement with a range of open space and recreation stakeholders to extend the reach and capacity of the open space network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify stakeholders and establish partnerships including, but not exclusive to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Parks and Wildlife Services regarding natural and recreational corridor links to the Blue Mountains, and Wianamatta Regional Park. - Western Sydney, TAFE and Department of Education regarding access to facilities. - Adjoining Councils especially in relation to shared major recreational facilities and recreation trail and natural area links and corridors. - Department of Planning and Environment. - Road and rail authorities regarding walking, cycling, walking and public transport integration of parks. - Utilities authorities, in relation to recreational use of lands, planting in easements etc. - Work with major partners on open space delivery to agree critical integration into the existing open space network (e.g. PLDC at Penrith Lakes).
Access to current technology in open space will broaden recreational value, extend information and enhance administration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contemporary technology is to be utilised in the operation, provision of information and communication, and activation of open space.

STRATEGY

ACTIONS

PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

<p>Open Space Planning and Design Guidelines will guide open space infrastructure provision and operations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish Open Space Planning and Design Guidelines that can be used to inform: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Masterplans or Plans of Management. - Service levels. - Co-ordination when reviewing acquisition, consolidation and rationalisation strategies. - Open space requirements from development. - Liaison with other Government agencies.
<p>Contemporary Plans of Management and Masterplans will be in place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise existing Plans and Masterplans and update. • Identify priority parks for new Masterplans/Plans of Management.
<p>The open space inventory will remain current and be reviewed through the life of the strategy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain mapping of all open space in GIS.

PLAY

VISION

"A wide range of play opportunities which promote the social, physical and cognitive development of children; playspaces in Penrith will be recognised as unique, safe and innovative providing a diversity of opportunities across the network"



PLAY

PLAY IN PENRITH

Play has many benefits for children, families and the wider community. Penrith City Council is committed to providing quality playspaces throughout the Penrith LGA to meet the demands of the current and projected population increases. This will be achieved through the upgrade of existing playspaces, investment in new and exciting parks, provision of various forms of play and upgrades to shade, seating and access to suit the needs of residents of all ages and abilities.

A summary assessment of playspace provision identifies that:

- There are currently 153 playspaces across the city.
- In terms of benchmark figures and location, there is a good number and distribution throughout the LGA, however there are some areas with clusters, and some gaps.
- 74% of playspaces predominantly target 3-6 year olds, play facilities generally lack equipment for toddlers and for young people.
- 57% of the community would like a spread of local play facilities offering a range of experiences, followed by larger but less playspaces 23% and 20% stating that they want smaller playspaces closer to home.
- Benchmarking the provision of playspaces with our neighbouring Councils found that the mean (average) number of playspace is 1 for every 1,225 people. The Penrith LGA was slightly lower in its provision of playspaces with 1 for every 1,367 people.

COUNCIL	TOTAL POPULATION	PLAY SPACES	PLAYSPACES PER 000
FAIRFIELD	207,022	216	958
CAMDEN	77,504	76	1020
BLACKTOWN	348,138	295	1180
MEAN (AVERAGE)	1,071,557	146	1225
HAWKESBURY	66,782	53	1260
PENRITH	209,210	153	1367
LIVERPOOL	210,113	149	1410
CAMPBELLTOWN	161,998	86	1884

There is no universally accepted ratio of playspace to population, but industry studies indicate a distribution of 1 to between 1,000:2,000 is the norm.

Given some of areas of the City are classed as rural, Council needs to consider at what 'tipping' point it would establish a playspace for any given community. In smaller more rural areas, a tipping point of 500 people may be more appropriate to ensure the community has access to a quality playspace.

- 55% of Penrith's playspaces are under 10 years of age. Generally, play space infrastructure provision is of good quality and typical of play spaces that are classified as local play spaces and higher. Classifications of playspace in Penrith currently includes neighbourhood, local, district and regional and a new hierarchy of classification is required.
- Further to the Strategy playspace audit, an independent asset condition audit has been completed. While there is a good supply of playspaces, a number of access, shade and infrastructure deficiencies exist.
 - 55% of the playspaces require improvements to shade
 - 34% of the playspaces require improvements to access
 - 57% of the playspaces require improvements to furniture & landscape amenity
 - 30% of existing playspaces are a high priority for replacement
 - 5% of existing playspaces are to be removed and not replaced.

- The community identified priorities for playspaces as: shelter/shade, toilets nearby, good maintenance, variety of equipment, fenced or away from roads, caters for people with disabilities, interesting and challenging play is provided, and feeling safe.
- Continuing to adopt place-based approaches engagement will allow play space design and facility infrastructure provision that continues to meet the needs of the local community.
- Playspaces are generally not named or themed and, in some instances, signage is completely lacking or inconsistent in messaging.
- There is opportunity to integrate a greater diversity of type and scale of play, facilities for all ages and abilities, into the park system. The development of a 'playspace development model' which incorporates play equipment, imaginative and creative areas, unstructured areas, adult family areas, and special features will assist in realising this.
- The current level of investment allocated to renewing and providing new facilities needs to be reviewed and increased.
- Playspaces in some new release housing areas are unique and bespoke, while it should be encouraged, Council needs to work with Developers to ensure the spread of provision is addressed, and it has the capacity to manage and maintain it when the asset is transferred to Council ownership.
- Water play is being introduced in the City, future provision should be more strategic and associated with a district and citywide level classification of park, with consideration of operational, maintenance and renewal costs.

PLANNING FRAMEWORKS AND GUIDELINES

NSW GOVERNMENT - 'EVERYONE CAN PLAY'

The launch of the NSW Government's 'Everyone Can Play' guidelines has set the framework and principles which will underpin the future provision of new playspaces, and the renewal of existing playspaces across the Penrith Local Government Area.

The three principles of Everyone Can Play encourage thought about creating more inclusive playspaces across NSW.

The three principles are:

Can I get there? Consider location, layout, signage, wayfinding and accessibility to ensure everyone can find their way to, in and around the playspace.

Can I play? The play experience, including the equipment and surfacing, should allow everyone to experience a variety of challenging and engaging play opportunities in a way that suits them.

Can I stay? Consider safety, facilities, landscape and the wider environment to ensure everyone can stay at the playspace for as long as they would like.

Playspaces are to be considered as the area within a park with playground equipment and any immediately supporting amenities such as (but not exclusive to) toilets, car parking, bike paths, picnic facilities, furniture and open space and landscape areas.

At the heart of 'Everyone Can Play' is the declaration that play really is for everyone, regardless of age, ability or cultural background. Playspaces in the Penrith LGA should therefore exist at the heart of our

neighbourhoods and cater for everyone – young and old, families and carers, and people of all abilities. Playspaces should also be inclusive and create opportunities for adventure, discovery, refuge (quiet places) relationship building and memory making, and allow everyone to stay as long as they choose.

Playspaces are to be designed to bring people together and be welcoming and comfortable, easy to navigate and interesting, and offer a range of physical challenges as well as a variety of landscape settings to explore.

Playspaces should offer a diverse variety of play experience at accessible locations, creating a connected network across the Penrith Local Government Area where everyone is able to engage and play together in environments which challenge, and excite while promoting active, healthy lifestyles.



PLAYSPACE TRENDS AND PRINCIPLES

Traditional playspace equipment by way of slide, swings and rockers, while still important, are today being considered as only one component of the play spectrum. Other design elements are being introduced including the use of natural elements (nature play), creative landscaping, and additional features that promote a sense of belonging and place to a park.

Playspaces are also considered not only as areas for children, but also the whole family and therefore now include aspects for adults and carers such as barbecues, shade and shelter, and end of trip facilities such as water, bike racks, paths and trails, car parks and in some instances, fencing to offer a sense of security for children or families in larger parks or near to main roads and traffic.

Play standards have also developed with equipment now designed to include adult and child use and weight bearing to enable social interaction and play .

From a planning perspective, the notion of playspaces being developed in areas where young families are prevalent is now an outdated planning method as the need of the child and the demographics will change in relative short periods of time (2-3 years), whereas a playspace as an asset may last in excess of 20 years.

Modern planning for playspaces are therefore now based on an even distribution of facilities to ensure inclusivity for all. It also considers the playspace hierarchy and design and distribution each offering their own unique experiences including:

- **Cognitive Play** - includes those activities that challenge the intellect of the child and can include games of strategy, exploration, observation or those that use and develop language. Council playgrounds can develop cognitive behaviour through natural areas for exploration and observation of living things; spaces and materials for outdoor games such as Hopscotch and Hide and Seek and materials and tools for use in sand and water settings. Other concepts can include spaces for quiet activities such as reading, contemplation and nature observation of complex spaces or structures, which challenge the user's perceptual skills.

- **Social Play** - can be found both by using existing physical equipment and through learning and exploring with friends in the natural environment. Whilst the latter have not been traditionally provided for in the public domain, Councils are beginning to design playspaces through appropriate landscaping including sand, water, plants, trees and sculptures etc. to enhance natural play. Some small-group activities such as Hopscotch, some ball games and the traditional rhyming and running games require small spaces, changes in level, possibly firm surfaces, semi-enclosure, objects as targets and focal points, and durable planting or other elements, which may be used in the course of a game.
- **Physical Play** - is also often referred to as gross motor activity and can include running, hanging, climbing, experiencing height, agility/gymnastic activities, sliding, jumping, balancing, swinging, crawling, bouncing, spinning, rocking, ball games, skipping etc. These activities are generally more 'active' and therefore adequate space is required in a suitable environment where other users will not be disturbed. Some of these activities are well provided for by traditional play equipment although others are more dependent upon the size and particular qualities of spaces or other elements.

Given the broad categories of play theory, playspaces in Penrith need to be designed to meet a number of community requirements and experiences and must target different users including:

- **Toddlers (ages 1-3)** - Simple settings, small scaled and detailed environments with friendly surfaces and a familiar adult close by.
- **Juniors (ages 3-6)** - The ages from 3 to 6 years cover a wide range of development in children. Co-ordination and physical skill development are relatively proficient by the age of 5 years and children of this age need to practice and hone skills such as climbing, running, agility skills, skipping and ball play.
- **Seniors (ages 6-12)** - Older children may use play equipment as incidental props in their group games. Play structures may be used as part of obstacle courses, chasing and hiding games, as a lookout or a refuge, as a meeting and socialising place for after school activities or as a 'base' for group activities.

- **Teenagers (ages 13 +)** - Areas for 'play' for teenagers needs to be carefully managed and monitored. While it is acknowledged young people will use open space for several uses including skateboarding, bike riding, unstructured sport or just 'hanging out' with friends etc; the location areas need to be carefully managed to avoid potential conflicts of use with younger children and their carers while ensuring a sense of ownership by the young people.
- **Adults** - Adults should not be excluded from using playgrounds, and equipment needs to be designed and developed for use by this group, i.e. the provision of swing seats and rockers designed for use by adults is a way of encouraging adults to use park facilities with their children.
- **Inclusive** - Inclusion considers as many needs as possible. They provide a welcoming place where people feel comfortable yet challenged, and remove obstacles and barriers that prevent people of all ages, cultural backgrounds and abilities (both physical and mental) from participating.

FUTURE PLAYSPACE STRATEGY AND ACTIONS

The strategies, recommendations and actions for play have been developed after a full assessment of current provision, challenges and future directions, including:

- Quantity and distribution
- Planning frameworks and guidelines
- Playspace trends and principles

As a result, the key strategies for future playspace provision, which should be read in conjunction with the Open Space Strategy and action plans, are listed in Table 2 (page 42).

The key strategies are:

- Opportunities are provided for everyone to enjoy a playspace in the City.
- Playspaces will be recognised as contemporary, unique, safe and innovative and provide a diverse range of play opportunities across the City.
- Funding for play reflects the need to provide contemporary, fit for purpose, fit for future facilities.
- New development and infill sites provide play opportunities in the appropriate quantity and scale, and to an appropriate specification.
- A strategic asset management plan will guide replacement and renewal of playspaces.
- Opportunities to extend the playspace network with other partners are maximised.
- Play facilities are provided to meet current and future gaps in provision.

A new hierarchy and classification of playspace, and design guidelines will guide future investment. The hierarchy Local, District and Citywide, as well as design guidelines, are to be introduced and defined as follows:

Local playspace: \$120,000 - \$250,000 (value estimate)

Services homes within close walking distance. Local playspace, should ideally be located within 500m for all residents, offer a range of opportunity for 4-12years but also include equipment for toddlers, include 5 pieces plus of equipment, and offer a level of imaginative and non-structured play areas.

District playspace: \$250,000 - \$1,000,000 (value estimate)

Larger parks, more prominent then local play, variety, located alongside other infrastructure e.g. sportsgrounds and serve a wider catchment than local parks. Promotes longer stays than local play and should include play equipment for all age groups, imaginative/creative play, non-structured play area, adult/carer area.

Citywide playspace: \$1,000,000 - \$5m + (value estimate)

Larger parks, more prominent than district play, variety, located alongside other infrastructure e.g. sportsgrounds, and with additional components including those of bespoke design. Promotes longer stays than District play and will attract local and citywide visitors. This may be in the form of an adventure playground, water park or unique aspect such as additional space for larger community events such as concerts.



TABLE 2: STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
<p>Opportunities are provided for everyone in the community to enjoy a playspace.</p> <p>Playspaces will be recognised as contemporary, unique, safe and innovative.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSW Government Everyone Can Play Guidelines to be utilised in play facility design adopting its principles of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can I get there? - A considered location and layout, adequate signage and wayfinding and accessibility will ensure everyone can find their way to, in and around a playspace. - Can I play? - The experience as a whole, including equipment and surfacing should enable everyone to experience a variety of challenging and engaging play opportunities in a way that suits them. - Can I stay? - Sufficient consideration of safety, amenities and the wider environment and landscape will ensure everyone can stay at the playspace as long as they like. • Playspaces are to be developed in accordance with national standards that guide their construction and installation, and Council's playspace guidelines. • Each Aggregated Area should have at least one District playspace and there should be at least six Citywide playspaces in the Local Government area. <p>The following playspaces are to be classified as District facilities and the provision (including new parks), development or level of embellishment to be provided in accordance with this classification.</p> <p>Tench Reserve, Jamisontown; Londonderry Park, Londonderry; Nereid & Borrowdale Way Reserve, Cranebrook; Water Gum Park, Jordan Springs; Illoura Reserve, Jordan Springs; The Lake Ship, Jordan Springs; Parker Street Reserve, Penrith; Clissold Park, Emu Heights; Lions Park (Dukes Oval), Emu Plains; Tench Reserve North, Jamisontown; Thornton Oval, Thornton; Chapman Gardens, Kingswood; Myrtle Road Reserve, Claremont Meadows; Parkes Avenue Reserve, Werrington; Roger Nethercote Reserve, Caddens; Robin Wiles Park, North St Marys; Victoria Park, St Marys; Barr & Bass Street Reserve, Colyton; Pacific and Phoenix Reserve, Erskine Park; Chameleon Reserve, Erskine Park; Mark Leece Oval, St Clair; Ched Towns Reserve, Glenmore Park; Mulgoa Rise Sportsgrounds, Mulgoa Rise; Mulgoa Park, Mulgoa; Sales Park, Luddenham; Werrington Lakes, Werrington.</p> <p>Citywide playspaces are to be provided at Regatta Park, Gipps Street (Claremont Meadows), Jordan Springs East, Penrith Lakes and in an area nominated in the South East Aggregated Area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and ancillary features will be provided in line with classification and playspace design guidelines as outlined on page 44. • Design will incorporate an appropriate theme, offer a diverse range of activities throughout the network including nature play and have appropriate signage installed at the playspace. • Fencing will be considered for District level playspaces, and will be installed where there are obvious physical dangers to children or other park users. • A priority program of shade provision is to be developed for playspaces across the City • Loose fill (bark mulch/woodchips etc.) and soft fall are to be used as surfaces and use will be determined dependent on budget, aesthetics, playspace type, safety and adhering to national standards.
<p>Funding for play reflects the need to provide contemporary fit for purpose and fit for future facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future capital works and asset renewal budgets should consider, as a guideline, the following budget provisions (to be increased by CPI annually) for replacing, embellishing and providing playspaces for each classification. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local playspace – \$120,000 - \$250,000 (estimate) • District playspace - \$250,000 - \$1,000,000 (estimate) • Citywide playspace - \$1m - \$5m + (estimate)

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
Opportunities to extend the playspace network are maximised.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New play facility provision is to be considered at the following locations (excluding planned new release and existing master planned sites which should be provided to open space guidelines) East end of Stafford Street, Penrith; Penrith CBD; Manning Street, Kingswood; Greenbank Drive & Oakland Parade, Werrington Downs; Hunt Place/Chisholm Reserve, Werrington County; Poole Street, Werrington; Monfarville Street Sportsgrounds, St Marys (District); Arundel Park Drive Reserve, St Clair; Strauss Road Reserve, St Clair; Wentworth Road, Orchard, Hills; Rotary Park, Glenmore Park (District); Leonay Oval Sportsground, Leonay; Deloraine Drive, Leonay and Soling Crescent, Cranebrook. • Opportunities to extend the play facility network will be investigated seeking access, as examples, school play facilities.
New development and infill sites will provide play opportunities in the appropriate quantity, scale and specification.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will work collaboratively with developers to ensure identified playspace provision meets open space guidelines. • Appropriate playspace classifications will be determined to avoid duplication. • Design is to be managed in a manner that offers a unique experience that meet community need but is within Council's resources to maintain and renew, and does not compromise service levels of other playspaces in the City.
A strategic asset management plan will guide renewal, replacement and maintenance of playspaces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unless identified as a strategic priority in an area of under supply, the management of existing playspaces will take precedence over developing new playspaces. • Priority development will be given to those areas where a gap has been identified and those with aging infrastructure, with playspaces 15-20 years old prioritised first. • Play equipment 10-15 years old, will be monitored and considered for removal or replacement in 5 years, and those under 10 years will receive no action other than potential enhancement for shade provision or to meet an identified gap in classification.
Playspace provision will remain contemporary and safe to use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will undertake community engagement, research and monitor its playspaces to ensure they continue to meet current and future needs. • A place based approach to playspace design is to be adopted with engagement with residents to understand needs, priorities and expectations when renewing existing or developing new play facilities. • Council will conduct regular playspace inspection audits and use benchmarking and mapping tools to assess ongoing condition and provision of playspaces.



PLAYSPACE DESIGN GUIDELINES

	LOCAL PLAYSPACE	DISTRICT PLAYSPACE	CITYWIDE PLAYSPACE
ACCESS AND INCLUSION	Provides access to a choice of play and social opportunities in parks.	District playspaces to provide a higher level of accessibility and social features than local parks.	Citywide parks to provide a very high level of accessibility to features including to a wide choice of play activities.
SHARED PATH SYSTEM	Wheelchair accessible path is required linking shade, seating and play facilities to local paths.	Wheelchair accessible shared path is required linking shade, seating and play facilities to local paths.	Wheelchair accessible shared path is required linking shade, seating and play facilities to local paths.
SEATS AND TABLES	Seating Required. Tables preferred and to be inclusive.	Required. Configuration of furniture needs to encourage inclusive interaction.	A range of inclusive seating styles and picnic furniture required to encourage inclusive interaction.
SHADE/SHELTER	Combination of natural shade and built shade required.	Combination of natural shade and built shade required.	Combination of natural shade and built shade required.
DRINKING WATER	Desirable	Required; to meet accessibility standards.	Required to meet accessibility standards.
RUBBISH BINS	Desirable	Required	Required
BARBEQUES	Not required	Negotiable	Required to meet accessibility standards.
TOILETS	Not required	Negotiable, should meet wheel chair accessibility.	Required fully accessible toilets.
CAR PARKING	Not required	Desirable	Required
CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE	Desirable	Required	Required
LANDSCAPING	Minor vegetation landscape enhancements are desirable	Incorporated landscape vegetation into playspace design, to assist in adventure and nature play elements.	Nature play and natural vegetation incorporated throughout playspace and reserve. Added vegetation to support amenities.
SIGNAGE	Park name required	Park name and wayfinding signage required.	Park name and wayfinding signage required.
FENCES	Negotiable, dependant on risk assessment	Negotiable, dependant on risk assessment.	Negotiable, dependant on risk assessment.
WATER PLAY	Not required.	Desirable, where possible.	Required.

LOCAL PLAYSPACE TYPICAL CONCEPT PLAN & ELEMENTS

1. SHADE AND SHELTER:

Combination of built shade and natural shade required



2. PLAY SPACE:

Should provide access to a choice of play and social opportunities, may include traditional and nature play.



3. PATH SYSTEM:

Wheelchair accessible path is desirable linking shade, seating and play facilities to local paths



4. FENCES:

Requirement for and type of fencing is negotiable, dependent on risk assessment



5. FURNITURE:



Seats with back & armrests are required



Stone block "seats" that double as play are an additional option

6. SIGNAGE



Park entry signs are desirable, may provide a public artwork opportunity.

ADDITIONALLY:

- Accessible picnic tables and drinking fountains are preferred.
- Rubbish bins and bike racks are desirable.



LOCAL PLAYSPACE: DEFINITION AND FUNCTION

Serves homes within close walking distance. Typically, local playspaces help make up a lack of private open space and should ideally be located within 500m.

CITYWIDE OPEN SPACE TYPICAL CONCEPT PLAN & ELEMENTS

PLAY SPACE:

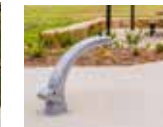
Should provide a very high level of accessibility to features including to a wide choice of play activities. Water play is required.



FURNITURE:



Seats with back and armrests are required.



Accessible drinking fountains are required.



Accessible BBQ's are required.



Fully accessible toilets are required.

SIGNAGE:



Park entry signs and wayfinding signage are required.

PATH SYSTEM:

Wheelchair accessible path is desirable linking shade, seating and play facilities to local paths.



1. SHADE AND SHELTER:

Combination of built shade and natural shade required



CITYWIDE PLAYSPACE: DEFINITION AND FUNCTION

A destination playspace offering special play opportunities. Playspaces form part of a larger precinct including both passive and active recreation facilities. Catchment may extend into other government areas. Encourage extended stay.



SPORT & RECREATION

VISION

Penrith will be acknowledged for its diverse range of affordable, accessible and inclusive sporting and recreation opportunities, provided in quality environments utilising well managed clubs and associations. Quality experiences, events and opportunities will also support regional tourism as a key contributor to the City's economy.



SPORT AND RECREATION

SPORT IN PENRITH

The provision of sporting programs throughout Penrith is both extensive and diverse. Penrith boasts an environment where traditional sports as well as those less common are played which is a testament to the City's love of sport. As the demographic structure of the City changes, so will the demands on our sporting community and we must adapt to ensure long-term relevance and sustainability.

Council currently has approximately 420ha playing sports surfaces and supporting infrastructure across Penrith. In terms of indoor sport, Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre provides 6 indoor sports courts for multiple sports and events, and St Clair Leisure Centre provides an additional single court. There are also 2 Council owned aquatic centres.

To determine an appropriate level of provision for sports facilities across the City, the strategy has considered a number of factors, including:

- Trends in sports
- Participation figures
- Existing supply of, and demand of surfaces
- Projected population shifts
- Benchmarks (Council has applied the active open space benchmark of 1.4ha/1000 persons)
- Historic performance and future strategic aspirations of local and state sporting organisations relative to Penrith
- Assessment of future requirements and strategies in each aggregated area

A summary assessment of current sport in the City identifies that:

- While there is 420ha of space within which sport can take place, the capacity of these spaces is often limited by poor topography, drainage issues, easements, inefficient placement of fields, and management practices.

- There is a mix of sports where existing sportsground provision will meet current and future needs, and others where there are shortages of field space identified through application of participation benchmarks.
- To accommodate existing and future population growth, benchmark figures indicate that an additional 84 hectares of active open space will be required by 2036 to accommodate an estimated additional 48 sports fields. This figure could increase by 50-60 hectares depending on future transport and other infrastructure development.
- 62% of clubs indicate that membership is growing, with only 10% indicating a decline.
- 70% of clubs expect further growth in the next five years, with the majority perceiving the need for more playing fields in the future and approximately half indicating a willingness to share facilities.
- Major areas for concern is the quality of playing surfaces and the availability of storage, disabled access, seating for players and spectators, unisex changing facilities and shade.
- Improvements to infrastructure are required to increase capacity of sites, attract participation (particularly females), and attract and sustain higher levels of competition and events.
- The majority of state organisations, associations and clubs do not have a prioritised facility plan.
- Club governance could be improved with over 77% of clubs not having a strategic or operational plan.
- Financial sustainability needs be addressed with most groups relying heavily on Government (all levels) for their sustainability and facility development.
- 80% of organisations believe volunteers are not skilled enough to support their organisations, and skills are lost with changes in committee.
- In terms of participation 98% of the community surveyed indicated that they had visited a sport, recreation, play and open space facility in the last year, with the majority of people using sportsgrounds doing so twice a week.
- Generally speaking, Penrith has a low provision of public indoor recreation centres but does have a good supply of private health and fitness centres.
- There is a large gap in indoor sport provision with benchmark figures indicating an immediate shortage of 4 courts and a further 10 court facility required to accommodate future population growth.

- Penrith’s aquatic centres have existing masterplans. A separate study is required on the viability of providing an additional aquatic centre in the LGA dependent on the rate of population growth.
- There is the opportunity to expand sports tourism in the City through infrastructure improvements and maximising potential of existing facilities in the City.



SPORT STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

SPORT AUSTRALIA 2030 - NATIONAL SPORT PLAN

The Australian Government has a clear and bold vision for sport in Australia — to ensure we are the world’s most active and healthy nation, known for our integrity and sporting success. Sport 2030 has four key priority areas which will, when fully implemented, create a platform for sporting success through to 2030 and beyond. The priorities are:

- **Build a more active Australia** — More Australians, more active, more often
- **Achieving sporting excellence** — National pride, inspiration and motivation through international sporting success
- **Safeguarding the integrity of sport** — A fair, safe and strong sport sector free from corruption and
- **Strengthening Australia’s sport industry** — A thriving Australian sport and recreation industry.

NSW GOVERNMENT STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

The recommendations of the Strategy will support the realisation of strategic and infrastructure plans including Western City District Planning Priorities particularly:

W3: providing services and social infrastructure to meet people’s changing needs

W4: Fostering healthy, creative, culturally rich and socially connected communities

W6: Creating and renewing great places and local centres, and respecting the District’s heritage

W18: Delivering high quality open space.

The Strategy's recommendations align with Office of Sport's strategic priority for 2016-2020 and fund objectives to provide high quality environmentally sustainable facilities that remove barriers to sport, and increase participation in sport and active recreation.

The Strategy aligns with the NSW Government's strategy 'Her Sport Her Way' to shape the future of women's sport in NSW.

This Strategy also aligns with other key focuses of the state such as: tackling Childhood Obesity Delivery Program (assist in reaching the NSW Premier's target to reduce the rate of overweight children and obesity in NSW children by 5%) and reducing barriers to participation.

The Strategy recommendations are aimed at delivering improved liveability, providing communities quicker and easier access to quality inclusive facilities and offering a diversity of activities.

RECREATION IN PENRITH

Recreation has been separated from sport due to its intrinsic value or in other words, undertaking an activity solely for the pleasure it brings. Recreation can be active or passive, structured or unstructured and in the context of this report, undertaken in the public setting whilst acknowledging people also recreate in their own homes or with local not-for-profit organisations and clubs. A number of opportunities can therefore become available to the participant and Council's approach will be to support current provision and cater for future and emerging recreational and leisure pursuits. Council will focus on the co-delivery of recreation through both public and private initiatives.

While ensuring a focus on inclusive opportunities in recreation, Council will also ensure specific groups are catered for such as; youth, older adults, diverse population groups, people of all abilities, those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, the unemployed and other minority groups that may otherwise be restricted from participating in and benefiting from recreation opportunities and the benefits they bring to the individual.

Council already provides a number of free recreation-based facilities and, for the purpose of this study, those of a more 'obvious' nature have been identified in each aggregated area. These are however not exhaustive of all opportunities as many providers and community/recreation groups currently deliver quality services and opportunities such as dance, theatre, the arts, vocational interests and other opportunities that encourage social interaction and combat potential mental health issues. The value of recreation is acknowledged and supported by Council and Council will actively target and work with not for profit organisations that offer quality opportunities to the community.

Recreation trends indicate:

- Council acknowledges the positive benefits recreation brings to the community and actively supports provision and not for profit agencies that provide low or no cost opportunities to the community.
- Current recreation facilities renewal and capital improvements in the City are under resourced.
- The community is increasingly participating in recreation activities to get fit.
- Lifestyle, adventure and alternative recreational activities are rising in popularity. Recent increased trends in outdoor recreation and commercial groups i.e. kayak tours, Stand Up Paddle Boarding (SUP) hire.

Social recreation is an emerging trend, particularly unstructured activities rather than formal organised sport. Activities include but are not limited to:

- Walking/running for fitness
- Cycling (BMX, road, mountain bike, cyclocross)
- Skate and scooter (use of in public areas)
- Motorcross
- Rock climbing
- Parkour
- Dog walking (off leash/on leash) and dog parks
- Fitness outdoors and indoors (gym/boot camp/crossfit/yoga/pilates/tai chi)
- Kayaking/canoeing
- Fishing

Mixed recreation park gaps are currently evident in the Rural North, South East, South West and East 2 aggregated areas:

- Youth recreation needs to be accommodated with infrastructure integrated with other activities and play rather than standalone.
- Current mixed recreation infrastructure is limited in capacity e.g. skate parks are currently unlit.
- Council provides a number of formalised and informal dog parks, with future provision requiring more strategic placement.
- Walking and cycling is identified as the most popular form of recreation with increasing demands for walking and cycling tracks and better lighting of these.
- Spaces are required for diverse groups and need to be inclusive. Placemaking is important to the planning, designing and management of recreation areas.

FITNESS EQUIPMENT	DOG PARKS	MIXED RECREATION SPACES - SKATE, SCOOTER & BMX	RECREATION COURTS & MULTI-SPORT COURTS
Jamison Park, South Penrith	Jamison Park, South Penrith (Fenced)	Jamison Park, South Penrith	Jamison Park, South Penrith
Glenmore Loch, Glenmore Park	Windmill Dog Park, Glenmore Park (Fenced)	Ched Towns Oval, Glenmore Park	Glenmore Park Neighbourhood Centre, Glenmore Park
Blue Hills Community Centre, Glenmore Park	Emu Heights Off Leash Dog Park, Emu Heights	Shaw Park, Cambridge Park	Mulgoa Park, Mulgoa
Glenmore Ridge Loop, Glenmore Ridge	St Clair Dog Park, St. Clair (Fenced)	Monfarville Reserve, St. Marys	Parkes Avenue, Werrington
Ron Mulock Oval, Penrith	Soling Crescent Dog Park, Cranebrook	Cranebrook Skate Park, Cranebrook	Rance Oval, Werrington
Village Oval, Jordan Springs	Village Oval, Jordan Springs (Fenced)	Bennett Road, St. Clair	Sherringham Reserve, Cranebrook
Nereid & Borrowdale Park, Cranebrook	Victoria Rd, Werrington	Penrith BMX Club - Blair Oval, St. Marys	Maxwell Street, South Penrith
Werrington Lakes, Werrington	Boronia Reserve, North St. Marys		Dukes Oval, Emu Plains
Kevin Maley Park, Colyton	Claremont Meadows.		Poplar Park, St. Marys
James Erskine Drive, Erskine Park			St. Marys Tennis Centre, St. Marys
Myrtle Road, Claremont Meadows			Northern Rd Oval, Jordan Springs
Robin Wiles Park, North St. Marys			Londonderry Oval, Londonderry
Denver Road Reserve, St. Clair			Bowood Drive, Mount Vernon

SPORT AND RECREATION TOURISM

Penrith is extremely well placed to service regional, national and international sports tourism markets. Sports tourism provides opportunities for increased sport and recreation benefits which have the potential to be long-term and far-reaching. Direct economic benefits through sports tourism are obvious and well-known however, further leverage can create long-lasting economic and social impacts.

Sport events have the potential to increase personal and community wellbeing regardless of resident involvement. Sports tourism and events along with Council's 'Sustainable Events' policy also ensures natural resources are managed, preserved and utilised.

Development of the Western Sydney Airport at Badgerys Creek opens up Penrith to a global market and Council must ensure it is ready and able to service national and global sport tourism markets. This analysis focuses heavily on commercial engagement with sports tourists and events as commercial engagement and service provision is a large determinant for secondary benefits; personal and community wellbeing through increased services and sport tourist experience, and environmental benefits through increased natural resource management and preservation investment.

A number of key sporting events and many peak bodies view Penrith as an attractive location for large sport events if facility upgrades and improvements are made to address current shortfalls.

Social recreation is an emerging trend, particular unstructured activities rather than formal organised sport, including events such as Ironman, Tough Mudder and Parkrun.

Penrith is also home to many adventure-based sports and recreation facilities such as, but not limited to:

- Penrith Whitewater Stadium
- iFLY Indoor Skydiving
- Sky Peak Adventures
- JetPack Adventures
- Cables Water Park.

The high concentration of extreme and adventure sports facilities in Penrith is a reflection of the market demand for such activities. Furthermore, the continual support and development of these facilities in Penrith will be a major driving factor in Penrith becoming known for adventure sport opportunities in the region and nationally. This may have occurred organically however, the effectiveness of long-term legacy planning of these and other similar facilities will determine the reach and overall value of this portion of sports tourism as an economic sector.

In terms of the current status of sports tourism:

- Sports tourism would benefit from the development of a sports tourism strategy.
- Development and maintenance of sport and recreation assets and facilities is required.
- Commercial/business engagement in this area is limited and there is scope for improvement and better connections.

FUTURE SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

The strategies, recommendations and actions in this document have been developed after a full assessment of:

- Current provision
- Participation trends
- Facility benchmarking
- Key strategy frameworks
- Identified challenges and future directions.

KEY STRATEGY SUMMARY

- An appropriate amount and quality of open space is provided to accommodate sport and recreation facilities.
- The design, configuration and location of sport and recreation facilities will ensure capacity and participation opportunities are maximised.
- Sportsground surfaces, buildings and associated infrastructure sustain the usage demand and are fit for purpose/fit for future.
- Sports/recreation clubs and associations are provided with support to enable good governance, sustainable operations, and facility planning and development.
- Indoor sports facilities and aquatic centres meet the needs of the community.
- Unstructured recreation spaces and activities will be provided to accommodate changing trends in participation.
- Sport and recreation continues to support tourism strategies for the City.



TABLE 3: FUTURE SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
<p>An appropriate amount and quality of open space is provided to accommodate sport and recreation facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the capacity of use at existing venues through the provision and upgrade of infrastructure including amenity buildings, floodlighting, irrigation and turf renovations, and ensuring dual winter/summer season use. • Realise the development/construction of facilities in existing developer contribution plans and Council endorsed masterplans, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kingsway • St Marys Release Area Regional Open Space - Central Precinct, Jordan Springs East • Gipps Street • WELL Precinct • Orchard Hills North • Glenmore Park/Mulgoa Rise • Western Sydney University • Ensure the development of sites within new release areas provide a minimum of 1.4ha/1,000 persons of active open space. • Negotiate and engage with other owners of open space to extend open space network for sport facility provision e.g. This may include but not be exclusive to; NSW Department of Education, Department of Planning and Environment, Department of Lands, NSW Office of Sport, Western Sydney University and Sydney Water. • Acquire land to compensate for any sportsground facilities and open space lost through future development of transport corridors and any other infrastructure development. • Increase the capacity of use at existing venues through the assessment and amendment of historical and inefficient management practices. • Work with state sporting organisations and local associations to develop prioritised Facility Plans.
<p>The design, configuration and location of sport and recreation facilities will ensure capacity and participation opportunities are maximised.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masterplans are to be developed for, and completed at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Werrington Sports Precinct, Werrington including - Shaw Park, Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre, Werrington Lakes and Harold Corr Oval • Chapman Gardens, Kingswood • Jamison Park, Penrith • South and Ropes Creek Corridor (as part of Sydney Green Grid Planning) • Monfarville Reserve, St Marys • Peppertree Reserve, Erskine Park • St Clair Sports Corridor (Luke's Lane, St Clair) • North Penrith Sporting Precinct including; Andrews Road Reserve (Baseball and Rugby Park) and Hickeys Lane Reserve, Penrith • Boronia Park, North St Marys • South Creek Sporting Precinct, Werrington including; Kingsway North and South Playing Fields, Blair Oval, Penrith BMX, St Marys Tennis Court Complex, Sports fields (subject to proposed future transport corridor). • New facilities to be developed as District hubs (Precincts) providing multipurpose facilities for sport and accessed by the whole community. Where possible, the minimum size of new sportsgrounds will be 10 ha and accommodate the size of; two Senior AFL/Cricket or four Football/Rugby League/Rugby Union fields, for softball and baseball, a minimum of three diamonds as per planning guidelines. • Where future sportsground developments are proposed with shared use by schools, priority should be given to consideration of synthetic surface provision. • Development of sportsgrounds within new release areas require connectivity to active transport networks within 500m of a public transport stop. • Tree canopy and provision of natural shade within sportsground precincts is to be optimised to align with Council's Cooling the City Strategy. • Additional provision of shade, seating and connecting pathways is to be provided. • Where applicable, design infrastructure to provide additional active and passive recreation opportunities for the community.

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
<p>Sportsground surfaces, buildings and associated infrastructure sustain the usage demand and are fit for purpose/fit for future.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic asset management plans to be developed for the upgrade, renewal, and maintenance of sportsground infrastructure. • Levels of service to be determined with sports clubs and associations to determine maintenance regimes are consistent with the level of use and competition standard. • All service levels that relate to management and maintenance of open space to be reviewed and updated. • Undertake a carrying capacity study of sportsgrounds, manage use accordingly and develop sportsground surface sustainability and management plans. • Sportsground construction specifications to be developed for new sportsgrounds. • Capacity of grounds to be increased by providing opportunities to train off the main competition grounds and identify alternative sites for pre-season training. • Future sportsground and facility provision are to be designed so they are not constrained by easements, underground infrastructure or unsuitable landforms. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The development of new sport and recreation facilities are not to be located within detention basins and, first consideration must be given to the development of non-flood affected land for such facilities. - If flood affected land is to be developed for any sport and recreation facilities, the basis for this must be demonstrated. Additionally, any subsequent design must ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Quality sport and recreation outcomes o Safe access and evacuation o Effective flood management strategies o Minimal or no impact to sport and recreation infrastructure, and the capacity for the facility to be available for use shortly after any flood event. • Buildings associated with sporting fields should be flood free and situated 1% AEP year flooding. • New amenity buildings are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide for a range of functions now required by sports to operate and incorporate standards outlined in the Sports Sporting Organisations' Facility Guidelines, particularly to address gender equitable and DDA compliant facilities for all players, spectators and officials. - Serve multiple sportsgrounds, overlook fields and provide sufficient shade while minimising glare when watching play. - Allow shared use of the facility by more than one user group. - Consider incorporating a community meeting space as part of a new release area if determined relevant. - Be sustainably designed and mitigate heat. • Existing amenity buildings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of sportsground facility assets will include consideration of serviceability, accessibility and functionality as well as condition audits. - Incrementally assess and renew all amenity blocks to make them welcoming, food standard and Building Code Australia (BCA) compliant, inclusive, accessible, introduce environmentally sustainable design improvements and attempt to meet State Sports Organisations' Facility Guidelines. - Upgrade amenities to address gender equitable and DDA compliant facilities for all players, spectators and officials. - Ensure provision of suitable storage facilities at each sports ground complex to support participation programs. • Maximise use of contemporary technology for the management, maintenance and operation of sports facilities.

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
<p>Sports/recreation clubs and associations are provided with support to enable good governance, sustainable operations, and facility planning and development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In conjunction with State Sporting Organisations and NSW Office of Sport facilitate localised strategic, facility planning and business planning sessions for community sports organisations. • Facilitate local market analysis of sport and recreation trends and participation, and disseminate to clubs. • Develop a local Active Penrith Sports Network which focuses on collaboration, communication and co-operation for the management of sport in Penrith. • Collaborate with Government, State Sports Organisations and local sporting organisations to identify and realise sporting infrastructure, program needs and funding opportunities. • Prioritise and develop a program of policies and standard development which will guide the provision of infrastructure, services and programs. • Actively partner with sporting and non-sporting recreation organisations to support guidelines and promote their services and programs to the broader community. • Organise and implement an annual sports summit and establish a program of engagement with schools and other users of sportsgrounds. • Work with sporting associations to remove barriers and encourage participation for the following priority groups: women and girls, culturally and linguistically diverse communities and people of all abilities.
<p>Indoor sports facilities and aquatic centres will meet the needs of the community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the existing masterplans for Penrith and Ripples St Marys Aquatic Centres, including the Hydrotherapy Centre at Ripples St Marys. • Within the next five years, investigate the viability of providing an additional Aquatic Centre within the LGA. Consider new release areas south of the M4. • Plan for the expansion Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre to include up to an additional six courts. • Review the feasibility study for an indoor multi-use sports centre in Jamison Park. • Within the next five years, investigate the viability of providing an additional 10-court indoor facility. Consider new release areas south of the M4 and potential other options.

STRATEGY	ACTIONS
<p>Unstructured recreation spaces and activities will be provided to accommodate changing trends in participation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an 'Unstructured Recreation Policy' that highlights the importance and roles of recreation undertaken outside of formal settings within existing resources, activities may include but are not limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informal cycle/bmx tracks - Mountain biking - Cyclo-cross - Parkour • Develop mixed recreation spaces throughout the City that provide for multi-purpose activities, multi-age participants and all abilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create new recreation facilities including skate park / scooter elements at a local level, as priorities, consider Cambridge Gardens, Emu Plains, Erskine Park, Kingswood and St. Marys. - Create a citywide youth activity and skate/scooter/bmx hub south of the M4, including the South East Aggregated Area. - Investigate the expansion and floodlighting of Jamison Park Skate Park. - Consider youth activity and skate/scooter facilities as part of Werrington Lakes Masterplan. - Identify locations for four pump tracks in the City. • Increase the number of outdoor fitness gyms and trails in the City: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a minimum of one outdoor fitness facility and equipment in each aggregate area. - Prioritise the provision or upgrade of fitness equipment at Londonderry Park, Nereid and Borrowdale Reserve, Cranebrook, Chapman Gardens, Robin Wiles, Cook Park, Dukes Oval, Tench Reserve South, Regatta Park, Mulgoa Park, Mark Leece, Werrington Lakes (additional), Rance Oval, Brian King Park and Ridge Park. - Fitness equipment should be on parcels of land no less than district classification and in areas with optimal access and amenity. - Priority for future outdoor fitness equipment (all ages) provision is to be given to areas with low SEIFA index and poor health indicators. - Fitness equipment should be provided for users of all ages and abilities. • Increase the number of dog exercise areas in the City: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a minimum of one dog off leash exercise area in each aggregate area. - Additional fenced dog off-leash areas in medium density residential aggregate areas should be prioritised. - Not all dog off-leash areas should be fenced. Fenced off leash areas should be minimum size of 400m². - Diversity of off-leash areas should be considered where possible (i.e. linear off leash walks, fenced off leash areas, dog obstacle and water play). - Dog off-leash areas without fences should have established natural barriers and appropriate signage. - Dog off-leash areas should provide natural shade, shaded seating, bins and drinking water. • Undertake an audit of walking and cycling networks to key leisure, recreation and sport destinations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Priority should be given to the Nepean River and key parcels of open space. - Support the development of increased active recreation along Nepean River, as identified in the Our River Masterplan. - Enhance connections to trail walks as identified in the NSW Government Green and Blue Grid Strategies. • Undertake a needs assessment and options for alternative uses of existing public tennis courts particularly in East 1 (St Marys) and East 3 (St Clair): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Liaise with National Sporting Organisation's (NSO) to improve tennis court usage through improved booking systems and access. - Consider areas of oversupply to be converted to multi-purpose courts to provide football, basketball, netball and other active recreation opportunities. - Consider the delivery of new multi-purpose courts in deficient aggregated areas to provide tennis, football, basketball and netball active recreation opportunities.
<p>Sport and recreation continues to support tourism strategies for the City.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport facility plans to be developed which are strategically aligned with sports peak bodies and sport and recreation events. • Develop a policy to provide assistance to support large scale participation events, and major sports events.

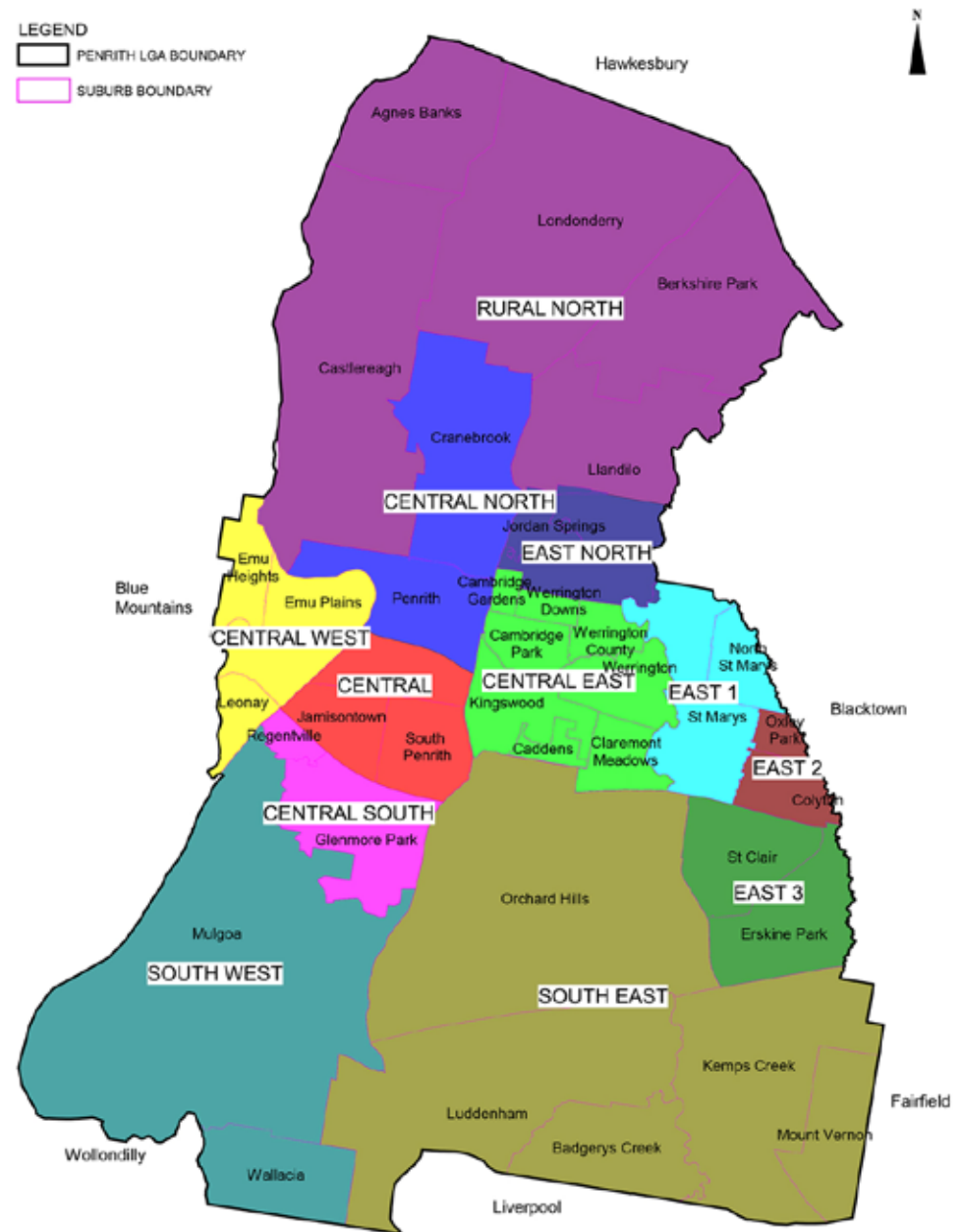


DELIVERING THE STRATEGY

The Penrith Local Government Area has been divided into 12 "Aggregated Areas" for the implementation of upgrades, new facilities and future planning.

They are:

- Rural North
- Central North
- North East
- Central East
- Central
- Central West
- East 1
- East 2
- East 3
- Central South
- South East
- South West



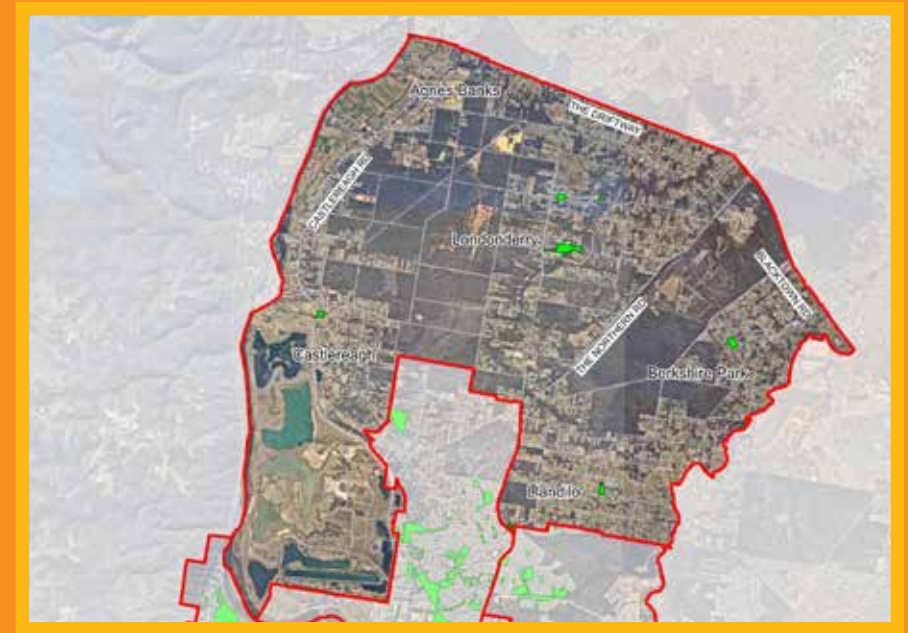
RURAL NORTH

LONDONDERRY
BERKSHIRE PARK
LLANDILO
AGNES BANKS
CASTLEREAGH

A significant portion of this area contains environmental reserves that are not under Council control e.g. Castlereagh and Agnes Banks Nature Reserve.

Council operates six reserves in the Rural North, that range in size from 0.2ha - 9.0ha and are mostly outdoor sport and passive parklands.

Close to the Northwest Growth Centre, high levels of visitation from adjoining new suburbs in the Blacktown LGA are anticipated.



STRATEGY ACTION ITEMS

YEARS 1 -5

PENRITH LAKES SCHEME

- Advocate for the development of the Penrith Lakes Scheme as a Regional Parkland.

LONDONDERRY PARK AND SPORTS OVAL

- Upgrade to district status.
- Undertake playspace upgrades.
- Install outdoor health and fitness equipment.

WILSON PARK

- Undertake playspace and recreation upgrade following community consultation.

BERKSHIRE PARK

- Minor playspace upgrade to include courtyard games area.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Engage with community within the precinct to ensure the smaller reserves are providing suitable recreation outcomes.
- Install waterplay at Londonderry Park.
- Monitor population growth in Penrith LGA and adjacent Local Government Areas (Northwest Growth Centre). Assess the requirement to provide additional open space to support visitation increases.
- Advocate for the development of the Penrith Lakes Scheme as a Regional Parkland.

- Advocate to NSW Government to deliver multiple sport opportunities at the Penrith Lakes, including provision of road cycling, off road circuits and cyclo-cross course, and equestrian activities.
- Work with National Parks and Wildlife Service to improve connections into Wianamatta Park.

YEARS 6-9

LONDONDERRY PARK AND SPORTS OVAL

- Upgrade amenities building.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Engage and collaborate with NSW and Australian governments on retaining high ecological values through creek corridors and bushland reserves.
- Monitor population growth in Penrith LGA and adjacent Local Government Areas (Northwest Growth Centre). Assess the requirement to provide additional open space to support visitation increases.
- Locate site and create plan for new dog park.

YEARS 10-15

WILSON PARK

- Install training level floodlighting and upgrade field surfaces.

SMITH PARK

- Install training level floodlighting and upgrade field surfaces.

AREA WIDE

- Improve one playspace through installation of shade, seating, accessibility.

NEW DOG PARK

- Deliver recreational off-leash dog park on allocated site.



CENTRAL NORTH

CRANEBROOK

KINGSWOOD PARK

LEMONGROVE

PENRITH (NORTH OF RAILWAY LINE)

One of the more established areas of the City, there are 85 reserves in this area, varying in size from 0.035ha to 13.0ha. The types vary from predominantly passive parklands with natural areas, creeks, wetlands and outdoor sports for example Cranebrook Wetlands (Mountain View Reserve).

It is expected there will be a strong population growth as a result of expected high density developments in the south of the precinct (Penrith CBD).

The City Centre area has capacity for approximately 9,000 dwellings and a further 1,000 dwellings in North Penrith by the year 2036. The development in the CBD has potential to span both Central and Central North Aggregate areas (north and south of the railway line). Open space provision should reflect any future growth.



STRATEGY ACTION ITEMS

YEARS 1 -5

IRONBARK RESERVE

- Upgrade playspace following community consultation.

GOLDMARK RESERVE

- Upgrade playspace following community consultation.

HENRY BRIGDEN PARK

- Upgrade playspace following community consultation.

HICKEYS LANE

- Upgrade sports grounds.

PARKER STREET RESERVE

- Upgrade floodlighting, amenities buildings and car park.

PENDOCK ROAD RESERVE

- Upgrade playspace following community consultation.

BEL-AIR RESERVE

- Upgrade playspace following community consultation.

WEIR RESERVE

- Upgrade Nepean Rowing Club boatshed.
- Install new kayak pontoon close to the weir.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Link sport, recreation and play areas to the green grid within the area and to adjoining suburbs.
- Masterplan Agnes Banks Nature Reserve and Agnes Banks East West Connections.
- Integrate civic spaces with public transport opportunities and existing developments.
- Assess and if required; improve eight playspaces through installation of new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections.
- Monitor the requirement for two synthetic multi-sport surfaces at Parker Street Reserve.
- Convert athletics track at Parker Street to multi-use field when synthetic track is constructed in the City following community consultation.
- Investigate construction of Stage Three Grey Gums Oval amenities building and floodlighting upgrades to support AFL and Little Athletics.
- Develop a joint use agreement with the Department of Education for access to facilities at schools, e.g. Cranebrook High School.
- Continue to implement the 'Our River Masterplan'.
- Improve connections identified in the Great River Walk Masterplan.
- Improve Andromeda Park storage, drainage and carpark.

YEARS 6-9

GRAY AND ELLIM PLACE

- Upgrade playspace following community consultation.

AREA WIDE

- Enhance open space connectivity to link sport, recreation and play areas throughout the area and to adjoining suburbs. Focus on connections between smaller reserves and main green corridor.
- Integrate civic spaces with public transport opportunities and existing development.
- Improve connections as identified in the Great River Walk masterplan.
- Reconfigure open space to provide for population increases in south of the Aggregated Area.
- Assess and if required; Improve eight playspaces.

WEIR RESERVE

- Expand the School's Boatshed.

ANDREWS ROAD RESERVE (NEPEAN RUGBY PARK)

- Upgrade amenities building, grandstand, field surface, car parking and floodlighting.

ANDREWS ROAD (BASEBALL FACILITY)

- Upgrade amenities and floodlighting to support community and representative baseball programs.

GREY GUMS OVAL

- Construct Stage 3 amenities building and upgrade floodlighting to support AFL and little athletics.

CRANEBROOK OVAL

- Extend the amenities building to accommodate rugby league, cricket and gridiron.

SHERRINGHAM RESERVE

- Upgrade floodlighting, ground surface and amenities building.

YEARS 10-15

AREA WIDE

- Reconfigure open space to provide for population increases in the southern part of the area.
- Assess and if required; improve eight playspaces through installation of new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Undertake community consultation and planning process for a water play facility.
- Undertake community consultation for a new local playspace at Soling Crescent, Cranebrook.
- Maintain Cranebrook Dog Park and review future use.

NORTH EAST

JORDAN SPRINGS

Jordan Springs consists of two distinct zones – the more established western portion and the newly developing eastern portion. A significant portion of the suburb is taken up by reserve and parkland, including the 400 ha Wianamatta Park, which is administered by the National Parks and Wildlife service.

Distribution of open space is well planned and the vast majority of residents live within 500m of a park or reserve. Population growth is expected in the area has the capacity to develop approximately 700 dwellings by the year 2036. Open space provision should reflect any future growth.



STRATEGY ACTION ITEMS

YEARS 1 -5

JORDAN SPRINGS EAST

- Create a new multi-purpose sport, play and recreation precinct including;
- Six rectangular fields.
- One full size oval field.
- Three synthetic cricket wickets.

- Citywide playspace facility.
- Cricket practice facilities
- A multi-sport court
- Car parking
- Amenities buildings.

ADVOCACY AND PLANNING

- Engage with National Parks & Wildlife Service regarding access to Wianamatta Regional Park.
- Investigate a Regional reserve corridor in Jordan Springs to incorporate Ropes Crossing and South Creek to provide passive parklands, outdoor sport, creek and wetland open space.

YEARS 6-9

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Advocate for regional reserve corridor.
- Engage with developers to provide a diverse range of play opportunities throughout the Aggregated Area.
- Review the requirement for additional playspaces in the future.



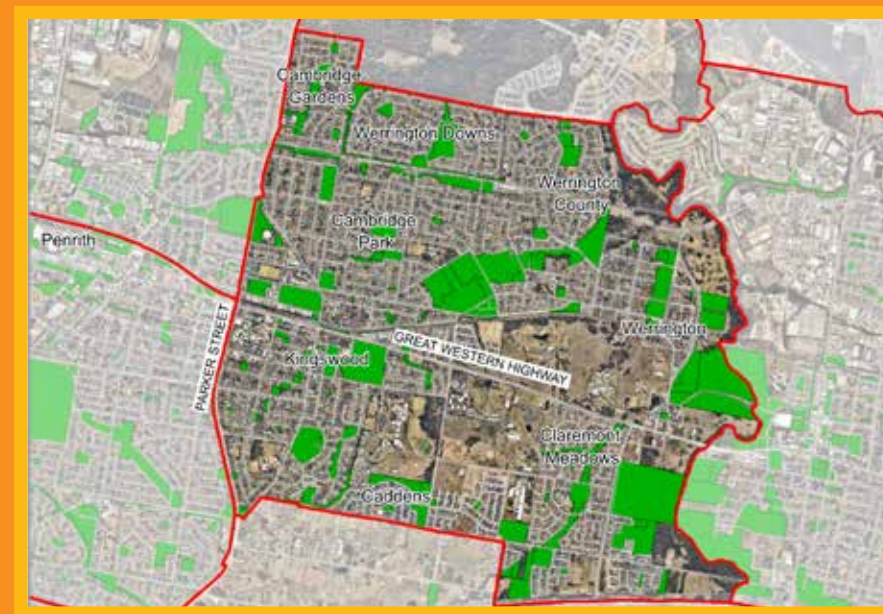
CENTRAL EAST

CAMBRIDGE PARK
 CAMBRIDGE GARDENS
 WERRINGTON
 WERRINGTON COUNTY
 WERRINGTON DOWNS
 CADDENS
 CLAREMONT MEADOWS
 KINGSWOOD

The precinct includes both established suburbs and new release areas creating diversity in quality and quantity of open space.

There are 128 reserves in this portion of the City, varying in size from 0.1ha to 33.0ha. They range from passive parklands to natural areas, creeks and wetlands.

While there is already extensive access to open space a further extension through creek corridors is required. The area has the capacity to develop approximately 8000 dwellings by the year 2036. Open space provision should reflect any future growth.



STRATEGY ACTION ITEMS

YEARS 1 -5

PARKES AVENUE AND RANCE OVAL PRECINCT, WERRINGTON.

- Upgrade amenities at Parkes Avenue and Rance Oval.
- Convert two single use courts to multi-purpose courts.

- Upgrade two tennis courts at Parkes Avenue to support formal and informal tennis use.
- Improve irrigation at Rance Oval.

CHAPMAN GARDENS, KINGSWOOD. (INCLUDES DOUG RENNIE FIELD)

- Provide fitness equipment within reserve.
- Provide improved amenities, irrigation and field surfaces, floodlighting and ancillary infrastructure including baseball fencing, 'bull pens' and batting cages at Chapman Gardens precinct (including Doug Rennie Fields).

GIPPS STREET PRECINCT, CLAREMONT MEADOWS.

- Following community consultation construct a district open space and reserve, which could include:
 - Walking/cycling loops, and outdoor fitness equipment
 - Four playing fields and two training fields
 - Amenities buildings and BMX, cycling and scooter facilities
 - An additional Citywide level play space including water play following community consultation.

CAMBRIDGE GARDENS MIXED RECREATION AND PLAYSACE

- Create a multi-purpose recreation space following community consultation.
- Upgrade Trinity Drive playspace.

CADDENS ROAD SPORTSGROUND

- Complete construction of sports oval, amenities and cricket practice facilities.

KINGSWAY SPORTS PRECINCT

- Kingsway West: Construct new sportsfields and building amenities.
- Kingsway North: Upgrade existing sportsfield lighting, irrigation and improve amenities.

WERRINGTON LAKES PRECINCT

- Develop masterplan for Werrington Lakes Precinct including - Shaw Park, Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre, Werrington Lakes and Harold Corr Oval.
- Construct synthetic athletics track with floodlighting, field events areas, amenities and car parking.
- Plan for the expansion Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre to include up to an additional six courts.

STAPELY STREET RESERVE

- Install shade, seating and pathways following community consultation.

ARMSTEIN CRESCENT RESERVE

- Upgrade playspace including shade structure following community consultation.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Upgrade playspaces at Werrington Lakes.
- Improve 16 playspaces by installing new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections.
- Plan for an additional Dog Park in the Central East.
- Develop an agreement with the Department of Education for access to school facilities.
- Undertake a Healthy Built Environment Audit to establish connections into the Penrith CBD.
- Link Werrington Creek network of open space to the CBD and East to South Creek.
- Extend open space connections through the existing creek corridors and suburbs.
- WSU Kingswood & Werrington Campuses: liaise on land development and open space planning.
- Upgrade Rance Oval basketball court and provide a new mixed recreation space.
- Kingsway South: upgrade irrigation.
- Upgrade Arthur Neave tennis spectator cover.
- Install sports field lighting at Rance Oval.
- Improve storage at Allsop Oval and Myrtle Road Fields.

YEARS 6-9

WERRINGTON LAKES PRECINCT

- Provide additional fitness equipment and designated mixed recreation space.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Maintain and improve existing archery facility to sustain existing range of competitions and programs, prioritising car park, seating and shade. Review opportunities to accommodate growth.
- Monitor hockey participation rates and communicate with WSU regarding future facility provision.
- Upgrade Myrtle Road irrigation.

JIM ANDERSON PARK

- Install shade, seating and pathways following community consultation.

MANAGING NSW GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT CORRIDOR

- Review impacts of transport corridors and the need for replacement land.

YEARS 10-15

AREA WIDE

- Develop new local play spaces at Manning Park, Oakland Parade & Greenbank Drive and Hunt and Chisholm Place, following community consultations.

CENTRAL

JAMISONTOWN
SOUTH PENRITH
PENRITH (SOUTH OF
RAILWAY LINE)

A well-established portion of the Local Government Area that is expected to grow in the northern portion.

The area has the capacity to develop approximately 9000 dwellings within the Penrith City Centre and a further 1200 dwellings across the aggregate area by the year 2036. Open space provision should reflect any future growth.

Containing 93 reserves that vary in size from 0.1ha to 40ha, nearly 35% are less than 0.4ha. Open space is predominantly passive parklands. There is a strong focus on sport in the Central and North East corner of the precinct.

While residents have good access to reserve areas, further access through creek corridors is required.



STRATEGY ACTION ITEMS

YEARS 1 -5

TENCH RESERVE SOUTH

- Deliver playspace upgrades.
- Deliver the Wharf Precinct, including playspace upgrade and further park improvements.

CITY PARK

- Develop 'City Park' in Penrith CBD following community consultation.

ROBINSON PARK

- Playspace upgrade following community consultation.

PENROSE PARK

- Playspace upgrade following community consultation.

SPENCE PARK

- Playspace upgrade following community consultation.

BURCHER PARK

- Playspace upgrade following community consultation.

WOODRIFF GARDENS (TENNIS)

- Significant upgrade to tennis clubhouse, to sustain its status as a regional tennis facility.

EILEEN CAMMACK RESERVE

- Upgrade amenities building.
- Playspace upgrade following community consultation.

JAMISON PARK

- Install additional shade structures and park furniture.
- Renew 16 court surfaces.
- Provide multi-purpose dual synthetic sports fields.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD PLANNING

- Complete existing connections between suburbs to provide improved access to passive parklands, sport, Nepean River and the CBD.
- Planning and community consultation to improve 15 playspaces through installation of new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections.
- Develop a Green Plan for the Greater Penrith Collaboration Area in conjunction with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment - Office of Open Space and Parklands.

- Masterplan Jamison Park as a District Sports and Recreation Facility, including a multi-purpose amenities building, a review of the feasibility study for indoor multi-use centre and other amenities. Consider including a waterplay facility within the existing playground landscape as part of the masterplan.
- Review and update Ripples Penrith Masterplan (2013)

AREA WIDE

- Create cycle and walk connections along the rail corridor and the Great Western Highway to assist in better connecting the CBD to the Health and Education precincts to the east
- Consolidate and invest in better quality reserves within the precinct

YEARS 6-9

JAMISON PARK

- Construct a multi-purpose amenities building to support synthetic sports fields operations.

HOWELL OVAL

- Maintain the oval as a premier district facility and review its use in five years' time.

ADVOCACY AND FUTURE PLANNING

- Review Penrith Aquatic Centre capacity use and requirement for investment.
- Develop a BMX/pump track at Robinson Park, Jamisontown subject to community consultation.

YEARS 10-15

JAMISON PARK SKATE PARK

- Expand the skate park and install floodlighting.

CENTRAL WEST

EMU HEIGHTS

EMU PLAINS

LEONAY

This well-established portion of the City has 63 reserves ranging in size from less than 0.1Ha to 13ha, with nearly 60% of reserves less than 0.4ha. There is a wide variety of setting types in the precinct with the majority being passive parklands.

Population growth in this region is projected to be low.



STRATEGY ACTION ITEMS

YEARS 1 -5

AREA WIDE

- Establish improved connections relative to the 'Our River Masterplan' (penrith.city/riverproject) when developed to provide increased open space and recreation opportunities.

REGATTA PARK

- Enhance the existing provision of open space to perform at a district level. Regatta Park is to form part of the Nepean River Regional open space.
- Deliver a Citywide level inclusive playspace at Regatta Park as part of the 'Our River Masterplan'. Include the provision of water play and fully accessible amenities.

OUTLOOK AVENUE

- Upgrade the playspace following community consultation.

LEONAY PARADE

- Upgrade the playspace following community consultation.

LEONAY OVAL

- Upgrade sports field lighting and amenities building to support rugby league and little athletics.

BUNYARRA RESERVE

- Upgrade the playspace following community consultation .

HUNTER FIELDS

- Upgrade the amenities building following community consultation.

DUKES OVAL

- Upgrade floodlighting and cricket training facilities.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Community consultation and planning to install new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections at seven parks.
- Investigate the opportunity for formalising recreational use of land adjacent to Emu Green on Russell St, Emu Heights.
- Develop a joint use agreement with the Department of Education for access to facilities at schools, e.g. Nepean Creative and Performing Arts High School.

YEARS 6-9

DELORAIN DRIVE

- Install new play space following community consultation.

LEONAY OVAL

- Upgrade lower amenities building.

DUKES OVAL

- Upgrade Emu Park at Dukes Oval to support district level play space status, including the provision of equipment for older children and introduce youth elements.
- Provide community fitness equipment adjacent to existing pathway network.
- Upgrade amenities building to support community cricket, AFL and tennis.

AREA WIDE

- Improve seven playspaces through installation of new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Investigate the opportunity to access Department of Corrections land at Emu Plains Correctional Centre for future sport facilities.

YEARS 10-15

AREA WIDE

- Continue rollout of improvement to seven play spaces through installation of new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections.
- Develop two new local play space in proximity to Leonay Oval Sportsground and Water Street Reserve.

WEDMORE ROAD, EMU HEIGHTS

- Upgrade off-leash dog park.



EAST 1

ST. MARYS NORTH ST. MARYS

There are 71 reserves in this well-established area, ranging in size from less than 0.1ha to 33ha.

Distribution of reserves provides extensive access to open space within 500m of most homes, with a wide variety of setting types in the precinct; the majority being passive parklands.

The area has the capacity to develop approximately 2600 dwellings by the year 2036. Open space provision should reflect any future growth.



STRATEGY ACTION ITEMS

YEARS 1 -5

ROBIN WILES PARK

- Major landscaping and infrastructure upgrade.

MONFARVILLE RESERVE SPORTSGROUND

- Develop plans for a new district playspace following community consultation.
- Upgrade sportsground amenities building.

BENNETT PARK

- Deliver a skate park and integrated mixed recreation playspace following community consultation.

COOK PARK

- Upgrade existing amenities building and grandstand.

BILL BALL OVAL

- Upgrade existing amenities building.

ST MARYS TENNIS CENTRE

- Upgrade and resurface four courts.

RIPPLES ST MARYS

- Review and update Ripples St Marys Masterplan (2013).

BORONIA RESERVE SPORTS COMPLEX

- Refurbish the existing amenities building and provide an additional amenities building, upgrade floodlighting and playing surfaces.

MANAGING NSW GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT CORRIDOR

- Review impacts of transport corridors and the need for replacement land.

ADVOCACY AND FUTURE PLANNING

- Undertake community consultation and prepare designs for the improvement of 12 play spaces.
- Work with NSW Government to develop spatial frameworks/masterplans for priority projects identified in the Sydney Green Grid.
- South Creek Corridor: liaise with NSW Government to secure open space land and ensure environmental and sustainability benchmarks are met.
- Undertake community consultation and plan to enhance open space connectivity.
- Prepare Masterplans following community consultations for: Monfarville Street Reserve, Cook Park Sports Precinct and Boronia Reserve Sports Precinct.
- Monfarville Reserve undertake community consultation and prepare designs for a mixed recreation space.
- Blair Oval athletics amenities building upgrade.

YEARS 6-9

AREA WIDE

- Improve six playspaces: new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections.
- Assess future transport corridor impacts.

SOUTH CREEK CORRIDOR

- Secure land from NSW Government and ensure environmental and sustainability benchmarks are met.

ROBIN WILES PARK

- Provide fitness equipment, basketball, playspace, walk/cycle loops, shade and further enhancements to support district level status.

POPLAR PARK

- Embellish as recreational space for informal active sport and recreation activities following community consultation.

MONFARVILLE RESERVE

- Develop as a multi-sport precinct, including floodlighting and field surface improvements and a mixed recreation space.

ADVOCACY AND FUTURE PLANNING

- In consultation with NSW Government, plan for alternate new locations for athletics, BMX, tennis and football due to potential transport corridor impacts.

YEARS 10-15

AREA WIDE

- Improve six playspaces through installation of new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections.

COOK PARK AND BENNETT PARK

- Provide fitness equipment.

BORONIA PARK

- Upgrade off-leash dog park.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Provide increased and upgrade of cricket practice area facilities in the Aggregated Area.
- Develop a joint use agreement with the Department of Education for access to facilities at schools, e.g. St Marys Senior High and Dunheved College.

EAST 2

COLYTON OXLEY PARK

A well-established portion of the City with 36 reserves ranging from less than 0.1ha to 12.5ha, of which some 60% are less than 0.4ha.

The overwhelming majority of homes have a wide variety of reserves within 500m of their front door, with the majority being passive parklands, followed by natural areas, creeks and wetlands and local sports reserves.

Population growth may be achieved through future developments.



STRATEGY ACTION ITEMS

YEARS 1-5

ROPER ROAD RESERVE (KEVIN DWYER FIELDS)

- Upgrade amenities.

BRIAN KING PARK

- Upgrade playspace, footpath, shade and seating as part of the mayoral challenge.
- Investigate additional recreation facilities needed during playspace consultation process.

BROOKER AND DAY STREET RESERVE

- Upgrade playspace, footpath, shade and seating following community consultation.

GILMOUR STREET

- Upgrade playspace, footpath, shade and seating following community consultation.

RIDGE PARK

- Install irrigation, improve field surfaces and upgrade amenities building.

POTTER FIELDS, SHEPHERD STREET

- Upgrade cricket training nets.



ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Plan for a walking and cycling network that links Ropes Creek westward to South Creek and north to the major parklands corridor of Whalan Reserve and Tregar in the Blacktown LGA.
- Investigate the opportunity for recreational use of land adjacent to Roper Road Reserve (Kevin Dwyer Fields) on land of the former jam factory site.

MANAGING NSW GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT CORRIDOR

- Review impacts of transport corridors and the need for replacement land.

YEARS 6-9

AREAWIDE

- Develop walking and cycling network that link Ropes Creek westward to South Creek and north to the major parklands corridor of Whalan Reserve and Tregar in the Blacktown LGA.
- Establish a new dog off-leash facility within Oxley Park following community consultation.
- Improve nine playspaces through installation of new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections.

POTTER FIELDS, SHEPERD STREET

- Upgrade amenities building and improve field surface provision.

RIDGE PARK RESERVE

- Upgrade amenities building.

YEARS 10-15

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD PLANNING

- Enhance open space connectivity to link sport, recreation and play areas throughout the Aggregated Area and to adjoining suburbs.
- Develop a joint use agreement with the Department of Education for access to facilities at schools, e.g. Colyton High School.

EAST 3

ERSKINE PARK ST CLAIR

A well-established region of the City with 89 reserves ranging from less than 0.1ha to 13ha.

Nearly 40% of reserves are less than 0.4ha, most of which are within 500m of almost all homes.

There is a wide variety of setting types in the Precinct with the majority being passive parklands, followed by natural areas, creeks and wetlands.

Population growth within the precinct is projected to be static.



STRATEGY ACTION ITEMS

YEARS 1-5

CHAMELEON RESERVE

- Implement the Chameleon Reserve Masterplan.

ERSKINE PARK OPEN SPACE RE-INVESTMENT STRATEGY

- Implement Erskine Park Open Space Reinvestment play facility recommendations with upgrades to Capella Reserve, Aquarius Reserve and Warbler Reserve, following community consultation.

RIDGEVIEW CRESCENT RESERVE

- Upgrade playspace, include play equipment, seating, shade and pathway.

PETER KEARNS MEMORIAL OVAL, BANKS DRIVE

- Upgrade playspace, include play equipment, seating, shade and pathway following community consultation.

EXPLORERS WAY

- Upgrade playspace, include play equipment, seating, shade and pathway.

DOROTHY RADFORD RESERVE

- Upgrade playspace following community consultation.

MARK LEECE SPORTSGROUND

- Upgrade amenities building at Mark Leece Oval.

ST CLAIR SPORTS CORRIDOR

- Upgrade floodlighting at Cook and Banks Reserve.

ST CLAIR LEISURE CENTRE

- Upgrade St. Clair Recreation and Leisure Centre to include resurfaced courts, activity rooms improvements and amenities.

ST CLAIR DOG OFF-LEASH AREA

- Improve St Clair Dog Park to include small dog and large dog space, extend footprint and dog play facilities.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Complete the missing sections of open space Byrnes Creek to the north (across the barrier of the Great Western Highway) and to the east.

YEARS 6-9

MANAGING IMPACTS OF NSW GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT CORRIDORS

- Review impacts of transport corridors and the need for replacement land.

PEPPERTREE RESERVE

- Upgrade the amenities building, car park and irrigation at Peppertree Reserve.

ST CLAIR SPORTS CORRIDOR, INCLUDES COOK AND BANKS, SAUNDERS PARK AND PETER KEARNS RESERVE

- Upgrade the amenities building, floodlighting and field surface improvements at Saunders Park.
- Provide additional storage and upgrade the car park at Peter Kearns Reserve.

MARK LEECE OVAL

- Enhance the existing mixed recreation space (Skate and Youth facilities) at Mark Leece Oval following community consultation.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Enhance open space connectivity to link sport, recreation and play areas throughout the Aggregated Area and to adjoining Aggregated Areas.
- Improve 13 playspaces: install new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections.

YEARS 10-15

FITNESS EQUIPMENT

- Install fitness equipment for all ages at Pacific and Phoenix Reserve and Mark Leece Reserve.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Develop a joint use agreement with the Department of Education for access to facilities at schools, e.g. St Clair High School, Erskine Park High School.

NEW PLAYSPACES

- Develop a new local playspace in proximity to Arundel Park Drive.
- Develop a new district playspace in proximity to Strauss Road Reserve.

CENTRAL SOUTH

GLENMORE PARK REGENTVILLE

There are 37 reserves in this Precinct, ranging in size from less than 0.15ha to 33ha, most of which are within most homes.

There is a wide variety of setting types in the Precinct with the majority being passive parklands, followed by natural areas, creeks and wetlands.

The area has the capacity to develop approximately 3700 dwellings by the year 2036. Open space provision should reflect any future growth.



STRATEGY ACTION ITEMS

YEARS 1-5

SUNBIRD TERRACE RESERVE

- Installation of new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections following community consultation.

ORIOLE STREET RESERVE

- Installation of new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections following community consultation.

RICHARDSON PLACE

- Installation of new shading over playspace.

THE CARRIAGEWAY

- Installation of new equipment following community consultation.

GLENGARRY DRIVE

- Installation of new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections following community consultation.

NINDI CRESCENT

- Installation of new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections following community consultation.

MULGOA SANCTUARY

- Develop one new district playspace at Linear Park, Mulgoa Sanctuary.

MULGOA RISE SPORTS FIELDS

- Provide an additional amenities building (change rooms) at Mulgoa Rise Sports Fields.

SURVEYORS CREEK SOFTBALL

- Continue upgrading sports field lighting at Surveyors Creek Fields to support district and regional softball programs.

CHED TOWNS SPORTS GROUNDS

- Upgrade amenities building.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Preserve existing natural open space areas throughout Aggregated Area.
- Masterplan the entrance rotunda to Glenmore Park (Cnr Mulgoa Road and Glenmore Parkway) following community consultation.
- Plan for the provision two multi-purpose courts and tennis courts to support active recreation in Glenmore Park.

YEARS 6-9

AREA WIDE

- Improve trail and creek connections throughout Glenmore Park and Regentville.
- Improve walking and cycling connections throughout Glenmore Park and Mulgoa Rise.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Improve nine playspaces by installing new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections.

YEARS 10-15

AREA WIDE

- Provide two multi-purpose courts and tennis courts to support active recreation in Glenmore Park.
- Develop a new Local playspace in proximity to Glenmore Parkway Drive.
- Develop a new District playspace in proximity to Rotary Park, Glenmore Park.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Develop a joint use agreement with the Department of Education for access to facilities at schools, e.g. Glenmore Park High School.

SOUTH EAST

ORCHARD HILLS

LUDDENHAM

KEMPS CREEK

BADGERYS CREEK

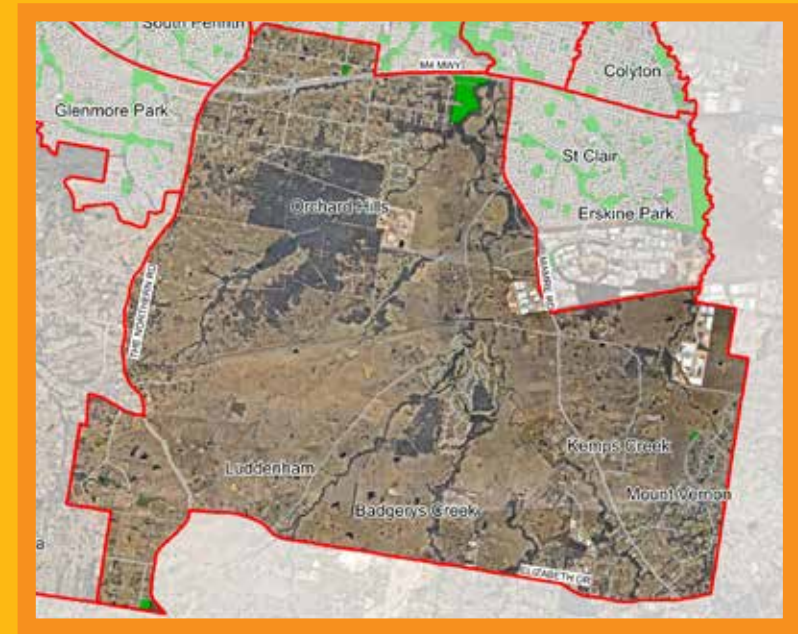
MOUNT VERNON

This part of the City is currently a rural lifestyle, but is undergoing rapid development in association with the Western Sydney Airport at Badgerys Creek and Sydney Science Park at Luddenham.

There are currently four formal reserves in this Precinct, ranging in size from less than 1.2ha to 11ha, consisting of passive parklands, outdoor sports, natural areas and creeks and wetlands.

High population growth is expected throughout the precinct. The area has the capacity to develop approximately 37,000 dwellings by the year 2036. Significant growth is due to the Western Sydney Airport and Sydney Science Park.

Open space provision should reflect any future growth.



STRATEGY ACTION ITEMS

YEARS 1-5

SALES PARK, LUDDENHAM

- Undertake playspace upgrade at Sales Park as a high priority, including pathway connections following community consultation.

SAMUEL MARSDEN RESERVE

- Upgrade facilities at Samuel Marsden Baseball Facility to accommodate Club needs in consideration of the long term future of the site.

MOUNT VERNON RESERVE

- Install shade over the playground.

NEW SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

- Deliver an additional district level sport and recreation space at the new proposed housing development site at Orchard Hills. Infrastructure should include multiple playing fields for dual season use, amenities buildings and ancillary infrastructure.

IMPACTS OF NSW GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT CORRIDORS

- Review impacts of transport corridors and the need for replacement land.

- Relocation of existing baseball and equestrian sites in the South East to alternate venues should be considered if existing plans come to fruition.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Work with NSW Government to achieve Blue and Green Grid outcomes.
- Ensure that significant planning of an open space network, especially connections to South Creek, is undertaken to guide future development in the Precinct.
- Apply open space provision benchmarks for new release areas in the South East. In addition, allocate up to 60ha of open space to replace existing sport, play and recreation provision to potentially be displaced by transport corridors.
- Ensure that open space is provided and preserved relative to population increases and Western Sydney Airport impacts.
- Contribute to the NSW Governments priority projects identified in the Greater Sydney Green Grid including Blaxland Creek and Nature Reserve.
- Investigate the development of a 10 indoor court centre and aquatic centre as part of a new sportsground and recreation precinct within South East to accommodate for estimated population increases as part of the developer agreements.

YEARS 6-9

DEVELOP NEW PLAYSPACES

- Ensure developers deliver additional playspaces in new development areas, in particular Orchard Hills to meet projected population increases.
- Develop one new local playspace in proximity to Wentworth Road, Orchard Hills.
- Develop one new district playspace at Sydney Science Park, Luddenham.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Assess and if required, improve two playspaces through installation of new equipment, shade, seating and accessible connections.

SYDNEY SCIENCE PARK (NEW DEVELOPMENT)

- Deliver additional sporting fields as part of the Sydney Science Park Precinct at Luddenham.

NEW MIXED RECREATION

- Consider the development of a Mixed Recreation Space to existing open space in either Orchard Hills or Luddenham.
- Integrate walking trails, cycling, mountain biking and informal active recreation activities into South Creek recreation planning.

YEARS 10-15

DOG OFF LEASH FACILITIES

- Provide a designated dog park in the proposed new release areas in the South East Aggregated Area.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Consider development of a new BMX and cycling facility within the South East Precinct, should impacts of the proposed transport corridor be realised.

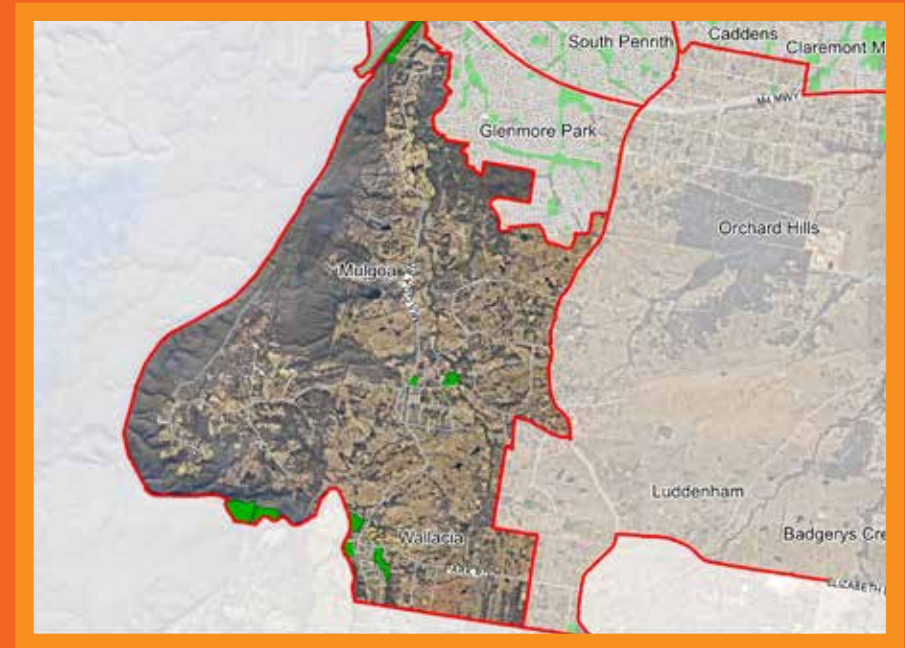
SOUTH WEST

MULGOA WALLACIA

There are 13 reserves in this Precinct. They are relatively evenly spread across passive parklands, outdoor sports, natural areas and creeks and wetlands.

Key open space sites include; Fowler Reserve (5.8ha), Blaxland Crossing Reserve (8.4ha) and Fernhill Estate (412ha).

The area has the capacity to develop approximately 3200 dwellings by the year 2036. Open space provision should reflect any future growth.



STRATEGY ACTION ITEMS

YEARS 1-5

DOWNES PARK, WALLACIA

- Undertake a playspace shade upgrade.

ADVOCACY AND FORWARD THINKING

- Work with NSW Government to achieve Blue and Green Grid outcomes.
- Liaise with NSW Government to realise open space and recreation opportunities.
- Develop Masterplans for priority projects identified in the Sydney Green Grid.
- Acquire land within Aggregate Area to compensate any category and classification of open space land lost through future infrastructure development.
- Work with developers to deliver additional playspaces in new development areas to meet projected population increases.
- Consider the development of equestrian activities and the potential relocation of the Samuel Marsden Riding for the Disabled Centre at Fernhill Estate, Mulgoa.
- Investigate openspace and recreation opportunities at Fowler Reserve, Blaxland Crossing Reserve and Crossman Reserve, Wallacia.
- Plan for the provision of a (minimum of five) sports grounds in the proposed Glenmore Park Stage Three designed in accordance with sports ground provision guidelines with one site to be considered for a synthetic surface.
- Floodlight and canteen upgrade at Gow Park, Mulgoa.

YEARS 6-9

DOG OFF LEASH AREA

- Provide a designated dog park in the proposed new release areas in South West Aggregated Area.

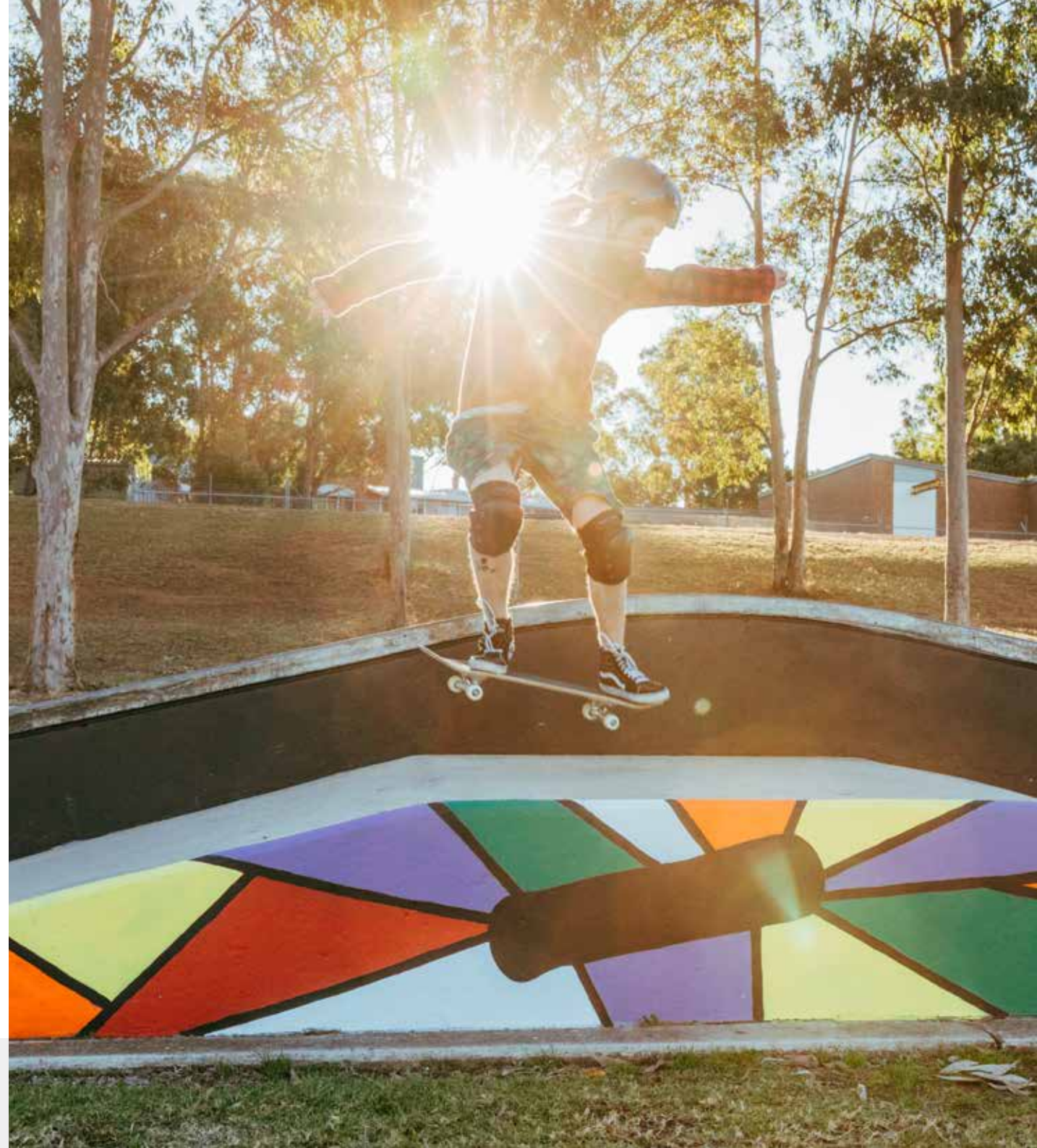
YEARS 10-15

MULGOA PARK IMPROVEMENTS

- Deliver additional upgrades to Mulgoa Park and maintain at a district level including provision of water play.

MIXED RECREATION AND FITNESS OPPORTUNITIES

- Develop a mixed recreation space in either Mulgoa or Wallacia.
- Upgrade existing open space to include fitness equipment and recreation loops in Mulgoa and Wallacia.



DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION	EXAMPLES
Accessibility	Accessibility is commonly associated with mobility standards and safety compliance. Accessibility refers to the physical ability of people to access a place or thing. Accessible design mainly addresses the movement needs of people with disabilities.	When applied to playspaces, conforming to accessibility standards in key aspects including the equipment, surfacing and supporting facilities, creates an all abilities playspace.
Active Recreation	Exertion through deliberate or incidental activity undertaken in a structured or unstructured setting.	Cycling and walking
Aggregate Area	A planning area of one or multiple suburbs. There are eleven (11) Aggregate Areas within Penrith City Council. Rural North, Central North, North East, Central West, Central CBD, Central East, East 1, East 2, East 3, Central South, South East and South West.	e.g. Aggregate Area - Rural North made up of multiple suburbs including; Castlereagh, Londonderry, Llandilo, Berkshire Park.
Arts and Culture	Arts and Culture can also be considered a core component of recreational activity and may incorporate aspects of chosen learning and education through activities.	Activities such as painting, arts and crafts, and learning a language.
Building Amenities	Public toilet, change rooms, canteen, maintenance and storage facilities for the use of the community while using public open space for recreation and sport.	Sporting amenities buildings, public toilets, bathrooms.
Community Facility	This includes halls, community centres and meeting places where recreation programs can be delivered.	Jordan Springs Community Centre and Penrith City Library.
Inclusion	Inclusion considers as many needs as possible and provides a welcoming place where people feel comfortable yet challenged, and remove obstacles and barriers that prevent people of all ages, cultural backgrounds and abilities (both physical and mental) from participating.	Playspaces provide access to a variety of play experiences for people to enjoy together.
Informal Sport	Informal sport is defined as traditionally recognised sporting forms played by groups who are not affiliated to sporting bodies or paying membership fees.	Casual group of friends playing touch football or playing tennis.
Landscape Amenity	Creating landscape improvements to improve the pleasantness or attractiveness of a place and improvements to a park through landscaping, trees, plants, gardens, design paths and seating to make a park more pleasant to be.	Creating landscape improvements, seating, picnic area, vegetation, shade trees and turf establishment.
Leisure	The residual time a person has after attending to the necessities of life.	Holidays, weekends, personal time, idle hours.
Mixed Recreation Space	A Mixed Recreation Space is a designated active recreation area to be used by people of all ages, abilities and interests to undertake recognized sport and recreation activities.	BMX, skate and scooter facilities, pump tracks, rock climbing and parkour facilities.
Natural Area or Bushland	Natural areas are set aside to provide locations for scientific observation of natural systems to protect examples of typical and unique plant and animal communities and to protect outstanding examples of natural interest and beauty. Natural areas are maintained in a natural condition by allowing physical and biological processes to operate, usually without direct human intervention.	River foreshore, waterways, trails or bush tracks and national parks.

TERM	DEFINITION	EXAMPLES
Open Space	The public and private open land available for public recreation and physical activity.	Sports grounds, parks, natural areas, rivers and lakes.
Park or Reserve	Parks provide the setting for activities across the spectrum of recreation, from quiet reading to social gatherings to active sport. A park is an area of open space which facilitates a range of passive and active recreation activities through the provision of recreation facilities.	Includes but not limited to: Playspace, sports ground, outdoor courts, fitness equipment, BBQ/picnic area and skate park. Green open space.
Passive Recreation	Sedentary pastimes such as picnicking, relaxation, socialising, or cultural activities and pursuits.	Picnicking, reading, and photography
Physical Activity	All physical body movements in everyday life, which includes incidental activity and deliberate.	Deliberate - planned exercise for recreation, fitness, leisure. Incidental - exercise gained while being active for another purpose such as walking to the shops, cycling to work or gardening.
Playspace	A playspace is more than just equipment. It is the entire setting used and enjoyed as part of the play experience. A space with a play focus for younger and older children such as playgrounds, nature play or adventure play.	An inclusive playspace utilises principles of inclusive design and accessibility, creating spaces people of all ages and abilities can enjoy.
Precinct	The all-encompassing area within the boundaries of a defined space.	e.g. Jamison Park Precinct.
Recreation	Recreation refers to those activities that are freely chosen and have an intrinsic value, usually occurring in free (leisure) time which generate feelings such as enjoyment, relaxation and satisfaction.	See above Passive and Active Recreation examples.
Recreation Facility	Infrastructure ranging from indoor recreation facilities, aquatic centres, and indoor and outdoor courts that enable participation in recreation activities.	Ripples Aquatic Centre, Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre, Fitness Centre (private) and St Clair Leisure Centre.
Sport	An activity involving physical exertion and skill governed by a set of rules or customs in which an individual or team competes against another or others for entertainment.	Football/ soccer, netball, diving and athletics.
Sporting Ground	A sports ground is open space which is used primarily for organised sports. Sports grounds are also available for informal recreation when not in use for organised sport.	e.g. Jamison Park playing fields, St Clair netball courts and Hunter Fields.



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**PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL**

penrith.city