



BUSINESS PAPER

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

To be held at 6:00 pm on

Monday 28 August 2023

Council Chambers, Level 10,
Council Administration Building, 41 Burelli Street, Wollongong

(Note: In accordance with the Code of Meeting Practice, Councillors will be able to attend and participate in this meeting via audio-visual link)

Order of Business

- 1 Opening Meeting
- 2 Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians
- 3 Civic Prayer
- 4 Apologies and Applications for Leave of Absence by Councillors
- 5 Confirmation of Minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting
- 6 Confirmation of Minutes of Extraordinary Ordinary Council Meeting
- 7 Conflicts of Interest
- 8 Petitions and Presentations
- 9 Confirmation of Minutes of Council Committee Meeting
- 10 Public Access Forum
- 11 Call of the Agenda
- 12 Lord Mayoral Minute
- 13 Urgent Items
- 14 Reports to Council
- 15 Reports of Committees
- 16 Items Laid on the Table
- 17 Notices of Motions(s)/Questions with Notice
- 18 Notice of Rescission Motion
- 19 Confidential Business
- 20 Conclusion of Meeting

Members

Lord Mayor –
Councillor Gordon Bradbery AM (Chair)
Deputy Lord Mayor –
Councillor Tania Brown
Councillor Ann Martin
Councillor Cameron Walters
Councillor Cath Blakey
Councillor David Brown
Councillor Dom Figliomeni
Councillor Elisha Aitken
Councillor Janice Kershaw
Councillor John Dorahy
Councillor Linda Campbell
Councillor Mithra Cox
Councillor Richard Martin

QUORUM – 7 MEMBERS TO BE PRESENT

Statement of Ethical Obligations

In accordance with clause 3.23 of the Model Code of Meeting Practice, released by the NSW Office of Local Government, Councillors are reminded of their Oath or Affirmation of Office made under section 233A of the Act and their obligations under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest

OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

The Oath or Affirmation is taken by each Councillor whereby they swear or declare to undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of Wollongong and Wollongong City Council and that they will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of their ability and judgment.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All Councillors must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at Council meetings in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct. All declarations of conflicts of interest and how the conflict of interest was managed will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the declaration was made.

Councillors attending a meeting by audio-visual link must declare and manage any conflicts of interest they may have in matters being considered at the meeting in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct. Where a councillor has declared a pecuniary or significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter being discussed at the meeting, the councillor's audio-visual link to the meeting will be suspended or terminated for the time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by Council, or at any time during which Council is voting on the matter.

Councillors should ensure that they are familiar with Parts 4 and 5 of the Wollongong City Council **Code of Conduct for Councillors** in relation to their obligations to declare and manage conflicts of interests.

Staff should also be mindful of their obligations under the Wollongong City Council **Code of Conduct for Staff** when preparing reports and answering questions during meetings of Council.

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MINUTES

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

at 6:00 pm

Monday 31 July 2023

Present

Lord Mayor – Councillor Gordon Bradbery AM (in the Chair)
Councillor Ann Martin
Councillor Cameron Walters
Councillor Cath Blakey
Councillor David Brown
Councillor Dom Figliomeni
Councillor Elisha Aitken
Councillor Janice Kershaw (attended via audio-visual link)
Councillor Richard Martin

In Attendance

General Manager	Greg Doyle
Director Infrastructure + Works, Connectivity Assets + Liveable City	Joanne Page
Director Planning + Environment, Future City + Neighbourhoods	Linda Davis
Director Corporate Services, Connected + Engaged City	Renee Campbell
Director Community Services, Creative + Innovative City	Kerry Hunt
Chief Financial Officer	Brian Jenkins
Chief Information Officer	Ingrid McAlpin
General Counsel	Jeff Reilly
Manager Governance + Customer Service	Todd Hopwood
Manager City Strategy	Chris Stewart
Manager Infrastructure Strategy + Planning (Acting)	Nathan McBriarty
Manager Community Cultural + Economic Development	Sue Savage
Land Use Planning Manager	David Green

Note: In accordance with the Code of Meeting Practice, participants in the meeting can participate via audio-visual link. Those who participated via audio-visual link are indicated in the attendance section of the Minutes.

Note: Council resolved on 6 February 2023 to grant Councillor T Brown a leave of absence from 22 July to 26 August 2023.

Council resolved on 26 June 2023 to grant Councillor Dorahy a leave of absence from 2 July to 31 July 2023 and Councillor Linda Campbell from 27 July to 10 August 2023.

Apologies

Min No.

838 **COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION** - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown scolded Councillor Walters that the apology tendered on behalf of Councillor Cox be accepted.

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CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

Councillor Dom Figliomeni declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 3 - Public Exhibition - Draft Planning Agreement - Former Port Kembla Public School, Military Road, Port Kembla, as he lives in close proximity to the site. Councillor Figliomeni advised he would depart the meeting during debate and voting on the item.

Councillor Ann Martin declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 1 - North Beach State Heritage Precinct - Proposed Expansion of Heritage Precinct, Item 4 - Public Exhibition - Planning Proposal - Road and Rail Corridor Rezoning and Land Reservation Acquisition Map Amendment, Item 5 - Public Exhibition - Planning Proposal - Reclassification 340 West Dapto Road, Stream Hill, and Item 8 - Post Exhibition - Planning Proposal 'Miala' House and Dairy Complex, 410 Marshall Mount Road, Marshall Mount, due to her employment with the Department of Planning and Environment. As she does not work on planning matters related to the Wollongong LGA, Councillor Ann Martin advised she would remain in the meeting during debate and voting on the item.

Councillor Ann Martin declared a non-significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 3 - Public Exhibition - Draft Planning Agreement - Former Port Kembla Public School, Military Road, Port Kembla, as she has previously advocated for cultural facilities and artist workshops on the site prior to its sale to the current owner. Councillor Ann Martin advised she would remain in the meeting during debate and voting on the item.

PRESENTATIONS

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Bradbery, presented a trophy and certificate awarded to Wollongong City Council by the National Sports and Physical Activities Convention which took place in Melbourne on 27-28 July. Council was awarded the Recreation and Play Innovation Award in the Major Events Promotion category recognising Wollongong's achievements in delivering the 2022 UCI Road World Championships.

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Bradbery offered condolences on behalf of Council on the passing of Professor Justin Yerbury AM, following a lengthy battle with Motor Neurone Disease (MND). Professor Yerbury was renowned for his cutting-edge work on the pathology of MND. Professor Yerbury was awarded the Keys to the City in 2022 to recognise his efforts and legacy for the Wollongong community. Professor Yerbury was recognised as Wollongong Citizen of the Year in the Australia Day Awards in 2019 and received the Order of Australia in 2020 for significant service to education and research in the field of Biological Sciences. A moment of silence was observed.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 26 JUNE 2023

839 **COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION** - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Walters that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held Monday, 26 June 2023 (a copy having been circulated to Councillors) be taken as read and confirmed.

Minute No.

PUBLIC ACCESS FORUM

ITEM NO	TITLE	NAME OF SPEAKER
7	POST EXHIBITION - DRAFT POLICY FOR COUNCIL RELATED DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PLAN AMENDMENTS	RONALD KNOWLES AGAINST RECOMMENDATION
22	NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR CATH BLAKEY - BICYCLE PARKING SECURITY	PHILLIP BALDING FOR RECOMMENDATION

840 **COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION** - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Walters that all speakers be thanked for their presentation and invited to table their notes.

CALL OF THE AGENDA

811 **COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION** - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that the staff recommendations for Items 4 to 6 inclusive and then 8 to 20 inclusive be adopted as a block.

ITEM 1 - NORTH BEACH STATE HERITAGE PRECINCT - PROPOSED EXPANSION OF HERITAGE PRECINCT

842 **COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION** - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that the General Manager be delegated authority to finalise the draft submission (Attachment 3) to the NSW Heritage Council Listings Committee and Heritage NSW, advising that -

- a The expansion of the curtilage of the North Beach State Heritage Precinct is not supported as adequate protections are already in place and Council has demonstrated its commitment to the restoration and protection of the North Beach Surf Life Saving Club.
- b If the Committee resolves to proceed with the expansion of the curtilage, the list of site-specific exemptions outlined in this report are included as part of the listing to enable practical on-going management of the heritage assets within the precinct.

ITEM 2 - INTERPRETER SERVICE - FUTURE DIRECTION

843 **COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION** - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Walters that –

- 1 Council discontinues the Interpreter Service from 31 August 2023.
- 2 An Information Note be provided to Councillors, after 12 months of Council discontinuing the service, to detail how local residents and agencies are accessing interpreter services, if there is unmet demand for the services and developments in the sector generally.

DEPARTURE OF COUNCILLOR

Due to a disclosed conflict of interest, Councillor Figliomeni departed the meeting at 6:32 and was not present for the debate nor voting on Item 3. Councillor Figliomeni returned to the meeting at 6:39 at the conclusion of Item 3.

ITEM 3 - PUBLIC EXHIBITION - DRAFT PLANNING AGREEMENT - FORMER PORT KEMBLA PUBLIC SCHOOL, MILITARY ROAD, PORT KEMBLA

844 COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor A Martin seconded Councillor Walters that -

- 1 The draft Planning Agreement and Explanatory Note between Wollongong City Council and the proponent for the former Port Kembla Public School site, be exhibited for a period of at least 28 days.
- 2 If there are no major issues raised in submissions, the General Manager be delegated authority to determine, finalise and execute the Planning Agreement, including making minor amendments, after consideration of any issues raised in the public exhibition.

ITEM 4 - PUBLIC EXHIBITION - PLANNING PROPOSAL - ROAD AND RAIL CORRIDOR REZONING AND LAND RESERVATION ACQUISITION MAP AMENDMENT

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that -

- 1 A Planning Proposal be prepared for multiple lots adjacent to Memorial Drive, the Albion Park Rail bypass and the Mt Kembla rail line, to amend the land use zoning, floor space ratio, minimum lot size, maximum building height and land reservation acquisition maps as indicated in Attachments 1, 2 and 3.
- 2 The Planning Proposal be forwarded to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for a Gateway Determination to enable exhibition.
- 3 Following Gateway Determination, the Planning Proposal be exhibited for a minimum period of 28 days.
- 4 Following the exhibition period, a report on submissions be prepared for Council's consideration.
- 5 The NSW Department of Planning and Environment be advised that Council wishes to use its delegations to finalise the Planning Proposal.

ITEM 5 - PUBLIC EXHIBITION - PLANNING PROPOSAL - RECLASSIFICATION 340 WEST DAPTO ROAD, STREAM HILL

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that -

- 1 A Planning Proposal be prepared to reclassify 340 West Dapto Road, Stream Hill as Operational Land.
- 2 The Planning Proposal be referred to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for Gateway Determination.
- 3 Following the issuing of a Gateway Determination, the Planning Proposal be exhibited for a minimum period of 28 days. A public hearing be held as part of the consultation process.
- 4 The NSW Department of Planning and Environment be advised that Council as the landowner, does not seek to use its delegation to progress the finalisation of the Planning Proposal, following exhibition.

ITEM 6 - POST-EXHIBITION: DRAFT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY COUNCIL POLICY

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that Council endorse the draft Community Engagement Strategy Council Policy.

ITEM 7 - POST EXHIBITION - DRAFT POLICY FOR COUNCIL RELATED DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PLAN AMENDMENTS

845 **COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION** - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor R Martin that -

- 1 The following documents be adopted -
 - a Council Policy: Managing Conflict of Interest for Council Related Development (Attachment 2).
 - b Updated Community Participation Plan (Attachment 3).
- 2 A notice be published on Council's website advising of the adoption of the documents.

ITEM 8 - POST EXHIBITION - PLANNING PROPOSAL 'MIALA' HOUSE AND DAIRY COMPLEX, 410 MARSHALL MOUNT ROAD, MARSHALL MOUNT

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that -

- 1 The Planning Proposal be finalised to amend the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009, by:
 - a Adding 'Miala' House and Dairy Complex including fig trees*, 410 Marshall Mount Road, Marshall Mount to the Heritage Schedule and Heritage Map, as a local heritage item.
 - b Amending the Minimum Lot Size Map to increase the minimum lot size of the proposed heritage curtilage area from 449m² to 4999m².
- 2 The General Manager proceed to exercise delegation as issued by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment under Section 3.36 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 (NSW), in relation to the final proposal.

ITEM 9 - LORD MAYOR - ATTENDANCE AT 2023 ASIA PACIFIC CITIES SUMMIT AND MAYORS' FORUM IN BRISBANE

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that Council approve the Lord Mayor's attendance at the 2023 Asia Pacific Cities Summit and Mayors' Forum in Brisbane from 11 to 13 October 2023.

ITEM 10 - COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2024

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey Council adopt the Ordinary Council Meeting dates for 2024 as detailed in this report.

ITEM 11 - PUBLIC EXHIBITION - DRAFT DATA BREACH RESPONSE POLICY

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that -

- 1 The draft Data Breach Response Policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
- 2 A further report be provided to Council at the conclusion of the exhibition period.

ITEM 12 - PUBLIC EXHIBITION - FRAUD AND CORRUPTION PREVENTION POLICY

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that -

- 1 The draft Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
- 2 A further report be provided to Council at the conclusion of the exhibition period.

ITEM 13 - PUBLIC EXHIBITION - PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES POLICY

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that -

- 1 The draft Public Interest Disclosures Policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
- 2 A further report be provided to Council at the conclusion of the exhibition period.

ITEM 14 - PUBLIC EXHIBITION - UNSOLICITED PROPOSALS POLICY

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that -

- 1 The draft Unsolicited Proposals Policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.
- 2 A further report be provided to Council at the conclusion of the exhibition period.

ITEM 15 - POLICY REVIEW - CRIME PREVENTION

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that Council endorse the revocation of the Crime Prevention Policy.

ITEM 16 - POLICY REVIEW - RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES COUNCIL POLICY

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that Council revoke the Related Party Disclosures Council Policy and endorse the conversion to a Procedure.

ITEM 17 - TENDER T1000061 - PROVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES TO COUNCIL

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that -

- 1 In accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Section 178(1)(a), Council accept the tenders of Bartier Perry, Marsdens, Kells, HWL Ebsworth and Hall & Wilcox (Employment/Workers Compensation only) to provide legal services to Council for a term of five years.
- 2 Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to finalise and execute the contracts and any other documentation required to give effect to this resolution.

ITEM 18 - TENDER T1000077 - AFFORDABLE HOUSING (ROUND 3)

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that -

- 1 In accordance with clause 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Council accepts in principle the tender of Head Start Homes Limited trading as Head Start Homes for the delivery of an Affordable Home Ownership – Scheme, in the sum of \$5,000,000 excluding GST.
- 2 Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to finalise and execute the contract and any other documentation required to give effect to this resolution.
- 3 Council be provided with a further report on completion of the contract finalisation process for Council's consideration prior to execution of any contract.
- 4 Council grant authority for the use of the Common Seal of Council on the contract and any other documentation, should it be required, to give effect to this resolution.

ITEM 19 - STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT - JUNE 2023

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that Council receive the Statement of Investment for June 2023.

ITEM 20 - CITY OF WOLLONGONG TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11 JULY 2023

The following staff recommendation was adopted as part of the Block Adoption of Items (refer Minute Number 841)

COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor D Brown seconded Councillor Blakey that in accordance with the delegated authority to Council, the Minutes and Recommendations of the Wollongong Traffic Committee held on 11 July 2023 in relation to Regulation of Traffic as outlined within this report, be adopted.

ITEM 21 - NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR RICHARD MARTIN - NOISE CAMERAS

846 **COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION** - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor R Martin seconded Councillor Figliomeni that Wollongong City Council write to the NSW State Government, the Environment Protection Authority and the NSW Police, requesting that the Wollongong Local Government Area be considered in the trial of new camera and sound technology that will catch drivers with loud cars and motorcycles.

ITEM 22 - NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR CATH BLAKEY - BICYCLE PARKING SECURITY

847 **COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION** - RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY on the motion of Councillor Blakey seconded Councillor Figliomeni that Council -

- 1 Write to the new Minister for Transport and state members for Heathcote, Keira, Shellharbour and Wollongong, requesting bicycle security sheds at train stations within the Wollongong Council area, noting the community priorities for –
 - a North Wollongong Station
 - b Wollongong Station
 - c Thirroul Station
 - d Dapto Station
 - e Unanderra Station
 - f Helensburgh Station
 - g Coniston Station, and
 - h Austinmer Station
- 2 Include provisions for bicycle security and secure bicycle parking in the up-coming integrated transport strategy at railway stations.
- 3 Work with state agencies and community partners to publicise BikeVAULT, encouraging residents to register their bicycles on it, and report any theft."

Variation The variation move by Councillor D Brown (the addition of Points 1e and 1f) was accepted by the mover and seconder.

Variation The variation move by Councillor Walters (the addition of Points 1g and 1h) was accepted by the mover and seconder.

Minute No.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 7:14

Confirmed as a correct record of proceedings at the Ordinary Meeting of the Council of the City of Wollongong held on Monday 28 August 2023.

Chairperson

ITEM 1

PUBLIC EXHIBITION - REVIEW OF WOLLONGONG DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN 2009: CHAPTER C17 TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES

Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009 Chapter C17 Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Facilities was reviewed and adopted on 19 July 2021. A further review has been undertaken to incorporate updates to relevant legislation, industry Code of Practice, State Government guidelines, and zone name changes.

This report recommends that the updated draft Development Control Plan Chapter C17 Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Facilities be exhibited for a minimum 28-day period to allow community consultation.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 An amended draft Chapter C17 Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Facilities of the Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009 (Attachment 1) be exhibited for a minimum period of 28 days.
- 2 A post exhibition report be prepared for Council to consider.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Chris Stewart, Manager City Strategy

Authorised by: Linda Davis, Director Planning + Environment - Future City + Neighbourhoods

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Draft Revised Wollongong DCP 2009 Chapter C17 Telecommunications Facilities

BACKGROUND

A Development Control Plan provides detailed planning and design guidelines to support the planning controls in the Local Environmental Plan and is prepared and adopted by councils.

On 15 December 2009, Council adopted the Wollongong Development Control Plan (DCP) 2009 to accompany the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009. The Wollongong DCP 2009 came into force on 3 March 2010.

Periodic review, update and amendment of Wollongong DCP 2009 occurs as required, to ensure it continues to be useful and relevant.

Telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities are vital infrastructure components of modern communication systems. These include telecommunications towers, masts and antennas, base stations, satellite-based facilities, radiocommunications transmitters and their supporting infrastructure and ancillary development.

Wollongong DCP 2009 Chapter C17 Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Facilities aims to provide development controls applicable to the design, siting, construction, safety, security, and environmental and public health impacts of telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities, including broadcasting infrastructure covered by the *Telecommunications Act 1997 (Cth)* and the *Commonwealth Radiocommunications Act 1992 (Cth)*.

PROPOSAL

Wollongong DCP 2009 Chapter C17 Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Facilities was first adopted in 2009. A review of the chapter was completed in 2021 and an updated chapter adopted on 19 July 2021. Since its adoption in 2021, there have been updates to the relevant legislation, industry Code of Practice, State government guidelines and zone names relevant to the Chapter.

A further review of chapter has identified the need for minor amendments to the Chapter. An overview of the changes recommended for Wollongong DCP 2009 Chapter C17 Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Facilities is provided below:

Table 1: Chapter C17 Proposed Amendments

Proposed Amendments
References to “Telecommunications Code of Practice 2018” updated to “Telecommunications Code of Practice 2021”.
References to “State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007” updated to “State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021”.
References to “NSW Telecommunications Facilities Guideline, Including Broadband (2010)” updated to “NSW Telecommunications Facilities Guideline, Including Broadband (2022)”.
References to “Industrial zones IN1, IN2, IN3, IN4” updated to “Industrial zones E4, E5, W4”, due to the Employment Zone Reforms which commenced on 26/4/23.
References to “Business zones B1, B2, B3, B4, B6, B7” updated to “Employment zones E1, E2, MU1, E3”, due to the Employment Zone Reforms which commenced on 26/4/23.

The revised draft Chapter is attached with the proposed changes (Attachment 1).

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Consultation has been undertaken with Council’s Development Assessment & Certification Division and relevant teams including Environmental Planning and Land Use Planning to inform the review.

It is recommended that the draft amended Chapter be publicly exhibited for a minimum period of 28 days. All submissions will be reviewed, and any post exhibition revised amendments will be reported to a future Council meeting for finalisation.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong Our Future 2032 Community Strategic Plan Goal 5 “*We have a healthy community in a liveable city*”. It specifically delivers on the following –

5.2 Urban areas are created and maintained to provide a healthy and safe living environment for our community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this Council report.

CONCLUSION

A review of Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009 Chapter C17 Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Facilities has identified the need for minor amendments in line with updated legislation, industry Code of Practice, State government guidelines and zone name changes relevant to this Chapter.

This report recommends that the amended draft Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009 Chapter C17 Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Facilities be endorsed for public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days.



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Document Control

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0	15/12/2009	1/3/2010	Adopted
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Part C – Specific Landuse Controls

Chapter C17: Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Facilities

1 INTRODUCTION

Telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities are vital infrastructure components of modern communication systems.

Telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities include telecommunications towers, masts and antennas, base stations, satellite-based facilities, radiocommunications transmitters and their supporting infrastructure and ancillary development.

It is important for these facilities to be well sited and designed to avoid adverse visual impacts, comply with electromagnetic energy emission exposure limits and minimise environmental and amenity impacts.

Council is the consent authority for telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities that require development consent under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. These are facilities not identified in the *Telecommunications (Low Impact Facilities) Determination 2018* as ‘low impact facilities’.

2 PURPOSE

The purpose of this chapter of the DCP is to provide development controls applicable to the design, siting, construction, safety, security and environmental and public health impacts of telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities, including broadcasting infrastructure covered by the Commonwealth *Telecommunications Act 1997* and the Commonwealth *Radiocommunications Act 1992*.

3 LAND TO WHICH THIS CHAPTER APPLIES

This chapter applies to all lands within the Wollongong Local Government Area (LGA).

4 DEVELOPMENT TO WHICH THIS CHAPTER APPLIES

- 1 This chapter applies to all proposed new telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities and modifications to existing facilities, which require Council development consent under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.
- 2 This chapter does **not** apply to:
 - a Low-impact facilities as described in the Commonwealth *Telecommunications (Low-impact Facilities) Determination 2018*; or
 - b Aerials, antennae and communication dishes specified as “Exempt Development” under *State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008*.

5 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this chapter are to:

- a Minimise the public health risk associated with the operation of telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities, particularly in regards to sensitive locations;
- b Promote good industrial design of infrastructure;
- c Provide infrastructure that is compatible with the surrounding character and visual context of the locality, with particular regard to heritage items, conservation areas and cultural icons;
- d Minimise any adverse local environmental and amenity impacts associated with the installation and operation of telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities.

6 RELEVANT LEGISLATION, CODES AND STATE GOVERNMENT GUIDELINE

The following are relevant to this chapter:

- *Telecommunications Act 1997* (Commonwealth)
- *Radiocommunications Act 1992* (Commonwealth)
- *Telecommunications Code of Practice 2018 2021* (Commonwealth)
- *Telecommunications (Low-impact Facilities) Determination 2018* (Commonwealth)
- *State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2007 2021*
- Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Industry Code (2020)
- NSW Telecommunications Facilities Guideline Including Broadband (201022).

7 DESIGN AND SITING CONTROLS

7.1 Facility Health Controls

- 1 Telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities must be designed, installed and operated so that the maximum human exposure levels to radio frequency EME comply with the exposure standards specified by the Australian Communications and Media Authority.
- 2 Development applications must include an EME assessment in accordance with the ARPANSA prediction methodology and report format (accessible via ARPANSA's website) demonstrating the predicted levels of radio frequency EME surrounding the proposed development comply with exposure standards specified by the Australian Communications and Media Authority.
- 3 The cumulative impact of all existing facilities, combined with the proposed new facility, must be assessed. The development application must be supported by a map which identifies other facilities within a 500 metre radius of the proposed new facility, and an analysis of the cumulative total level of radio frequency EME within the locality, with and without the proposed facility, by reference to the relevant exposure standard.

7.2 Design and Construction

- 1 A proposed facility must avoid and minimise adverse impacts on the landform, vegetation or features of a location that has special aesthetic, architectural, landscape, ecological or conservational value, as identified through Council's public Planning & Environment Map.
- 2 A proposed facility must be well designed to minimise its visual impact. Within the local context, the proposed facility design must take into account colour, texture, form, bulk and scale.
- 3 Actions to minimise visual impact may include:
 - integration with the design and appearance of an existing building or structure,
 - concealed cables,
 - painting and finishes of towers and ground level structures,
 - height and colour of any security fencing around a stand-alone facility; and
 - site landscaping complementary to the surrounds.
- 4 Antennas and mast structures must be located so as to not be visible, or to be as visually unobtrusive as possible from the fronting road at pedestrian eye level.

The location of antennas and mast structures at the rear of buildings should be considered, rather than on street frontages, impacting on the streetscape. Radio transparent materials may allow antennas to be concealed inside structures.

Part C – Specific Landuse Controls

Chapter C17: Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Facilities

- 5 Towers must be of 'slimline monopole' construction.
- 6 A proposed facility, including any maintenance access or asset protection zone for a proposed tower is to be designed, sited and constructed to avoid or minimise impacts on indigenous flora and fauna, including threatened biodiversity.
- 7 The facility must be designed and constructed to restrict public access to the antenna(s). Approaches to the antenna(s) must contain appropriate signs warning of EME and provide contact details for the owner and/or site manager of the facility.

7.3 Co-location

- 1 Telecommunications and radiocommunications facilities are to be co-located with existing facilities where available and feasible. This may include:
 - sharing of existing antennas between providers/carriers;
 - co-location of antennas on an existing tower that has been established by another carrier; or
 - co-location on building rooftops.
- 2 Exemptions to co-location under clause 1 may apply where:
 - adding additional antennas results in radio frequency EME emissions exceeding the maximum human exposure levels set out in the ARPANSA Radiation Protection Standard;
 - a relatively worse visual impact outcome would result from co-location;
 - there are physical and technical limits to the amount of infrastructure that structures are able to support; or
 - no existing facility can provide equivalent site technical specifications including meeting requirements for coverage objectives, radio traffic capacity demands and sufficient call quality.

7.4 Location

- 1 The siting of facilities in locations of high aesthetic, ecological or cultural value should be avoided.
- 2 Development applications for facilities should demonstrate that in selecting a site a precautionary approach consistent with the Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Industry Code (2020) has been adopted in regards to minimising EME exposures.
- 3 The applicant must provide justification for the proposed location which sets out why it is the most appropriate having regard to alternative sites, the details of which must also be provided. The statement of environmental effects which accompanies the development application must also explain how potential conflicts with adjoining land uses will be avoided, mitigated and managed.
- 4 The land use zone for the siting of a proposed facility must be considered, giving priority to the following zones in descending order of preference by Council:
 - a Industrial (~~IN1, IN2, IN3, IN4~~ E4, E5)
 - b ~~Business (B1, B2, B3, B4, B6, B7)~~ Employment (E1, E2, MU1, E3)
 - c Open space/corridor land/drainage reserves (RE1, RE2)
 - d Rural (RU1, RU2, RU4)
 - e Residential (R2, R3, R4, R5)
 - f Special uses containing sensitive land uses, such as schools, child care facilities, hospitals, seniors housing (SP1, SP2, SP3).
- 5 Residential and special use zones and sensitive locations should be avoided.

- 6 The choice of site should also consider likely future adjoining land uses such as likely future sensitive locations/services, based on land use zoning.
- 7 Facilities proposed to occur within the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009 mapped Illawarra Escarpment area must consider clause 7.8 of Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009 and the potential impacts on escarpment values as outlined in the Illawarra Escarpment Strategic Management Plan 2015.

7.5 Heritage

- 1 A facility must not be located on roof tops or within the curtilage of a site identified as an item of State or local heritage or within a heritage conservation area as identified in Wollongong LEP 2009.
- 2 A facility must not be located in a locality where in the opinion of Council the streetscape character is significantly influenced or defined by heritage items or the heritage significance of adjoining or nearby heritage items and/or heritage conservation areas may be adversely impacted by the proposed facility.
- 3 The applicant is to avoid the visual impact of any proposed facility on the heritage significance of any adjoining or nearby heritage item and/or contributory items within a heritage conservation area.
- 4 A Heritage Impact Statement may be required for any proposed facility within close proximity to or within the visual catchment of a heritage item or heritage conservation area where in the opinion of Council, the proposal has the potential to impact upon the setting of the heritage item or heritage conservation area. It is strongly recommended that prospective applicants arrange a pre-lodgement meeting and request attendance by Council's Heritage Coordinator for advice as to whether a Heritage Impact Statement is necessary for any proposal within proximity to a heritage item or heritage conservation area.

8 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

- 1 A Development Application for a telecommunications or radiocommunications facility must include:
 - a Statement of Environmental Effects, including details of alternative sites considered, how potential land use conflicts will be managed and details addressing sections 7.1 to 7.5 of this DCP Chapter and the principles contained in the NSW Telecommunications Facilities Guideline including Broadband (201022);
 - b Where applicable, how the requirements of clause 7.8 'Illawarra Escarpment Area Conservation' of Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009 have been addressed;
 - c Site/locality analysis plan showing prominent views and vistas and methods used for minimising any adverse impacts of antennas and masts (and associated equipment and structures);
 - d Site plan;
 - e Elevation plan;
 - f Photomontage of the proposed facility in context of the location;
 - g An EME assessment report prepared in accordance with the ARPANSA prediction methodology and report format;
 - h An assessment of the cumulative impact of all existing and proposed telecommunications or radiocommunications facilities in the locality as outlined in section 7.1(3) above.

Part C – Specific Landuse Controls

Chapter C17: Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Facilities

- i For a stand-alone facility – a Landscape Concept Plan;
- j For a proposed facility in the vicinity of a State or local heritage item or heritage conservation area – a Heritage Impact Statement;
- k For a proposed facility in the vicinity of a State or local heritage item or heritage conservation area, including the Illawarra Escarpment State Heritage Conservation Area – a Visual Impact Assessment that considers the impact on significant view corridors to and from the heritage item or heritage conservation area.

9 CONDITIONS OF DEVELOPMENT CONSENT

- 1 In the event that development consent is granted to an application for a telecommunications or radiocommunications facility, conditions of consent relating to the following matters are likely to be imposed:
 - a Restoration of the site following construction of the facility;
 - b Colour requirements for monopoles;
 - c Operation of the facility in accordance with all statutory requirements and the requirements of the Australian Communications and Media Authority and the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency;
 - d Maintenance of the site and its facilities in a proper and safe condition at all times throughout its lifespan; and
 - e Removal of the facility when it is no longer required and the site restored to a condition similar to its condition before the facility was constructed.

ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

The meanings of the following acronyms and terms used in this chapter are included here for clarification only and do not replace the definitions contained within the legislation.

ARPANSA: Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency.

Co-location: The practice of locating a number of different communications facilities, often owned by different carriers, on one facility or structure.

Cumulative impact: The sum of the impacts from a number of different sources or over time.

EME: Electromagnetic energy. The radiation in the microwave and radiofrequency band of the electromagnetic spectrum.

Low-impact facility: A facility that is exempted from state and council local planning laws under the Commonwealth Telecommunications (Low Impact Facilities) Determination 2018.

Radiation Protection Standard: The ARPANSA (2021) Standard for Limiting Exposure to Radiofrequency Fields – 100 KHz to 300 GHz.

Radiocommunications facility: A base station or radiocommunications link, satellite-based facility or radiocommunications transmitter.

Sensitive locations: Examples of locations that may be considered to be sensitive include residential areas, schools, child care facilities, hospitals and seniors housing.

Telecommunications facility: (a) Any part of the infrastructure of a telecommunications network, or (b) any line, cable, optical fibre, fibre access node, interconnect point, equipment, apparatus, tower, mast, antenna, dish, tunnel, duct, hole, pit, pole or other structure in connection with a telecommunications network, or (c) any other thing used in or in connection with a telecommunications network.

Telecommunications network: A system, or series of systems, that carries, or is capable of carrying, communications by means of guided or unguided electromagnetic energy or both.

ITEM 2 PUBLIC EXHIBITION: WILKIES WALK, MCCAULEYS BEACH PLANNING AGREEMENT

A draft Planning Agreement has been prepared in association with Development Consent DA-2021/1324 issued by the NSW Land & Environment Court on 19 April 2023. The consent relates to a subdivision of land into three lots at 1 Amy Street, Thirroul (Lot 101 in DP 268549). The lot extends from Amy Street behind the McCauley's Beach estate to the corner of Wilkies Way and Panmills Drive, Thirroul (Attachment 1).

The draft Planning Agreement proposes to rearrange pedestrian access to Wilkies Walk at the corner of Wilkies Way and Panmills Drive, Thirroul. The proposal will separate vehicle movement to the subdivision from the pedestrian movement through the relocation of a short section of Wilkies Walk (Attachment 2). These works will be carried out to the south of the existing path on land owned by Council and Anglican Community Services. The cost of all works will be borne by the proponent, High Dune Pty Ltd.

The draft Planning Agreement and Explanatory Note are provided as attachments to this report. It is recommended that Council endorse these documents and exhibit for community feedback.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 The draft Planning Agreement and Explanatory Note between Wollongong City Council and High Dune Pty Ltd and Anglican Community Services for Lot 101 DP 268549, be exhibited for a period of at least 28 days.
- 2 The General Manager be delegated authority to determine, finalise and execute the Planning Agreement, including making minor amendments, after consideration of any issues raised in the public exhibition.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Chris Stewart, Manager City Strategy

Authorised by: Linda Davis, Director Planning + Environment - Future City + Neighbourhoods

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Location Map
- 2 Proposed works
- 3 Draft Planning Agreement
- 4 Explanatory Note

BACKGROUND

Development Application

On 17 November 2021, Development Application DA-2021/1324 was lodged with Council for land subdivision into three lots and associated works at 1 Amy Street, Thirroul (Lot 101 in DP 268549). On 3 June 2022, a Class 1 Appeal (deemed refusal) was filed with the Land & Environment Court (Court). Following subsequent section 34 mediation, conditions were agreed between the parties and consent for the proposed development was issued by the Court dated 19 April 2023.

Suitable access to the residential zoned portion of Lot 101 was a key assessment issue given the site is serviced by a narrow road reserve from the corner of Wilkies Way and Panmills Drive, Thirroul. The narrow road reserve is the current location for a section of the Wilkies Walk pathway (approved under DA-2013/1321).

The mechanism for vehicular access to the site was ultimately resolved during the Court Appeal. To facilitate access to the site, Council negotiated certain works to be undertaken at the full cost of the proponent. These works include construction of a vehicle passing bay and relocation of a section of Wilkies Walk.

The passing bay and portion of the relocated walkway will be constructed on land owned by Anglican Community Services (105.2m²). Anglicare and the owner of Lot 101 Amy Street have agreed to commercial terms to transfer Anglicare's land for the purpose of DA-2021/1324.

The remaining section of relocated walkway will be constructed on Council land, classified as community land, and categorised as Natural Area (Bushland). The construction of a walkway is permitted under the Community Land Plan of Management 2022. No change to the land classification or categorisation is proposed or required because of the draft Planning Agreement.

The land owned by the Anglican Community Services which will accommodate the proposed vehicle passing bay and short section of Wilkies Way will be dedicated to Council with the intent of converting it to road reserve.

The above arrangement is reflected in Condition 32 of the Consent as follows:

Prior to issue of Subdivision Works Certificate, the Proponent must enter into a Planning Agreement with Wollongong City Council (Council) under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. The Planning Agreement must be consistent with the terms of the offer made by the Applicant in connection with the development application as set out in the letter from the Applicant to Council dated 14 November 2022 a copy of which is annexed and marked 'A' and the letter from High Dune Pty Ltd dated 3 February signed by Paul Nichols a copy of which is annexed and marked "B".

A modification to DA-2021/1324 condition 32 is currently being assessed which, if approved, would allow certain early subdivision works to occur on-site prior to a Planning Agreement being entered into.

The cost of all works, land acquisition and land dedication will be borne by the proponent, High Dune Pty Ltd.

PROPOSAL

A Planning Agreement is a voluntary arrangement between a developer and Council to be used for or applied towards the provision of public infrastructure or another public purpose.

During the Court proceedings the applicant submitted Letters of Offer to enter into a Planning Agreement under Section 7.4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (Act) for the relocation of Wilkies Walk further south parallel to its existing alignment. The relocation works will allow the narrow road to be used for vehicle access to the development site. Other improvement works including construction of a vehicle passing bay is also proposed. The draft Planning Agreement includes plans showing the proposed works.

A draft Planning Agreement to implement the Court determination and Explanatory Note has been prepared by Council officers and agreed to by the applicant (Attachments 3 and 4).

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

During the Court proceedings, the Letters of Offer were considered by Council officers from Development Assessment & Certification. The draft Planning Agreement has been reviewed by Council's Land Use Planning and Legal Teams.

If Council endorses the recommendations of this report the draft Planning Agreement (Attachment 3) and Explanatory Note (Attachment 4) will be placed on public exhibition for at least 28 days for community comment.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

The draft Planning Agreement has been prepared in accordance with Council's Planning Agreements Policy (2018), Sections 7.4 to 7.10 of the Act and Clauses 25B – 25E of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*.

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong Our Future 2032 Goal 5 – 'We have a healthy community in a liveable city'. It also delivers on core business activities as detailed in the Land Use Planning Operational Plan 2022-23.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The proposed Planning Agreement provides a formal instrument to manage and mitigate any risks associated with the proposed dedication of land and the infrastructure works to be undertaken. The land dedication and works will need to be provided prior to a Subdivision Certificate for the subdivision of the land.

The Planning Agreement will be registered on title to ensure the land is encumbered by the requirements. The Planning Agreement also provides the appropriate legal mechanism for the developer to fulfil the relevant conditions of the Development Consent.

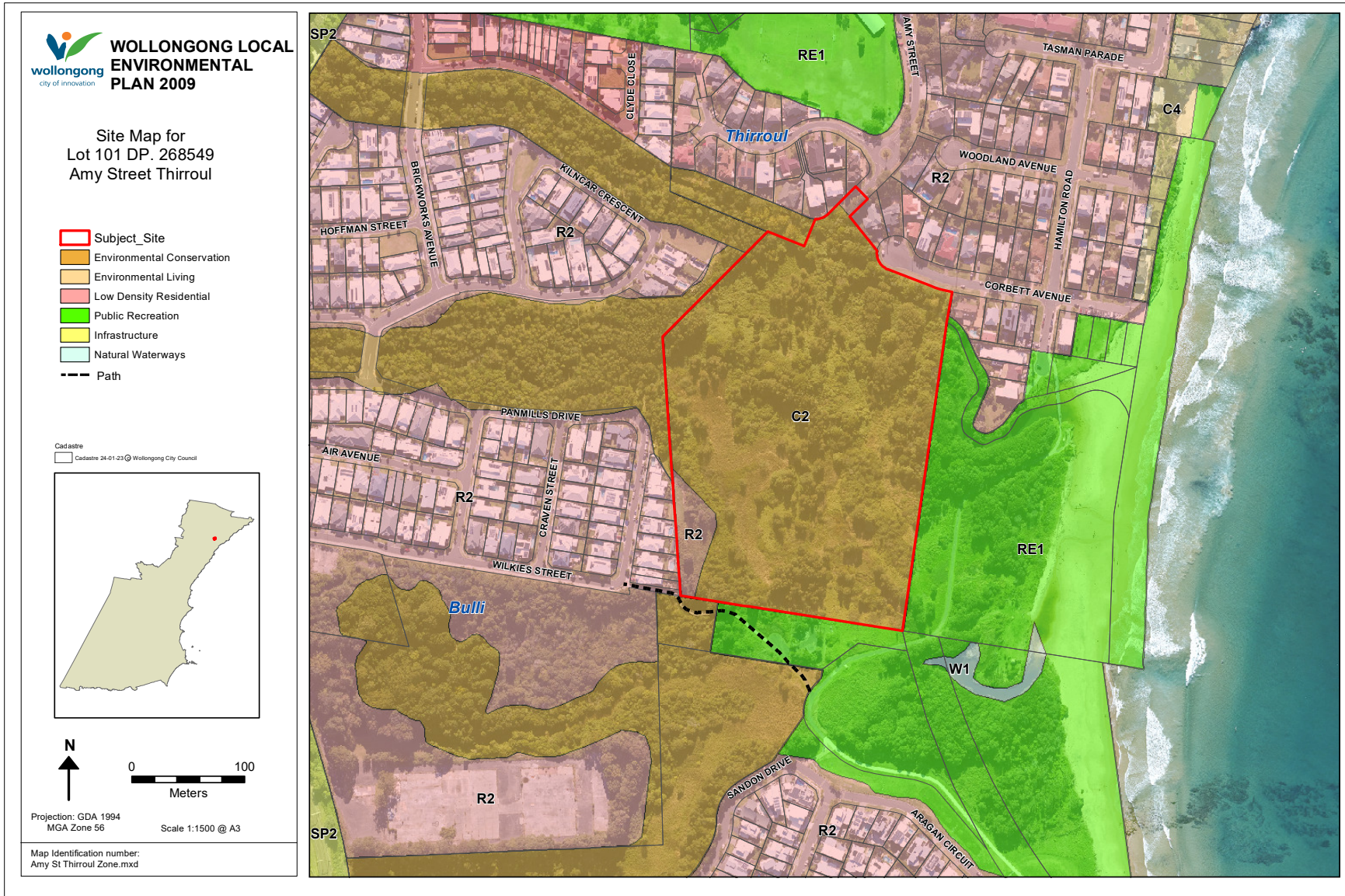
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

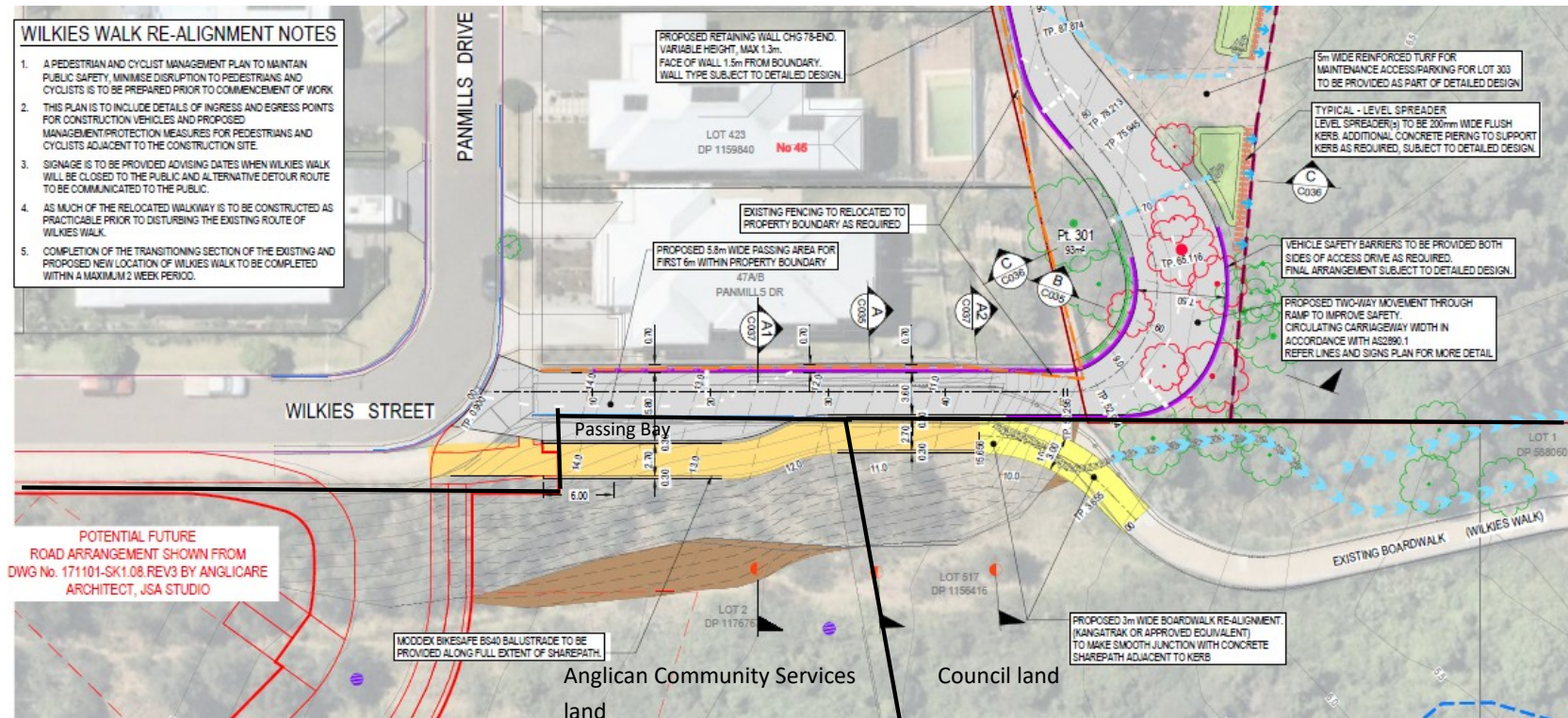
The Planning Agreement will ensure that the infrastructure and land is provided as part of the development. It should be noted that the Planning Agreement does not exclude the application of any development contributions plan that applies, that is the Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan. Development contributions for the subdivision have been levied as part of the Development Consent issued by the Court.

CONCLUSION

High Dune Pty Ltd and Anglican Community Services have requested that Council enter into a Planning Agreement to facilitate the relocation of part of a public pathway known as Wilkies Walk and the provision of a vehicle passing bay at the entry to Panmills Drive, Thirroul. The separation of the vehicular access to the land zoned for residential purposes from the pedestrian use of Wilkies Walk is a positive outcome for the community.

It is recommended that Council endorse the draft Planning Agreement and Explanatory Note for public exhibition to enable community comments. If there are no major issues raised during the exhibition period, it is proposed that delegation be issued to the General Manager to determine, finalise, and execute the Planning Agreement, including making minor changes.





PLANNING AGREEMENT

Wollongong City Council

and

High Dune Pty Ltd

and

Anglican Community Services



WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL
41 Burelli Street, Wollongong NSW 2500
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Tel: 02 4227 7111
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PLANNING AGREEMENT

DATE

PARTIES

WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL (ABN 63 139 525 939) of 41 Burelli Street, Wollongong in the State of New South Wales (**Council**)

HIGH DUNE PTY LTD (ACN 614 310 057) of 301 Keira Street, Wollongong, NSW (**Developer**)

ANGLICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES (ABN 36 922 848 563) of Norwest Business Park, Level 2, 62 Norwest Boulevard, Baulkham Hills NSW (**Landowner**)

BACKGROUND

- 1 The Developer intends to carry out the Development.
- 2 The Development requires the relocation of a public pathway and the provision of an accessway passing bay at the entry to Panmills Drive to permit access.
- 3 The Developer has offered to construct the relocated public pathway and accessway passing bay, and the Landowner has offered to dedicate the Parcel to Council when that construction is carried out.

OPERATIVE PROVISIONS

1 DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply unless the context otherwise requires:

Act	means the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> (NSW).
Assign	as the context requires refers to any assignment, sale, transfer, disposition, declaration of trust over or other assignment of a legal and/or beneficial interest.
Authority	Includes any government entity, agency, department or local government or court.
Claim	against any person any allegation, action, demand, cause of action, suit, proceeding, judgement, debt, damage, loss, cost, expense or liability howsoever arising and whether present or future, fixed or unascertained, actual or contingent whether at law, in equity, under statute or otherwise.
Complete, Completed, Completion	means completed in accordance with the requirements of this document.
Council	means Wollongong City Council.
Defects Liability Period	Means 12 months commencing from the date Council issues a notice pursuant to clause 7.2 that the Works are complete.
Developer	means High Dune Pty Ltd.
Development	means the demolition of part of the elevated boardwalk section of Wilkies Walk and reconstruction of part of the boardwalk, and a Torrens title subdivision of the Land into three Lots as approved by DA-2021/1324 issued by the Land and Environment Court and dated 19 April 2023.



PLANNING AGREEMENT

Development Application	has the same meaning as in the Act.
Development Consent	Has the same meaning as in the Act.
Encumbrance	means an interest or power: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reserved in or over an interest in any asset; • created or otherwise arising in or over any interest in any asset under any mortgage, charge (whether fixed or floating), pledge, lien, hypothecation, title retention, conditional sale agreement, hire or hire purchase agreement, option, restriction as to transfer, use or possession, easement, subordination to any right of any other person and any other encumbrance or security interest, trust or bill of sale; or • by way of security for the payment of a debt or other monetary obligation or the performance of any obligation.
GST Law	means <i>A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999</i> (Commonwealth) and any other Act or regulation relating to the imposition or administration of the goods and services tax.
Land	means the whole of the land contained in Lot 101 DP 268549 as shown at Appendix A.
Law	means all legislation, regulations, by-laws, common law and other binding order made by any Authority.
Lot	means a lot in the Development created on the registration of a plan of subdivision as part of the Development where the construction of one (1) or more residential dwellings is permissible.
Parcel	means that part of the Parent Parcel designated Lot 22 on the draft plan at Annexure A to this Agreement.
Parent Parcel	Means Lot 2 DP 116767, currently owned by the Landowner.
Planning Legislation	means the Act, the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> (NSW) and the <i>Roads Act 1993</i> (NSW).
Subdivision Certificate	means a subdivision certificate as defined in section 6.4(d) of the Act.
Works	means the works specified or described in Schedule 2.

2 INTERPRETATION

The following rules of interpretation apply unless the context requires otherwise:

clauses, annexures and schedules	a clause, annexure or schedule is a reference to a clause in, or annexure or schedule to, this document.
reference to statutes	a statute, ordinance, code or other law includes regulations and other instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of any of them.



PLANNING AGREEMENT

singular includes plural	the singular includes the plural and vice versa.
person	the word 'person' includes an individual, a firm, a body corporate, a partnership, joint venture, an unincorporated body or association or any government agency.
executors, administrators, successors	a particular person includes a reference to the person's executors, administrators, successors, substitutes (including persons taking by novation) and assigns.
dollars	Australian dollars, dollars, \$ or A\$ is a reference to the lawful currency of Australia.
calculation of time	if a period of time dates from a given day or the day of an act or event, it is to be calculated exclusive of that day.
reference to a day	a day is to be interpreted as the period of time commencing at midnight and ending 24 hours later.
reference to a group of persons	a group of persons or things is a reference to any two or more of them jointly and to each of them individually.
meaning not limited	the words 'include', 'including', 'for example' or 'such as' are not used as, nor are they to be interpreted as, words of limitation, and, when introducing an example, do not limit the meaning of the words to which the example relates to that example or examples of a similar kind.
next day	if an act under this document to be done by a party on or by a given day is done after 4.30pm on that day, it is taken to be done on the next day.
next Business Day	if an event must occur on a stipulated day which is not a Business Day then the stipulated day will be taken to be the next Business Day.
Business Day	means any day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, gazetted public holiday or bank holiday in Sydney, and concludes at 5pm on that day.
time of day	time is a reference to Sydney time.
headings	headings (including those in brackets at the beginning of paragraphs) are for convenience only and do not affect the interpretation of this document.
agreement	a reference to any agreement, Agreement or instrument includes the same as varied, supplemented, novated or replaced from time to time.

3 OPERATION OF AGREEMENT

3.1 Planning agreement

This document is a planning agreement:

- i Within the meaning set out in section 7.4 of the Act; and
- ii Governed by Subdivision 2 of Division 7.1 of Part 7 of the Act.

3.2 Application

This document applies to both the Land and the Development.

3.3 Operation of document

This document operates from the date it is executed by all parties.



PLANNING AGREEMENT

4 APPLICATION OF SECTION 7.11, SECTION 7.12 AND SECTION 7.24

4.1 Application

This document does not exclude the application of section 7.11, section 7.12 or section 7.24 of the Act to the Development.

4.2 Consideration of benefits

Section 7.11(6) of the Act does not apply to the Monetary Contributions that are to be provided pursuant to this document.

5 REGISTRATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

5.1 Registration

This document must be registered on the title of the Land and the Parent Parcel pursuant to section 7.6 of the Act.

5.2 Obligations of the Developer and the Landowner

The Developer and Landowner must:

- i do all things necessary to facilitate the registration of this document to occur within 30 days of the execution of this document, including but not limited to obtaining the consent of any mortgagee registered on the title of the Land or Parent Parcel; and
- ii pay any reasonable costs incurred by Council in undertaking that registration; and
- iii. provide Council with a copy of the relevant folio within 10 Business Days of registration of this document.

5.3 Removal from title of the Land and Parent Parcel

- i Council will do all things necessary to allow the Developer and Landowner to remove the registration of this document from the title of the Land or Parent Parcel, or any part of the Land or Parent Parcel, where the following has occurred:
 - a the Developer has Completed the Works;
 - b Council has issued a notice pursuant to clause 7.2 of this Agreement that the Works are Complete; and
 - c the Parcel has been dedicated to Council.
- ii The Developer must pay any reasonable costs incurred by Council in undertaking that discharge.

6 PROVISION OF CONTRIBUTIONS

6.1 Parcel

- i. The Landowner must dedicate the Parcel to Council:
 - a. free of any trusts, estates, interests, covenants and Encumbrances;
 - b. only after Completion of the Works but prior to any application by or on behalf of the Developer for a Subdivision Certificate for the subdivision of the Land ; and
 - c. at no cost to Council.
- ii. The Developer must meet all costs associated with the dedication of the Parcel in accordance with paragraph (i), including any costs incurred by Council in relation to that dedication.
- iii. Council agrees to do all things necessary to enable the Landowner to comply with paragraph (i).

6.2 Works



PLANNING AGREEMENT

The Developer, at its cost, must:

- i. if necessary, obtain any consents, approvals, licences, or permits required by a relevant Authority, for the conduct of the Works; and
- ii. carry out and complete the Works:
 - a. in accordance with the requirements of, or consents issued, by any Authority;
 - b. in accordance with the reasonable requirements of Council and any applicable Development Consent; and
 - c. in a proper and competent manner complying with current industry practice and standards, including applicable Australian Standards.

6.3 Prior to Subdivision of the Land

The Developer acknowledges that the Works are to be Completed prior to the release of any Subdivision Certificate for the Development. The Developer will not pursue or seek a Subdivision Certificate pertaining to or relating to the Development until Council has issued the notice contemplated at clause 7.2 that the Works have been Completed.

7 COMPLETION OF WORKS

7.1 Issue of Completion Notice

If the Developer considers that the Works are Complete it must serve a notice on Council within 14 days of Completion which:

- i. is in writing; and
- ii. specifies the date on which the Developer believes the Works were Completed.

7.2 Notice by Council

Within the earlier of:

- i. 14 days of inspecting the Works set out in a Completion Notice; and
- ii. 21 days from the receipt of the Completion Notice;

Council must provide notice in writing to the Developer that the Works:

- iii. have been Completed; or
- iv. have not been Completed, in which case the notice must also detail:
 - a. those aspects of the Works which have not been Completed; and
 - b. the work Council requires the Developer to carry out in order to rectify those deficiencies.

7.3 Deemed Completion

If Council does not provide the Developer with notice within the time specified in clause 7.2, the Works will be deemed to have been Completed on the date nominated in the Completion Notice.

7.4 Effect of Council Notice

- i. Where Council serves notice on the Developer pursuant to clause 7.2 identifying that the Works have not been Completed, the Developer must:
 - a. rectify the deficiencies in accordance with that notice within a reasonable time (not being less than 14 days from the date it is issued by Council); or
 - b. serve a notice on Council that it disputes the matters set out in the notice.
- ii. Where the Developer:
 - a. serves notice on Council in accordance with paragraph 7.4(i)(b) the dispute resolution provisions of this document apply; or



PLANNING AGREEMENT

- b. rectifies the Works in accordance with paragraph 7.4(i)(a) it must serve upon Council a new Completion Notice for the Works it has rectified (New Completion Notice).

7.5 New Completion Notice

The provisions of clauses 7.1 to 7.4 (inclusive) apply to any new Completion Notice issued by the Developer.

8 DEFECTS LIABILITY

8.1 Defects Notice

- i Where the Works are Complete but contain a defect which:
 - a adversely affects the ordinary use and/or enjoyment of the Works or a part of the Works; or
 - b will require maintenance or rectification works to be performed on it at some time in the future as a result of the existence of the defect;

(Defect) Council may issue a notice to the Developer (**Defects Notice**) concerning those Works or any aspect of the Works but only during the Defects Liability Period.

- ii A Defects Notice must contain the following information:
 - a the nature and extent of the Defect;
 - b the work Council requires the Developer to carry out in order to rectify the Defect; and
 - c the time within which the Defect must be rectified by the Developer (which must be a reasonable time and not less than 14 days).

8.2 Developer to Rectify Defects

- i The Developer must rectify the Defects contained within a Defects Notice prior to the date specified in that notice.
- ii The Developer must follow the procedure set out in clause 7 in respect of the completion of the rectification of any Defect as if a reference in that clause to the Works is a reference to the relevant Defect.

8.3 Access to the Parcel

If the Developer is required to access, use and occupy any part of the Parcel for the purpose of discharging its obligations under this clause 7 or 8 after the relevant land has been dedicated or transferred to Council, Council will grant a licence to the Developer:

- i with respect to so much of the relevant Parcel; and
- ii for such period;

that is reasonably necessary to allow the Developer to properly discharge those obligations.

8.4 Right of Council to Step-in

Council may, at its absolute discretion, enter upon the Parcel or the Land for the purpose of rectifying a Defect set out in the Defects Notice where the Developer has failed to comply with a Defects Notice, but only after giving the Developer seven (7) days written notice of its intention to do so.

8.5 Consequence of Step-in

If Council elects to exercise the step-in rights granted to it under clause 8.4 then:

- i Council may:
 - a enter upon any part of the Parcel or Land reasonably required to exercise those step-in rights; and
 - b rectify the relevant Defects in accordance with the Defects Notice;



PLANNING AGREEMENT

- ii the Developer must not impede or interfere with Council in exercising those rights; and
- iii Council may claim any costs incurred by it in doing so from the Developer as a liquidated debt.

9 WARRANTIES AND INDEMNITIES

9.1 Warranties

The Developer and Landowner warrant to Council that:

- i each are fully comply with its obligations under this document;
- ii each has full capacity to enter into this document; and
- iii there is no legal impediment to it entering into this document, or performing the obligations imposed under it.

9.2 Indemnity

The Developer indemnifies Council in respect of any Claim that may arise as a result of the conduct of the Works, but only to the extent that any such Claim does not arise as a result of the negligent acts or omissions of Council.

10 DETERMINATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

10.1 Determination

This document will determine upon the Developer and Landowner satisfying all of its obligations under the document.

10.2 Effect of determination

Upon the determination of this document Council will do all things necessary to allow the Developer to remove this document from the title of the whole or any part of the Land as quickly as possible.

11 ASSIGNMENT

11.1 Prohibition

No party may Assign their rights under this document without the prior written consent of each of the other parties.

11.2 Assignment of Land

The Developer must not Assign its interest in the Land, other than a single Lot approved pursuant to a Development Consent and created by the registration of a plan of subdivision, unless:

- i Council consents to the Assignment; and
- ii the proposed assignee enters into an agreement to the satisfaction of Council under which the assignee agrees to be bound by the terms of this document.

12 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

12.1 Notice of dispute

- i If a dispute between the parties arises in connection with this document or its subject matter (**Dispute**), then the aggrieved party (**First Party**) must give to the other (**Second Party or Parties**) a notice which:
 - a is in writing;
 - b adequately identifies and provides details of the Dispute;
 - c stipulates what the First Party believes will resolve the Dispute; and



PLANNING AGREEMENT

- d designates its representative (**Representative**) with the necessary authority to negotiate and resolve the Dispute.
- ii The Second Party or additional Party (as the case may be) must, within five (5) Business Days of service of the notice of dispute, provide a notice to the First Party designating as its representative a person with the necessary authority to negotiate and settle the Dispute (the representatives designated by the parties being together, the **Representatives**).

12.2 Conduct pending resolution

The parties must continue to perform their respective obligations under this document if there is a Dispute but will not be required to complete the matter the subject of the Dispute, unless the appropriate party indemnifies the other parties against costs, damages and all losses suffered in completing the disputed matter if the Dispute is not resolved in favour of the indemnifying party.

12.3 Further steps required before proceedings

Subject to clause 12.7 and except as otherwise expressly provided in this document, any Dispute must, as a condition precedent to the commencement of litigation or mediation under clause 12.5, first be referred to the Representatives. The Representatives must endeavour to resolve the dispute within five (5) Business Days of the date a notice under clause 12.1 is served.

12.4 Disputes for mediation

If the Representatives have not been able to resolve the Dispute, then the parties must agree within five (5) Business Days to refer the matter to mediation under clause 12.5.

12.5 Disputes for mediation

- i If the parties agree in accordance with clause 12.4 to refer the Dispute to mediation, the mediation must be conducted by a mediator agreed by the parties and, if the parties cannot agree within five (5) Business Days, then by a mediator appointed by the President of the Law Society of New South Wales for the time being.
- ii If the mediation referred to in paragraph (i) has not resulted in settlement of the Dispute and has been terminated, the parties may agree to have the matter determined by expert determination under clause 12.6.

12.6 Other courses of action

If the mediation referred to in clause 12.5 has not resulted in settlement of the dispute and the mediation has been terminated then either party may take whatever course of action it deems appropriate for the purpose of resolving the Dispute.

12.7 Remedies available under the Act

This clause 12 does not operate to limit the availability of any remedies available to Council under sections 9.45 and 9.46 and Division 9.6 of the Act.

12.8 Urgent relief

This clause 12 does not prevent a party from seeking urgent injunctive or declaratory relief concerning any matter arising out of this document.

13 POSITION OF COUNCIL

13.1 Consent authority

The parties acknowledge that Council is a consent authority with statutory rights and obligations pursuant to the terms of the Planning Legislation.

13.2 Document does not fetter discretion

This document is not intended to operate to fetter:

- i the power of Council to make any Law; or
- ii the exercise by Council of any statutory power or discretion (**Discretion**).

13.3 Severance of provisions



PLANNING AGREEMENT

- i No provision of this document is intended to, or does, constitute any unlawful fetter on any Discretion. If, contrary to the operation of this clause, any provision of this document is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to constitute an unlawful fetter on any Discretion, the parties agree:
 - a they will take all practical steps, including the execution of any further documents, to ensure the objective of this clause 11 is substantially satisfied;
 - b in the event that paragraph (a) cannot be achieved without giving rise to an unlawful fetter on a Discretion, the relevant provision is to be severed and the remainder of this document has full force and effect; and
 - c to endeavour to satisfy the common objectives of the parties on relation to the provision of this document which is held to be an unlawful fetter to the extent that it is possible having regard to the relevant court judgment.
- ii Where the Law permits Council to contract out of a provision of that Law or gives Council power to exercise a Discretion, then if Council has in this document contracted out of a provision or exercised a Discretion under this document, then to the extent of this document is not to be taken to be inconsistent with the Law.

13.4 No obligations

Nothing in this document will be deemed to impose any obligation on Council to exercise any of its functions under the Act in relation to the Development Consent, the Land or the Development in a certain manner.

14 CONFIDENTIALITY

14.1 Document not confidential

The terms of this document are not confidential and this document may be treated as a public document and exhibited or reported without restriction by any party.

15 GST

15.1 Definitions

Words used in this clause that are defined in the GST Legislation have the meaning given in that legislation.

15.2 Intention of the parties

Without limiting any other provision of this clause 15, the parties intend that:

- i Divisions 81 and 82 of the GST Legislation apply to the supplies made under and in respect of this document; and
- ii no additional amounts will be payable on account of GST and no tax invoices will be exchanged between the parties.

15.3 Reimbursement

Any payment or reimbursement required to be made under this document that is calculated by reference to a cost, expense, or other amount paid or incurred will be limited to the total cost, expense or amount less the amount of any input tax credit to which any entity is entitled for the acquisition to which the cost, expense or amount relates.

15.4 Consideration GST exclusive

Unless otherwise expressly stated, all prices or other sums payable or consideration to be provided under this document are GST Exclusive. Any consideration that is specified to be inclusive of GST must not be taken into account in calculating the GST payable in relation to a supply for the purposes of this clause 15.

15.5 Additional amounts for GST



PLANNING AGREEMENT

Subject to clause 15.7, if GST becomes payable on any supply made by a party (Supplier) under or in connection with this document:

- i any party (Recipient) that is required to provide consideration to the Supplier for that supply must pay an additional amount to the Supplier equal to the amount of the GST payable on that supply (GST Amount);
- ii the GST Amount is payable at the same time as any other consideration is to be first provided for that supply; and
- iii the Supplier must provide a tax invoice to the Recipient for that supply, no later than the time at which the GST Amount for that supply is to be paid.

15.6 Variation

- i If the GST Amount properly payable in relation to a supply (as determined in accordance with clauses 15.5 and 15.7), varies from the additional amount paid by the Recipient under clause 15.5, then the Supplier will provide a corresponding refund or credit to, or will be entitled to receive the amount of that variation from, the Recipient. Any payment, credit or refund under this clause 15.6 is deemed to be a payment, credit or refund of the GST Amount payable under clause 15.5.
- ii The Supplier must issue an adjustment note to the Recipient in respect of any adjustment event occurring in relation to a supply made under or in connection with this document as soon as reasonably practicable after the Supplier becomes aware of the adjustment event.

15.7 Non-monetary consideration

- i To the extent that the consideration provided for the Supplier's taxable supply to which clause 15.5 applies is a taxable supply made by the Recipient (the Recipient Supply), the GST Amount that would otherwise be payable by the Recipient to the Supplier in accordance with clause 15.5 shall be reduced by the amount of GST payable by the Recipient on the Recipient Supply.
- ii The Recipient must issue to the Supplier an invoice for any Recipient Supply on or before the time at which the Recipient must pay the GST Amount in accordance with clause 15.5 (or the time at which such GST Amount would have been payable in accordance with clause 15.5 but for the operation of clause 15.7(i)).

15.8 No merger

This clause will not merge on completion or termination of this document.

16 LEGAL COSTS

Each party must pay their own legal costs and disbursements with respect to the preparation, negotiation, formation and implementation of this document.

17 ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

17.1 Notices

- i Any notice, consent or other communication under this document must be in writing and signed by or on behalf of the person giving it, addressed to the person to whom it is to be given and:
 - a delivered to that person's address;
 - b sent by pre-paid mail to that person's address; or
 - c sent by email to that person's email address.
- ii A notice given to a person in accordance with this clause is treated as having been given and received:
 - a if delivered to a person's address, on the day of delivery if a Business Day, otherwise on the next Business Day;
 - b if sent by pre-paid mail, on the third Business Day after posting; and



PLANNING AGREEMENT

- c if sent by email to a person's email address and a conformation of receipt can be retrieved, on the day it was sent if a Business Day, otherwise on the next Business Day.
- iii For the purpose of this clause the address of a person is the address set out in this document or another address of which that person may from time to time give notice to each other person.

17.2 Entire agreement

This document is the entire agreement of the parties on the subject matter. All representations, communications and prior agreements in relation to the subject matter are merged in and superseded by this document.

17.3 Waiver

The non-exercise of or delay in exercising any power or right of a party does not operate as a waiver of that power or right, nor does any single exercise of a power or right preclude any other or further exercise of it or the exercise of any other power or right. A power or right may only be waived in writing, signed by the parties to be bound by the waiver.

17.4 Counterparts

This document may be executed in any number of counterparts and all of those counterparts taken together constitute one and the same instrument.

17.5 Unenforceability

Any provision of this document which is invalid or unenforceable in any jurisdiction is to be read down for the purposes of that jurisdiction, if possible, so as to be valid or enforceable, and is otherwise capable of being severed to the extent of the invalidity or enforceability, without affecting the remaining provisions of this document or affecting the validity or enforceability of that provision in any other jurisdiction.

17.6 Power of attorney

Each attorney who executes this document on behalf of a party declares that the attorney has no notice of:

- i the revocation or suspension of the power of attorney by the grantor; or
- ii the death of the grantor.

17.7 Governing law

The law in force in the State of New South Wales governs this document. The parties:

- i submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of New South Wales and any courts that may hear appeal from those courts in respect of any proceedings in connection with this document; and
- ii may not seek to have any proceedings removed from the jurisdiction of New South Wales on the grounds of *forum non conveniens*.



PLANNING AGREEMENT

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

EXECUTED by and on behalf of **WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL (ABN 63 139 525 939)** by its Authorised Officer:

_____ Signature of Authorised Person	_____ Signature of Witness
_____ [Print] Name of Authorised Officer	_____ [Print] Name of Witness
_____ Office Held	_____ Date
_____ Date	

EXECUTED by **HIGH DUNE PTY LTD (ABN:)** in accordance with section 127(1) of the Corporations Act 2001 by authority of its directors.

_____ Director Signature	_____ Director / Secretary Signature
_____ [Print] Name of Director	_____ [Print] Name of Director/Secretary
_____ Date	_____ Date



PLANNING AGREEMENT

EXECUTED by **ANGLICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES (ABN)** in accordance with section 127(1) of the Corporations Act 2001 by authority of its directors.

Director Signature

Director / Secretary Signature

[Print] Name of Director

[Print] Name of Director/Secretary

Date

Date



PLANNING AGREEMENT

SCHEDULE 1: REQUIREMENTS UNDER SECTION 7.4 OF THE ACT

REQUIREMENT UNDER THE ACT	THIS PLANNING AGREEMENT
<p>Planning instrument and/or Development Application – (Section 7.4(1))</p> <p>The Developer has:</p> <p>(a) sought a change to an environmental planning instrument.</p> <p>(b) made, or proposes to make, a Development Application.</p> <p>(c) entered into an agreement with, or is otherwise associated with, a person, to whom paragraph (a) or (b) applies.</p>	<p>(a) No.</p> <p>(b) Yes.</p> <p>(c) No.</p>
<p>Description of land to which this agreement applies – (Section 7.4(3)(a))</p>	<p>Refer to the definitions of “Land”, “Parcel” and “Part Parcel” in this Agreement.</p>
<p>Description of development to which this agreement applies – (Section 7.4(3)(b))</p>	<p>Refer to the definition of “development” in this Agreement.</p>
<p>Application of section 7.11 of the Act – (Section 7.4(3)(d))</p>	<p>Refer to clause 4.1 in this Agreement.</p>
<p>Applicability of section 7.12 of the Act – (Section 7.4(3)(d))</p>	<p>Refer to clause 4.1 in this Agreement.</p>
<p>Applicability of section 7.24 of the Act – (Section 7.4(3)(d))</p>	<p>Refer to clause 4.1 in this Agreement.</p>
<p>Consideration of benefits under this agreement if section 7.11 applies – (Section 7.4(3)(e))</p>	<p>Refer to clause 4.2 in this Agreement.</p>
<p>Mechanism for dispute resolution – (Section 7.4(3)(f))</p>	<p>Refer to clause 12 in this Agreement.</p>
<p>Enforcement of this agreement (Section 7.4(3)(g))</p>	<p>Refer to clause 5 in this Agreement.</p>
<p>No obligation to grant consent or exercise functions – (Section 7.4(3)(9))</p>	<p>Refer to clause 13 in this Agreement.</p>



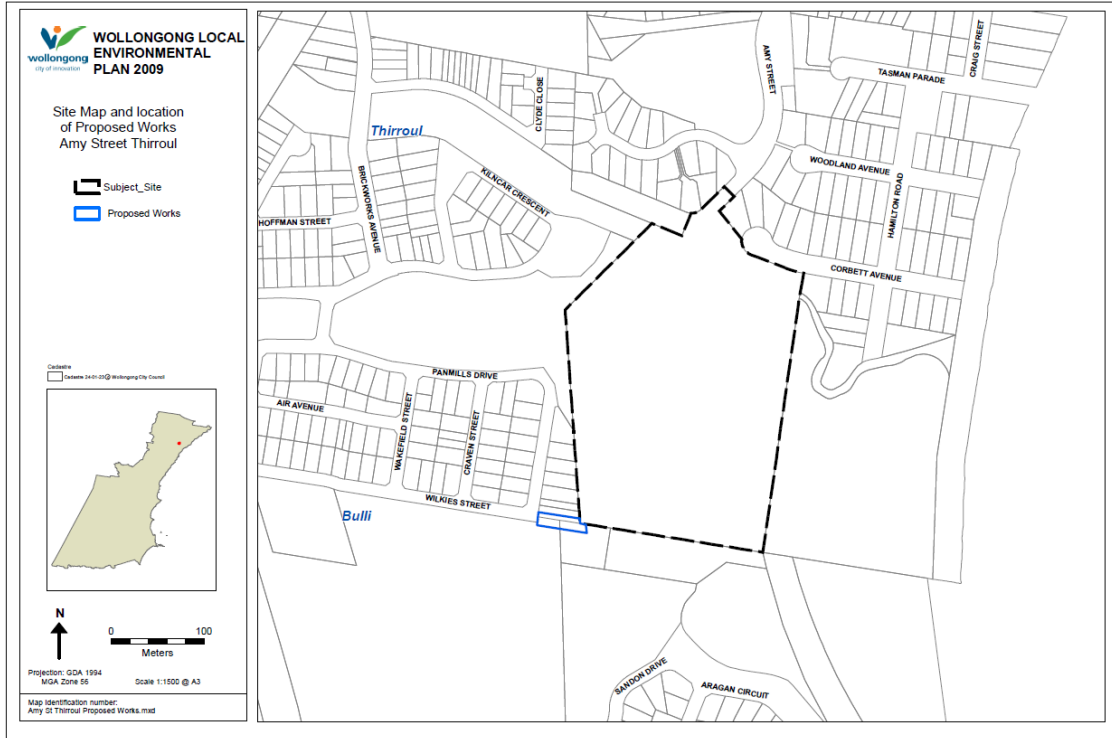
PLANNING AGREEMENT

SCHEDULE 2: WORKS

The demolition of part of the elevated boardwalk section of Wilkies Walk and reconstruction of part of the boardwalk as described in the following drawings by Maker Eng:

Drawing No: ISC00201-30-C010	Revision P4
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C020	Revision P4
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C035	Revision P3
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C036	Revision P4
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C037	Revision P1
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C050	Revision P1
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C055	Revision P1
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C070	Revision P1
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C110	Revision P4
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C170	Revision P1
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C185	Revision P5
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C186	Revision P1
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C187	Revision P2
Drawing No. ISC00201-30-C188	Revision P1

APPENDIX A – LAND



Explanatory Note - Planning Agreement: Lot 101 DP 268549 at Amy Street, Thirroul

Introduction

The purpose of this explanatory note is to provide a plain English summary that helps the community understand how the proposed planning agreement (the **Planning Agreement**) will be of public benefit, and why it is acceptable and in the planning interest. The explanatory note is made available as part of the public exhibition, where the public can read the Planning Agreement and make comments on it. It is not a plain English version of the Planning Agreement.

Clause 205 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* (the **Regulation**) is a guideline for how explanatory notes must be written. It requires all those wanting to enter into the planning agreement to prepare the explanatory note together. Council and the Developer prepared this explanatory note together.

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the **Act**) is the NSW law that must be followed when preparing a Planning Agreement. The section of the Act that relates to planning agreements is Part 7 > Division 7.1 > Subdivision 2 > Sections 7.4 to 7.10. This Planning Agreement was prepared in line with the Act and the Regulation.

Parties to the Planning Agreement

The parties (people and organisations) to this Planning Agreement are:

1. Wollongong City Council (ABN 38 755 709 681) (the **Council**); and
2. HIGH DUNE PTY LTD (ACN 614 310 057) of 301 Keira Street, Wollongong NSW (the **Developer**)
3. ANGLICAN COMMUNITY SERVICES (ABN 36 922 848 563) of Norwest Business Park, Level 2, 62 Norwest Boulevard, Baulkham Hills NSW (the **Landowner**)

Description of the Subject Land

The Planning Agreement applies to this land:

- Lot 101 DP 268549 at Amy Street, Thirroul (**Subject Land**). (Figure 1)

Description of Proposed Development

The developer seeks to demolish part of the elevated boardwalk section of Wilkies Walk and reconstruct that part of the boardwalk. This is related to an approval to subdivide the land into 3 lots as approved by DA-2021/1324 issued by the Land and Environment Court and dated 19 April 2023. (**Development**). (Figure 2)

Summary of objectives, nature and effect of the proposed Planning Agreement

The Planning Agreement will require the Developer to:

- Demolish and reconstruct part of the boardwalk section of Wilkies Walk. (Figure 2)

Assessment of the Merits of the Planning Agreement

Wollongong City Council, the Developer and Landowner agree the proposed demolition and reconstruction of the boardwalk will have a positive public impact to separate traffic from the pedestrian path (Wilkies Walk).

The Planning Purpose of the Planning Agreement

The Planning Agreement has the following public purpose:

- the provision of (or the recoupment of the cost of providing) public amenities or public services
- the provision of (or the recoupment of the cost of providing) public transport or other infrastructure relating to land

This refers to section 7.4(2) of the Act.

In this instance, the developer is proposing to transfer 105.2m² of land to Council (currently owned by Anglican Community Services) and to conduct works on Council land.

The Planning Agreement is in addition to the requirement to pay development contributions required under section 7.12 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and imposed through development consents.

How the Planning Agreement promotes the public interest and objects of the Act

The Planning Agreement promotes the objects (aims) of the Act by:

- to facilitate ecologically sustainable development by integrating relevant economic, environmental and social considerations in decision-making about environmental planning and assessment,
- to promote the orderly and economic use and development of land,
- to promote good design and amenity of the built environment,

This refers to section 1.3 of the Act. It means the development will happen in an appropriate location and the land will be developed in a way that fits with other development in the area, community infrastructure and open space will be provided.

Figure 1 – Location plan

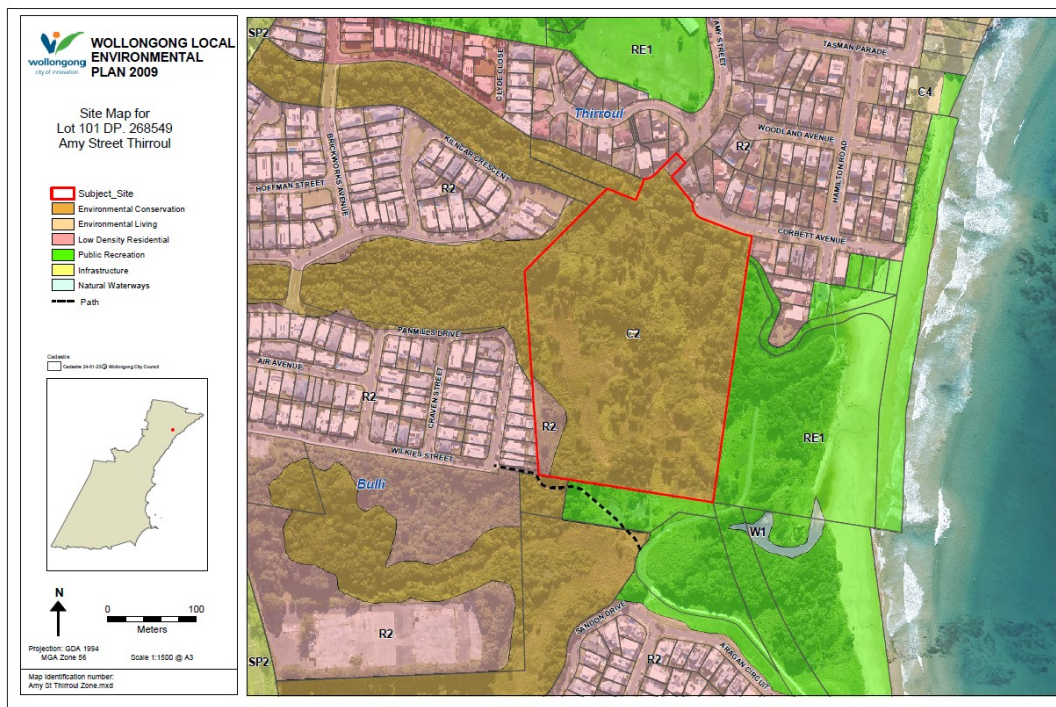
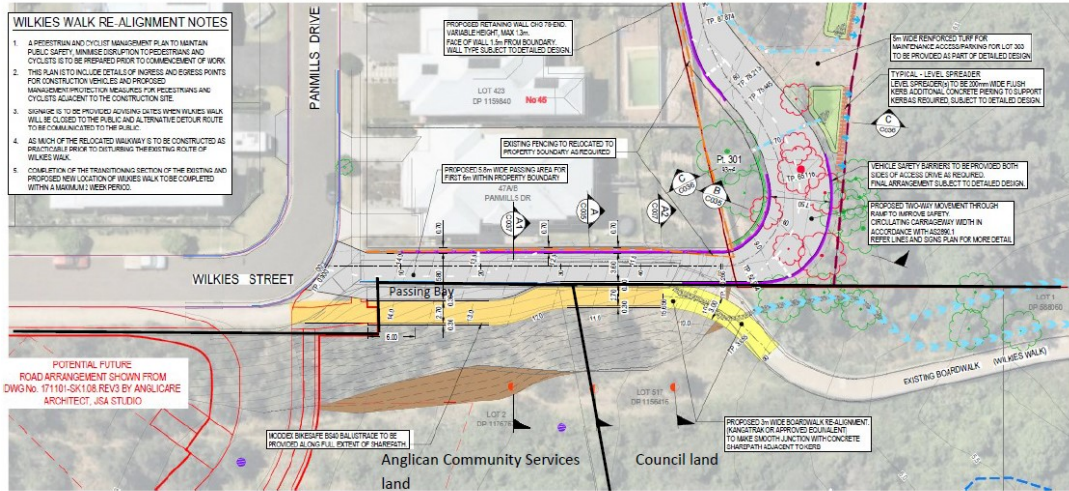


Figure 2 – Proposed works



ITEM 3 POST EXHIBITION - CITY-WIDE DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION PLAN 2023

Development contributions help fund infrastructure that is required as a direct or indirect result of development. The current adopted Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2022) (Plan) came into force on 2 September 2022. The Plan is reviewed annually to reflect updates to Council's works program and any other required changes.

The draft 2023 Plan incorporates the allocation of new projects and changes to exemptions relating to the Wollongong Housing Strategy adopted on 29 February 2023.

At its meeting on 29 May 2023, Council considered the draft 2023 Plan and resolved to exhibit the Plan for public comment. The draft 2023 Plan was exhibited from 7 June to 7 July 2023. Five submissions were received. This report recommends that the Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023) be adopted.

RECOMMENDATION

The Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023) be adopted (Attachment 1).

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Chris Stewart, Manager City Strategy

Authorised by: Linda Davis, Director Planning + Environment - Future City + Neighbourhoods

ATTACHMENTS

1 Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan 2023

BACKGROUND**Development Contributions**

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (Act) enables various mechanisms through which a Council can collect development contributions to fund local infrastructure required to meet the demand from new development.

Under Section 7.12 of the Act, contributions can be collected as 'fixed development consent levies' based on a percentage of the proposed cost of development.

On 1 March 2022, the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* was replaced by the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* (Regulation). Council's Plan has been updated to reflect the clause references in the new Regulation.

Clause 209 of the Regulation sets the maximum percentage that can be levied. For the Wollongong City Council Local Government Area (LGA) these are -

Where the proposed cost of carrying out the development is -

- Up to and including \$100,000 – Nil
- More than \$100,000 and up to and including \$200,000 - 0.5% of that cost
- More than \$200,001 – 1% of that cost

For land within the Wollongong City Centre B3 Commercial Core zone -

- Up to and including \$250,000 – Nil
- More than \$250,001 – 2%

Contributions are applied towards the provision, extension or augmentation of public infrastructure across the contribution area, or towards the recoupment of these costs.

In February 2021, a new Practice Note for Section 7.12 development contributions was issued by NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. In accordance with Clause 26(1) of the Regulation, the review of the Plan by staff has had regard to this Practice Note.

In February 2021, the Regulation was also amended to incorporate the following -

- Provide more detailed reporting requirements on receipt and expenditure of development contributions. The new reporting requirements commenced on 1 July 2022.
- Make documents and information more readily accessible on Council’s website and the NSW Planning Portal.
- Update a reference in Clause 25K, replacing ‘Wollongong City Centre Local Environmental Plan 2007’ with ‘Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009’.

Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan

The Wollongong Section 94A Development Contributions Plan initially came into force on 14 June 2006 when it repealed various Section 94 Contributions Plans. The Plan has been reviewed annually to reflect updates to Council’s works program and any other required changes. Projects to be fully or partially funded through the contribution scheme are required to be listed in Schedules 5 and 6 and mapped in Schedule 7 of the Plan.

On 1 March 2018, the Act was amended, including a restructure and all sections were renumbered. Section 94A was renumbered to section 7.12.

On 23 July 2018, Council resolved to rename the plan to the Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2018). The Plan applies to the majority of the Wollongong City Council LGA, excluding the West Dapto Urban Release Area, where the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan (2020) currently applies. The current Plan came into force on 2 September 2022.

PROPOSAL

Council is required to review the Wollongong City-Wide Contributions Plan on an annual basis. The draft Wollongong City-Wide Contributions Plan (2023) includes new projects from Council’s endorsed works program and changes to exemptions relating to the Wollongong Housing Strategy.

The draft Plan was exhibited during June/July and at the close of the exhibition period five submissions were received. These are detailed as follows:

No.	Submitter	Issues Raised	Response
1	Neighbourhood Forum 5	Appreciate that the Plan is a legislative requirement, but in effect it is a slush fund to contribute to Council’s budget on which a submission has already been made.	Development contributions only make a small contribution to the funding of new infrastructure to service the growing population needs. In 2022-23 Council received \$5.7m in development contributions which contributed about 7% to the funding of capital works (excluding West Dapto which has a separate Contributions Plan)
2	Resident – East Corrimal / Member of East Corrimal Open Space Committee/ Member of Neighbourhood Forum 4	Supports the ongoing commitment to maintaining the ocean pool facilities of Towradgi and Bellambi. Concerns relating to incomplete pedestrian footpath and access points to Towradgi Pool.	Work on the Towradgi Point footpath has been programmed following the receipt of the necessary approvals from the State Government.
3	NSW Rural Fire Service	No concerns raised.	Noted.

No.	Submitter	Issues Raised	Response
4	Transport for NSW	Encourage Council to engage with them early for any upgrades on State roads or that involve traffic lights on any roads.	Noted. Council processes currently involve Transport for NSW in appropriate situations.
5	NSW Department of Education – School Infrastructure NSW	<p>Support for the exclusion of Educational Establishments from the payment of contributions.</p> <p>Wording be inserted to strengthen requirements for public domain and footpath works to support walking from new development to public schools in the LGA.</p> <p>Work with Transport for NSW to bring forward the Shared User Path network and public transport along major roads serving growth areas demand to schools and station.</p> <p>The collection of specific contributions from new residential developments surrounding existing public schools and key residential sites within the LGA to support social education programs around active transport within the locality.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>The Contributions Plan is a funding mechanism, not a strategy for the provision of infrastructure.</p> <p>Council works with Transport for NSW via the Traffic Committee to prioritise and deliver transport infrastructure.</p> <p>Council is restricted in how development contributions can be collected and what they can be spent on. Funds are collected by way of a levy on development that occurs and must be spent on infrastructure that supports population growth. As such, a specific additional contributions levy to fund social education programs for active transport cannot be supported. Council considers infrastructure with respect to existing public schools within current strategies.</p> <p>School Infrastructure have not yet committed to any new school sites in West Dapto, which makes the planning of supporting infrastructure difficult.</p>

The draft 2023 Plan has been updated to reflect the Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2023-2024 adopted by Council on 26 June 2023. All post-exhibition changes are shown in markup in Attachment 1 which include -

- 1 Change to the proposed deferred contributions for Affordable, Accessible and Emergency Housing proposed in the draft Plan which was exhibited. Upon further investigation by Council Officers, it was found that a deferred exemption would be extremely resource intensive, an administrative burden, defeat the purpose of the exemption, and reduce the effectiveness of the incentive. This has been replaced with an exemption for these uses, provided that the use continues for a minimum period of 15 years which will be conditioned on any consent issued.

- 2 Schedule 3 – Works Schedule Summary. Updated to include the actual expenditure for the full financial year 2022/23 (the exhibited draft Plan only included figures up to April 2022 due to timing).
- 3 Schedule 4 – Detailed Works Schedule – Projects Proposed to Utilise Section 7.12 Funds. Updated to reflect changes to the Delivery Program and Operational Plan that have been made since the report was exhibited. Projects may have been removed or funding allocations changed due to changes in the proposed funding sources, such as grants.
- 4 Schedule 5 – Detailed works Schedule – Projects that have included Section 7.12 Funds. Updated to include the expenditure for the full financial year 2022/23.
- 5 An updated map index and maps to reflect changes in the projects identified in Schedule 4.

Contributions are allocated to a range of new infrastructure projects across 7 categories, as summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Summary of Detailed Works Schedule – Projects proposed to utilise Section 7.12 funds (Schedule 4 of the draft Plan)

Category	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	Total	%
Roads and bridges	\$495,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	Not detailed	\$1,495,000	8.4%
Footpaths and cycleways	\$250,000	\$2,020,000	Not detailed	Not detailed	\$2,270,000	12.8%
Car parks	\$0	\$1,200,000	Not detailed	Not detailed	\$1,200,000	6.8%
Non-commercial buildings (e.g. community centres)	\$0	\$6,740,000	\$3,000,000	Not detailed	\$9,740,000	54.9%
Parks, gardens and sports fields	\$200,000	\$1,300,000	Not detailed	Not detailed	\$1,500,000	8.5%
Land acquisition	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$1,000,000	5.6%
Administration	\$129,361	\$133,242	\$137,239	\$141,407	\$541,249	3.0%
Total	\$1,324,361	\$12,143,242	\$3,887,239	\$391,407	\$17,746,249	100.0%

Infrastructure projects rely upon multiple funding sources, including development contributions, grant funding and general revenue. The funding split is allocated through the Infrastructure Delivery Program which forms part of the Operational Plan adopted by Council on 26 June 2023.

The higher funding level for 2024/25 reflects the timing of projects, including the significant Southern Suburbs Library and Community Centre and North Wollongong Station to Guest Avenue shared path projects.

NSW Housing and Productivity Contribution

The NSW Housing and Productivity Contribution will commence 1 October 2023. The contribution scheme is a State charge on development to help fund delivery of State infrastructure. The new contribution scheme applies to the entire local government area. The Illawarra Shoalhaven Special Infrastructure Contribution (SIC) that applies specifically to West Dapto, Tallawarra and Calderwood will be replaced by the Housing and Productivity Contribution scheme. The proposed contribution rate of \$8,000 per dwelling/lot is similar to the rate under the current Illawarra Shoalhaven SIC.

In the rest of the LGA, the State Contribution will be a new additional levy on development. The rates of \$8,000 per additional dwelling / lot, \$6,000 per unit, \$30/m² gross floor area for commercial development and \$15/m² gross floor area for industrial development will apply. The replacement of a dwelling house with another dwelling house is not levied.

Council and private certifiers will be required to include a condition of development consent to require the payment of the contribution to the State. The funds will be managed by NSW Treasury and allocated to

State projects. Based on 1,000 additional dwellings per year, it is estimated that the LGA will contribute \$8m-\$10m per annum to the fund.

The broad funding mechanism is similar to the City-wide Development Contribution Plan where funds are contributed from across the LGA and allocated each year to priority projects. However, Council's projects are listed, costed, mapped and exhibited as part of the Infrastructure Delivery Program and Development Contribution Plans.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

The draft 2023 Plan was exhibited from 7 June to 7 July 2023. Copies were available on Council's website and at Council's Administration Centre and libraries.

An advertisement appeared in the Illawarra Mercury on 7 June 2023. Notification emails outlining the public exhibition and methods of making a submission were provided to relevant stakeholders on 2 June 2023.

The exhibition webpage was viewed 59 times and the Council report and draft Plan downloaded 28 times.

The Works Schedule in the draft 2023 Plan has been updated in consultation with the Infrastructure Strategy and Planning Division. The update of the Plan has been discussed at the internal Development Contributions Coordination Group meetings. Internal feedback has shaped the draft Plan.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

The Plan is linked to the Our Wollongong Our Future 2032 Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2023-2024 adopted by Council on 26 June 2023. Specifically, the contributions fund or part fund infrastructure projects in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. As the projects listed in the Infrastructure Delivery Program are updated annually, the Plan also needs to be updated annually. The Plan includes a 4-year work schedule that provides flexibility for infrastructure projects to either be brought forward or delayed, depending on other issues such as the timing of approvals.

The report contributes to several Wollongong 2028 objectives as the Plan is aligned with the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and contributes to the funding required to implement the Delivery Program.

It also delivers on core business activities as detailed in the Land Use Planning Service Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Since 2006, Council has allocated \$53.6 million of developer contributions to a range of projects, as summarised in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Summary of Detailed Works Schedule – Projects that include Section 7.12 funds (Schedule 5 of the draft Plan)

Category	Total	%
Roads and Bridges	\$6,419,984	12.0%
Footpaths and Cycleways	\$14,098,580	26.3%
Car parks	\$2,650,270	4.9%
Non-commercial buildings	\$16,406,367	30.6%
Parks, Gardens and sports fields	\$6,686,243	12.5%
Land acquisition	\$5,714,238	10.7%
Administration	\$1,662,474	3.1%
Total	\$53,638,156	100.0%

As from 30 June 2023, the net balance of Section 7.12 contributions held by Council was \$29.218 million. This includes \$24.793 million held in the City-Wide restricted account and a balance of \$4.425

million in the City Centre restricted account. The balance has been allowed to grow to enable the funds to be allocated to significant projects and future expenditure.

The income forecast is approximately \$1.2 million per annum, although this is subject to variability depending on the commencement of development. The proposed Works Schedule for 2023-24 includes approximately \$1.324 million of expenditure, with an additional \$16.422 million over the following three years. Significant projects to be funded (partially or fully) include the Southern Suburbs Library and Community Centre at Warrawong and the North Wollongong Station to Guest Avenue shared path. The proposed Helensburgh Library and Community Centre will also be partially funded from the Plan, however the cost estimates have not been prepared and incorporated into the Infrastructure Delivery Program.

Income and expenditure are monitored and reviewed on a regular basis.

CONCLUSION

The Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan is an important mechanism to assist with funding of public infrastructure within the City. The exhibited draft Plan has been updated to include the allocation for new projects with the adoption of the Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2023-2024.

It is recommended that the Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023) (Attachment 1) be adopted.



Wollongong City Council

Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan 2023



Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023)

Document Control						
Document ID: Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan						
Rev No	Date	Revision Details	Typist	Author	Verifier	Approver
1	March 2006	Draft for exhibition (2006 version)	ZS	ZS	ZS	ZS
2	June 2006	In force (2006 version)	ZS	ZS	ZS	ZS
3	December 2006	Ministers Direction under S94E added	ZS	ZS	ZS	ZS
4	May 2007	Draft for exhibition (2007 version)	ZS	ZS	ZS	ZS
5	June 2007	In force (2007 version) Draft	ZS	ZS	ZS	ZS
6	May 2008	For exhibition (2008 version)	DG	DG	DG	DG
7	24 July 2008	In force (2008 version) Draft	DG	DG	DG	DG
8	28 July 2009	For exhibition (2009 version)	DG	DG	DG	DG
9	27 October 2009	Endorsed by Council	DG	DG	DG	DG
10	4 November 2009	In force (2009 version)	DG	DG	DG	DG
11	27 July 2010	Draft for exhibition (2010 version)	DH	DH	JB	RC
12	6 September 2010	In force (2010 version)	DH	DH	DG	DG
13	3 June 2011	Draft for exhibition (2011 version)	DH	DH	DG	DG
14	26 July 2011	In force (2011 version)	DH	DH	DG	DG
15	2 August 2012	Draft for exhibition (2012 version)	DH	DH	DG	DG
16	8 December 2012	In force (2012 version)	DH	DH	DG	DG
17	8 April 2013	Draft for exhibition (2013 version)	DH	DH	DG	DG
18	16 September 2013	In force (2013 version)	DH	DH	DG	DG
19	9 September 2014	Draft for exhibition (2014 version)	DG	DG	DG	DG
20	3 November 2014	In force (2014 version)	DG	DG	DG	DG
21	10 July 2015	Draft for exhibition (2015 version)	MH	MH	DG	DG
22	26 October 2015	In force (2015 version)	MH	MH	DG	DG
23	06 October 2016	Draft for Exhibition (2016 version)	BL	MH	DG	DG
24	19 December 2016	In force (2016 version)	BL	MH	DG	DG
25	8 May 2017	Draft for Exhibition (2017 version)	MB	MB	MH	DG
26	26 July 2017	In force (2017 version)	JP	MB	MB	DG
27	7 May 2018	Draft for exhibition (2018 version)	MB	MB	DG	DG
28	28 July 2018	In force (2018 version)	MB	MB	SH	DG
29	12 August 2019	Draft for exhibition (2019 version)	SH	SH	DG	DG
30	23 November 2019	In force (2019 version)	SH	SH	DG	DG
31	20 July 2020	Draft for exhibition (2020 version)	SH	SH	DG	DG
32	16 November 2020	In force (2020 version)	SH	SH	DG	DG
33	31 May 2021	Draft for Exhibition (2021 version)	SH	SH	DG	DG
34	2 August 2021	In force (2021 version)	SH	SH	DG	DG
35	6 June 2022	Draft for Exhibition (2022 version)	SH	SH	DG	DG
36	2 September 2022	In force (2022 version)	SH	SH	DG	DG
37	29 May 2023	Draft for Exhibition (2023 version)	SH	SH	DG	DG
38	[DATE]	In force (2023 version)	SH	SH	DG	DG

Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023)

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Part A - Schedules

1. Schedule 1 – City-Wide levy rates

In accordance with clause 209(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* (EP&A Regulation), the rate of the levy for development carried out on land to which this Plan applies (excluding Wollongong City Centre Commercial Core - see Schedule 2) is calculated as follows:

Proposed cost of carrying out development (Determined in accordance with Clause 19 of this Plan)	Levy Rate
Up to and including \$100,000	Nil
More than \$100,000 and up to and including \$200,000	0.5%
More than \$200,000	1%

2. Schedule 2 - Wollongong City Centre Commercial Core levy rates

In accordance with clause 209(1) of the EP&A Regulation, the rate of the levy for development carried out on land within the Zone E2 Commercial Centre in the Wollongong City Centre, as shown at Figure 2, is calculated as follows:

Proposed cost of carrying out development (Determined in accordance with Clause 19 of this Plan)	Levy Rate
Up to and including \$250,000	Nil
More than \$250,000	2%

This contribution provides funding towards the Special City projects originally nominated in the Civic Improvements Plan (2009) for the Wollongong City Centre, reproduced below. The timing of the implementation of the projects will be determined through Councils Management Plan process as funding permits, and then detailed in Part D Schedule 5.

Item	Cost Estimate (2009)
Crown Street Upgrade	\$14,200,000
City Beach Waterfront Improvements	\$11,000,000
Civic Precinct Revitalisation	\$21,000,000
MacCabe Park Landscape Improvements	\$12,000,000
Bus Transport Initiatives	\$20,000,000
Traffic Management Works	\$2,000,000
City Centre Car Park	\$8,000,000
Total	\$88,200,000

Note: The Civic Improvement Plan was retired in 2016 as a policy document

In 2010 Wollongong Council commenced a CBD revitalisation program of streetscapes and public domain areas. Major projects completed since include:

- Keira Street – Crown Street to Smith Street
- Crown Street Mall – Kembla Street to Keira Street
- Market Street – Keira Street to Young Street
- Crown Street West – Atchison Street to Railway Parade

In addition, traffic signals have been installed to improve pedestrian activity and safety at:

- Intersection of Auburn & Burelli Streets
- Intersection of Victoria and Keira Streets
- Intersection of Kenny and Burelli Streets

Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023)

3. Schedule 3 – Works schedule summary

Category/Asset Class	Actual Contribution Expenditure 2006/07 to 2022/23	Proposed Contribution Expenditure 2023/24 to 2026/27	Total Contribution Expenditure 2006/07 to 2026/27
Roads and bridges	\$6,491,984	\$1,495,000	\$7,986,984
Footpaths and cycleways	\$14,098,580	\$2,270,000	\$16,368,580
Car parks	\$2,650,270	\$1,200,000	\$3,850,270
Community buildings	\$16,406,367	\$9,740,000	\$26,146,367
Parks, gardens and sportsfields	\$6,686,243	\$1,500,000	\$8,186,243
Land acquisitions	\$5,714,238	\$1,000,000	\$6,714,238
Administration	\$1,662,474	\$541,249	\$2,203,723
Total	\$53,710,156	\$17,746,249	\$71,456,405

For further details refer to Part D Schedule 5 and 6 – Detailed Works Schedules.

Part B – Expected Development and Demand for Public Facilities

4. Expected Development and Demand for Public Facilities

This part broadly discusses the relationship between the expected types of development in the Council's area and the demand for additional public amenities and services to meet that development. That relationship is established through current demographic information.

The expected types of development include but are not limited to:

- Alterations and additions to existing development;
- Dwellings of all forms;
- Commercial development located primarily in commercial precincts;
- Industrial development;
- Subdivisions; and
- Mixed use development.

The relationship between expected development and the demand for public facilities is established through:

- The population projections undertaken by informed decisions (.id), adopted from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) information and other factors, indicate that continued population growth in Wollongong is expected. A projected population of 243,104 is expected by 2031 and 270,518 by 2041.
- Accelerating housing costs in metropolitan Sydney contribute to certain pressures in Wollongong, particularly new housing developments, which will largely impact the future needs of the region.
- The likely population growth will diminish the enjoyment and standard of public facilities for the existing population unless additional facilities are provided to meet the additional demand.
- The likely growth will require the provision of additional public facilities to meet additional demands.

Wollongong City Council wants to ensure that it has a sustainable local government area, safeguarding the economic, social, cultural, and environmental wellbeing of present and future generations. These levies will assist Council to provide high quality and diverse public facilities to meet the expectations of the existing and new residents of Wollongong City Council.

The additional public facilities to be provided to meet the expected future development are set out in Part D Schedule 5 and 6.

The demand for facilities within the Wollongong City Centre is based on the growth and development projected for the Wollongong City Centre in the Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Growth Plan 2015 and A City for People 2016. In

Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023)

particular, this includes the total developable floor space allowed under the Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009 and Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009.

Part C – Administration and Operation of the Plan

5. What is the name of this Contributions Plan?

This Plan is called the “Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023)” (the Plan) and replaces the Wollongong City Wide Development Contributions Plan (2022).

This Plan levies contributions under Section 7.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

6. Where does this Plan apply?

This Plan applies to all land within the local government area of Wollongong City Council excluding the West Dapto Urban Release Area, as shown at Figure 1.

7. What is the purpose of this Plan?

The purpose of this Plan is to:

- To enable the imposition of a condition on certain development consents and complying development certificates requiring the payment of a contribution pursuant to Section 7.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).
- Authorise Council, and accredited certifiers or other consent authority to impose conditions requiring contributions under Section 7.12 of the EP&A Act when determining an application on land to which this Plan applies;
- Assist the Council to provide the appropriate public facilities which are required to maintain and enhance amenity and service delivery within the area.
- Publicly identify the purposes for which the levies are required.

8. When does this development contributions Plan commence?

This Plan takes effect from the date on which this Plan is adopted, pursuant to clause 214(4) of the EP&A Regulation.

This City-Wide Development Contributions Plan 2023 was adopted by Council at its Meeting of **28 August 2023** and came into force on **[DATE IN FORCE]**.

9. Relationship with other development contribution Plans

This plan repeals the following contributions plan:

- Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2022 version)

Previous iterations of contributions plans that applied to all or part of the land to which this plan applies which have been repealed are:

- Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2021 version)
- Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2020 version)
- Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2019 version)
- Wollongong Section 94A Contributions Plan (2018 version)
- Wollongong Section 94A Contributions Plan (2017 version)
- Wollongong Section 94A Contributions Plan (2016 version)
- Wollongong Section 94A Contributions Plan (2015 version)
- Wollongong Section 94A Contributions Plan (2014 version)
- Wollongong Section 94A Contributions Plan (2013 version)
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- Wollongong Section 94A Contributions Plan (2011 version)
- Wollongong Section 94A Contributions Plan (2010 version)
- Wollongong Section 94A Contributions Plan (2009 version)
- Wollongong Section 94A Contributions Plan (2008 version)

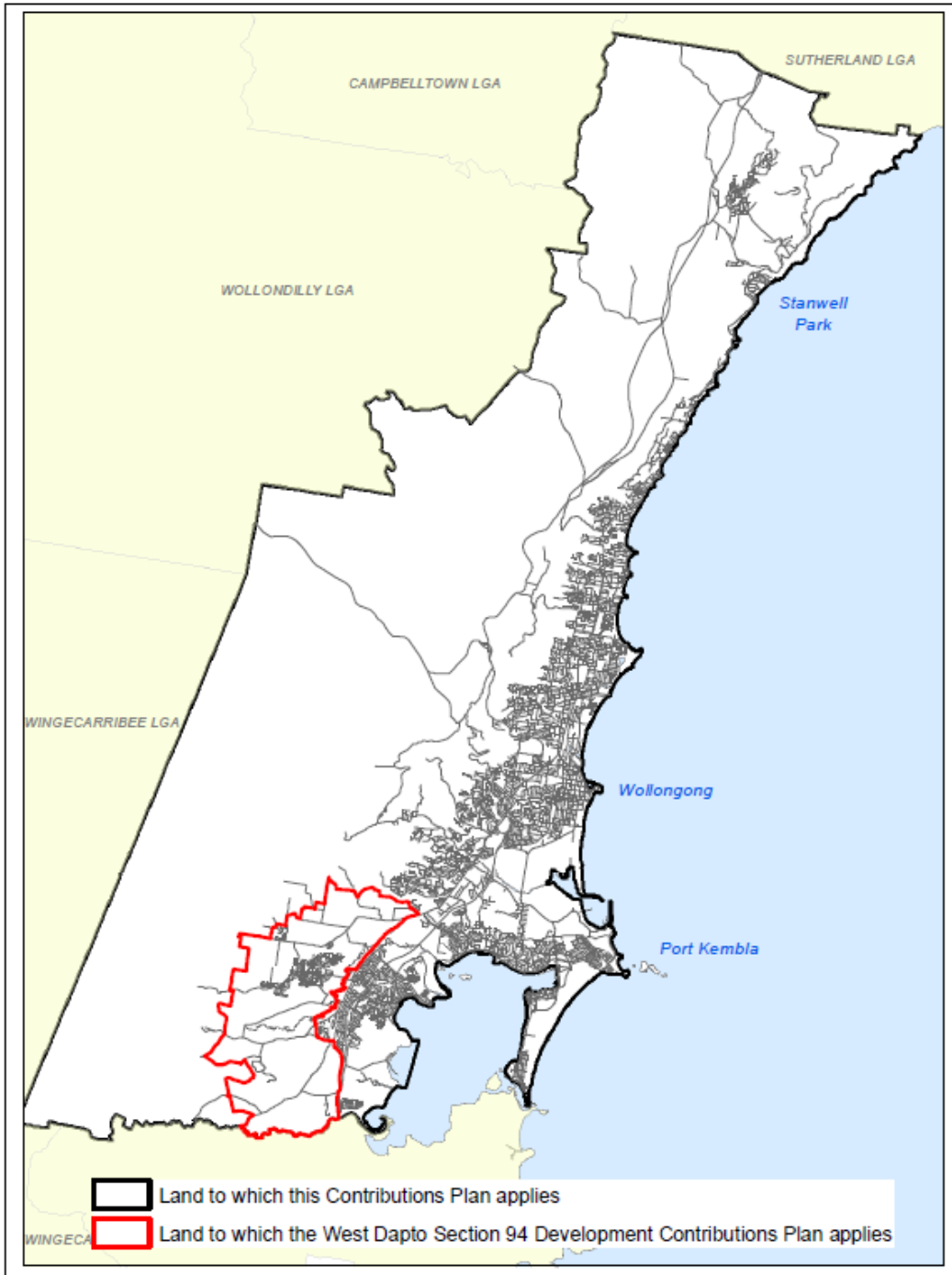
Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023)

- Wollongong Section 94A Contributions Plan (2007 version)
- Wollongong Section 94A Contributions Plan (2006 version) – this plan repealed the following Section 94 plans:
 - CP No 1 Open Space Embellishment, Recreation Facilities, Community Facilities;
 - Amendment to CP No 1 Open Space;
 - CP No 2 Traffic Management & Road Works in City of Wollongong;
 - CP No 3 Car Parking in the City of Wollongong;
 - CP No 4 Studies & Administration;
 - CP No 6 Car Parking in Area between Fairy Creek & Georges Plan Nth Wollongong;
 - CP No 7 Open Space Dedication (Nth Side Kanahooka Road);
 - CP No 8 Roundabout at the intersection of Unara Road, Yalunga Street & Princes Highway, Dapto;
 - CP No 9 Mount Brown Local Area Traffic Management Scheme;
 - CP No 10 Bank Street (Road Works & Intersection Upgrade);
 - CP No 11 Bank Street (Car Parking Facility between Bank & Stewart Streets);
 - CP No 12 Sandon Point Section 94 Land Acquisition; and
 - CP No 13 Library Resources.

Any other Section 7.11 or Section 7.12 contributions plans that are not repealed continue to apply to all areas and development to which they are stated to apply.

Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023)

Figure 1 Land to which this Contributions Plan applies

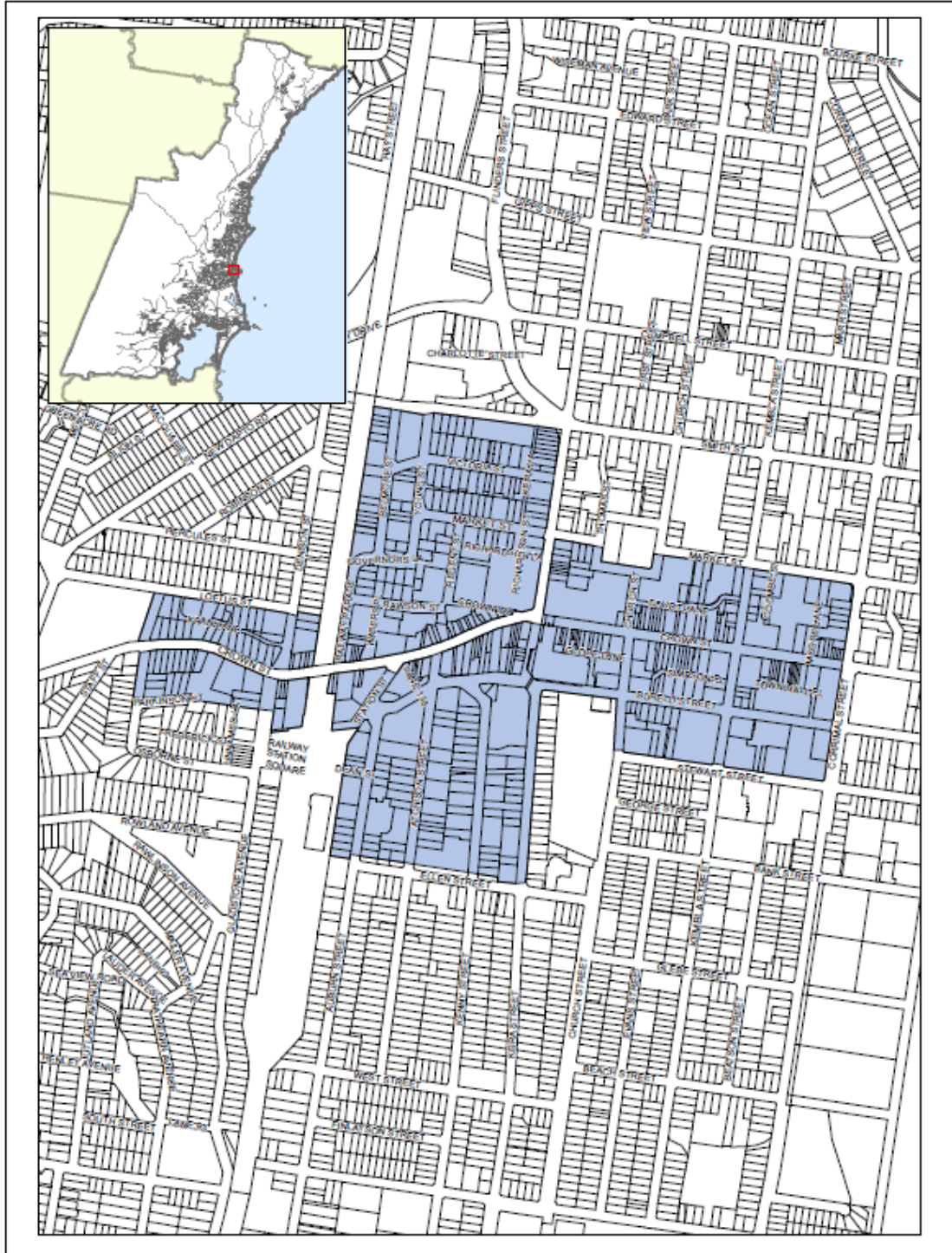


**Wollongong Development
Contribution Areas**

Drawn By: J Lewis	
Date: 19.03.18	
File ref: Wollongong SedMA 19.03.18.mxd	
<p>0 5 Kilometers</p>	

Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023)

Figure 2 Land within the Wollongong City Centre Commercial Core



**Wollongong Contribution Area
City Centre Commercial Centre - E2**

Drawn By: H. Jones	
Date: 28.03.18	
LUP ref: WDC Commercial Centre E2 11-05-05.mxd	
Meters	

Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023)

10. What does Section 7.12 of the EP&A Act provide?

Section 7.12 of the EP&A Act provides as follows:

7.12 Fixed development consent levies

- (1) A consent authority may impose, as a condition of development consent, a requirement that the applicant pay a levy of the percentage, authorised by a contributions plan, of the proposed cost of carrying out the development.
- (2) A consent authority cannot impose as a condition of the same development consent a condition under this section as well as a condition under section 7.11.
- (2A) A consent authority cannot impose a condition under this section in relation to development on land within a special contributions area without the approval of:
 - (a) the Minister, or
 - (b) a development corporation designated by the Minister to give approvals under this subsection
- (3) Money required to be paid by a condition imposed under this section is to be applied towards the provision, extension or augmentation of public amenities or public services (or towards recouping the cost of their provision, extension or augmentation). The application of the money is subject to any relevant provisions of the contributions plan.
- (4) A condition imposed under this section is not invalid by reason only that there is no connection between the development the subject of the development consent and the object of expenditure of any money required to be paid by the condition.
- (5) The regulations may make provision for or with respect to levies under this section, including:
 - (a) the means by which the proposed cost of carrying out development is to be estimated or determined, and
 - (b) the maximum percentage of a levy.

11. Council may require payment of the levy as a condition of development consent

This Plan enables the Council to grant consent to development to which this Plan applies subject to a condition requiring the applicant to pay to the Council a levy calculated as per clause 12.

12. How will the levy be calculated

The levy will be determined on the basis of the rate as set out in Part A Schedule 1 City Wide Section 7.12 Levy Rates and Schedule 2 – Wollongong City Centre Commercial Core Section 7.12 Levy Rates. The levy will be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Levy payable} = \%C \times \$C$$

Where:

%C is the levy rate applicable

\$C is the proposed cost of carrying out development as determined in accordance with clause 19.

13. Development to which this Plan applies

This Plan applies to all applications for development consent and complying development certificates required to be made by or under Part 4 of the EP&A Act in respect of development on land to which this Plan applies.

14. Section 7.17 Directions

Any current and relevant Direction issued by the NSW Minister for Planning under Section 7.17 of the EP&A Act will prevail over the provisions of this Plan. Current Section 7.17 Directions relative to this Plan include:

- If a development contribution under section 94 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* has been required in respect of the subdivision of land (initial subdivision), a levy under section 94A of that Act may not be required in respect of any other development on the land, unless that other development will, or

Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2023)

is likely to, increase the demand for public amenities or public services beyond the increase in demand attributable to the initial subdivision. (14/04/2016)

- A condition may not be imposed under section 94A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* in relation to development on land within the Port Kembla Lease Area, as mapped in the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Port Botany and Port Kembla) 2013*. (6/12/2013)
- A contribution cannot be imposed on development for the purposes of any form of seniors housing as defined in the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing for Seniors or People with a Disability) 2004* (formerly the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Seniors Living) 2004*) where the development consent is granted to a social housing provider as defined in the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing for Seniors or People with a Disability) 2004*. (14/9/2007)
- Development contributions on Development Applications (excluding subdivisions) over \$10 million may be paid prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate, not a Construction Certificate. Council is to issue statements confirming payment. This expired on 31 March, however construction certificates in respect to applicable development can be issued up to 25 September 2022 under this Direction. The monetary contributions must be paid before the issue of the first construction certificate after this date for any building. (25/06/2020).

Further details on current Section 7.17 Directions can be found at www.planning.nsw.gov.au.

15. Are there any exemptions to the levy?

Council may allow for exemptions (partial or full) in the following circumstances. For an exemption to be considered based on clause 15 (a) to (h), the written application should clearly state which exemption criteria is expected to ensure it is considered and provide all relevant supporting information.

- a. An application by the Council for community infrastructure, such as but not limited to libraries, community facilities, child care facilities, recreational facilities or car parks.
- b. An application by the NSW Government for public infrastructure, such as but not limited to hospitals, police stations, fire stations, education facilities (primary and secondary) and public transport infrastructure.
- c. An application for the continued operation of a coal mine, where rail transport is used for the transportation of coal.
- d. An application for place of public worship.
- e. An application for a residential care facility carried out under the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing for Seniors or People with a Disability) 2004*.
- f. An application for an industrial training facility.

The following exemption requests (partial or full) will require a comprehensive written submission:

- g. An application on behalf of Council for community infrastructure, such as but not limited to libraries, community facilities, child care facilities, recreational areas or facilities and car parks.
- h. An application on behalf of the NSW Government for public infrastructure, such as but not limited to hospitals, police stations, fire stations; education facilities (primary and secondary) and public transport infrastructure.
- i. An application for privately funded community infrastructure, such as but not limited to education facilities (primary and secondary) and private hospitals.
- j. Any other development for which Council considers an exemption is warranted, where the decision is made by formal resolution of the Council at a public Council meeting or by a delegated Council Officer.
- k. An application by or on behalf of a tertiary education provider:
 - (i) Full exemption may be allowed for facilities that are directly required by the main function of the educational facility, such as – classrooms, lecture theatre, training facility, administrative office, research facility.
 - (ii) Partial (50%) exemption may be allowed for developments that are not directly required by the

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main function of the educational facility but will provide support to its main function, such as student accommodation, car park, sports facility, playgrounds, food-court, display facility, function centre, convention hall, auditorium, community centre.

(iii) Nil exemption for developments that are not directly required to the main function of the educational facility and/or have potential to create additional demand for public services and amenities. Development such as but not limited to – shops, supermarket, shopping centre, office for lease, business park, commercial centre, child care centre, entertainment facility.

l. Affordable housing developments carried out by a registered Tier 1 or Tier 2 Community Housing Provider on sites owned by the provider and where the dwellings are available for affordable rental housing for a minimum period of 15 years.

m. Accessible housing for supportive accommodation housing projects carried out by registered Provider of Accessible Housing on sites owned by the Provider and where the dwellings are available for accessible housing for a minimum period of 15 years.

n. Emergency and temporary housing development t carried out by a registered Provider of Emergency Housing, on sites owned by the provider and where the dwellings are available for emergency housing for a minimum period of 15 years.

Note: A condition will be imposed on any consent issued to ensure the development is used for the exempt purpose for a minimum of 15 years.

Submission Requirements for an exemption claim to be considered

For an exemption to be considered in accordance with clause 15 (g) to (k) above, the application will need to include a comprehensive written submission arguing the case for exemption and including details of:

- Under which sub-clause the exemption claimed is to be considered.
- The mechanism ensuring that such development will remain in the form proposed in the future (i.e. Not to increase future demand on public amenities and services), NB: where a further development application or application for complying development under the EP&A Act is required for any change to the development no mechanism is necessary, however if a change of use is available by way of exempt development then the requirement for a mechanism remains.
- Other items if applicable:
 - How the development will incorporate the maintenance of the item of heritage significance.
 - How the development will contribute to the public benefit of the community.
 - Works in the public domain included in the development.
 - How the residents/users will utilise existing private facilities attached to the development that replicate those types provided by Council.
 - Advice indicating that the application is on behalf of Council or the NSW Government.

Exemptions (partial or full) listed under clause 15 (g) to (k) will only to be granted with approval of the Council Officer(s) whose position(s) holds the required Council delegations or by formal resolution of the Council at a public Council meeting.

16. Deferred Contributions for Affordable, Accessible and Emergency Housing

In addition to any exemptions that may apply under clause 14 and 15, the following developments may be granted a deferral of contributions for the duration of the time that the development is used for the following purpose:

- a. Affordable housing development carried out by a registered Tier 1 or Tier 2 Community Housing Provider on sites owned by the Provider and where the dwellings are available for affordable rental housing for a minimum period of 15 years.**
- b. Accessible housing for supportive accommodation housing projects carried out by a registered Provider of Accessible Housing, on sites owned by the Provider and where the dwellings are available for accessible housing for a minimum period of 15 years.**
- c. Emergency and temporary housing developments carried out by a registered Provider of Emergency Housing, on sites owned by the provider and where the dwellings are available for emergency housing for a minimum period of 15 years.**

For completeness, a contribution will be calculated and a condition imposed on any consent issued, and at the end of the 15 years, or when the development ceases its exempted use, the deferred contributions will become payable,

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~~including any indexation in accordance with the Plan.~~

16. Complying Development Certificates and the obligations of accredited certifiers

In accordance with sections 4.28(9) and 7.21 of the EP&A Act and clause 156 of the EP&A Regulation, applications for a complying development certificate are also subject to the provisions of this Plan, and the Certifier (whether Council or an Accredited Certifier) must impose a condition requiring the payment of a Section 7.12 contribution in accordance with the requirements of this Plan.

The condition must include the contribution amount calculated in accordance with this Plan and require payment before any building or subdivision work authorised by the certificate commences. Further information on how to calculate and condition contributions is available on Councils website and from Council. The following template condition should be used:

Development Contributions

Pursuant to Section 4.28(9) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and the Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan (2022), a monetary contribution of \$[INSERT AMOUNT], subject to indexation, must be paid to Wollongong City Council before any building or subdivision work authorised by this certificate commences.

As the contribution amount is subject to indexation until the date of payment, contact Council for the current indexed amount prior to payment. The contribution can be paid online at <http://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/applicationpayments> (contact Council for the payment reference number) or by cash, EFTPOS or bank cheque at 41 Burelli Street, Wollongong.

In accordance with clause 156(2) of the EP&A Regulation, the Certifier must ensure that the contribution has been fully paid before any building or subdivision work authorised by the certificate commences and submit receipt(s) confirming full payment with the complying development certificate.

17. Construction/Subdivision certificates and the obligations of accredited certifiers

In accordance with clause 20(b) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021, a certifier must not issue a construction certificate for building work under a development consent unless a condition of the development consent, referred to in the Act, section 7.11 or 7.12, requiring the payment of a monetary contribution or levy before building work is carried out.

In accordance with clause 34(2)(b) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021, a certifier must not issue a subdivision works certificate under a development consent unless a condition of the development consent, referred to in the Act, section 7.11 or 7.12, requiring the payment of a monetary contribution or levy before work is carried out.

In accordance with clause 12(2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021, the certifier must ensure that copies of receipt(s) confirming that contributions have been fully paid are provided to the Council.

18. How is the proposed cost of carrying out development determined?

Clause 208 of the EP&A Regulation sets out how the proposed cost of carrying out development is to be determined. That clause provides as follows:

208 Determination of proposed cost of development—the Act, s 7.12(5)(a)

- (1) The proposed cost of carrying out development must be determined by the consent authority by adding up all the costs and expenses that have been or will be incurred by the applicant in carrying out the development.
- (2) The costs of carrying out development include the costs of, and costs incidental to, the following—
 - (a) if the development involves the erection of a building or the carrying out of engineering or construction work—
 - (i) erecting the building or carrying out the work, and
 - (ii) demolition, excavation and site preparation, decontamination or remediation,
 - (b) if the development involves a change of use of land—doing anything necessary to enable the use of the land to be changed,

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- (c) if the development involves the subdivision of land—preparing, executing and registering—
 - (i) the plan of subdivision, and
 - (ii) the related covenants, easements or other rights.
- (3) In determining the proposed cost, a consent authority may consider an estimate of the proposed cost that is prepared by a person, or a person of a class, approved by the consent authority to provide the estimate.
- (4) The following costs and expenses must not be included in an estimate or determination of the proposed cost—
 - (a) the cost of the land on which the development will be carried out,
 - (b) the costs of repairs to a building or works on the land that will be kept in connection with the development,
 - (c) the costs associated with marketing or financing the development, including interest on loans,
 - (d) the costs associated with legal work carried out, or to be carried out, in connection with the development,
 - (e) project management costs associated with the development,
 - (f) the cost of building insurance for the development,
 - (g) the costs of fittings and furnishings, including refitting or refurbishing, associated with the development, except if the development involves an enlargement, expansion or intensification of a current use of land,
 - (h) the costs of commercial stock inventory,
 - (i) the taxes, levies or charges, excluding GST, paid or payable in connection with the development by or under a law,
 - (j) the costs of enabling access by people with disability to the development,
 - (k) the costs of energy and water efficiency measures associated with the development,
 - (l) the costs of development that is provided as affordable housing,
 - (m) the costs of development that is the adaptive reuse of a heritage item.
- (5) The proposed cost may be adjusted before payment of a development levy, as specified in a contributions plan, to reflect quarterly or annual variations to readily accessible index figures adopted by the plan between the day on which the proposed cost was determined by the consent authority and the day by which the development levy must be paid.
- (6) To avoid doubt, this section does not affect the determination of the fee payable for a development application.

19. Cost estimate reports

An application for a development application or a complying development certificate is to be accompanied by a report, prepared at the applicant's cost and in accordance with this clause, setting out an estimate of the proposed cost of carrying out the development for the purposes of clause 208 of the EP&A Regulation, per clause 19 above. Where a separate cost estimate is not provided, the estimated cost of development as provided on the development application will be used to calculate the contribution.

The following types of report are required:

- where the estimate of the proposed cost of carrying out the development is less than \$2,000,000 - a suitable cost estimate prepared by a person who, in the opinion of the Council, is suitably qualified. This includes a licensed builder, registered architect, qualified and accredited building designer, registered quantity surveyor or a person who is licensed with relevant qualifications and proven experience in costing of similar development works, but who is not the owner or applicant;
- where the estimate of the proposed cost of carrying out the development is \$2,000,000 or more - a detailed cost report prepared by a quantity surveyor who is a registered member of the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors.

Applicants will be required to declare upon signing of application for development/building work that the cost of carrying out development as evidenced by their submitted estimate has been calculated in accordance with the provisions of this Plan, in particular clause 19.

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Upon reviewing a cost estimate, the Council may require a further estimate to be provided by a registered quantity surveyor at the applicant's cost. The Council may, at the applicant's cost, engage a person referred to in this clause to review a report submitted by an applicant in accordance with this clause.

20. How will the Council apply money obtained from the levy?

Money paid to the Council under a condition authorised by this Plan is to be applied by the Council towards meeting the cost of the public facilities that will be or have been provided within the area as listed in Part D Schedule 5 and 6.

21. What are the funding priorities from levies authorised by this Plan?

Subject to section 7.3(2) of the EP&A Act and clauses 20 and 23 of this Plan, the public facilities listed in Part D Schedule 5 are to be provided in accordance with the staging set out in that Schedule.

22. Pooling of levies

For the purposes of section 7.3(2) of the EP&A Act, this Plan authorises money obtained from levies paid in respect of different developments to be pooled and applied by the Council progressively towards the public facilities listed in Part D Schedule 5 in accordance with the staging set out in that Schedule.

23. The Goods and Services Tax (GST)

At the time this Plan was made, the position of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) was that the payment of development contributions made under the EP&A Act is exempt from the Goods and Services Tax (GST). Items in the works schedule of this Plan have been calculated without any GST component.

24. When is the levy payable?

A levy to be paid by a condition authorised by this Plan must be paid to the Council in accordance with the following requirements:

- A Development Application involving construction – prior to the issue of the Construction Certificate;
- A Development Application involving subdivision – prior to the issue of the Subdivision Certificate;
- A Development Application involving construction and subdivision (ie dual occupancies) – prior to the issue of the Construction Certificate;
- A Complying Development Certificate Application – before any work authorised by the certificate commences.

Where the development is phased the condition may allow for the levy to be paid at relevant phases.

25. Can deferred or periodic payments of levies be made?

Deferred or periodic payments may be permitted in the following circumstances:

- Deferred or periodic payment of the contribution will not prejudice the timing or the manner of the provision of public facilities included in the works program;
- In other circumstances considered reasonable by Council.

For a deferred or periodic payment to be considered, the applicant must satisfy to Council that:

- There are valid reasons for deferred or periodic payment;
- No prejudice will be caused to the community deriving benefit from the services being provided under this Plan;
- No prejudice will be caused to the efficiency and operation of this Plan.

If Council does decide to accept deferred or periodic payment, Council may require the applicant to provide a bank guarantee for the full amount of the contribution or the outstanding balance on condition that:

- a) The bank guarantee be issued by a bank for the amount of the total contribution, or the amount of the outstanding contribution, plus an amount equal to thirteen (13) months interest.

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- b) Any charges associated with establishing or operating the bank security are payable by the applicant.
- c) The bank guarantee must carry specific wording identifying the exact obligation to which it relates (i.e. section 7.12 development contributions for development of Lot x DP xxx under Development Consent No. xxx)
- d) The bank unconditionally pays the guaranteed sum to the Council if the Council so demands in writing not earlier than 12 months from the provision of the guarantee or completion of the work.
- e) The bank must pay the guaranteed sum without reference to the applicant or landowner or other person who provided the guarantee, and without regard to any dispute, controversy, issue or other matter relating to the development consent or the carrying out of development.
- f) The bank's obligations are discharged when payment to the Council is made in accordance with this guarantee or when Council notifies the bank in writing that the guarantee is no longer required.
- g) Where a bank guarantee has been deposited with Council, the guarantee shall not be cancelled until such time as the original contribution and accrued interest are paid.

Deferred or periodic payments may be permitted, in accordance with the above requirements, only with approval of the Council Officer(s) whose position(s) holds the required Council delegations.

26. Planning Agreements

Section 7.4 of the EP&A Act states that a planning agreement is a voluntary agreement between a planning authority and a developer, under which the developer agrees to make contributions towards a public purpose. This may include the dedication of land, a monetary contribution, any other material public benefit or a combination of these. A planning agreement may exclude the application of Section 7.12 to the entire development or to part of the development that is subject to the agreement.

The provisions of Sections 7.4 to 7.10 of the EP&A Act and Part 9 Division 1 of the EP&A Regulation prescribe the contents, form, subject matter and procedures for making planning agreements.

Further information can be found in Council's Planning Agreements Policy.

27. How will the levy be adjusted?

As the date of the consent may vary to the actual time of payment of the contribution, clause 208(5) of the EP&A Regulation allows Council to adjust the contribution to reflect current between the date of the consent and the time of payment. Contributions required as a condition of consent under the provisions of this Plan will be indexed quarterly in accordance with movements in the Consumer Price Index; All Groups CPI; issued by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS Series ID A2325806K).

The following formula for indexing contributions is to be used:

$$\text{Contribution at time of payment} = \$C \times (CP2/CP1)$$

Where:

\$C is the original contribution as set out in the consent

CP1 is the Consumer Price Index; All Groups CPI; Sydney at the time the consent was issued

CP2 is the Consumer Price Index; All Groups CPI; Sydney at the time of payment

In the event that the current index is lower than the index for the previous quarter, no adjustment will be made.

28. Savings and Transitional Arrangements

A development application or complying development certificate application which has been submitted prior to the adoption of this Plan but not determined shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of this Plan.

29. Are refunds for payments of levies possible?

For a refund of levy payments to be considered, the applicant/landowner must:

- Submit a written request to Council;

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- As a part of the request, demonstrate that the development that is the subject of the consent has not been commenced;
- Submit the request for a refund within 12 months of the payment;
- Formally surrender the consent that applied the levy;

In other circumstances considered reasonable by Council at its sole and unfettered discretion, where a formal request is made, part or full refunds may be provided.

Part D – References

30. What definitions apply?

In this Plan, unless the context or subject matter otherwise indicates or requires the following definitions apply:

- **ABS** means the Australian Bureau of Statistics
- **EP&A Act** means the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- **EP&A Regulation** means the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000
- **Council** means Wollongong City Council
- **Levy** means a levy under section 7.12 of the EP&A Act authorised by this Plan
- **Plan** means this Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan
- **Public facility and Public Infrastructure** means a public amenity or public service

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31. Schedule 4 – Detailed Works Schedule – Projects proposed to utilise Section 7.12 funds

The Capital Works Program that Council delivers is funded from a mix of budget sources, including contributions collected from this Plan. Section 7.12 Contributions will be allocated to projects through the annual budget preparation process based on this schedule, and will be subject to refinement until the project delivery stage. This may include the review of projects and/or budget allocations as part of the monthly budget review process that is reported to and endorsed by Council. Section 7.12 Contributions currently allocated to future projects are shown in the table below:

Map No.	Project Number	Project	Location	Section 7.12 Forecast Funding Allocation				
				2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Total
		Roads and Bridges						
3	127515	Murray Rd Pedestrian Crossing Facility at Carroll Rd	East Corrimal	\$125,000				\$125,000
5	129112	Gipps Rd; Foley St to Vickery St	Gwynneville	\$270,000				\$270,000
1	127952	Phillips St near Ryan's Hotel Pedestrian Facility	Thirroul	\$100,000				\$100,000
7	127948	King St/Greene St/Montgomery St	Warrawong		\$500,000	\$500,000		\$1,000,000
		Sub total		\$495,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$1,495,000
		Footpaths and Cycleways						
5	128131	Braeside Ave, Murphys Ave to Gipps Rd	Gwynneville	\$250,000				\$250,000
8	127981	Coachwood Dr After Waples Rd	Farmborough Heights		\$120,000			\$120,000
4	126269	Princes Hwy; North Wollongong Station to Guest Ave	Fairy Meadow		\$1,000,000			\$1,000,000
4	128146	Bourke St, North Wollongong Train Station to Cliff Rd	North Wollongong		\$200,000			\$200,000
7	129672	Warrawong Town Square	Warrawong		\$700,000			\$700,000
		Sub total		\$250,000	\$2,020,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,270,000
		Car parks						
7	129671	Warrawong Laneway Relocation and Carpark	Warrawong		\$900,000			\$900,000
6	128034	Swan Street, east of Corrimal St	Wollongong		\$300,000			\$300,000
		Sub total		\$0	\$1,200,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,200,000
		Non-Commercial buildings,						
7	125350	Southern Suburbs Library + Community Centre	Warrawong		\$6,740,000	\$3,000,000		\$9,740,000
		Sub total		\$0	\$6,740,000	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$9,740,000
		Parks, Gardens and sports fields						
2	125125	Corrimal Memorial Park Fencing	Corrimal	\$100,000				\$100,000
9	125126	Lakelands Oval Drainage	Dapto	\$100,000				\$100,000
	129028	Thirroul Skate Park	Thirroul		\$900,000			\$900,000
	125109	Sports Facilities - New	Various		\$400,000			\$400,000
		Sub total		\$200,000	\$1,300,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000

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		Land Acquisitions						
	124909	Land Acquisitions	Various	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$1,000,000
		Sub total		\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$1,000,000
		Administration						
		Development Contributions Planner		\$117,466	\$120,990	\$124,620	\$128,359	\$491,435
		Development Contributions Admin Support - Finance		\$11,895	\$12,252	\$12,619	\$13,048	\$49,814
		Sub total		\$129,361	\$133,242	\$137,239	\$141,407	\$541,249
		TOTAL		\$1,324,361	\$12,143,242	\$3,887,239	\$391,407	\$17,746,249

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32. Schedule 5 – Detailed Works Schedule – Projects that have included Section 7.12 funds

The Capital Works that Council delivers are funded from a mix of sources, including contributions collected from this Plan. Section 7.12 Contributions that have been allocated to projects are shown in the table below:

Project	Section 7.12 Actual Funding Allocations					
	2006-07 to 2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total 2006-07 to 2022-23
Roads and Bridges						
Other Road and Bridge Projects	\$5,090,767					\$5,090,767
Towradgi Rd-Caters Lane crossing relocation		\$12,791				\$12,791
Point Street Local Area Traffic Management			\$132,263			\$132,263
Maidstone -The Ridge roundabout		\$100,000				\$100,000
Northcliffe Dr, Pharlapp Ave to Princes Hwy, roundabout		\$695,206	\$102,037			\$797,243
Cordeaux Rd - Princes Hwy Roundabout Upgrade				\$13,910		\$13,910
Phillips St near Ryan's Hotel Pedestrian Facility				\$39,200		\$39,200
Wollongong City Centre Wayfinding Signage				\$31,123	\$169,154	\$200,277
Factory Rd, kerb and gutter					\$105,533	\$105,533
Sub total	\$5,090,767	\$807,997	\$234,300	\$84,233	\$105,533	\$6,491,984
Footpaths and Cycleways						
Other footpath and cycleway projects	\$10,881,445					\$10,881,445
Hamilton, Tasman, Craig, Surfers & Cliff		\$194,222				\$344,222
Denison St; Crown St to Throsby Dr		\$300,000				\$300,000
Porter St, Hindmarsh Ave to Flinders St		\$300,000				\$300,000
Kendall St; outside Tarrawanna Public School, south side		\$74,385				\$74,385
Thames St; The Mall to 40 Thames St, east side		\$50,000				\$50,000
Murphys Ave; Robsons Rd to Grey St, south side		\$52,375				\$52,375
Vereker St; Hamilton St to 16 Macarthur Ave, east side		\$50,250				\$50,250
Heaslip St; Taronga Ave to St Johns Ave, south side		\$70,000				\$70,000
Tallegalla St; Victoria St to Charcoal Creek, west side		\$20,000				\$20,000
Cliff Rd; Harbour St to Lang Park, south side		\$55,033				\$55,033
Harry Graham Park; Uralba St to Therry St		\$40,000				\$40,000
Robinson St; Hercules St to Denison St		\$111,705				\$111,705
University Avenue, eastern side near Porter Street		\$50,000				\$50,000
The Avenue Pedestrian Refuges		\$100,000				\$100,000
Crawford Ave; Porter St to Hay St access			\$247,725			\$247,725
Greenacre Rd, Mercury St to Rosemont St			\$145,137			\$145,137
Beacon Ave; Showground to Coastline Cycleway			\$84,403			\$84,403

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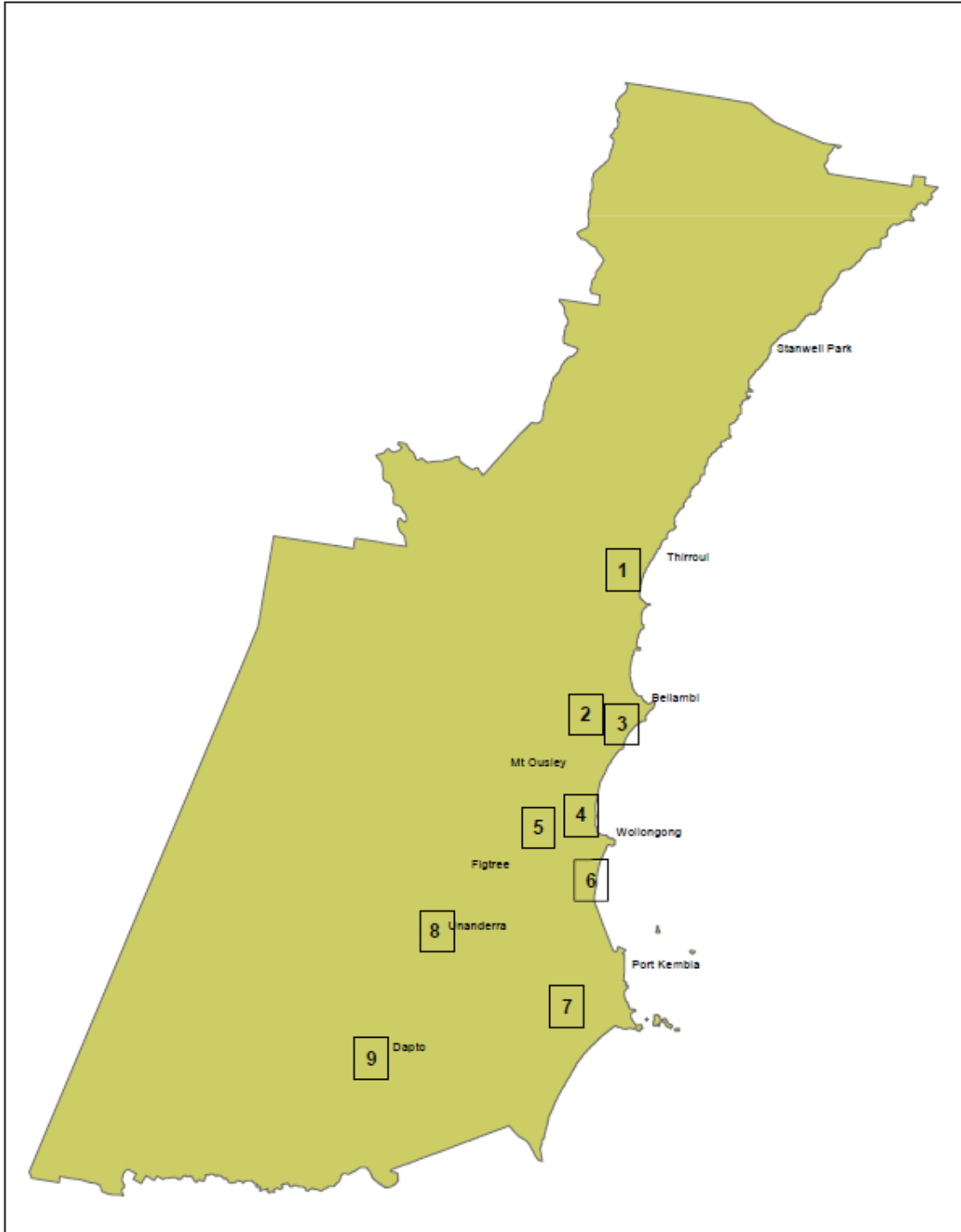
Project	Section 7.12 Actual Funding Allocations					
	2006-07 to 2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total 2006-07 to 2022-23
Murrarar Rd; Towradgi Station to Coastline Cycleway			\$125,440			\$125,440
Cliff Rd; Stuart Park to Marine Dr			\$18,073			\$18,073
Hooka Creek Road; Lake Ride to Northcliffe Dr			\$16,848			\$16,848
Wollongong City Centre Wayfinding Signage			\$30,265			\$30,265
Smith St - Keira St to Harbour St; and Harbour St - Smith St			\$328,000			\$328,000
Station St; Duff Pde to Pioneer Rd; north side			\$128,917			\$128,917
Smith St - Belmore St to Keira St			\$90,000			\$90,000
Kembla St - Smith St to Crown St			\$45,000			\$45,000
Beacon Ave; Showground to Coastline Cycleway				\$22,992	\$177,503	\$200,495
Military Rd, Old Port Rd to Port Kembla Pool, On-road Cycleway				\$91,112		\$91,112
Reserve St; Gilmore St to Robsons Rd; south side				\$10,223		\$10,223
Gladstone Ave - Crown St to Railway Station Sq; Railway Station				\$26,043		\$26,043
Stewart St -Corrimal St to Church St; and Church St – Stewart St				\$28,754		\$28,754
Crown St - Kembla St to Corrimal St				\$1,499		\$1,499
Princes Hwy; North Wollongong Station to Guest Ave					\$16,312	\$16,312
Phillips St near Ryan's Hotel Pedestrian Facility					\$4,039	\$4,039
Grand Pacific Walk - Clifton					\$50,000	\$50,000
Gipps Rd; Vickery St to Foley St, Southern side					\$675	\$675
Factory Rd, Shared User path and Footpath					\$58,867	\$58,867
Kembla St - Crown St to Stewart St					\$1,338	\$1,338
Sub total	\$10,881,445	\$1,467,970	\$1,259,808	\$180,623	\$308,734	\$14,098,580
Car parks						
Other car park projects	\$2,260,270					\$2,260,270
Berkeley Park Carpark – Off Bourke Way		\$190,000				\$190,000
Robert Ziems Park Cricket Ground Carpark			\$200,000			\$200,000
Sub total	\$2,260,270	\$190,000	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,650,270
Non-Commercial buildings						
Other Non-Commercial Building projects	\$14,055,419					\$14,055,419
New Warrawong Multipurpose Facility			\$381,606	\$859,907	\$1,109,435	\$2,350,948
Sub total	\$14,055,419	\$0	\$381,606	\$859,907	\$1,109,435	\$16,406,367
Parks, Gardens and Sports Fields						
Other Parks, Gardens and Sports Fields Projects	\$5,415,298					\$5,415,298
Brownlee Park Playground Replacement and New Shade Sail		\$50,000				\$50,000




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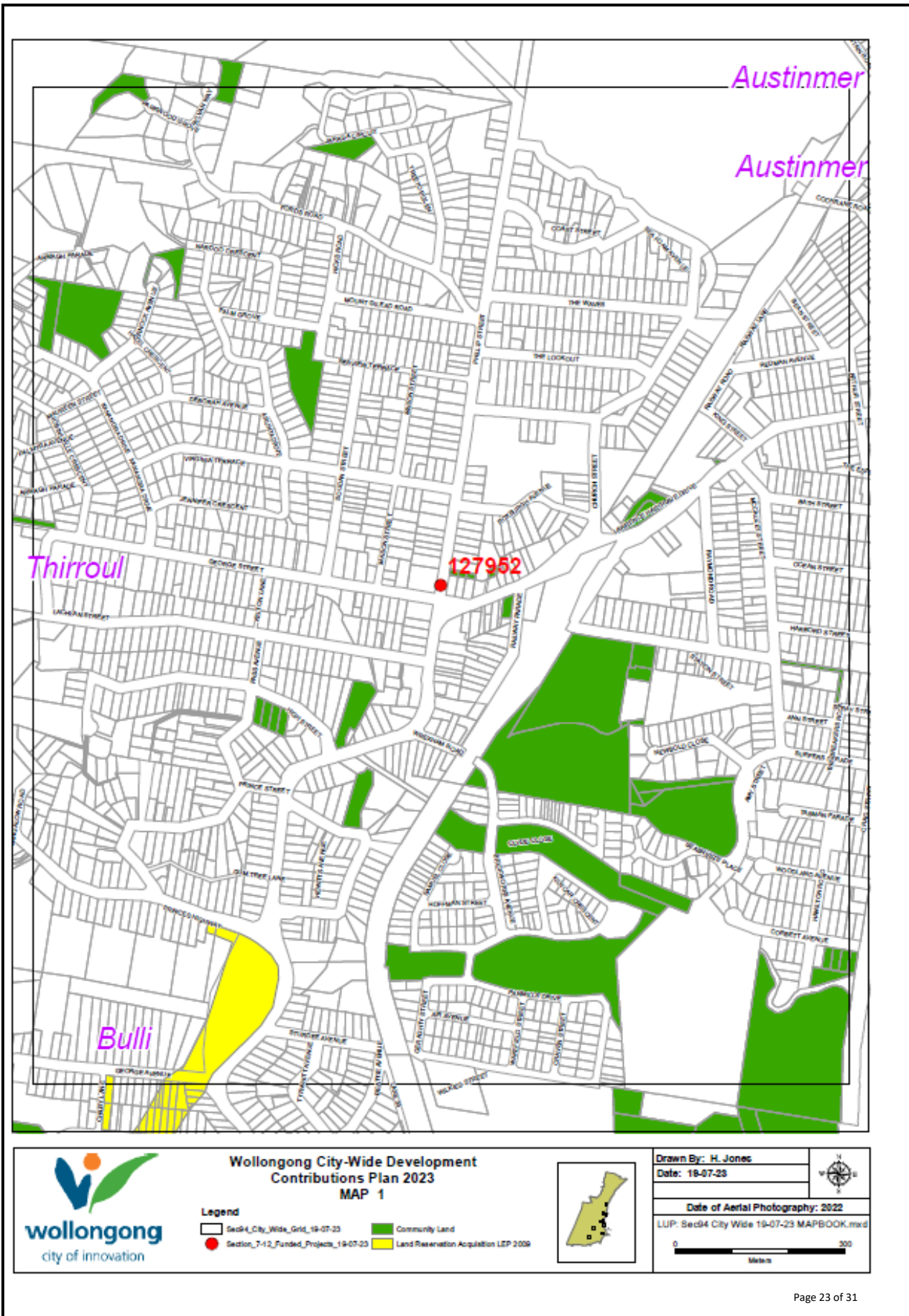
Project	Section 7.12 Actual Funding Allocations					
	2006-07 to 2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total 2006-07 to 2022-23
The Drive; LHD to Stanwell Park Tennis Courts		\$55,317				\$55,317
Farmborough Heights Community Tennis Courts		\$50,000				\$50,000
Cringila Hills Pump Track			\$30,000			\$30,000
Criterion Track			\$45,000		\$348,964	\$412,956
Lindsay Mayne Park Perimeter Control and Landscaping				\$30,000	\$213,256	\$243,256
Thomas Gibson Sports Field Lighting					\$43,128	\$43,128
Port Kembla Beach access ramp					\$386,288	\$386,288
Sub total	\$5,415,298	\$155,317	\$75,000	\$30,000	\$991,636	\$6,686,243
Land Acquisitions						
Other Land Acquisitions	\$2,201,500					\$2,201,500
Acquisition of Strip adjoining 5 Franklin Avenue, Bulli			\$1,500	\$5,838		\$7,338
Helensburgh CC+L Land Acquisition				\$3,500,000		\$3,500,000
216 Princes Highway Dapto LOT B DP156856				\$4,300		\$4,300
Acquisition of part lot 1 DP1207666 - Dapto Leagues Club				\$1,100		\$1,100
Sub total	\$2,201,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$3,511,238	\$0	\$5,714,238
Administration						
S94 Planner	\$641,326	\$103,000	\$107,498	\$110,723	\$114,045	\$1,076,592
S94 Admin Support - Finance	\$92,006	\$12,000	\$10,886	\$11,212	\$7,562	\$133,666
S94 Administration & Studies	\$452,216					\$452,216
Sub total	\$1,185,548	\$117,000	\$118,384	\$121,935	\$121,607	\$1,662,474
TOTAL	\$41,090,247	\$2,736,284	\$2,270,598	\$4,787,936	\$2,636,945	\$53,710,156

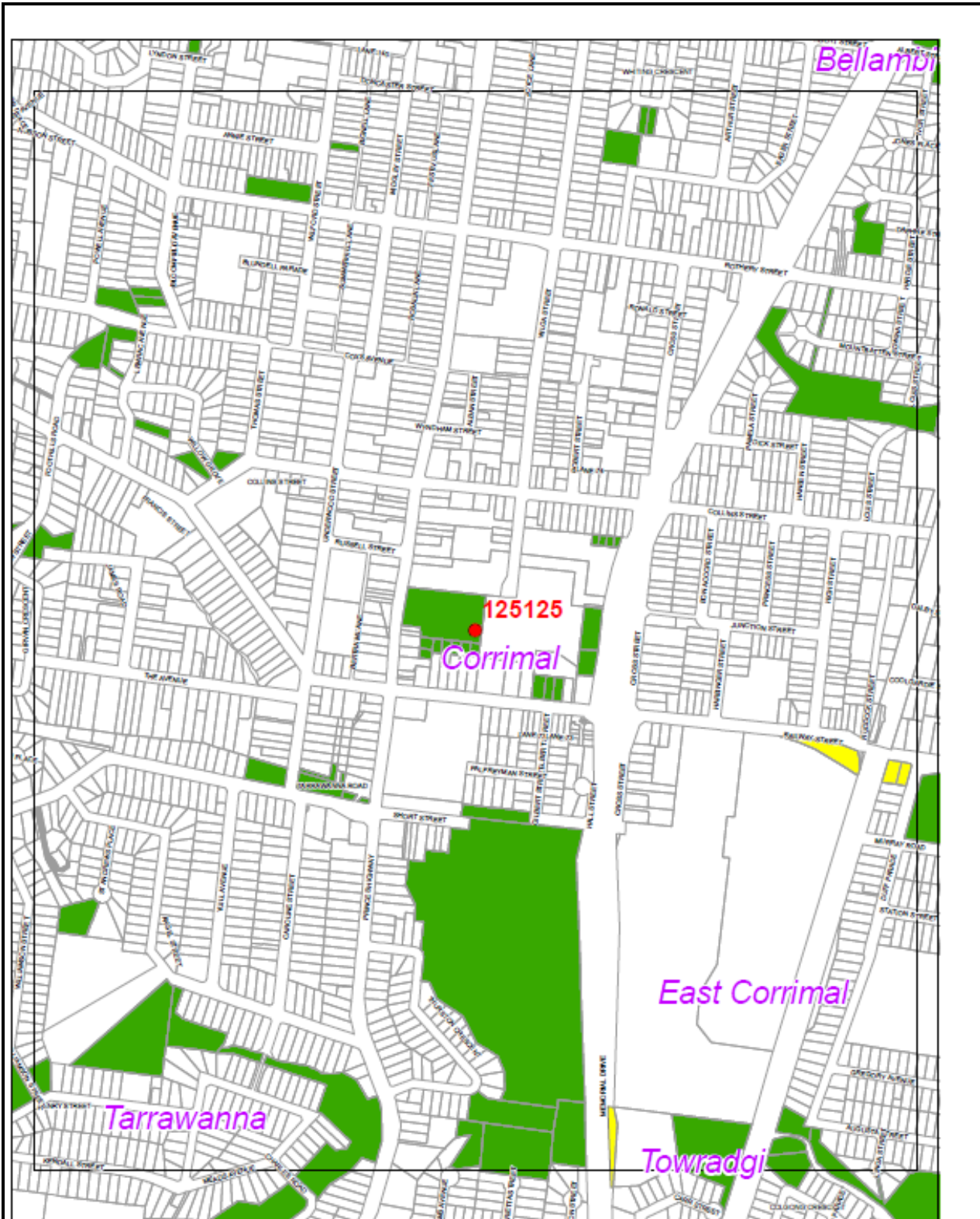
33. Schedule 6 - Works Schedule – Maps

Projects locations are noted as best as possible given their nature and scale of mapping.

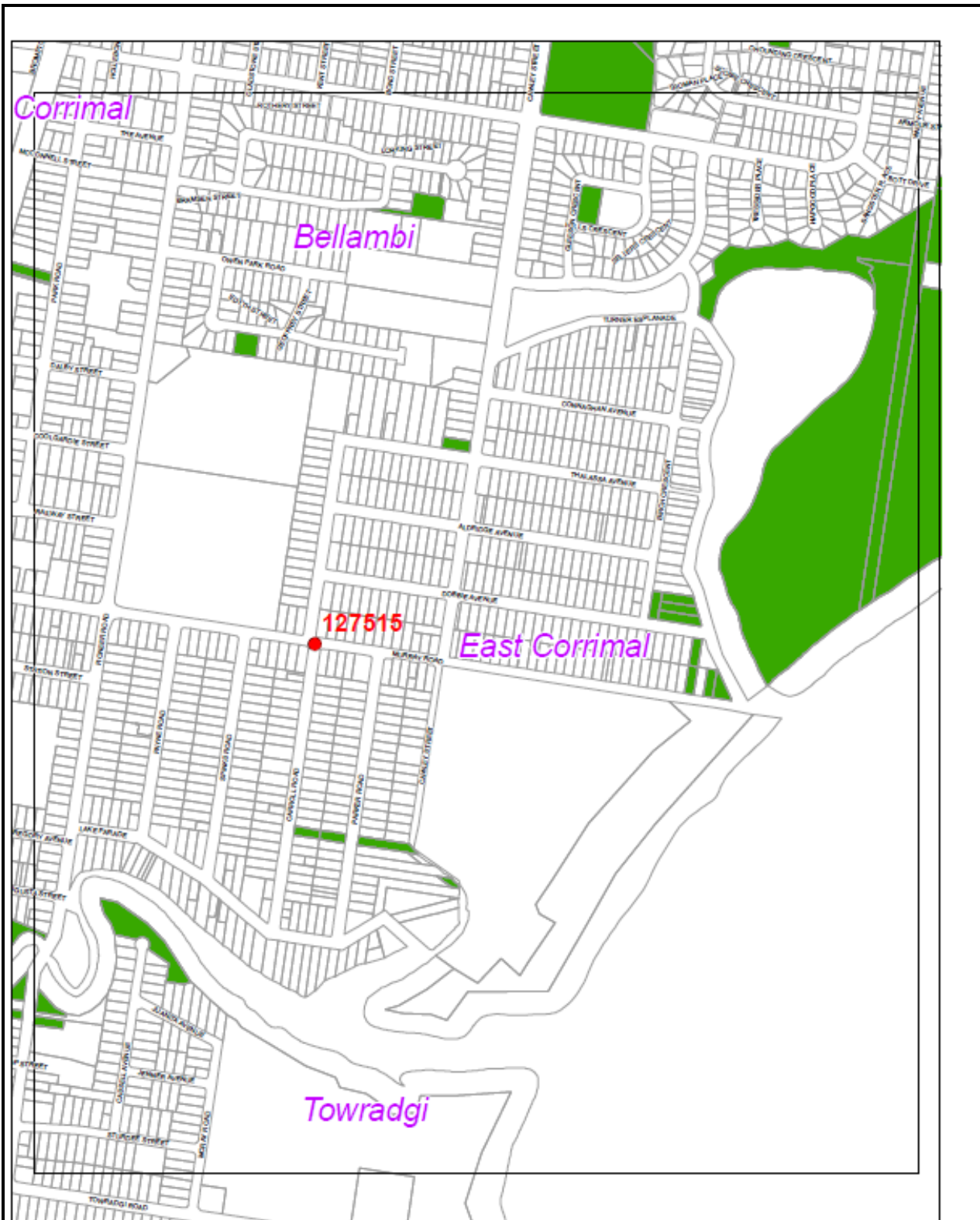


	<p>Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan 2023 INDEX MAP</p> <p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sec84_City_Wide_Grid_19-07-23 Wollongong_LGA 		<p>Drawn By: H. Jones</p> <p>Date: 19-07-23</p>	
			<p>Date of Aerial Photography: 2022</p> <p>LUP: Sec84 City Wide 19-07-23 Index.mxd</p> <p>0 5,000 Meters</p>	

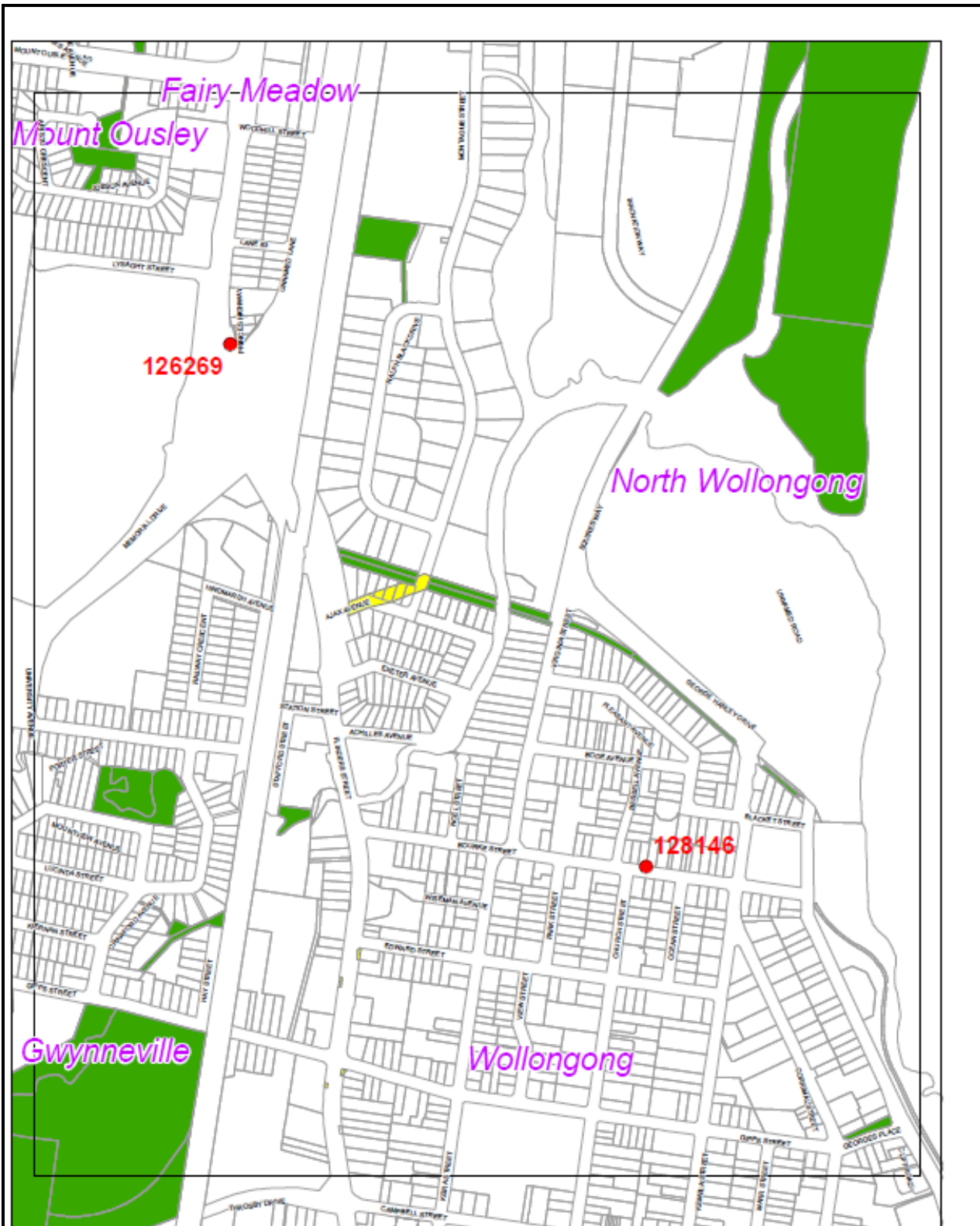




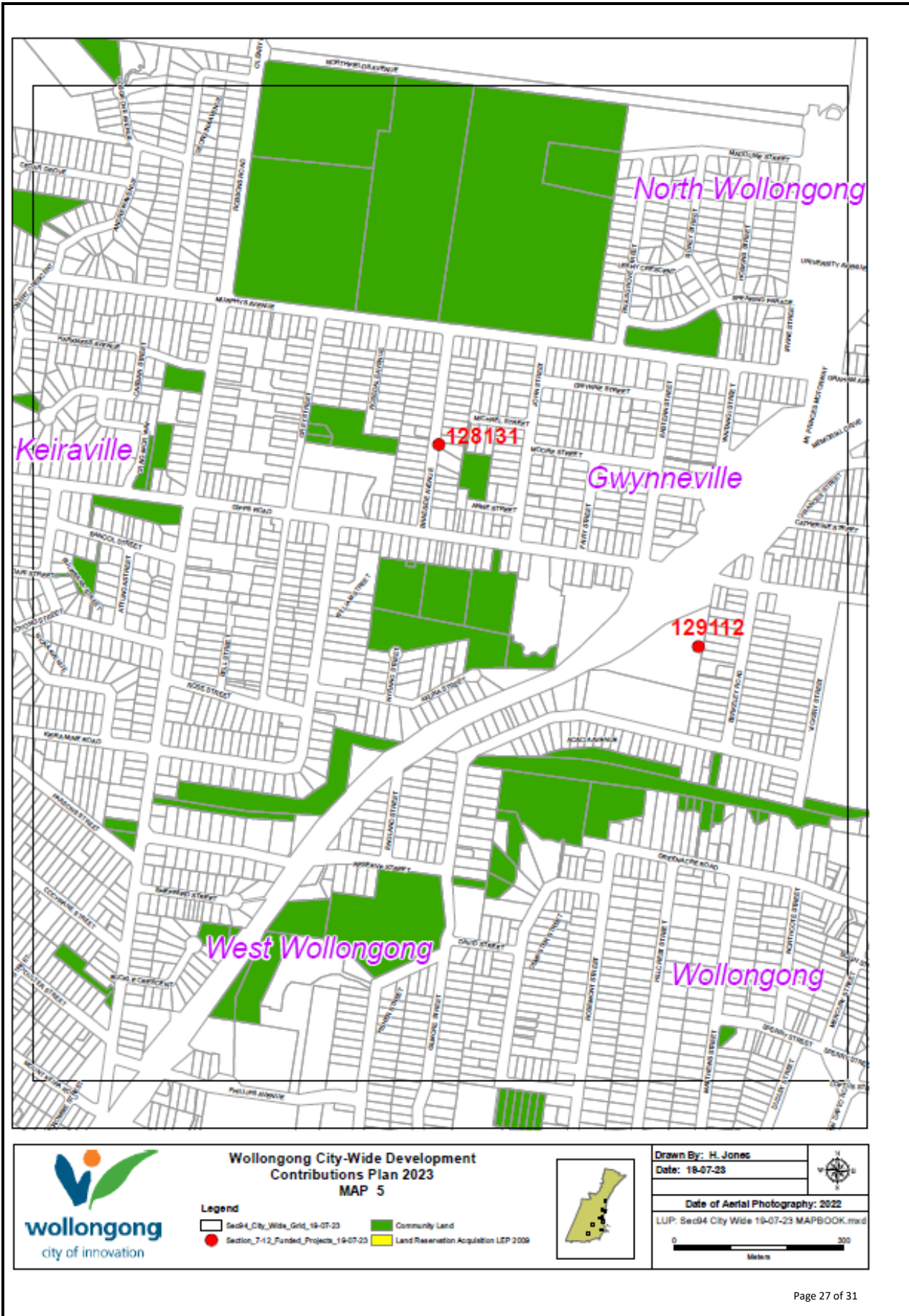
	Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan 2023 MAP 2			Drawn By: H. Jones Date: 18-07-23	
	Legend □ Sec94_City_Wide_Grid_19-07-23 ● Section_7-1-2_Funded_Projects_19-07-23			Date of Aerial Photography: 2022 LUP: Sec94 City Wide 19-07-23 MAPBOOK.mxd	
	■ Community Land ■ Land Reservation Acquisition LEP 2009				

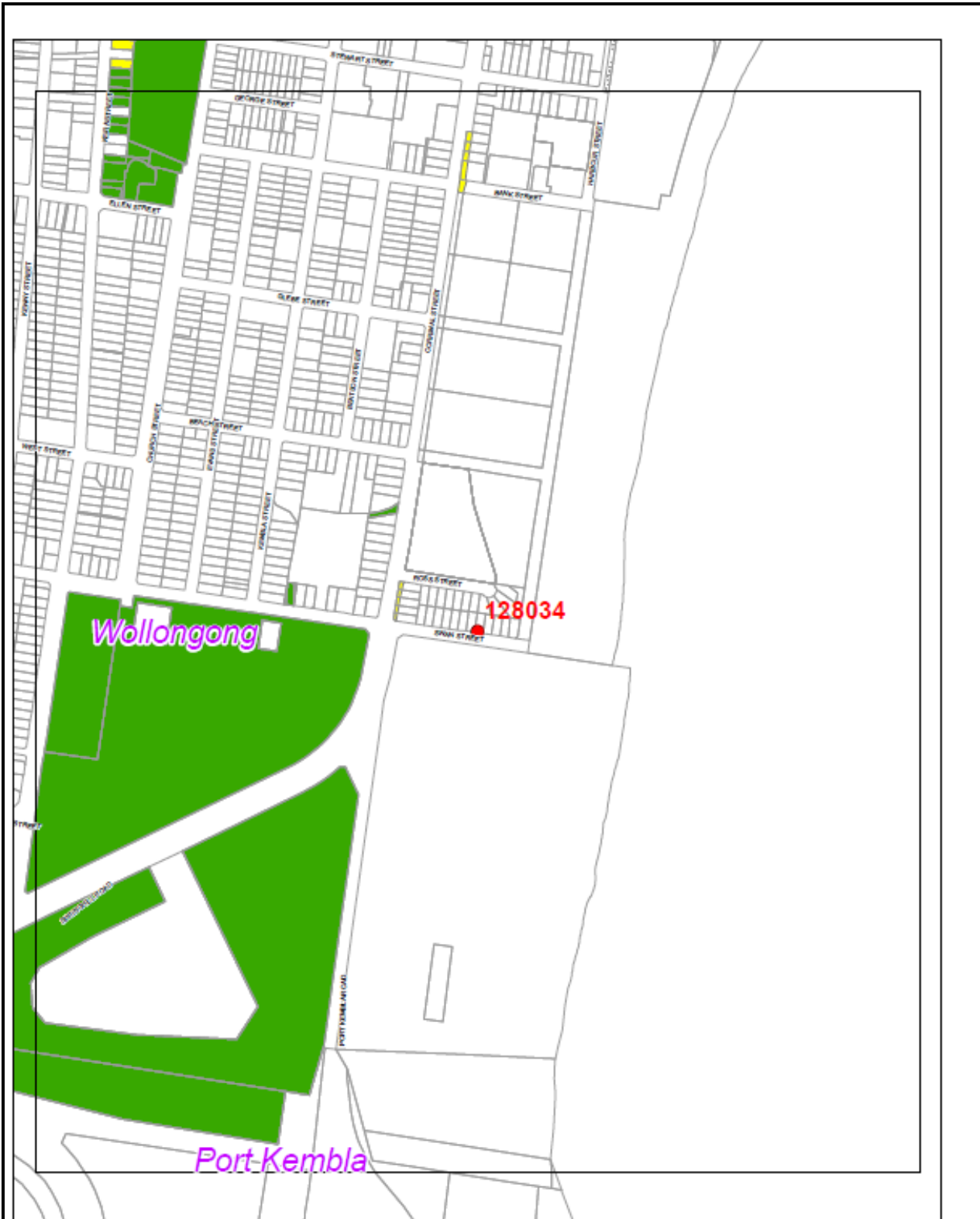


	Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan 2023 MAP 3			Drawn By: H. Jones Date: 18-07-23	
	Legend □ Sec94_City_Wide_Grid_19-07-23 ● Section_7-12_Funded_Projects_19-07-23 ■ Community Land ■ Land Reservation Acquisition LEP 2009			Date of Aerial Photography: 2022 LUP: Sec94 City Wide 19-07-23 MAPBOOK.mxd	

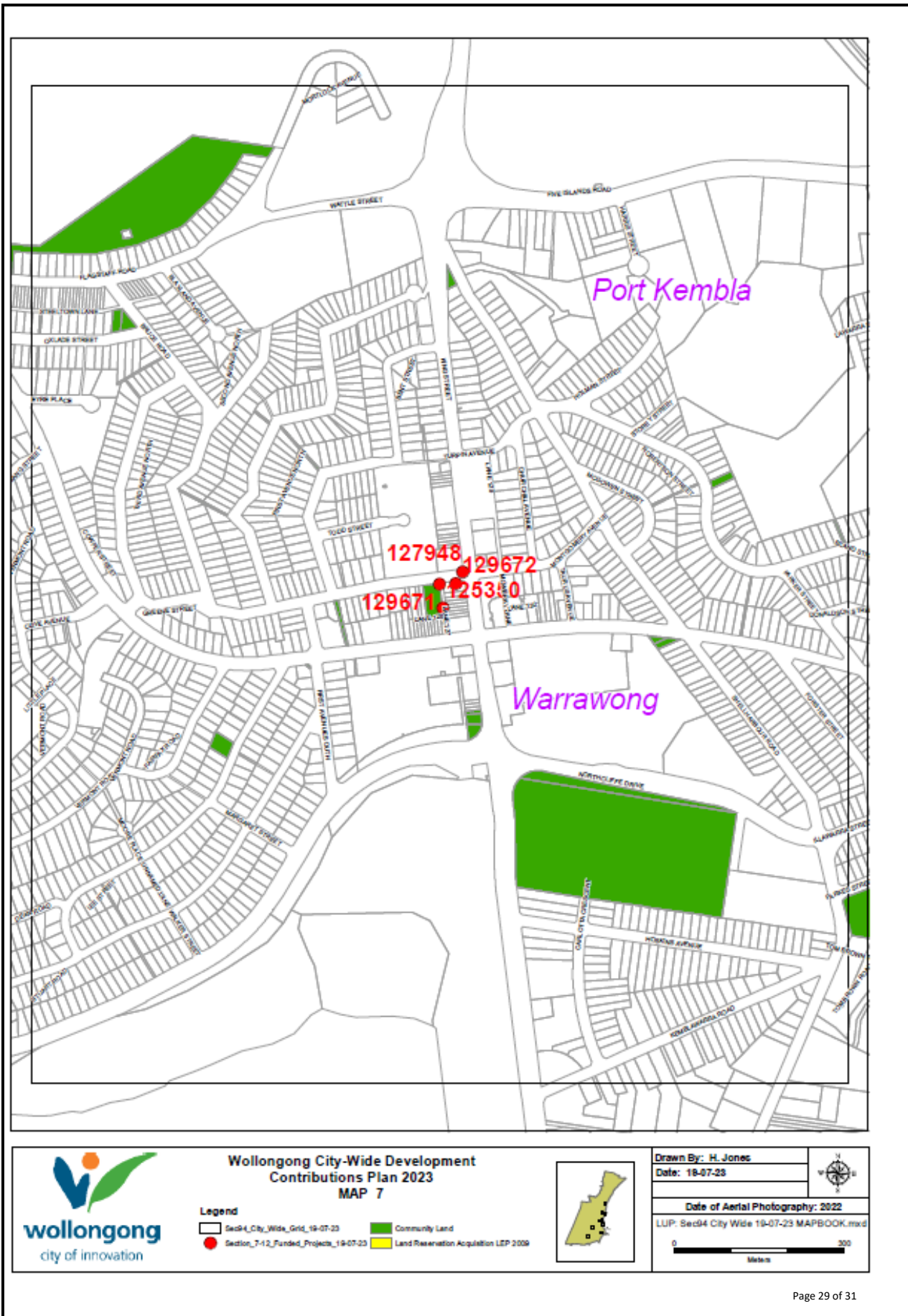


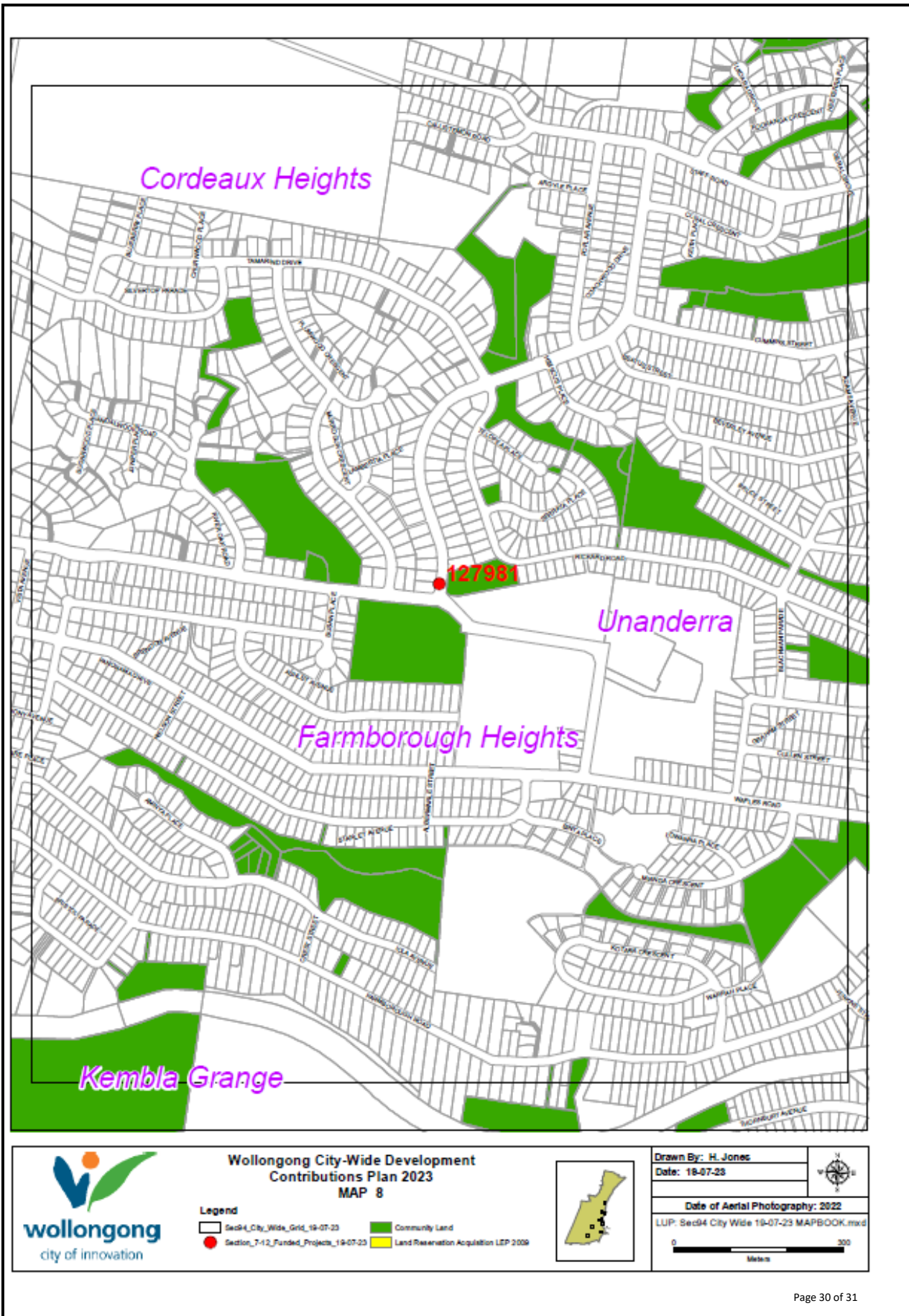
	Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan 2023 MAP 4			Drawn By: H. Jones Date: 18-07-23	
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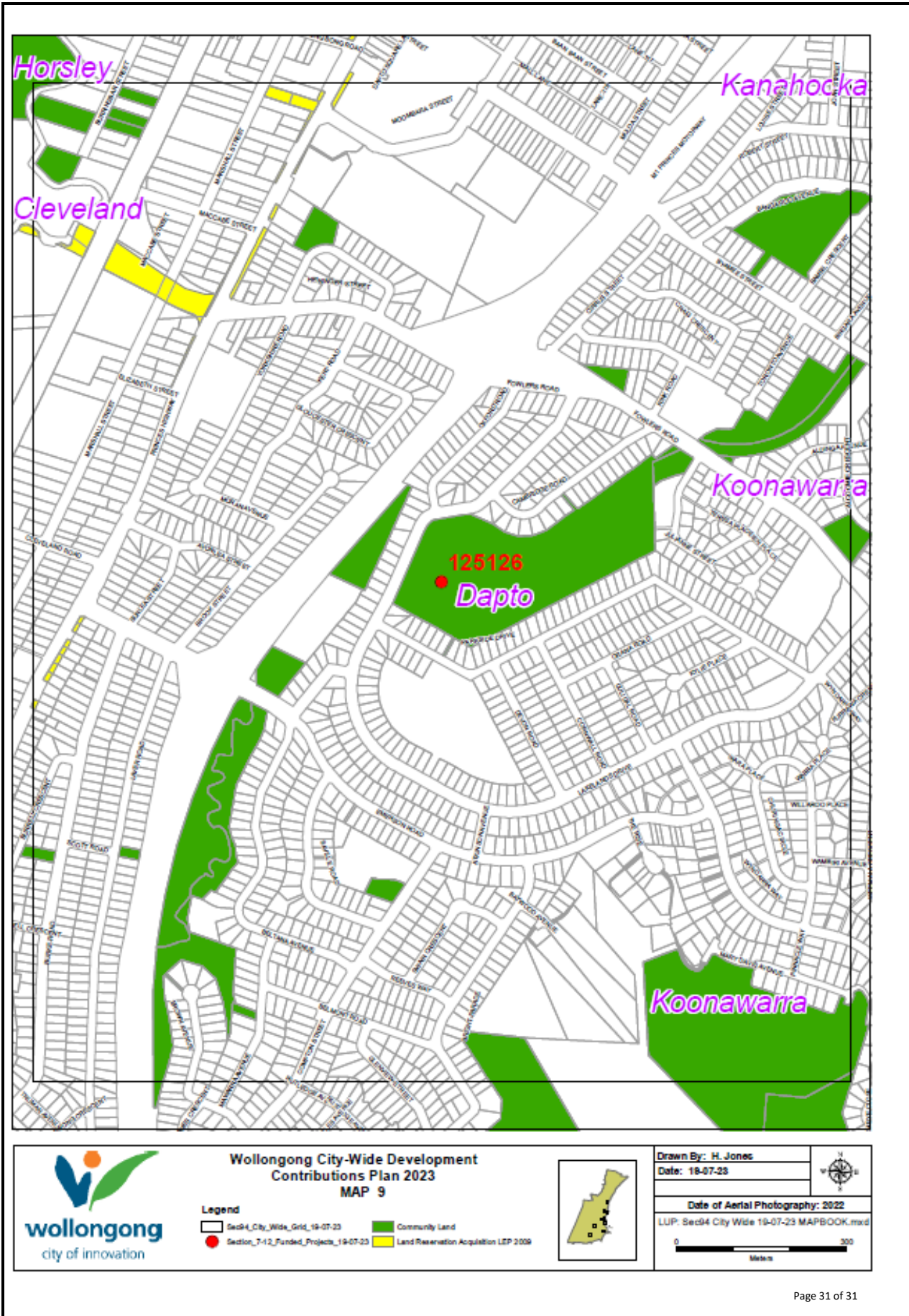




	Wollongong City-Wide Development Contributions Plan 2023 MAP 6			Drawn By: H. Jones Date: 18-07-23	
	Legend □ Section 94 City Wide Grid 19-07-23 ● Section 7-12 Funded Projects 19-07-23	■ Community Land ■ Land Reservation Acquisition LEP 2009		Date of Aerial Photography: 2022 LUP: Sec94 City Wide 19-07-23 MAPBOOK.mxd	









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ITEM 4 POST EXHIBITION – WEST DAPTO SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A review of the social infrastructure needs for the West Dapto Urban Release Area has been coordinated by Council staff with the assistance of a consultant team lead by Ethos Urban partnering with Otium Planning Group.

The draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment was reported to Council on 28 November 2022 and sought resolution to enable public exhibition to receive community feedback. Exhibition occurred in early 2023 and the community feedback has been considered by staff.

This report details information raised in submissions, staff response to submissions, and proposes that Council adoption the Community and Cultural Facilities and Open Space and Recreation recommendations contained in the final West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 Council adopt the Recommendations for Community and Cultural Facilities and Open Space and Recreation contained in the West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Final Report 2023 (Attachment 1 – Part G Findings and Recommendations).
- 2 Council note the Implementation Plan (Attachment 4).

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Chris Stewart, Manager City Strategy

Authorised by: Linda Davis, Director Planning + Environment - Future City + Neighbourhoods

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 West Dapto Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis - June 2023
- 2 Engagement Report - West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment
- 3 Response to submissions
- 4 Implementation Plan August 2023

BACKGROUND

On 28 November 2022, the draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis was reported to Council. At this meeting it was resolved -

- 1 *Council support public exhibition of the draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment for a minimum of 28 days.*
- 2 *Council exhibition material to clearly outline that delivering the Social Infrastructure Needs of West Dapto is reliant on a co-ordinated, equitable contribution from Council, other levels of Government and private sector.*
- 3 *Following exhibition staff report back to Council –*
 - a *A final West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment with an engagement report explaining issues raised in submissions and how they were considered.*
 - b *Detail further steps required to ensure delivery of the Social Infrastructure recommended in the final needs assessment.*

West Dapto Urban Release Area

The West Dapto Urban Release Area (WDURA) is Wollongong City Council's and the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region's largest urban growth area. It is estimated to provide 19,500 residential lots and accommodate an additional 56,500 people once fully developed over a 50 plus year period. As well as being a key source of new housing for the Illawarra, it includes designated employment lands to support growth.

The West Dapto Vision 2018 outlines Council's vision for the area, broad staging of development, principles to guide land use planning and a structure plan.

The planning for future communities is supported by Council's transport access strategy, a range of planned town and village centres, active and passive open spaces, community facilities, a network of riparian corridors (creeks), and stormwater infrastructure.

Council planning for West Dapto is reflected in our current endorsed policy documents collectively detailing Council's position. These are publicly available online and listed below -

- Wollongong Local Environment Plan 2009
- West Dapto Vision 2018
- West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020
- Chapter D16 West Dapto Release Area of the Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009
- West Dapto Open Space Design Manual and West Dapto Open Space Technical Manual
- Places for People, Wollongong Social Infrastructure Planning Framework 2018 – 2028.

The Social Cultural and Recreational Needs Study for the West Dapto New Release Area (Elton 2007) is the original informing document commissioned for Council through the then NSW Growth Centres Commission. This 2007 study has been relied on as a basis and rationale for open space and community facilities needs for the WDURA.

The provision of open space, recreation and community activities have been refined more recently through preparation of the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 and West Dapto Vision 2018. Given West Dapto is an active urban release area, there are open space items which have already been delivered and are in use by the community.

Table 9 of the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 details completed infrastructure. In addition, there are open space, recreation, and community facilities items at various stages across the planning and design phases. These are mostly located in Stages 1 & 2 of WDURA (see staging plan at Figure 1).

Social Infrastructure

The West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis (Needs Assessment) defines social infrastructure as –

The facilities, spaces, services, and networks that support the quality of life and wellbeing of communities. It helps us to be happy, safe and healthy, to learn and to enjoy life. The network of social infrastructure contributes to social identity, inclusion and cohesion and is used by all Australians at some point in their lives, often on a daily basis... (pp 14).

Social infrastructure includes hard and soft infrastructure. Hard social infrastructure refers to the facilities, buildings and spaces, and soft infrastructure refers to the programs, services and networks that occur in these spaces. Built assets, such as libraries and recreation centres, facilitate the delivery of social services by governments and other service providers.

Whilst the importance of the full spectrum of social infrastructure is acknowledged, the focus of this Needs Assessment is primarily based on the hard infrastructure needs largely within Council's direct scope of control. Such infrastructure is defined in two categories –

- Open Space and Recreation
- Community and Cultural Facilities.

Public Exhibition

The Needs Assessment was exhibited from 30 January 2023 to 28 February 2023 and thirteen submissions were received. The submissions were received from community members, young people, a consulting group and a State government agency. Verbal feedback was provided in four separate community meetings, attended by 27 people. A summary of all feedback is included in the Consultation and Communication section of this report. A comprehensive engagement report is provided at Attachment 2 to this report.

West Dapto Development Contributions

The West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 (Contributions Plan 2020), available at www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/development/development-policies-guidelines/development-contribution, is an Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) reviewed contributions plan in accordance with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (2019) Practice Note 1 and relevant Ministerial Directions issued under Section 7.17 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

Open space and community facilities are included in the Contributions Plan 2020 (Section 4.1 and 4.2). The Contributions Plan has been updated on a number of occasions and was reviewed by IPART in 2016 and in 2020. IPART provided commentary and recommendations regarding the provision of open space in both the 2016 Final Assessment Report and 2020 Final Assessment Report. Both assessment reports are available on IPART's website at www.ipart.nsw.gov.au.

IPART in their final 2020 report make two recommendations relevant to social infrastructure which need to be addressed by Council in the next review of the Contributions Plan 2020. Those recommendations are provided as follows –

Open space

- 13 *For the next review of the plan, ensure that the scope and location of open space land and embellishment reflect the progress of development in the release area and ensure that the plan includes –*
 - *Sufficient accessible recreation opportunities for all residents*
 - *Sufficient formal recreation facilities (sports grounds) for the release area.*
- 14 *For the next review of the plan, update the cost estimates of all parks to be delivered using more recent actual costs or cost estimates for similar parks.*

The Needs Assessment serves to address the IPART recommendations and will inform the review of the Contributions Plan, 2020 which will be subject to separate Council report later in 2023.

PROPOSAL

The Needs Assessment (Attachment 1) has undergone minor update in response to a submission from Schools Infrastructure NSW. These specific minor amendments are detailed in Attachment 3 - Response to Submissions.

The Needs Assessment includes extensive commentary in the body of the report regarding social infrastructure opportunities and regarding social infrastructure beyond the scope of local government. Council staff do not recommend that broader commentary information is adopted. This report specifically seeks Council adoption of the Findings and Recommendations for Community and Cultural Facilities and Open Space and Recreation contained in Part G the West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis.

This report also seeks that Council note the Implementation Plan provided as Attachment 4.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

The Needs Assessment was exhibited from 30 January 2023 to 28 February 2023 with key stakeholders and the community notified through media releases, emails, newsletters, Illawarra Mercury Community Update, Council website and Council social media posts. During this time, the community were invited to provide general feedback on the Needs Assessment, and comment specifically on the guiding principles and recommendations for community and cultural facilities, and open space and recreation.

Thirteen (13) written submissions were received including from community members, young people, a consulting group and a State government agency. Verbal feedback was provided in four separate community meetings, attended by 27 people.

Common themes and key issues were raised include -

- Open Space and Recreation
- Community and Cultural Facilities
- School Infrastructure and Planning
- Safety and Access
- Amenity and Environment
- Business Centres
- Strategic Planning.

The Engagement Report to this report (Attachment 2) provides a summary of the issues raised through consultation. Attachment 3 details staff response to issues raised through community consultation. It is considered that the issues raised in submission do not warrant significant change to the Needs Assessment.

Schools

Several submissions raised concern over the provision of schools and school infrastructure. Schools Infrastructure NSW (part of the Department of Education) have advised in response to the submissions that they are *'undertaking a detailed investigation of the long term service need within West Dapto Area. This will identify appropriate solutions to accommodate future projected enrolment demand. This will ensure that existing schools are fully utilised before new schools are considered'*.

Council staff will continue to work with Schools Infrastructure NSW and the Department of Education to provide an update to the Wollongong Development Control Plan Chapter D16 - Figure 12. Potential School Locations, to reflect contemporary planning for education needs at WDURA.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal 1 *We value and protect our environment* and Goal 5 *We have a healthy community and liveable city*. It specifically delivers on the following -

Community Strategic Plan 2032		Delivery Program 2022-2026
Strategy		Service
1.6	West Dapto urban growth is effectively managed with facilities and spaces to support the future community.	Land Use Planning

RISK MANAGEMENT

The West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment is a strategic, long term, informing study which aims to forecast the expected future social infrastructure needs for current and future residents of the WDURA. It is important to note that funding and delivery of such social infrastructure relies on a collaborative effort from several parties which include Council, Government (State and Federal), not for profit organisations and the private sector.

The West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 includes and plans for a number of open space and recreation items, as well as land for multiple community facilities throughout WDURA. The final Needs Assessment (Attachment 1) of this report details several proposed amendments to the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan which would increase the provision of open space and recreation lands, as well as land for community facilities. Any changes proposed to the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 will be subject to separate Council reports and process involving an IPART review of the draft plan and receipt of direction from the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.

The final Needs Assessment provides the necessary analysis to progress a review of the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020. There is a risk if Council does not adopt the Needs Assessment that the required social infrastructure needs will not be delivered given the absence of contemporary analysis and justification.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Under the current legislative framework, development contributions collected under section 7.11 of the EP&A Act can be used to fund land acquisition and embellishment of open space. Contributions can also be used to fund acquisition of land for community services (e.g. community facilities and libraries) but not to build these facilities.

There are several planned multipurpose community facilities identified within the West Dapto Vision and existing adopted West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 throughout stages 1, 2, 3 and 5 of the WDURA which are unfunded (to design and build). These projects will rely on funding sources other than s7.11 development contributions for delivery.

In addition, it is not uncommon for social infrastructure costs to exceed s7.11 development contributions requiring Council and other public authorities to source additional funding.

The Community and Cultural Facilities Recommendations in the Needs Assessment has determined the need for one additional community facility within stage 4, as well as upgrade of the existing stage 5 planned community facility from a neighbourhood to a sub-district service level. Stage 4 is expected to be the last stage of the WDURA to be zoned for urban development. Council staff will continue to seek external and grant funding opportunities to fund such social infrastructure.

Ethos Urban has undertaken detailed analysis of associated costs and benefits of sufficient open space provision. In section 6.8 of the Needs Assessment the importance of open space is framed under five headings including economic benefit. Ethos Urban highlight that -

Parks and leisure services can assist to reduce health care cost through reduction in disease and illness associated with lack of physical activity and social interaction. A park and public space network can provide local employment and investment opportunities; and contributes to maintaining a healthy workforce.

In addition, the Needs Assessment references work undertaken to understand the cost of insufficient social infrastructure provision. There is also growing evidence that failing to provide adequate social infrastructure results in significant costs to governments and communities. Ethos Urban referencing specifically Teriman et al., 2010; Casey, 2005, *Establishing Standards for Social Infrastructure*.

Libraries and community centres have large upfront capital costs. A new library can cost from \$20 million to \$30 million and new multipurpose community centres between \$40 million and \$70 million. The case studies provided in the Needs Assessment highlight that 21st century libraries and community centres are regional scale social infrastructure investments that provide for much more than places to borrow books or go for a swim. These multi-purpose facilities are designed to service large catchments and provide a wide range of services, seven days a week, for all ages and abilities.

CONCLUSION

Social infrastructure is a vital element supporting development of West Dapto Urban Release Area. The Needs Assessment identifies a range of hard, built social infrastructure needs. Delivering and achieving the recommendations contained in the Needs Assessment will require co-ordinated efforts of Council, the Government, private sector and not for profit organisations.

Council staff have considered the submissions received through exhibition of the draft Needs Assessment. The Community and Cultural Facilities, and Open Space and Recreation recommendations contained in the final West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment are presented to Council for adoption.

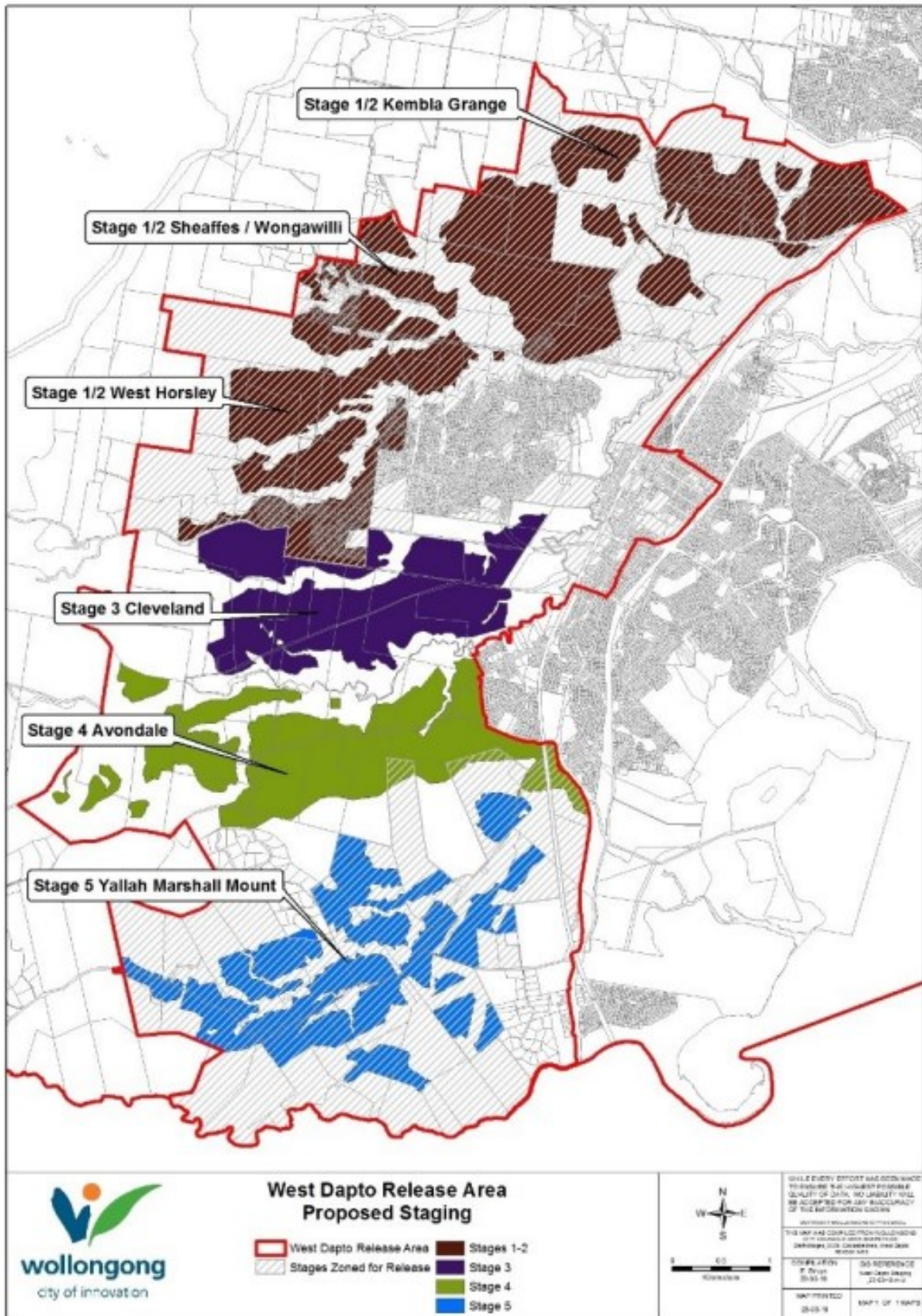


Figure 1: West Dapto Staging Plan

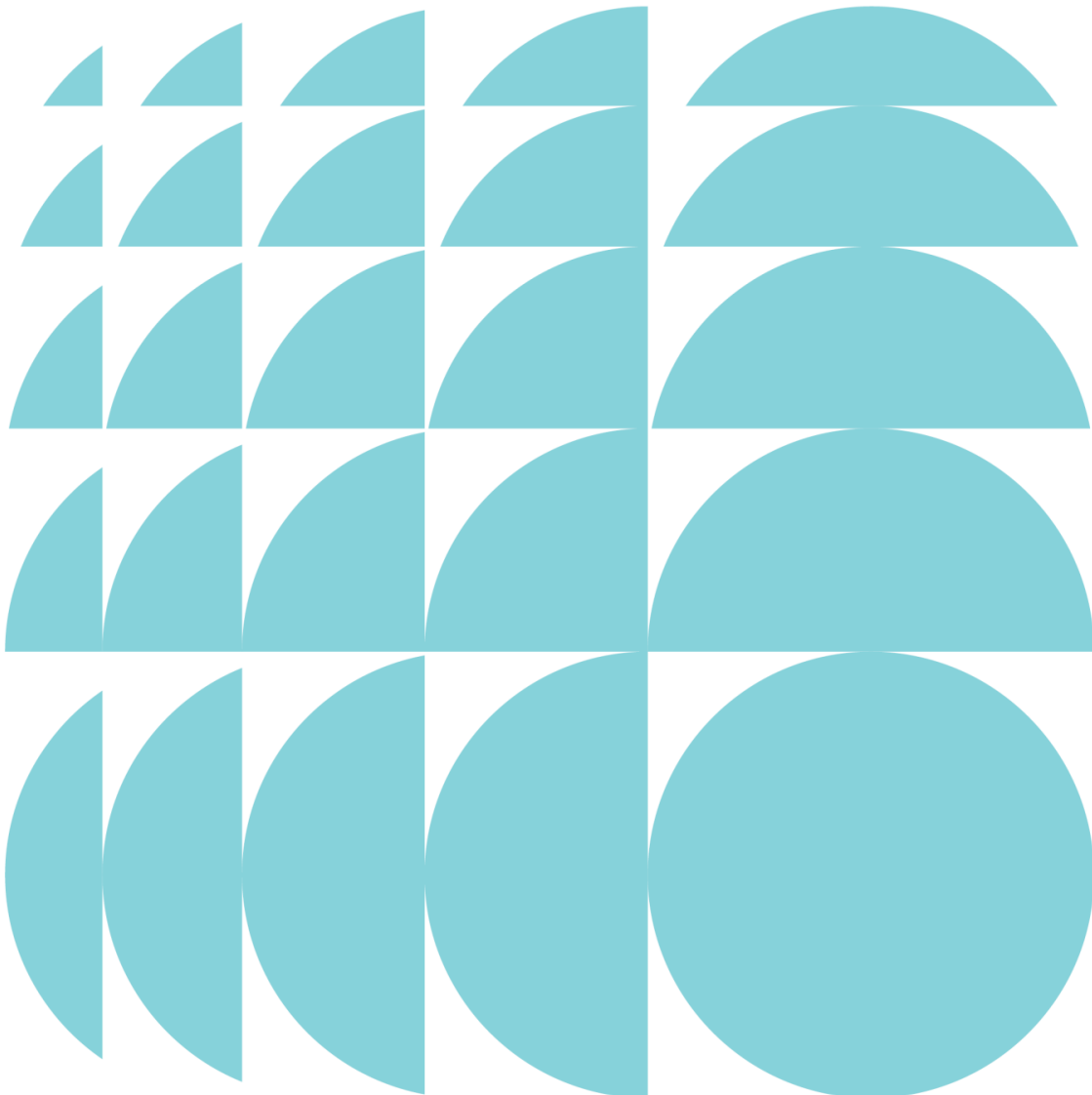
ETHOS URBAN



West Dapto Community Infrastructure Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis

FINAL REPORT
Prepared for Wollongong City Council

8 August 2023 | 2210779



Ethos Urban acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We acknowledge the Gadigal people, of the Eora Nation, the Traditional Custodians of the land where this document was prepared, and all peoples and nations from lands affected. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Wollongong City Council would like to show their respect and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Dharawal Country, Elders past and present, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

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This document has been reviewed by:




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14 July 2022

Allison Heller, Martin Lambert

14 July 2022

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VERSION NO.	DATE OF ISSUE	REVISION BY	APPROVED BY
V1	4 April 2022	SP, AK	AH, ML
V2	14 July 2022	SP, AK	AH, ML
V3	9 September 2022	SP, AK	AH, ML
V4	8 August 2023	SP	LC, ML

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The information contained in this report is provided in good faith. While Ethos Urban and Otium Planning Group has applied their own experience to the task, they have relied upon information supplied to them by other persons and organisations.

We have not conducted an audit of the information provided by others but have accepted it in good faith. Some of the information may have been provided 'commercial in confidence' and as such these venues or sources of information are not specifically identified. Readers should be aware that the preparation of this report may have necessitated projections of the future that are inherently uncertain and that our opinion is based on the underlying representations, assumptions and projections detailed in this report.

There will be differences between projected and actual results, because events and circumstances frequently do not occur as expected and those differences may be material. We do not express an opinion as to whether actual results will approximate projected results, nor can we confirm, underwrite or guarantee the achievability of the projections as it is not possible to substantiate assumptions which are based on future events.

Accordingly, neither Ethos Urban and Otium Planning Group, nor any member or employee of the afore mentioned, undertakes responsibility arising in any way whatsoever to any persons other than client in respect of this report, for any errors or omissions herein, arising through negligence or otherwise however caused

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Executive summary

West Dapto is expected to be an area of exponential growth within the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region, with the West Dapto Urban Release Area (WDURA) to provide approximately 19,500 additional dwellings and accommodate 56,750 additional residents over the next 50 years.

As a key source of new housing for the region moving into the future, the West Dapto Urban Release Area will require strategic planning of infrastructure and service delivery to adequately support its new population, while also conserving the area's environmental assets.

In February 2022, Wollongong City Council (Council) engaged Ethos Urban, in partnership with Otium Planning Group, to prepare a Community Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis of Open Space, Recreation, Community and Cultural facilities for the WDURA.

The objectives of this study are to deliver a best practice needs assessment and gap analysis informed by contemporary Government policies and planning benchmarks, and to enable Council's considered response to IPART's 2020 Final Assessment Report of the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan in due course.

This Assessment will supersede the current informing planning study as Council's contemporary position for open space, recreation and community and cultural facilities planning for West Dapto. It will further inform the revision of the broader West Dapto Vision and master planning.

Scope and Approach

This study has the following key methodological points:

- Social infrastructure is defined as including two core categories of infrastructure: open space and recreation, and community and cultural facilities. These two categories of social infrastructure provide the places and spaces for people to meet, be active, connect, create and learn. This study primarily assesses the 'hard' social infrastructure, the built facilities and open spaces, that support community connection and cohesion (see **Sections 2.1** and **2.4**).
- This study assesses the whole ecosystem of social infrastructure to provide a holistic picture, including infrastructure types that Council does not have primary responsibility for delivering (eg. childcare centres, schools and hospitals). Council's role in social infrastructure provision is further described in **Section 2.2**.
- This study uses both quantitative (eg. Population benchmarking, producing raw numeric data results) and qualitative (eg. Strategic information, research, engagement outcomes, and spatial considerations) to provide an informed and holistic outcome that informs understanding of gaps and needs for social infrastructure in the WDURA (see **Section 2.3**).
- There are two levels of study area applied in this study (see **Section 2.5**) – based on the staging identified in the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020. These are:
 - Primary study area: the boundary of the WDURA, as defined in the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020
 - Secondary study areas:
 - Stage 1/2 (excluding those parts that are in the Horsley suburb)
 - Stage 3
 - Stage 4
 - Stage 5
 - Horsley (existing suburb boundary)

Community and cultural infrastructure

This report sets out the findings of a community needs analysis that has been methodically undertaken to understand gaps in provision and informs recommendations for future provision. Although this assessment has focused on Council owned and / or managed assets, it is important to consider and appreciate the role of other facilities, which play a supplementary role in the existing social infrastructure network.

The community and cultural hierarchies applied in this study are based on Council's *Places for People: Social Infrastructure Planning Framework* (see **Section 2.6**) These include a neighbourhood, local, sub-district, and district catchment. Regional and sub-regional catchments are not assessed, as falling outside the scope of the WDURA (see **Section 3.1**).

The process of predicting demand for social infrastructure and services in growth areas is typically based on quantitative benchmarking for adequate provision of infrastructure according to the anticipated population. While benchmarking provides a useful starting point for social infrastructure needs assessment with figures for demand calculation, they are not intended to provide clear-cut answers, as social planning is by nature not black and white. Rather, they guide best practice facilities provision, to be used as part of a broader analysis that takes account of a rich range of qualitative and quantitative information.

The quantitative element of this analysis has included the following steps:

- **Section 8.0** audits current and planned social infrastructure provision across the WDURA.
- **Section 9.0** outlines current and projected population forecasts.
- **Section 11.0** applies benchmarks to the supply and population forecasts to undertake a supply-demand gap analysis. Benchmarks enable a quantitative assessment of community facilities provision based on a prescribed set of principles. The term 'benchmark' refers to the ratio of facility provision per population size, such as one library per 20,000-30,000 residents in a catchment.

These identified gaps are outlined in **Section 11.5** – and are used to inform priorities for delivery.

Equally important to the planning process are qualitative considerations. The need for infrastructure and services is not homogenous across every growing community; policy, emerging trends, existing facilities, local needs, area context, and stakeholder perspectives must all contribute to each local planning process.

The qualitative element of this analysis has included the following:

- Understanding the existing West Dapto community (**Section 4.0**), including its demographic profile (**Section 4.2**), and social issues and trends (**Section 4.3**).
- Considering the strategic policy context (**Section 5**), including key strategic documents from local, state, and federal sources (**Section 5.1**) and summarising key policy drivers influencing provision in the WDURA (**Section 5.3**).
- Researching and appraising dominant social infrastructure trends (**Section 6**). Key trends identified include the push for 20-minute neighbourhoods (**Section 6.1**), age-friendly approaches to social infrastructure planning (**Section 6.2**), resilience and a changing climate (**Section 6.3**), harnessing faith-based organisations for social infrastructure delivery (**Section 6.5**), the trend towards multipurpose community hubs (**Section 6.4**), the evolving role of libraries (**Section 6.6**), and the increasing role of cultural infrastructure in community building (**Section 6.7**).
- Analysing issues and opportunities in planning and delivering social infrastructure effectively in greenfield urban release areas (**Section 7.0**). Understanding Council's role in infrastructure delivery as both provider, facilitator and advocate (**Section 7.1**) opens up a range of mechanisms for private delivery or collaborative approaches with potential for the WDURA (**Section 7.2-7.3**). Additionally, it is recognised that growth areas have unique planning challenges (**Section 7.4**), including prominently the importance of timely delivery (**Section 7.5**).
- Case studies, outlined in **Sections 7.6-7.8**, provide a contextual understanding of opportunities and cautions for strategic planning, and the delivery and design of community facilities in comparative contexts.

The synthesis of these inputs, both quantitative and qualitative, has produced the recommendations outlined in **Section 15**. Arising from these recommendations are three key findings:

- There is demand for one additional neighbourhood-level multipurpose community centre in stage 4. Additionally, there is demand for one additional sub-district community centre in the WDURA, which could suitably be accommodated through an amendment of item CF05 of the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020.
- Collaborative delivery and partnership with government agencies, not-for-profits, and private developers are crucial to ensuring that core infrastructure is delivered in the WDURA, as well as opportunities for innovation and best practice facilities. These include the potential for a community arts centre and performing arts facility, Aboriginal cultural space, Coworking and business incubator spaces, and the adaptive reuse of existing heritage homesteads for community use.
- Continuing to engage with key stakeholders and the community, and undertaking additional strategic preparation including the master planning of town and village centres across the WDURA, will be essential to implementing the recommendations outlined in this Study and ensuring the appropriate provision of social infrastructure for the current and future West Dapto community.

Open space and recreation

The West Dapto Urban Release Area (WDURA) is planned to grow by more than 50,000 residents by 2058. The area includes several existing parks and open spaces that service the current residents in and adjacent to the area. Some of these pre-date the release of West Dapto for urban development and subsequent provision planning. This study has been focused on assessing the open space for sport and recreation needs of the WDURA and the anticipated future population that the public open space network will need to service.

The suburb of Horsley is physically located within the WDURA boundary. Parks and open space required to support the existing population of Horsley have been planned or provided within the suburb. The current planning for the WDURA should consider what excess capacity may be available in Horsley to meet future needs arising from growth in the WDURA generally. Therefore, a separate assessment of Public Open Space in Horsley has been undertaken to determine how any excess capacity can contribute to meeting the needs for the WDURA.

The Public Open Space needs assessment primarily focuses on the existing and planned provision of Public Open Space within all five stages of the WDURA. A qualitative review of existing supply and a quantitative assessment of public open space requirements for the WDURA has been undertaken to understand the functional open space land requirements by stage area and typology over 10-year increments. The requirement for sport infrastructure in the WDURA is calculated utilising two methodologies (i.e. Otium Analytics) - a demand analysis model and a benchmarking model.

This report proposes a new draft public open space planning framework in alignment with the existing West Dapto Open Space Design Manual. The draft Public Open Space framework is primarily driven by the latest industry standards, experience of similar release areas across NSW and a set of performance criteria that seek to ensure equitable distribution and access to functional public open space as well as effective integration and co-location of recreation facilities suitable within the proposed hierarchy levels. The intention of the proposed performance criteria is not to supersede current Council guidelines, but to complement and reinforce them to ensure the provision of high-quality Public Open Space in the WDURA.

Assessment and provision methodologies have referenced the Draft Greener Places Design Guide and the prior work undertaken for the WDURA. A key part of this updated provision planning is the adoption of performance criteria which ensures a sustainable infrastructure network suitable for public recreation and sporting use. The aim is to ensure that a more efficient land use outcome is realised, and that land acquired for recreation and sporting use is fit for purpose, cost effective to develop and affordable to maintain.

The key findings of the Public Open Space assessment are:

- The existing provision of 42.12 Ha serving Stage 1/2, of which 42.55% is assessed as functional (fit for purpose) open space, leaving 54.77% as non-functional.
- Functional Public Open Space is defined as the total area within an open space/park suitable for or used for, recreational activities like playgrounds, kick-a-bout areas, sports grounds, etc. Net functional area is exclusive of constrained land that is not fit for purpose due to slope, flooding, incompatible infrastructure (drains, high voltage lines etc.) size, shape and environmental constraints such as riparian and bushland vegetation cover

- A surplus of 7.97Ha in district sport and district recreation parks was identified in the suburb of Horsley. However, with the anticipated marginal population increase (through infill development) in Horsley along with existing and future demand from Dapto residents, it is doubtful this surplus will provide any significant capacity to meet the needs of future residents of WDURA.
- The total existing functional and future planned, public open space for WDURA currently totals 75.04 Ha.
- As a result of the quantitative needs assessment of WDURA, the total required Public Open Space in WDURA by 2058 is 162.823 Ha. This indicates that an additional 87.78 Ha of Public Open Space is required to service the anticipated population growth in WDURA.

The adoption of the performance criteria to ensure future parks and sporting areas are fit for purpose is strongly recommended. The provision rates suggested in the new planning framework rely heavily on improving the quality and functionality of land acquired for parks and sporting areas. In other words, the hectares per 1000 supply rates will only meet needs if the land quality improves significantly. The current supply assessment illustrates the importance of adopting land quality/ suitability criteria with more than 50% of the existing Public Open Space assessed as not fit for purpose.

The next stage of future open space planning should implement performance criteria to ensure site suitability and that only functional land is acquired for public recreation. This open space for sport and recreation will be complemented by other forms of open space such as that protecting habitat and riparian corridors. An overall open space network plan should be developed that can consider the public open space needed for sport and recreation and ensure that suitable land is planned within the overall open space network and that opportunities for multiple use outcomes are pursued while still meeting performance criteria for functional land.

PART A: INTRODUCTION AND APPROACH

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

Delivering adequate and appropriate social infrastructure, including community facilities, is fundamental to achieving Council's vision of a city that is 'safe, healthy and happy.'¹

In February 2022, Wollongong City Council (Council) engaged Ethos Urban, in partnership with Otium Planning Group, to prepare a Community Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis of Open Space, Recreation, Community and Cultural facilities for the West Dapto Urban Release Area (WDURA).

Council plays a key role in providing social infrastructure to support and sustain the liveability and wellbeing of the residents, both present and future, in the WDURA.

Parks, recreation facilities, libraries and cultural and creative spaces and other social infrastructure are important places through which social cohesion and social capital is fostered over time by bringing diverse community members together; providing spaces for communities to connect, create and learn. They are also an important touchpoint for Council and the community, through the delivery of amenities and services.

Social infrastructure and services are critical to support community health and wellbeing. Delivering adequate and appropriate social infrastructure, including community facilities, is fundamental to achieving Council's vision of a city that is 'safe, healthy and happy.'²

With a fast-growing community, Council now faces a range of challenges and opportunities in meeting community needs in the WDURA for social infrastructure over the duration of its development – challenges and opportunities for which this analysis provides insights and guidance.

1.2 Purpose of this study

The purpose of this study is to provide contemporary and robust analysis and recommendations for Council to develop, facilitate, and accommodate social and other infrastructure to support existing and future residents of the West Dapto Urban Release Area.

This study arises from Council's recognition of the importance of providing adequate infrastructure to sustain the social, cultural and economic development and success of the WDURA into the future.

The objectives of this study are to:

- Deliver a best practice needs assessment and gap analysis informed by contemporary Government policies and planning benchmarks
- Enable Council's considered response to IPART's 2020 Final Assessment Report of the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 in due course.

This Assessment will supersede the current informing planning study as Council's contemporary position for open space, recreation and community and cultural facilities planning for West Dapto. It will further inform revision of the broader West Dapto Vision and master planning.

¹ Our Wollongong 2028: Community Strategic Plan (Wollongong City Council, 2018, p. 37)

² Our Wollongong 2028: Community Strategic Plan (Wollongong City Council, 2018, p. 37)



Figure 1 WDURA – aerial view looking north east

Source: *Illawarra Mercury (2014)*

1.3 Study context

West Dapto is expected to be an area of exponential growth within the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region, with the WDURA to provide approximately 19,500 additional dwellings and accommodate 56,750 additional residents over the next 50 years.

As a key source of new housing for the region moving into the future, the West Dapto Area will require strategic planning of infrastructure and service delivery to adequately support its new population, while also conserving the area's environmental assets

The West Dapto Area will also serve to further the region's economic productivity by providing flexible employment lands which benefits from proximity to Port Kembla. While infrastructure delivery such as roads and other transport projects are ongoing in the area, significant investment into social infrastructure is required to support West Dapto's growing population. Strategic planning by Wollongong Council has outlined several social infrastructure directions for the area in the *West Dapto Vision 2018*, including:

- Deliver open space which features high amenity, is functional, accessible, and connected to other places of interest and key infrastructure.
- Open space should be delivered across a hierarchy of local, neighbourhood, district, and city-wide spaces, which each offer different functionalities.
- Community facilities should be co-located where possible in convenient locations, promote community safety, provide equitable access, be flexible, encourage diversity, and contribute to a high quality of life.
- Sharing facilities under a joint-use arrangement between schools, local governments, and other institutions should be explored.

1.4 West Dapto Vision

The West Dapto Vision (2018) is a key Council strategy guiding the desired future character of West Dapto. The Vision, summarised succinctly at the outset of that strategy, is worth extracting here in full.

West Dapto will grow and develop as a series of integrated and connected communities. Set against the spectacular Illawarra Escarpment and a landscape of riparian valleys, these communities will integrate the natural and cultural heritage of the area with the new urban form.

The communities will be healthy, sustainable and resilient with active and passive open space accessible by walkways, cycleways and public transport. To support these new communities, local centres will provide shopping services, community services and jobs while employment lands will facilitate further opportunities for the region.

West Dapto will be supported by a long-term strategy to oversee the timely implementation of infrastructure to deliver sustainable and high-quality suburbs with diverse housing choices.³

This document is one of many such long-term strategies commissioned by Council to guide the implementation of infrastructure, in this case, social infrastructure.

³ *West Dapto Vision 2018* (Wollongong City Council), p. 2.

2.0 Scope of this study

The following section outlines the assumptions and inclusions informing the scope of this study. It outlines key definitions and defines the boundaries of social infrastructure, the study areas, and the typology of infrastructure examined in this needs assessment and gap analysis.

2.1 What is social infrastructure?

Infrastructure Australia defines social infrastructure as:

*'Social infrastructure is comprised of the facilities, spaces, services and networks that support the quality of life and wellbeing of our communities. It helps us to be happy, safe and healthy, to learn, and to enjoy life. The network of social infrastructure contributes to social identity, inclusion and cohesion and is used by all Australians at some point in their lives, often on a daily basis. Access to high-quality, affordable social services has a direct impact on the social and economic wellbeing of all Australians.'*⁴

Social infrastructure includes open space, recreation, and community and cultural facilities which provide places and spaces for people to meet, be active, connect, create and learn. They also represent an important touchpoint for service providers to connect with the community through the delivery of services and amenities.

Social infrastructure includes hard and soft infrastructure. Hard social infrastructure refers to the facilities, buildings and spaces, and soft infrastructure refers to the programs, services and networks that occur in these spaces. Built assets, such as libraries and recreation centres, facilitate the delivery of social services by governments and other service providers.

The Wollongong Places for People: Social Infrastructure Planning Framework (see **Section 2.6.1**) notes that:

'Hard' and 'soft' social infrastructure depend on each other – services, networks, community and recreational programs, faith and interest groups rely on places and spaces to meet and participate. Buildings and assets rely on the activation of community if they are to continue to be a worthwhile investment for Council.'

It is widely recognised that social infrastructure provision is essential for the development of sustainable, liveable, resilient and socially cohesive communities.⁵ Quality social infrastructure is not only the 'building block for the enhancement of human and social capital,'⁶ but also works to attract investment, growth and economic development to local communities.⁷ Additionally, several studies have demonstrated the pronounced economic benefits of cultural activities, events and festivals for local economies.⁸ These benefits are seen through both direct employment opportunities, and the economic flow-on effects of increased visitation and expenditure in local areas.

There is also growing evidence that failing to provide adequate social infrastructure results in significant costs to governments and communities.⁹ Further, deficiencies in social infrastructure provision can create long-term, complex social problems that require costly remedial measures, particularly in socio-economically disadvantaged areas.¹⁰ Conversely, there is a substantial body of evidence that the benefits of social infrastructure far exceed the economic costs of provision.¹¹

⁴ Infrastructure Australia, *Australian Infrastructure Audit 2019*, <https://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-08/Australian%20Infrastructure%20Audit%202019%20-%206.%20Social%20Infrastructure.pdf>

⁵ British Property Foundation, 2010, *Planning for Social Infrastructure in Development Projects: A guide to tackling the key challenges*; Teriman et al., 2010, *Social infrastructure planning and sustainable community: example from southeast Queensland, Australia*; Brown and Barber, 2012, *Social infrastructure and sustainable urban communities*.

⁶ Teriman et al., 2010, page 3.

⁷ City of Greater Geelong, 2015, *Social Infrastructure Plan 2014-2031*.

⁸ Museums and Galleries NSW, 2010, *Value Added! The economic and social contribution of cultural facilities in Central NSW*; Museums and Galleries NSW, 2014, *A report on the economic impact of the cultural facilities of the Evocities*.

⁹ Teriman et al., 2010; Casey, 2005, *Establishing Standards for Social Infrastructure*.

¹⁰ Teriman et al., 2010; Casey, 2005; Liverpool City Council, 2018, *Community Facilities Strategy: A Blueprint for a Modern Network of Community Facilities*.

¹¹ See for example: Teriman et al., 2010; Casey, 2005.

2.2 Council's role in social infrastructure provision

Wollongong City Council plays a key role in providing social infrastructure to support and sustain liveability, community health, wellbeing, and participation. Open space, recreation and community facilities provide places and spaces for people to meet, be active, connect, create and learn. They also represent an important touchpoint for Council to connect with the community through the delivery of services and amenities.¹²

Council is responsible for the delivery of certain types of social infrastructure, including libraries, community facilities, parks and recreation facilities. However, Council is only one provider of community spaces within the Release Area, and Council is not solely responsible for meeting demand for community facilities. Additionally, Council has a role as advocator and facilitator of social infrastructure through partnerships and collaboration with other providers.

Increasingly, community services and the infrastructure that supports them are provided by the private or non-for-profit sector. The inclusion of this infrastructure in this study is premised on the relevance of understanding the full spectrum of community infrastructure, whether provided by Council or not.

Recognising local government as only one provider of community space within a broader network of community facilities will assist Council to identify a clear pathway to better manage growing demand for community facilities now and into the future, through a multi-pronged approach.

Understanding gaps in the delivery of traditionally private infrastructure types can inform Council's advocacy or partnership approaches – creating opportunities for collaboration and discussion to ensure that the community is provided for. Ultimately, the inclusion of non-council infrastructure aids in understanding a community's entire social infrastructure fabric.

2.3 Overview of approach to this study

This chapter outlines the methodology used to assess the existing provision and future needs of social infrastructure for the WDURA.

The process of predicting demand for social infrastructure and services in growth areas is typically based on quantitative benchmarking for adequate provision of infrastructure according to the anticipated population. While benchmarking provides a useful starting point for social infrastructure needs assessment with figures for demand calculation, they are not intended to provide clear-cut answers, as social planning is by nature not black and white. Rather they provide guidance on best practice facilities provision, to be used as part of a broader analysis that takes account of a rich range of qualitative and quantitative information.

Equally important to the planning process are site-specific considerations. The need for infrastructure and services is not homogenous across every growing community; policy, emerging trends, existing facilities, local needs, area context, and stakeholder perspectives must all contribute to each local planning process. The assessment contained in this needs assessment is therefore undertaken in two core stages of analysis:

- **Quantitative analysis** of current and planned supply of social infrastructure against industry standard benchmarks for provision (number/ size) considered adequate to meet the needs of the anticipated population for the WDURA according to population forecasts prepared by Wollongong City Council.

The quantitative methodology for this study has involved the following steps:

- Mapping of current and planned social infrastructure;
- Accessing reliable data sources on participation in sport and recreation activities to inform the analysis, and
- Undertaking a gap analysis, i.e. applying the benchmarks to current and forecast population numbers to identify forecast gaps in provision of social infrastructure, in order to derive recommendations for future provision to address identified gaps.

¹² Places for People, Wollongong Social Infrastructure Planning Framework 2018-2028 (Wollongong City Council).

- **Qualitative analysis of:**

- Local and state policy directions relevant to community infrastructure planning;
- Geographic distribution of supply from a population equity and accessibility/ walkability perspective;
- the quality of supply (whether infrastructure is fit for purpose/ in need of maintenance etc), and
- Capacity/ utilisation of current supply based on information provided by Wollongong City Council (infrastructure that is poorly utilised may mean it is surplus to community needs, for example, or rather not effectively meeting community needs through its design or functionality).

This study has included consultation with a range of state government agencies with a role in social infrastructure and services provision, including Create NSW, NSW Health, DPE, and the Office of Sports. In addition, the Local Aboriginal Land Council and a non-profit community service provider were engaged to ascertain their perspectives on community needs and priorities for social infrastructure provision in the urban renewal area.

Effective strategic planning for social infrastructure also takes account of issues such as funding availability – in terms of government investment required for the development and ongoing operation of facilities; land availability (e.g., land areas required to deliver sports and recreation facilities is usually not available in dense urban areas, unless planned for and delivered at the earliest stages); third party provision models; the need to take advantage of opportunities arising, along with broader community priorities and emerging issues that may arise and require a rethink of social infrastructure priorities.

2.4 Assumptions and inclusions

This study, while acknowledging and auditing other aspects of social infrastructure, focuses on the built assets that Council is primarily responsible for delivering. Examples of social infrastructure owned and/or managed by Council include:

- Integrated multipurpose facilities and library space
- Local community facilities, e.g. community centres, scout halls
- Cultural facilities, e.g. arts centres
- Public open space including spaces for active recreation and organised sport, and passive recreation
- Recreation facilities, eg. aquatic and leisure centres

This study refers to aspects of social infrastructure in numerous ways. This assessment, as a methodological decision, divides social infrastructure into the following two categories:

- Open space and recreation infrastructure
- Community and cultural facilities
 - Community facilities are defined to align with references to 'Hard' and 'Foundation Social Infrastructure' in the Places for People, Wollongong Social Infrastructure Planning Framework 2018-2028 (Wollongong City Council). Community facilities are defined in this study as physical spaces where social services, community, cultural development or recreational activities take place. These spaces provide accessible facilities and places for people to formally or informally meet, supporting 'soft' social infrastructure outcomes.¹³
 - Cultural infrastructure is defined as those spaces which generate cultural or creative capital, being either linked professionally with the creative industry or integral to the community's participation in cultural activities. This broad lens provides a fuller understanding of cultural infrastructure, capturing all spaces important to the local community's cultural generation.

The study area definition (see **Section 2.5** below) and typology (outlined in **Section 2.7** and **Section 3** below) further identify the scope of this study.

¹³ See *Places for People Social Infrastructure Planning Framework* (WCC, 2018), p. 8.

2.5 Study area definition

The primary study area for this assessment has been defined as the West Dapto Urban Release Area, which will also be referred to as the WDURA (see **Figure 2**). The secondary study areas have been identified as the five stages for the release area (identified in **Figure 2**), and the Horsley study area (see **Figure 3**). These study areas form the basis of this needs assessment, and corresponding gaps will be identified in relation to both the primary and secondary study areas.

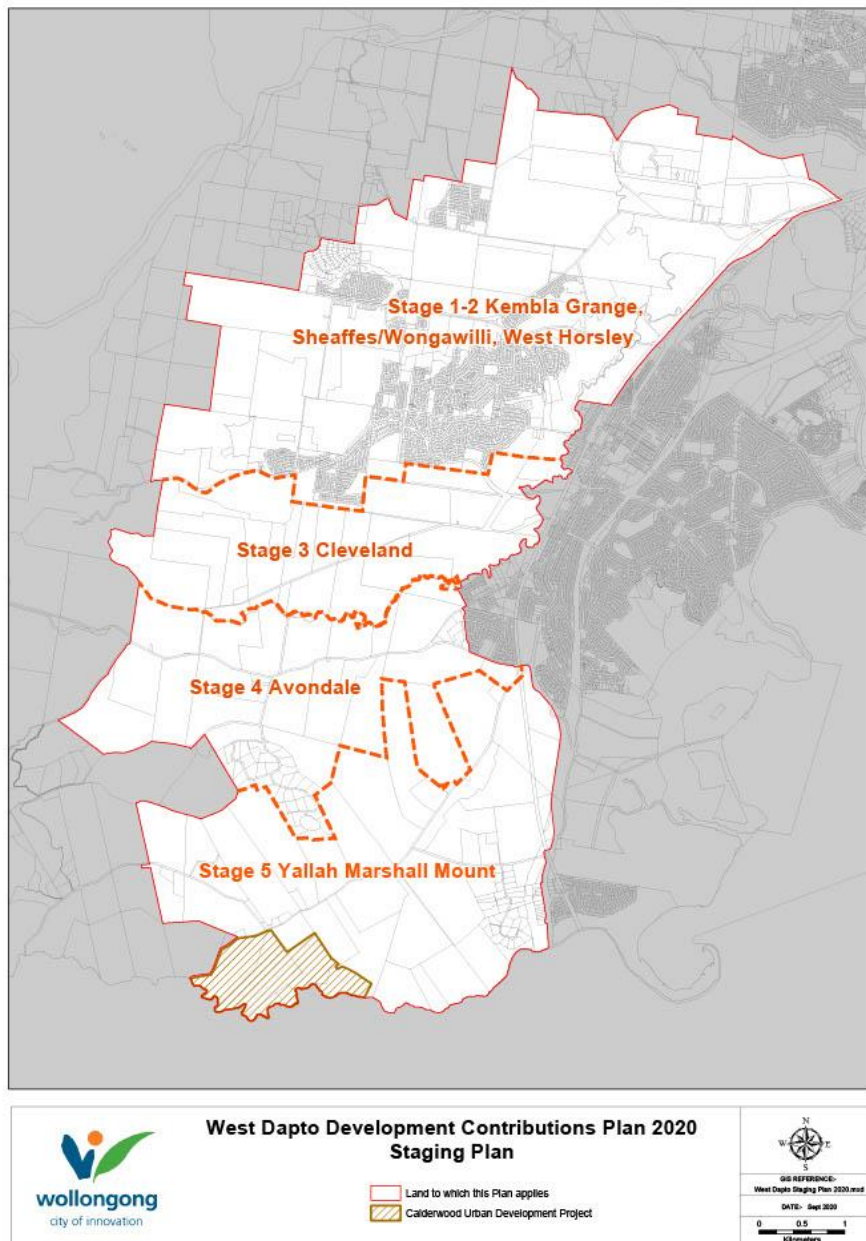


Figure 2 Primary and Secondary Study Areas

Source: Wollongong City Council

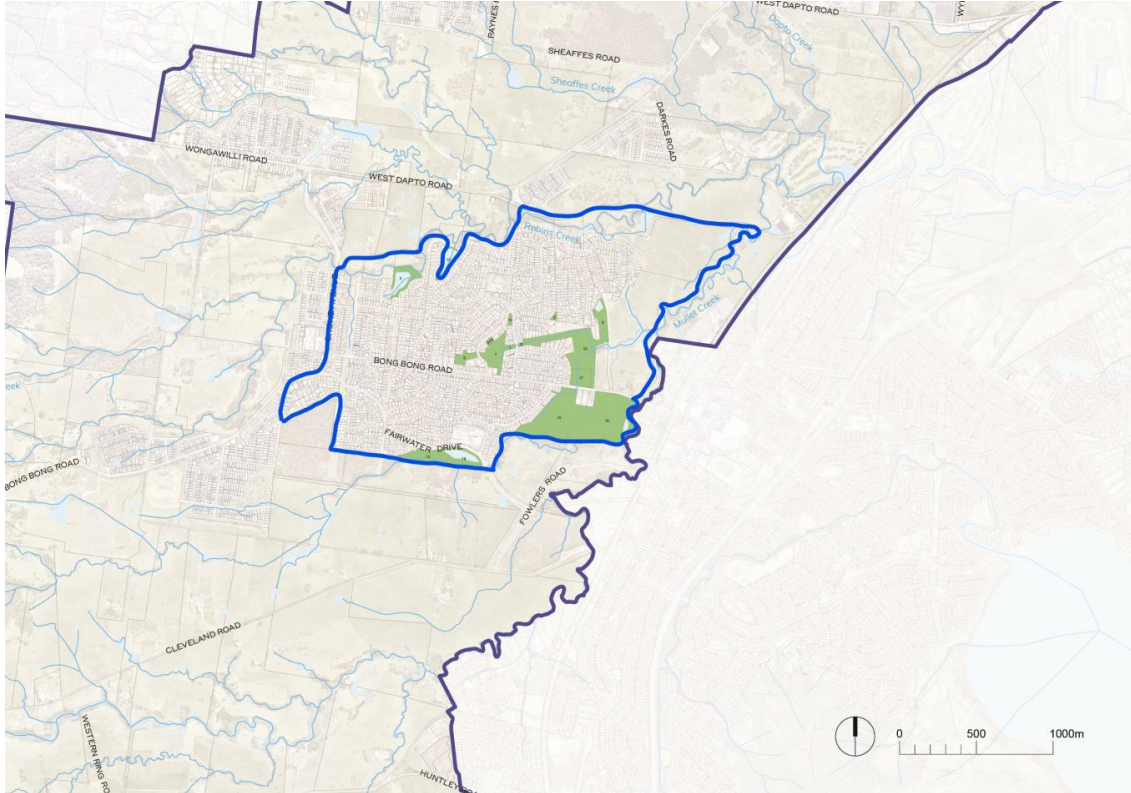


Figure 3 Horsley Study Area

Source: Ethos Urban, aligning with ABS Statistical Area Level 1s

There are three important methodological clarifications:

- Community infrastructure outside the study area is considered in this study when it has a catchment that includes the WDURA, as shown above. There is qualitative appraisal of reliance by WDURA residents on social infrastructure outside of the catchment.
- The established suburb of Horsley has been included as a separate secondary study area in this study. This is to ensure alignment with existing frameworks and demographic data, reflecting Horsley’s status as an existing urban area. Stage 1/2, while geographically encompassing Horsley, has been assessed separately and excludes the Horsley boundaries.
- It is noted from the outset that the five stages are not sequential, and are used only as identifiers.

2.6 Existing social infrastructure frameworks for consideration

2.6.1 Wollongong Social Infrastructure Planning Framework

The Wollongong Social Infrastructure Planning Framework (SIPF) is a 10 year framework for long-term strategic planning and management of Council's social infrastructure. It aims to enable Wollongong City Council to deliver 'high quality facilities that support service delivery and meets the needs and expectations of the Wollongong community, in a way that is both economically and ecologically sustainable'.¹⁴

Wollongong City Council recognises that 'cohesive, active and involved communities are created when the right kinds of spaces and places are available for people to come together'.

The framework guides elements of social infrastructure across the entire lifecycle, from guiding principles, to hierarchy and typology of provision, and the role of council and innovative models for future delivery. Key points of comparison are as follows:

- The SIPF is based on Bradshaw's Taxonomy of Social Need, dividing community infrastructure need across normative, comparative, felt, and expressed dimensions. These align broadly with the approach taken to this assessment.
 - Comparative: spatial analysis of the stages *vis a vis* broader Wollongong, and comparative demographic analysis to determine particular community needs and to understand key social issues and trends.
 - Normative: quantitative assessment, applying benchmark gap analysis to determine ideal provision rates for social infrastructure in West Dapto.
 - Felt: community consultation as part of the exhibition of the draft needs assessment and draft masterplan.
 - Expressed: qualitative assessment of community use of existing community infrastructure.
- The SIPF recognises that Council's role is not limited to the actual delivery of community infrastructure, but rather extends to the planning and advocacy for social infrastructure to be delivered by state government and private providers. This partnership approach to social infrastructure delivery is noted in the development of the below typology.
- The SIPF outlines a set of guiding principles for community infrastructure. These principles align with best practice community infrastructure planning, and are considered in the key findings and recommendations – as well as in the masterplan.
- The SIPF outlines a hierarchy aligning with population size and geographic accessibility (see **Figure 4**). This hierarchy is adopted in this study, as outlined in the typology below. It is noted that Regional and Sub-regional facilities are not assessed in this study, given the lack of anticipated provision for these scales of infrastructure in the WDURA.
- The SIPF identifies Gross Floor Area benchmarks for Foundation Social Infrastructure Facilities. These benchmarks will be adopted to determine recommendations for GFA in the delivery of social infrastructure.
- The SIPF outlines key population trends and social infrastructure assessment outcomes by designated planning area. Planning areas 7 (~stages 1-3) and 10 (~stages 4-5) align broadly with the WDURA. Key outcomes from Council's assessment for these study areas include:
 - There is a gap in provision of a multi-purpose 'District' community centre, although noting the provision of a centre in adjacent Dapto.
 - Facilities in planning area 7 are well-utilised when observing data on the hours of hire. Data for stages 4 and 5 (Planning Area 10) showing a lack of utilisation is commensurate with a lack of existing population and no current facilities.
 - There is not a good level of non-Council social infrastructure and supporting infrastructure in the area.
 - Stages 4 and 5 are geographically isolated and lack public transport connections, highlighting the importance of access to local facilities in the area.

¹⁴ *Places for People Social Infrastructure Planning Framework (2018)*, p. 5

- The majority of facilities in West Dapto are small, older, stand-alone facilities.
- The majority of facilities in stages 1-3 are unlikely to have capacity to meet high levels of future demand.
- There will be a high proportion of young children in West Dapto, indicating a need for facilities, activities and programs for young children and their carers. This is compounded by a high proportion of couples with children and/or single parent households, driving a need for services and informal spaces for socialising and play.
- High proportion of older people indicates a need for senior citizens' services and spaces.

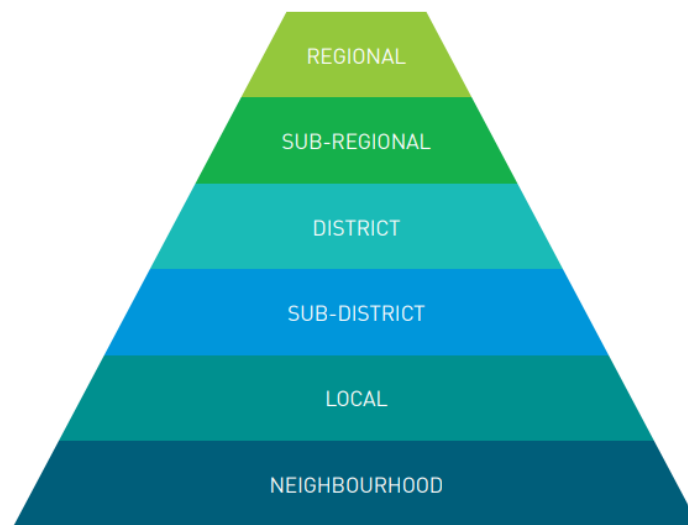


Figure 4 Wollongong SIPF framework – hierarchy of social infrastructure and population

Source: Wollongong City Council

2.6.2 West Dapto Open Space Design Manual

Design Principles of the design manual include:

- Well-distributed network of open spaces: accessible, attractive and usable public spaces
- Design Flexibility: variety of uses, sufficient size and design flexibility
- Managing competing functions: flood and water management, traffic and road infrastructure and biodiversity areas.
- Open space embellishment: planning for sustainable embellishments-cost, maintenance and user satisfaction
- Active and Passive split: allow for equal split
- CPTED principles: passive and active surveillance
- Connectivity: shared pathway/active transport network and connections to key places
- Urban Greening: quality and quantity tree canopy and vegetation management
- Conservation: bushlands and ecological corridors
- Amenity: social needs and embrace local landscape character
- Value: quality of infrastructure to minimise maintenance

The strategic principles of *West Dapto Vision 2018 and West Dapto Design Manual* outlines the standards for open space planning around catchment distances in the future urban and residential areas to the open space.

Table 1 Current open space planning hierarchy (as identified in the West Dapto Open Space Design Manual)

Current Guidelines			
Classification		Size	Catchment (radius)
Local Passive	INFORMAL	0.5-2ha	400-600m
Neighbourhood Passive		2-4ha	2km
Local Active	FORMAL	1-2ha	400-600m
Neighbourhood Active		3-5ha	2km
District Active		5-8ha	Southern Ward of LGA
City Wide Active		8+ ha	Facility to serve whole LGA

Source: *West Dapto Open Space Design Manual*

It is understood that the current open space hierarchy was developed through the NSW Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government (2010) and the recommendations of a report prepared by Elton Consulting in 2007.

2.7 Developing the social infrastructure typology for this study

A range of contemporary approaches and infrastructure types have been considered through this study – outlined below.

2.7.1 Open space planning – contemporary approaches

The way we plan public open space is changing. The Urban Green Infrastructure Policy *Greener Places* (NSW) was released by the state government in 2017 and the Draft Guidelines *Open Space for Recreation* were released late in 2018 by the NSW Government Architect in 2018 for public review and discussion.



The *Greener Places*¹⁵ document aims to create a networked urban ecosystem of green space that encompasses parks and open spaces to help create a healthier, more liveable and resilient place to live. The policy advocates for green infrastructure to be considered as essential infrastructure throughout the urban design process, from strategy to construction and maintenance.

The objectives of the draft policy are:

- To protect, conserve and enhance NSW's network of green and open natural and cultural spaces
- To secure a network of high quality, high performing and well-designed green space, establishing a crucial component of urban infrastructure to address the environmental challenges of the twenty-first century
- To promote healthy living, encouraging physical activity, social cohesion, and enhancing wellbeing by providing liveable places for the NSW community
- To create a more strategic approach to planning for Green Infrastructure, encouraging early and integrated investment through statutory planning
- To deliver better tools for the delivery of Green Infrastructure across NSW.

The Draft Greener Places Design Guide contains three manuals/ tool kits that support the Greener Places policy; one being the *Open Space for Recreation Guide* which proposes a new framework for planning.

This guide has informed the WDURA Needs Assessment of Public Open Space and has provided significant guidance on the planning principles and performance criteria used for open space planning in particular.

In summary it advocates:

- A shift in focus from coarse measures such as hectares per 1000 to a performance approach combining a number of measures.
- An emphasis on the recreation opportunity outcomes required and defining the spaces needed to support these.
- A recognition that existing parks have a capacity and can only accommodate so much use before additional land is needed.
- Increased multiple use of open space and public spaces such as those within schools
- The Guide details a range of performance criteria that guide successful planning and delivery. It outlines **six core performance criteria** for consideration when planning for open space:
 - **Accessibility and Connectivity** - Ease of access is critical for the community to be able to enjoy and use public open space and recreation facilities.
 - **Distribution** - The ability of residents to gain access to public open space within an easy walk from home, workplaces, and schools is an important factor for quality of life. The geographic distribution of open space is a key access and equity issue for the community.

¹⁵ Source: <https://www.governmentarchitect.nsw.gov.au/policies/greener-places>

- **Size and Shape** - Size and shape of open space has a direct bearing on the capacity of that open space to meet and accommodate recreation activities and needs.
- **Quantity** - In low- and high-density areas, good provision of public open space is essential to compensate for the lack of private open space to support active living and contribute to a more liveable neighbourhood.
- **Quality** - The quality of design and ongoing maintenance and management is critical to attracting use and activating the open space network.
- **Diversity** - The range of open space setting types within an urban area will determine the diversity of recreation opportunity for communities.

2.7.2 Cultural infrastructure types

The following typology adapts – for social infrastructure in the built environment – the typology used in the *Cultural Infrastructure Plan 2025+* and the City of Sydney commissioned Western Sydney University report *Mapping Culture: Venues and infrastructure in the City of Sydney* (2016). The typology is as follows:

- Practice: cultural infrastructure for professional creative practice and art form development, such as rehearsal rooms, artist studios, workshop spaces, and makers spaces
- Presentation: Cultural venues and infrastructure for audiences or spectatorship
- Participation: Cultural infrastructure for active participation that is centred on local communities. This includes any spaces which provide the forum for generating culture specific to the local community, and may include such venues as community centres, Aboriginal Cultural Centres, local libraries, and local history museums.

It is noted that there is some cross-over between cultural and general local community infrastructure under this typology, namely:

- Libraries are common venues for the local community to participate in culture
- Local community facilities are often relevant for both generating local participation in culture and in its presentation
- Open space has been extensively noted in the source typologies as relevant in the public presentation of culture, including through outdoor event spaces and public art.

While some forms of cultural infrastructure can be audited quantitatively, it is important for these spaces to be understood as dynamic processes. Here, the typology should be applied as a guide only, considering the peculiarities of cultural generation in a locality.

Section 6.7 outlines in further detail some of the emerging trends in cultural infrastructure planning.

2.7.3 Specialised community spaces

The audit and benchmarking of specialised spaces, for example youth or seniors friendly spaces, recognises that general audits of community space fails to recognise the particular needs of certain demographics within that community. The inclusion of these spaces within the typology recognises these needs, and any quantitatively or qualitatively understood gaps in their provision can be specifically addressed.

Although often these spaces are provided within larger multipurpose community centres, or integrated with other facilities such as open space or cultural centres – this typology recognises that these spaces must be understood as distinct community needs from the outset.

A further explanation for the rationale behind specialised community spaces is provided for in the research on age-specific community infrastructure planning (**Section 6.2**).

3.0 Approach to this assessment

3.1 Community and cultural infrastructure types

The community infrastructure typology shown below has been selected to be applied in the quantitative assessment that forms the core of this study. This represents a range of infrastructure essential to social sustainability in growth areas.

It is noted that these typologies were selected for general assessment and analysis to inform future discussions relating to gaps with key stakeholders. It is not anticipated that Council will be suitable to deliver on every typology identified. Many of these typologies will be addressed by state government agencies and private delivery. The role of council in this context therefore differs – ranging from direct delivery, partner, and advocate for provision.

3.1.1 Guiding principles

The following guiding principles have been identified based on best practice community infrastructure planning. It is noted that the language and terminology of these principles aligns closely with Council’s Social infrastructure Planning Framework (see **Section 2.6.1**). These guiding principles will direct the analysis and recommendations arising from this study. Some of the underlying research and trends for these principles are identified in **Section 6.0**.

1. **Holistic** – consideration of the whole lifecycle of community infrastructure, aligning hard and soft infrastructure
2. **Strategic** – co-location of social infrastructure with other facilities and activity centres
3. **Fit for purpose** – flexible, adaptable spaces; prioritising multipurpose facilities and encouraging shared use
4. **Equitable** – accessible, inclusive and culturally appropriate, including age-friendly and child-friendly design
5. **Quality** – contributing to place-making and community identity, and achieving innovative models
6. **Sustainable** – social infrastructure will be ecologically, socially, and financially sustainable over generations

3.1.2 Study catchments

The catchments applied to this study have been chosen to align with the Wollongong Social infrastructure Planning Framework. It is noted that regional scale infrastructure has not been assessed quantitatively in this study. The hierarchy applied in this study is outlined in **Table 2**.

Table 2 Catchments applied to this study

Hierarchy Level	Population catchment	Geographic catchment
District	30,000-50,000 residents	4-10 km radius
Sub-District	20,000-30,000 residents	3-4 km radius
Local	5,000-20,000 residents	1-3 km radius
Neighbourhood	1,000-5,000 residents	<1km radius

Source: Wollongong City Council SIFP

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Table 3 Community infrastructure typology

Infrastructure category	Typology	Description	Notes	Hierarchy (Wollongong SIPP)	Geographic catchment (adapted from Wollongong SIPP)
General community facilities	Sub-district multipurpose community centre	Hubs based around libraries and/or other services, to include some specialised spaces.		Sub-district	3-4km
	Library space (standalone or combined)	Typically serve as anchors for hubs.		Sub-district	3-4km
	Neighbourhood multipurpose community centre	Smaller hubs to include multipurpose rooms with potential for some service provision and specialised spaces.		Neighbourhood	<1km
	Non-council bookable space	This typology captures those private spaces which provide for local community meeting needs		n/a	n/a
Youth	Youth-friendly space	These are lower-order youth spaces that are likely to be based at a centre or incorporated into open space.		Local	1-3km
	Youth centre	Higher-order youth services hub.		District	4-10km
Specialised community facility	Seniors space		Opportunities to provide these will be addressed in relation to community centres	n/a	n/a
	Community Sheds and Gardens			n/a	n/a
	Co-working/ business incubator spaces			n/a	n/a
	Aboriginal community space			District	4-10km
Education and Early Years	Places of worship			Local	1-3km
	Child care places			Neighbourhood	<1km
	Government primary school			Local	1-3km
	Government high school			Sub-district	3-4km

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Infrastructure category	Typology	Description	Notes	Hierarchy (Wollongong SIPP)	Geographic catchment (adapted from Wollongong SIPP)	
Creative and cultural facilities	Practice (incl. studio/workshop space)	Local community practice space		Consider integrated within community facilities	Local	1-3km
		General qualitative assessment		This assumes that higher order (regional/ sub-regional) arts and cultural facilities are provided elsewhere in Wollongong.	n/a	n/a
	Presentation (incl. performance and exhibition spaces)	District presentation facilities			n/a	n/a
		Local presentation spaces			Local	1-3km
	Participation (local cultural participation, incl. through public art and local heritage programs)				Neighbourhood	<1km
Health & wellbeing	Health Hub	These typically deliver primary care services and some allied/ outreach services such as mental health, drug and alcohol support.	This assumes higher-order (regional/sub-regional) facilities are provided elsewhere in Wollongong	District	4-10km	
	Local Medical centre			Local	1-3km	
	General Practitioner (GP)			Neighbourhood	<1km	

3.2 Open space and recreation

This section provides a revised approach to the public open space provision in WDURA based on research and analysis. It strives to achieve optimal community recreation outcomes that will contribute to positive long term public health outcomes.

An overarching objective of the framework is to:

Ensure 85-90% of residents within WDURA are located within a 5-7 minute walk of high quality and functional open space.

3.2.1 Guiding principles

1. **Country First** – Acknowledging the rich and diverse history as well as the unique landscape character of WDURA. A place-based approach will be central to planning and design of the public open space network.
2. **Local Character and Heritage Conservation** - Ensuring public open spaces reflect, create and enhance local character of the various neighbourhoods and communities of WDURA.
3. **Equitable, Accessible and Diverse** - Ensuring all residents of WDURA are within walking access to functional public open space. Open space and recreation facilities are equitably distributed, providing a diverse range of recreation opportunities that embed universal design outcomes.
4. **Quality and Capacity** – Public open spaces in WDURA are to be of a high standard and ensure sufficient capacity for organised and informal open space uses. The provision of public open spaces will be integrated with the urban environment, connected to active transport and green space networks. Public open space will maximise opportunities for recreation by ensuring sufficient land area and land quality to accommodate multiple-use and changing community and activity demands over time.
5. **Resilient and Sustainable** –Public open spaces and recreation facilities in WDURA will aim to incorporate best practices in environmentally sustainable design and enable efficient ongoing asset management. Public Open Spaces should be located and designed to be resilient to the impacts of a changing climate while providing for multiple use open space that supports Council’s sustainability and resilience initiatives.

3.2.2 Performance based approach to Public Open Space in WDURA

Based on assessment of the existing framework, review of the latest industry guidelines and experience of similar release areas across NSW, this proposed new draft public open space framework seeks to:

1. Simplify the number of levels in the hierarchy of provision to encourage more effective provision with an emphasis on capacity and better return on investment along with meeting future provision needs
2. Provide the basis for a performance-based criteria to ensure equitable distribution of and access to functional public open space as well as effective integration and co-location of recreation facilities suitable within hierarchy levels
3. Ensure sufficient capacity to accommodate use and acknowledging the nexus with land quality and suitability – including the development of performance criteria to ensure land is ‘fit for purpose’ and that planning to meet demand considers the functional area for recreation and sport as a subset of the overall open space estate which includes land with multiple other functions¹⁶ or ‘primary purposes’.
4. Outline indicative activations to ensure diversity of recreation is achieved
5. Provide flexibility and adaptability to respond to changing demographic and participation trends.
6. Ensure deliverability through infrastructure investment and development which delivers sustainable and flexible resources that are affordable to develop and efficient to maintain.

¹⁶ Which generally could include drainage corridors, stormwater basins, waterways, powerline easements, buffer corridors, etc in their gross area calculation.

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Table 4 Proposed open space framework for West Dapto

Performance Criteria	Local Park	Linear Parks / Open Space corridors	District - Recreation	District - Sport	Urban Release Area Wide / Destination Parks
Size, Shape and Distribution	<p>Indicative area: 0.5-1.5ha SIZE: Min size- 0.5ha with 100% net functional area. Preferred size-1ha with 80% net functional area. Max size- 1.5ha with 60% net functional area **</p> <p>SHAPE: No side of the park to be less than 15m Distribution: 400-600m walking catchment. 5-7 min walking distance from residential areas (NOTE: walking time is based on available/planned active transport infrastructure i.e. footpaths, shared paths, etc.) Road frontage: min 50% (i.e. at least 2 sides of the park shape) Connectivity: Barrier free connectivity to the surrounding street network, open space network and residential areas</p>	<p>Indicative area: subject to the future green and blue grid. NOTE: Watercourses are acceptable as linear open space corridors. These will primarily serve as connection corridors. SIZE: Watercourses- Min 10-50m for each side of watercourses in line with Wollongong-DCP-2009-Chapter-E23-Riparian-Land-Management. Powerline easements- within 30m Net Functional area: N/A SHAPE: No entry to be less than 10m Road Frontage: Min 25% NOTE: No section of road frontage less than 50 m and gaps between road frontage or connection to other public spaces no greater than 100m Connectivity: Connectivity to residential street network, active transport corridors</p>	<p>Indicative area: 3-5ha SIZE: Minimum functional area of 2ha Net Functional area: 60% of total area SHAPE: min width-150m (to allow for proper orientation of fields) Distribution: 1.5-2.5km radius catchment Approx. 20-25min walking distance and drive time of 10min from residential areas. Road frontage: min 50% (i.e. at least 2 sides of the park shape) Connectivity: Connectivity to residential street network, active transport corridors, public transport and local centres</p>	<p>Indicative area: 5-10+ ha SIZE: Min-5ha Net Functional area: 70% of total area SHAPE: min width-150m (to allow for proper orientation of fields-min 2 fields) Distribution: 1.5-2.5km radius catchment Approx. 20-25min walking distance and drive time of 10min from residential areas. Road frontage: min 50% (i.e. at least 2 sides of the park shape) Connectivity: Connectivity to residential street network, active transport corridors, public transport-buses and local centres</p>	<p>Indicative area: 15+ ha SIZE: Min-15ha Net Functional area: 60% of total area SHAPE: min width-150-200m (to allow for proper orientation of fields-min 2 fields) Distribution: One centrally located to the release area with an approx. 15min drive time</p> <p>Road frontage: min 50% (i.e. at least 2 sides of the park shape) Connectivity: Connectivity to broader street network, active transport corridors, public transport-trains and buses and local centres</p>

** - Net Functional Area is defined as the total area within an open space/park used for recreational activities like playground, kick-a-bout area, sportsgrounds, etc. Net functional area is exclusive of constrained land.

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Performance Criteria	Local Park	Linear Parks / Open Space corridors	District - Recreation	District - Sport	Urban Release Area Wide / Destination Parks
Land Quality and Land suitability	<p>Slope and Topography- no more than 20% of the area with slope greater than 1:10 (where 1 is vertical length and 10 is horizontal length)</p> <p>Hazards and Constraints (excluded from Public Open Space calculation): powerline easements, drainage corridors</p> <p>Flood prone land-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For substantial building infrastructure like clubhouse: 1% AEP and above - Other infrastructure related to park activation may be located in areas within: 1-5% AEP provided the floor levels of these facilities are above 5% AEP + freeboard. - Location of parks in flood zones: Local Park preferably located outside 1% AEP i.e. flood free land (considering everyday use of the Park) <p>Co-location with stormwater infrastructure: Preferably located separate to detention basins. Detention basin can form part of open spaces with functional land area greater than 1ha.</p> <p>Barriers: road and railway corridors, waterways and drains, etc.</p> <p>Visibility from street level</p> <p>Safer Design Principles: blind spots, high vegetation cover, low surveillance areas, etc.</p> <p>Solar Access: at least 3 hours of sunlight across 75% or more of the area, on the winter solstice - 21 June.</p> <p>Universal accessibility</p>	<p>Slope and Topography: Watercourse embankments</p> <p>Hazards and Constraints: drainage corridors, loose soil, etc.</p> <p>Flood prone land- Infrastructure related to park activation (like toilets, kiosks) may be located in areas within: 1-5% AEP provided the floor levels of these facilities are above 5% AEP + freeboard.</p> <p>Consider flood resilient materials in amenities buildings that are subject to flooding.</p> <p>Barriers: waterways and drains, flood detention basins, etc.</p> <p>Safer Design Principles: high vegetation cover, low surveillance areas, etc.</p> <p>Solar access (where possible) and lighting</p> <p>Universal accessibility (where possible)</p>	<p>Slope and Topography: - no more than 20% of the area with slope greater than 1:10 (where 1 is vertical length and 10 is horizontal length)</p> <p>Hazards and Constraints (excluded from Public Open Space calculation): powerline easements, drainage corridors, etc.</p> <p>Flood prone land-1% AEP and above for substantial building infrastructure like clubhouse.</p> <p>Other infrastructure related to park activation (like toilets, kiosks) may be located in areas within 1% AEP or high flood frequency for constrained sites.</p> <p>Consider flood resilient materials in amenities buildings that are subject to flooding.</p> <p>Co-location with stormwater infrastructure: District Parks can be co-located with detention basins to allow dual functions.</p> <p>Barriers: road and railway corridors, waterways and drains, flood detention basins, etc.</p> <p>Safer Design Principles: blind spots, high vegetation cover, low surveillance areas, etc.</p> <p>Buffers: adjacent land use, noise impacts</p> <p>Solar Access: at least 3 hours of sunlight across 75% or more of the area, on the winter solstice - 21 June.</p> <p>Universal accessibility</p>	<p>Slope and Topography: Playing field areas are to be on one level (not tiered) to allow for maximum flexibility. The playing surface should be no steeper than 1:100 (where 1 is vertical length and 100 is horizontal length) along the line of play and 1:50 (where 1 is vertical length and 50 is horizontal length) across the line of play.</p> <p>Hazards and Constraints (excluded from Public Open Space calculation): powerline easements, drainage corridors, flood prone land, etc.</p> <p>Flood prone land-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For substantial building infrastructure like clubhouse: 1% AEP and above - Other infrastructure related to park activation (like toilets, kiosks) may be located in areas within: 1-5% AEP provided the floor levels of these facilities are above 5% AEP + freeboard. - Playing Fields: 5% AEP and 10% AEP where land is highly constrained. <p>Consider flood resilient materials in amenities buildings that are subject to flooding.</p> <p>Co-location with stormwater: District Sport can be co-located with detention basins to allow dual functions, preferably with functional land area greater than 2ha.</p> <p>Barriers: road and railway corridors, waterways and drains, flood detention basins, etc.</p> <p>Safer Design Principles: blind spots, high vegetation cover, low surveillance areas, etc.</p> <p>Buffers: adjacent land use, noise impacts</p> <p>Solar Access: at least 3 hours of sunlight across 75% or more of the area, on the winter solstice - 21 June.</p> <p>Universal accessibility</p>	<p>Slope and Topography: Playing field areas are to be on one level (not tiered) to allow for maximum flexibility. The playing surface should be no steeper than 1:100 (where 1 is vertical length and 100 is horizontal length) along the line of play and 1:50 (where 1 is vertical length and 50 is horizontal length) across the line of play.</p> <p>Hazards and Constraints (excluded from Public Open Space calculation): powerline easements, drainage corridors, flood prone land, etc.</p> <p>Flood prone land-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For substantial building infrastructure like clubhouse: 1% AEP and above - Other infrastructure related to park activation (like toilets, kiosks) may be located in areas within: 1-5% AEP provided the floor levels of these facilities are above 5% AEP + freeboard. - Playing Fields: 5% AEP and 10% AEP where land is highly constrained. <p>Consider flood resilient materials in amenities buildings that are subject to flooding.</p> <p>Co-location with stormwater: Detention basin can form part of open spaces with functional land area greater than 2ha.</p> <p>Barriers: road and railway corridors, waterways and drains, flood detention basins, etc.</p> <p>Safer Design Principles: blind spots, high vegetation cover, low surveillance areas, etc..</p> <p>Buffers: adjacent land use, noise impacts</p> <p>Solar Access: at least 3 hours of sunlight across 75% or more of the area, on the winter solstice - 21 June.</p> <p>Universal accessibility</p>

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Performance Criteria	Local Park	Linear Parks / Open Space corridors	District - Recreation	District - Sport	Urban Release Area Wide / Destination Parks
Site Infrastructure	Potential Activation and Infrastructure: Various play including intergenerational play, nature-based play and sensory play with built shade Kick-a-bout area Small sided multi-purpose courts Outdoor fitness station Covered Seating (natural or shading device) Picnic tables and BBQ (covered) General waste and recycling Bin Pathways Parking (on-street if needed) Signage Lighting Landscaping-vegetation hierarchy Bubbler/ tap Fencing	Potential Activation and Infrastructure: Public Art Informal Covered Seating (natural shade) Picnic tables and BBQ (covered) General waste and recycling Bin Shared ways (min 3m wide) Wayfinding Signage Lighting	Potential Activation and Infrastructure: Large inclusive play with built shade Youth Spaces incorporating skate facilities, multi-purpose courts (inclusive of basketball) Public Art features embedded in recreation elements Outdoor fitness station (various levels) Public Toilets/amenities Fenced Off-leash Dog Park (align with WCC guidelines) Covered Seating (natural or shading device) Picnic tables and BBQ (covered) General waste and recycling Bin Shared ways-min 3m wide Walk and Bike trail- min 3m wide Learn to ride Parking Signage Lighting Landscaping-vegetation hierarchy, landscaped gardens Bubbler/ tap Fencing	Potential Activation and Infrastructure: Formal playing fields-multipurpose (min 2 x playing fields) with drainage and irrigation Multi-purpose courts (min 4 courts) including skate opportunities Spectator seating Public toilet/Amenities Clubhouse-toilets, gender equitable change rooms, storage and canteen Sports lighting Local Playground with seating and built shade Co-location with Community and cultural facilities Public Art features embedded in recreation elements Informal Seating (natural shade) Picnic tables and BBQ (covered) General waste and recycling Bin Walk and Bike trail network- min 3m wide Parking Signage Lighting Landscaping-vegetation hierarchy Bubbler/ tap Fencing Fenced Off-leash Dog Park (align with WCC guidelines)	Potential Activation and Infrastructure: Integration of formal sports servicing higher level of play (inclusive of fields and courts) Playing fields to be inclusive of drainage and irrigation Spectator seating Off-leash Dog Park (align with WCC guidelines) Clubhouse-toilets, gender equitable change rooms, storage and canteen Sports lighting Large Destination Play with potential integration of nature play and/or water play with built shade Youth spaces for various activities Public toilet/Amenities Co-location with Community and cultural facilities Public Art features embedded in infrastructure elements Informal Seating (natural shade) Picnic tables and BBQ (covered) General waste and recycling Bin Trail based activities Other facilities (pump track, learn to ride, BMX, skate park, etc) Parking Signage Lighting Landscaping-vegetation hierarchy, landscaped gardens, large plantations (native flowering trees as per Council's Tree Canopy Guidelines) Bubbler/ tap

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Performance Criteria	Local Park	Linear Parks / Open Space corridors	District - Recreation	District - Sport	Urban Release Area Wide / Destination Parks
Diversity and Opportunity	<p>Provision for Group Use Provision for Social events Multiple activations - Uses/ activities Play equipment to suit the local demographic Supporting Other facilities (bicycle circuit, walk and bike trails) Park that is walkable on an everyday basis- play for toddlers, walk/stroll, ride to the park, etc. Opportunity to develop and establish a shared way connectivity network between the Public Open Space typologies.</p>	<p>Activation of waterway corridors and green links, green connection between the escarpment and Lake Illawarra A web of links across the West Dapto Stages Provides opportunity for regional connectivity Multiple bush trail options with connectivity to residential areas Urban greening opportunities Increased tree canopy opportunity across all stages. Opportunity to develop shared way/pathway connectivity between linear open space corridors, watercourses and the broader Public Open Space network.</p>	<p>Provision for Group Use Provision for Social events Supports multiple age groups Multiple activations - Uses/ activities Multi-generational play opportunity Supporting Other facilities (bicycle circuit, walk and bike trails) Provides different recreation options to the community Co-location of activities Increased average length of stay Opportunity to develop and establish a shared way connectivity network between the Public Open Space typologies.</p>	<p>Number of activations - Uses/ activities Round the year activation Supports multiple age groups and interests Sporting Fields, courts, facilities Opportunity for local clubs Multiple sport options Opportunity to develop and establish a shared way connectivity network between the Public Open Space typologies.</p>	<p>Number of activations - Uses/ activities Round the year activation Sporting Fields, courts, facilities Multiple sport options Multi-generational play opportunities More recreation facilities suitable to all age groups Destination place Provision for cultural and main events Increased average Length of Stay Opportunity to develop and establish a shared way connectivity network between the Public Open Space typologies.</p>
Quantity Requirements	<p>0.96ha/1,000 Based on 55 local parks at 1ha each. Please NOTE the total number of parks is a guiding number to meet the recreational needs of the projected population. Rather than a fixed number maybe a range of 35-55 local parks at 1ha/park. To be tested spatially in terms of access</p>	<p>Placed based approach Key source of the trail park network Will complement functional open space supply</p>	<p>0.26 ha/1,000 Based on five sites at 3ha each</p>	<p>1.3ha / 1,000 Based on 1 field to 2,015 people (Western District Average) 14 sportsgrounds providing 28 fields 14 sportsgrounds x 5ha (note that a mix of sportsground sizes to be provided. i.e. Some sites at 5ha, others at 10ha etc) Additional 3.36ha for tennis courts, netball courts including supporting infrastructure. This assumes courts will be co-located with sportsgrounds</p>	<p>0.26ha/1,000 Based on one site in West Dapto at 15ha</p>

NOTE: Development of quantity benchmarks

The proposed Public Open Space Framework for WDURA is developed using a streamlined hierarchy combined with a range of performance criteria, as noted in table 4 of Section 3.2.2. The quantity benchmarks developed for the provision of public open space across WDURA have considered benchmarks from other Councils relative to the scope of WDURA alongside the Draft Greener Places Design Guide. The size/area recommendations for district recreation, district sport and city-wide park are conscious of the varied availability of land that is fit for purpose and also to ensure that they have the capacity to facilitate potential co-location of recreation facilities.

3.2.3 A note on constrained lands

Constrained lands are often not suitable for other land use purposes such as housing, retail etc and can be proposed as public open space. Depending on the nature of constraints and the topography of the land, these spaces can be poor quality, have limited functionality and effectively be unusable for public recreation.

The inclusion of constrained land should not form part of the public open space calculations if it cannot deliver functional recreation outcomes. Whilst these areas may be zoned as public open space, they are to be in addition to minimum requirements.

Where there is demonstrated capacity for meaningful public open space access within a dual-purpose site- only the proportion of functional space should be considered towards public open space provision.

Below are examples of constrained land generally unsuitable for inclusion in the public open space (public parks) network. This includes land that is:

- Known or suspected to be contaminated.
- Under high-voltage powerlines or within 50m of the line easement.
- Where community use is constrained by easements and other infrastructure functions.
- Constrained by proximity to noxious uses.
- High odour areas associated with waste management and water management facilities.
- Highly vegetated riparian corridors that are unable to accommodate recreation use.
- Unfavourable topography including slope gradients larger than 1:5 (20%).
- Areas of cultural significance where public use is inappropriate or insensitive.
- Waterways, drainage swales and stormwater treatments such as gross pollutant traps and retention systems. Multiple use corridors may be appropriate if design meets suitable criteria for dual or multiple use for drainage open space.
- Spaces that are not able to comply with minimum size and safety criteria including passive surveillance requirements as outlined above.
- Active Cemeteries, in particular grave plots and buildings. Such sites can provide opportunities for informal use in addition to minimum public open space requirements. Cemeteries can provide landscape treatment opportunities including native and exotic tree species.

PART B: CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

4.0 West Dapto context

4.1 Introduction to the West Dapto Community

West Dapto is a growth area located in Wollongong's southwest, approximately 12km from the Wollongong CBD and 80km from the Sydney CBD. Previously rural/agricultural land, development of the area began in 1993 with the release of 1,400 lots in Horsley, including the Highcroft Estate. West Dapto has a current population of approximately 14,000 residents (2021).

The retail needs of residents are serviced by the Dapto Town Centre located on Bong Bong Road, across the rail line and Princes Highway. Access to the Wollongong CBD is provided by rail (via Dapto Station), and by road via Princes Highway and Princess Motorway, both major north-south arterial roads. In the future, it is expected that retail and service needs of residents in West Dapto will be increasingly met by the future town centres in the release area.

This section aims to understand the existing West Dapto community, including its particular needs to inform qualitative inputs to the social infrastructure gap analysis.

NB. Demographic components of this assessment rely on 2016 census data, and are updated using other official data sources. The existing community profile is based on the boundary of the WDURA outlined in the West Dapto Contributions Plan 2020 – including all stages and the existing suburb of Horsley.

4.2 Existing community profile

A summary of demographic characteristics of the existing West Dapto community is presented in **Table 5** and compared against the municipality and Greater Sydney. This information is largely sourced from the 2016 ABS Census, the National Skills Commission Small Area Labour Market Information, and the ABS Regional Population.

Despite the relative age of existing development, West Dapto's existing community profile (2016) is consistent with a typical greenfield development area, with larger households, a high proportion of couple families, a younger population, and a low proportion of medium and high-density dwellings. Notably, despite having significantly higher incomes and similar mortgage repayments, mortgage stress in West Dapto is higher than the City of Wollongong. This suggests a high proportion of households with incomes below the median (income) have repayments close-to or above the median (repayment).

West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis | Final | August 2023

WDURA Community Snapshot

Demographic trends and patterns provide an indication of the existing demographic profile and will inform future trends and needs.

Adaptable, high quality and accessible social infrastructure will be critical in supporting the high growth trends and meeting the changing demographic needs of the community.

Statistics are sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2016 (Usual residence data) which have been compiled and presented in by .id and the Department of Planning and Environment Population Projections.

Population

14,000

Estimated Resident Population in WDURA (2021)

Median Income

\$1,824

Per week per household

Median Age

34

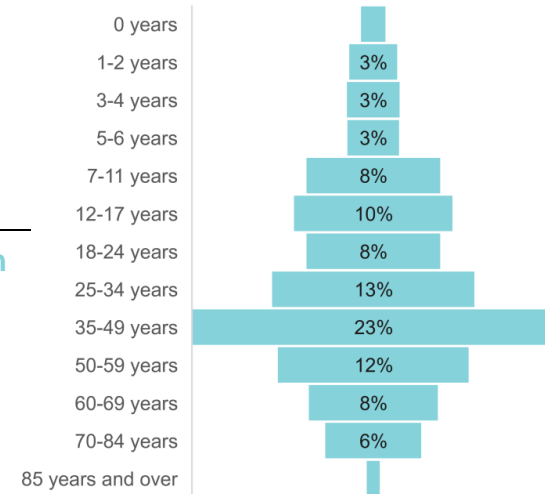
In WDURA

Overseas born

15%

Of residents born overseas

Age Structure

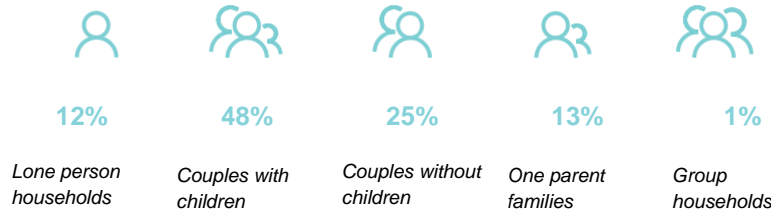


Average Household Size

3.1

Persons per household

Household Structure



Household Type

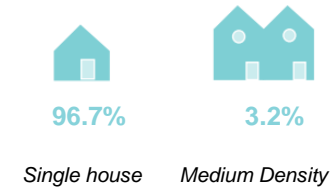


Table 5 WDURA Community Profile

Indicator	WDURA	City of Wollongong	Greater Sydney
Resident Population (2020)	14,000	219,800	5.4 million
Average household size	3.1	2.6	2.8
Medium and high-density dwellings	3.2%	29.4%	42.3%
Lone person households	12.1%	25.5%	21.7%
Median age	34	39	36
Aboriginal And Torres Strait Islander Population	2.4%	2.6%	1.4%
Language other than English spoken at home	11.1%	17.7%	37.5%
Overseas born	15.4%	22.9%	38.1%
Top 3 countries of birth (other than Australia)	England (4.9%)	England (4.2%)	China (5.0%)
	New Zealand (1.0%)	China (1.6%)	England (3.4%)
	FYROM* (0.9%)	FYROM* (1.5%)	India (2.9%)
Households experiencing housing stress	Mortgage (10.9%)	Mortgage (6.3%)	Mortgage (8.4%)
	Rent (6.0%)	Rent (13.0%)	Rent (14.2%)
Median weekly household income	\$1,824	\$1,342	\$1,773
University qualification	25.2%	39.2%	53.7%
Top 3 occupations	Clerical/admin. workers (17.6%)	Professionals (23.2%)	Professionals (26.3%)
	Technicians/ trades workers (16.0%)	Technicians/trades workers (14.8%)	Clerical/admin. workers (14.6%)
	Professionals (15.4%)	Clerical/ admin. workers (13.6%)	Managers (13.7%)
Unemployment rate (Sep 2021)	3.1%	5.5%	5.7%

Source: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2016; National Skills Commission, Small Area Labour Market Information, 2021; ABS, Regional Population; Ethos Urban

Note: *FYROM - Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

4.3 Social issues and trends

Wollongong LGA experiences a relatively high level of disadvantage compared to Greater Illawarra and New South Wales, scoring an average of 989 on the SEIFA Index of Disadvantage in 2016. Within that, Ward 3 (containing West Dapto) scores even lower at 938.3 for the same year, signalling a substantial degree of socio-economic disadvantage. Aside from this, Ward 3 also contains a much higher proportion of residents living in social housing (8.3%) compared to Regional NSW.

While there is variation in SEIFA scores across the Council, the presence of relative disadvantage in some areas – particularly in proximity to the WDURA – has implications for the delivery of social infrastructure. For these reasons, delivery of social infrastructure must account for this disadvantage by enabling equitable access through affordability and proximity to public and active transport.

4.3.1 Housing affordability and rising costs of living

Housing is a central component of productive, healthy, and meaningful lives, and a principle social determinant of health and wellbeing.¹⁷ Cost of housing can form large ongoing expenses in household budgets. A survey done for the Committee of Sydney identified housing as the biggest issue among residents in Greater Sydney, impacting quality of life for many of them.¹⁸ The same survey revealed that rising cost of living is also a major issue for residents. About a third of the respondents have frequently chosen to forego essential goods and services because of the high cost of living, pointing to the challenge current residents face in addition to housing stress.

Housing affordability in Wollongong was identified as a challenge in the *Housing and Affordable Housing Options Paper* (WCC, 2020). In Wollongong, house prices soared by 12% in 2021 and continues to climb as current supply and expected development does not match rapidly increasing demand for regional housing. Land availability crisis and increasing in-migration put pressure on housing supply that hikes up prices and further challenges housing affordability.

¹⁷ Baker, Lester, Bentley & Beer (2016) Poor housing quality: Prevalence and health effects, *Journal of Prevention & Intervention in the Community*

¹⁸ Life in Sydney 2022 (Ispos and Commission for Sydney, 2022)

4.4 Contemporary trends in open space, recreation and sport

Consideration of emerging trends in open space and recreation is important when planning for the future of parks, open spaces and recreation facilities. The most important considerations are:







- Changes in community preferences and participation patterns; and
- Changes in how parks, open spaces and recreation infrastructure is being planned and provided.

As identified by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, six megatrends – an important pattern of social, economic or environmental change - are likely to shape the Australian sports sector over the next 30 years:






- A perfect fit – Individualised sport and fitness activities are on the rise. People fit sport into their increasingly busy and time-fragmented lifestyles to achieve personal health objectives.
- From extreme to mainstream – This megatrend captures the rise of lifestyle, adventure and alternative sports, which are particularly popular with younger generations. These sports typically involve complex, advanced skills and have some element of inherent danger and/ or thrill-seeking.
- More than sport – Governments, businesses and communities increasingly recognise the broader benefits of sport. Sport can help achieve mental and physical health, crime prevention, social development and international cooperation objectives.
- Everybody's game – Australia and other countries of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development face an ageing population. This will change the types of sports we play and how we play them.
- New wealth, new talent – Population and income growth throughout Asia will create tougher competition and new opportunities for Australia both on the sports field and in the sports business environment.
- Tracksuits to business suits – Market forces are likely to exert greater pressure on sport in the future. 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, which is a participation barrier for many people.

4.4.1 Drivers of participation and social trends

Sport Australia's 'Drivers of Participation' outlines broader social trends and how these influence trends in sport and active recreation participation and, subsequently, sport facility provision.

 <p>Share economy: Consumers are becoming less attached to the ownership of goods, and are more frequently renting or sharing services through peer-to-peer platforms.</p>	 <p>Virtual is reality: Consumers are increasingly moving online to connect, deliver and access services, obtain information, perform transactions, and work.</p>	 <p>Experiences and personalisation: Consumers are increasingly seeking experiences over products with an expectation for these experiences to meet individual needs and wants.</p>
 <p>Convenience is king: Consumers expect instant gratification through the rise of on-demand services built upon speed and accessibility.</p>	 <p>Lifestyle and community: Consumers want to be a part of something and are attracted to products that define them and their lifestyle or community.</p>	 <p>Holistic health: Consumers are increasingly seeking out healthier lifestyles with a focus on measuring and maintaining optimal physical and mental health.</p>

These social trends translate to the following current sport trends:

 <p>New technologies: Technology is having a major influence on how spectators, participants and home-viewers observe, engage and consume sport.</p>	 <p>eSports: eSports is a significant contributor to the sport sector with approximately one-fifth of the world actively playing video games at a value of \$194m.</p>	 <p>Sport to get fit Consumers are increasingly engaging in modified sport products designed to get fit whilst participation rates in traditional organised sports have declined.</p>
 <p>Less time more options: Consumers have less time to spend on sport and recreation yet have a greater range of options and opportunities to participate in.</p>	 <p>Adapted offerings: Sports are being challenged to capture the interest and involvement of diverse audience with many developing and modifying products to meet new consumer needs.</p>	

4.4.2 Social factors impacting sport and recreation participation

The last 10 years has seen some significant shifts in the social factors affecting sport and recreation participation. These include:

- A generally ageing population and growing population of active and financially independent retirees who readily participate in outdoor recreation and travel.
- Increasing densities in larger cities and increasing take up of medium and high density living for young couples and families with young children.
- Declining housing affordability pushing many aspiring homeowners and renters to urban fringes, greenfield development fronts and regional areas.
- Increased 'seachange and treechange' activity with lifestyle and affordability driving interstate migration (along with employment).
- Rapid change in employment structures with increased prevalence of part time work and rising participation in the 24-hour economy. More than half of working Australians are now in part time or casual and insecure work.
- High correlation between low socio-economic areas and worsening health outcomes due to lifestyle related illness. This issue is driving an imperative to improve urban design outcomes to encourage more active lifestyles and reduce social isolation and disadvantage.
- Increasingly multi-cultural society. A greater variety of recreational activities reflecting a wide range of interests is desired.

These shifting social factors are impacting on the sport and recreation landscape in various ways, including:

- A higher demand for convenience focused offerings that can be undertaken at times that suit the individual.
- Increased utilisation of public open space for social and recreation activities due to increasing densities and reduced provision of private open space.
- A greater number of offerings and adapted formats of sport to encourage ongoing participation.
- A greater presence of commercial sport providers with convenience focused adapted offerings.
- A shift away from traditional sporting seasons.
- Declining volunteerism and changing sport governance structures.
- Increased use of technology to access and facilitate participation in sport and physical activity. One in five Australians (19%) use apps for tracking activity or training.
- Facilities require to be multi-purpose and adaptable, providing flexibility in programming and use in response to changing recreation demands.

4.4.3 National participation trends

Data insights provided by Sport Australia demonstrate that participation and physical activity has increased since 2001. The majority of this growth has occurred through non-sport physical activities such as walking and attending the gym. This is shown in the graph below.

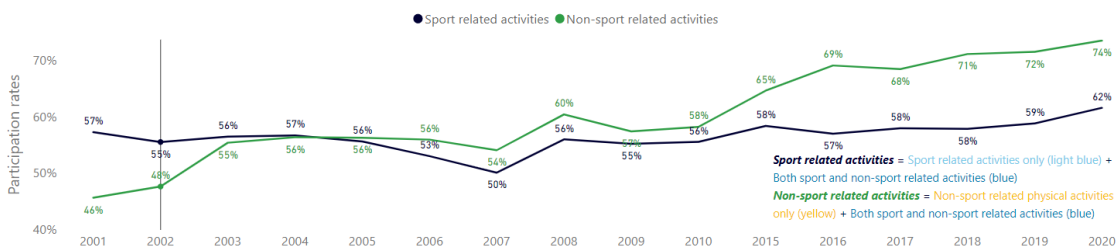


Figure 15 Participation over time by type (Source: AusPlay)

4.4.4 Changes in active recreation

Sport and physical activity are increasingly important to our health and wellbeing

In 2019 the National Heart Foundation of Australia released its third edition of the *Blueprint for an Active Australia*. Some key evidence cited in this report includes:

- Heart disease remains the single leading cause of death in Australia
- Physical activity can significantly reduce heart disease risk and the burden of a range of other chronic diseases, as well as improve mental health.

'Nearly 6 in 10 adults, 3 quarters of seniors and over 8 in 10 children and young people are not active enough for good heart health. This ranges Australia among the world's most inactive nations.'

Significant amount of research has provided insight into the importance of planning for active and healthy communities. The availability of green spaces, including parks, playgrounds and streetscapes that are safe, accessible, walkable and inviting are a key component of an environment that supports physically active lifestyles.

We need to have urban environments that make it easy and attractive to exercise as well as provide a range of opportunities to enable activity. While it is important to promote the benefits of physical activity to children and adults, there is a need to ensure that our parks can support and encourage physical activity for all ages, abilities, genders, cultures and socio-economic groups.

NSW residents are changing how active they are and what they do for active recreation

Over the last three years in NSW AusPlay participation data has highlighted:

1. Walking (recreational) continues to be, by far, the most popular activity (43.3% in 2020). This is consistent with previous trends.
2. Fitness/ Gym, Swimming, Athletics, Cycling, Football/ Soccer and Bushwalking have consistently rated as the top seven activities since 2015.
3. Only minor changes in participation are evident between 2017 and 2019:
4. Since 2015 participation has increased slightly in eight of the top 10 activities, with the largest increases being in Fitness/ Gym (↑4.8%) and Walking (↑2.8%).

4.4.5 AusPlay Sport and Physical Activity Participation Survey

Sport Australia conducts the AusPlay survey – a national survey to track the sporting behaviours and activities of the Australian population.

Over the last three years in NSW, AusPlay participation data has highlighted the following for adult participation:

- The top five activities have remained stable for the past 4 years; these are walking, fitness/ gym, swimming, athletics/ track (including jogging and running) & field and cycling
- Walking (recreational) continues to be by far the most popular activity. This is consistent with previous trends
- Participation has increased in 10 of the top 15 activities between 2017 and 2020, with the largest increase being in fitness/ gym (↑4.3%).

Over the last three years in NSW, AusPlay participation data has highlighted the following for child participation:

- Swimming is consistently the most popular activity for NSW children (likely as a result of learn to swim programs)
- Australian football and football/ soccer are significantly more popular among male children than females, while the reverse is true for dancing (recreational), netball and gymnastics
- Participation has increased in six of the top 10 activities between 2017 and 2020, with the largest increase being in swimming (↑5.9%).

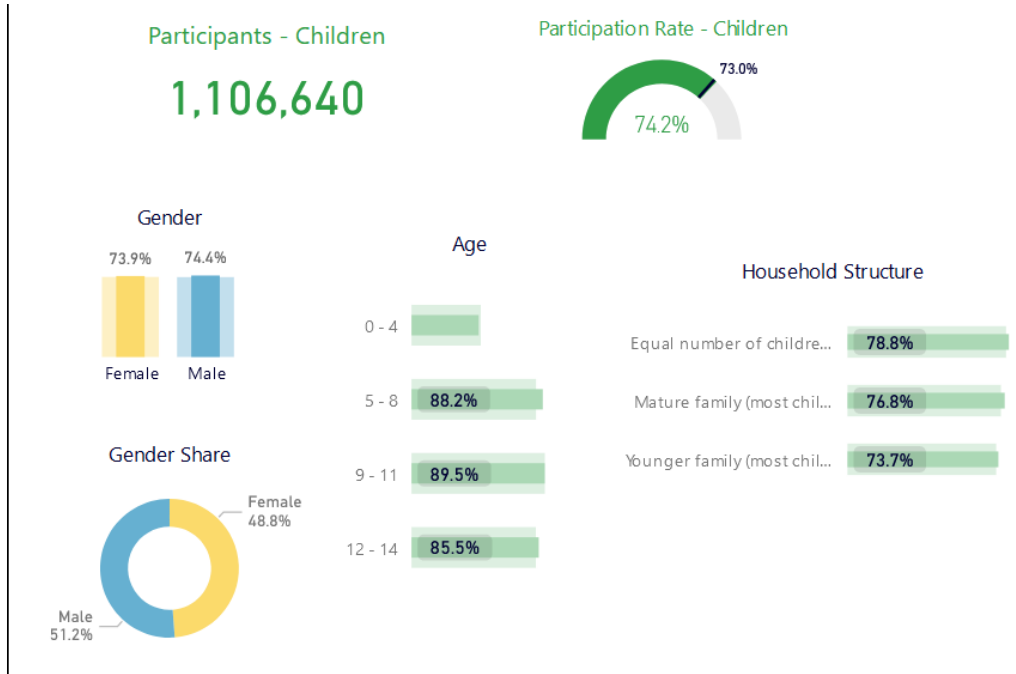


Figure 18 Sport participation for Children in NSW

Source: AusPlay Data 2020/21

4.4.6 Ausplay Results for Wollongong City Council

As show below, the AusPlay results for Wollongong participation across all forms of activities highlight the most participated activities are walking, fitness/gym, swimming, running and cycling. This indicates a preference towards conscience focused forms of participation where residents can choose a time and location to participate that suits their individual preferences.

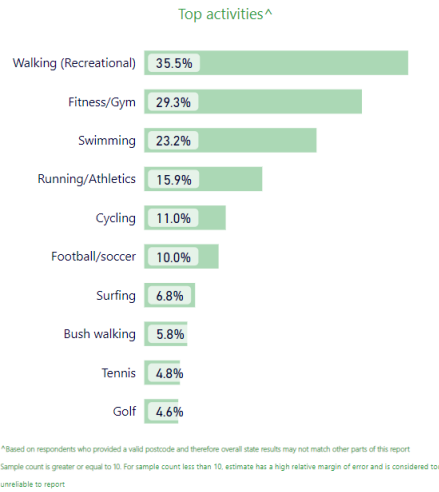


Figure 5 Top 10 most participated recreational activities in Wollongong City Council
Source: AusPlay Data 2020/21

AusPlay results for club-based participation in Wollongong indicates popularity in football, golf, tennis, Australian rules football and rugby league.

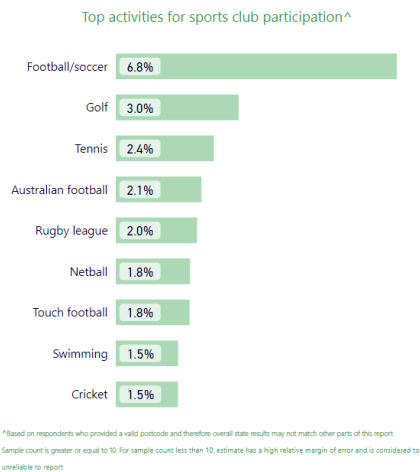


Figure 6 Top 10 club-based participation in Wollongong City Council
Source: AusPlay Data 2020/21

4.4.7 Emerging sport participation trends – impact of COVID-19 on organised sport¹⁹

The full impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the sporting industry is still emerging. However, an assessment of current evidence provides some insights into how organised sport has been affected so far. Sport Australia has conducted a brief assessment of the emerging trends impacting organised sport in Australia, to provide up to date insights, but also to potentially guide a future participation focus. Understanding how Australians' sporting habits have been affected could provide helpful context in assessing a future focus for Sport Australia and the sport planning industry.

The three broad areas of interest and impact are:

- Physical Wellbeing
- Mental Wellbeing
- Financial Wellbeing

Physical wellbeing

The Emerging Sport Participation Trends-Impact of COVID-19 on Organised Sport report indicates:

- Decrease in young participation in organised sport: Increased participation costs, reduction in volunteers, and a reduced sport development workforce have created more barriers affecting participation levels of young Australians.
- Older Australians appear to have been more active during the pandemic and over a sustained period.
- Females have consistently been more active on purpose across both waves of the pandemic. In contrast, the male data shows pronounced peaks and troughs. Women are more likely than men to participate in the types of physical activity, such as walking for daily exercise, which were still possible during periods of lockdown. Conversely, males play more organised sport, which was turned off and on throughout 2020.
- Aboriginal and Torres Islander People: During 2019 and 2020, an increase in physical activity was indicated in the AusPlay survey.

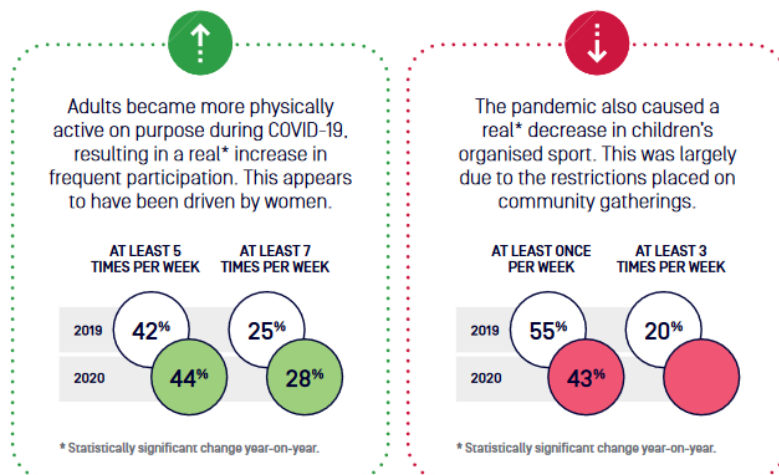


Figure 19 AusPlay 2021 – impact of the covid-19 pandemic

Under the cloud of COVID-19, Australians were about 3-5% more physically active during restrictions between April and June 2020 (AusPlay, 2020), at a time when organised sport was not possible for public health reasons. When considering which activities were the most popular for Australians, Figure 20 shows the prominence of non-organised, recreational activities during 2020. While this is influenced by the fact these activities are also COVID-19

¹⁹ SportAus, October 2021, 'Emerging Sport Participation Trends-Impacts of COVID19 on Organised Sport'

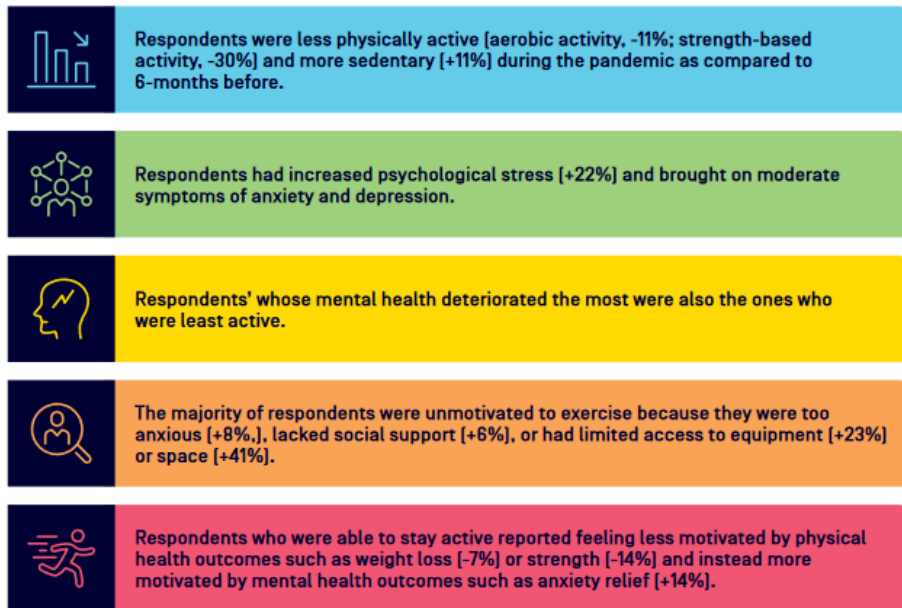
safe, the trend towards these activities has been established even prior to the pandemic. Golf and tennis reported growth during 2020 but this has been attributed to the social (while still socially distanced) element of the game.



Figure 20 Top Ten activities with increased participants 2020

Mental wellbeing

The pandemic has impacted the mental health of many Australians with numerous publications linking a decline in mental health to declining levels of physical activity and increased sedentary behaviour. A 2021 online survey sought to understand why and how physical activity and sedentary behaviour had changed because of the pandemic, and how those changes impacted mental health. The survey reported:



This study demonstrates a direct link between mental health and physical activity and the value in remaining active during periods of high stress.

Financial wellbeing

- Paying for sport in the current financial climate could be a barrier for many Australians as the impact of COVID-19 has affected disposable income and influences spending choices. With costs being an issue for many Australians, this will likely impact paying for traditional organised sports participation. Combined with the increasingly popular community trend towards free and lower cost outdoor and recreational physical activities, organised sport participation is at risk of becoming a more discretionary priority with many Australians.
- Sporting organisations primarily depend on membership income as a key source of revenue to fund ongoing operations and support their workforce. With sport cancelled across Australia, this lack of revenue is impacting sporting organisations at all levels and has placed the survival of some community sporting clubs in jeopardy.

Change will be easier for some sports than others due to many factors including resources, capability and possibly even a readiness or desire to change. But, even with limited resources, a review of current participation offerings to align with contemporary demand could build resilience and facilitate growth.

4.4.8 Active Kids Program

The NSW Active Kids Voucher provides up to two \$100 vouchers per household for school aged children to help with the costs of participating in sport. Results for Wollongong in 2019 (pre-Covid) are outlined below:

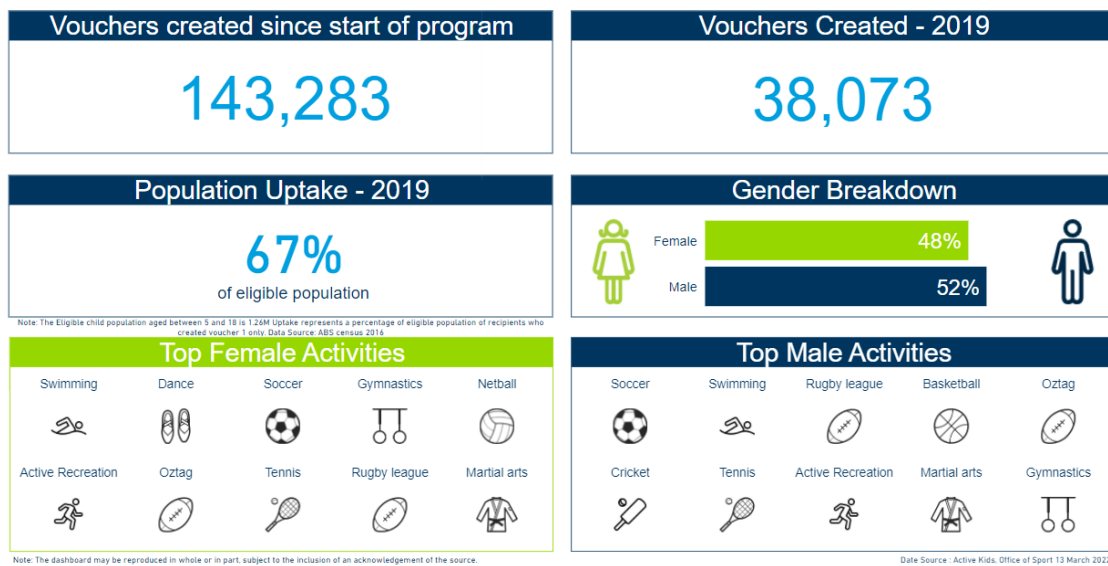


Figure 21 Active Kids Program in Wollongong for 2019 (pre-COVID)

Table 6 Top five participation activities in Wollongong City

Top Five Activities for Females	Top Five Activities for Males
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming • Dance • Soccer • Gymnastics • Netball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer • Swimming • Rugby League • Basketball • Oztag

5.0 Strategic policy context

5.1 Key strategic documents

A review of Council's key strategic documents impacting the project highlights the following key ambitions and drivers for delivering social infrastructure for this important area. Our work will closely reference and aim to deliver on these ambitions as a guiding star throughout. It is noted that Council's Places for People: Social Infrastructure Planning Framework (2018) has been outlined in **Section 2.6.1** above.

5.1.1 Wollongong Local Strategic Planning Statement (2020)

The Wollongong LSPS sets out the 20-year land use vision for the Wollongong LGA. The vision is designed to guide land use decisions City-wide, being used for assessment of planning proposals and monitoring Council's implementation of State government plans. Key outcomes from this document with bearing on social infrastructure include to:

- Work with the community to deliver on their cultural and creative aspirations, unique identities, and needs.
- Build inclusive communities.
- Undertake recreation planning for aquatic and leisure facilities.
- Prioritise the provision of pedestrian/cycle paths along with the planning of key infrastructure along these routes.
- Provide community and recreational facilities.

This Study will help with meeting key strategies such as:

- 4.1.4 Social Infrastructure Planning Framework: to enable Council to deliver high quality facilities that support service delivery and meet the needs and expectations of the Wollongong community, that is both economically and ecologically sustainable.
- 4.1.6 Sportsground and Sporting Facilities Strategy: to increase sportsground capacity across the LGA
- 4.1.9 Public Toilets Strategy: assist Council in delivering effective and coordinated public toilet provision over the next 10 years.
- 5.2.1 Providing improved tree canopy and vegetation cover for urban greening.
- 6.1.3 Urban Greening Strategy 2018 seeks to increase the quality and quantity of all vegetation and open green space on all land types in an urban setting

5.1.2 Our Wollongong 2028: Community Strategic Plan (2019)

This Community Strategic Plan is a whole of community plan, in which all levels of government, business, educational institutions, community groups and individuals have an important role. The Plan outlines the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and includes strategies for how we will achieve them.

The plan includes the following overall Community Vision: *From the mountains to the sea, we value and protect our natural environment and we will be leaders in building an educated, creative and connected community.*

The plan outlines a number of visions and goals with bearing on social infrastructure in this study, including that:

- Community assets are well-maintained and provided to meet the current and future needs of residents.
- Residents should have access to a variety of learning opportunities, timely and affordable medical services, quality public open and recreational space, and spaces for cultural/creative expression and appreciation.
- Development is supported by integrated transport connections, as well as active transport routes such as walking and cycling.
- The natural environment, including coastal areas and waterways is protected and enhanced.
- The sustainability of the urban environment is improved.
- Increase in physical fitness, mental health and emotional wellbeing of the residents.

5.1.3 West Dapto Vision 2018

The West Dapto Vision (2018) reviews the 2008 Structure Plan for West Dapto, testing previous assumptions that informed the plan. The vision recognises that, although the fundamental structure and outcome remains the same, there has been some refinement based on improved data and understanding of the area's opportunities and constraints.

The Vision outlines a number of strategic planning principles, which will feed into the development and implementation of the structure plan.

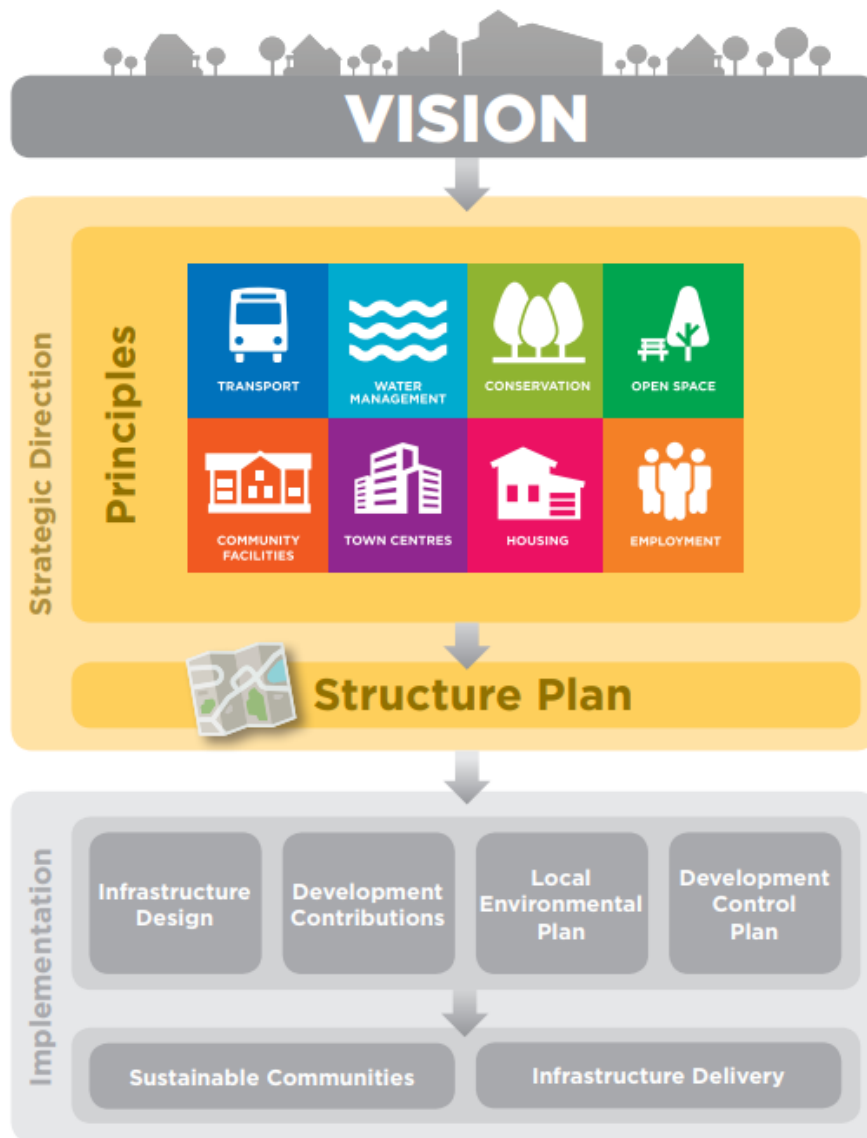


Figure 7 West Dapto Vision 2018 – Structure and relationships of principles to planning tools
Source: Wollongong City Council

The following table outlines how key principles are addressed in this report.

Table 7 West Dapto Vision – Planning Principles Appraisal

West Dapto planning principle	How this is addressed in this Study
Transport	An integrated transport system that caters for public transport, cars, pedestrians and cyclists will be important in creating equitable access to social infrastructure for residents of West Dapto.
Heritage conservation	<p>Heritage items and sites of Aboriginal Heritage Significance will be assessed qualitatively when considering opportunities for cultural and creative infrastructure in this study, and in the open space and recreation sections through identification of potential opportunities.</p> <p>Particularly, embedding local history and character in new communities (principle 3) is considered a key priority for cultural infrastructure delivery – and is specifically assessed under the 'local participation' typology.</p>
Open space and recreation principles	An overarching framework with four inter-related principles is designed to achieve the open space objective for the WDURA.
Community and Education Facilities	These guiding principles are addressed generally through alignment with best practice planning considerations for community facilities.
Town Centres	<p>The masterplan will outline the hierarchy of town centres, adhering to the principles outlined in the West Dapto Vision. The town centres of West Dapto will fill diverse roles, functions and mixed uses.</p> <p>Accessibility (Principle 2) is addressed in the consideration of access to neighbourhood community facilities within a 400-800m radius to homes.</p> <p>The creation of diverse spaces (Principle 3) for people of all ages is addressed as a key principle in the design of community facilities.</p>
Housing	The role that social infrastructure plays in creating affordable third spaces and alleviating some of the pressure of housing unaffordability on residents is an important consideration.
Employment	To support local sustainable employment and attract industries, enterprises to West Dapto. Innovative employment (principle 5) is addressed through the consideration of enterprise and start-up hubs as a facet of community infrastructure.
Water management	To support sustainable water infrastructure, with particular relevance for the role of some open spaces in the green-blue network.

5.1.4 West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020

The West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 identifies infrastructure requirements for West Dapto as a result of the anticipated development and provides a framework for the equitable calculation, collection and management of contributions.

The West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 indicates a five stage works schedule for West Dapto. Table 9 of the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 identifies a schedule for the provision and timeframe of parks and open spaces to be delivered across five stages of the development.

It is noted that the IPART Assessment of the West Dapto Contributions Plan 2020 presents a set of recommendations on all contributions items listed. The Open Space recommendations include:

- Ensuring sufficient accessible recreation opportunities for all residents.
- Ensuring sufficient formal recreation facilities (sportsground) for the release area.

5.1.5 Draft Housing and Affordable Housing Options Paper 2020

The Draft Housing and Affordable Housing Options Paper provides evidence for the development of a new Housing Strategy for Wollongong LGA, which identifies key issues and planning priorities for housing and proposes options and recommendations.

Some of the key issues identified include:

- Performance of Land Use Zones: the type of housing being developed does not sufficiently correspond to the desired form in particular zones (e.g. 78% of the housing in medium density zones is single dwelling housing) which consequently is not being used to its full capacity.
- Housing for Particular Needs: ageing population in the Wollongong LGA has implications for the housing needs of the community in the future.
- Household Size vs Dwelling Size: there is a mismatch between the average household size in Wollongong LGA and dwelling types being developed or planned.
- Increasing Cost of Housing: median house and unit prices have substantially increased while the proportion of households who can afford to rent or purchase housing has remarkably declined.

In response to these key issues, three planning priorities have been recommended: increase housing diversity, plan for future housing growth, and increase the supply of affordable rental housing.

To address these planning priorities, the Paper recommended as part of Priority 2: Plan for future housing growth to define areas for urban growth around medium density residential zoned land and develop an urban growth strategy for each area to facilitate an appropriate level of growth whilst achieving the desired local character. The paper recognises that such growth entails adequate infrastructure including social infrastructure.

This Study will assist in the assessment and evaluation of social infrastructure that is adequate to support current and future communities based on WDURA's planned growth.

5.1.6 Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2022

This strategy has been developed following an extensive review of the 2014-2017 Heritage Strategy and Action Plan, providing direction to Council and the Wollongong Heritage Reference Group on heritage outcomes for the strategy period.

This Study will work towards strategy 6 of the Heritage Strategy, namely identifying and managing key heritage precincts, streetscapes, cultural and natural landscapes. Council identifies itself as committed to ensuring heritage is a key consideration of town and village planning for public places and significant sites with recognised heritage values.

Heritage will be strongly considered in this study through the identification of cultural and creative infrastructure, referencing opportunities to build upon heritage through the delivery of social infrastructure.

5.1.7 Creative Wollongong 2019-2024

The Creative Wollongong Strategy seeks to build on previous Cultural Plans to celebrate the community's strengths and grow creative industries. Importantly, the strategy seeks to support community participation in creative life and celebrate the city's unique places and spaces.

With extensive engagement underpinning this strategy, it forms an important consideration for the cultural and creative infrastructure recommendations, comprising a key aspect of this community infrastructure needs assessment. This takes on increased importance when observing that 85% of residents interviewed as part of engagement agreed that arts, heritage and culture are important aspects of community life.

Key challenges and opportunities identified by the community include:

- Participation in creative activities should be expanded through more events at a variety of scales
- Aboriginal culture and heritage should be engaged with. This includes through greater celebration of Aboriginal culture, history, and sites of significance.
- Opportunities for creatives should be consolidated through increased investment and training
- There is an identified lack of creative spaces, including studios, rehearsal spaces and meeting rooms across the City. It is noted that while some expressed interest for a creative hub, others saw smaller and underutilised spaces have potential for activation as creative spaces
- Activating the suburbs is a key outcome for the community
- Public art should be made permanent and expanded into the suburbs, as well as in the city
- Local museums should be safeguarded, and local history and heritage preserved and celebrated to enhance local community identity and sense of place
- The night -time economy should be expanded and activated.

Ultimately, the provision of spaces to enable the development of creative capital is vital to achieving the community aspirations outlined above. The role of this study is to begin that process of identifying sites and spaces for creative uses, both within other forms of community infrastructure and as standalone items. Key outcomes identified in Creative Wollongong that may be addressed include:

- Provide and promote creative spaces which support opportunities to network, collaborate and share resources and knowledge
- Continue to consider opportunities to identify and develop a designated multi-day festival site within the region
- Seek to include the installation of three phase power in major park upgrades
- Identify and negotiate the use of underutilised space for innovations, events, performances and activations
- Ensure current and future planning for cultural and community infrastructure incorporates flexible, multipurpose spaces
- Deliver a new Public Art Strategy that would include West Dapto
- Involve children and young people in the design of public art features within key regional place space renewals
- As part of the development of Town and Village Plans, including in West Dapto, work with the community to capture the cultural and creative aspirations, unique identities and the needs of communities and include suggestions in concept plans
- Consider the inclusion of public art as an element of major Council infrastructure projects
- Support and provide opportunities for working in partnership with local Aboriginal people and communities to develop immersive cultural experiences that incorporate public art and local Aboriginal knowledge at identified local Aboriginal places/sites of significance
- Support exhibitions in our local libraries, community centres or public spaces which showcase and celebrate local history and heritage

5.1.8 Infrastructure Australia – 2021 Infrastructure Plan

The 2021 Infrastructure Plan focuses on reforms and policy recommendations which puts the community front and centre of infrastructure planning. The Plan's Vision for 2026 promotes 'Quality, accessible, future focused, multi-purpose and economically valued social infrastructure that supports a strong, healthy and prosperous nation and ongoing quality of life for all Australians'. For the first time the Australian Infrastructure Plan has included a whole section highlighting the critical role of social infrastructure (Chapter 8).²⁰

The 2021 Infrastructure Plan provides a practical and actionable roadmap for more socially equitable infrastructure planning with consideration to evolving user needs. It emphasises the importance of anticipating and managing risk in delivering resilient assets that prioritise community and social outcomes, and acknowledges the critical role that community assets play in supporting national wellbeing. It discusses the importance of community trust as a vital ingredient for change requiring effective engagement and transparent decision making.

The plan has identified seven key pillars of social infrastructure reform:

1. Valuing social infrastructure through a consistent national framework,
2. Uniform access for healthy and prosperous communities,
3. Embracing technology for optimised delivery,
4. Education hubs to support contemporary learning,
5. Housing stock to address the shortfall,
6. Valuing our culture to enhance liveability,
7. Co-location and precincts to drive better outcomes.

The Plan also includes themes and recommendations in relation to social infrastructure planning and delivery:

- **Place-based outcomes for communities** - deliver globally competitive quality of life in fast-growing cities by growing economies and populations, enabled by place-centric infrastructure investment and reform.
- **Social infrastructure is economic infrastructure** - support economic development by recognising the value of investment in social infrastructure.
- **Sustainability and resilience** - build community resilience to all hazards by considering systemic risks, interdependencies and vulnerabilities in infrastructure planning and decision-making.
- **Next generation infrastructure investment** - deliver a greater return on investment by ensuring governments act as model clients and custodians of industry health and productivity
- **Transforming social infrastructure to enhance quality of life** - support Australians to enjoy a healthier, safer, more connected and fulfilled quality of life by facilitating targeted investment in the right physical and digital social infrastructure.
- **Partnerships to build communities** – maximise social and economic community benefits by supporting shared use of social infrastructure through future agreements and capital funding programs prioritising shared use of facilities.










²⁰ Australian Infrastructure Plan (2021, p. 34)

5.2 Open space and recreation policy drivers

A number of documents have been reviewed to provide background information and context for the Open Space and Recreation Needs Assessment. These documents are summarised below.

Table 8 Key open space and recreation policy drivers

Document	Key Aspects relevant to West Dapto Community Infrastructure needs assessment
NATIONAL	
Sport Australia Sport 2030 – National Sports 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
STATE	
Premiers Priorities	The Premier’s Priorities represent the NSW Government’s commitment to making a significant difference to enhance the quality of life of the people of NSW. The two Premier Priorities which this project closely aligns with includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the proportion of homes in urban areas within 10 minutes’ walk of quality green, open and public space by 10% by 2023. • Reduce the rate of suicide deaths in NSW by 20% by 2023
NSW Government - State Outcomes	There are 37 agreed State Outcomes across nine Clusters. The State Outcomes cover the totality of all government activity and the Premier’s 14 Priorities. The outcomes of highest strategical alignment include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping people healthy through prevention and health promotion • A strong and liveable New South Wales • Maximum community benefit from government land and property • Active and inclusive communities
NSW Government – Public Spaces Charter	The NSW Public Spaces Charter has been developed to support the planning, design, management and activation of public spaces in NSW. It identifies ten principles for quality public space: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open and welcoming • Community focused • Culture and creativity • Local character and identity • Green and resilient • Healthy and active • Local business and economies • Safe and secure • Designed for place • Well managed.
NSW Government - State Infrastructure Strategy	The State Infrastructure Strategy is a 20-year infrastructure investment plan for the NSW Government that places strategic fit and economic merit at the centre of investment decisions.
NSW Government: Everyone Can Play Guidelines	The creation of inclusive play spaces requires a new way of thinking about the way play spaces are planned, designed and managed. The three principles of Everyone Can Play will promote thinking for more inclusive play spaces across NSW. The three key Principles of the guide:

Document	Key Aspects relevant to West Dapto Community Infrastructure needs assessment
	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 20px;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <h3>Can I get there?</h3> <p>Consider location, layout, signage, wayfinding and accessibility to ensure everyone can find their way to, in and around the playspace.</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 20px;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <h3>Can I play?</h3> <p>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.</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <h3>Can I stay?</h3> <p>Consider safety, facilities, landscape and the wider environment to ensure everyone can stay at the playspace for as long as they would like.</p> </div> </div> </div> <p>The Six Design Principles:</p> <div style="display: grid; grid-template-columns: 1fr 1fr; gap: 20px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <h3>Find</h3> <p>Communicate the purpose and location of play elements and facilities.</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <h3>Fit</h3> <p>Provide a range of play opportunities for people of all abilities and sizes.</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <h3>Choose</h3> <p>Enable exciting individual experiences and social interaction.</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <h3>Join In</h3> <p>Create opportunities for everyone to connect.</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <h3>Thrive</h3> <p>Challenge and involve people of all capabilities.</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <h3>Belong</h3> <p>Create a place that's welcoming and comfortable.</p> </div> </div>

Document	Key Aspects relevant to West Dapto Community Infrastructure needs assessment
<p>Government Architect NSW- Better Placed NSW</p>	<p>Better Placed is an integrated design policy for the built environment of NSW. It seeks to capture our collective aspiration and expectations for the places where we work, live and play. It creates a clear approach to ensure we get the good design that will deliver the architecture, public places and environments we want to inhabit now and those we make for the future. GANSW defines a well-designed built environment as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy • Responsive • Integrated • Equitable • Resilient
<p>Government Architects NSW-Draft Greener Places Design Guide</p>	<p>The draft GPDG suggests the planning focus should be on providing a range of opportunities at different levels of access and intensity, rather than population and spatial standards. It offers specific criteria for greenfield sites to ensure that sufficient land is provided for future needs.</p> <p>The Draft Greener Places Design Guide contains three manuals/ tool kits that support the Greener Places policy; one being the 'Open Space for Recreation Guide' which proposes a new framework for planning.</p> <p><i>This guide has informed the Parks and Play Strategy and provided significant guidance on the planning principles and performance criteria used for open space planning in particular.</i></p> <p>There are six core performance criteria for consideration when planning for OS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility and Connectivity • Distribution • Size and Shape • Quantity • Quality • Diversity.
<p>Office of Sport Strategic Plan 2020-2024</p>	<p>The Office of Sport (lead NSW Government agency for sport and active recreation) aims to increase the levels of physical activity of the people of NSW by providing the leadership, policies, programs, funding and infrastructure necessary to enable higher rates of participation in sport and active recreation.</p> <p>Three outcomes are defined (social, health and economic) and four focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation • Places and spaces • Sector sustainability • Partnerships and investment. <p>Within each focus area a goal is outlined with measurable outcomes and actions (focus) to deliver the measurable outcomes.</p>
<p>Office of Sport- Her Sport Her Way – 2019-2023</p>	<p>A four-year strategy aims to build a stronger sport sector where women and girls are valued, recognised and have equal choices and opportunities to lead and participate. It provides a clear role for the NSW Government to work with the sector and new partners in innovative ways to shape the future of women's sport.</p> <p>The Strategy is underpinned by a three year actions plan that has a clear priority of advancing women leaders, encouraging adolescent girls to stay in sport, recognising and celebrating women leaders in sport, event legacy from major women's sporting events and prioritising funding for female friendly facilities in NSW.</p>
<p>Office of Sport – Regional Sports Hub Model</p>	<p>The Office of Sport outlines a Regional Sports Hub model – an approach to delivery integrated and coordinated sporting infrastructure through strategic alignment and partnerships with key stakeholders. The model defines a Regional Sports Hub as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary centre of co-located sport and active recreation facilities, sub-elite sport support services, sport administration offices • Potential to incorporate both Centres of Excellence concept and community facilities • Part of a regional network of hubs identified through Regional Sport and Active Recreation Plans <p>At the heart of the Regional Sports Hub model is the formal establishment of partnerships to deliver integrated and coordinated facilities and services.</p>

Document	Key Aspects relevant to West Dapto Community Infrastructure needs assessment
<p>Sport NSW- Future Directions (2018)</p>	<p>This document is designed as a 'sector plan for the sector'. It outlines an aspirational and inclusive approach to the delivery of sport and active recreation in NSW for the next four years. It takes a high-level whole-of-sector view to improving the Sector across four themes which are used as the organising structure for priority proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration • Capacity • Innovation • Engagement
<p>LOCAL</p>	
<p>Office of Sport-Illawarra Shoalhaven Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2018-2023</p>	<p>The Illawarra Shoalhaven Sport and Active Recreation Plan suggests the following objectives be considered when planning sport infrastructure in West Dapto (inc. consultation):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Participation – including use of school facilities • Improved access – including natural areas and transport • Integrated performance pathways • For purpose facilities quality and design of facilities • Valued regional sport events • Effective collaboration: local sport and state body sports organisations.
<p>Play Wollongong Strategy 2014 – 2024</p>	<p>According to the PWS, the following six principles should be followed in planning for playgrounds.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quality play opportunities are equitably distributed across the city, including large regional play spaces and smaller local play spaces. 2. Play spaces are easily accessed by walking and encourage healthy living and independent access by children. 3. Meaningful engagement is undertaken with the community, including children, in relation to play space planning, provision and management. 4. Play spaces are well designed, inclusive of all ages and abilities and encourage participation in play. 5. Informal play spaces and the provision of natural play elements is given priority, recognising the benefits of connecting with nature. 6. Play spaces will provide children with an appropriate level of risk and challenge, while complying with relevant safety standards.
<p>Wollongong City Council-Sportsground and Sporting facilities Strategy</p>	<p>The Strategy is built on five guiding principles and 10 Key focus areas which, when combined, will help to achieve Council's Vision for sport in Wollongong. The five guiding principles of the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive and accessible • Participation • Safe • Partnerships and Collaboration; and • Sustainable <p>The strategy has the following actions identified under the KEY FOCUS AREA 5-Strategically plan for the development of new sport facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue planning for the provision of new sportsgrounds and sporting facilities in the West Dapto catchment area, with a focus on district level sportsgrounds. • Ensure West Dapto Open Space Design Manual and West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment are key informing documents in the provision of new and renewed infrastructure in West Dapto. • Consult and collaborate with Local and State Sport Organisations in pursuing hierarchical planning of sports facilities
<p>Wollongong City Council-Public Toilet Strategy 2019</p>	<p>Key land use planning actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply Crime Prevention through Urban Design (CPTED), and Ecological Sustainable Development (ESD) principles and guidelines of Council's Sustainable Building Strategy to the public toilet work. • Consider a hierarchical approach to public toilet provision in the preparation of open space and town centre masterplans and concept plans. • Continue to renew, install and upgrade accessible public toilets at locations experiencing increased use.

Document	Key Aspects relevant to West Dapto Community Infrastructure needs assessment
<p>Wollongong City Council- Urban Greening Strategy 2017-2037</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install adult lift and change tables and design accessible toilets to accommodate amphibious wheelchair use in line with the Beach Access Strategy at Austinmer Beach and Port Kembla Surf Lifesaving Club (Lower Boat Shed). • Provide a continuous path of travel and accessible parking when upgrading or building new accessible toilets in high use locations <p>The Urban Green Strategy includes the goal that urban density and expansion, balances economic, social and environmental considerations.</p> <p>Planning future streetscapes which deliver best practice amenity, environmental performance, and associated benefits is a major challenge for the future. 19,000+ New homes proposed and 55,000+ additional people living in WDURA.</p> <p>Link to the study: Seek to enhance tree planting and canopy cover through appropriate species selection and location.</p>
<p>Wollongong City Council-Climate Change Adaptation Plan</p>	<p>The Climate Change Risk Assessment of Wollongong (CCRAW) examined the likely impacts on land parcels, networks such as roads, bridges, stormwater networks and cycle pathways. The CCRAW flagged Western parts of Dapto with large number of Category-1 bushfire prone areas. As a part of the adaptation works, Council has commenced a number works and assessments to have a finer understanding of risk factors and their mitigation measures. This includes, Urban Greening Strategy, Lake Illawarra Coastal Management Plan, Coastal Zone Management Plan, etc. The priority actions relevant to the public open space network in WDURA include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement transitional landscape program aimed at increasing shade cover in passive open space across all parks and reserves in the LGA • Establish trial plantings of native trees species suited to predicted future climate suitability and use in streets and parks • Managing flood risk through floodplain risk management plans incorporating flood predictions • Proactively maintain bushfire trails and other related infrastructure to be fire ready <p>Consider rainwater, sewerage mining/recycling and stormwater harvesting and usage to support irrigation of sports fields</p>
<p>Wollongong City Council- Future of Our Pools 2014-2024</p>	<p>Wollongong City Council owns and manages 18 public swimming pools (9 supervised public swimming pools and 9 unsupervised tidal ocean rock pools). Seven of the nine public swimming pools are 50m pools, while the remaining two are 25m pools. Currently, the closest aquatic facility to WDURA is Dapto Heated Pool- a freshwater heated facility, open year-round. The Future of Our Pools Strategy has identified the following as one of the key actions in order to achieve Council's 10-year vision for all pools in WCC:</p> <p>Undertake recreation planning to facilitate aquatic/leisure facility development at West Dapto</p>

5.3 Community infrastructure policy drivers

The following documents have been reviewed to understand key policy drivers relevant to social infrastructure in West Dapto. **Table 9** provides a summary of these drivers.

- Housing 2041: NSW Housing Strategy (NSW DPE, 2021),
- Greener Places (Government Architect NSW, 2020),
- Everyone Can Play Guideline (NSW DPE, 2019),
- Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Plan 2041 (NSW DPE, 2021),
- Illawarra Shoalhaven Sport and Active Recreation Plan (NSW Office of Sport, 2018),
- Wollongong Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2009, (NSW Government, 2021),
- Wollongong Development Control Plan (DCP) 2009, Chapter D16 (Wollongong City Council, 2021),
- Wollongong Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) 2020 (Wollongong City Council, 2020),
- Our Wollongong 2028: Community Strategic Plan (CSP) (Wollongong City Council, 2018),
- Places for People: Wollongong Social Infrastructure Planning Framework 2018-2028 (Wollongong City Council, 2018),
- Draft Housing and Affordable Housing Options Paper (Wollongong City Council, 2020),
- Wollongong Heritage Strategy 2019-2022 (Wollongong City Council, 2019),
- Community Safety Plan 2021-25,
- Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2020-2025,
- Draft Climate Change Mitigation Plan (Wollongong City Council, 2020),
- Sustainable Wollongong 2030 (Wollongong City Council, 2020),
- Creative Wollongong 2019-2024 (Wollongong City Council, 2019),
- Play Wollongong Strategy 2014-2024 (Wollongong City Council, 2014),
- Sportsground and Sporting Facilities Strategy 2017-2021 (Wollongong City Council, 2017),
- City of Wollongong Pedestrian Plan 2017-2021 (Wollongong City Council, 2017),
- Wollongong Cycling Strategy 2030 (Wollongong City Council, n.d.),
- Wollongong City Libraries Strategy 2017-2022 (Wollongong City Council, 2017),
- West Dapto Vision 2018 (Wollongong City Council, 2018),
- West Dapto Development Contributions Plan (Wollongong City Council, 2020),
- West Dapto Open Space Design Manual (Wollongong City Council, 2018).

Table 9 Strategic policy review

Policy themes	Implications for needs analysis	Relevant documents
Growth of Wollongong LGA and the WDURA	<p>Wollongong LGA's population is forecasted to grow by 33,000 between 2016 and 2036 to reach 244,400 people. The population is also ageing, with consistent growth occurring in the over 50 age bracket. There is a need to align infrastructure and service delivery with projected population growth and change in order to support community wellbeing.</p> <p>NSW DPE recognises that 'Dapto town centre is ideally positioned to meet the needs of the growing population from the WDURA', however, 'as Dapto grows and changes it will need greater connections to public open space and cultural facilities' (Illawarra Shoalhaven Plan, pg. 66).</p> <p>As a key source of new housing for the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region, the WDURA is estimated to provide approximately 19,500 new dwellings and accommodate for an additional 56,500 residents once developed. In order to support the current and future population of the West Dapto area, there is a need for high quality social infrastructure which is delivered in a timely and equitable manner.</p> <p>The Wollongong DCP 2009 outlines a vision for the future of West Dapto: 'West Dapto will grow and develop as a series of integrated and connected communities... The communities will be healthy, sustainable and resilient with active and passive open space accessible by walkways, cycleways and public transport. To support these new communities, local centres will provide shopping services, community services and jobs...' (D16, pg. 4).</p> <p>It is a local and state priority to protect and conserve the biodiversity that exists within the WDURA, particularly the Illawarra Escarpment, in the context of planning for new communities.</p>	<p>Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Plan 2041 (NSW DPE, 2021)</p> <p>Wollongong LEP 2009, (NSW Government, 2021)</p> <p>Wollongong LSPS 2020 (Wollongong City Council, 2020)</p> <p>Our Wollongong 2028: CSP (Wollongong City Council, 2018)</p> <p>Wollongong DCP 2009, Chapter D16 (Wollongong City Council, 2021)</p> <p>West Dapto Vision 2018 (Wollongong City Council, 2018)</p>
Demand for open space, sport, and recreation	<p>Government Architect NSW promotes the following principles for the planning and delivery of green infrastructure: co-locating green and grey infrastructure, creating an interconnected network, and maximising potential benefits through multifunctional design.</p> <p>Open space delivered within the WDURA should support multiple functions, be located within walking distance of residential areas across a well-distributed network, connect with other social infrastructure or places of interest, and feature high amenity. It must also allow for an equal split of active and passive open spaces and include appropriate embellishments.</p> <p>The West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 identifies that population growth and subsequent residential development in the area will drive demand for parks, playgrounds, ovals and fields for a variety of sports, passive open spaces, and community recreation and leisure centres.</p> <p>The NSW Office of Sport's desired outcomes for the Illawarra Shoalhaven region include improved access to sport and active recreation for all, and the provision of fit-for-purpose facilities.</p> <p>It is a local priority to increase the capacity of and enhance existing sportsgrounds, with a focus on equity and accessibility. The ability for Council to provide new sports facilities will largely be limited to the opportunities presented by the WDURA.</p>	<p>Greener Places (Government Architect NSW, 2020)</p> <p>Everyone Can Play Guideline (NSW DPE, 2019)</p> <p>Illawarra Shoalhaven Sport and Active Recreation Plan (NSW Office of Sport, 2018)</p> <p>Play Wollongong Strategy 2014-2024 (Wollongong City Council, 2014)</p> <p>Sportsground and Sporting Facilities Strategy 2017-2021 (Wollongong City Council, 2017)</p> <p>West Dapto Vision 2018 (Wollongong City Council, 2018)</p> <p>West Dapto Open Space Design Manual</p>

Policy themes	Implications for needs analysis	Relevant documents
	<p>Planning and design of new sportsgrounds should consider the principles of shared use by co-locating synthetic cricket pitches where possible and allowing utilisation by sports played in opposite seasons.</p> <p>Wollongong Council has identified that many of its existing play spaces are poorly located, in poor condition, and offer limited opportunities for play. It is a local priority to ensure that 'quality play opportunities are equitably distributed across the city, including large regional play spaces and smaller local play spaces' (Play Strategy, pg. 9). The provision of play spaces should consider the principles of inclusivity and accessibility.</p> <p>The Sustainable Wollongong 2030 Strategy has identified as part of its sustainability outcomes for a city in harmony with the environment is the increased opportunities for active and passive recreation in public open space to improve the health and wellbeing of our community (pg. 47).</p>	<p>(Wollongong City Council, 2018)</p> <p>West Dapto Development Contributions Plan (Wollongong City Council, 2020)</p>
Equity and accessibility	<p>NSW DPE has established a vision for the future of the Illawarra Shoalhaven region: 'the region is more connected physically, socially, economically, culturally, and digitally. This has enabled more resilient communities, facilitated flexible working and education, and enabled people in smaller towns and villages to have the same access as people living in Metro Wollongong' (Illawarra Shoalhaven Plan, pg. 12).</p> <p>It is a local priority to create a convenient and connected network of active transport routes throughout the LGA which links to social infrastructure and other key destinations. Wollongong City Council recognises the value of active transport infrastructure in fostering a healthy, active, safe and equitable community.</p> <p>NSW DPE envisions that housing should be 'connected to local facilities, jobs and social networks, with infrastructure, services and spaces that people need to live sustainably' (Housing Strategy, pg. 8).</p>	<p>Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Plan 2041 (NSW DPE, 2021)</p> <p>City of Wollongong Pedestrian Plan 2017-2021 (Wollongong City Council, 2017)</p> <p>Wollongong Cycling Strategy 2030 (Wollongong City Council, n.d.)</p>
Demand for social infrastructure	<p>NSW DPE recognises that 'with many people working from home, more people engage with their local neighbourhood centres and walk or shop locally', presenting an opportunity to 'improve local services and public places or to encourage a greater mix of uses including shared facilities, smart work or co-working hubs, education facilities, health services, or community and social services' (Illawarra Shoalhaven Plan, pg. 74).</p> <p>The West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 identifies that population growth and subsequent residential development in the area will drive demand for childcare facilities, community meeting rooms, library spaces, and spaces for events or organised activities.</p> <p>It is a local priority to 'provide access to [library] services that meet the changing needs of the community' (Libraries Strategy, pg. 9). Libraries in Wollongong LGA should provide multipurpose flexible spaces and create opportunities for social engagement and cohesion.</p> <p>It is a local priority to ensure community wellbeing by providing high quality district level services, libraries, and facilities, as well as</p>	<p>Illawarra Shoalhaven Regional Plan 2041 (NSW DPE, 2021)</p> <p>West Dapto Development Contributions Plan (Wollongong City Council, 2020)</p> <p>Our Wollongong 2028: CSP (Wollongong City Council, 2018)</p> <p>Wollongong City Libraries Strategy 2017-2022 (Wollongong City Council, 2017)</p> <p>Places for People: Wollongong Social Infrastructure Planning Framework 2018-2028</p>

Policy themes	Implications for needs analysis	Relevant documents
	<p>opportunities for sport, leisure, recreation, learning and cultural activities.</p> <p>Social infrastructure should be delivered in accessible locations, close to other facilities and public transport, be strategically distributed and networked across the LGA, be co-located with other social infrastructure types where possible, be integrated with the public domain in a way which enables safety and accessibility, and cater to differing community needs, both present and future.</p> <p>Wollongong Council has identified that there is a lack of spaces for Aboriginal cultural learning, events and activities, and creative workspace, including studios, rehearsal spaces, and meeting rooms. The community has expressed an interest in these kinds of spaces, as well as the provision of public art and other cultural and creative activations.</p> <p>It is an objective of the Wollongong DCP to 'ensure the community's social and cultural needs are met through the provision of a range of community facilities across the [West Dapto] release area (co-located with other facilities in 'hubs', creating urban focal points)' (DCP, pg. 6).</p> <p>It is within the Council's climate change mitigation responsibilities to provide community infrastructure including 'public walking and cycling infrastructure, priority parking systems and electric vehicle charging stations on public land can encourage sustainable transport choices' (Draft Climate Change Mitigation Plan, pg. 9)</p>	<p>(Wollongong City Council, 2018)</p> <p>Creative Wollongong 2019-2014 (Wollongong City Council, 2019)</p> <p>Wollongong DCP 2009, Chapter D16 (Wollongong City Council, 2021)</p> <p>Draft Climate Change Mitigation Plan (Wollongong City Council, 2019),</p>

PART C: PLANNING RESEARCH AND CONSIDERATIONS

6.0 Social infrastructure trends

6.1 20-minute neighbourhoods

The 20-minute neighbourhood is all about ‘living locally – giving people the ability to meet most of their daily needs within a 20-minute return walk from home, with access to safe cycling and local transport options. These connected and walkable places are where people can live, work and play; buy their bread and milk, work from home or local business, access services and meet their neighbours at the central gathering places.’²¹

In the 20-minute neighbourhood, people have ready access to a range of facilities, services, employment and recreation opportunities. By increasing local development density (e.g. dwelling or jobs per hectare), increasing diversity through mixed-use development and housing types and improving access to active and public transport, the principle of a 20-minute neighbourhood can enhance liveability of local areas, promote health and wellbeing of residents and strengthen the sense of community and connection to place.²²



There are particular challenges in creating 20-minute neighbourhoods in growth areas, due to lower population densities and a lack of established infrastructure. Careful planning and the facilitation of mixed housing densities in growth areas can support the development of 20-minute neighbourhoods. The creation of town centres with concentrations of social infrastructure within an 800m-1km walking distance will be key to ensuring the creation of 20-minute neighbourhoods in the WDURA.

²¹ 20-minute neighbourhoods (State Government of Victoria, 2017), <https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/policy-and-strategy/planning-for-melbourne/plan-melbourne/20-minute-neighbourhoods#:~:text=To%20improve%20liveability%2C%20we%20need,cycling%20and%20local%20transport%20options.>

²² Plan Melbourne 2017-2050 (State Government of Victoria, 2017)

6.2 Age-friendly approach to social infrastructure planning

An age-friendly approach to urban planning is essential to creating an inclusive urban environment that works for everyone. An inclusive city 'creates a safe, liveable environment with affordable and equitable access to urban services, social services, and livelihood opportunities for all the city residents and other city users to promote optimal development of its human capital and ensure the respect of human dignity and equality.'²³ Planning and designing urban environments that consider the needs of younger and older people are key to creating supportive environments that enable people to live healthy and fulfilling lives.

The global megatrend of ageing populations and growing urban populations have major implications for urban areas and how these will function in the future.²⁴ The World Health Organisation developed a framework for age-friendly cities, identifying eight interconnected domains of urban life that allow the participation of older people and promote their wellbeing, as shown in Figure 8 WHO Age-friendly cities framework.²⁵ Likewise, a child-friendly urban planning approach will ensure current and future generations are given the best chances to face the challenges of tomorrow. Furthermore, if urban areas fail to provide a conducive environment for children's development and wellbeing, they risk outward migration that entail economic and cultural impacts.²⁶ The benefits of child-friendly cities are not limited to children but ripple through the community – uniting and promoting health and wellbeing, local economy and social cohesion, safety, and sustainability.²⁷

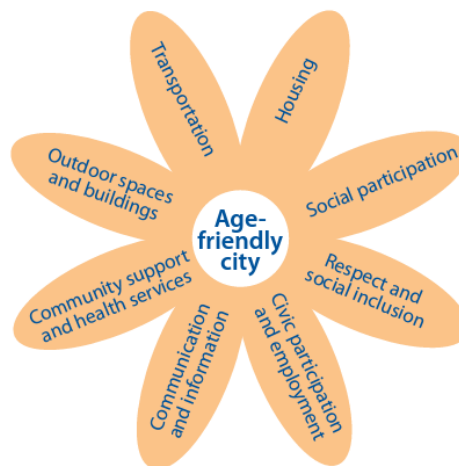


Figure 8 WHO Age-friendly cities framework

²³ Enabling Inclusive Cities (Asian Development Bank, 2017)

²⁴ Cities Alive: Designing for Ageing Communities (ARUP, 2019)

²⁵ Global Age-friendly Cities: A Guide (WHO, 2007)

²⁶ Cities Alive: Designing for Urban Childhoods (ARUP, 2017)

²⁷ Cities Alive: Designing for Urban Childhoods (ARUP, 2017)

6.3 Resilience and a changing climate

As the impacts of climate change become more evident, increasing the resilience of communities is vital to protect lives and promote sustainable development. Resilient cities are defined as cities where 'individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems have the capacity to survive, adapt, and grow - notwithstanding chronic stresses and acute shocks.'²⁸ Creating sustainable communities and driving resilience involve a systems approach to planning, taking into account the governance, economic, social, environmental assets and capacity of cities and communities.

In the Shoalhaven Illawarra region, which has regionally significant landscapes and natural assets, climate change impacts are expected to manifest through effects of extreme events that have direct and indirect impacts to communities. Heatwaves, extreme rainfalls, flooding, drought, and fire weather are expected to increase and worsen. Seven regional systems were identified to be vulnerable and needs to be addressed to mitigate risks and successfully adapt to climate change impacts²⁹:

- Satellite settlements
- Transport
- Emergency management
- Energy
- Food
- Industrial transformation
- Water

The recent flood crisis, and COVID-19 pandemic, has drawn attention to the important role social infrastructure plays in not just shaping a crisis response, but also in delivering adaptation and recovery outcomes for local communities. Over recent months and years, Australians have witnessed repeated examples of local government infrastructure - including leisure centres, sportsgrounds, and community centres - been rapidly re-purposed in response to crises, for example transforming into evacuation centres or COVID-19 testing clinics, enabling residents to access critical services when they can no longer access usual supports or facilities, such as hospitals.

Local government's recent roles in crisis and disaster responses, provides further evidence of the importance of social infrastructure. For example, disaster response research across several countries has shown that social infrastructure can foster disaster-resilient communities, as it strengthens opportunities for local social networks and responsive support systems.³⁰ Further, the *Australian Infrastructure Audit 2019* concluded that social infrastructure:

*'...helps to build social cohesion and identity, and can help foster community resilience in times of stress, such as natural disasters.'*³¹

Community and neighbourhood centres in particular play a key role in crisis and disaster response and recovery as they are able to be flexible and responsive to emerging local needs.³² Through various regular activities and programs aimed at a diverse range of stakeholders, community centres have been shown to contribute to community capacity building, reducing social isolation, and building social cohesion – key factors shaping community resilience in the face of crises.³³

Research into the role of community and neighbourhood centres in Brisbane's 2011 flood crisis also found that community centres were able to deliver a large number of benefits including:

- Coordinating and increasing volunteering and donation levels

²⁸ A Metropolis of Three Cities (Greater Sydney Commission, 2018)

²⁹ Shoalhaven and Illawarra Enabling Regional Adaptation (AdaptNSW, 2019)

³⁰ O'Sullivan, T. L., Kuziemy, C. E., Toal-Sullivan, D. and Corneil, W., 2013, 'Unravelling the complexities of disaster management: A framework for critical social infrastructure to promote population health and resilience', *Social Science & Medicine*, 93(2013), 238-246; Aldrich, D., 2012, 'Social, not physical, infrastructure: the critical role of civil society in disaster recovery', *Disasters*, 36(3), 398-419; Thornley, L., Ball, J., Signal, L., Lawson-Te Aho, K. and Rawson, E., 2015, 'Building community resilience: learning from the Canterbury earthquakes', *Kotuitui: New Zealand Journal of Social Sciences Online*, 10:1, 23-35.

³¹ Infrastructure Australia, 2019, page 393.

³² West End Community House, 2014, 'Strengthening people and places: the role and value of community and neighbourhood centres', <https://www.communitify.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Neighbourhood-centre-Report.pdf>

³³ West End Community House, 2014; Infrastructure Australia, 2019.

- Becoming an evacuation centre for local residents prior to the floods, and a respite centre after the floods where residents could access meals and charge their phones
- Acting as a conduit for local contributions of time, money, equipment and materials
- Connecting with businesses, government and non-government agencies to access resources and services
- Developing local information kits and newsletters for residents
- Providing specific responses to vulnerable residents through pre-existing knowledge of the community³⁴

Climate change is anticipated to manifest in a host of environmental changes on a local and global scale, including habitat loss and biodiversity decline, higher urban temperatures, reduced rainfall and longer fire seasons, more frequent and extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and increased scarcity of resources. As with COVID-19, this will present complex and unprecedented challenges to Australian communities and have a significant economic and human cost.

In response, social infrastructure must be located, designed, and built to withstand a warmer, drier climate and extreme weather events, so that it can continue to provide essential services to people during ordinary times and times of crisis. Communities will also need to be more resilient, and this comes down to more than just having the right infrastructure and services. Our ability to withstand and recover from crises is greatly dependent on our social capital (the network of relationships that allow people to trust each other and work together) and our community capacity (the ability to solve collective problems through shared skills, knowledge, equipment, and other resources). Building this resilience does not happen overnight; communities must be supported to form strong social connections, share ideas and information, and seek support where and when it is needed.

In short, while historically local governments have not routinely included crisis management roles when undertaking their social infrastructure planning, there is a growing body of evidence to indicate that communities are increasingly looking to their local council to facilitate access to essential facilities and supports during times of crisis.

6.4 From standalone facilities to multipurpose hubs

Stand-alone facilities for the exclusive use of specific community or socio-demographic groups are not financially viable, nor do they deliver net social benefits. A shift towards more integrated, co-located or clustered service delivery models are needed. Single service delivery models are inefficient and consume significant amounts of land. As well as providing best value for money, shared community facilities provide positive social outcomes by providing opportunities for collaborative approaches to service delivery and 'one stop shop' for service users.

Co-location usually involves bringing community services together in a single location. It is a response to the fragmentation and lack of integration of related services. It is intended to enhance both coordination among services and convenience for clients who can access multiple services from a single point. Co-location can also relate to the relationship between community facilities and other compatible uses such as open space.

Leading practice favours the clustering of community facilities in centres to enhance accessibility and connectivity with related uses. Well used community facilities tend to be located in places that are readily accessible by public transport and where people already congregate, such as shopping centres and schools.

³⁴ West End Community House, 2014.

6.5 The role of faith in planning

Faith spaces and organisations form an integral aspect of social infrastructure fabric in new and old communities, acting as anchors for communities and often providing the community services lacking from other providers (e.g. schools, childcare, community gathering spaces).

Ives and Van Eymeren consider that Faith serves an important social purpose in urban areas, bringing city dwellers together to 'mourn, celebrate, remember, reflect and to help others.'³⁵ They also serve as a bridge between governments and citizens, building trust for communities to rally together.

Formal religious sites—such as churches, temples, cathedrals, and mosques—are places of great spiritual significance. They are often also centrepieces of community cohesion around which many urban residents' lives revolve. Further, such sites often contain vestiges of green space and natural features in otherwise grey urban landscapes. For this reason, religious sites can and should be incorporated more seriously by urban planners and designers into the urban fabric.³⁶

Recent research in Australia further highlights the role of faith communities in working with minority groups in communities with strong outcomes for accessibility and inclusion.³⁷ The Anglican diocese, for example, has undertaken strong engagement with Aboriginal communities and persons with disabilities as part of its outreach programs in particularly rural communities.³⁸ The successes in this denomination suggest a strong role for faith-based organisations in community capacity building.

It is therefore recommended that, in planning for new communities, the faith element of those communities is understood and integrated in the planning process. This process should involve a thorough understanding of the faith communities already operating in the local community.

Interfaith collaboration is a further best practice development in planning for faith in new communities. While there are considerable challenges in interfaith working, recent successes with multi-faith prayer rooms and collaboration in urban regeneration in the UK demonstrate this model's potential.³⁹

For West Dapto, it will be vital to bring local faith organisations into collaboration for the development of activated town centres that support the faith needs of these new communities and provide essential services to all residents, regardless of their faith.

³⁵ Ives, Chriss and van Eymeren, Andre. 2017, 'Religious faith can help people to build better cities – here's how', *The conversation*.

³⁶ <https://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/responses/how-should-religion-be-considered-in-urban-planning>

³⁷ See, e.g. Short, M. (2015). Three Anglican Churches engaging with people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Sydney, NSW: Bush Church Aid.

Short, M. (2018). Anglican Churches engaging with people living with disabilities. The Bush Church Aid Society, CBM Australia - Luke 14 Program.

³⁸ Short, M. (2015). The Anglican Church of Australia and engagement with people living with disabilities. *St Mark's Review*, 232(July 2), 123 - 138.

Short, M., Broughton, G., Short, M., Ochala, Y., & Anscombe, B. (2017). Connecting to belonging: A cross-disciplinary inquiry into rural Australian Anglican Church engagements with people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. *Journal of Contemporary Religion*. 32(1), 119-133;

Tillotson, N., Short, M., Ollerton, J., Hearn, C and Sawatzky, B. (2017). Faith matters: From a disability lens. *Journal of Disability and Religion*. 21(3): p. 319-337.

Short, M., Seiffert, M., Haynes, R., & Haynes, L. (2018). Church, Disability, and Rurality: The Lived Experience. *Journal of Disability and Religion*, 18(1), 1-26;

Kime, K., & Short, M. (2019). Engaging with Aboriginal peoples: Challenging inequality in the rural Australian Anglican Church from a sociological, social work and theological perspective. *Australasian Pentecostal Studies Journal*, 20(2019), 35-54; Short, M., Burningham, G., Wright, S., Wardle, S., Byford, E., & Osburn, L. (2021). Four elders journeying ageing in isolation during uncertain or anxious times: an elder-directed, cross-disciplinary project about faith, *Journal of religion, spirituality and aging*, online.

³⁹ See eg. Farnell, Furby, Hills, Macey and Smith, 2003, 'Faith in Urban Regeneration: engaging faith communities in urban regeneration, The Policy press

6.6 The evolving role of libraries

Public libraries provide an array of social and economic benefits for communities beyond simply housing collections of books. Modern public libraries are key pieces of social infrastructure that provide communities with a variety of educational, cultural, social and support services. Importantly, the contemporary library service goes above and beyond simply being a place for book collections and borrowing - in addition to this long-standing function, the role of libraries has expanded to now play a key role in 'strengthening and championing the cultural lives of communities'.⁴⁰ This community support function is particularly important in areas that are geographically isolated, or service socially disadvantaged communities.⁴¹

Since the beginning of the 21st century, there has been clear research to show that well-designed and located social infrastructure plays a key role promoting both individual and community wellbeing.⁴² Public libraries, specifically, provide communities not only with a source of knowledge and information, but also a space in which to develop social connections and build social capital by providing access to shared spaces, as well through demonstrating model behaviour and other indicators of socially responsible behaviour.^{43,44}

As a foundational piece of social infrastructure, research from across the world (notably, Australia, England and the USA) highlights that services provided by modern libraries need to be dynamic, community-focused and responsive.^{45,46} That is to say, services should be different for every library as they are designed to reflect the needs and wants of the local community. Contemporary library services might include (but are not limited to):^{47,48, 49}

- access to physical and digital resources
- support for literacy and reading for pleasure
- opportunities for social connection and community building
- lifelong learning
- support for local arts, culture and heritage
- promotion of local writers, artists and creators
- provision of safe spaces for meetings, study, work and relaxation
- access to information (in a variety of forms) for:
 - personal development
 - health, wellbeing and active participation in society, and
 - helping people learn about and engage with local institutions and agencies
 - connection with different tiers of governments

This breadth of services provided through libraries in the twenty-first century underscore their central role in building community, supporting local culture, plus enabling residents of all ages and backgrounds to participate in social, economic, cultural and political life.

In addition to the social benefits, libraries play a key cultural and economic function. Firstly, libraries are a 'touch-point' with the local Council, and so therefore play a first-hand role in shaping community perceptions of, and experiences with, Council services. As demonstrated in a survey undertaken as part of a wider research project on the social importance of libraries by CIVICA and UTS in 2016, close to 82% of surveyed individuals agreed, or strongly agreed, that libraries are one of the functions of local governments.⁵⁰

⁴⁰ Twomey, K, 2017, 'Libraries Building Communities' <https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/stories/libraries-building-communities>

⁴¹ Summers, S & Buchanan, S, 2018. 'Public libraries as cultural hubs in disadvantaged communities: developing and fostering cultural competencies and connections' *The Library Quarterly*, 88(3): 286-302

⁴² Davern et al, 2017 'Using spatial measures to test a conceptual model of social infrastructure that supports health and wellbeing' *Cities and Health* 1: (2), 194-209

⁴³ A Safe Place to Go: Libraries and Social Capital, 2000 https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/safe_place.pdf

⁴⁴ Klinenberg, E. *Palaces for the People: How Social Infrastructure Can Help Fight Inequality Polarization and the Decline of Civic Life.*

⁴⁵ Du, Y, 2016, *Small Libraries, Big Impact: How to Better Serve Your Community in the Digital Age*

⁴⁶ *The Intrinsic Value of Libraries as public spaces*, 2016. CIVICA.

⁴⁷ *Ibid*

⁴⁸ AILA Statement on public library services, 2018 <https://www.aila.org.au/about-aila/policies-standards-and-guidelines/statement-public-library-services>

⁴⁹ *Ibid*

⁵⁰ *The Intrinsic Value of Libraries as public spaces*, 2016. CIVICA.

As a traditionally 'free' service to the community, the economic contributions of libraries are less often the focus of research into their benefits. However, a study by the NSW Library in the financial period from 2007/8 indicated that public libraries in NSW contributed over \$1 billion dollars in economic benefit to NSW, and generated over \$800 million in economic activity.⁵¹

As such, it is clear that libraries play a multi-faceted role in the community. In addition to the social benefits that they provide, there is also a clear indication that libraries are essential in developing a local council culture and image. On top of this, they are significant generators of economic benefit and activity within the local community.

Some key additional considerations for effective library spaces include:

- **Access to digital technology:** Rapid technological change means it can be hard for many, particularly those experiencing socioeconomic disadvantage, to keep up with the latest advances. Community facilities, particularly libraries, are increasingly providing spaces and tools to support effective working and learning. The COVID-19 pandemic has placed an even greater emphasis on the importance of this infrastructure, with many relying on quality internet and conferencing equipment for their work as well as socialising.
- **Unprogrammed spaces:** Social connection and informal activities (indoor and outdoor spaces) need to be considered in the conceptual design of facilities to attract a range of uses and users, to encourage casual interactions and the forming of social connections across generations, ethnicities, and other demographic groups.
- **Flexibility and adaptability:** Community facilities must be designed and managed to be flexible and adaptable over the long-term to ensure their inclusiveness and financial viability. This will ensure facilities can adapt to new or emerging uses and functions over time. Creating strong partnerships across government, not-for-profit and the private sector is critical in achieving effective hub design and maximising the use of shared spaces.

To make the best use of limited resources, and ensure that facilities are utilised as much as possible (including at night and at weekends), community buildings need to provide for multiple uses and serve a range of population groups, as well as being capable of adapting as needs change over time. Successful community centres tend to be those that offer a diversity of well organised and well attended services, programs and activities.

⁵¹ Enriching Communities: The value of public libraries in NSW, <https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/public-library-services/enriching-communities-value-public-libraries-nsw>

6.7 Cultural Infrastructure to the fore

Cultural infrastructure is defined in Create NSW's *Cultural Infrastructure Plan 2025+* to include buildings and spaces that accommodate or support culture. It is more than just traditional museums, galleries, and theatres; including all places where the cultural sector and broader community come together to create, share, learn and store products or experiences.⁵²

Local governments play a key role in facilitating cultural activities, events and festivals, and several studies have demonstrated the economic benefits of cultural investment for local economies.⁵³ These benefits are seen through both direct employment opportunities, and the economic flow-on effects of increased visitation and expenditure in local areas. For example, Museums and Galleries NSW reported that cultural facilities across seven major regional cities, generated a 69% average return on investment by Local, State and Federal governments.

Other Australian research has highlighted other significant social benefits of local cultural activities, including: the promotion of civic dialogue in disadvantaged communities⁵⁴ and increased social capital for community members involved in planning and organising activities and festivals.⁵⁵

6.7.1 Adaptive reuse and cultural spaces

Adaptive reuse of cultural heritage spaces has become a key strategy in sustainable urban planning for its ability to preserve and potentially promote economic, social, environmental and cultural values of urban areas.

The outcomes of adaptive reuse contribute to the three pillars of sustainability through cost reductions (economic), resource efficiency (environmental), and retention (social sustainability). Adaptive reuse can transform heritage spaces into 'accessible and useable places' that suit the evolving needs of the community while retaining the identity of a place and its connection to the community.⁵⁶

In Australia, heritage buildings and archaeological sites are an integral element of the country's cultural capital⁵⁷ and its conservation and interpretation 'provide tangible and intangible links to our past and have great potential to play significant roles in the futures of our cities.'⁵⁸

6.7.2 Creative placemaking

Creative placemaking is defined as the utilisation of artistic practices through programmatic (events-based) approach or through built form (e.g. creative studios, performance venues, public art etc) to make a place more interesting and vibrant.⁵⁹ Local creative infrastructure can serve as both catalyst and platform for generating subsequent economic, social and environmental values especially for newly developed or renewed areas. A multitude of benefits can arise from creative placemaking including but not limited to increased civic participation, improved health and wellbeing, place attachment, reduced crime, increased infrastructure investment, education and skills development, employment opportunities, increased retail and local business, flow-on effects on tourism and place-brand value, investments to public domain and improved walkability.⁶⁰

Creative placemaking amenities such as public venues for cultural and creative practices and activities such as staging of festivals and exhibits can deliver socio-economic values to growth areas. They not only attract businesses, inward investment and talented workforce to the local area to boost the local economy but also serve

⁵² *Cultural Infrastructure Plan 2025+ (Create NSW, 11).*

⁵³ Museums and Galleries NSW, 2010, *Value Added! The economic and social contribution of cultural facilities in Central NSW*; Museums and Galleries NSW, 2014, *A report on the economic impact of the cultural facilities of the Evocities.*

⁵⁴ Kelaher et al., 2014, *Evaluating community outcomes of participation in community arts: A case for civic dialogue.*

⁵⁵ Reid, 2004, *The Social Consequences of Rural Events: The Inglewood Olive Festival.*

⁵⁶ Adaptive reuse of heritage buildings (Bullen and Love, 2011, p. 412).

⁵⁷ Adaptive reuse of heritage buildings (Bullen and Love, 2011, p.411).

⁵⁸ Adaptive reuse of industrial heritage: opportunities and challenges (Heritage Council Victoria, 2013, p. 1)

⁵⁹ Tourism planning and place making: place-making or placemaking? (Lew, 2017)

⁶⁰ Valuing Creative Placemaking (Cohen et al, 2018)

as 'vehicles for social capital' that facilitate community processes, which have the power to create new social networks and strengthen sense of community in the long term.⁶¹

⁶¹ Valuing Creative Placemaking (Cohen et al, 2018, p.21)

6.8 Importance of open space

Public open space supports the health and wellbeing of our residents. Parks are places where our residents and visitors to the city can relax, be physically active and play. They provide free locations for people to gather and socialise, helping people to make connections with one another and have a sense of belonging in our growing community. They provide opportunities to escape the built environment, and improved amenity provides habitat for wildlife and improved air quality. This critical green infrastructure supports and contributes to social, physical and mental health of our community.

Open space, sport and recreation infrastructure contributes to economic wellbeing, by creating numerous jobs in managing and maintaining community facilities, delivering programs and activities, supply of equipment and the multiple benefits that come from hosting community and competitive events.

Parks and recreation facilities are critical for community health and wellbeing. They ensure our urban environments support and sustain our communities through:

- **Physical and mental health benefits:** Open space, sport and recreation infrastructure and services promote physical activity and active lifestyles. Direct benefits to health include reduced risk of non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular diseases, colon and breast cancer and diabetes; improved bone health; reduced risk of falls and fractures; assistance with weight management; enhancement of the immune system; and improvement of mental health and sense of wellbeing.
- **Social benefits:** Parks, public space and community recreation facilities generate stronger and more connected communities with improved social interaction and inclusion through provision of active and vibrant community hubs, access to facilities and resources, opportunities for volunteering and involvement.
- **Environmental benefits:** Development of well-planned and attractive settings for active living encourages uptake of active transport and use of public parks and leisure services. Further health benefits associated with provision of parks and green environments include temperature reduction and mitigation of the urban heat island effect; air quality improvement; management of storm water reducing the incidence of flooding and water-borne disease; ecosystem support and biodiversity enhancement.
- **Economic benefits:** Parks and leisure services can assist to reduce health care cost through reduction in disease and illness associated with lack of physical activity and social interaction. A park and public space network can provide local employment and investment opportunities; and contributes to maintaining a healthy workforce.
- **Heritage conservation:** opportunities for heritage interpretation of both listed landscape items, archaeology and 'ruins'.

Evidence from around the world for building cities and regional areas around public open space, active recreation areas, green streets and walking and cycling infrastructure, has repeatedly demonstrated this approach will deliver improved health, social cohesion, vibrant local economies, productivity, and environmental benefits.

Public open space, sport and recreation infrastructure could be defined as a critical investment in current and future populations. This 'Urban Health Infrastructure' delivers multiple returns on investment. The National Heart Foundation observes:

- The health effects of physical activity are compelling. However, the potency of physical activity as a policy investment for Australia extends far beyond health. Active living plays a key role in broader economic and social goals for our nation:
walking, cycling and public transport are affordable and sustainable solutions to traffic congestion
- these same behaviours contribute to cleaner air, reduced carbon emissions and sustainable environments
- active neighbourhoods and cities are more liveable, with higher levels of social capital and community cohesion and lower levels of crime
- in the context of an ageing community, physical activity enables older Australians to live more active lifestyles with reduced risk from disabling and costly chronic diseases

- fit and active workers are more productive, take fewer sick days and make a positive contribution to our economic wellbeing.

Source: *A blueprint for an active Australia*, Heart Foundation, 2019 (pg. 8)

6.8.1 Lessons from the lockdown – restored recognition of open space

The recent impact of measures to reduce the spread of the coronavirus pandemic has highlighted just how important public spaces, parks and pathways are to the community. Anecdotal evidence from many towns and cities has highlighted the rapid increase in use of public space and how important the opportunity to get outdoors and be active has become to all. It is likely this rapid shift in behaviour will emphasise serious inequity in provision and may result in more permanent increases in outdoor activity and exercise.

‘However, the sheer volume of people exercising in the open air has also exposed the limitations of historic design of some public spaces, with too many people crowded onto narrow walkways or poorly laid out parklands.

That’s why our future precincts, parks and public spaces need to be designed to enable better social distancing, with wider footpaths, segregated cycleways and more linear parks, to meet the increased demand for these precious public spaces.’

- Rob Stokes NSW Minister for Planning. Source: *Guardian Australia* 12/05/20

6.8.2 Value of community sport infrastructure

In 2018, Australian Sports Commission and KPMG published a report titled: *The Value of Community Sport Infrastructure: Investigating the value of community sports facilities to Australia*. The headline finding of the report was that annually community sport infrastructure is estimated to generate more than \$16.2 billion annually to Australia. This includes:

- \$6.3 billion in economic benefits, including 33,900 FTE jobs and \$5.53 billion in increased productivity
- \$4.9 billion in health benefits including \$500 million in health system benefits and reduction of many personal health concerns, including reduction in chronic diseases, reduction of anxiety and depression
- \$5.1 billion in social benefits including \$4.2 billion in human capital uplift (improved educational and employment outcomes).

The report states:

In a competitive funding environment, proponents of community sport infrastructure projects must be able to demonstrate that their proposals will deliver value to their communities more broadly than only to direct interest groups (whether that be sports clubs, state sporting organisations, or other community groups).

The Value of Community Sport Infrastructure report outlines potential outcomes for the sector and policy makers. This includes:

- A shift from seeing provision of community sport infrastructure as a ‘cost’ to an ‘investment, impact and value’ to communities.
- Opportunity for further collaboration across all levels of government and government departments to deliver improved value to communities.

7.0 Planning and delivering social infrastructure effectively

7.1 Council's role in infrastructure delivery

Local Government Areas across Australia are experiencing significant demographic and socio-economic transformations as the process of globalisation, migration and other demographic forces change how people live and work.

The policy context for councils is shifting with growth in the service sector and knowledge industries, increasing cultural diversity, ageing populations and persistent inequalities within communities. Given the overwhelming evidence for its value in creating liveable and sustainable communities, it is imperative that councils invest in social infrastructure to ensure they meet the changing needs and expectations of their communities.

This increasing need for adequate social infrastructure provision has prompted many Australian local governments to develop frameworks that guide planning and investment in council-owned social infrastructure. The City of Greater Geelong outline their rationale for delivering social infrastructure as:

'Being able to plan for, respond to and provide infrastructure in a continually changing environment that is reflective of community needs is crucial to how Council continues to do business and support its vision and objectives'.⁶²

Councils across Australia continue to have responsibility for a large proportion of social infrastructure within their local areas, and therefore have a crucial role to play in ensuring adequate provision. Indeed, Wollongong City Council's *Social Infrastructure Planning Framework* identifies Council as 'the steward [on behalf of the community] of the majority of 'hard' social infrastructure across the city and as a key agency in fostering social well-being of the local community'.⁶³

This perspective was also highlighted in the major 2015 survey of Australian residents which revealed high levels of community recognition and support for the important role councils' play in delivering social infrastructure (such as parks, libraries, sport and recreation facilities, youth services and childcare facilities). For example, the majority of respondents reported that local government's provision of social infrastructure was either extremely important or very important.⁶⁴

Wollongong City Council provides a useful example of how councils can think about their specific roles in social infrastructure delivery. Council identifies three main roles, summarised⁶⁵ below:

- **Planner:** Council plans for social infrastructure to address community needs. For example, Council undertakes needs assessments and consults with the community to plan for upgrades to existing social infrastructure or development of new infrastructure. Council may also seek contributions towards social infrastructure as part of new residential developments.
- **Manager/deliverer:** Council builds and maintains community assets and delivers services that meet community needs. Council upholds its commitment to principles of social inclusion, social justice and public value and works to enhance affordability and access for the community.
- **Activator/facilitator:** Council facilitates events and programs, brokers linkages and forms partnerships with other organisations to deliver social infrastructure and assists with applications for non-council grants.

⁶² City of Greater Geelong, 2015, page 1.

⁶³ Wollongong City Council, 2018, *Wollongong Social Infrastructure Planning Framework*, page 14.

⁶⁴ Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government (ACELG), 2015, *Why Local Government Matters Summary Report 2015*.

⁶⁵ For full details, see Wollongong City Council's *Social Infrastructure Planning Framework*, pages 14-15.

7.2 Development contributions

Local infrastructure contributions are charged by councils when new development occurs to fund key infrastructure, including parks and land for community facilities. While the system is administered by local government, the DPE sets the policy framework governing this system. There are two forms of local infrastructure contributions, contributions (s 7.11) and levies (s7.12), both of which are guided by Council's contributions plans.

It is noted that amendments to the NSW local infrastructure contributions framework are currently being considered.⁶⁶ These proposed changes may impact the way in which social infrastructure is funded in the West Dapto area.

The West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 was adopted by Council on 7 December 2020 and came into force on 14 December 2020. It enables Council to levy contributions for local public infrastructure required as a result of development in the WDURA.

IPART review of West Dapto contributions plan

The West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 is considered an IPART reviewed contributions plan.⁶⁷ It has been updated on a number of occasions following review by IPART in 2016 and 2020, providing commentary and recommendations regarding the provision of social infrastructure.

It is noted that the review was satisfied with community infrastructure listed on the essential works list, for 1.85 hectares of land for four new community facilities – finding nexus between the number of community facilities and estimated population for the growth area, based on a previous study conducted by Elton Consulting.⁶⁸

This contemporary Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis will inform Council's review of the West Dapto Contributions Plan and IPART's subsequent assessment of the Contributions Plan.

7.3 Planning Agreements

Planning agreements are a legislative mechanism for delivering innovative and complex infrastructure in connection with planning proposals and development applications. They are negotiated between Council and developers in these contexts. Importantly, these agreements extend beyond the scope of local infrastructure contributions, and can include:

- Recurrent funding of public facilities
- Capital and recurrent funding of transport
- Protection and enhancement of natural environment
- Monitoring of planning impacts

Planning agreements will be considered as a mechanism for funding and delivery of social infrastructure in this study.

⁶⁶ See <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/local-contributions>

⁶⁷ NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, 2019, Local Infrastructure Contributions Practice Note.

⁶⁸ Elton Consulting, *West Dapto Social, Cultural and Recreation Needs Study*, 2007.

7.4 Planning for social infrastructure in greenfield growth areas

'The long-term success or otherwise of [new outer suburbs] is to a large extent dependent on work undertaken early in the development cycle. This involves local and state governments working together with private developers to plan, fund and deliver the infrastructure necessary to support significant new populations'.⁶⁹

Key findings identified – considerations for West Dapto

- Neighbourhoods organised around an accessible town centre within a five-minute walk from their home.
- Co-located, multipurpose community facilities in strategic locations to serve a broader catchment for district-level need.
- Development of work hubs: small business incubators for residents to work remotely in a shared space in the local centre, designed for networking, knowledge sharing and collaboration. Opportunities include partnering with educational providers or private operators to manage incubators.
- Explore opportunities for income generating activities. The design of new facilities should create opportunities for commercial and social ventures alongside the community facility, such as cafes and gallery space.
- Program facilities to maximise participation, inclusion, and occupancy rates, especially at night.
- Improve promotion of key assets.
- Collaborative, partnership-based approach leveraging private sector, not-for-profit and state government cooperation. Ensure consistency and clarity to give clear signalling to the private sector.

Planning for social infrastructure in new release areas faces its own set of challenges. Delivering social infrastructure in a timely manner can, when successful, facilitate community cohesion from the outset of the new community. Key issues include:

- **Rapid population growth:** new release areas are confronted with significant rates of population growth, challenging existing community infrastructure and increasing the need for new infrastructure. These communities are also often more diverse, presenting challenges with catering infrastructure for multicultural communities. Managing growth, and meeting demand as it arises in urban release areas, is key to success.
- **While the need for infrastructure in new and developing communities is urgent, some types of infrastructure arrive long after they are required.** Outer suburbs and new growth areas may offer the most affordable homes to purchase, but they do not necessarily provide affordable living because they are less connected to neighbouring areas and associated opportunities. In addition, access to a range of social infrastructure is limited, particularly in the newest suburbs. A lack of social infrastructure can limit engagement with sport, recreation, social inclusion, and cultural expression.
- **Cost of new infrastructure in greenfield suburbs:** Developer contributions in new growth areas leaves a large gap in funding, and neither level of government recovers the full cost of infrastructure provision from the private sector. This gap in funding can be a barrier to the timely provision of new infrastructure
- **Libraries and community centres have large upfront capital costs:** new libraries can cost from \$20 million to \$30 million and new community centres between \$40 million and \$70 million.⁷⁰ The case studies provided in this report highlight that 21st century libraries and community centres are regional scale social infrastructure investments that provide for much more than places to borrow books or go for a swim. These multi-purpose

⁶⁹ Andrew Wear (2016) Planning, Funding and Delivering Social Infrastructure in Australia's Outer Suburban Growth Areas, Urban Policy and Research, 34:3, 284-297, DOI: 10.1080/08111146.2015.1099523

⁷⁰ Andrew Wear (2016) Planning, Funding and Delivering Social Infrastructure in Australia's Outer Suburban Growth Areas, Urban Policy and Research, 34:3, 284-297, DOI: 10.1080/08111146.2015.1099523

facilities are designed to service large catchments and provide a wide range of services, seven days a week, for all ages and abilities.

- **Integration of new and existing communities:** challenges arise when new and existing communities clash. Social infrastructure that draws on both of these communities in an equal and egalitarian manner can help to alleviate this challenge.

7.5 Timely delivery of community infrastructure in greenfield areas

Community infrastructure is integral to local sustainable development and its timely delivery is critical to facilitate successful growth of newly developed or redeveloped urban areas. However, for greenfield growth areas in Australia, planning, scheduling and delivery of social infrastructure is a persisting policy challenge, undermining the potential of growth areas.⁷¹

Lags and deficits in infrastructure in these growth areas impact new communities and new housing supply programs. Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute found that a notable emerging pattern in community infrastructure delivery is that 'walking and transit access to social infrastructures in the growth areas invariably lags behind the regional average in all three cities,' suggesting lack of social infrastructure provision within these areas and insufficient transit services to connect residents to community infrastructure.⁷²

To support the development of greenfield areas and its communities, strategic coordination is essential to timely delivery of local social infrastructure and to address potential issues such as fragmentation of delivery agencies or overcommercialisation of delivery.

New technologies including big data and spatial analysis offer opportunities to improve planning and delivery of sufficient and highly accessible community infrastructure in greenfield areas.⁷³ Preferences of the community, changing population needs, health trends and current access are contributing factors to successful delivery of local social infrastructure.

Some of the key trends in social infrastructure provision identified in the Wollongong local government area include co-location and multi-use facilities, cultural and creative spaces, health and wellbeing services, with residents expressing preference for large multipurpose facilities for diverse community gatherings which solidify community ties.⁷⁴

⁷¹ Delivering social and community infrastructure in Australia's growing cities (AHURI, 2021)

⁷² Delivering social and community infrastructure in Australia's growing cities (AHURI, 2021, p.3)

⁷³ Delivering social and community infrastructure in Australia's growing cities (AHURI, 2021)

⁷⁴ Places for People: Wollongong Social Infrastructure Planning Framework 2018-2028 (Wollongong City Council, 2018)

7.6 Case study analysis: effective planning for growth areas

7.6.1 The Ponds, NSW

Area	Description
Project Overview	<p>Located within the Blacktown LGA, The Ponds is described as one of the most successful master planned projects in NSW.</p> <p>The Ponds includes approximately 80 hectares of parklands, bushland, waterways and six kilometres of bicycle and walkways.</p> <p>Centrepiece to this unique masterplan of 80ha are six major ponds and water features, complemented by a network of parks, gardens, reserves and sporting fields, recreational complexes, over 4kms of interconnecting cycleways and walking paths, connecting streets to green space and offering an active lifestyle for residents</p> <p>The design of the suburb has a wide range of recreation and community infrastructure that is well integrates with Second Ponds Creek being the 'spine' of the development.</p> <p>Underpinning the landscape planning and design is a commitment to best-practice sustainability measures. The project's Cumberland Plain landscape setting, a highly valued and endangered ecosystem of the Sydney Basin, presents distinctive opportunities and challenging constraints, requiring sensitivity throughout the planning, design and construction phases. The water-quality management system of rain gardens, wetlands and ponds, and the clearly delineated public/private open spaces, minimize encroachment of the more intensively managed landscapes into the surrounding bushland.</p> <p>Source: https://architectureau.com/articles/the-ponds/# https://clouston.com.au/project/the-ponds-parklands-riparian-corridor/</p>
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a diversity of recreation opportunities within The Ponds including play spaces, multi-use courts, sporting facilities, fitness stations and a network of shared pathways. • The public open space network has a high level of road frontage. • The riparian corridor has been integrated, designed and activated as the focal point of recreation opportunities. • Ample shared pathways, wide and safe connections across Second Ponds Creek and multiple activation destination location throughout which is supported by way-finding signage.
Key learnings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strong integration of planning and design methodologies to deliver an integrated stormwater and recreation infrastructure network. • Early discussions with developers to bring them on a journey to deliver best outcomes for the community well-being. • Developing a comprehensive urban design manual to guide the development of public realm, built-form character and excellent quality public recreation network • Excellent integration of green and blue grid to maximise public open space opportunities

The Ponds Masterplan



High quality and integrated public open space and recreation facilities



4.5 kms of cycleways and pathways



Gathering artwork by Aunty Edna Watson and Graham Chalcraft compliments the playground adjoining the cycleway



Parkrun at The Ponds has over 400 people participate in the free 5km walk/run every Saturday morning.



Source: www.facebook.com/pg/thepondsparkrun/photos/?ref=page_internal

Public Art integrated into waterways, parks and streetscapes

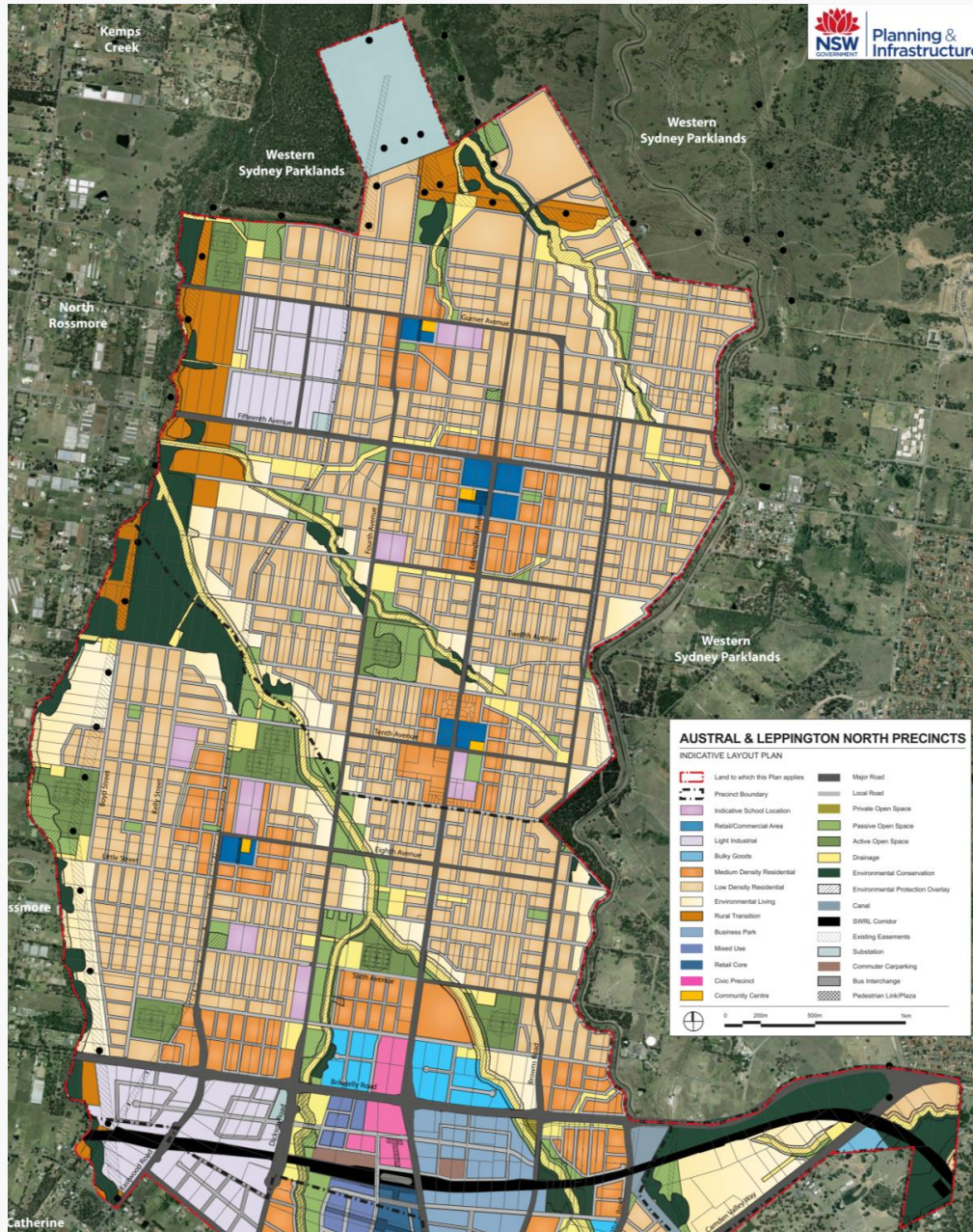


7.6.2 Austral, NSW

Area	Description
Project Overview	<p>The suburb of Austral is located within the Liverpool Local Government Area (LGA). Austral is located 10km to the east of the future Badgerys Creek Airport and 10km west of the Liverpool CBD.</p> <p>The population of Austral is projected to increase to approximately 70,000 residents by 2041- the time estimated for the suburb to be fully developed. Austral will be comprised of four (4) Town Centres to meet the needs and demands of its current and future population.</p> <p>The Austral and Leppington North Precincts were released for precinct planning purposes by the Minister for Planning in October 2009. The Austral Precinct is wholly located in the Liverpool LGA, while the Leppington North Precinct is located partly in the Liverpool LGA and partly in the Camden LGA.</p> <p>The Indicative Layout Plan (ILP) for the Austral and North Leppington Precinct was released in 2011, whereas Contributions Plan for the precinct was prepared in 2014 (CP 2014). CP 2014 was developed based on the demographic projections developed in 2014 i.e. approx. 16,133 dwellings and a population of 49,686. Public Open Space was planned for the demographic estimates in 2014. A total of 124.01HA of Public Open space was identified for Austral. However, the total quantum of land for Public Open Space was inclusive of constrained land (E.g.: steep slope, low passive surveillance, powerline easements, etc). Following is a breakdown of Public Open space (Public Open Space) identified for Austral in 2014:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Public Open Space identified: 124.01HA • Existing/Dedicated land for Public Open Space: 19.17HA • Additional acquisition of land for Public Open Space: 104.84HA • Open Space provision rate: 2.5ha/1000 persons (NOTE: for projections made in 2014) <p>Hierarchy of planned provision of Public Open Space (2014):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Parks (0.1-2ha): 46 parks • District passive Parks (0.3-10ha): 11 parks • Local Sports Park (5-12ha): 4 parks • District Sport (10ha): 1 park <p>NOTE: Most parks (all hierarchies) are constrained with remnant vegetation, odd shape and size affecting functionality of the park which further reduces the net functional area of parks for recreation use.</p> <p>CURRENT SCENARIO: Austral's population in 2021 was 9,451 residents and approx. 2,883 dwellings. As per Forecast Id, Austral is estimated to reach a population of 69,049 residents and 22,768 dwellings by 2041. That is, an additional 19,363 residents and 6,635 dwellings to be accommodated with no investment in already deficit provision of Public Open Space.</p>
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delayed land acquisition and delivery of Public Open Space. Residents have moved into brand new homes with no public park to access within a walking or driving catchment. • Existing parks are outdated and no longer meet the need of the new demographic. • Increased residential density to accommodate additional dwellings and residents. Areas zoned for low density are getting higher density residential development, which is affecting living conditions. • Poor built-form, urban design and social returns • Community frustration due to delayed delivery of social infrastructure • Additional pressure on Council to expedite land acquisition and delivery of parks with most parks funded through Contributions Plan. • Buying additional land for Public Open Space will be too expensive for Council.
Key learnings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of planned provision of Public Open Space every 5 years to respond to the most up to date demographic projections and trends • Developing forward funding strategy to acquire land and deliver Public Open Space infrastructure to maintain and sustain delivery responsive to the population growth • Monitoring residential density development to ensure dwelling targets are not exceeding threshold numbers • Initiating partnership and collaboration opportunities with State agencies for land acquisition and joint delivery of major recreation facilities

- Developing innovative design and delivery models for recreation and open space to maintain demand by the time an urban release area reaches its full development potential.

Austral Indicative Layout Plan 2014



7.6.3 Melton Library, Victoria

Melton Library is a sustainably designed and energy efficient facility that opened in 2013. It is located in the Melton township and cost \$20 million to build. The library is open every day and integrates many services for community members, and integrates health, wellbeing, and education programs for a range of diverse audiences.

The multi-purpose facility includes the following:

- Housing the library's collection of books, journals and resources,
- Providing lifelong learning and community activities, with flexible spaces to cater for large and small groups,
- Eleven meeting spaces, varying in size from a ninety-seat auditorium to more intimate meeting rooms for small groups. These are available to residents and can be booked for various activities including community group meetings, arts and craft groups or business meetings,
- Offering programs for all ages and for a range of community needs including, programs for new arrivals such as providing English conversation classes and support for citizenship tests; job lab support for resume and job applications; after school programs for primary and secondary school students; and craft and activity groups to reduce social isolation,
- Offering children's programs and Maternal and Child Health services,
- A dedicated recording studio available for hire,
- Using the latest in wireless connectivity with well-equipped computer training rooms,
- Changing places - fully accessible toilets, with adult change table and hoist to ensure the centre is an inclusive place for people with disabilities.

7.6.4 Macarthur Gardens, NSW

Macarthur gardens is a part of the Greater Macarthur Growth Area, including urban infill and new release land. Delivered primarily by major development groups, the Macarthur Gardens retirement village and planned mixed use neighbourhood are a good example of the private delivery of best practice community infrastructure, tailored for local demographic needs.

The Macarthur Gardens Community Centre, built for Stockland Property Service, is approximately 1,600m² and contains the village administration facilities, hair salon, doctor's rooms, gymnasium, indoor swimming pool, town hall, billiards room, dining room, and a library. The co-location of services and facilities in a central location makes this facility a success for residents in the village.

Macarthur Gardens North is a mixed-use development that plans to deliver community infrastructure. The concept plan outlines:

- More than 13ha of open space, including a regional park, central park, and a vibrant civic plaza,
- Playgrounds,
- Fitness stations,
- Shared cycle and pedestrian way,
- Recreational space for sports and leisure.

7.6.5 Liverpool City Council – Community Facilities Strategy

The Liverpool City Council's Community Facilities Strategy contains a number of points developing best practice for community infrastructure planning in key growth areas and new release areas. A key focus for Council has been tackling the issues arising from the developer contributions scheme, and the limitations associated with this funding model. Improved facility planning for new release areas looks like:⁷⁵

- Preparing guidelines and functional briefs for new community facilities to inform developers and internal stakeholders of the general requirements for new community facilities
- Seeking resourcing to undertake necessary preliminary research to further inform functional briefs for new community facilities
- Explore funding opportunities for new facilities, outside of contributions
- Ensure all contribution plans require facilities of at least 1 000 sqm in size.

7.6.6 Thirroul District Community Centre & Library, NSW

The Thirroul District Community Centre & Library is an integrated multipurpose community facility servicing the northern part of the Wollongong LGA. The award-winning centre was built in 2009 and co-located with Thirroul's shopping village. Seating over 200 in its hall, the centre is host to numerous programmed events and activities. Key features include:

- Large hall for community events, coupled with a kitchen, foyer, and terrace,
- Six additional bookable rooms,
- Library space,
- Gallery space.

7.7 Aerotropolis Plan, NSW

The Western Sydney Aerotropolis Plan envisions the Western Sydney Aerotropolis as the next global gateway of Australia with world-class infrastructure to support a thriving economy and a sustainable, liveable community built around the Western Sydney International Airport.

One of the objectives set in the Plan is to deliver social and cultural infrastructure that strengthens communities, highlighting the significance of efficient planning and timely delivery of social infrastructure in unlocking development in the Aerotropolis and successfully activating the planned precincts within the metropolitan area. With a landscape-led and integrated approach to social infrastructure, the Plan includes community, education and health, and creative and cultural facilities as part of the state and local infrastructure requirements, including:

- Community facilities and open spaces
 - Employment and residential development within 10 minutes' walk of public open space,
 - High quality facilities and services including community centres, multi-purpose hubs, libraries and aquatic centres
- Health and education facilities
 - strategic centres that integrate primary and tertiary education, with health facilities and the landscape to create places of learning and wellbeing
 - local centres where schools and community facilities are integrated into the parklands shared with the broader community
- Arts and creativity facilities
 - Provision of public art, and public spaces such as art galleries, museums and libraries
 - Co-location of artistic and creative organisations in science and education precincts to facilitate collaboration, enable enterprise and innovation and support the development of creative industries⁷⁶

⁷⁵ Community Facilities Strategy (Liverpool City Council, 2018), Page 28.

⁷⁶ Western Sydney Aerotropolis Plan (NSW DPE, 2020).

7.8 Waterloo Youth Centre

Waterloo Youth Centre is an example of a refurbished inner city toilet block that has been transformed into a high-quality contemporary workspace and counselling facility for Weave, a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to supporting disadvantaged young people in the inner-city. The facility is located next to Waterloo Oval and a skate park which offers an ideal situation for providing services that need to appeal and reach out to the local youth community.

The project was commissioned by the City of Sydney Council and completed in 2012. It now delivers vital community services, achieving exceptional social and economic value. The key uses and features of the facility include:

- Offices for Weave's 14 staff
- Located next to a skate park and within a public parkland area
- Central courtyard to provide natural light and ventilation
- The design adapts the existing building and encloses it in an interlocking steel structure that can be dismantled and relocated.

The estimated cost of the project is \$1800/m² excluding land costs, professional fees and development approvals. The Gross Floor Area is 240m² on a 450m² site. The procurement process followed an open expressions of interest after which applicants were invited to enter a design competition. The architect was Collins And Turner.



Figure 9 Waterloo Youth Centre – integrated indoor and outdoor facility

Source: *Green roofs Australasia*

PART D: UNDERSTANDING SUPPLY AND DEMAND

8.0 Supply: current and planned social infrastructure

8.1 Introduction

This section audits existing and planned supply of social infrastructure within and with bearing on the WDURA. The section audits supply through a close analysis of GIS data, and Council's WDURA Developer Contributions Plan 2020, to understand existing and proposed provision. The results of this audit feed into the methodology for the gap analysis below.

8.2 Community facilities

There are a limited number of existing facilities catering for the WDURA. These include

- Horsley Community Centre (a council-owned neighbourhood-level community facility)
- Wongawilli Community Hall (a council-owned neighbourhood-level community facility)
- Dapto Ribbonwood Library and Community Centre (a council-owned sub-district integrated multipurpose facility)

A range of planned and upgraded facilities are identified in Council's WDURA Developer Contributions Plan 2020. These and existing facilities have been identified and mapped in **Figure 10** below.

Considering both existing and planned supply, as well as access to the Calderwood community centre, there is sufficient access to community facilities for the catchment generally. However, there is a noted gap in access for stage 5 and parts of stage 4 to sub-district level community facilities, including library space.

West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis | Final | August 2023

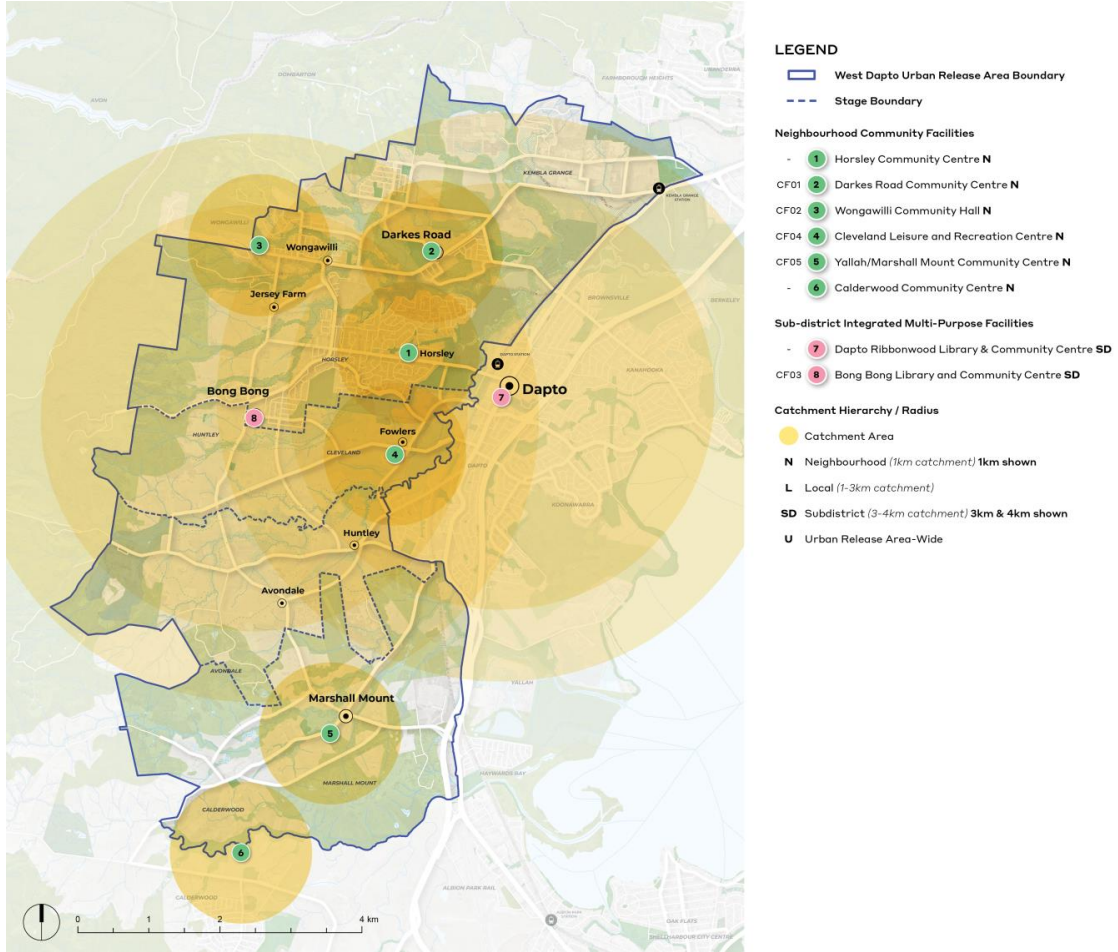


Figure 10 Existing and planned community facilities – WDURA

Source: Ethos Urban

8.2.1 Existing Council facilities



Wongawilli Community Hall - Interior

Wongawilli Community Hall

The Wongawilli Community Hall is a 126sqm hall equipped with performing stage, kitchen facilities and outdoor amenities (including a playground and shade) used for community gatherings and activities.



Wongawilli Community Hall – Exterior

The Wongawilli Community Hall is subject to planned upgrades, with design steps currently underway (see below).



Horsley Community Centre

The Horsley community centre is a Council-owned local community hub accessible by bus and train (1.4km from Dapto train station), offering various activities and services. The centre has bookable facilities including

- (1) Hall (capacity: 80 people, size: approx. 173sqm)
- (1) Sensory room
- (1) Meeting room (capacity: 24 people, size: approx. 50sqm)
- Amenities (kitchen, toilets etc.)



Dapto Library

Dapto Ribbonwood Centre

The Dapto Ribbonwood Centre is Council-managed facility which provides several services and spaces to the community. The centre is closely located to Dapto Mall and Dapto Showground and is accessible by bus and train. The centre includes the Dapto Library, three halls, five meeting rooms, two community offices, kitchen facilities, outdoor facilities, children's playground, parking and public toilets.



Dapto Ribbonwood Centre Hall



Heining Courtyard



Scribbly Gym Room

Room	Dimensions (m)	Capacity (Theatre Style)	Capacity (Table Seating)
Kurrajong Hall 1 & 2	22 x 15m	400	324
Kurrajong Hall 1 (with large stage and dressing rooms)	15 x 13m	250	216
Kurrajong Hall 2	15 x 8.9m	150	108
Heining Hall (small stage)	21.5 x 13.5m	250	216
Scribbly Gum Room	12.4 x 8.5m	90	80
Laurel Room	19.5 x 6m	100	70
Acacia Room	9 x 5.7m	50	32
Banksia Room	6.8 x 5.4m	32	22
Sassafras Room	8.2 x 5.2m	35	25
Community Office 1	5.4 x 4.2m	20	16
Community Office 2	6.6 x 4.2m	20	16

8.2.2 Planned community facilities

The *West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020* outlines planned supply for community infrastructure within the WDURA. This planned supply is summarised below:

Table 10 Planned community facilities

CF01	Darkes town centre	Neighbourhood multi-purpose community centre
CF02	Wongawilli	Neighbourhood community centre
CF03	Bong Bong	Sub-district multi-purpose community centre & library
CF04	Cleveland precinct	Neighbourhood multi-purpose community centre
CF05	Yallah - Marshall Mount	Neighbourhood multi-purpose community centre

Source: *West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020*

Wongawilli Community Hall refurbishment

The Wongawilli Community Hall is planned to be refurbished and extended from 126sqm to approximately 350sqm of floor space. The refurbishment plan involved design considerations to preserve the building's heritage significance and identified the following additional facilities:

- New kitchen
- Hireable meeting room with kitchenette
- New internal toilets & cleaners room
- Foyer
- Administration office with kitchenette
- Building services
- Hireable office with kitchenette

Darkes Town Centre District Sports Park and Community Centre Hub

The Darkes Town Centre District Sports Park and Community Centre Hub will be a 9.4ha site located along West Dapto Road under the Illawarra Escarpment. It is expected to serve the existing and future community in the West Dapto growth area. The Concept Plan for the Darkes Town Centre District Sports Park and Community Centre Hub details the following component schedule for the Community Centre, with an estimated cost of up to \$3,020,000. The following spaces have been identified for this facility:

- Hall
- Public Amenities
- 3 x meetings rooms
- Shared foyer/ entry/ reception
- Centre administration and staff amenities
- Kitchen – Commercial grade
- Community Office
- Enclosed covered forecourt
- Building Services

Calderwood community centre

The Calderwood Urban Development Project or Calderwood Valley is 700-hectare master planned site on the rural lands governed by Shellharbour and Wollongong Local Government Areas. The site is situated approximately 1.5 kilometres to southwest of the southern boundary of the WDURA. The project sits on a State Significant site and is expected to deliver 6,000 residential dwellings for more than 12,500 residents, 50 hectares of mixed-use land, open

space, environmental lands, internal roads and community infrastructure. The masterplan for Calderwood Valley by Lendlease includes the following proposed social infrastructure:⁷⁷

- Village centre
- Town centre
- Sprout hub (temporary community centre and café)
- Permanent community centre
- District park with playgrounds
- Parks and sportsgrounds
- Recreation precinct Several schools* and childcare centres including
 - Calderwood Christian School (K-12)
 - two (2) proposed government primary school
 - one (1) proposed government high school
- Active transport infrastructure such as walking and bike trails.

*Note: Whilst there are three (3) government school sites noted within the masterplan for Calderwood Valley (two primary and 1 high school), delivery timeframes for these sites are not confirmed. Wollongong Council staff understand that delivery timeframes for these sites would be subject to the growth rate of development, capacities in surrounding schools, and detailed planning by SINSW. Further any future school sites within the Calderwood Urban Development Project (UDP) boundary will be needed to accommodate the dwelling growth within the UDP. Council staff understand that the Calderwood identified school sites were not planned to cater for West Dapto.

8.3 Specialised community spaces

Specialised community spaces, encompassing places of worship, youth and seniors spaces, are audited to fully understand the social infrastructure ecosystem in West Dapto. These spaces are often provided by non-council providers. Creative spaces are analysed separately below. The results of this audit (see **Figure 13**) has revealed a lack of youth and seniors spaces and Aboriginal community spaces, while identifying significant quantities of places of worship.

There is currently no non-council bookable space within the WDURA.

8.3.1 Places of worship

A **Place of Public Worship** is defined in the *Wollongong Local Environmental Plan 2009* (Wollongong LEP) 'as a building or place used for the purpose of religious worship by a congregation or religious group, whether or not the building or place is also used for counselling, social events, instruction or religious training.'

A **Place of Public Worship** is permitted with consent in the following land use zones under the Wollongong LEP:

- R1 – General Residential
- R2 – Low Density Residential
- R3 – Medium Density Residential
- R4 – High Density Residential
- R5 – Large Lot Residential
- B1 – Neighbourhood Centre
- B2 – Local Centre
- B3 – Commercial Centre
- B4 – Mixed Use
- B6 – Enterprise Corridor
- IN1 - General Industrial
- IN2 – Light Industrial

The audit has revealed a significant number of places of worship spread throughout existing urban areas surrounding the WDURA – including from a variety of denominations, both Christian and non-Christian.

The concentration and proliferation of places of worship in the Dapto area generally indicates that there is likely to be faith-based organisations present in the community. Establishing collaborative partnerships with faith-based

⁷⁷ Calderwood Urban Development Project (Shellharbour City Council) <https://www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-build/planning-controls-and-guidelines/calderwood-urban-development-project>, Community Vision Calderwood Valley (Lendlease) <https://communities.lendlease.com/new-south-wales/calderwood-valley/living-in-calderwood-valley/community-vision/>

organisations will be essential to ensuring that these organisations provide the spaces necessary to meet the needs of their faith communities, as well as providing social benefit to all residents in the WDURA.

8.4 Education infrastructure

Education infrastructure, while the responsibility of the NSW Department of Education, has been audited to understand provisional need and inform advocacy with the department for adequate provision in the WDURA. Understanding school infrastructure from the outset is vital given their large footprints and pivotal relationship to developing town centres.

The role of independent system school infrastructure is also considered in this audit, mapped concurrently with existing and planned education infrastructure identified in Chapter D16 of the Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009 (see **Figure 11**). It is noted that the *Illawarra Shoalhaven Special Infrastructure Contributions* outlines funding for primary and secondary school student places.

It is noted that the Department of Education will undertake needs modelling to determine any changes to the proposed schools identified in the Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009.

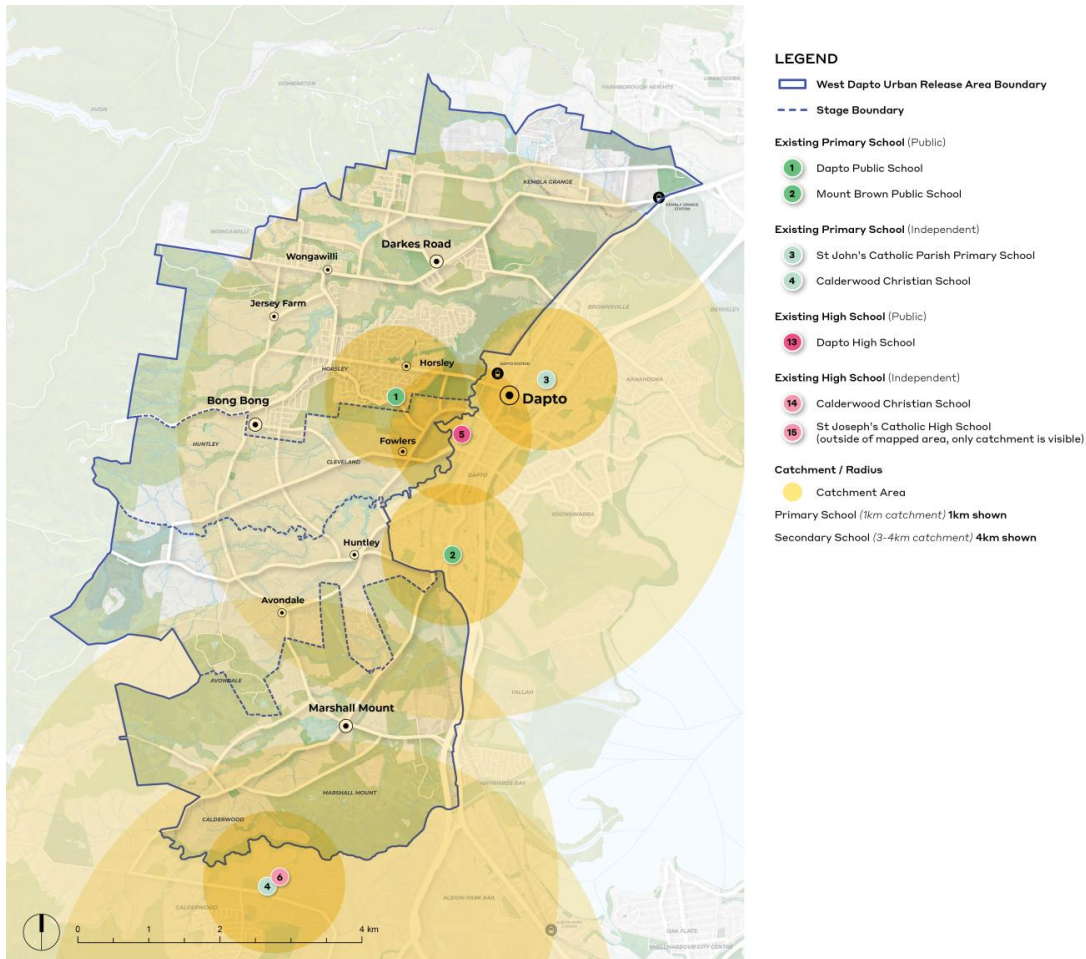


Figure 11 Existing education infrastructure – WDURA

Source: Ethos Urban

8.5 Health and childcare services

Health and childcare, generally provided privately, is audited to understand current provision and highlight the importance of these types of infrastructure to successful neighbourhoods in the WDURA. **Figure 12** below outlines the outcomes of this audit, noting a significant concentration of infrastructure in the existing Dapto town centre.

While there is some distribution of medical centres and childcare facilities in Horsley and the WDURA – significant gaps remain.

Access to these types of infrastructure, without relying on substantial travel to the Dapto town centre for some parts of the release area, is a key consideration for planning for social infrastructure in new neighbourhoods in the WDURA.

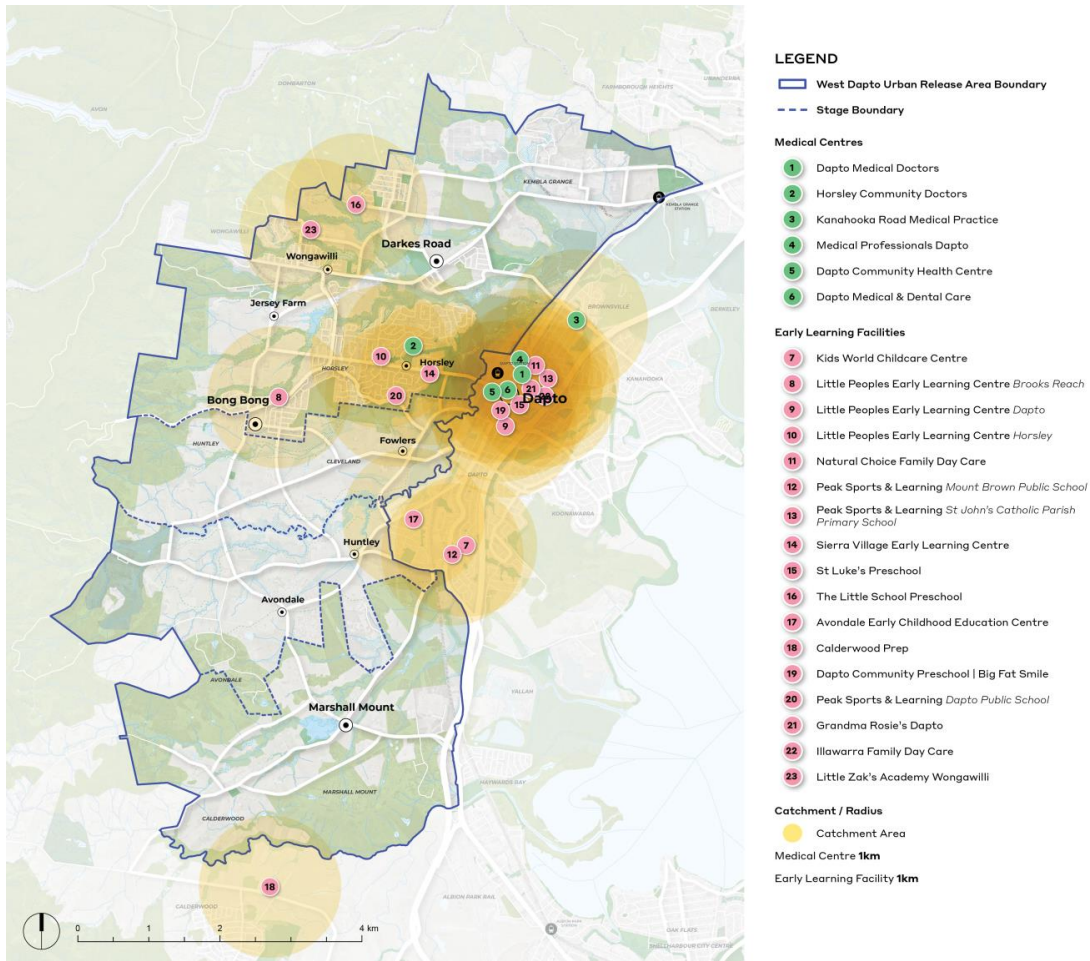


Figure 12 Existing health and childcare infrastructure – WDURA

Source: Ethos Urban

8.6 Creative and cultural infrastructure

Creative and cultural infrastructure is an essential element in building community cohesion and resilience in growth areas. The Creative Wollongong Strategy outlines these opportunities for creative participation through the provision of cultural spaces, noting that activating suburban areas is a key outcome for the plan (See **Section 5.1.7**).

There is limited accessibility to existing cultural and creative facilities for the WDURA. Aside from the Motorlife Museum, and local participation in cultural heritage through local and state listed heritage items, there is no provision currently for cultural infrastructure in the WDURA, nor any concrete plans.

Figure 13 outlines the outcomes of this audit of creative infrastructure.

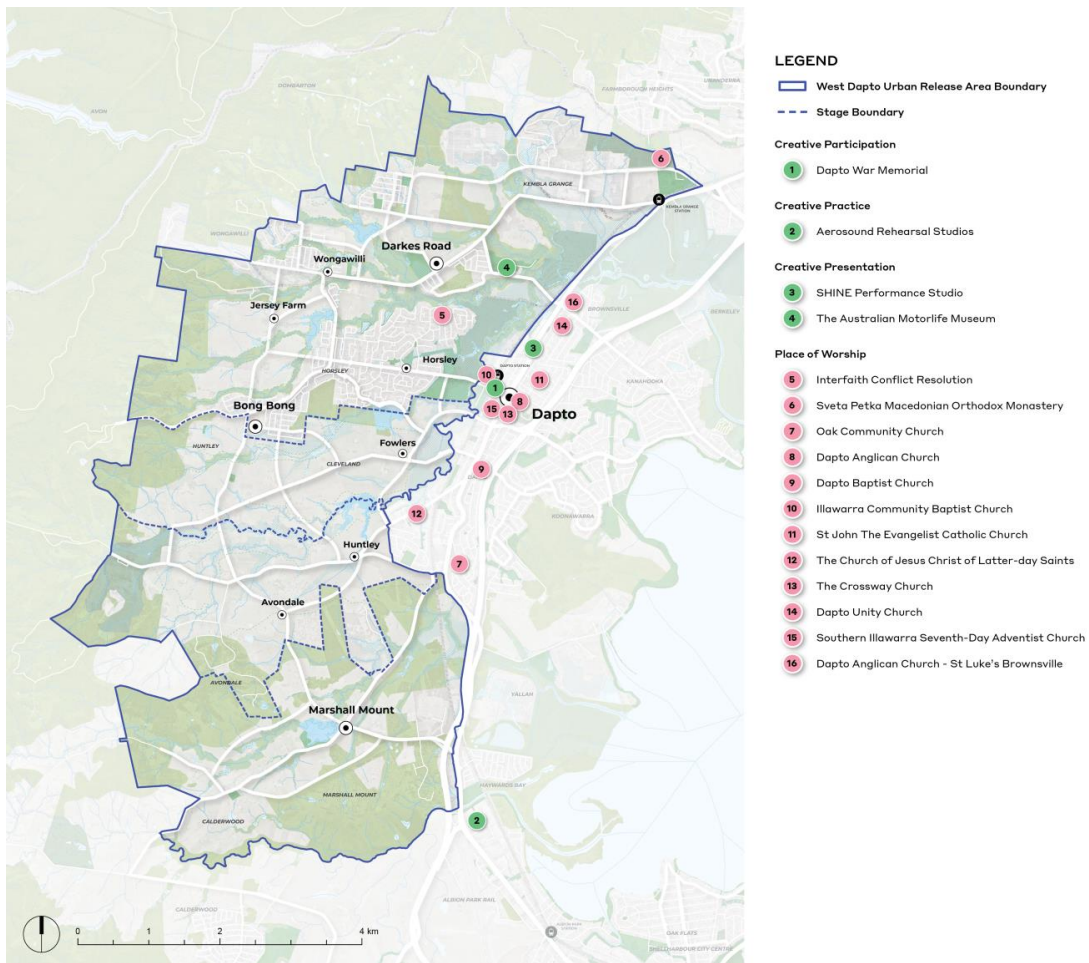


Figure 13 Existing creative and specialised community spaces – WDURA

Source: Ethos Urban

8.6.1 Motorlife Museum

Established by a group of motoring enthusiasts in 1992, the Australian Motorlife Museum is a cultural and heritage haven for the motoring community and beyond, showcasing veteran and vintage cars to both local and international audiences. It houses an impressive range of motoring heritage collection including the Paul Butler Collection, Mayne Garner Collection and NRMA Heritage display and have hosted popular events over the years including the Annual Motoring Expo and National Motoring Heritage Day. It also has an extensive library on motoring magazines and books and includes other heritage exhibits on Australian technology in the 1800s.

Apart from being a tourist spot, the Australian Motorlife Museum is also an important place for the local community, offering well-equipped bookable spaces for community gatherings and other facilities for social interaction such as café rooms and open areas with outdoor amenities.⁷⁸



Figure 14 Australian Motorlife Museum

Source: Google images

8.6.2 Heritage items

Local and state significant heritage items have been audited to understand opportunities for local participation in history and culture. These heritage items are spatially distributed across the WDURA, and are of substantial importance to local character and culture. Identifying opportunities to integrate this built heritage into neighbourhood plans, and explore shared opportunities with the provision of community space, will be important to ensuring the cultural heritage of the WDURA is protected.

Benefits of maintaining public access to these items includes:

- Sightlines to and showcasing of heritage items can increase connection with local history and assist in establishing connection to place for new residents.
- Heritage items generally include private open space within the protected lot, which is significant in greenfield release areas where open space can be challenging to provide

Homesteads can be utilised to provide community infrastructure, either commercially provided or with public involvement, that allows for community engagement with and connection to heritage items.

Figure 15 below outlines selected local and state listed **built** heritage items located within the WDURA.

⁷⁸ <https://www.australianmotorlifemuseum.com/>

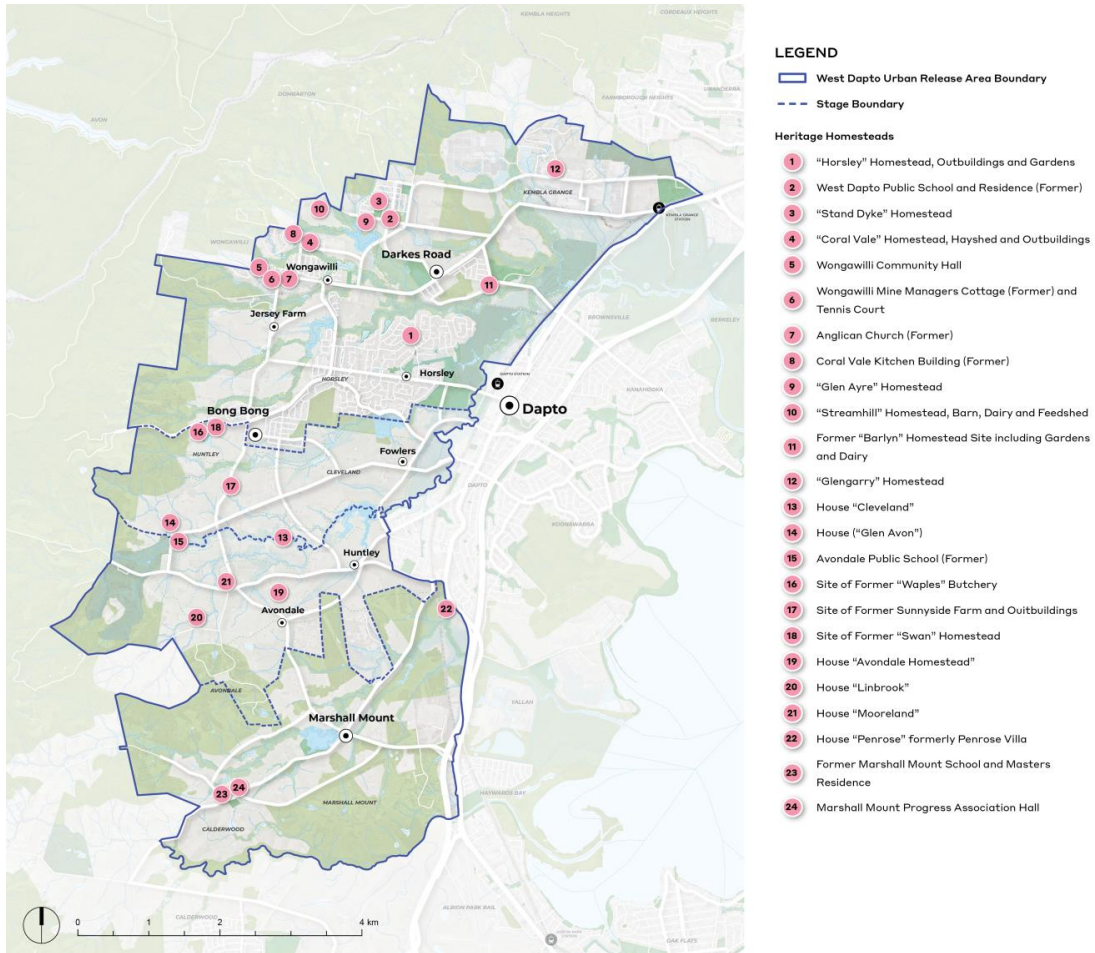


Figure 15 West Dapto Selected Built Heritage Items

Source: Ethos Urban

It is noted that some adaptive reuse of heritage cultural spaces has occurred in the release area, including the Coral Vale Smith Lane Café and commercial space, Wongawilli Mine Managers Residence childcare centre, and the use of Wongawilli Community Hall by Little Preschool at 150 Sheaffes Road.

8.7 Open space

8.7.1 Existing public open space

The table below summarises the existing public open space within the WDURA including each sites classification according to the proposed public open space framework. In addition, an assessment on the functionality of each site has been undertaken with consideration to constrained lands such as power easements and, conservation and drainage lands.

Table 11 Existing Public Open Space serving WDURA

Stage	CP Ref	Reserve Name	Indicative Location / Address	Indicative land area (Ha)	Functional Area (Ha)	Non-Functional Area (Ha)	Classification as per new proposed framework
Stage 1/2	NA	Ian McLennan Oval	50 Wyllie Rd, Kembla Grange NSW 2526	9.9	5.3	4.6	District Sport
	NA	Emu Park	Bunya St, Horsley	0.215	0.215	NA	Local
	NA	Brookes Reach Park	Stack St, Horsley	0.312	0.312	NA	Local
	NA		44 Mallon Avenue, Horsley	0.12	0.12	NA	Local
	NA		23 Siltstone Avenue Horsley	0.09	0.09	NA	Local
	NA	Integral Energy Park	88 Darkes Rd, Kembla Grange NSW 2526	20.08	9.05	11.76	District Recreation
	OS09	Bankbook Park	Bankbook Park, Wongawilli	1.79	1.06	0.73	Local
	OS03	Stane Dyke Park	Stane Dyke Park, Sheaffes Rd Kembla Grange	2.09	1.39	0.7	Local
	OS05	Mogomorra Park	Mogomorra Park, Paynes Rd (north) Kembla Grange	1.71	0.88	0.83	Local
	OS04	McPhail Reserve	McPhail Reserve, corner Sheaffes Rd & Paynes Rd, Kembla Grange	2.81	0.19	2.62	Local
	NA		Pasture Way, Greenview Estate	3	1.17	1.83	Local
TOTAL				42.12	19.05	23.07	-

NOTE: The above supply assessment does not include Public Open Space within the established Horsley area. This area has been assessed in **Section 14.0** to determine any excess capacity that may exist to meet future needs of the WDURA. The assessment found there is a slight surplus of 7.97 Ha but that this surplus will most likely be consumed by growth within Horsley and the adjacent Dapto area.

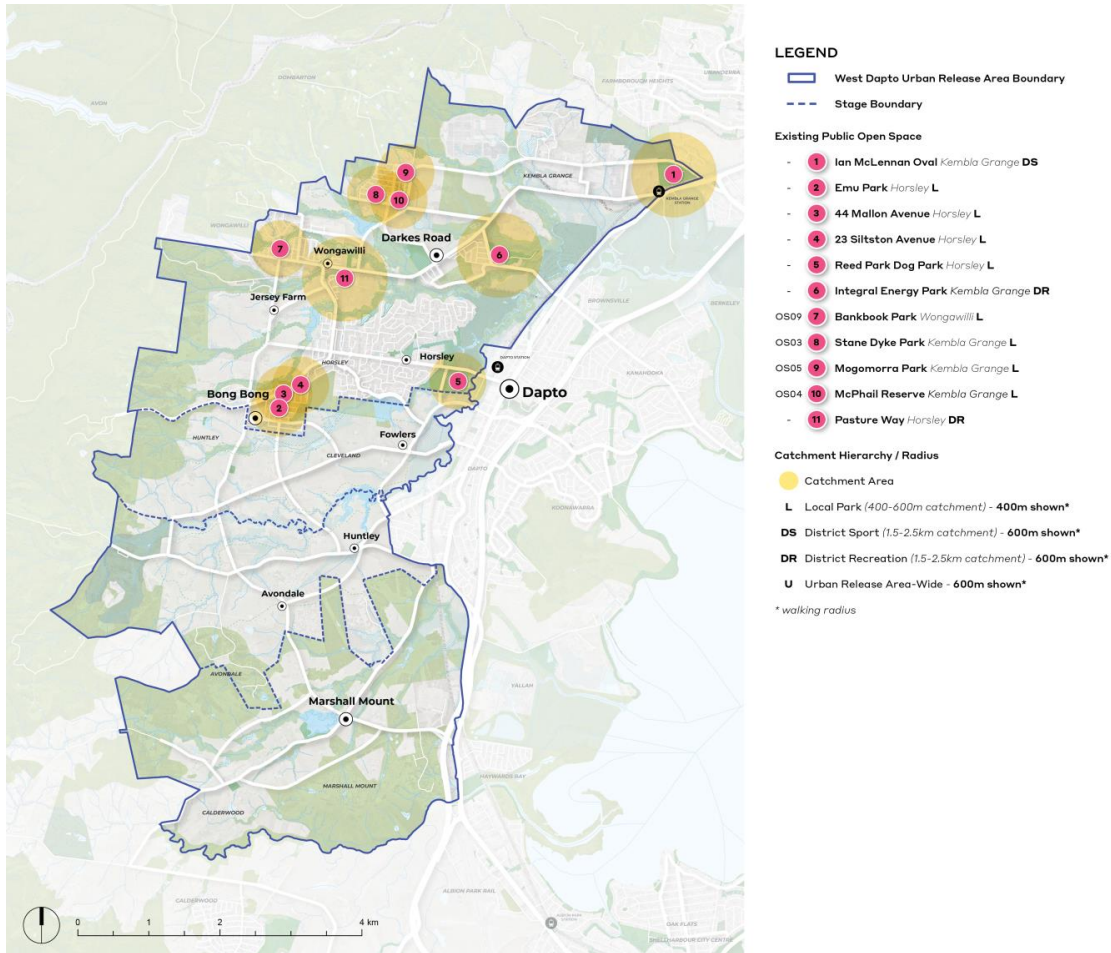


Figure 16 Existing open space – West Dapto Urban Release Area

Source: Ethos Urban and Otium Planning Group

Summary of existing public open space provision⁷⁹

- There are 11 existing public open spaces that have been classified within the proposed framework:
 - Local Park: 9 (81.81% of total existing public open space)
 - District recreation: 1 (9.09% of total existing public open space)
 - District Sport: 1 (9.09% of total existing public open space)
- Of the total land area (42.12Ha) provided for public open space, 19.05ha (45.22%) has been assessed as functional, whilst the remainder **23.07ha (54.77%) has been assessed as non-functional** due to land constraints. This means that only half of the existing public open space network is fit for purpose and usable for public recreation.
- Based on desktop analysis, the constrained and non-functional land within existing public open space mostly comprises of:
 - Drainage and waterway channels/ corridors with riparian vegetation on both sides
 - Conserved/protected vegetation areas
 - Powerline easements
 - Stormwater detention basins

⁷⁹ Excludes the 18 sites in Horsley which are discussed in section 14.2

An example of the functional assessment and determination of constrained land considered not fit for purpose is provided below, showing an area of RE1 zoned land that is located under a major power easement. High voltage power easements are not considered suitable for recreation use and buffer areas to remove risk of harm from exposure to electro-magnetic radiation (EMR) are commonly recommended. In the example below that area of primary exposure under the high voltage easement is considered constrained and not suitable for public recreation. That area of constrained land is removed from the 'functional' supply.

In the figure below, the area marked in blue corridor is identified as the high-voltage powerline easement.



Figure 17 Constrained Public Open Space at Stane Dyke Park



Figure 18 Site elevation of the high voltage powerline running north-south within Stane Dyke Park

Appendix B provides a desktop analysis of all sites identifying non-functional public open space areas.

8.7.2 Planned public open space

Further to the existing public open space identified in the above section, the table below summarises the proposed future public open space provision as per the previous West Dapto Development Contributions Plan (2020). This table includes the new classification as per the proposed public open space framework recommended in this report

Table 12 Public Open Space in WDURA Proposed in the 2020 Contributions Plan

Stage	CP 2020 Ref	Infrastructure item	Indicative Location / Address	Indicative timing	Indicative land area (Ha)	Functional Area (Ha)	Non-functional Area (Ha)	Classification as per new proposed framework
STAGE 1/2	OS01	Darkes Town Centre District Sports Park and Community Hub	Adjacent to Darkes Town Centre and conservation land	2021/22 - 2025/26	9.40	9.40	-	District Sport
	OS08	Greenview Estate- Local Park (Site identified by Council)	Within residential area - along West Dapto Road & south of the railway line	2021/22 - 2025/26	2.00	0.09	1.91	Local
	OS02	Ridge Park- Local Park C2 zoned to protect EEC⁸⁰ (Site identified by Council)	On ridge to east of Darkes Town Centre	2019/20 - 2022/23	10.23	0.50	9.73	Local
	OS06	Neighbourhood Park	Adjacent to Wongawilli Village Centre - along West Dapto Road	2019/20 - 2022/23	4.50	4.50	-	District Recreation
	OS07	Local Park	Within residential area - western end of Sheaffes Road	2021/22 - 2025/26	2.00	2.00	-	Local
	OS10	Neighbourhood Park	Adjacent to Jersey Farm Village Centre	2026/27 - 2028/29	4.00	4.00	-	District Recreation
	OS11	Neighbourhood Park	Adjacent to Bong Town Centre	2036/37 - 2040/41	3.00	3.00	-	District Recreation
	OS12	Local Park	Within residential area - along Haynes Lane	2021/22 - 2025/26	2.00	2.00	-	Local
Planned Public Open Space					-	25.49	-	-
STAGE 3					-	-	-	
	OS13	Aquatic Centre and Community Recreation Precinct	Southern side of Cleveland Road adjacent Daisy Bank Drive	2036/37 - 2040/41	N/A	-	-	NA
	OS16	Neighbourhood Park	Adjacent to Community Leisure & Recreation Centre	2036/37 - 2040/41	4	4	-	District Recreation
	OS15	Local Park	Sunnyside (Stockland Stage 3)- Within residential area - north of the western end of Cleveland Road	2026/27 - 2030/31	1	1	-	Local
	OS14	Local Park	Within residential area - south of the western end of Bong Road	2026/27 - 2030/31	1.5	1.5	-	Local

⁸⁰ EEC- Endangered Ecological Communities

Stage	CP 2020 Ref	Infrastructure item	Indicative Location / Address	Indicative timing	Indicative land area (Ha)	Functional Area (Ha)	Non-functional Area (Ha)	Classification as per new proposed framework
	OS17	Local Park	Within residential areas - south of Cleveland Road	2046/47 – 2050/51	2	2	-	Local
	OS18	Local Park	Within residential areas - northern side, far western end of Cleveland Road	2046/47 – 2050/51	2	2	-	Local
Planned Public Open Space					-	10.5 Ha	-	-
STAGE 4	OS19	Neighbourhood Park	Adjacent to Huntley Village Centre and residential area	2045/46 – 2050/51	4	4	-	District Recreation
	OS20	Neighbourhood Park	Adjacent to Avondale Village Centre and residential area	2045/46 – 2050/51	4	4	-	District Recreation
	OS21	Local Park	Within residential areas - along Avondale Road & west of South Avondale Road	2046/47 – 2051/52	2	2	-	Local
	OS22	Local Park	Within residential areas - southern side along Avondale Road	2046/47 – 2051/52	2	2	-	Local
Planned Public Open Space					-	12 Ha	-	-
STAGE 5	OS23	Yallah Recreation Area- Neighbourhood Park (Site identified by Council)	North side along Marshall Mount Road & adjacent to Marshall Mount Town centre	2031/32 - 2035/36	7.5	4.00	3.50	District Recreation
	OS24	Local Park	Within residential areas - along the western end of Marshall Mount Road	2031/32 - 2035/36	2	2	-	Local
	OS25	Local Park	Within residential areas - along the northern end of Marshall Mount Road	2031/32 - 2035/36	2	2	-	Local
Planned Public Open Space					-	8Ha	-	-
TOTAL PLANNED PUBLIC OPEN SPACE					55.99HA			

Note – The above areas only consider functionality and site constraints where a known site has been acquired or designated. Assessment of site suitability/functionality (and compliance with performance criteria) is strongly recommended to ensure the future network of public open space for sport and recreation is fit for purpose. Please note, parks planned within the Stocklands Stage 3 development are constrained by detention basins and/or heritage items. Please note the classification of some proposed open spaces in table 12 may change further in the report, if the open spaces are required to be upgraded to meet the identified gap in future provision.

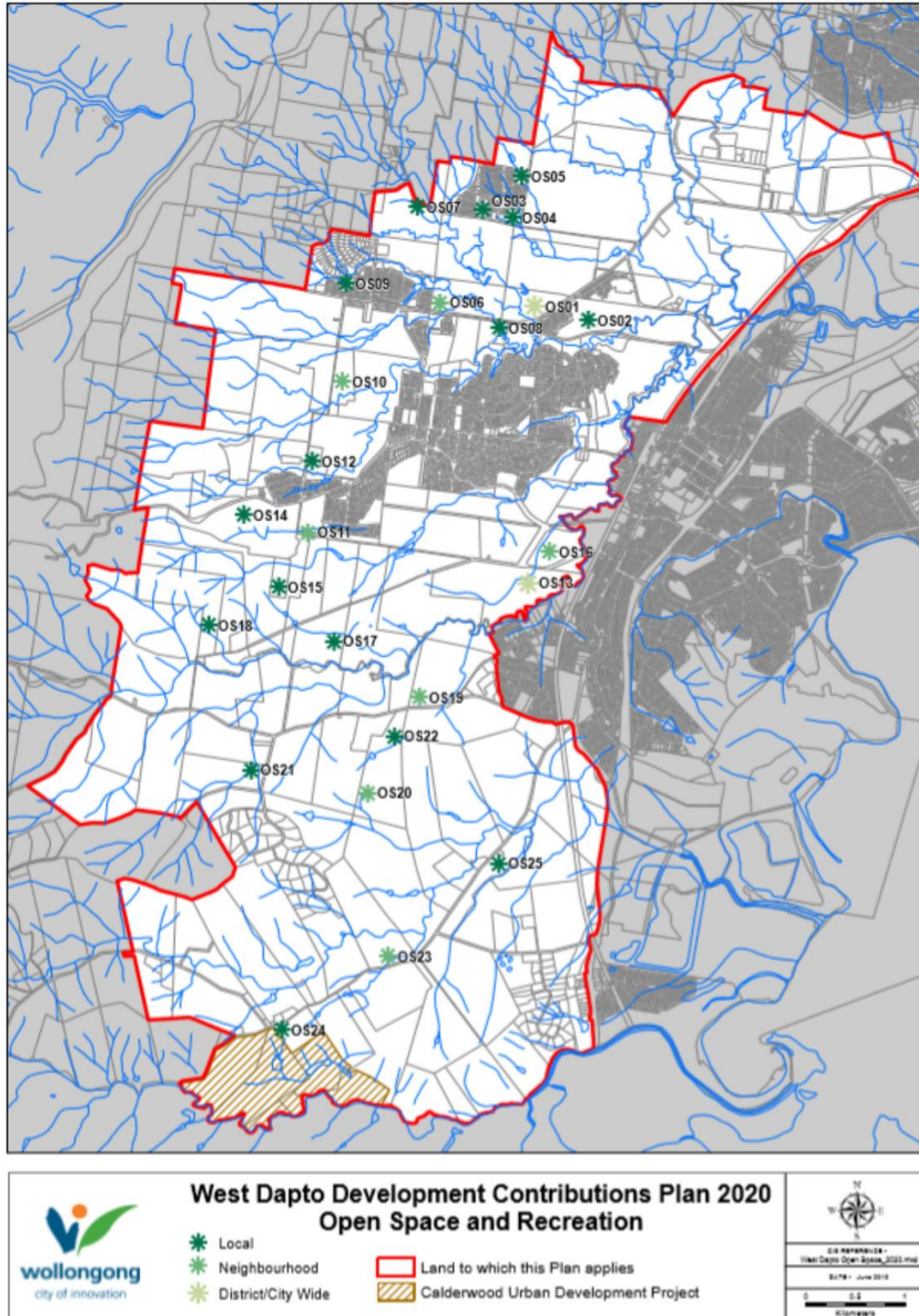


Figure 19 Planned open space – West Dapto Urban Release Area

Source: West Dapto Contributions Plan 2020, Ethos Urban and Otium Planning Group

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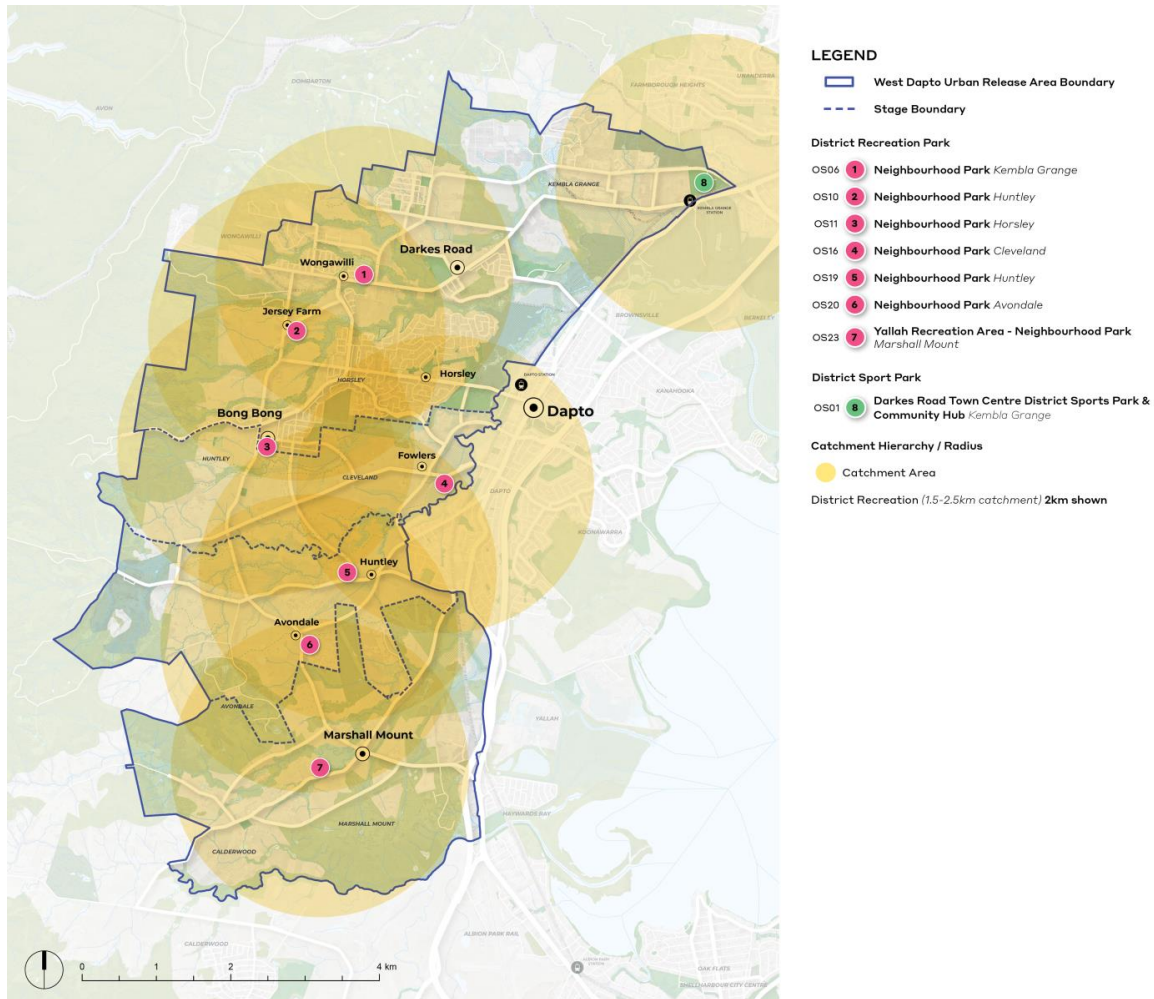


Figure 20 Classification of the Planned Open Space as per the new proposed framework

Source: West Dapto Contributions Plan 2020, Ethos Urban and Otium Planning Group

8.7.3 Summary of existing and planned functional public open space

A summary of the total existing and planned functional public open space by stage area is provided in the below table.

Table 13 Existing functional and all future planned public open space by stage

	STAGE 1/2	STAGE 3	STAGE 4	STAGE 5	TOTAL
Total area of Public Open Space provided	44.54 Ha (Excludes 23.07ha of existing non-functional Public Open Space)	10.5 Ha	12 Ha	8 Ha	75.04 Ha

The total existing functional and future planned public open space for WDURA currently totals 75.04 hectares. An assessment of site functionality is recommended for all future planned public open spaces in WDURA to ensure compliance with performance criteria for public open space for sport and recreation.

9.0 Demand: population forecasts

9.1 Projected population of WDURA

The population projected for WDURA has been adopted from the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan (2020).

Between 2018 and 2028, population growth is projected at 20.2% per year or 1,660 residents per year, increasing the resident population from 3,120 persons to 19,680 persons. Notwithstanding the low population-base, this represents significant growth at 570 dwellings per year and will generate a proportional level of demand for community infrastructure.

Between 2028 and 2048, growth is expected to continue at 1,490 persons (or 4.7%) per year, adding 510 dwellings per year and growing the local population to 49,480 persons. As the area nears capacity, growth is forecast to decline over the next 10-years to 2058, averaging at 800 persons or 260 dwellings per year.

Development will initially be focused on Stages 1/2, with Stage 5 ramping up quickly to 2028, before focus shifts to Stages 3 and 4.

Table 14 WDURA Population Projections by Stage, 2018 to 2058

	2018	2028	2038	2048	2058	2018 - 2058
Population						
Stage 1/2	3,119	12,569	16,463	18,413	18,413	15,294
Stage 3	0	4,071	7,843	13,420	14,009	14,009
Stage 4	0	1,149	4,260	7,785	12,651	12,651
Stage 5	0	1,889	6,009	9,859	12,360	12,360
Total	3,119	19,678	34,575	49,477	57,433	54,314

Source: Wollongong City Council, West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020

It is noted that actual dwelling numbers are hard to predict due to market and other forces. The above estimates, particularly surrounding staging and timing are therefore subject to change.

9.2 Population forecasts – service age groups

To inform community infrastructure, planning projections sourced from the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan (2020) have been disaggregated into service age groups. Note these estimates have been prepared at a high-level and should be considered as indicative representations of the future West Dapto community.

It should be noted that with a significant increase in the overall population, the overall number of persons within certain service group cohorts will increase even though the proportion of persons in the cohort may have decreased. Further, estimates presented in this report are specifically for new residents, and as a result will vary from the existing community profile.

Underlying assumptions

As a new release area, the demographic characteristics of new residents of WDURA are expected to closely reflect other greenfield development areas. Key characteristics include:

- A high proportion of young families with children and about to start a family.
- Larger household sizes relative to inner-city areas.
- Lower levels of lone person and group households.
- A high proportion of owner occupiers.
- A low proportion of older residents.

These characteristics will gradually shift as the area evolves and begins to reflect more established suburbs. As families grow older the proportion of residents below the age of 11 will begin to decline and the overall median age of residents will increase. Household sizes will decrease as children move out of home and Stage 5 of the WDURA increases supply of medium density and in-centre development.

Analysis was undertaken of population size, population growth, and dwelling structure characteristics of greenfield development areas in Sydney’s north-west and south-west. The analysis identified the Parklea – Kellyville Ridge SA2 (Parklea) area as a plausible outcome for the WDURA at 2058. The change in Parklea’s age profile over time is also generally consistent with the expectations for the WDURA community, outlined in the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan (2020).

WDURA is projected to be developed over a period of 40 years, reflecting the size of the area and quantum of demand for housing in Wollongong’s western growth area. Parklea on the other hand, as a smaller area located in Sydney’s north-west growth area, was developed over a period of approximately 10-years.

To account for this variation in timeframes, service age forecasts for each stage of development of the WDURA have been prepared based on the service age group distribution in Parklea where the level of development in that stage corresponds to the equivalent level of development in Parklea.

The level of development in WDURA is defined as the cumulative share of capacity and for Parklea, the resident population in a given year relative to its 2016 population (when it is considered to have become an established area).

For example, Stage 1/2 reaches 89% capacity in 2038, this corresponds with the 2013 Parklea share of its 2016 population (93%); consequently, Parklea’s 2013 service age group shares are applied to the Stage 1/2’s 2038 population.

Forecast population growth

Based on the assumptions above, the following key observations are made:

- The number of residents aged 0-4 is expected to peak at 5,120 persons in 2048, before gradually declining to 4,000 persons by 2058.
- Similarly, residents aged 25 to 34 will also peak in 2048 at 9,160 persons before declining substantially to 7,270 persons by 2058.
- The balance of the population will see continued growth over the forecast period.

Service age group forecasts for the overall WDURA are outlined in the table below.

Table 15 WDURA population forecasts – service age groups, 2018 to 2058

Service Age Groups	2018	2028	2038	2048	2058
Babies and pre-schoolers (0 to 4)	231	2,195	3,828	5,198	3,998
Primary schoolers (5 to 11)	353	2,024	3,912	6,062	6,744
Secondary schoolers (12 to 17)	286	1,339	2,382	3,716	5,091
Tertiary education and independence (18 to 24)	266	1,908	2,962	3,902	4,803
Young workforce (25 to 34)	433	4,524	7,536	9,160	7,267
Parents and homebuilders (35 to 49)	656	4,666	8,761	13,261	15,624
Older workers and pre-retirees (50 to 59)	379	1,570	2,779	4,209	6,208
Empty nesters and retirees (60 to 69)	271	877	1,541	2,559	4,150
Seniors (70 to 84)	212	522	788	1,273	3,119
Elderly aged (85 and over)	33	54	87	136	429
Total	3,119	19,678	34,575	49,477	57,433

Source ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2016; Ethos Urban

NB. Demographic components of this assessment rely on 2016 census data, and are updated using other official data sources. Wollongong Council staff will monitor updated projections as they become available.

9.3 Horsley population data

The following information is sourced from the *West Dapto Development Contributions Plan (2020)*. The Horsley release area was largely developed between 1993 and 2010. The area of Horsley is now generally established, with some remaining growth expected to occur as infill development. These **growth assumptions were included in the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan under Stage 1/2 population projections.**

The following outlines the existing demographic profile of Horsley, as at 2016 (based on SA1 level ABS 2016 census data).

Table 16 Horsley population – service age groups, 2016

Service Age Groups	2016
Babies and pre-schoolers (0 to 4)	494
Primary schoolers (5 to 11)	782
Secondary schoolers (12 to 17)	733
Tertiary education and independence (18 to 24)	632
Young workforce (25 to 34)	724
Parents and homebuilders (35 to 49)	1616
Older workers and pre-retirees (50 to 59)	910
Empty nesters and retirees (60 to 69)	623
Seniors (70 to 84)	472
Elderly aged (85 and over)	63
Total	7,049

Source: ABS, *Census of Population and Housing, 2016; Ethos Urban*

Forecast population for the release areas in stage 1/2 directly to the west of Horsley are outlined below. These numbers have already been included in stage 1/2 forecasts within Council’s West Dapto Contributions Plan 2020. The following forecast residents will not be counted in quantitative benchmarking, to ensure that they are not ‘double counted’. Rather, understanding the level of growth surrounding the existing Horsley area will aid the qualitative understanding of open space and community infrastructure demand.

Analysis of dwelling yields for the Horsley area has revealed additional forecasts of 1600 residents in the greenfield area directly to the West of Horsley,⁸¹ and ~100 additional residents through infill within the existing suburb of Horsley.

⁸¹ It is noted that this area is subject to a naming change.

10.0 Community and stakeholder perspectives

10.1 Summary of consultation activities

Key stakeholders were identified and confirmed in collaboration with Council's Project Control Group. A mixture of workshops and interviews were conducted to discuss their insights into social infrastructure planning for the WDURA. Aims of the engagement process included:

- Seeking feedback about the gaps, needs and opportunities for social infrastructure in the WDURA,
- Understand stakeholder perspectives and any policies or plans their organisation may have that could impact social infrastructure provision in this area,
- Unpack key issues impacting delivery and opportunities for infrastructure in the WDURA.

10.2 Participants

The following key stakeholders were invited to participate in the interviews, with 10 participants able to attend across:

- Create NSW
- Shoalhaven Health District
- Aboriginal Land Council
- Careways
- Greater Cities Commission
- Department of Planning and Environment
- Office of Sports
- Parks and Leisure NSW
- Sport NSW
- Outdoor NSW

It is understood that where engagement is yet to occur at the time of writing, Council will engage with the identified stakeholder prior to finalising the needs assessment.

10.3 Key findings

A summary of the feedback raised during the two workshops is detailed in the table below.

Table 17 Engagement findings summary

Theme	Feedback
Integrated social infrastructure planning for vibrant neighbourhood centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create focal points within suburbs across West Dapto through the identification of walkable neighbourhoods with activated town centres that encourage community health and wellbeing, and community cohesion and capacity building. • Need to consider carefully what sort of businesses go in town centres, what services are available, the provision of healthy food offerings to encourage healthy eating, supporting small businesses, and ensure that food needs are available in local town centres that encourage local economic development. • First nations need to be consulted on outcomes for the whole of the release area, not just cultural spaces.
Planning for youth activities in West Dapto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideally entertainment and recreation activities should be within their local neighbourhoods in the WDURA. At the moment, there is a drain of kids during the weekend and at night to the other side of the highway into Dapto town centre and the coast because all of the activities and services are perceived to be there. Parents would prefer that kids stay within their local area. • Cater for kids that are not 'sporty' with alternative activities and services, including through the arts. • Arts intervention programs have been shown to be highly effective in working with disadvantaged youth.

Theme	Feedback
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kids need to be given a sense of ownership over spaces that specifically cater for their needs (including the co-location of youth services).
<p>Supporting population health and wellbeing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community health hub models are emerging as a strategic preference for NSW Health. These district facilities are run by NSW Health and work in close connection with local GPs and other service providers (including Council). The existing health hub at Dapto town centre is likely to be sufficient for the West Dapto Urban Release Area. Encourage a mixture of local GP clinics and, for services where people are prepared to travel a bit further, health hubs.
<p>Delivering a community arts centre to support creative infrastructure needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Port Kembla and outlying areas of West Dapto have an active and upcoming artists scene with significant clusters of creatives. Create NSW and Careways supported the concept of a community arts centre model for the WDURA. Wollongong City Gallery is considered a good district facility but doesn't have a strong community element. Consider Hazelhurst and Campbelltown arts centres as viable models for WDURA. Create a scaleable model that matches the level of growth in the precinct. Needs to be a space that is able to run workshops and act as a meeting place, including a commercial/café aspect. Other cultural infrastructure should also be considered, including providing studio spaces in community centres, adaptive reuse of heritage buildings, and incorporate performance spaces into open space.
<p>Mitigating social tension between existing and emerging communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social tension between existing lower socio-economic community and new community moving into West Dapto, with development in the release area targeting young professionals. Social arts approaches are important to develop social cohesion, alongside other social engagement opportunities.
<p>Illawarra Shoalhaven Sport Infrastructure Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office of sport collaboration with Wollongong City Council. Office of Sport is in the early stages of developing the Illawarra Shoalhaven Sports Infrastructure plan. The plan will focus on regional scale facilities. Potential opportunity for Council's involvement to influence the timing of this plan.
<p>Flood Resilience in building materials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For all built forms within flood-prone land, building materials should be resilient to sustain major inundation events.
<p>Playing field infrastructure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accounting for drainage and irrigation: Include field irrigation and drainage as key infrastructure within the performance criteria for efficient management and maintenance of playing fields.
<p>Staged delivery of parks and open spaces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring parks and open spaces are delivered before residents move to the new release areas (preferred) or at the same time. Early wins to ensure residents are not deprived of recreation facilities and/or travelling long distances to access parks.

Theme	Feedback
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify early win projects within each stage to deliver prior to the residents moving in.
Monitoring planning, delivery and on-going maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing systems to monitor. Change in demographic character. Timely planning, design and delivery of parks and open spaces. Ongoing maintenance . Asset management and renewal. Performance of the park (monitored through satisfaction surveys and on-site observations).
High quality urban design outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate open space design with high quality public domain design. Encourage open space provision through high quality public domain. Urban Forest Strategy to complement active transport corridors.

PART E: COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS ANALYSIS

11.0 Quantitative Gap analysis

11.1 Introduction and approach

Planning for future provision of community facilities is essential to support a healthy and sustainable community in the WDURA. This report sets out the findings of a community needs analysis that has been methodically undertaken to help to understand the gaps in provision and informs the recommendations for future provision. Although this assessment has focused on Council owned and/ or managed assets, it is important to consider and appreciate the role of other facilities which play a supplementary role in the existing social infrastructure network.

This report outlines the methodology used to assess the existing provision of community facilities in West Dapto relative to current and forecast community needs, including:

- Outline of typology to be applied in this study (**Section 3.0**),
- Introduction of benchmarking guidelines – used to assess the quantum and distribution of existing community facilities based on geographic catchments and population sizes (below),
- Defining the assessment catchments – the geographical areas used to assess existing community facilities (**Section 2.5**),
- Quantitative assessment and applying the benchmark – application of the assessment methodology to identify gaps in provision and to determine strategic priorities and recommendations for future supply (below),
- Qualitative assessment – the strategic and best practice principles used to assess the qualitative aspects of existing facilities including usage, suitability, condition and location.

Developing benchmarks/what they mean

Benchmarks enable a quantitative assessment of community facilities provision based on a prescribed set of principles. The term 'benchmark' refers to the ratio of facility provision per population size, such as one library per 20,000-30,000 residents in a catchment.

Benchmarks provide guidance on best practice facilities provision across a specified typology, enabling an assessment of the quantum, size and distribution of facilities relative to a specified population size and geographic catchment. This assessment is used to inform the broader context and understanding of community needs across the LGA.

Benchmarks are not a one-size-fits all tool: they need to be applied with care as part of a broader strategic assessment and decision-making process. When undertaking the community needs analysis and applying the benchmarking standards through this study, relevant considerations are:

- Standards may not consider other community facilities that are not owned or managed by Council (e.g. privately owned and/ or operated),
- Standards do not take into account variations in population density and distribution of people with a geographic catchment, nor do they consider geographic barriers to access (e.g., major roads, distances between facilities), and
- Standards do not take into account the quality or level of utilisation of a facility, which are separately assessed.

Benchmarks applied to this study

Benchmarks applied in this analysis are set out in **Table 18** over page.

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Table 18 Benchmarks applied to this study

Infrastructure category	Typology		Benchmark	Source	Hierarchy (Wollongong SIPP)	Geographic catchment (adapted from Wollongong SIPP)
General community facilities	District multipurpose community centre		1 : 20,000 residents	EU adapted from ASR	Sub-district	3-4km
	Library space (standalone or combined)		1 : 20,000 residents	State library of NSW	Sub-district	3-4km
	Neighbourhood multipurpose community centre		1 : 10,000 residents	EU adapted from ASR & best practice	Neighbourhood	<1km
	Non-council bookable space		<i>Not benchmarked</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
Specialised community facility	Youth	Youth-friendly space	1 : 8,000 residents	EU adapted from ASR & best practice	Local	1-3km
		Youth centre	1:30,000 residents	EU adapted from ASR & best practice	District	4-10km
	Seniors space		<i>Not benchmarked</i>	n/a	Sub-district	3-4km
	Community Sheds and Gardens		<i>Not benchmarked</i>	n/a	Local	1-3km
	Co-working / business incubator spaces		<i>Not benchmarked</i>	n/a	Local	1-3km
	Aboriginal community space		<i>Not benchmarked</i>	n/a	District	4-10km
	Places of worship		<i>Not benchmarked</i>	n/a	Local	1-3km
Education and Early Years	Child care places		1 place : 3.8 children aged 0-4 years	EU	Neighbourhood	<1km
	Government primary school		1 primary school: planning to cater for a maximum size of 1000 students (5-11 year olds)*	Schools Infrastructure NSW	Local	1-3km
	Government high school		1 high school: planning to cater for a maximum size of 2000 students (secondary schoolers)*	Schools Infrastructure NSW	Sub-district	3-4km

* SINSW has advised they are undertaking a detailed investigation of the long term service need within WDURA to identify solutions to accommodate future projected enrolment demand. Council staff and Ethos Urban welcome this strategic approach as an opportunity to ensure the coordinated delivery of new facilities, pre-empting potential capacity strains on existing schools, while promoting the full utilisation of these assets (SINSW, March 2023).

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Infrastructure category	Typology	Benchmark	Source	Hierarchy (Wollongong SIPP)	Geographic catchment (adapted from Wollongong SIPP)	
Creative and cultural facilities	Practice (incl. studio/workshop space)	Local community practice space	1 <i>Community practice space</i> : 8,000 residents	EU adapted from ASR & best practice	Local	1-3km
		<i>General qualitative assessment</i>	<i>Not benchmarked</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Presentation (incl. performance and exhibition spaces)	District presentation facilities	1 <i>community arts centre</i> : 40,000 residents 1 <i>performing arts facility</i> : 40,000 residents	EU adapted from ASR	Local	1-3km
		Local presentation spaces	<i>Not benchmarked</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a
Health & wellbeing	Participation (local cultural participation, incl. through public art and local heritage programs)		<i>Not benchmarked</i>	EU	Neighbourhood	<1km
	Health Hub		1 : 50,000 residents	EU adapted from ASR & best practice	District	4-10km
	Local Medical centre		1 : 25,000 residents	EU based on average rate of provision in higher amenity suburbs	Local	1-3km
	General Practitioner (GP)		1 : 1,000 residents	EU based on average rate of GPs per person NSW	Neighbourhood	<1km

11.2 Summary gaps – whole of release area

A benchmark-based gap analysis has been undertaken for all infrastructure outlined in the typology above. The raw outputs of this analysis are found in **Appendix C**.

Understanding the quantity and nature of existing supply, as well as gaps in meeting demand by 2058, is crucial to effective planning for community infrastructure to be accommodated by this project. Even longer term needs may require land to be earmarked now, making it important to look well ahead in this way.

The below findings of the benchmark-based gap analysis represent a preliminary assessment. These findings include infrastructure which may be provided through organisations other than Council, including through advocacy with state government agencies. It is noted that these gaps represent gaps to 2058. The timing of provision during this 36-year horizon will be examined further, through to establishing delivery priorities during this time period in the draft report.

The summary gaps to 2058 for the whole of the release area are as follows:

Sub-district – district

- 1 x sub-district integrated multipurpose community centre (additional to currently planned),
- 1 x library space (additional to currently planned),
- 2 x youth centres,
- 1 x community arts centre,
- 1 x co-located performing arts facility (e.g. public access to High School performing arts facility which would be subject to a joint user agreement).

Neighbourhood – local

- 7 x youth friendly spaces,
- 406 x childcare places,
- School Infrastructure NSW and the NSW Department of Education are the responsible authorities that will investigate the need for new school infrastructure within the West Dapto Urban Release Area. It would be through their investigations that any gaps would be identified and addressed.
- 31 x GPs,
- 1 x local medical centre,
- 7 x community creative practice spaces,
- Local cultural infrastructure, including places for local cultural participation and presentation.

Table 19 over page provides an overview of identified provision gaps across key infrastructure types. It is an extract from the more detailed **Benchmarking Analysis** at **Appendix C** which sets out the needs analysis undertaken across all infrastructure types – those with and without identified gaps.

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Table 19 Provision gaps across the release area to 2058

Infrastructure type <i>Infrastructure with an identified gap</i>	Benchmark (number/ size)	Gap by 2058 (quantum/ floorspace)	Year <i>Year in which gap arises based on population growth threshold</i>	Comments on identified gaps, delivery opportunities and considerations
Sub-district multipurpose community centre	1: 20-30,000 residents 2000sqm+	0.9 2000sqm+	2058	<p>The existing supply of integrated multipurpose facilities is limited to the Dapto town centre. While this facility provides some access, the addition of a district scale multipurpose facility in Bong Bong will support accessibility and capacity for the WDURA. The Bong Bong facility is assumed to be of a benchmarked size that corresponds to the Wollongong SIPP sub-district facility – and with the inclusion of a library, should be at least 3,600m² (inclusive of library floorspace).</p> <p>There is a spatial gap in access to an integrated multipurpose facility by 2058 for stages 4 and 5. The delivery of a multipurpose facility in Calderwood would alleviate the spatial and population-based gap – however, it is noted that the facility is expected to be approx. 1,120sqm falling short of the benchmarked size. Consider the delivery of library floorspace of at least 1500m² in Marshall Mount town centre, as part of a larger co-located facility. It is noted that this could be of a 'local scale', being between 1,500 and 2,400m².</p>
Library space (standalone or combined)	1:20-30,000 residents 1500sqm+	0.9	2058	As above, due to co-location.
Neighbourhood multipurpose community centre	600sqm+	0.7	n/a	<p>No identified gap in quantity to service the population across the WDURA.</p> <p>However, stage 4 has an identified gap for local community centres, noting no proposed supply. Consider delivery of a community centre in Avondale village centre, by 2048.</p>
Youth friendly spaces	120-600sqm	7.2	2028	Smaller, integrated youth friendly spaces have a significant gap by 2028 across the WDURA. Consider opportunities to provide spaces that cater towards the youth population as part of local and district community facilities.
Youth centre	600-2,400sqm	1.9	2038	Co-locate youth centre with district park. Refer to best practice examples, including Waterloo, on the co-location of open space and youth centres. Incorporate incubation, for example a park with close location with a town centre with commercial uses as well. Talk to community service providers about need, and ideally consider locations close to existing urban areas (noting higher than average youth disadvantage).

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Infrastructure type <i>Infrastructure with an identified gap</i>	Benchmark (number/ size)	Gap by 2058 (quantum/ floorspace)	Year <i>Year in which gap arises based on population growth threshold</i>	Comments on identified gaps, delivery opportunities and considerations
Childcare places		406.1	2038	Consider methods to facilitate supply through town centres, including through encouraging existing local providers. It is noted that Council is not usually the provider of childcare centres, and service provision is desired through external providers. Council therefore plays a facilitation role in the provision of childcare places.
Government primary school		TBC by School Infrastructure NSW	TBC by School Infrastructure NSW	The West Dapto Urban Release Area is located within range of several existing government schools including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dapto High School
Government high school		TBC by School Infrastructure NSW	TBC by School Infrastructure NSW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dapto Public School • Mount Brown Public School • Lake Lands Public School <p>Council staff understand that to plan for schools School Infrastructure NSW and the Department of Education considers (amongst other things) long term trends in population growth, the likely uptake of new housing, by those with school aged children, the ratio of government and non-government school attendance and the size and location of existing schools.</p> <p>It is understand that the State would only establish new schools where there are no other options available and budget approval has been given. Where schools are required, the Department of Education will negotiate with housing developers and consult with local councils to place them near transport and town centres and encourage the use of shared amenities including sports fields and halls. Wollongong Council staff have been advised by School Infrastructure NSW that the proposed growth and projections for the wider West Dapto Urban Release Area, indicate that there will be a requirement for additional schools and support services infrastructure to service the proposed growth. The possible need for new school sites will also be subject to future population and housing forecasts issued by the Department of Planning and Environment within the NSW Common Planning Assumptions.</p> <p>School Infrastructure NSW will undertake ongoing consultation with Wollongong City Council staff and the NSW Department of Planning and Environment as detailed planning progresses for the release area and will monitor the situation.</p>

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Infrastructure type <i>Infrastructure with an identified gap</i>	Benchmark (number/ size)	Gap by 2058 (quantum/ floorspace)	Year <i>Year in which gap arises based on population growth threshold</i>	Comments on identified gaps, delivery opportunities and considerations
GP		31.4	2038	Consider methods to facilitate supply through town centres, including through encouraging existing local providers.
Health hub		1.1	2048	Discuss delivery of a health hub with Health infrastructure NSW (as part of consultation) for the delivery of a co-located health services hub in Dapto (to service the entire WDURA).
Community practice space	120-600sqm	7.2	2028	Refer to stages.
Community arts centre	2,400-3,600sqm	1.4	2038	Consider co-location with significant heritage homestead.
Performing arts facility	2,400-3,600sqm	1.4	2038	District Performing Arts Facility provision opportunity within government schools should be explored, which would be subject to a Shared Use Agreement with the relevant government agency.

11.3 Summary gaps – stages

Neighbourhood and local scale infrastructure has been extracted and benchmarked separately per stage. The outcomes of this analysis have been integrated into the draft recommendations. It is noted that, based on existing and planned provision, gaps in essential infrastructure includes:

- 1 x gap in neighbourhood community centre in stage 4
- While it is understood that the proposed growth and projections for the wider West Dapto Urban Release Area, indicate that there will be a requirement for additional schools and support services infrastructure to service the proposed growth, any need for new government school infrastructure within West Dapto would be investigated by SINSW and NSW Department of Education.

11.4 Summary gaps – Horsley

11.4.1 Quantitative assessment

The following benchmark-based gap analysis audits community and cultural facilities for the identified existing population of Horsley (noting, again, that all future growth is considered qualitatively here, and quantitatively in stage 1/2 of the main report).

The key findings section below outlines the relationship between these gaps and the broader gaps identified for the WDURA.

Table 20 Benchmark Gap Analysis for Horsley

Service	Benchmark	Supply access within catchment, based on SIPF hierarchy	Demand from Horsley residents	Gap
Sub-district multipurpose community centre	1 : 20,000	2	0.4	-1.6
Library space (standalone or combined)	1 : 20,000	1	0.4	-0.6
Neighbourhood multipurpose community centre	1 : 10,000	1	0.7	-0.3
Youth friendly space	1 : 8,000	1	0.9	-0.1
Youth centre	1 : 30,000	0	0.2	0.2
Childcare places	1 : 4	239	130	-109
Government primary school	TBC by School Infrastructure NSW			
Government high school	TBC by School Infrastructure NSW			
GP	1 : 1,000	3	7	4
Local medical centre	1 : 25,000	1	0.3	-0.7
Health hub	1 : 50,000	1	0.1	-0.9
Cultural practice - community practice space	1 : 8,000	0	0.9	0.9
Community arts centre	1 : 40,000	0	0.2	0.2
Performing arts facility	1 : 40,000	0	0.2	0.2

Source: Ethos Urban

11.4.2 Engagement findings for Horsley

Careways, the current managers of Horsley Community Centre, were engaged as part of the broader WDURA social infrastructure consultation to discuss community infrastructure needs. Key findings from this discussion are as follows:

- Horsley community centre is a good facility and includes a sensory room through NDIS funding and youth drop-in services.
- However, the Horsley Community Centre is often understaffed by Careways, with only five Careways staff members across four facilities. This is because of limitations with funding for Careways as an organisation.
- Safety is important, particularly with the young people in Horsley. Consider safety in green spaces, and ensuring activation to keep the space invigorated with many different events and programs.
- Need to condense activity in Horsley to allow for activation and passive surveillance. The Horsley Community Centre would be an ideal location for increased activity.
- Young people in Horsley are struggling with things to do in the area
 - Ideally entertainment and recreation activities should be within their local neighbourhoods in the WDURA. At the moment, there is a drain of kids during the weekend and at night to the other side of the highway into Dapto town centre and the coast because all of the activities and services are perceived to be there. Parents would prefer that kids stay within their local area.
 - Cater for kids that are not 'sporty' with alternative activities and services, including through the arts.
 - Young people are currently using the 'Maccas' in Dapto as the main hangout point, and Dapto Town Centre is not considered to be a safe place by the community.
- More broadly, community led arts spaces and cultural activity will be very important going forward, but should be integrated in Horsley with the existing community centre to create a truly multipurpose space.

11.4.3 Qualitative assessment and key findings

Cultural

Consideration of cultural activities for Horsley is recommended. It is noted that a gap of ~1 community creative practice space is recommended for a population of this size, notwithstanding surrounding growth. Consider opportunities for a community work shed or community garden space in partnership with local services and organisations. Additionally, consider the functionality of the existing Horsley Community Centre and any opportunities to incorporate creative practice spaces within this facility. It is noted that the use of arts-based intervention is supported in stakeholder engagement.

Youth spaces

The Horsley Community Centre and Gerringulli park is considered an existing youth-friendly space. Consideration of upgrades to this space and the connection between the centre and the adjacent open space is recommended. As the primary civic node in Horsley, it is important that existing open space is safe for kids of all ages to gather. Safety, and the need to provide youth activities within Horsley, was strongly noted through stakeholder engagement.

GPs

It is noted that the existing local medical centre provides three GPs for Horsley residents. While this does not meet benchmarks for a population of this size – it is considered that residents have proximate access to the Dapto Town Centre, including sufficient quantum of GPs and medical centre services.

District infrastructure

The addition of Horsley residents to benchmarks for district scale infrastructure, including community arts and performing arts facilities, health hubs, high schools and large-scale community centres, will not change overall recommendations or rounded gap. However, the provision of these larger services will be made slightly more urgent in response to the higher population planned for. It is noted that much of this district infrastructure is and is planned to be provided in close proximity to Horsley, including in the Dapto Town Centre and Bong Bong Town Centre.

Economic development and activation

Social infrastructure, including the Horsley Community Centre, can be further activated through surrounding economic development. The existing access to services is weak, and there is a lack of a defined centre in Horsley. Opportunities to increase the presence of small business, and community passive 'bumping' spaces, would provide important community cohesion and connection opportunities – while supporting the economic prosperity of Horsley's residents.

Additionally, supporting creative enterprises and incubator programs within the existing community centre would both activate it through third party programming and provide increased economic and social opportunity for young people in Horsley.

11.5 Summary delivery priorities, challenges and opportunities

The table over page sets out key delivery priorities, challenges and opportunities to 2058.

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Community infrastructure need	Identified gap by 2058	Gap threshold				Summary community need	Delivery challenges and opportunities
		2028 <i>Residents</i> 19,678	2038 <i>Residents</i> 34,575	2048 <i>Residents</i> 49,477	2058 <i>Residents</i> 57,433		
Infrastructure hierarchy Sub-district Integrated multipurpose facilities <i>Sub-district</i>	1		Deliver Bong Bong facility by 2038		Raw gap arising	<p>There is strong community demand in the short-medium term for Bong Bong community centre and library to be funded and delivered.</p> <p>Longer term need will also arise for an additional sub-district multipurpose facility.</p>	<p>Aim to secure funding in short-medium term (by ~2032) for land and fit out. Through master planning for the Bong Bong town centre, ensure a site is selected and contributions for land secured.</p> <p>There are opportunities for the Bong Bong multipurpose community centre and library to serve as a catalyst for the town centre. Consider opportunities to fund in liaison with developers in town centre through voluntary planning agreements.</p>
Library space (co-located) <i>Sub-district</i>	1		Deliver Bong Bong facility by 2038		Raw gap arising	<p>As above, noting library space is recommended to be incorporated into multipurpose community centres.</p>	<p>As above.</p> <p>Note particularly the importance of library space to community cohesion and capacity building, serving as important anchors (see research above).</p>
Neighbourhood multipurpose community centre <i>Neighbourhood</i>	0					<p>There is no overall gap for the WDURA, presuming that the existing quantity of local community facilities is delivered.</p> <p>Spatial gaps have been noted, and quantitative gaps arising, for a neighbourhood community centre in stage 4.</p>	<p>Neighbourhood community centres play a critical role in local community building. Ensuring accessibility to facilities within walking distance (800m-1km) is therefore vital to success.</p> <p>These smaller-scale facilities are conducive to voluntary planning agreements given their significant benefit to local communities, returning advantages to developer as well as the local community.</p>
Non-council bookable space <i>Not classified</i>						<p>Although not assessed in quantitative benchmarking, these spaces are an important consideration in future infrastructure planning.</p>	<p>Council plays an indirect role, and should seek to recognise and realised opportunities when they arise. This is best achieved through planning avenues – for example upon planning proposal or development application for sporting facilities, and in the master planning of town centres.</p>

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Community infrastructure need	Identified gap by 2058	Gap threshold				Summary community need	Delivery challenges and opportunities
		2028 <i>Residents</i> 19,678	2038 <i>Residents</i> 34,575	2048 <i>Residents</i> 49,477	2058 <i>Residents</i> 57,433		
<i>Infrastructure hierarchy</i>						For example, incorporating within new recreation infrastructure and through sporting facilities are vital opportunities to provide adequate spaces for communities.	
Youth-friendly space <i>Local</i>	7	x2 between 2022- 2028	x2 between 2028- 2038	x2 between 2038- 2048	x1 between 2048- 2058	<p>Designing spaces for young people is an important consideration for the delivery of community facilities and open space and rec.</p> <p>It is noted that West Dapto is currently and is expected to have a younger demographic, with higher-than-average numbers of families and younger people. This generates particular community need for spaces for younger people.</p>	<p>Council should look to recognise and realise opportunities for young people to feel included and welcomed.</p> <p>Ideally, this should arise at the design stage of new community infrastructure and open space – informing a key component of design briefs for these facilities.</p> <p>Engaging with young people can help to further ensure that new facilities and master planned centres cater to their needs, as well as creating a sense of ownership and connection with these spaces</p>
Youth centre <i>District</i>	1		<i>Raw gap arising</i>			<p>Youth centres are a higher order facility that seeks to co-locate youth oriented services, and provide a central node and touch point for access to this demographic.</p> <p>There is community need arising by 2038 for a youth centre – a dedicated facility for youth to gather and access services peculiar to their needs.</p>	<p>The Waterloo Youth Centre is a recommended model of delivery, which integrates indoor space with surrounding open space to minimise cost and maximise opportunities to interact with natural elements.</p> <p>While it is important to have an adequate quantity of space in such a centre, successful designs have been achieved with as little as 200-400sqm of indoor space when integrated with substantial open space.</p> <p>Close liaison with youth service providers and younger people will be integral to success of this facility, to create a sense of belonging and ownership that is vital to younger peoples' health and wellbeing. Consider engagement in siting and design.</p>

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Community infrastructure need	Identified gap by 2058	Gap threshold				Summary community need	Delivery challenges and opportunities
		2028 <i>Residents</i> 19,678	2038 <i>Residents</i> 34,575	2048 <i>Residents</i> 49,477	2058 <i>Residents</i> 57,433		
Infrastructure hierarchy							
Seniors space <i>Not classified</i>					As above	Close engagement with service providers and aged care facilities to identify opportunities.	
Community Sheds and Gardens <i>Not classified</i>					<p>Community gardens provide excellent outdoor meeting spaces, providing opportunities for connection with nature and casual social interaction, which leads to social capital building over time.</p> <p>They are important building blocks for local social cohesion and capital building – critical for a new release area.</p>	<p>There are opportunities within the current planned open space and community facilities to provide this infrastructure type, which does require some operational oversight or management, while being community run.</p> <p>They are a cost-effective model of providing community space, while being easily deliverable and with a substantial social return on investment.</p> <p>WDURA offers extensive opportunities when capitalised at the outset – including through open space and the potential use of challenging easements.</p>	
Co-working/business incubator spaces <i>Not classified</i>					<p>New patterns of living and working arising in the post pandemic era are generating economic development opportunities for start-up enterprises.</p> <p>These bring social and economic capital benefits and cohesion – bringing together local enterprise creators.</p> <p>Tying together with training and development, there is community</p>	<p>These models will require market feasibility testing, separate to community need. A targeted assessment is recommended to best gauge opportunities.</p> <p>These spaces can be delivered through private developers.</p> <p>These spaces provide substantial opportunities for the activation of local town centres – making them important considerations for the economic and social layers of master planning for these future centres.</p>	

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Community infrastructure need	Identified gap by 2058	Gap threshold				Summary community need	Delivery challenges and opportunities
		2028 <i>Residents</i> 19,678	2038 <i>Residents</i> 34,575	2048 <i>Residents</i> 49,477	2058 <i>Residents</i> 57,433		
Infrastructure hierarchy							
						need for economic development and youth-focused training and education.	
Aboriginal community space						To be determined in engagement with Aboriginal stakeholders and community members.	Delivering for and with Aboriginal community members to ensure culturally appropriate. Having cultural space is important to community identity and capacity building.
<i>District</i>							
Places of worship						Faith and spiritual practices are an important part of any community, supporting community cohesion and identity and serving as an anchor for local residents.	Engagement with faith organisations and their property development teams in the surrounding area will enable opportunities to be identified. These organisations should be involved in the master planning stage of town centres to identify opportunities for investment and third party delivery of social infrastructure.
<i>Local</i>						They are nodes of community services, with significant outreach and programs and often providing community services to all residents, regardless of their faith.	Faith based organisations have capital to be invested in new infrastructure – making them important strategic partners in the development of active and vibrant new communities. Multi-faith prayer rooms, and collaboration generally, can provide significant opportunities for new communities.
Childcare	406					WDURA has a high childcare need identified through demographics. These facilities also support the appeal of the area for new families and homemakers – essential for catalysing investment and growth in the release area.	Private delivery typically. Gauge delivery through private developers as commercial propositions in VPAs and neighbourhood plans.
<i>Neighbourhood</i>				Demand for childcare peaks around 2048 at 1,368 places			

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Community infrastructure need	Identified gap by 2058	Gap threshold				Summary community need	Delivery challenges and opportunities
		2028 <i>Residents</i> 19,678	2038 <i>Residents</i> 34,575	2048 <i>Residents</i> 49,477	2058 <i>Residents</i> 57,433		
Infrastructure hierarchy							
						Co-locating with schools and retail centres allows childcare to serve as a community anchor.	
Government primary school <i>Local</i>	TBC by School Infrastructure NSW					SINSW and the NSW Department of Education will investigate the need for new school infrastructure within West Dapto. Council staff understand that SINSW will undertake ongoing consultation with Council and the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) as detailed planning progresses for the release area and will monitor the situation.	
Government secondary school <i>Sub-district</i>							
Creative infrastructure – Practice <i>Various</i>	8 x <i>Local community practice spaces</i>	x2 between 2022- 2028	x2 between 2028- 2038	x2 between 2038- 2048	x1 between 2048- 2058	The cultural life of a place is an important part of social life – it is therefore critical to incorporate cultural infrastructure into places.	Incorporate community practice spaces into all new community facilities. Engage with the local creative community to further assess demand. Explore opportunities in open space and private spaces to provide practice spaces, including potential makers spaces in industrial areas or co-located with community infrastructure.
Creative infrastructure – Presentation <i>Various</i>	1 x district community arts centre 1 x district performing arts facility		Gap arising between 2038-48			Larger scale creative infrastructure, particularly in the presentation of cultural output, is vital to the creative success of communities. It is noted that higher order facilities support the activation and growth of town centres – and is supported by Wollongong City Council’s strategic work (see earlier in report).	Liaise with Create NSW for funding opportunities. Funding can be a challenge – there are opportunities through state government arts agencies and other channels including third party private or not-for-profit providers. Actively explore opportunities for shared use of facilities.

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Community infrastructure need	Identified gap by 2058	Gap threshold				Summary community need	Delivery challenges and opportunities
		2028 <i>Residents</i> 19,678	2038 <i>Residents</i> 34,575	2048 <i>Residents</i> 49,477	2058 <i>Residents</i> 57,433		
Infrastructure hierarchy							
					These facilities can serve as a destination and a community focal point, creating significant economic development opportunities and increasing social dynamism by attracting people from outside the area.	Explore opportunities for private delivery in town centres, including through VPAs and in the adaptive re-use of heritage homesteads.	
Creative infrastructure – Participation					Consider opportunities to encourage local participation in culture through the protection and enhancement of existing assets.	Voluntary planning agreements for all new stages should ensure that any heritage listed homestead is protected as public open space surrounding, and either community use OR as a commercial use with public facing opportunities (e.g. café, coworking hub, creative enterprise, local heritage and history museum, hospitality).	
<i>Neighbourhood</i>					Strong argument for historical and organic planning significance, choosing locations that are ideally located for community purposes (i.e. co-located with hills, open space).	Consider funding avenues through Heritage NSW for the preservation of these homesteads – and cultural opportunities through Create NSW.	
					Strong example of opportunity in Wongawilli with the existing Coral Vale homestead currently occupied by developer as an information and sales centre.		
					Social connector – creating connection with landscape and heritage and preserving these places for activation and/or community use.		

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Community infrastructure need <i>Infrastructure hierarchy</i>	Identified gap by 2058	Gap threshold				Summary community need	Delivery challenges and opportunities
		2028 <i>Residents</i> 19,678	2038 <i>Residents</i> 34,575	2048 <i>Residents</i> 49,477	2058 <i>Residents</i> 57,433		
Local medical centre <i>Local</i>	1			<i>Gap arising</i>		Local medical centres are an essential community service and focal point – ideally located within all town centres to provide accessible access to health services.	Commercially delivered. Council's role lies in flagging opportunities with developers and ensuring that medical centres are supported in land use plans. Economic development plans for these town centres, and the WDURA generally, will be vital to attracting private providers of health services to the release area from an early stage.
General practitioner (GP) <i>Neighbourhood</i>	31		Gap of 8 arising	Gap of 23 arising	Gap of 31 arising	As above	As above

PART F: OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION NEEDS ANALYSIS

12.0 Sport infrastructure planning – underpinning assumptions

In calculating the spatial requirement for sport in WDURA, two methodologies have been used.

12.1 Method 1 Demand Analysis Model

The 'Otium Analytics' Demand Analysis Model determines the estimated sport participants across all activities and uses a range of expert informed assumptions to determine the number of sport facilities required and the amount of space (measured in hectares) needed to accommodate not only the fields of play, but ancillary spaces such as car parking and amenities.

Demand for sporting facilities is modelled using a combination of the following data:

- Available sport activity participation data for the population.
- Modelling of the capacity of fields, courts or other facilities in terms of the number of users they can accommodate.
- Determination of the areas required to accommodate actual playing surface and ancillary space required for different facilities.
- Setting parameters for the modelled facilities around hours of operation, differences between training and competition use and average lengths of seasons relative to each sport.

Overall, the model provides:

- Total number of participants per activity and by facility type
- Number of facilities per activity and facility type
- Spatial demand by activity and facility type, including playing space and overall space.

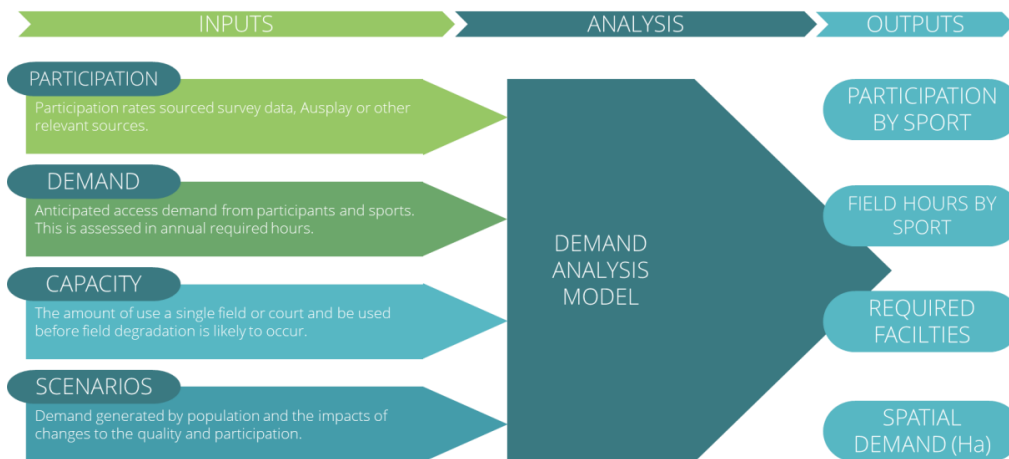


Figure 21 Otium's Demand Analysis Model

The Demand Analysis Model does not consider accessibility and travel time. Catchment mapping is to be undertaken separately to the demand modelling.

For outdoor sport, the 'Otium Analytics' Demand Analysis Model used NSW AusPlay Data to indicate the following requirements for forecast population of 57,433 by 2058.

Table 21 Demand Analysis Model Outputs for WDURA

Sport	Fields Required	Playing Area per Unit (Ha)	Ancillary Space per Unit (Ha)	Total Space Per Unit (Ha)	Total Space Required by 2058 (Ha)
AFL	5	2.47	1.73	4.20	20.995
Athletics	1	2.01	1.407	3.42	3.417
Baseball	1	1.81	1.267	3.08	3.077
Cricket	10	1.64	1.15	2.79	27.88
Football	14	0.90	0.63	1.53	21.42
Hockey (Grass)	1	0.9	0.63	1.53	1.53
League	1	1.07	0.749	1.82	1.819
Netball	8	0.1	0.05	0.15	1.2
Softball	1	0.6	0.42	1.02	1.02
Tennis	14	0.1	0.05	0.15	2.1
Touch	1	0.5	0.35	0.85	0.85
Union	1	1.26	0.882	2.14	2.142
TOTAL					87.45

Otium Planning Group has then applied assumptions to co-location of sporting codes to further refine the spatial requirements for sport infrastructure in WDURA. These assumptions include:

1. Providing additional space per rectangular field. This allows for effective co-location of rectangular and oval based sports. It also ensures warm up areas as well as mini and modified football fields that assist to cater for the strong demand for junior sport that occurs in new release areas such as WDURA.
2. That at least 8 cricket ovals can be co-located with rectangular fields or winter (AFL) ovals. This will allow for at least 2 cricket ovals to be used year-round and help respond to increased demand for annual participation in this sport.

Based on the above assumptions, the table below identifies the outdoor sport requirements for WDURA by 2058.

Table 22 Outdoor Sport Requirements for WDURA with consideration to dual-use

Field Type	Required Units	Playing Area per Unit (Ha)	Ancillary Space per Unit (Ha)	Total Space Per Unit (Ha)	Total Space Required by 2058 (Ha)
Winter Ovals	5	2.47	1.73	4.20	20.995
Rectangular Field	17	1.30	0.70	2.00	34
Athletics	1	2.01	1.407	3.42	3.417
Courts	22	0.1	0.05	0.15	3.3
Diamond Sports	2	1.205	1.267	2.47	4.944
Year Round Summer Oval	2	1.64	1.15	2.79	5.576
TOTAL					72.232

12.2 Method 2 Benchmarking

In the preparation of the yet to be published Greater Sydney Sport Infrastructure Plan, the Office of Sport collected sport facility data in 2018 across each of the five districts of Greater Sydney. The quantum of various categories of sport infrastructure were calculated against existing population to determine existing facility provision benchmarks.

The Western City District of Greater Sydney includes eight Local Government Areas, many of which provide for green field development similar to the West Dapto Urban Release Area. The data collected by the Office of Sport indicated the following provision rates across the Western City District:

- One full sized equivalent playing field for every 2,015 residents.
- One tennis court for every 4,612 residents
- One sealed netball court for every 3,849 residents

These provision rates have been used as the basis to undertake a secondary benchmarking exercise to determine the amount of public open space required for outdoor sport in the West Dapto Urban Release Areas. The benchmarks provided above were calculated against the forecast population and utilised key assumptions to determine the quantities of public open space required. Key spatial assumptions included:

- That a minimum of two full full-sized equivalent playing fields should be provided at each sporting site with a minimum of 5ha per site
- That 0.6ha is required to cater for a four-court facility which includes ancillary space for car parking and amenities.⁸³

Based on this benchmarking approach, **a total of 75.232ha of outdoor sport space** was calculated to service the forecast WDURA population of 57,433 by 2058.

The table below outlines the provision rate for the proposed Public Open Space framework in WDURA.

⁸³ Based on the Western City District data collected by the Office of Sport in 2018 for the 'Greater Sydney District Sport Infrastructure Plan'. Please NOTE, that this data is the property of the Office of Sport. Any further information required specific to the referenced benchmarks should be directed to the Office of Sport. The data is not publicly available, however, access to the data can be requested.

Recommended Quantity for Outdoor Sport Provision

The provision of 75.232ha of public open space for outdoor sport is recommended for WDURA based on:

1. The large number of young families expected to reside in WDURA and the associated demand on outdoor sport participation.
2. The diversity of the Australian sporting landscape and the need to consider a range of other outdoor sporting demands such as BMX, skate, basketball and other sporting codes.
3. The need to consider long term field renovation works that will see a number of playing fields not playable each year during upgrades that are required to ensure safety and quality is achieved.
4. The desire to have the capacity to respond to changing sport participation landscape and evolving demands.

12.3 Summary of Land needed for Sport

Table 23 provides a summary of the existing and planned provision for sport in WDURA.

Table 23 Existing and planned provision of District Sport in WDURA

Stage of WDURA	Contributions Plan 2020 Ref	Indicative Location / Address	Indicative Land Area (Ha)	Functional Area (Ha)	Comments
STAGE 1/2	NA	Ian McLennan Oval 50 Wyllie Rd, Kembla Grange	9.9	5.3	Non-functional area includes road reserve and land occupied by dense vegetation
STAGE 1/2	OS01	Adjacent to Darkes Town Centre and conservation land	9.4	9.4	Concept masterplan completed
STAGE 1/2	OS06	Adjacent to Wongawilli Village Centre – along West Dapto Road	4.5	2	Site is majorly constrained, leaving only 2Ha as Functional/ Fit-for-purpose area. Additional land cannot be acquired to meet land suitability for sport provision. It is recommended to reclassify OS06 from District Sport to District Recreation. In order to meet land suitability requirement for sport, it is recommended to increase the size of OS10 and OS11 as noted below.
STAGE 1/2	OS10	Adjacent to Jersey Farm Village Centre	4	4	Recommended increase in size from 4Ha to 5Ha to meet land suitability criteria for District Sport provision.
STAGE 1/2	OS11	Adjacent to Bong Bong Town Centre	3	3	Recommended increase in size from 3Ha to 10Ha to meet land suitability criteria for District Sport provision.
SUB TOTAL provision				23.70 Ha	
STAGE 3	OS16	Adjacent to Community Leisure & Recreation Centre	4	4	Recommended increase in size from 4Ha to 10Ha to meet land suitability criteria for District Sport provision. If no further land is available around OS16, a new park with an area of 10Ha will be required to meet sport provision in Stage 3.
SUB TOTAL provision				4 Ha	
STAGE 4	OS19	Adjacent to Huntley Village Centre and residential area	4	4	Recommended increase in size from 4Ha to 5Ha to meet land suitability criteria for District Sport provision.
STAGE 4	OS20	Adjacent to Avondale Village Centre and residential area	4	4	Recommended increase in size from 4Ha to 10Ha to meet land

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Stage of WDURA	Contributions Plan 2020 Ref	Indicative Location / Address	Indicative Land Area (Ha)	Functional Area (Ha)	Comments
					suitability criteria for District Sport provision.
SUB TOTAL provision				8 Ha	
STAGE 5	OS23	North side along Marshall Mount Road & adjacent to Marshall Mount Town centre	4	3.5	Recommended increase in size from 3.5Ha to 5Ha to meet land suitability criteria for District Sport provision.
SUB TOTAL provision				3.5 Ha	
TOTAL				39.20 Ha	

The table below provides a summary of area required for sport based on the benchmarking developed in Section 12.1 and 12.2. A gap in sport provision is identified across all stages of WDURA. This gap needs to be catered through either increasing size of existing parks to meet land suitability criteria for sport or identifying new parks to accommodate required District Sport infrastructure.

Table 24 Area required for District Sport across WDURA stages

WDURA STAGE	POPULATION BY 2058	AREA REQUIRED FOR SPORT (Ha) @1.31Ha/1000 PERSONS	EXISTING AND PLANNED PROVISION FOR SPORT (Ha)	GAP IN SPORT PROVISION (Ha)
STAGE 1/2	18,413	24.12	23.70	0.42
STAGE 3	14,009	18.35	4.00	14.35
STAGE 4	12,651	16.57	8.00	8.57
STAGE 5	12,360	16.19	3.50	12.69
TOTAL	57,433	75.24	39.20	36.03

Findings of the gap analysis:

1. A shortfall of 36.03Ha is identified in the provision of sport across all five stages of WDURA.
2. The following is recommended to meet the identified shortfall:
 - a) Increase the area of existing parks identified for sport (i.e. OS10, OS11, OS16, OS19, OS20 and OS23) to recommended sizes. Section 13.1 outlines the recommended site-specific increase in land areas.
 - b) OS18 is identified as local park. However, to meet the required land for sport provision in STAGE 3, it is recommended to reclassify OS18 from Local Park to District Sport and increase the size from 2Ha to 5Ha.
 - c) Identify a new park with 10Ha area in STAGE 5 to meet the required need for sport provision.
 - d) In circumstances where further land acquisition is constrained around an existing park, provision of a new park with the recommended functional area for sport is required.

12.4 Indoor and aquatic needs

In 2019, Otium Planning Group prepared the 'West Dapto Community Leisure and Recreation Centre Needs Assessment'. This assessment provides Council with a strategic direction on the service needs, facility mix and preferred site locations for a district level Community Leisure and Recreation Centre.

Considering the study research, consultation and analysis, the following staged facility mix is recommended for the West Dapto Centre.

Table 25 Staged facility mix recommendations

	Short Term 0-15 Years	Medium Term 15-20 Years	Long Term 20+ Years	Subject to Future Confirmation of Demand
Facilities	Entry and Administration Aquatic Centre Health and Fitness Centre Wellness Centre Multi-purpose Community Rooms Other indoor areas		Tennis Centre	Outdoor Netball Centre Adventure Park Multi-purpose Indoor Courts

12.4.1 Site analysis

The following locations as potential sites for the development of a new community leisure and recreation centre in the West Dapto Release Area were assessed against a series of site selection criteria:

1. Reed Park, Bong Bong Road, Cleveland
2. North-east of Daisy Bank Drive, off Cleveland Road, Cleveland
3. Western side of Daisy Bank Drive, off Cleveland Road, Cleveland
4. Southern side of Cleveland Road, Cleveland
5. Darkes Road Town Centre, north of West Dapto Road, Darkes.

The analysis confirmed all potential sites are capable of supporting the proposed West Dapto Leisure Centre. However, Site 4 – Southern side of Cleveland Road, Cleveland was recommended based on:

1. Its suitability across most criteria; and
2. Its adjacency to a potential district sports park. The district sports park may have a focus on football. This would support the establishment of a major multi-purpose sports hub consistent with broader facility provision and design trends.

Table 26 Indicative West Dapto Community Leisure and Recreation Centre Areas

Centre Area	GFA (m2)
Entry and Administration	640
Aquatic Areas	3,628
Health and Fitness	1,730
Wellness Centre	132
Multi-purpose rooms	340
Multi-purpose indoor courts (3)	3,295
Other Indoor Areas	330
Indicative GFA	10,095

In addition to the above area i.e., 10,095 sqm (1 Ha) identified for the building footprint of the West Dapto Community Leisure and Recreation Centre, consideration should be accounted for ancillary area required for

parking, circulation, access, etc. Factoring in the ancillary area, the total area required for **indoor sport and recreation spaces for WDURA is approximately 2.5ha**. This excludes space for the proposed co-location of other activities such as netball, tennis/ multi-use courts, sportsgrounds, active transport links and youth focused outdoor recreation.

The study recommended provision of one district level indoor court facility for West Dapto. The indoor courts were required to be accommodated within the new community leisure and recreation centre in line with the latest trend of the facility developed as a precinct or community 'hub' to allow a broader range of sport and recreation opportunities and to maximise management efficiencies and financial sustainability.

13.0 Quantitative assessment by stage area and typology

A quantitative assessment of public open space requirements for the West Dapto Urban Release Area has been undertaken to understand the functional open space land requirements by stage area and typology over 10-year increments.

NOTE: the calculation of land needed for sport is explained in **Section 12.3**.

Table 27 Quantitative Assessment Public Open Space for the West Dapto Urban Release Area (Note figures are cumulative)

Year	Open Space Typology	Stage 1/2 (ha)	Stage 3 (ha)	Stage 4 (ha)	Stage 5 (ha)	Total (ha)
By 2018	Local	2.994				2.994
	District Recreation	0.951				0.951
	District Sport	4.086				4.086
	Urban Release Area Wide	0.811				0.811
	Total	8.842				8.842
By 2028	Local	12.066	3.908	1.103	1.813	18.891
	District Recreation	3.834	1.242	0.350	0.576	6.002
	District Sport	16.465	5.333	1.505	2.475	25.778
	Urban Release Area Wide	3.268	1.058	0.299	0.491	5.116
	Total	35.633	11.541	3.257	5.355	55.787
By 2038	Local	15.804	7.529	4.090	5.769	33.192
	District Recreation	5.021	2.392	1.299	1.833	10.545
	District Sport	21.567	10.274	5.581	7.872	45.293
	Urban Release Area Wide	4.280	2.039	1.108	1.562	8.990
	Total	46.673	22.235	12.077	17.036	98.020
By 2048	Local	17.676	12.883	7.474	9.465	47.498
	District Recreation	5.616	4.093	2.374	3.007	15.090
	District Sport	24.121	17.580	10.198	12.915	64.815
	Urban Release Area Wide	4.787	3.489	2.024	2.563	12.864
	Total	52.201	38.046	22.070	27.950	140.267
By 2058	Local	17.676	13.449	12.145	11.866	55.136
	District Recreation	5.616	4.273	3.859	3.770	17.517
	District Sport	24.121	18.352	16.573	16.192	75.237
	Urban Release Area Wide	4.787	3.642	3.289	3.214	14.933
	Total	52.201	39.716	35.866	35.041	162.823
2058 Gap Analysis	Existing and Planned Public Open Space*	44.54	10.50	12.00	8.00	75.04
	Required additional functional Public Open Space**	7.66	29.22	23.87	27.04	87.78

*Excludes non-functional existing open space.

** Does not consider functionality of all planned open space. This requires investigations as part of future works.

In addition to the existing and proposed public open space, an additional 87.78Ha of functional public open space will be required across all five stages by 2058. This includes:

- Stage 1-2: An additional 7.66Ha of functional public open space by 2058
- Stage 3: An additional 29.22Ha of functional public open space between 2028 to 2058.
- Stage 4: An additional 23.87Ha of functional public open space between 2048 to 2058
- Stage 5: An additional 27.04Ha of functional public open space between 2028 to 2058.

It is important to note that the quantum of additional public open space may increase following functionality (fit for purpose) assessment of proposed open space sites.

13.1 Site specific open space increases

A range of increases are recommended to proposed open space sites with a key focus on the classification of District Sport. Sport sites have very detailed and specific performance criteria that if not met, will result in the inability to provide for a range of sporting codes. In addition, these sites provide the best opportunity for co-location with a range of other recreation and community infrastructure.

This increase will also partially address the gap of at least an additional 87.78ha of public open space within the West Dapto Urban Release Area and ensure future sites are fit for their intended use as per the open space framework.

The table below recommends conversion of following parks to District Sport

Table 28 Recommended increase in area of Planned Open Spaces to meet District Sport land size

Stage of WDURA	CP 2020 Ref	Current classification	Proposed classification	Indicative timing	Indicative planned land area	Recommended area
STAGE 1/2	OS10	Neighbourhood Park	District Sport	2026/27 - 2028/29	4 Ha	5 Ha
	OS11	Neighbourhood Park	District Sport	2036/37 - 2040/41	3 Ha	10 Ha
STAGE 3	OS16	Neighbourhood Park	District Sport	2036/37 – 2040/41	4 Ha	10 Ha
	OS18	Local Park	District Sport	2046/47 – 2050/51	2 Ha	5 Ha
STAGE 4	OS19	Neighbourhood Park	District Sport	2045/46 – 2050/51	4 Ha	5 Ha
	OS20	Neighbourhood Park	District Sport	2045/46 – 2050/51	4 Ha	10 Ha
STAGE 5	OS23	Neighbourhood Park	District Sport	2031/32 - 2035/36	4 Ha	5 Ha

The above increases in sites will provide an additional 25.5ha of public open space, specifically increase in district sport provision. If the above recommended increases are implemented, the total additional functional public open space required by 2058 will be 62.28Ha.

13.2 Additional public open space sites

To address the remaining of 62.28Ha of functional public open space by 2058, the following additional provision is recommended.

Table 29 Additional Public Open Space Sites and Areas

Stage	No. of Local Parks At 1ha/park	No. of District Recreation At 3ha/park	No. of District Sport (5-10+ ha)	No. of City-Wide Parks	TOTAL no. of new parks by stage	Area of new parks
STAGE 1/2	1	0	0	0	1	1 Ha
STAGE 3	8	1	0	1	10	26 Ha
STAGE 4	11	1	0	0	12	14 Ha
STAGE 5	11	1	1	0	13	24 Ha
TOTAL AREA	31	9	10	15	-	65 Ha

14.0 Horsley open space assessment

14.1 Background

The purpose of this assessment is to consider the implication of the available public open space within the Horsley area, which is contained within the West Dapto Urban Release Area. The current planning for WDURA has not included the available supply within the established Horsley area and this memo considered how any surplus capacity available in the area can contribute to meeting the needs of future residents in WDURA.

The suburb of Horsley falls within the geographic boundary of Stage 1/2 of West Dapto Urban Release Area (WDURA). However, the existing Horsley release area was largely developed between 1993 and 2010 and has not been included in the population and supply calculations for Stage 1 and 2 of WDURA. The area defined as 'West Horsley' has been included in Stage 1 and 2 calculations for WDURA and consequently the following analysis does not include population and spatial needs calculations for that area.

For the purpose of this document, 'Horsley' refers to the established part of the Horsley suburb, whilst the part of Horsley located to the west of the old/established 'Horsley' refers to 'the release areas in stage 1/2 directly west of Horsley'

The IPART 2020 review referenced the following regarding the available area of existing open space for WDURA residents,

Another 50.35 Ha of existing open space in Horsley is available to the residents of the new release area' (Assessment of West Dapto Contributions Plan 2020 IPART, page 57).

It is assumed that the statement above refers to the existing provision of public open space (Public Open Space) within the suburb of Horsley. IPART 2020 assessment also referenced,

'The existing facilities in Horsley are within the geographical area of Stages 1-2. Of the 70.2 hectares, the council estimates 19.9 hectares will serve the existing population in Horsley, leaving 50.35 hectares for the WDURA. (Assessment of West Dapto Contributions Plan 2020 IPART, page 64).⁸⁴

14.2 Existing Public Open Space in Horsley

Horsley is currently served by 21 parks and other open spaces, accounting for 62.21 Ha of provision. Refer to the table below for the existing park typology in Horsley:

Table 30 Typology of existing parks in Horsley

Open Space typology	Number of parks
Local	10
District Recreation	1
District Sport	1
Linear Park/corridor	6
Urban Release Area Wide	0
Total	18

⁸⁴ Note - that the investigation in this report and discussions with council staff have been unable to verify the source of the estimate relied on by IPART and the assumed 70.2 ha of supply and subsequent 50.35 Ha surplus cannot be substantiated.

14.3 Functional assessment of existing Public Open Space in Horsley

The existing Public Open Space provision was assessed to understand the functional open space within the existing park and open space network. Functional area is defined as the net land area exclusive of constrained land such as powerline easements, steep slopes, dense and protected vegetation, waterways, etc. Based on this assessment,

- 26.24Ha (42.18%) of the land area is identified as functional open space; and
- Approx. 58% of the existing Public Open Space provision is identified as constrained land**

** Constrained lands are often not suitable for other land use purposes such as housing, retail etc. and can be proposed as public open space. Depending on the nature of constraints and the topography of the land, these spaces can be of poor quality, have limited functionality and effectively be unusable for public recreation. Examples of constrained land generally unsuitable for inclusion in the public open space (public parks) network include land that is under high-voltage powerline or easement, highly vegetated riparian corridors, unfavourable topography, land impacted by frequent flooding, etc.

The following table summarises the analysis of the current and planned supply within Horsley and the actual outcome in terms of functional (useable) land for recreation and sport. Areas are assessed for issues such as flooding, slope, size, shape and vegetation which can significantly impede community use. (*Source: West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020*)

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Table 31 Existing parks and open spaces in Horsley

Stage of WDURA	Ref ID	Park/Reserve	Indicative land area (HA)	Functional Area (HA)	Non-Functional Area (HA)	Classification of Functional Area	Existing Infrastructure/ facilities	Comments
	1		0.057	0.000	0.057	NA	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park does not exist. Lots identified for residential.
	2	Along Horsley Drive	0.198	0.155	0.057	Linear Park/corridor	Pedestrian pathway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stormwater drainage channel (leading to Mullet Creek) with vegetation on both sides. Falls within 1% AEP Flood Extent
	3		0.136	0.094	0.0425	Local	No infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NO passive surveillance
	4		0.057	0.000	0.057	NA	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park does not exist. Lots identified for residential.
	5		0.056	0.000	0.056	NA	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park does not exist. Lots identified for residential.
	6	Robins Creek Lake	2.329	0.729	1.6	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedestrian pathway (Horsley Dr to Ashwood Pl; and Horsley Dr to Glenwood Grove) 2 x Stormwater channel outlets Viewing deck 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lake with riparian vegetation. Falls within 1% AEP Flood Extent
	7	Mullet Creek Wetland (along Goodman Pl)	1.835	0.415	1.42	Linear Park/corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedestrian pathway along the western side of the lot connecting Goodman Pl to Bong Bong Rd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mullet Creek tributary and wetland. Falls within 1% AEP Flood Extent

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	8	Gerringulli Park	2.162	1.362	0.8	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basketball Court Children's playground along Bong Bong Rd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low passive surveillance (one main street frontage only), drainage channel running horizontally through the park dissecting the land in two; and on-site vegetation Falls within 1% AEP Flood Extent, except the children's playground
	9	Along Horsley Drive	0.104	0.034	0.07	Linear Park/corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedestrian pathway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stormwater drainage channel (leading to Mullet Creek) with vegetation on both sides. Falls within 1% AEP Flood Extent
	10	Between Jenail Pl and Homestead Dr	0.790	0.240	0.55	Linear Park/corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedestrian pathway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stormwater drainage channel with vegetation on both sides, low passive surveillance.
	11	Dimond Brothers Reserve (Part 1)	5.610	3.380	2.23	District Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedestrian pathways connecting (Bong Bong Rd to Goodman Pl, Horsley Dr and Parkdale Av) Skate Park Remnant on-site vegetation along the Stormwater channel leading to Mullet Creek 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skate Park located on partially on site 10 and 17 Good passive surveillance Falls within 1% AEP Flood Extent
	12	Shade covered Park	0.194	0.164	0.03	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedestrian pathway along Homestead Dr Children's playground along Bong Bong Rd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent passive surveillance

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	13		1.434	0.157	1.277	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrian pathway- Dumbarton PI to the viewing deck • Pedestrian pathway along the northern boundary (however outside the lot) of the park connecting Dombarton PI to Glenwood Grove • 2 x Stormwater channel outlets • Viewing deck 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake with riparian vegetation. • Falls within 1% AEP Flood Extent
	14		2.295	0.466	1.829	Linear Park/corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrian pathway along Fairwater Dr edge of the park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major portion of the park is dense vegetation along waterways and identified for enhanced storage area. • Falls within 1% AEP Flood Extent
	15		2.322	0.522	1.8	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water storage/detention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major portion identified for enhanced storage area with dense vegetation • Falls within 1% AEP Flood Extent
	16	Reed Park	8.124	6.982	1.142	District Sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fenced Dog Park • 2 x Stormwater channel outlets • 2 x Cricket Ovals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerline easement running north-south dissecting the second oval on the south-eastern boundary
	17	Reed Park	10.783	8.718	2.065	District Sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 x Tennis Courts • 2 x practice nets • Amenities building • 2 x Cricket Ovals overlaid with 5 x Rugby League Fields • Car park (approx. 176 spaces + 5 x accessible space) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approx. 80% of the park falls within 1% AEP Flood Extent

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STAGE 1/2	18	Dimond Brothers Reserve (Part 2)	1.492	1.308	0.184	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skate Park Children's playground Outdoor Fitness Gym 2 x Stormwater channel outlets Pedestrian pathway (along Bong Bong Rd and connecting site 10) Car park (24 spaces + accessible space) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major portion of the park falls within 1% AEP Flood Extent
	19	Taywood Park	0.302	0.202	0.1	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's playground Covered informal seating Pedestrian pathway network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good passive surveillance
	20	Sunray Cres Reserve	0.168	0.110	0.0573	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's playground Covered informal seating Pedestrian pathway network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good passive surveillance
	21	Huxley Dr Reserve-Karrara Park	2.500	1.203	1.297	Local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's playground Pedestrian pathway network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good passive surveillance
	22	Purrungully Woodland	19.259	NA	19.259	Linear Park/corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedestrian pathway network 	
TOTAL			62.21	26.24	35.98	-		

14.4 Provision rate of Public Open Space in Horsley

In 2016, 7,095 residents were recorded residing in Horsley. The population in Horsley is estimated to remain stable with a marginal increase in population numbers through infill development. The table below refers to the open space rate of provision by typology.

Table 32 Provision by typology

Year	Population	Open Space typology	Area (HA)	Current rate of provision (Ha/1000 people)	Proposed rate of Public Open Space provision in WDURA (Ha/1000 people)	Required Public Open Space area as per new Public Open Space framework (HA)	Surplus
2016	7,095	Local	5.85	0.82	0.96	6.81	-0.96
		District Recreation	4.69	0.66	0.305	2.16	2.52
		District Sport	15.70	2.21	1.31	9.29	6.41
		Urban Release Area Wide	0.00	NA	NA	NA	
		Total	25.40	3.70	2.575	18.27	7.97

In reference to the table above, it is observed that:

- Provision rate of local parks is slightly lower than the proposed rate for WDURA;
- Provision rate of district recreation is higher than the proposed provision rate for WDURA; and
- Provision rate of district sport is higher than the proposed rate for WDURA.

In addition to the above, it should also be noted that whilst a surplus in district sport (i.e. Reed Park) is observed in Horsley, this sports precinct also caters for demand from Dapto residents (to the east of Horsley). The park is mostly developed, and council staff have not indicated there is any significant additional capacity to service growth.

The only district recreation site identified in Horsley is Dimond Brothers Park, which is located at the eastern end of the suburb boundary and approx. at a distance of 650m from the Dapto Train Station. This park will primarily meet the needs of Horsley residents along with Dapto residents.

In conclusion, there appears to be a surplus of 7.97 Ha public open space suitable for recreation use, mostly comprised of district sport and district recreation. However, with the marginal population increase in Horsley anticipated along with existing and future demand from Dapto residents, it is doubtful there is any significant excess capacity to meet the needs of future residents of WDURA.

PART G: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

15.0 Summary recommendations

15.1 Community and cultural facilities

Based on the community and cultural infrastructure needs assessment undertaken, the following key recommendations are identified:

1. Update the Contributions Plan to include provision for:
 - a) 1 x neighbourhood multipurpose community centre in Stage 4, co-located with the Avondale town centre
 - b) Amend item CF05 of the Contributions Plan to a sub-district facility, including library space, and update corresponding costing
2. Council liaise direct with School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) and the NSW Department of Education as the authorities responsible for government school provision. It is understood that SINSW and Department of Education will investigate the need for new school infrastructure within the West Dapto Urban Release Area. SINSW will undertake ongoing consultation with Council and the Department of Planning and Environment as detailed planning progresses for the release area and will monitor the situation.
3. Deliver a dedicated youth centre co-located with a new district park and multipurpose community centre in Avondale
4. Identify opportunities through planning mechanisms and agreements and at the neighbourhood planning phase for private developers to deliver:
 - a) Local community spaces, including bookable space and community sheds and gardens
 - b) Coworking and business incubator spaces
 - c) Dedicated district-level community arts centre through VPA with larger developer, potentially leveraging heritage homestead locations.
 - d) Local traineeship and employment opportunities for young people
5. Masterplan each town centre identified in the West Dapto Vision, with a focus on engagement and early activation. Social infrastructure will play a key role in this master planning process, identifying significant co-located sites and taking a collaborative approach with stakeholders and the community. This stage will involve detailed site analysis.
 - a) As part of this process, develop a strategy to collaborate with faith-based organisations in relation to their property development plans to identify the potential for these organisations to deliver social infrastructure in strategic locations.
6. Ensure that design briefs at the earliest stage for new community centres consider some or all of:
 - a) Youth friendly spaces
 - b) Seniors friendly spaces
 - c) Local cultural practice spaces (e.g. music rehearsal rooms, artists' studios)
 - d) Aboriginal community space (where arising in consultation)
 - e) Extensive community consultation and potential co-design
7. Facilitate delivery of higher-order social infrastructure through liaison with relevant authorities or private providers, including for the provision of:
 - a) Consideration of an Aboriginal Culture and Community Centre if identified through extensive engagement
 - b) District performing arts facility should be explored subject to a Shared Use Agreement with the relevant government authority.
 - c) Creative infrastructure opportunities in liaison with Heritage NSW and Create NSW
 - d) Community Arts Centre in collaboration with Create NSW
8. Develop a comprehensive delivery and funding plan for identified community centres in the Contributions Plan.

15.2 Open space and recreation

Based on the public open space and recreation needs assessment undertaken, the following key recommendations are identified:

1. Adopt and implement the public open space framework for WDURA. This includes placing a focus on the performance criteria for public open space which aims to deliver high quality, well distributed public open space.
2. Planning and provision of public open space in WDURA to comply with performance criteria to ensure fit for purpose and 'functional' open space. that delivers an efficient, affordable and sustainable network of Public open space for sport and recreation.
3. Ensure 85-90% of residents in WDURA are within a 5-7 minute walk of high quality and functional open space.

Note: the masterplan prepared as a part of this report provides only indicative locations of the proposed Public Open Spaces. These locations should be tested and confirmed within the Green Network Masterplan. A 400m catchment is recommended for walkability to local parks. However, this can be extended to 600m where physical barriers like road network, Motorways, etc limit the walkability, provided the net quantum of required Public Open Space remains the same.

4. Convert following parks to District Sport and increase the size of identified sites below to cater for this change:

a) OS10 - From 4ha to 5ha	e) OS19- From 4ha to 5ha
b) OS11- From 3ha to 10ha	f) OS20 - From 4ha to 10ha
c) OS16 - From 4ha to 10ha	g) OS23 - From 4ha to 5ha
d) OS18- From 2ha to 5ha	
5. Develop a Green Network Masterplan for WDURA in consideration of the proposed performance criteria. As part of this process, review the required number of local parks based on the distribution and access to high quality functional public open space. The Green Network Masterplan to identify location for a destination public open site (preferably with 15+ ha area) that will service all residents of WDURA. The location is to be centrally located and potentially within the Stage 3 area.
6. Upgrade existing sports fields at Reed Park to meet the current need and future demand for sport in Horsley and Dapto
7. Upgrade Dimond Brothers Park (to a district recreation park) in line with guidelines of the West Dapto Open Space Design Manual and Performance Criteria developed as part of the WDURA Needs Assessment.
8. Prioritise provision of required additional Public Open Space in WDURA aligned with the new proposed Public Open Space framework, West Dapto Public Open Space Design Guide and the proposed performance criteria.
9. Commence quality and functionality assessment of existing Public Open Space along with the indicative locations of the proposed open space.
10. Subject to IPART assessment, update the West Dapto Development Contributions Plans according to the assessment undertaken as part of this study.
11. Work with the Office of Sport in the development of the Illawarra Shoalhaven Sport Infrastructure Plan. NOTE: This Plan is currently in early stages.
12. Review of planned provision of Public Open Space every 5 years to respond to the most up to date demographic projections and trends
13. Developing forward funding strategy to acquire land and deliver Public Open Space infrastructure to maintain and sustain delivery responsive to the population growth
14. Monitoring residential density development to ensure dwelling targets are not exceeding threshold numbers
15. Initiating partnership and collaboration opportunities with State agencies for land acquisition and joint delivery of major recreation facilities

15.3 Horsley

1. Consider renewal of the Horsley Community Centre in close engagement with local residents, including provision of creative practice spaces (e.g. additional music rehearsal, art studio, or workshop space).
2. Explore opportunities, in partnership with community organisations, to utilise undevelopable land for community gardens and work shed style uses. This should be prefaced by community buy in, with community organisations as the key point of contact to gauge interest in the Horsley community.
3. Upgrade the urban amenity surrounding the existing Horsley Community Centre with a particular focus on providing safe, youth-friendly spaces.
4. Incorporate Horsley into economic development strategies and the process for master planning town centres for the broader WDURA.
5. Work with community organisations to ensure service provision and programming in the Horsley Community Centre is efficient and can evolve as the community changes.

Appendix A. Key Benchmark Sources

Key information sources referenced develop this typology include:

- Arden Macauley Community Infrastructure Needs Analysis (Ethos Urban, 2018)
- Central Precinct Urban Renewal Project Social Infrastructure Study (Ethos Urban for TfNSW, 2020-21)
- City of Bayside Social Infrastructure Plan (Ethos Urban for City of Bayside, Sydney, 2019)
- City of Sydney *City for All* Social Policy and Action Plan 2018-2028 and associated community infrastructure planning framework (2018)
- City of Sydney Community Asset Strategy, 2018
- City of Canterbury Bankstown Community Needs Analysis (Ethos Urban, 2018-19)
- City of Canterbury Bankstown Community Facilities Strategic Plan (Ethos Urban for City of Canterbury Bankstown, 2019)
- Canterbury Bankstown Town Centre Student and Worker Needs Study, Sydney (Ethos Urban for City of Canterbury Bankstown, Sydney)
- Fisherman's Bend Urban Renewal Area Community Infrastructure Plan (Ethos Urban, 2017)
- Greener Places Design Guide (Government Architect NSW, 2021)
- Green Square Urban Renewal Area Placemaking Framework and Action Plan (this document is underpinned by detailed community infrastructure planning (City of Sydney, 2017-18)
- Northern Beaches Social Infrastructure Study (Ethos Urban for Northern Beaches Council, 2020-21)
- Planning for Community Infrastructure in Growth Areas (Australian Social and Recreations Research, 2008)
- Redfern North Eveleigh Urban Renewal Project Social Infrastructure Study (Ethos Urban for TfNSW, 2021).

These studies draw on a range of other published sources, including NSW State Library Benchmarks, the NSW GAO Greener Places Design Guide, and NSW Department of Education schools metrics.

Appendix B. Open space site-land suitability and constrained land assessment

This section provides a brief desktop review of unusable space within existing parks and open spaces. This assessment does not consider the historical nature of a particular park/open space, however, provides examples to identify non-functional space within a park or open space.

Ian McLennan Oval

Space marked: Land constrained with unusable topography.



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Integral Energy Park

Space marked: bushland area not usable for functional recreation activities like playground, sportsgrounds, etc.



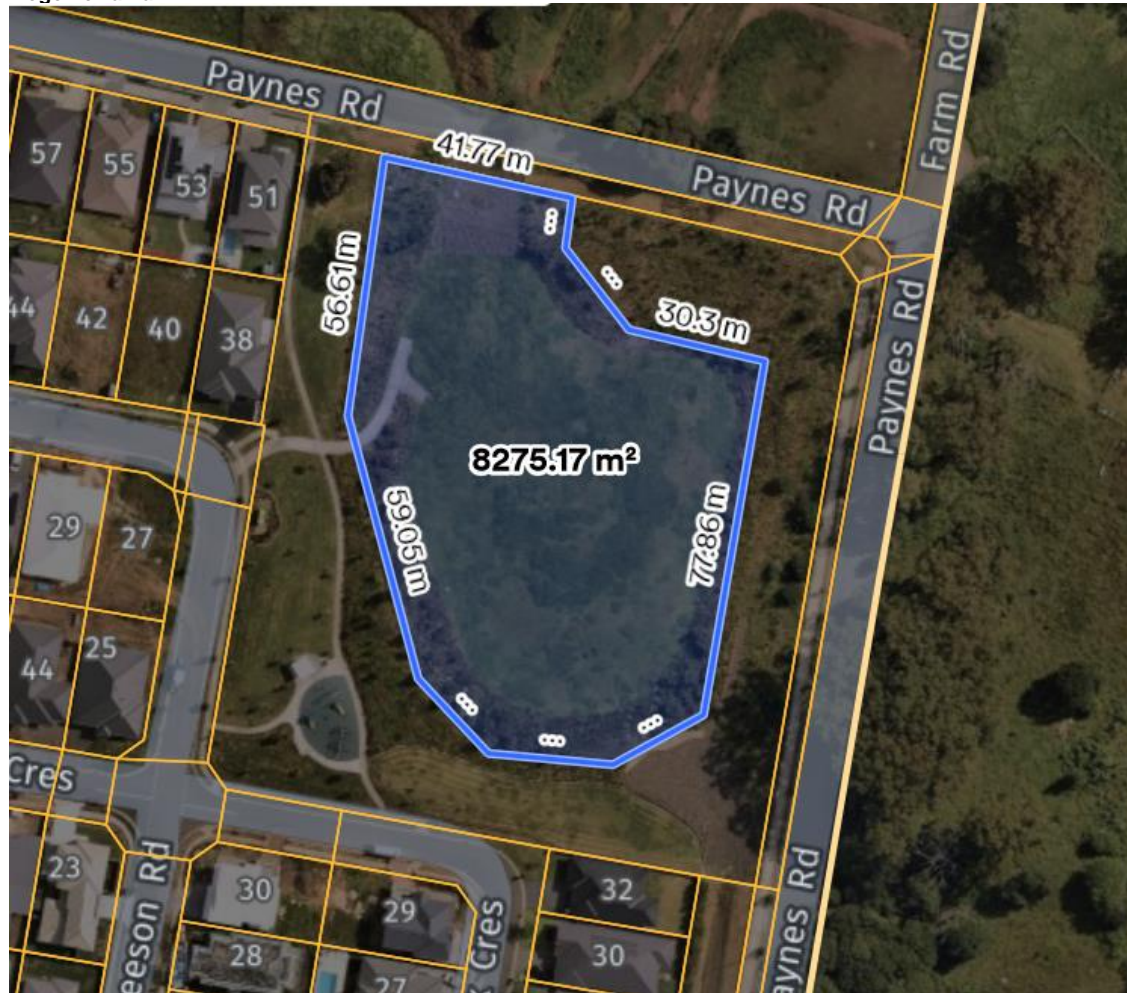
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Stane Dyke Park



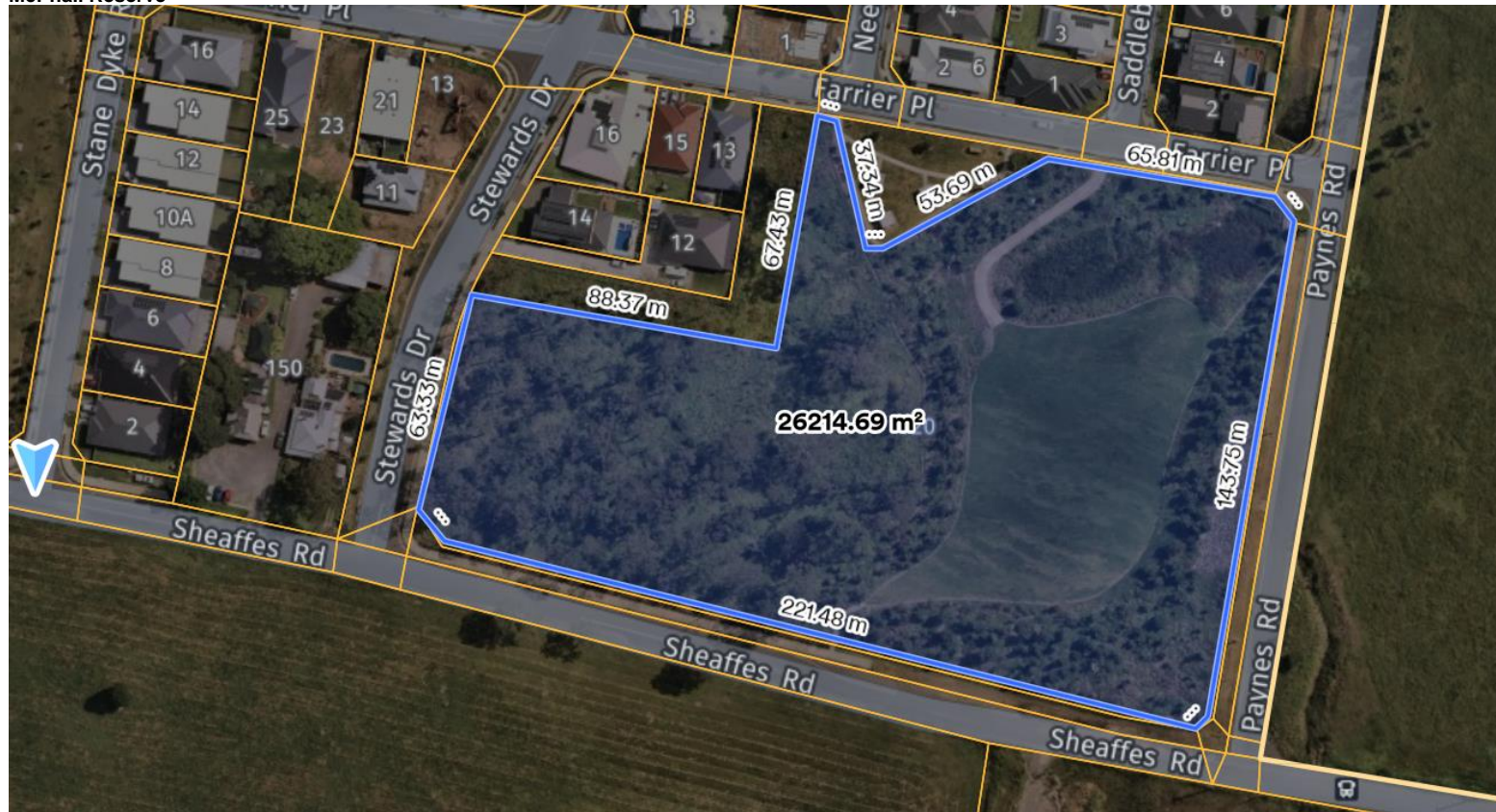
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Mogomorra Park



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McPhail Reserve



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Bankbook Park

Area marked: detention area used as kick-a-bout space when dry



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Appendix C. Raw benchmarking output

Table 33 Raw output for the WDURA

Service	Benchmark		2022			2018		2028		2038		2048		2058	
	Name	Ratio	Measure	Supply	Demand	Gap	Demand	Gap	Demand	Gap	Demand	Gap	Demand	Gap	
Sub-district multipurpose community centre	1 : 20,000	Residents	2.0	0.2	-1.8	1.0	-1.0	1.7	-0.3	2.5	0.5	2.9	0.9		
Library space (standalone or combined)	1 : 20,000	Residents	2.0	0.2	-1.8	1.0	-1.0	1.7	-0.3	2.5	0.5	2.9	0.9		
Neighbourhood multipurpose community centre	1 : 10,000	Residents	5.0	0.3	-4.7	2.0	-3.0	3.5	-1.5	4.9	-0.1	5.7	0.7		
Youth friendly space	1 : 8,000	Residents	0.0	0.4	0.4	2.5	2.5	4.3	4.3	6.2	6.2	7.2	7.2		
Youth centre	1 : 30,000	Residents	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.7	1.2	1.2	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.9		
Childcare places	1 : 4	Babies and pre-schoolers (0 to 4)	646.0	60.9	-585.1	577.6	-68.4	1,007.3	361.3	1,367.9	721.9	1,052.1	406.1		
			TBC by School Infrastructure NSW												
Government primary school		Primary schoolers (5 to 11)													
Government high school		Secondary schoolers (12 to 17)													
GP	1 : 1,000	Residents	26.0	3.1	-22.9	19.7	-6.3	34.6	8.6	49.5	23.5	57.4	31.4		
Local medical centre	1 : 25,000	Residents	2.0	0.1	-0.9	0.8	-0.2	1.4	0.4	2.0	1.0	2.3	0.3		
Health hub	1 : 50,000	Residents	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1		
Cultural practice - community practice space	1 : 8,000	Residents	0.0	0.4	0.4	2.5	2.5	4.3	4.3	6.2	6.2	7.2	7.2		
Community arts centre	1 : 40,000	Residents	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.4		
Performing arts facility	1 : 40,000	Residents	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.4		

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Table 34 Local/neighbourhood benchmarking output by stages

Service	Benchmark	Area 2			Area 3			Area 4			Area 5			
		Stage 1/2			Stage 3			Stage 4			Stage 5			
		Suppl y	Deman d	Ga p	Suppl y	Deman d	Ga p	Suppl y	Deman d	Ga p	Suppl y	Deman d	Ga p	
Name	Ratio 2	Measure												
Neighbourhood multipurpose community centre	1 : 10,000	Residents	3.0	1.8	-1.2	1.0	1.4	0.4	0.0	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.2	0.2
Youth friendly space	1 : 8,000	Residents	0.0	2.3	2.3	0.0	1.8	1.8	0.0	1.6	1.6	0.0	1.5	1.5
Childcare places	1 : 4	Babies and pre-schoolers (0 to 4)	304.0	338.1	34.1	162.0	257.2	95.2	150.0	229.9	79.9	30.0	226.9	196.9
Government primary school		Primary schoolers (5 to 11)	TBC by School Infrastructure NSW											
GP	1 : 1,000	Residents	26.0	18.4	-7.6	0.0	14.0	14.0	0.0	12.7	12.7	0.0	12.4	12.4
Cultural practice - community practice space	1 : 8,000	Residents	0.0	2.3	2.3	0.0	1.8	1.8	0.0	1.6	1.6	0.0	1.5	1.5



OUR WOLLONGONG JOIN THE CONVERSATION



Draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment Engagement Report

July 2023

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The information in this report is based on data collected from community members who chose to be involved in engagement activities and therefore should not be considered representative.

This report is intended to provide a high-level analysis of the most prominent themes and issues. While it's not possible to include all the details of feedback we received, feedback that was relevant to the project has been provided to technical experts for review and consideration.

Executive Summary

Council asked the community to comment on the draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment. The draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment outlines what social infrastructure should be planned for residents in this area in the next 50 years. It includes things that are owned and/or managed by Council like parks, playgrounds, and community centres. It also looks at other infrastructure such as the medical, health and education needs of the community.

Delivering and achieving many of the recommendations in the needs assessment requires coordinated efforts of Council, the Government (State and Federal) and the private sector.

The purpose of this engagement was to invite feedback from stakeholders and the community on the recommendations made in the draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment and also to provide information on the planning process.

Engagement details

The engagement was open from 30 January to 28 February 2023 with key stakeholders and the community notified through email, media releases, newsletters, Illawarra Mercury Community Update, Council website and Council social media posts. A project page was created on the Our Wollongong website with links to an online survey. Hardcopy information was made available at Wollongong and Dapto Libraries. Face-to-face presentations or meetings were held for some key community stakeholder groups.

Stakeholders identified prior to the engagement period opening included:

- Create NSW
- ISHLD
- Careways
- Greater Cities Commission
- Office of Sports
- Department of Planning and Environment (DPE)
- Parks & Leisure NSW
- Sport NSW
- Outdoor NSW
- School Infrastructure NSW
- Aboriginal community and organisations
- Young people
- Local sporting groups
- Faith-based organisations
- Private and public schools
- Neighbourhood Forum 8
- West Dapto residents

Community Engagement Results

The community were invited to provide general feedback on the draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment, and comment specifically on the guiding principles and recommendations for community and cultural facilities, and open space and recreation.

Thirteen written submissions were received including from community members, young people, a consulting group and a state government agency. Verbal feedback was provided in four separate community meetings, attended by 27 people.

Several common themes and key issues were raised:

Open space and recreation

- A lack of recreation facilities in the area, including a gap in facilities for older children.
- A desire for formal and informal outdoor spaces for community use.
- Support for development of sports and recreation precincts or full-size sports centres; equitable access to sportsgrounds and improved amenities, including natural turf in new sporting grounds.
- Possibility of increasing Shared Use of Space program for community access to existing recreation and outdoor spaces.
- Specific concerns about the proposed recommendations for the Bong Bong Town Centre site including existing planning, allowable use and site topography and size.

Community and cultural facilities

- A need for more community spaces and facilities that cater to all the community and can support provision of diverse services and programs.
- Consider shared use of spaces or co-locations of community centres and schools.
- Support for the establishment of an Aboriginal Cultural Centre or similar, and appropriate planning and design consultation with Aboriginal communities.

School infrastructure and planning

- Concerns raised about the lack of existing public schools in West Dapto and insufficient planning for schools for the future. Need for new infrastructure and integrated planning.
- Suggestions made for Council to provide stronger advocacy and better support for the community to advocate for local school needs.
- Suggested amendments to the document were made by a NSW government agency.

Safety and access

- Improve access and walkability by providing, improving and/or maintaining active transport routes and connections between key areas.
- Improve public transport routes and infrastructure.
- Improve roads including ensuring roads in new areas are wide enough to accommodate traffic requirements.

Amenity and environment

- Improve amenity in public spaces for community utilisation and enjoyment. These can include more shade, public art, greening, toilets, and shelter options.
- Suggestions were made to address the heat in the urban environment, such as shade and water play areas.
- Other comments suggested environmental considerations, including planning for climate change challenges, protecting the creek verge, planning for electric vehicle infrastructure, and integrating native planting in open spaces.

Business Centres

- Increase and activate the business centres with more retail options.

Strategic Planning

- Collaboration with other responsible agencies and ongoing community consultation are essential for planning the current and future needs of West Dapto.
- Council needs to work closely with the local Aboriginal community to appropriately accommodate their cultural knowledge and heritage in planning.
- Demographic data for West Dapto needs to be updated to accurately reflect the changing needs of the area to appropriately inform decision making.
- Strategic considerations, such as promoting integration of planning for schools and proactive infrastructure development, should be applied in any long-term infrastructure for West Dapto.

As part of several other community engagements, the community have previously shared their ideas about West Dapto, including ideas for social infrastructure requirements in this area. Much of this supports and reinforces what we have heard again in this current engagement opportunity.

Background

West Dapto is Wollongong City Council's and the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region's largest urban growth area. It's estimated the area will provide 19,500 dwellings to accommodate an additional 56,500 people once fully developed.

The West Dapto Vision, West Dapto Development Contributions Plan, and Wollongong Development Control Plan 2009 Chapter D16 are current Wollongong City Council planning documents, and identify existing and planned community and cultural facilities, and open space and recreation areas.

The draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment outlines what social infrastructure should be planned for residents in this area in the next 50 years. It includes things that are owned and/or managed by Council like parks, playgrounds, and community centres. It also looks at other infrastructure such as the medical, health and education needs of the community.

Delivering and achieving many of the recommendations in the needs assessment requires coordinated efforts of Council, the Government (State and Federal) and the private sector.

The Social Cultural and Recreational Needs Study for the West Dapto New Release Area was done in 2007. We want to make sure that the growing and changing community of West Dapto has the right places and spaces for people to meet, be active, connect, create, and learn. The draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment provides a check in, to ensure we are planning for the expected needs of the growing and future West Dapto Community.

Stakeholders

Stakeholders identified prior to the start of the engagement period included:

- Create NSW
- ISHLD
- Careways
- Greater Cities Commission
- Office of Sports
- Department of Planning and Environment (DPE)
- Parks & Leisure NSW
- Sport NSW
- Outdoor NSW
- School Infrastructure NSW
- Aboriginal community members and organisations
- Young people
- Local sporting groups
- Faith-based organisations
- Private and public schools
- Neighbourhood Forum 8
- West Dapto residents
- General community

Methods

A variety of communication and engagement methods were used to increase community understanding of the the planning considerations for the West Dapto area, and to seek feedback on the West Dapto Draft Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment.

These methods included:

- Emails promoting the engagement to key stakeholders including West Dapto residents; schools; sporting and community groups/ organisations; faith-based organisations; Neighbourhood Forum 8; Aboriginal community members; government agencies with the invitation to share through their networks.
- E-newsletter sent to residents of West Dapto and surrounding areas
- [West Dapto Community Update](#)
- West Dapto Draft Needs Assessment [engagement webpage](#) with an online feedback survey
- Hardcopy information available at Wollongong and Dapto city libraries
- Illawarra Mercury Community Update.
- Two media releases, in [November 2022](#) and [February 2023](#)
- Four face-to face meetings and/or presentations were held with identified stakeholders including Neighbour Forum 8; Dapto Community of Schools; Koori Men's shed members and Aunty Sharralyn Robinson

Results

All stakeholders and the wider community were invited to provide feedback on the draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment.

Engagement Participation

This section provides details on the participation in engagement activities and feedback received during the exhibition period. Details of the number of participants for each engagement activity are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Participation in Engagement Activities

Engagement Activities	Participation
Emails	5
Targeted Community Meetings (4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Koori Mens Shed - Dapto Community of Schools - Neighbourhood Forum 8 - Aunty Sharralyn Robinson 	27
Online Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aware – Total number of unique visitors who viewed the project webpage. • Informed – Total number of people who clicked a hyperlink, e.g. to download the report • Engaged – Total number of people who actively contributed to the project, e.g. by submitting comments via the survey 	380 263 8

Submission results

The community were invited to provide general feedback on the draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment, and comment specifically on the guiding principles and recommendations for community and cultural facilities, and open space and recreation.

Thirteen written submissions were received including from community members, young people, a consulting group and a state government agency. Verbal feedback was given in four separate

community meetings, attended by a total of approximately 27 people. Both written and verbal feedback are considered below with many of the submission responses providing comments across more than one theme.

There were several common issues or themes identified across the responses, including:

Open Space and Recreation

People identified a lack of recreation facilities in the area and want to see safe access to more open space and recreational areas, and improvements to existing playing fields and sporting grounds such as lighting. There was specific mention of a gap in facilities for older children whom no longer played on outdoor playgrounds but want and need access to safe and multi-purpose recreation spaces. Wongawilli was mentioned as having no suitable outdoor recreation spaces for older children. A suggestion that an outdoor half-court adjacent to Wongawilli Community Hall would address this, and also provide adaptable and flexible space for both recreation activities and events for the community.

There is a desire for formal and informal outdoor spaces that the community can meet at and utilise. A couple of submissions gave support to the development of a sports and recreation precinct, or a full-size sports centre. One submission indicated that more details and plans for sporting grounds in Darkes Town Centre were needed.

Some responses mentioned the possibility of increasing or growing the Shared Use of Space program that allows the community to access public school recreation spaces. This was raised as an efficient and effective sharing of resources, increasing community access to appropriate and existing recreation and outdoor space.

Some mentioned that having better sporting facilities and spaces will create the opportunity to establish local sporting competitions and teams, and welcome the opportunity to have quality sporting fields that could host regional and state level competitions. There was mention of ensuring equitable access to sportsgrounds and improved amenity including appropriate toilets and change facilities, parking, shade and seating. One response specifically mentioned support for the use of natural turf in new sporting grounds.

One submission raised many concerns with the recommendations, particularly those made in relation to the identified Bong Bong Town Centre site. These include that the recommendations conflict with established and existing plans for the site's use, and do not consider the prohibited uses of the Bong Bong Town Centre site as park or recreational space. In addition to this, the recommendations have not considered the topography of the land, nor that the size cannot physically accommodate the

recommendation. Other potential impacts were also mentioned including traffic, planning and land use implications and impact on landowners who have made decisions based on previous planning.

Community and Cultural Facilities

Some responses mentioned that there was a need for more spaces for the community that provided opportunity for activity and services. There was support for the guiding principles particularly 'equitable' and 'sustainable' and how these can be practically realised through design, for example integrating community food gardens into community centre spaces. One response suggested that existing facilities such as Dapto Ribbonwood Centre should be built up rather than building new ones in residential areas. Wongawilli Hall and the surrounding site was specifically mentioned in a couple of submissions as a facility that needed repair and upgrade so the community could use it. This should be done with appropriate community consultation and consideration for multi-use services and activities, and in the next 12 months.

Some responses again suggested there would be benefit for shared use of spaces between schools and community centres and facilities. This will provide social connection and cohesion opportunities, ownership by student and school communities, and open up options for greater access to facilities such as performance spaces and other buildings. There was also mention of the importance of having available suitable indoor and outdoor spaces for the community to access and enjoy. Access to improved facilities that cater to all age groups and demographics in the community, and support a diverse range of activities will create positive social, health and wellbeing outcomes for this community.

There is support for the establishing of an Aboriginal Cultural Centre or similar, a space that is purpose built for local Aboriginal community members and a desire to see services and programs managed appropriately by the community. Several responses also raised the importance of acknowledging, celebrating and preserving Aboriginal culture and heritage in community spaces as well through other appropriate methods. These could include planning and design consultation, naming, artworks and planting.

School infrastructure and planning

Several submissions raised concerns regarding the current planning for schools. People acknowledged the need to investigate new school infrastructure and to identify land early, as there is a high demand for schools in the area. There was also recognition of the importance on integrated planning and purposeful design of school facilities.

There were several concerns raised that there are not enough existing public schools in the West Dapto area to meet the growing population, and not enough planned to meet future need. Specific concern that

the current primary school is too big, resulting in teachers across the area struggling and potentially leaving.

There is concern that the State is not appropriately acknowledging or addressing the demand for schools in this area. Suggestions were made for Council to provide stronger advocacy, and better support their community to advocate for their needs for local schools. There should also be consideration given to co-locating public schools and community facilities (such as libraries and meeting spaces).

A submission was received from a NSW State Government agency which indicated they were currently undertaking investigation into the long term education needs within the West Dapto, and identifying appropriate solutions to accommodate future projected enrolment demand. This submission noted previous feedback provided to Council relating to various planning proposals in this area. A small number of specific suggested amendments and comments were provided relating to the provision of schools as part their submission.

Safety and Access

Many responses identified that access and walkability around West Dapto needs to be improved. This can be done by ensuring well maintained active transport routes (walking paths, cycleways and shared paths) along main routes, as well as connections and links between routes. There should be integrated planning during new development to ensure connections between key areas and sites such as schools, recreation areas, community facilities etc. Several people mentioned that families and school students are having to walk along very busy roads and it is unsafe; or they have to drive to areas that they would prefer to walk or cycle to. Routes or areas that were specifically mentioned include

- Between Wongawilli Road, West Dapto Road and Shone Avenue
- Darkes Road
- Walk to school routes and surrounding areas
- Residential to business centres, recreation areas and public transport
- A new shared path alongside Mullet Creek

A few responses mentioned that roads are too narrow in these areas, and along with increasing population density, are adding to increased traffic build-up and difficulty in travelling around the area. In addition, narrow roads which only allow for single vehicle access do not allow for efficient emergency service access, or other services such as rubbish collection. There was also mention of existing roads which are in poor condition and need to be better maintained.

Improved public transport was also raised as critical to enable the community to get around, with suggestions for increased services, more bus stops and more weather protected bus stops. This should all be considered and implemented as part of an integrated active transport plan.

Some participants indicated that prioritising and ensuring the appropriate and safe access to community facilities and recreation spaces means that all of the community could effectively utilise them and enjoy them. Access to all these areas and spaces via public transport and active transport routes should be prioritised in their planning.

Amenity & Environment

Several responses mentioned improved amenity in all public spaces and areas was important and will enable the community to better utilise and enjoy existing (or newly) established facilities. A variety of suggestions included:

- More shade in open spaces and along walking routes or paths (tree planting was suggested)
- Public art works (and opportunities to participate in public art)
- More greening – through planting of food trees; community gardens; bushtucker gardens; native gardens
- More toilets in open spaces and recreation areas
- More shelter options available in places such as walking paths, open spaces, bus stops

Several of the suggestions above acknowledged that this area is a very hot urban environment and that there is limited respite from the heat. Suggestions for shade and a suggestion for local water play areas was also made to address this.

Other comments suggesting environmental considerations and/or initiatives include:

- Planning for climate change challenges especially in new developments – increased risk of extreme weather conditions, flood, bushfire.
- The creek verge (water) needs to be protected from livestock.
- There should be planning for Electric Vehicle infrastructure.
- Open spaces should be integrated with native planting to enhance wildlife habitat and vegetation.
- Increased urbanisation may negatively impact water quality in the area that will then impact locally grown food including Dapto Community Farm.

Business centres

A couple of suggestions were made to increase the number of shops and cafes in the area, and to create one or more village centres (including post office, small grocer etc) that would contribute to a safe

community environment. There was one suggestion that building up business centres should be prioritised over establishing more community centres and that the West Dapto area would benefit from a large shopping/ retail centre.

Strategic Planning - Council advocacy and long-term integrated planning

Several submissions mentioned that planning for the current and future needs of West Dapto need to occur collaboratively and in partnership with other responsible organisations including State government departments and agencies, and community organisations. Some responses see the role of Council to appropriately advocate for the community's needs, and provide ongoing information and support to the community so they are able to advocate for themselves.

It was mentioned as imperative that Council work closely with the local Aboriginal community at all stages of planning, that appropriate consideration and accommodation to Aboriginal cultural knowledge and heritage is given; and community members can continue to effectively work with Council throughout planning.

There was a specific suggestion around providing updated demographic data for West Dapto as the data used (2016) did not accurately reflect the changing demographic of the area (more families) and therefore did not acknowledge their needs.

A couple of responses raised the importance of ongoing opportunities for community consultation and participation in planning for this area.

There were concerns mentioned around the current financial hardship some families were experiencing and any rate rises as a result of the capital works program should be carefully scrutinised. The lack of social and affordable housing in this area and how this could be addressed in existing and new developments was mentioned, and concern that this may disproportionately affect Aboriginal people.

The following strategic considerations were suggested by the local neighbourhood forum, to be applied in any long-term infrastructure for West Dapto:

1. To actively engage and promote, with state and federal bodies, the integration of planning for schools, including road and cycleway connectivity.
2. To actively engage and promote, with state and federal bodies, the integration of planning for school facilities and associated grounds to be purposely designed to enable multi use community services and activities.

3. To actively engage and promote, with state and federal bodies, the need for visionary and proactive infrastructure development which leads and precedes, rather than lag and follow, residential development in the area.

Previous and related engagements

As part of several other community engagements, the community have previously shared their ideas about West Dapto, including ideas for social infrastructure requirements in this area. Much of this supports and reinforces what we have heard again in this current engagement opportunity.

Cleveland Leisure and Recreation Precinct – In 2022, we spoke with local Aboriginal community members about the plans for a sporting and recreation precinct in the West Dapto area. A short summary of relevant responses include:

- More recreation and community spaces are needed for young people in this area – these can include sports grounds, youth centre style drop in spaces; There needs to be greater activity and recreational spaces for young people .
- Access to spaces and facilities should be free, affordable or subsidised to ensure that all members of the community can use and access them.
- There needs to be better active transport options, and improved and safer connections between different areas. Better public transport is also needed.
- An Aboriginal meeting place or cultural centre would be welcome in this area, that offers integrated community centre, community spaces that are staffed.
- Aboriginal community should be consulted at all stages of planning and design so that facilities meet the needs of the community.

Future Directions Social Infrastructure Plan – At the same time Council was seeking feedback on the draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment, we were also engaging on the planning for Council owned facilities including libraries; community centres and halls and cultural facilities across the LGA.

A short summary of relevant responses include:

- More parks, green spaces, flexible use of green space and playgrounds are needed for new suburban areas

- New developments need to be planned to provide respite for increasing hot weather/ climate – including shade and access to water (both drinking, and to play)
- The roads in West Dapto need to be fixed and cannot cope with increasing traffic due to population growth
- Active transport (walking and cycling paths) needs to be planned and prioritised

Speak Share Change 2022

Each year young people across the LGA provide feedback about a range of issues. In 2022, students attending Dapto High School told us how they wanted their area and community improved. A short summary of relevant responses include:

- More recreation facilities including skateparks; basketball courts; sports hub and activity centres; community gym.
- Improved amenity and existing (and new facilities) such as better sportsfield lighting; toilets; water fountains
- More green space that is usable and accessible
- A youth centre or integrated hang out space for young people that provides youth specific programs, services and events
- More community halls and spaces to use
- More cafes and shops to visits
- Better public transport and weather protected bus stops; walking/cycling paths across the area, shaded walking paths, better roads
- A school with better facilities needed for students

Next Steps

- The project team will review and consider all the feedback, and use it to inform future planning for social infrastructure in West Dapto.

A report to Council will be made in mid-2023

Staff Response to Submissions

Submission Author	Submission points	Staff Response
<p>Submissions from community members and Neighbourhood Forum 8</p>	<p>Theme - Open Space and Recreation</p> <p>There is a lack of recreation facilities, safe access and improvements to existing playing fields and sporting grounds such as lighting.</p> <p>There was specific mention of a gap in facilities for older children. Specific suggestion was provided for Wongawilli, seeking an outdoor half-court adjacent to Wongawilli Community Hall.</p> <p>There is a desire for formal and informal outdoor spaces that the community can meet at and utilise. A couple of submissions gave support to the development of a sports and recreation precinct, or a full-size sports centre. One submission asked for more details and plans for sporting grounds in Darkes Town Centre.</p> <p>Some responses mentioned the possibility of increasing or growing the Shared Use of Space program that allows the community to access public school recreation spaces. This was raised as an efficient and effective sharing of resources, increasing community access to appropriate and existing recreation and outdoor space.</p> <p>Some mentioned that having better sporting facilities and spaces will create the opportunity to establish local sporting competitions and teams and welcome the opportunity to have quality sporting fields that could host regional and state level competitions. There was mention of ensuring equitable access to sportsgrounds and improved amenity including appropriate toilets and change facilities, parking, shade and seating.</p> <p>One response specifically mentioned support for the use of natural turf in new sporting grounds.</p>	<p>There is an existing planned provision for formal and informal open space recreation infrastructure throughout West Dapto. The Needs Assessment has reviewed this and generally identified a need to increase this supply. This is consistent with many submission themes.</p> <p>Staff will continue to explore grant and other funding opportunities in order to bring forward provision of such infrastructure.</p> <p>Council staff understand there are a number of schools throughout the area which share their space outside of school hours. It is understood this occurs on a case by case basis depending on the community's needs and relationship with the school. Council staff will continue to advocate for such occurrence.</p>
	<p>Theme - Community and Cultural Facilities</p> <p>There was support for the guiding principles particularly 'equitable' and 'sustainable' and how these can be practically realised through design, for example integrating community food gardens into community centre spaces.</p> <p>One response suggested that existing facilities such as Dapto Ribbonwood Centre should be built up rather than building new ones in residential areas.</p> <p>Wongawilli Hall and the surrounding site was specifically mentioned in a couple of submissions as a facility that needed repair and upgrade, with community consultation.</p> <p>Some responses again suggested there would be benefit for shared use of spaces between schools and community centres and facilities.</p> <p>Access to improved facilities that cater to all age groups and demographics in the community, and support a diverse range of activities will create positive social, health and wellbeing outcomes for this community.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Staff note Council's <i>Places for the Future – Social Infrastructure Future Directions Plan</i> (post exhibition) was adopted by the Council 5 May 2023. This plan will be used to inform planning for Council's future infrastructure and maintenance budgeting cycles.</p> <p>Council staff will continue to engage with the Aboriginal community to explore opportunity for an Aboriginal Cultural Centre at West Dapto into the future. Ultimately construction of such a centre would be subject to</p>

Submission Author	Submission points	Staff Response
<p>Submissions from community members and Neighbourhood Forum 8</p>	<p>There is support for establishing an Aboriginal Cultural Centre or similar, a space that is purpose built for local Aboriginal community members and a desire to see services and programs managed appropriately by the community. Several responses also raised the importance of acknowledging, celebrating and preserving Aboriginal culture and heritage in community spaces as well through other appropriate methods. These could include planning and design consultation, naming, artworks and planting.</p>	<p>funding from a third party, such as the Federal Government.</p>
	<p>Theme - School infrastructure and planning Several submissions raised concerns regarding the current planning for schools.</p> <p>There were several concerns raised that there are not enough existing public schools in the West Dapto area to meet the growing population, and not enough planned to meet future need. Specific concern that the current primary school is too big, resulting in teachers across the area struggling and potentially leaving.</p>	<p>Council staff continue to work closely with NSW Department of Education staff and School Infrastructure NSW as the State plans for the ongoing schooling needs of the community.</p>
	<p>Theme - Safety and Access Many responses identified that access and walkability around West Dapto needs to be improved. This can be done by ensuring well maintained active transport routes (walking paths, cycle ways and shared paths) along main routes, as well as connections and links between routes. There should be integrated planning during new development to ensure connections between key areas and sites such as schools, recreation areas, community facilities etc. Several people mentioned that families and school students are having to walk along very busy roads and it is unsafe; or they have to drive to areas that they would prefer to walk or cycle to.</p> <p>Improved public transport was also raised as critical to enable the community to get around.</p>	<p>Noted. Council staff will continue to review networks of shared paths and access arrangements through the Neighbourhood Planning process and Development Application process and where possible, facilitate desired outcomes. Annual provision of infrastructure is programmed through Council's delivery Program and annual Infrastructure Delivery Plan.</p>
	<p>Theme - Amenity & Environment Several responses mentioned improved amenity in all public spaces. A variety of suggestions included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More shade and greening in open spaces and along walking routes or paths, food trees, community gardens. ○ Public art works (and opportunities to participate in public art) ○ More toilets in open spaces and recreation areas <p>Several suggestions that this area is a very hot urban environment and that there is limited respite from the heat. Suggestions for shade and a suggestion for local water play areas.</p> <p>Comment to ensure staff are planning for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ climate change challenges, especially in new developments – increased risk of extreme weather conditions, flood, bushfire. ○ The creek verge (water) needs to be protected from livestock. 	<p>Council staff acknowledge and welcome community comments regarding a desire for improved amenity outcomes. Staff will continue to promote improved amenity outcomes during the relevant design process associated with delivery of Council managed social infrastructure.</p>

Submission Author	Submission points	Staff Response
<p>Submissions from community members and Neighbourhood Forum 8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There should be planning for Electronic Vehicle infrastructure. ○ Open spaces should be integrated with native planting to enhance wildlife habitat and vegetation. ○ Increased urbanisation may negatively impact water quality in the area that will then impact locally grown food including Dapto Community Farm. 	
	<p>Theme - Business centres A couple of suggestions were made to increase the number of shops and cafes in the area, and to create one or more village centres (including post office, small grocer etc) that would contribute to a safe community environment. There was one suggestion that building up business centres should be prioritised over establishing more community centres and that the West Dapto area would benefit from a large shopping/ retail centre.</p>	<p>The timing of shops is ultimately subject to investment by the private sector. Council plays a role in terms of the planning to identify land zoned to cater for shops such as the E1 Local Centre zoning used throughout West Dapto. Council has also adopted a number of Neighbourhood Plans for centres through Chapter D16 of the Wollongong Development Control Plan, 2009. These two planning processes allow for the private sector to progress development applications for shops.</p> <p>Council staff are also currently working on infrastructure projects that would ultimately service future shops at various centres such as work on West Dapto Road.</p>
	<p>Theme - Strategic Planning - Council advocacy and long-term integrated planning Several submissions mentioned that planning for the current and future needs of West Dapto need to occur collaboratively and in partnership with other responsible organisations including State government departments and agencies, and community organisations. Some responses see the role of Council to appropriately advocate for the community's needs and provide ongoing information and support to the community, so they are able to advocate for themselves.</p> <p>There were concerns mentioned around the current financial hardship some families were experiencing and any rate rises as a result of the capital works program should be carefully scrutinised. The lack of social and affordable housing in this area and how this could be addressed in existing and new developments was mentioned, and concern that this may disproportionately affect Aboriginal people.</p> <p>The following strategic considerations were suggested by the local neighbourhood forum, to be applied in any long-term infrastructure for West Dapto:</p>	<p>Council staff welcome feedback in relation to advocacy and strategic planning. Staff will continue to advocate and work in partnership with Government agencies to deliver outcomes for West Dapto Urban Release Area.</p> <p>Council staff continue to work closely with NSW Department of Education staff and School Infrastructure NSW as the State plans for the ongoing schooling needs of the community.</p> <p>Staff will continue to explore grant and other funding opportunities in order to bring forward/ fast track provision of such infrastructure</p>

Submission Author	Submission points	Staff Response
<p>Submissions from community members and Neighbourhood Forum 8</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To actively engage and promote, with state and federal bodies, the integration of planning for schools, including road and cycleway connectivity. 2. To actively engage and promote, with state and federal bodies, the integration of planning for school facilities and associated grounds to be purposely designed to enable multi use community services and activities. 3. To actively engage and promote, with state and federal bodies, the need for visionary and proactive infrastructure development which leads and precedes, rather than lag and follow, residential development in the area. 	
<p>Schools Infrastructure NSW</p>	<p>Theme - Schools Schools Infrastructure NSW, as part of the Department of Education, advised they are undertaking a detailed investigation of the long-term service need within the West Dapto Area. This will identify appropriate solutions to accommodate future projected enrolment demand. This will ensure that existing schools are fully utilised before new schools are considered. A number of specific amendments have been requested as part of this submission including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minor update the wording of the note (page 91) relating to Calderwood Community Centre to indicate delivery timeframes are additionally dependant on capacities in surrounding schools. 2. Remove paragraph 3 relating to spatial analysis (page 93). 3. Table 15 – submission notes data used in Needs Assessment is different to that which Department of Education uses. 4. Table 18 – suggest update benchmarks to align with SINSW methodology. 	<p>Staff welcome the ongoing and continued dialogue with Schools Infrastructure NSW.</p> <p>Specific amendments made in relation to submission:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wording updated. 2. Updated in response to submission. 3. Noted. Needs Assessment methodology uses Census data. 4. Benchmarks updated based on submission.
<p>Stantec on behalf of landowners</p>	<p>Theme - Bong Bong Town Centre Submission raised concern that proposed increase in playing fields, parks and recreation land at this site are prohibited uses due to contamination history. Any increase at this site would also be inconsistent with the long established strategic planning scheme. The submission notes a disproportionate funding contributions of open space between those who have developed and been impacted and those yet to develop. Recommends the contributions plan is not amended in response to the West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment until a Green network Masterplan is drafted in consultation with landowners.</p>	<p>Council staff continue to support the role of the Bong Bong Town Centre as one of three town centres planned to meet the needs of the West Dapto Urban Release Area. Council staff also continue to support the Town Centre outcome as contemplated in the West Dapto Vision 2018 and current zoning. The current West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020 identifies two social infrastructure items relevant to the future Bong Bong Town Centre. This includes Open Space 11 (OS11) and a Sub-district multipurpose community centre. OS11 is referred to in Table 9 of the Contributions Plan as a Neighbourhood Park with an indicative location adjacent to</p>

Submission Author	Submission points	Staff Response
		<p>Bong Bong Town Centre and an indicative land area of 3 hectares. Table 10 of the Contributions Plan refers to the multi-purpose community centre with an indicative location of Bong Bong Town Centre and gross floor area of 3,600m².</p> <p>The draft Needs Assessment recommends an increase in the scale of Neighbourhood Parks at West Dapto to District Parks, including OS11. The draft Needs Assessment recommends that OS11 increases in size from 3 hectares to 10 hectares. The indicative location is unchanged as adjacent Bong Bong Town Centre. An increase in the size of OS11 is not proposed to be achieved via encroachment onto the E1 zoned land.</p> <p>The final spatial outcome for proposed OS11 would be subject to design and would also be guided by Council's draft Green Network Master Plan for West Dapto, which is currently being prepared and will be exhibited for public feedback later in 2023.</p>

West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment Implementation Plan

A suite of high-level actions has been developed in response to the West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment (Needs Assessment). These actions specifically relate to Community and Cultural Facilities Recommendations and Open Space and Recreation Recommendations. The implementation of these actions will contribute to achieving the recommendations of the Needs Assessment and improve the provision of social infrastructure for current and future residents of the West Dapto Urban Release Area (WDURA).

Funding for the implementation of actions will be subject to approval through regular annual budgetary and planning processes. External funding applications or partnerships will also be necessary for large scale infrastructure projects.

Implementation Action	Relevant Needs Assessment Recommendation	Responsibility		Timing	Funded/Unfunded	Programmed
		Lead	Partner			
1. Commence process to amend the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan to include land for:1 x additional neighbourhood multipurpose community centre in stage 4 of WDURA (with the opportunity for integrated youth centre outcome). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgraded planned facility in stage 5 (CF05). This facility is proposed to be upgraded from a neighbourhood scale to sub-district scale (including library space). 	Community and Cultural Facilities Recommendation 1	Council		2023/2024 – 2024/2025	Funded	Programmed
2. Progress planning and construction of Wongawilli Hall extension and refurbishment	Community and Cultural Facilities Recommendation 1	Council		2023/2024 – 2024/2025	Funded	Programmed
3. Liaise with SINSW and the NSW Department of Education to advocate for schools and planning for schools throughout WDURA.	Community and Cultural Facilities Recommendation 2	Council	SINSW	Ongoing	NA	
4. Pursue funding opportunities to plan for, construct and/ or deliver community and cultural facilities and other social infrastructure for WDURA.	Community and Cultural Facilities Recommendation 1 and 3	Council		Indicative timing as per West Dapto Development Contributions Plan	Unfunded	Unprogrammed

Implementation Action	Relevant Needs Assessment Recommendation	Responsibility		Timing	Funded/Unfunded	Programmed
		Lead	Partner			
5. Identify and seek opportunity for delivery of social infrastructure through planning processes (e.g. Neighbourhood Planning, Voluntary Planning Agreements, Development Applications).	Community and Cultural Facilities Recommendation 4	Council	Landowners, Development Industry, Government,	Ongoing	NA	Ongoing
6. Masterplan Marshall Mount Town Centre and Fowlers Village Centre including focus on engagement.	Community and Cultural Facilities Recommendation 5	Council	Landowners, Development Industry, Government, Community	2023/2024	Funded	Programmed
7. Ensure social infrastructure plays a key role in the master planning of Bong Bong Town Centre and Darkes Road Town Centre.	Community and Cultural Facilities Recommendation 5	Landowner	Council, Development Industry, Government, Community	TBC	Unfunded	Ongoing
8. Review internal procedures and processes to ensure design and design briefs for new community and or cultural facilities consider the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth friendly spaces Senior friendly spaces Local cultural practice spaces Aboriginal community space (where arising in consultation with the Aboriginal community). Extensive community consultation and potential co-design. 	Community and Cultural Facilities Recommendation 6	Council		TBC	Unfunded	Unprogrammed
9. Develop a Local Infrastructure Plan for the WDURA.	Community and Cultural Facilities Recommendation 8 and 13	Council	Council	2023/2024 – 2025/2026	Funded	Programmed
10. Prepare report to Council proposing amendment of Council policies integrating overarching objectives and Open Space Framework.	Open Space and Recreation Recommendation 1, 2, 3 and 9	Council	Council, Private Industry, Government, Not for Profit Organisations.	2024/2025 – 2025/2026	Unfunded	Unprogrammed

Implementation Action	Relevant Needs Assessment Recommendation	Responsibility		Timing	Funded/Unfunded	Programmed
		Lead	Partner			
11. Commence process to amend the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan, to upgrade existing planned neighbourhood parks to District Open space in accordance with Needs Assessment. Amendment will be subject to Council reporting and include public exhibition. Staff are investigating the indicative location for district sports park noting OS18 is currently identified as a local park in the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2020.	Open Space Recommendation 4	Council	Council, Private Industry, Government, Not for Profit Organisations.	2023/2024	Funded	Programmed
12. Prepare draft Green Network Masterplan for WDURA and report to Council for public exhibition.	Open Space and Recreation Recommendation 5	Council	Private Industry, Government, Not for Profit Organisations	2023/2024	Funded	WCC Operation Plan.
13. Review and amend Council's Sportsgrounds and Sporting Facilities Strategy (2023 – 2027) and associated implementation plan, determining upgrade / renewal priorities for open space and recreation facilities.	Open Space and Recreation Recommendation 6 and 7.	Council	Council	2027-2028	Unfunded	Unprogrammed TBD
14. Review planned provision of community and cultural facilities and open space and recreation land for WDURA, as an input to inform regular review of the West Dapto Development Contributions Plan.	Open Space and Recreation Recommendation 12	Council	Council	Every 4 years	Funded	Programmed
15. As WDURA progresses, monitor residential density to ensure planned infrastructure will sufficiently meet demand.	Open Space and Recreation 14	Council		Every 4 years or in line with Development Contributions Plan review.	Funded	Programmed
16. Maintain regular dialogue with relevant government agencies and advocate for delivery of high order social infrastructure for the WDURA.	Community and Cultural Facilities Recommendation 7 Open Space and Recreation Recommendation 15	Council	Government	Ongoing	NA	Ongoing

ITEM 5 DRAFT QUARTERLY REVIEW STATEMENT JUNE 2023

The Quarterly Review Statement outlines progress towards the achievement of Council’s Strategic Planning documents, in particular, the Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2022-2023. The Statement addresses the operational performance of Council at the end of the financial year.

Financial information has not been included in the June Quarterly Review Statement and is being reported separately in the ‘Preliminary and Pre-Audit Financials – 30 June 2023’ Council report.

RECOMMENDATION

The draft Quarterly Review Statement June 2023 be adopted.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Brian Jenkins, Chief Financial Officer
 Authorised by: Renee Campbell, Director Corporate Services - Connected + Engaged City

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Draft Quarterly Review Statement June 2023

BACKGROUND

Council’s draft Quarterly Review Statement June 2023 outlines the operational and financial performance of Council’s Strategic Planning documents - the Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2022-2023.

This report also provides an overview of achievements against priority areas and demonstrates the organisation’s performance through the inclusion of performance indicators.

Significant highlights during the quarter include:

- Council adoption of the Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2023-2024.
- The Illawarra Performing Arts Centre reopened following an extensive refurbishment.
- Council adoption of the 2023-2027 Sportsground and Sporting Facilities Strategy.
- Significant community events delivered including NAIDOC week celebrations, Botanic Gardens Day and the annual Comic Gong festival.
- Council adoption of the Mullet Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.
- Council was successful in securing \$3.24M in NSW Government funding to complete the Helensburgh Pool upgrade project.

The Cringila Hills Recreation Park won the prestigious Park of the Year award at the Parks and Leisure NSW Conference.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Executive Management Committee
 Senior Leadership Team

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 goal 4 “*We are a connected and engaged community*”. It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan		Delivery Program 2022-2026
Strategy		Service
4.1	Provide our community with equitable access to information and opportunities to inform decision-making.	Corporate Strategy

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Full financial details are included in the 'Preliminary and Pre-Audit Financials – 30 June 2023' Council report.

CONCLUSION

This draft Quarterly Review Statement June 2023 has been prepared following input and assistance from all Divisions. It is submitted for consideration and adoption by Council.



Wollongong City Council

Quarterly Review Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2022-2023

April - June 2023



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Image: North Beach, Wollongong
Photo Caitlyn Phanith (Unsplash)

General Manager's Message

This Quarterly Review Statement (April to June 2023) reports on progress towards achieving the five Councillor Strategic Priorities from the Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2022-2023. The June Quarterly Review Statement also reflects on highlights achieved during the 2022-2023 year.

Actions and updates from the Operational Plan 2022-2023 and 33 Council Services, which form the Delivery Program, are reported by the six Community Goals from Our Wollongong 2032 Community Strategic Plan. Highlights from this quarter include:

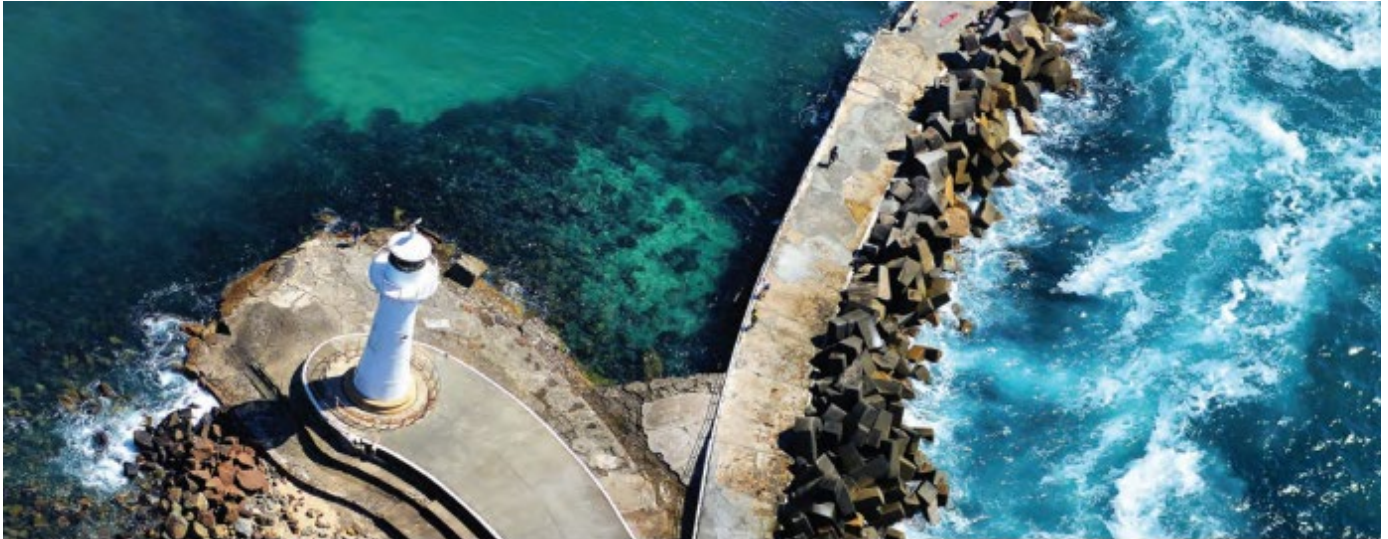
- 1 Council adoption of the Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2023-2024.
- 2 The Illawarra Performing Arts Centre reopened after extensive refurbishments were completed.
- 3 Council adoption the 2023-2027 Sportsground and Sporting Facilities Strategy.
- 4 Significant community events delivered including NAIDOC week celebrations, Botanic Gardens Day and the annual Comic Gong festival.
- 5 Council adoption of the Mullet Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.
- 6 Council was successful in securing \$3.24M in NSW Government funding to complete the Helensburgh Pool upgrade project.
- 7 The Cringila Hills Recreation Park won the prestigious Park of the Year award at the Parks and Leisure NSW Conference.

This Delivery Program includes a \$400M investment for major projects and maintaining our existing infrastructure and will continue to provide employment opportunities to local contractors, suppliers and businesses. As the community transitions into a new phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, measures continued in 2022-2023 including outdoor dining fee waivers and supporting our creative community with the artist in residence and mentorship program and events re-emergence support as well as enhanced city centre marketing and activation. Council will also continue to apply the Debt Recovery and Hardship Assistance Policy where required.

We continue to focus on improving our customer service to best serve our community and are committed to being the best possible local government authority we can be to deliver on our promise of creating an extraordinary Wollongong.

I would like to thank all staff and the community for their contributions to the achievements identified in this Quarterly Review. This Review will inform the Annual Report due in November 2023. Details of Council's financial performance against its budget for the 2022-2023 year will be presented to Council separately to this report.

Greg Doyle
General Manager



About this Report

The Quarterly Review reports on Council's progress and outcomes against services and actions from the Delivery Program and Operational Plan. Details of Council's financial performance against its budget for the 2022-2023 year will be presented to Council separately to this report. This

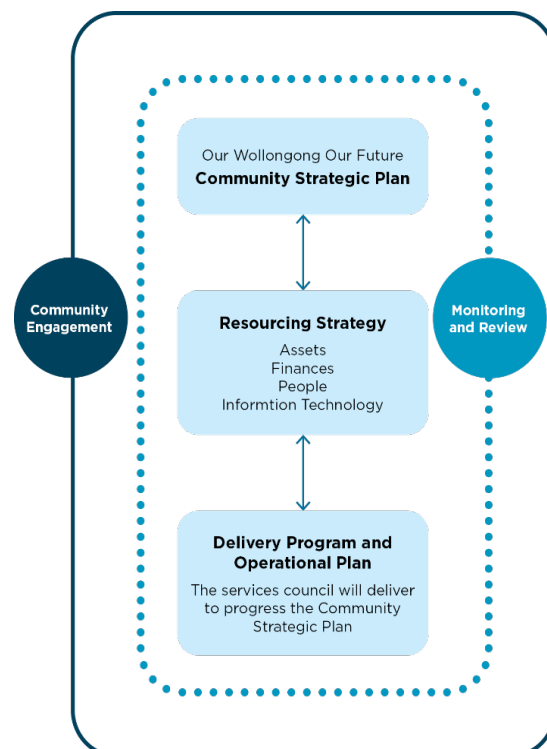
It is important to present regular updates to the community to provide communication on the progress of Council's Plans, including achievements, delays or changes. While Council works to deliver all Services as planned, there can be changes required due to a number of factors that may impact on Council's Services and their delivery. The Quarterly Review Report provides a regular opportunity to provide updates to our community.

This Quarterly Progress Review reports outcomes against Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2022-2023 for the June Quarter and the 2022-2023 year.

Council's 33 Services form the foundation of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan. Council's Services are presented under their best fit goal. Council's internal Services form an additional group called Support Services to demonstrate that these Services support the delivery of all goals.

Council reviews services as part of a continuous improvement approach based on community feedback with the aim of creating efficiencies and improving service delivery to the community.

Wollongong City Council regularly tracks and monitors the Delivery Program and Operational Plan and reports to the community on progress through this Quarterly Report as well as on an annual basis. Council also tracks progress towards the Community Strategic Plan through the State of the City Report. All reports will be available on Council's website.





Strategic Priorities

Our Councillors have made a commitment to support our organisation and community in making Wollongong a better place to live, work, visit and play. To focus Council's attention to achieve this, Councillors have agreed to five Strategic Priorities. These are outlined in the Delivery Program 2022-2026. A summary of progress made in the June Quarter and 2022-2023 year is outlined below:



During the June Quarter an expression of interest process for artwork for the Southern Suburbs District Library and Community Centre construction hoardings was finalised. Paint the Gong REaD mascot, *Bright Spark*, Birthday was held in Dapto and a live music event was held for young people at Corrimal High School.

Women, girls and NSW Police participated in place-based workshops in Wollongong, Port Kembla and Dapto as part of the Safer Cities: Her Way, project to determine safety interventions.

During the year, community connecting events were held in West Dapto and intergenerational cycling events were held in the southern suburbs. Children and young people helped create Tiny Forests in Dapto, Tarrawanna and Wollongong Botanic Gardens and children from Cringila Public School participated in building a Gunyah (traditional Aboriginal hut) at Cringila Hills playground. The *Paint the Gong REaD* reading tent was at various locations.

The *Classic Games Mornings* for older people at Wollongong, Warrawong and Corrimal libraries and outdoor fitness sessions in Helensburgh continued to be delivered.

The *Artward* Artist in Residence program was delivered in Helensburgh, Corrimal, Windang, Puckey's Estate, Wiseman's Park and Bellambi Lagoon and murals were painted on traffic signal boxes throughout the Local Government Area.

Connecting Neighbours Grants were available throughout the year to support an activity that connected people to each other, with a special program offered to celebrate the UCI Road World Championships – Wollongong NSW event in September 2022.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Sustainable Wollongong

A scoping study identifying the priorities and focus of a Coastal Management Program (CMP) for the Wollongong coastline was endorsed by Council on 20 March 2023. A grant funding application has been made to commence Stage 2 technical studies of the CMP preparation.

The *Luv the Lake* litter program was a success with community engagement activities, such as pop-up kiosks and community clean-ups, resulted in an estimated 1,200 kilograms of litter removed from the foreshore and a 40% reduction in instances of litter across targeted sites. Bathymetric surveying of the Lake was completed and will be used to inform future management actions.

The draft Urban Heat Strategy was prepared and endorsed for public exhibition at the June 2023 Council meeting. Council has advocated for improvements in fuel efficiency standards, participated in the *Invest Wollongong Clean Energy Expo* and certain small-scale electricity sites have been transferred to the NSW Government electricity contract delivering 100% green power for those sites.

Community engagement and internal staff engagement to determine appropriate abatement pathways for the next Climate Change Mitigation Plan were completed.

Council adopted the Development Control Plan, Chapters E17 and Tree Management Policy and Procedures.

Council adopted the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure on Public Lands Policy. The Electrify Wollongong campaign was launched in June 2023 on Council's website.

Approximately 431 environmental assessments for development applications were completed this financial year and environmental advice provided for 129 pre-lodgement meetings.



Active Transport and Connectivity

Council has awarded the contract for the Lake Illawarra Active Transport Masterplan. This project is fully funded by the NSW Government Resources for Regions program. This Strategic Plan will set out scope for completing the journey around the Lake. The document will identify the roles and responsibilities addressing the fragmented ownership and will guide infrastructure to be consistent, convenient, safe and inviting for all path users. A draft Plan is anticipated by December 2023.

Council continues to participate in the *National Walking and Cycling Participation Survey* in 2023.

Four e-bikes have been procured to be included within Council's fleet to support active transport options for Council officers to attend site meetings and to inspect infrastructure.

Council was successful with *Get NSW Active Grant Funding* for the design of Grand Pacific Walk Headlands Avenue to Coledale Avenue.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Business and Investment

The June Quarter saw 20 business/investor enquiries ranging from business support and information to facilitating larger projects through *Invest Wollongong*.

Council hosted the annual *Doing Business with Council* procurement showcase on 18 May 2023 with around 180 businesses attending and learning more about the opportunities available for doing business with Council over the next year. The release of the Rider Levett Bucknall (RLB) Crane Index found there was 15 cranes in Wollongong - a figure higher than Newcastle, Hobart, Darwin and the Central Coast.

Invest Wollongong attended the *2023 Australian International Airshow* in Avalon, showcasing the region with the newly updated Defence Industry Directory. *Invest Wollongong* also facilitated a range of ongoing major investment enquiries.

This year saw the release of the new *Investment Prospectus 2023*, a successful digital marketing campaign undertaken, targeting external stakeholders and raising awareness of Wollongong as a desirable alternative CBD location for business. *Invest Wollongong* continued to participate in and host various events including *Tech Connect* targeted towards Wollongong's start-ups, a hospitality event for the UCI Road World Championships – Wollongong NSW at the Old Wollongong Courthouse and the end of year event at Lang's Corner.

During the year, there were a number of significant announcements in the Clean Energy sector including: Illawarra being declared as one of five Renewable Energy Zones; NSW Ports revealed concept plans for a large-scale facility at Port Kembla's Outer Harbour and the NSW Government announcement of funding under the Hydrogen Hub Program to construct a 10-megawatt electrolyser to facilitate at least four refuelling stations in and around the Illawarra.

West Dapto

During 2022-2023, staff continued to focus on ensuring improved outcomes for the Urban Release Area, West Dapto, as one of Council's five strategic priorities.

Governance arrangements within Council reflect the strategic priority focus from the West Dapto Review Committee, chaired by the Lord Mayor, the Senior Management West Dapto Steering Committee through to the West Dapto Coordination Group which is attended by all teams relevant to the daily planning needs of West Dapto. The strategic priority and essential decision making continue to be supported by the Executive Management Committee and elected representatives.

Infrastructure Planning remains a core priority and is facilitated through the above-mentioned governance structure. Council staff have a specific focus on infrastructure planning via the Contributions Coordination Group and staff Land Acquisition Group. The 26 June 2023 adoption of the Infrastructure Delivery Program 2023-2027 reflects Council's ongoing commitment to infrastructure planning and delivery through the identification of 13 West Dapto Specific projects from design to construction at a total of \$31M. Staff are committed to ensuring planning reflects contemporary needs with work on the draft West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2023 progressing to reflect more accurately the scope and cost of infrastructure at West Dapto, informed by projects such as the urban upgrade of Wongawilli and West Dapto Roads.

Delivery of strategic priorities at West Dapto benefited from the successful application of grant funding by Council staff, including:

- Work progressed on the urban upgrade of West Dapto Road, funded under the NSW Housing Acceleration Fund.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Staff finalised the strategic business case for the Northcliffe Drive Extension during the financial year. This project was funded under the NSW State Voluntary Planning Agreement grant program. Staff were informed in June 2023 work on the strategic business case resulted in a high overall rating as part of the NSW assurance review process meaning that continued work is justified. Staff will now look for opportunity to progress final business case work.
- Staff commenced work on the West Dapto Centres Master planning project, a strategic planning exercise funded under the NSW Regional Housing Strategic Planning fund. This project is allowing Council staff to lead the planning and setting the direction of outcomes for the future Town Centre at Marshall Mount and future Village Centre referred to as 'Fowlers' within stage 3 of West Dapto. Staff will work closely with all relevant stakeholders during the 2023-2024 financial year to finalise the project.

The Mullet Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan 2023 was adopted by Council in May 2023 which is an important piece of work led by Council in partnership with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment. The work will guide planning decisions within the Mullet Creek catchment.

During 2022-2023, development of residential lots continued at West Dapto along with supporting land use planning decisions and assessments. In summary, the current status of development since West Dapto commenced includes 2,673 residential lots approved and 2,236 subdivision certificates issued. Staff are continuing major neighbourhood plan assessments throughout stage 5 of West Dapto and a major rezoning application is being assessed within stage 3 of West Dapto.

Council staff have had ongoing significant discussions with NSW Government agency counterparts about a variety of key issues including NSW Department of Education, Transport for NSW, NSW Department of Planning and Environment and service providers such as Sydney Water.






Reporting against the Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2022-2023

This Quarterly Review reports on progress of activities and actions within Council's 33 Services. Council's Services are presented under their best fit goal. Council's internal Services form an additional group called Support Services to demonstrate that these Services support the delivery of all goals.





Summary of Progress by Goal Status of Actions for June Quarter

Status		Goal 1	Goal 2	Goal 3	Goal 4	Goal 5	Goal 6	Support Services	Total
On-Track		88%	100%	90%	94%	81%	86%	83%	88%
Action is progressing as planned		(35/40)	(12/12)	(9/10)	(33/35)	(38/47)	(6/7)	(15/18)	(148/169)
Complete		8%	0%	10%	6%	8.5%	0%	0%	6%
Action or project achieved as planned		(3/40)	(0/12)	(1/10)	(2/35)	(4/47)	(0/7)	(0/18)	(10/169)
Deferred		2%	0%	0%	0%	2%	14%	11%	3%
A decision has been made to reschedule the timing of the project or actions		(1/40)	(0/12)	(0/10)	(0/35)	(1/47)	(1/7)	(2/18)	(5/169)
Not scheduled to commence		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
The action was not due to commence during the reporting quarter		(0/40)	(0/12)	(0/10)	(0/35)	(0/47)	(0/7)	(0/18)	(0/169)
Delayed		2%	0%	0%	0%	8.5%	0%	6%	3%
Unforeseen event has changed the timing of a project or action		(1/40)	(0/12)	(0/10)	(0/35)	(4/47)	(0/7)	(1/18)	(6/169)

Result shown as number of actions.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

June Quarter Highlights



Installation new electric vehicle charging infrastructure at Stewart Street East Carpark, facilitated by the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure on Public Land Council Policy.



Farmborough Road Primary School students learning about Urban Greening.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Development Assessment

Responsibility *Manager Development Assessment and Certification*

About this Service

The service undertakes assessment and determination of planning matters to facilitate balanced planning outcomes to serve the current and future community. This includes development applications, construction certificates, complying development, building and subdivision certificates, pre-lodgement advice, managing panels, Fire Safety Statements and upgrades, building compliance inspections, audits on completed buildings, providing expert evidence in Land and Environment Court Appeals and advice to Council and stakeholders in all aspects of the development assessment process.

Quarterly Progress Update

During 2022-2023 Council continued to assess a diverse range of development applications. A total of 1,181 development applications were lodged and 1,343 development applications were determined during the year.



Pre-lodgement advice was provided for a variety of stakeholders. Council also continued to provide a service as a Principal Certifying Authority for buildings and subdivisions as an alternative option to the private sector.

Council worked with the Design Review Panel to achieve design excellence through providing advice on 51 matters.

The Wollongong Local Planning Panel considered 26 matters, Southern Regional Planning Panel determined six matters and was briefed on a further six applications.

Council engaged NSW planning on grant funded projects including faster local approvals for development applications which has seen improved determination times for land subdivision applications as well as integration of Council's technology with the NSW planning portal to provide a more streamlined administration of the development assessment process.



Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Engage with NSW Government, agencies, development/building industry and the broader community to achieve improved development outcomes	On-Track 	Engagement continued with the Department of Planning and Environment on <i>Faster Local Approvals</i> and the evolution of the NSW Planning Portal integration with Council systems, as well as various meetings with the Southern Regional Planning Panel on pending and current applications and potential process improvements.
Administer Design Review Panel in relation to key sites or significant development	On-Track 	Council continues to work with the Design Review Panel to achieve design excellence in the assessment and determination of Development Applications for significant projects across the Local Government Area. The Panel provided advice on 21 matters during the June Quarter and a total of 51 matters during 2022-2023.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Development Assessment Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Administer the Wollongong Local Planning Panel	On-Track 	Council continues to work with the Wollongong Local Planning Panel to finalise the assessment and determination of Development Applications. The Panel considered five matters during the June quarter and a total of 26 applications during the 2022-2023 year. Throughout the year, meetings have been held monthly and operations refined in a post COVID-19 environment. Panel concurrence with staff recommendations remain high, with the panel concurring with 23 out of 26 applications during the year.
In conjunction with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, administer the Southern Regional Planning Panel	On-Track 	The Southern Regional Planning Panel was briefed on one application during the June Quarter, with no applications reaching final determination in the Quarter. During the 2022-2023 year, Council and the Panel focused on efficient and early reporting to deliver best outcomes for urban development proposals and applications. The Panel determined six matters and was briefed on a further six applications during the year.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Emergency Management

Responsibility Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Planning

About this Service


The service provides support in the planning and preparation for significant emergencies that may impact the safety and security of residents and visitors to the city. This involves Council's operational response to support Emergency Service Agencies during incidents and emergencies.

Quarterly Progress Update

Council has continued to prioritise emergency management throughout the year, fulfilling its role of providing executive support to the Illawarra Local Emergency Management Committee in accordance with the Illawarra Emergency Management's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The Council recognises the importance of effective coordination, preparedness and response in emergency situations.

The Emergency Management Officer (EMO) has played a crucial role in various projects aimed at enhancing the city's resilience. These include the development of a comprehensive recovery operations plan to address the impacts of future weather events and the facilitation of dam safety exercises for the Council's managed prescribed dams. By focusing on these initiatives, Council demonstrates its commitment to proactive emergency planning and ensuring the safety of the community.



Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Collaborate with Shellharbour City Council and Kiama Municipal Council under the Illawarra Emergency Management Memorandum of Understanding	On-Track 	Council continues to collaborate with Shellharbour City and Kiama Municipal Councils per the current Illawarra Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The Memorandum outlines the collaboration to support the Illawarra Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) by providing the services of LEMC chair, executive support to the Committee and Local Emergency Management Officer (LEMO) duties.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Emergency Management Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Prepare resilience and response plans to respond to unforeseen events	On-Track 	<p>Council has made significant progress throughout the year in enhancing its emergency management capabilities and building resilience against unforeseen events. Council, in collaboration with the NSW Reconstruction Authority, has undertaken project work to develop Natural Disaster Response and Recovery plans. This initiative aims to increase the Council's resilience and preparedness, ensuring a more effective response to natural disasters.</p> <p>Staff efforts have focused on individual agency coordination, collective emergency response planning and resilience building. Community engagement has been prioritised to empower the community and foster a culture of resilience. The Emergency Management Service contributed to the development of the Urban Heat Strategy and the design of community centres evacuation requirements.</p> <p>Council engaged with various stakeholders to identify suitable community buildings that can serve as places of refuge during extreme weather events.</p> <p>Council actively participated in a post-event review following the Tallawarra Substation Fire and conducted a site familiarisation program involving emergency services and the asset owner. Research commenced to develop a safety exercise specifically tailored for Council's prescribed dams.</p>
Continue to progress design and construction of a new Wollongong State Emergency Services unit	On-Track 	Throughout the year, Council has maintained a collaborative partnership with the State Emergency Service (SES) to address SES requirements across the Local Government Area. Council and SES have been actively assessing suitable site locations and determining the necessary functions and designs for the proposed units in Dapto, Wollongong and the Northern Suburbs.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Regulatory Compliance

Responsibility *Manager Regulation + Enforcement*

About this Service

This service involves environment and development compliance, animal control and parking in accordance with statutory requirements and Council Policy. Providing education programs and information to raise community awareness also forms part of this service.


Quarterly Progress Update

During the June Quarter, Council staff continued delivering Regulatory Compliance services, implementing various programs, this included the management of companion animals, illegal parking compliance and the management of public amenity issues, such as abandoned motor vehicles. There was a high volume of requests received and actioned over the quarter.

Throughout the 2022-2023 year, a total of 11,508 customer requests were received, including 1,263 abandoned motor vehicle requests, 417 aggressive dog/dog attack requests, 1,423 barking dog requests, 923 stray roaming dog requests and 3,209 parking incident requests.

Other projects were undertaken, such as the Christmas & New Year's and Australia Day Compliance programs addressing illegal camping and parking, including a program which focused on providing compliance and regulatory services across the Local Government Area during the UCI Road World Championships – Wollongong NSW event, and the implementation of the Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021, which involved significant process changes related to managing abandoned motor vehicles, articles and unattended animals.



Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Maintain a proactive surveillance and inspection program of known dumping hotspots and implement education and awareness raising programs aimed at reducing illegally dumped waste	On-Track 	Council staff conducted a number of investigations of illegal dumping incidents within the Local Government Area and continued to conduct proactive patrols in known illegal dumping hotspots. The Cordeaux and Mount Keira – Enhanced Surveillance and Clean Up Project was completed during this quarter, focusing on illegal dumping in escarpment areas. As a result, dumping incidents have been reduced within the project area by 41.5% compared to the previous 12 months. The project was jointly funded by the NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). During the 2022-2023 year, Council staff conducted 551 investigations of illegal dumping incidents within the Local Government Area. As a result of these investigations, 23 verbal clean-up notices, eight warnings and six fines were issued to offenders. Staff have also continued their collaboration with the Department of Communities and Justice Housing and continue to conduct proactive hotspot patrols to educate the community and decrease illegal dumping incidents in the Local Government Area.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Regulatory Compliance Continued


Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Maintain a proactive compliance program for companion animals in public places	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, Council staff conducted a proactive companion animal compliance program. They focused on beach patrols to educate dog owners of their responsibilities under the Companion Animals Act 1988 and the Council Dogs on Beaches and Parks Policy, improved dog access signage in beach and foreshore areas and engaged in educational activities to promote the Council's Dogs on Beaches and Parks Policy.</p> <p>Throughout 2022-2023 year, dog access signage was upgraded at Sandon Point, McCauley's Beach, Scarborough Beach, Wombarra Beach, Coniston Beach, Thomas Gibson Park, MacCabe Park and Beaton Park. The Tiered Beach Patrol Program and the Summer Beach Patrol Program was implemented, conducting 1,907 proactive patrols. As a result of these patrols, 850 actions were taken, including issuing fines, warnings and educational conversations with dog owners. Education stalls were set up at Coledale Rock Platform, Wombarra Beach, Bellambi Beach, Sandon Point and City Beach, The Blue Mile, Port Kembla Beach, the Animal Welfare League Mobile Vet Services event in Kully Park and the West Wollongong Rotary Clubs <i>Paws4aCause</i> Dog Show at JJ Kelly Park.</p>
Develop and implement an education and awareness raising program regarding swimming pool barriers	On-Track 	<p>Work continued throughout the June Quarter with officers actioning compliance certificate applications for private swimming pools, issuing notices and orders to rectify non-compliant pools and responding to customer service requests.</p> <p>Throughout the 2022-2023 year, the swimming pool safety barrier program included social media messaging to promote swimming pool safety and an educational booklet was distributed to schools throughout the Wollongong Local Government Area to assist in promoting the importance of swimming pool safety barrier compliance.</p> <p>During the year, officers processed over 100 compliance certificate applications, responded to 274 customer service requests and issued 30 notices and orders to rectify swimming pools that are not compliant with the Swimming Pool Act 1992.</p>

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Regulatory Compliance Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
<p>Undertake targeted compliance of subdivision and residential building sites for sediment and erosion control, hours of operation, waste management and dust control</p>	<p>On-Track</p> 	<p>Council's Building Sites Compliance Program continued throughout the quarter with a focus on proactive building sites inspections and education regarding erosion and sediment control, waste management and hours of operation.</p> <p>A media release was issued promoting the program and the need for adequate environmental controls to be in place on building sites to reduce impacts to the environment. Preliminary planning occurred for future education initiatives to be implemented to inform builders of their responsibilities. Throughout the 2022-2023 year, 411 building site inspections were conducted with 212 educational discussions occurring, 33 fines issued and 92 written and verbal warnings issued regarding non-compliances for erosion and sediment control, waste management and hours of operation.</p>

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Stormwater Services

Responsibility Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Planning

About this Service

This service strategically plans for a coordinated approach to floodplain risk management and stormwater management including protection of waterways, beaches, lakes, lagoons and creeks. This service manages and maintains 835 kilometres of drainage and associated infrastructure assets across the city that aim to be safe, efficient, effective and sustainable.



Quarterly Progress Update

Council has taken a significant step forward by adopting the Mullet Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan during the quarter.

Council adoption of the Towradgi Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan will contribute to be the effective management of flood risks to ensure the safety and well-being of the Towradgi community.

Thirteen projects have been designed, acknowledging that challenges and unexpected obstacles, such as natural disasters in 2022, have caused some delay in achieving planned delivery timeframes. In response, Council has prioritised pipe relining projects to ensure asset renewal programs continue to progress.



Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Develop and implement the Floodplain Risk Management Plans including Voluntary Purchase Scheme	On-Track 	<p>Council adopted the Mullet Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan on 8 May 2023. The report and associated flood data can be publicly accessed, with the aim to provide a better understanding of flood behaviour, flood risk and wiser decision making for the Mullet Creek catchment.</p> <p>The Towradgi Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan (FRMSP) was adopted by Council on 26 June 2023. This adoption is a positive step forward in effectively managing flood risks and ensuring the safety and well-being of the community in the Towradgi Creek catchment.</p> <p>Remaining Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plans continue to progress , with some delays due to consultant workload and recent storm events across NSW.</p>
Plan and deliver stormwater maintenance, renewal and upgrade works	On-Track 	<p>Works continued on projects scheduled in the Infrastructure Delivery Program including the bank support works at Whartons Creek, Bulli and the debris control structures at Gordon Hutton Park and Russell Vale. Stormwater pipe cleaning and clearing works were completed across the quarter, with the balance expected to be complete across July.</p> <p>Sixteen stormwater asset renewal projects and six projects involving upgraded or new infrastructure were constructed during the 2022-2023 year. Additionally, construction of four asset renewal and two water quality projects are underway. Designs for 13 projects were also completed. Due to extreme weather conditions over the past 18 months, some projects have been rephased to schedule high priority works, for example the design of Offord Causeway.</p>

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Stormwater Services Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver rolling program of flood and stormwater infrastructure condition and safety inspections	On-Track 	Stormwater pipe Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) and pit inspections continued during the June Quarter. Inspections undertaken were a combination of scheduled and ad hoc inspections required to investigate issues raised by the community. Monthly surveillance inspections for Council's Declared Dams were also completed in accordance with obligations under the Dam Safety Act 2015. Approximately 33,100 metres of stormwater pipe and 1,441 stormwater pits were inspected throughout 2022-2023 providing Council with a better understanding of the condition of the network. This information has been used to support asset maintenance and renewal planning activities in the future.
Enhance the management of Council owned water and wastewater assets	On-Track 	Managed water systems continue to be monitored via telemetry with early warning alerts mitigating potential events.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Services

Responsibility *Manager Open Space and Environmental Services*

About this Service

This service involves Council working with the community in relation to local climate change mitigation, adaptation, monitoring and reporting, environmental education, volunteer management and partnerships, waste minimisation and environmental advocacy.

Quarterly Progress Update

The Bushcare program continues play a vital role in restoring riparian areas and volunteers this year have had opportunity to participate in best practice workshops and cultural awareness / caring for country programs delivered in partnership with the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council. Key Bushcare milestones included 20 years' service to the Bellambi Dunes group and the Rotary Club of Wollongong Celebrated 100 years' service with a tree planting ceremony at Greenhouse Park. Clean up Australia Day saw 46 groups participate to remove rubbish from natural areas across the city, and the broader Rise and Shine program continued to focus on removal of problematic waste from natural areas and riparian zones.

A range of policies have been updated including the Tree Management Policy and review of Development Control Plan Chapters E17 and E18, which are now geared toward protecting vegetation and increasing tree canopy in line with the Urban Greening Strategy. A review of Council's Community Gardens Policy, Asbestos Policy and Electric Vehicles on Public Land Policy were also undertaken during the year.

Tree planting activities continue to focus on high need/low canopy suburbs with street tree plantings and parkland plantings a focus for Council. The Tiny Forest program launched in partnership with local schools celebrated a one year anniversary with extraordinary results in vegetation growth, and engagement at a local level.


Council has continued the Illawarra Feral Deer Management Program for the removal of deer across the Local Government Area and installed deer exclusion fencing to protect natural areas in high priority areas. Research commenced this year that will monitor deer populations along movement corridors at the urban interface.

Grant funded programs focussed on Lake Illawarra improvements continued, including the *Luv the Lake* program which aims to increase community participation, pride, respect and ownership of the lake and its surrounds to tackle litter. The Lake Illawarra Catchment monitoring program continues to measure water quality and estuary health monitoring




Council is supporting the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council with the commencement of a three year natural area rehabilitation program at Purrah Bay and Muddy Bay to restore both coastal salt marsh and Swamp Oak Forest Endangered Ecological Plant Communities.

The combination of ongoing improvements in Food Organics Garden Organics diversion from landfill, and the ongoing Landfill Gas extraction at the Wollongong Waste and Resource Recovery Park continues to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver commitments made under the Global Covenant of Mayors and support Council's climate emergency declaration	On-Track 	Projects initiated during the June Quarter included the development of the sustainable buildings program, Regional Energy Strategy through the Illawarra Shoalhaven Joint Organisation and Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure feasibility projects. Major actions achieved throughout the 2022-2023 year include the renewable power purchase agreement, partnering to upgrade LED streetlights, adoption of the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure on Public Land Policy and increased landfill diversion rates.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

		All Global Covenant of Mayors' badges and compliance have been maintained throughout the year.
Prepare the Climate Change Mitigation Plan 2022-2026	On-Track 	<p>During the quarter, abatement pathways were analysed and consultation with stakeholders was undertaken in relation to the feasibility of proposed community and operational actions.</p> <p>During the year, the preparation of the draft Climate Change Mitigation Plan (CCMP) 2023-2027 progressed with a draft expected to Council for consideration in the September 2023 Quarter. Comprehensive community engagement has been undertaken and the input received has been analysed to inform the draft CCMP. The current program is on track to fulfill the Global Covenant of Mayors' initiative which has adoption of the revised CCMP due in late 2023.</p>
Implement priority actions from the Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2022	On-Track 	The development of an Urban Heat Strategy is a key action in the adopted Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2022. During the year, a consultant was engaged and a draft Strategy developed in consultation with internal and external stakeholders. On 26 June 2023, Council endorsed the draft Urban Heat Strategy for public exhibition.
Coordinate Council's waste, volunteer, environmental and conservation programs, activities and events	On-Track 	<p>During the quarter, the Rise and Shine program and World Enviro Day events were delivered and tree plantings and maintenance continued at Greenhouse Park by volunteers.</p> <p>The waste wise event management plan approach was reviewed, with bins delivered to several events including the Thirroul Seaside Festival and Family Fun Run. Garden waste drop off events were held at Berkely, Corrimal and Helensburgh.</p> <p>National Volunteer week was celebrated with a recognition event for Botanic Garden, Rise and Shine and Natural Areas volunteers at the Towri Centre.</p> <p>The Green Team delivered their first online webinar through one of the larger Strata managers across the region to discuss the Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) program for multi-unit dwellings. Two competitions to promote FOGO to residents, as well as to students, were completed.</p> <p>A new recycling talk was developed for adults with the first delivery to 100 Probus attendees at Dapto. Large scale events attended by the Green Team included Saltwater Festival at Warrawong and Thirroul Seaside Festival.</p>

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Services Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update		
Actions	Status	Comment
Implement priority actions of the certified Coastal Management Program for Lake Illawarra	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, a Community Engagement and Participation Strategy was finalised, which includes a program of activities to promote community involvement in Lake initiatives to be implemented over the coming years.</p> <p>Litter prevention initiatives undertaken at hotspot locations as part of the <i>Luv the Lake</i> EPA campaign were successful in achieving up to a 40% reduction in key littered items between February and June 2023. This project was finalised during the quarter.</p> <p>Water quality monitoring continued at 21 sites around the Lake catchment. Stage 2 weed removal and revegetation works over 37 hectares of Lake foreshore reserve areas were completed, with 3,000 native seedlings planted over the last year.</p> <p>Sediment and erosion controls at development sites has improved significantly as a result of educational and enforcement initiatives delivered during the 2022-2023 year.</p>
Develop a Coastal Management Program for the Open Coast	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, a grant application was lodged with the NSW Government Coastal and Estuary Program for funding to undertake the Stage 2 coastal hazard studies. These studies include: coastal hazards mapping; littoral rainforest and coastal wetlands mapping; identification of Aboriginal heritage values and assets, and vulnerability assessment; and options assessment for management of windblown sand at Port Kembla Beach.</p> <p>During the 2022-2023 year, a scoping study was prepared to identify the priorities and focus of a Coastal Management Program (CMP) for the Wollongong coastline. This Study was Stage 1 of the CMP process and reviewed past management actions, gained a contemporary understanding of management through engagement with the community and stakeholders and identified knowledge gaps to be completed in Stage 2. Council endorsed the Wollongong Coastal Management Program Scoping Study, allowing work to progress to Stage 2 of the process.</p>
Council support local food security outcomes through advocacy, sponsorship, partnering and local initiatives	On-Track 	<p>Council continues to deliver a range of services to promote food security within Wollongong. These include delivery of education on food waste avoidance, facilitation of enquiries relating to community gardens and publication of the Low Cost and Free Meals Directory.</p> <p>Public interest in communal gardening activities is supported by Council's Community Gardens Policy. There are currently 14 community gardens operating in our Local Government Area with seven located on Council managed land.</p>

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Natural Area Management

Responsibility *Manager Open Space + Environmental Services*



About this Service

This service includes the management of natural areas under Council care and control. Activities undertaken as part of this service include restoration of natural areas, weed management, pest management, bushfire management as well as the conservation of endangered ecological communities and threatened species. These activities are funded through a combination of Council's own operating funds, external grants, partnerships with other organisations and the support of community volunteers.

Quarterly Progress Update

During the year, a new tender panel of ecological contractors was established, with 61 active contracts across the city. There were a total 166 active restoration sites across the city, including Bushcare sites. Volunteers contributed 9,289 hours with an estimated value of \$278,000. Over 20,000 trees, shrubs and groundcovers were planted in natural areas. Six vegetation Management Plans were completed for priority sites. The Vertebrate Pest management program continued with Council supporting South-East Local Land Services in the Illawarra Feral Deer Management Program, while Council led the Mynah Bird Program and the control of rabbits and foxes.


Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Coordinate natural area restoration works at priority sites	On-Track 	Final grant reporting and acquittals were undertaken for nine projects, with four Sydney Water funded projects commencing on ground works. The Pest species program undertook Pindone (rodenticide) release at Ian McLennan Park and Wollongong Memorial Gardens targeting high density rabbit populations. The Illawarra Feral Deer Management Program saw an increase in operational nights with 336 deer removed. Council and Local Land Services are partnering with Symbio Zoo to undertake thermal monitoring of deer as part of the broader Koala survey in the region. 9,543 native trees, shrubs and grasses were planted as part of the natural areas program during the quarter.
Continue implementation of priority actions from the Dune Management Strategy	On-Track 	Dune management continued across the Local Government Area with vegetation management occurring across patrolled beaches. Works as part of the Sydney Water Agreement have now commenced at City Beach, Perkins Dunes and East Corrimal in accordance with the Vegetation Management Plans for each site. Safety continued to be a key focus following storm activity throughout the year, with erosion scarps managed as required to ensure public safety for beach users.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Natural Area Management Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Implement annual bushfire hazard reduction works program for Asset Protection Zones on Council managed lands	On-Track 	<p>The Bushfire program consultant review neared completion with key milestones delivered. All contracted projects have been completed for the year with all sites managed to Rural Fire Service (RFS) standards. Council staff inspected and carried out maintenance of eight Council owned fire trails including surface works, drainage, vegetation and signage. The 2022-2023 RFS funded works have been completed with outcomes of new funding pending.</p> <p>Council staff attended bushfire committee and planning workshops, submitted an Ignition Prevention Plan, prepared Hazard Reduction Burn proposals, attended the two day Nature Conservation Council Bushfire Conference, assisted with the installation of a new Fire Danger Rating sign at Darkes Forest and removed two redundant signs from Bulli Tops. Ongoing support of the FireReady program continued, with 104 hours completed over 11 sites by 25 volunteers.</p>

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Waste Management

Responsibility *Manager Open Space + Environmental Services*

About this Service

Waste management includes the environmentally responsible, customer focused resource recovery, recycling and solid waste management. The service includes community education programs, waste collection and recycling, operation of the Wollongong Waste and Resource Recovery Park, public domain waste collection and facilities cleaning.





Quarterly Progress Update

Environmental compliance at Council's waste management facility continues to improve with upgrades to the site's stormwater and leachate management systems assisting through another year with significant rainfall events. The Vegetation Management Plan has also seen improved vegetation cover on the boundaries of the site and significant project design has been completed in readiness for construction of the next landfill cell which will be operational mid-2025.

Commercial waste received increased during the year, whilst the Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) program continues to divert organic material from landfill, with a total 37,000 tonnes of FOGO material processed. Residents using the FOGO service continue to utilise this service well, with contamination of the FOGO stream at 1% and well below the NSW average. Landfill gas extraction has continued across the site with 19,042 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent methane removed from the landfill.

Council approved an extension to the current waste collection services contract and a joint tender proposal with Shellharbour City Council that will secure waste collection services for residents well into the next decade.



Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Continue to monitor environmentally sustainable actions for charitable waste	Complete 	Since the introduction of Waste Management Plans for Community Service Organisations including charities, over 500 tonnes of charity waste have been diverted from Whytes Gully landfill compared to the previous financial year.
Implement a research and development program targeting waste diversion from landfill with the University of Wollongong	Complete 	The University of Wollongong (UOW) completed its research project into Automated Waste Contamination Detection. The project focused on plastic bags as a contamination source and delivered a 63% detection accuracy related to white plastic bags in recycling collected. Council will continue to investigate technology applications to assist with reducing waste contamination.
Deliver options for a Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) trial for multi-unit dwellings	Delayed 	Council is working with the Environmental Protection Authority to determine the best way to progress this project given the challenges experienced. FOGO services continue to be expanded in multi-unit dwellings through normal service delivery.
Deliver a Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) program across the LGA	On-Track 	Waste audits completed in February indicate that 74% of households are participating in FOGO program. 37,000 tonnes of FOGO material were collected and diverted from landfill during the 2022-2023 year.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Waste Management Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Continue to educate the community on waste principles – avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle to increase waste diversion from household waste streams	On-Track 	Green Team delivered their first webinar through one of the larger strata Managers across the region promoting the Food Organics Garden Organics program (FOGO). Two competitions were held to promote FOGO to residents as well as to students. Other activities undertaken in the June Quarter include the commencement of a FOGO Roadshow on 26 June, waste education and data capture at Helensburgh, Berkely and Corrimal as part of Green Waste drop off events and a new recycling talk was developed for adults with first delivery to 100 attendees at Dapto. There were 16 Waste education workshops with 670 participants, and 10 Waste promotion events with a reach of 816 participants.
Continue to develop and implement the landfill gas management system at Whytes Gully	On-Track 	During the 2022-2023 year, the monthly average of carbon dioxide equivalent avoided was 1,596 tonnes which equates to over 19,000 tonnes per year. Planning continues with Council's supplier regarding the expansion and enhancement of the overall landfill gas capture system.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Land Use Planning

Responsibility *Manager City Strategy*

About this Service

Land Use Planning manages the plans, policies and certificates that help our community understand the role and function of land within Wollongong. The team undertakes detailed studies to make long term plans for how we can live, work and play sustainably, protecting what we value and ensuring development contributes to great places for our community.

Quarterly Progress Update

During the year, there was a strong focus on establishing strategic land use policies for the Local Government Area. These included the adoption of the Wollongong Housing Strategy in February 2023, adoption of the Wollongong Retail and Business Centres Strategy in March 2023 and endorsement of the draft Industrial Lands Strategy for public exhibition in June 2023.

A range of Planning Proposals were progressed over the year, including endorsement to rezone the former Port Kembla Public School site for residential development and another to amend the foreshore building line at Corrimal Coke Works to enable development consistent with the zoning and master plan for the site. A draft Planning Proposal to heritage list Miala Housing at Marshall Mount was exhibited through May-June 2023 and another three draft Planning Proposals were supported to progress, including proposals to:

- permit an Outdoor Recreation - Miniature Railway use at Stanwell Tops
- increase development opportunities at Wilga Street, Corrimal
- review zonings of large residential sites on the Illawarra Escarpment foothills as identified in the adopted Wollongong Housing Strategy.

A range of Development Control Plan amendments were made through the year including a site-specific Development Control Plan (DCP) chapter to guide development of the former Port Kembla Public School site (February 2023), a revised DCP chapter E17 Preservation and Management of Trees to align with the adopted Tree Management Policy (April 2023) and a revised DCP chapter B4 Retail Centres and Peripheral Sales Centres (June 2023).

Other policies and plans progressed during the year include the adoption of an updated Planning Agreement Policy and endorsement of an updated draft City Wide Development Contributions Plan for public exhibition.

Approximately 6,969 Planning Certificates were issued during the year which are necessary to support property transactions across the Local Government Area.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Local Government Area Wide Retail Centres Study and South West Sydney Development Impacts Study	On-Track 	The Retail and Business Centres Strategy was adopted by Council on 20 March 2023. Implementation has commenced with Council resolving to exhibit an updated draft DCP chapter B4 Development in Centres and Peripheral Sales Centres. The South-West Sydney Development Impacts Study progressed with a consultant report in preparation. The report will include information relating to the current and projected visitation patterns for selected popular locations in the Wollongong Local Government Area, owned or managed by Council. Detailed Place Audits for 10 locations will also be included.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Land Use Planning Continued




Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Prepare a Local Government Area Industrial Lands Study	On-Track 	On 26 June 2023, Council endorsed the draft Industrial Lands Study for community feedback. The formal exhibition process will commence in the September 2023 Quarter. Following the exhibition period, any submissions received will be considered and the Study reported to Council for finalisation.
Review the Local Strategic Planning Statement	On-Track 	The Wollongong Housing Strategy and Wollongong Retail and Business Centres Strategy were recently adopted by Council. The draft Industrial Lands Study was also endorsed by Council for public exhibition. All three documents will inform a review of Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement. Review of the Local Strategic Planning Statement will align with preparation of the draft Illawarra-Shoalhaven City Plan by the Department of Planning and Environment.
Continue the review of West Dapto Land Release Area by developing a Local Infrastructure Plan	On-Track 	Development of the West Dapto Local Infrastructure Plan is being informed by the West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment and preparation of the revised West Dapto Development Contributions Plan. Both pieces of work progressed during the 2022-2023 year with public exhibition of the draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment occurring in February 2023. During the year, Council staff also completed a task to improve the monitoring of funds collected, allocated and expended under the Contributions Plan at an infrastructure project level.
In collaboration with key agencies, facilitate the West Dapto Review Committee to deliver the West Dapto Urban Release Area	On-Track 	The West Dapto Review Committee is a component of Council's governance arrangements for delivery of the West Dapto Urban Release Area. The Committee is Chaired by the Lord Mayor and includes Ward 3 Councillors. The NSW Department of Planning and Environment has an ongoing invitation to attend committee meetings. Several standard items are presented to the Committee for information. Any issues requiring strategic input from the Committee are highlighted by staff and discussed at meetings.
Review West Dapto recreation needs in line with the bi-annual review of the West Dapto Development Contribution Plan	On-Track 	Following Council's endorsement of the draft West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment for public exhibition in November 2022, the study exhibition was undertaken for a month ending on 28 February 2023. The draft assessment identifies the open space and recreation needs for the release area once fully developed. The draft needs assessment is also informing development of the updated West Dapto Development Contributions Plan 2023. During the June Quarter, Council staff reviewed submissions received to the exhibition of the draft Assessment. Finalisation of the West Dapto Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment is anticipated for early in the 2023-2024 financial year.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Land Use Planning Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Progress the City Centre Planning Strategy	Deferred 	In December 2020, Council resolved to defer the draft City Centre Planning Strategy pending progression of other informing projects. Two major studies were raised as actions in the Council resolution. One of the supporting strategies, the Wollongong Retail and Business Centres Strategy, is now complete and was adopted by Council during the March 2023 Quarter. The City Centre Movement and Place Plan (Access and Movement Study) is being prepared in conjunction with the Wollongong Integrated Transport Strategy with a draft report expected by the end of 2023.
Develop and install the Sandon Point Aboriginal Place Interpretive Strategy and Indigenous Art Project	On-Track 	Four interpretative signs have been erected as part of the Sandon Point Aboriginal Place Interpretive Strategy. Consultation is continuing with stakeholders on the proposed installation of artworks that tell appropriate stories relating to the Aboriginal place and culture.
Finalise the development of the Housing Strategy and commence implementation on initial priorities	Complete 	On 27 February 2023, Council adopted the Wollongong Housing Strategy, which had been exhibited in 2022. During the June Quarter, implementation of Strategy actions commenced with Council resolving to prepare and exhibit a draft Planning Proposal for certain properties in the Illawarra Escarpment foothills in April 2023. In May 2023, Council also resolved to exhibit the draft Wollongong City-Wide Development Contribution Plan incorporating a development contributions deferral mechanism for developments that provide emergency, accessible and affordable rental housing.

GOAL 1 | WE VALUE AND PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

Measuring Success


Measure	Target/Desired Trend	Comparative Data Where Available – June 2022	Result June 2023
Development Assessment			
Outstanding DAs < 90 days	200	319	155
Outstanding DAs >90 days	50	118	122
Median net determination days	50	New Measure	39
Environmental Services			
Participation rate in education programs [#]	Increase	New Measure	8,700
Tonnes of waste collected from clean-up activities [#]	Decrease	60	34.53
[#] Figures (including comparatives) have been prepared on an accumulative, annual basis.			
Natural Area Management			
Participation rate in environmental programs [#]	Increase	21,526*	66,468
Number of volunteers worked at Bushcare, Dunecare and FIReady sites [#]	Increase	374*	939
[#] Figures (including comparatives) have been prepared on an accumulative, annual basis. [*] Comparative result impacted by COVID-19			
Waste Services			
Waste diverted from landfill	Decrease	New Measure	53%
Waste Education Workshops and Events - number [#]	Increase	New Measure	271
Waste Education Workshops and Events - Participants [#]	Increase	New Measure	19,616
Waste Removed from Our Creek and Waterway SQIDs and Trash Racks	Decrease	New Measure	146 Tonnes
Recycling Contamination In Public Waste Bins	Decrease	New Measure	64%

[#] Figures have been prepared on an accumulative, annual basis.

Performance measures from the Delivery Program are reported in the Quarterly Review where data is available on a quarterly or annual basis. Performance measures that are tracked every two years will be reported in the State of the City Report.

GOAL 2 | WE HAVE AN INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

June Quarter Highlights



**WOLLONGONG CBD NIGHT TIME ECONOMY
COUNCIL POLICY**

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL: 29 MAY 2023

PURPOSE
Wollongong City Council determines the operating hours for businesses seeking to trade at night in the Wollongong CBD through the development assessment process.
Whilst businesses trading at night have the potential to create environmental and social impacts, this policy recognises that many businesses are low impact premises that make an important contribution to the diversity and vitality of Wollongong's Night Time Economy.
This policy seeks to provide clarity regarding appropriate locations and hours of operation for these businesses.

POLICY INTENT

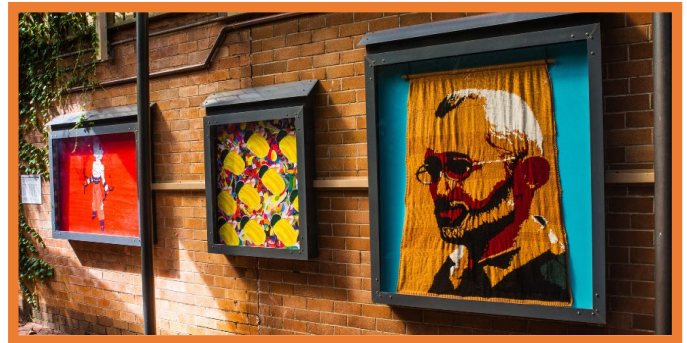
- Establish appropriate hours of operation for businesses in the Wollongong CBD.
- Concentrate low impact businesses which trade at night in appropriate locations.
- Provide clarity to proponents, regulatory bodies and the community regarding trading at night.
- Mitigate potential impacts of businesses trading at night on residents and other business.
- Establish requirements for development applications for businesses seeking to trade at night.

The main objectives of this policy are to:

1. Enable the ongoing cultural evolution of the Wollongong CBD Night Time Economy.
2. Provide a consistent, clear and transparent assessment process for proponents.
3. Encourage a safe Night Time Economy that is comprised of vibrant and diverse businesses.
4. Foster good relations between residents of the Wollongong CBD and businesses which trade at night.
5. Concentrate appropriate venues within Wollongong LGA's established night trading precinct.

WOLLONGONG 2032 OBJECTIVES
This policy supports the following Wollongong 2032 objectives:

- We have an innovative and sustainable economy.
- We have a creative, vibrant city.



'Wander Wollongong – Art', a new self-guided tour of some of the best local art in the City of Wollongong, May 2023.

Council adopted the Wollongong CBD Night Time Economy Policy on 29 May 2023.



'Doing Business with Council' information session held in May 2023

GOAL 2 | WE HAVE AN INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

City Centre Management

Responsibility Manager Community Cultural and Economic Development

About this Service

From Wollongong Station to the foreshore, City Centre Management supports the revitalisation of the City Centre through the coordination and delivery of a range of strategies in collaboration with various stakeholders. The service also ensures the smooth operation of the City Centre, particularly Crown Street Mall, which is funded by the Special Mall Levy. This includes day-to-day management, security, CCTV operations, graffiti removal, events and activation opportunities and marketing.


Quarterly Progress Update

During the June Quarter, City Centre operations, cleanliness, maintenance and security continued to be delivered. Community activations and business support continued to be strategic priorities with Wander Wollongong Art being a key outcome.

Throughout the year, activation strategies focused on attracting visitors back into the Wollongong CBD post lifting of COVID-19 restrictions, through vibrant activations and promoting the Wollongong City Centre experience. Key activations included improved amenity within the Crown Street Mall, implementation of the Globe Lane creative wayfinding sign and seating, Christmas 2022 and Wander Wollongong Art.

The CBD business environment continued to be monitored resulting in a number of precinct-based food and beverage businesses. Working groups have been established to allow for a collaborative approach to information-sharing and improving the customer experience.




Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver increased City Centre marketing and activation initiatives to support local and regional economic recovery in response to COVID-19	On-Track 	<p>To support local economic recovery, marketing and activation focused on promoting businesses and engaging new audiences, reaching more than 284,000 people and directly engaging viewers more than 20,000 times during the quarter. Top performing digital content included: reels created for food and beverage businesses Cow and Moon and Glass Alley Cafe, the Globe Lane Wayfinding Project, How to Commemorate ANZAC Day in the Wollongong CBD, and the <i>Wander Wollongong – Art Trail</i>.</p> <p>Key communication included promotion of the 'Autumn Family Fun' activation in Crown Street Mall and local business promotion and <i>Wander Wollongong – Art</i> which showcased the rich artistic talent found within the Wollongong CBD. The initiative featured 16 studios, galleries and creative spaces as well as a selection of public art.</p> <p>Outdoor dining support continued to be a focus area during the year. The extended live entertainment program to complement the 2022 UCI Road World Championship event, <i>SpinFest</i>, was staged throughout Wollongong CBD. The <i>Luminous Culture</i> Festival included a community festival, creative programming and lighting projections. The Christmas 2022 activities included working with 25 businesses within the Crown Street Mall to decorate and add vibrancy to business shopfronts. The <i>We Shop the Gong</i> buy local campaign was reactivated in November 2022 and widely promoted.</p>

GOAL 2 | WE HAVE AN INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

City Centre Management Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Implement a range of pilot projects and activation initiatives across the City Centre precincts	On-Track 	<p>Celebrating Reconciliation Week, the Nandhi Ngara event was launched in the Crown Street Mall featuring community performances and banners created by local school children and pre-schoolers with Aboriginal Elders and Aboriginal artists.</p> <p>Music continued to be a focus through the staging of live outdoor DJ performances, the <i>Live@Lunch</i> music program and additional Crown Street Mall busking sites.</p> <p>The Crown Lane temporary road closure and outdoor dining areas were extended due to positive business feedback. Other initiatives include working with businesses to pilot the Globe Lane World Cup Soccer 'fan zone', the outdoor dining spaces in Crown Street Mall/Lower Crown Street and delivery of the <i>Autumn Family Fun</i> weekend in partnership with Wollongong Central, featuring amusements and entertainment.</p>
Deliver an integrated marketing campaign that reflects the 'city experience'	On-Track 	<p>The Wollongong CBD social media followers and engagement increased by over 105,000 users during the quarter. Viewers engaged over 20,000 times via comments, likes, shares and link clicks. Key performing social and web content included short-form videos on the <i>Wollongong CBD</i> food and beverage offerings, the <i>Globe Lane Wayfinding Project</i>, 'How to Commemorate ANZAC Day in the Wollongong CBD' and the <i>Wander Wollongong – Art project</i>.</p> <p><i>Wollongong CBD</i> website received more than 47,000 site visits this quarter, providing more than 5,000 direct leads to local business websites. Growth in page views and outbound clicks in the June Quarter increased by 40% and 25% respectively.</p>
Develop and implement City Centre Wayfinding	On-Track 	<p>The Globe Lane Creative Wayfinding Project was completed in April 2023. The combination of creative and vibrant bespoke seating together with illuminated signage has elevated the profile of Globe Lane as a destination. The feasibility study into Ethel Hayton Walk as the next creative wayfinding location also progressed during the June Quarter.</p>

GOAL 2 | WE HAVE AN INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Economic Development

Responsibility *Manager Community Cultural and Economic Development*



About this Service

This service promotes sustainable economic development across the Wollongong Local Government Area through implementation of the Economic Development Strategy 2019-2029. The service contributes to a number of economic development programs and initiatives in partnership with business, government, the University of Wollongong and a range of business and industry stakeholders.

Quarterly Progress Update

Council facilitated 20 new business and investment enquiries during the June Quarter and 76 enquiries throughout the 2022-2023 year. Council continues to facilitate many longer-term ongoing projects, via Council's Major Project process.



Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver the Economic Development Strategy 20219-2029	On-Track 	The June Quarter saw 20 business/investor enquiries ranging from business support and information to facilitating larger projects through <i>Invest Wollongong</i> . Council hosted its annual <i>Doing Business with Council Procurement showcase</i> on 18 May 2023, with around 180 businesses attending. Latest job numbers saw 64% of the Local Government Area-wide 10,500 jobs target achieved this year, resulting in 6,370 additional jobs since 2019. Advocacy continued throughout the year on a number of key projects, including enhanced transport connectivity, employment lands and business attraction projects. BlueScope announced the appointment of Bjarke Ingels Group to develop a master plan for the company's 200 hectares of surplus industrial land. Within the Wollongong CBD, the new Lang's Corner building, Wollongong's largest ever commercial office building opened and Mercer Financial Services joined in September as their major tenant.
Continue to support growth of our local small business sector	On-Track 	Council continued its enhanced business engagement via the monthly newsletter to over 10,000+ local businesses. Council hosted its annual <i>Doing Business with Council Procurement</i> event in May 2023 as well as endorsing the revised CBD Nighttime Economy Policy during the quarter. The 2022 Business Survey was undertaken, which indicated that while some of our local businesses have experienced declines in growth during 2022, they are, however, generally optimistic about future performance. The survey also provided insights on a range of issues impacting businesses across the Local Government Area. Council also sponsored the 'Excellence in Innovation' award category at the annual Business Illawarra Awards and was the major sponsor of the i3Net Manufacturing Showcase event.

GOAL 2 | WE HAVE AN INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Economic Development Continued




Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Work with other levels of government and the business community to respond to the post COVID-19 pandemic economic recovery	On-Track 	<p>In a new collaboration between Council and <i>Enterprise Plus</i>, the June Quarter saw the promotion of a 'business health check' available for local businesses. The health checks will provide free advice on a range of topics for businesses.</p> <p>Council continued to support local business through its Buy Local Campaign, <i>We Shop the Gong</i>, in the leadup to Christmas 2022. The program encourages residents to think local first, buy local and support local businesses. The campaign ran via Facebook and Instagram reaching 93,119 people in the target audience. Several Outdoor Dining initiatives continued support for local economic recovery post COVID-19, providing additional dining areas outdoors as well as a waiver of outdoor dining fees across the Local Government Area.</p>
In partnership with NSW Government and the University of Wollongong, deliver the Invest Wollongong program	On-Track 	<p>Invest Wollongong continued to facilitate a number of significant enquiries in the clean energy sector.</p> <p>Invest Wollongong also participated in the development of the Regional Defence Strategy by KPMG in collaboration with Business Illawarra and a range of other key stakeholders.</p> <p>Invest Wollongong released the new Investment Prospectus 2023, profiling key sectors such as tech, clean energy and advanced manufacturing. A successful digital marketing campaign was delivered, targeting external stakeholders and raising awareness of Wollongong as a desirable alternative CBD location for businesses. Council launched new videos profiling 'Scalapay', 'FinoComp' and the Wollongong CBD.</p> <p>Invest Wollongong continued to participate in and host various events, including Tech Connect, targeted towards Wollongong's start-ups, a hospitality event for the UCI Road World Championships – Wollongong NSW at the Old Wollongong Courthouse and the end of year event in Mercer's offices at Lang's Corner.</p> <p>Invest Wollongong also facilitated a range of visiting international delegations during the year.</p>

GOAL 2 | WE HAVE AN INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Economic Development Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver against the five pillars of the Destination Wollongong Funding Agreement 2021-2026 including: Marketing, Major Events, Business Visitor Economy, Tourism Infrastructure and Product Development and Cycling.	On-Track 	<i>Destination Wollongong</i> continued to deliver work regarding the Grand Pacific Drive, Wollongong as a Bike City, facilitating a range of business events and conferencing and social media campaigns highlighting the Wollongong Local Government Area as a key destination.
Seek funding for key iconic tourism infrastructure	On-Track 	During the June Quarter, Council awaited the outcomes of several grant applications including: the Flood Recovery and Resilience Grant for the Bellambi Gully Flood Mitigation Scheme Stage Three, the Community Asset Program for the Towradgi Surf Club Reroof, the Infrastructure Betterment Fund for the Betterment of The Avenue, Figtree Culvert – Debris Control Structure and the Caring for State Heritage Grant for Diggies Cafe. Throughout the year, Council has submitted applications for a range of grants and funding initiatives, aiming to enhance resilience, upgrade facilities and preserve important heritage sites. Other highlights throughout the 2022-2023 year include successful grant applications for Illawarra Performing Arts Centre upgrades, Helensburgh Park Multisport Facility upgrades, refurbishment of Fred Finch Netball Courts, Berkeley and amenity and lighting upgrades at Lindsay Mayne Park, Unanderra.
Support the ongoing development of key target sectors	On-Track 	Council continued to work in collaboration with a range of stakeholders across various key target sectors including Clean Energy, Tech, Manufacturing and Knowledge Services. Council has also been working closely with Screen Illawarra regarding the development of an industry strategy for the sector locally.

GOAL 2 | WE HAVE AN INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Tourist Parks

Responsibility *Manager Property + Recreation*

About this Service

Wollongong City Tourist Parks provide beachside accommodation for visitors to the Wollongong Local Government Area. Our Tourist Parks are located at Bulli, Corrimal and Windang and include annual sites and tourist accommodation. The three Tourist Parks compete in a commercial environment and operate accordingly to ensure they remain commercially viable and provide an acceptable return to Council.


Quarterly Progress Update

The June Quarter saw staff working towards five yearly licence to operate as well as finalising compliance to 200 plus annual site holders. Work continued on the implementation of Council's marketing strategy to ensure occupancy continues to remain strong through the quieter winter months.

Tourist Parks experienced significant growth throughout the year with occupancy levels of cabins above 70% and site occupancy above 50%, equating to a return of over \$2M to Council.

Three new cabins were also welcomed at Windang Tourist Park in October from Council's long-standing TAFE partnership. The Tourist Parks also played host to a number of teams and officials during the UCI Road World Championships – Wollongong NSW event in September and welcomed over \$350,000 of Stay NSW and Parents NSW Vouchers provided by the NSW government to stimulate the economy post COVID-19.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Contribute to the promotion of tourism in the Wollongong Local Government Area through the management of Council's three Tourist Parks at Bulli, Corrimal and Windang	On-Track 	Occupancy fell slightly as the winter months commenced, however, the parks saw record occupancies during the year. Works in the June Quarter centred around grounds and cabin maintenance to ensure all sites are well prepared for the busy summer season.

GOAL 2 | WE HAVE AN INNOVATIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Measuring Success

Measure	Target/Desired Trend	Comparative Data Where Available – June 2022	Result June 2023
City Centre Management			
Number of People Movements Within Crown Street Mall [^]	1,000,000 (annual)	New Measure	-
[^] Data unavailable due to system outage.			
Economic Development			
Business Enquiries Facilitated [#]	Increase	81	75
[#] Figures (including comparatives) have been prepared on an accumulative, annual basis.			
Tourist Parks			
Tourist Park occupancy rate of cabins	Greater than 60%	68%	63%
Tourist parks occupancy rate of powered sites	Greater than 50%	39%	43%

Performance measures from the Delivery Program are reported in the Quarterly Review where data is available on a quarterly or annual basis. Performance measures that are tracked every two years will be reported in the State of the City Report.

GOAL 3 | WOLLONGONG IS A CREATIVE, VIBRANT CITY

June Quarter Highlights



Artist James Gulliver in front of his new mural making a colourful splash at Wollongong's MacCabe Park.



Hooka Point Berkely, work commenced on replacing the ageing timber deck of the jetty and footbridge as well as working with artists to repair and maintain as many of the existing artworks as possible.

GOAL 3 | WOLLONGONG IS A CREATIVE, VIBRANT CITY

Engagement, Communication and Events

Responsibility Manager Community Cultural and Economic Development

About this Service

The service is responsible for internal and external communications including media, community engagement, delivery of major community events (in particular New Year's Eve and Australia Day), management of Sister City Relations, coordination of Council's Financial Assistance Policy and the provision of graphic design, digital content, print and signage needs for the organisation.

Quarterly Progress Update

During the quarter, Council supported the delivery of Wollongong's ANZAC Dawn Service and march, working in partnership with the Returned and Services League.

Communication with the community was enhanced with 32 more news stories shared this quarter in comparison to the March 2023 Quarter with more audiences reached on social media.

Further refinements to the organisational Communications Strategy were made with a view to enhance Council's unique voice in the community.

Throughout the year, a diverse range of online engagement tools were explored and implemented. Strategies were used to increase accessibility and hear the voice of our harder to reach community members. The Community Engagement Policy was updated to reflect Council's commitment to social justice principles of equity, access, participation and rights. This was supported with over 1,700 signage, print, graphic design and audio-visual jobs to support the organisation in communicating with the community. Council's two largest community events, New Year's Eve and Australia Day, were held, with the New Year's Eve event hosting the largest crowds seen in four years.

The 2022 UCI Road World Championships – Wollongong NSW was held from 18 to 25 September 2022 and was the largest cycling event to be held in NSW since the 2000 Olympics.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
In conjunction with the Local Organising Committee, prepare for and support the delivery of the 2022 UCI Road World Championships – September 2022	Complete 	In September 2022, Wollongong hosted the 2022 UCI Road World Championships – Wollongong NSW. During the June Quarter, the Host City Post Event Summary, reporting on impacts and legacies of the event, was endorsed by Council.
Host six major events reflecting priority sectors and contribute to the acquisition and management of signature events	On-Track 	During the June Quarter, Wollongong hosted the Gridiron NSW State Challenge, Wollongong Triathlon Festival, <i>Spiegel tent</i> , and National Dancesport Championships. Major events acquired over this period include the NSW Field State Hockey Championships, Men's Master's Indoor State Hockey Championships, Football Australia National Youth Championships (Girls) and <i>Yours and Owls</i> Festival. Destination Wollongong estimated in 2022-2023 major events contributed \$27M in economic benefit to the area.

GOAL 3 | WOLLONGONG IS A CREATIVE, VIBRANT CITY

Engagement, Communication and Events Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver civic activities which recognise and celebrate the city's people	On-Track 	Council delivered and hosted the Illawarra Academy of Sport Scholarship Reception, recognising young, up and coming athletes. There were over 90 scholarships awarded at a ceremony attended by recipients, dignitaries and family members. Throughout the year, Council delivered a number of other civic receptions and events including; Mayoral Welcome Reception for the UCI Road World Championships – Wollongong NSW event, Freedom of Entry for HMAS Wollongong, hosting the Consul General of India, presentation of Keys to the City to the late Professor Justin Yerbury, the Australia Day Awards and Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony.
Deliver a diverse range of community engagement opportunities to receive feedback and guide Council's services	On-Track 	Opportunity for input was provided for Kembla Community Visioning, Mount Keira Road Safety Upgrade, Mountain Bike Trail Supporting Infrastructure, Safer Cities: Her Way, draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan, Helensburgh Pool Upgrade, Community Needs – Planning for Area 7, Bulli Showground Draft Master Plan, and Improving Transport Options & Access to Foreshore and Recreation Areas. Several plans and policies were also placed on public exhibition including the Development in Centres – Development Control Plan Chapter B4 Update, Revised Community Engagement Strategy, Council-related Development Documents and Revised Community Participation Plan, Draft Crown Reserves Plan of Management for 32 Crown Reserves and Draft Wollongong City.
Engage with the local community regarding the Draft Illawarra Escarpment Mountain Bike Strategy	On-Track 	During the June Quarter, engagement was undertaken on concepts for supporting infrastructure. During the year, the Illawarra Escarpment Mountain Bike Strategy was finalised.
Develop and deliver an organisational marketing framework and Council-wide marketing and branding strategic objectives	On-Track 	Further refinements were made to the organisational Communications Strategy and marketing campaigns for Council activities were developed to promote, inform and educate the community. Marketing and advertising campaigns are now part of Council's ongoing activities to bolster community awareness and understanding about Council activities and services.

GOAL 3 | WOLLONGONG IS A CREATIVE, VIBRANT CITY

Cultural Services

Responsibility *Manager Community Cultural and Economic Development*

About this Service



This service delivers cultural programs, infrastructure such as public art, exhibitions and events to the community. The service also engages in community cultural development programs, including advocacy for and support of the creative industries sector, development of artists and performers funding opportunities.

Quarterly Progress Update

During the June Quarter, the 2023-2024 Small Cultural Grants and the 'Culture Mix' festival development Grants were allocated. Key new public artwork installations included the 'Hooka Park Place of Healing' renewal project and a mural to complement the cycle path art for MacCabe Park. The refurbished Illawarra Performing Arts Centre re-opened to the public. The project included refurbished foyers, accessibility and lighting upgrades, a new heating, ventilation and cooling system and the replacement of the roof.



Throughout the year, there was a strong focus on revitalising our cultural landscape post the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions. Key highlights included the endorsement of Council's Public Art Strategy 2022-2032, administering the Small Cultural Grants Program, which saw a record number of applicants, *Sculpture in the Garden* exhibition, *Luminous Festival*, 'Coomaditchie: The Art of Place' exhibition celebrating the 30 year anniversary of the Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation and *SpinFest* celebrating the UCI Road World Championships – Wollongong NSW event.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver annual community cultural development festival	On-Track 	Planning for the delivery of a contemporary Multicultural Festival – <i>Culture Mix</i> for Wollongong commenced and is scheduled for Saturday, 21 October 2023. Council is working with the multicultural community to program key locations with 17 Festival grants and two expressions of interest being awarded to develop Festival content. Marketing collateral is being developed. The Festival is part of Council's commitment to celebrating Wollongong's diverse multicultural community. The free one-day event aims to be an inclusive, accessible and family friendly outdoor event full of vibrant music, dance, workshops, installations and food from around the world.
Deliver key strategies from Creative Wollongong Implementation Plan 2019–2024	On-Track 	The <i>Sculpture in the Garden</i> exhibition which extended over March and April was held and attracted over 40,000 visitors. The public programs for adults and families were well-received. The partnership project with Council, Breakwater Battery Museum and Museums and Galleries NSW was completed. The final report will be available in July 2023. Four Creative Dialogue workshops were delivered with over 100 people in attendance across the three Council wards. Two new art works have been commissioned for the 'Hooka Park Place of Healing' renewal project. This included the carved handrail and jetty benches. Two new works have been commissioned and will be installed by the end of August 2023.

GOAL 3 | WOLLONGONG IS A CREATIVE, VIBRANT CITY

Cultural Services Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update		
Actions	Status	Comment
Facilitate the Lower Town Hall as a creative space	On-Track 	<p>The six new artists selected through an Expression of Interest process were inducted in April. As part of the <i>Wander Wollongong</i> Art initiative, two open days were held at the Lower Town Hall studios in late June. Approximately 150 visitors came to see the studios and meet the artists.</p> <p>The refurbished Lower Town Hall studios have had two intakes of artists during 2022-2023. A total of 16 artists have been provided with the opportunity to develop and deliver their creative skills. A total of 180 visitors came to see the studios and meet the artists.</p>
Implement priorities from Framing our Future: Wollongong Art Gallery Strategic Plan 2020-2025	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, Wollongong Art Gallery delivered five exhibitions, 38 tours, 11 artist and curator talks, five school holiday activities, eight <i>ARTsmart</i> programs, three Junior Art Trail activities, four community events and 18 facility hire events. There were 9,299 visitors and 5,330 online interactions on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. The exhibition, <i>Coomaditchie: The Art of Place</i>, which was the 30 year celebration of the establishment of the Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation continued to be a highlight. A modified version of the exhibition will be exhibited at the Sydney Living Museum in October 2023.</p> <p>During 2022-2023, the Gallery acquired 82 new art works to the collection, presented nine new exhibitions in the main program, 11 community exhibitions, 16 exhibition openings and 10 Council and <i>After Dark</i> events. Over 300 education and public program activities were delivered, with total visitation reaching 42,163.</p> <p>The Gallery contributed to the <i>Luminous Festival</i>, where over four days and nights the Gallery offered a festival of creativity which included light projections and an all-ages program of live music.</p>

GOAL 3 | WOLLONGONG IS A CREATIVE, VIBRANT CITY

Measuring Success

Measure	Target/Desired Trend	Comparative Data Where Available – June 2022	Result June 2023
Cultural Services			
Wollongong Art Gallery Partnership Projects Engaging With First Nations And CALD Communities	2 per annum	New Measure	32
Subsidised Artist Studio Space - Opportunities Accessed	6 per annum	New Measure	6
Wollongong City Gallery visitation [#]	Increase	49,475*	44,449
IPAC and Town Hall Visitation [#]	Increase	New Measure	98,803

[#] Figures (including comparatives) have been prepared on an accumulative, annual basis

* Comparative result includes 19,188 online visits due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Engagement, Communications and Events			
Followers, Reach and Engagement Across Council's Social Media Channels	Increase	New Measure	71,382

Performance measures from the Delivery Program are reported in the Quarterly Review where data is available on a quarterly or annual basis. Performance measures that are tracked every two years will be reported in the State of the City Report.

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

June Quarter Highlights



Refugee Week Celebrations

Refugee Week celebrated at the Town Hall.



Reconciliation Week -Celebrating the launch of the Nandhi Ngara banners in Crown Street Mall.

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Integrated Customer Service

Responsibility *Manager Governance + Customer Service*




About this Service

Provision of a professional and efficient customer service experiences with Council through a variety of methods.

Quarterly Progress Update

The June quarter saw a focus on identifying process and rostering efficiencies. Process efficiencies have been found that releases 15 more staff hours per week for frontline customer service.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Upgrade Customer Contact Centre System	On-Track 	Council is nearing completion of a Tender process for the system. Shortlisted tenderers are progressing through the process with a decision by the Tender Assessment Panel to be made early in the 2023-2024 year.
Review and enhance Council's digital customer service and engagement channels with a focus on inclusion and participation	On-Track 	A review of OneCouncil workflows behind online forms is being undertaken to ensure the request is being directed to the most appropriate team to facilitate the timeliest response.
Identify and implement customer service improvement opportunities	On-Track 	Customer Service has commenced the development of a project scope to outline a multi-year customer experience review and improvement program.

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Property Services

Responsibility *Manager Property + Recreation*




About this Service

This service manages over 450 leases and licenses on behalf of Council and includes the management, development, maintenance and disposal of Council owned property in order to meet Council's statutory requirements and contribute to the expansion of Council's revenue base. Leases and licenses also ensure the effective management and coordination of community and business use of Council's public spaces, buildings and facilities.

Quarterly Progress Update

Property Services has progressed a high volume of core business in the June Quarter including statutory, leasing and licencing matters and owner's consent matters. A focus has been on property inspections, with over 100 periodic inspections being progressed in the quarter.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Projects Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Review, update and deliver the Property Strategy	On-Track 	Council staff continue to review Council's property portfolio and have progressed a review of Council's CBD land holdings in addition to Council's land rationalisation list noting that this information will inform the overall strategy of the review. The additional review is required specifically in light of the changing economic environment in recent years to ensure information and associated positions remains current.
Finalise Land Title requirements for the transfer of private land occupied by Russell Vale Golf Course	On-Track 	Council staff have assessed the matter to understand future implications and liabilities in relation to the land being considered following a meeting with relevant stakeholders. This matter continues to progress.
Continue to undertake Council's surplus land review	On-Track 	Council staff continued to liaise with relevant stakeholders to progress the sale of properties identified as part of the review. Since the action commenced, Council staff have progressed the reclassification and sale of eight properties with 27 being identified to be retained following internal consultation.

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Aged and Disability Services

Responsibility *Manager Library and Community Services*

About this Service



Council works in partnership with government, community and business organisations to provide services for older people, people with disability and their carers, to support them to maintain quality of life and continue to live independently in the community. This includes direct provision of Community Transport Services to people aged over 65 years, or who are transport disadvantaged to maintain access to essential services and participation in community life. Council also directly delivers Social Support Services, including respite, home maintenance, group and individual support programs, which enhance the quality of life of older people living in our community.

Quarterly Progress Update

Aged and Disability Services continued to focus on recovery and rebuilding services following COVID-19 and confirmation from funding bodies of continuity of funding through to June 2024. Service reactivations have included: reconnecting with volunteers and customers who had withdrawn from services due to vulnerability to the virus, recalibrating safety requirements and reviewing service processes and structures to position these services for the future. Improvements are reflected in the increased number of outputs delivered throughout the year compared to the previous year. A highlight from the year includes the trial of new fortnightly bus outings to various destinations to enable customers to socialise with their peers.



At the Volunteering Expo held in May as part of the National Volunteer Week Celebration, 28 people registered their interest in volunteering with Council services, with 17 of those committed to join the volunteer pool. A continued focus during the year has been to promote the service to the local Aboriginal community. Council has engaged with local Elders, Aboriginal specific community groups and service providers who work closely with the Aboriginal Community in Wollongong and Shellharbour.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Support the delivery of programs providing social connection for frail aged people and their carers	On-Track 	Participants enjoyed mornings at the Wollongong Botanic Gardens with a private Buggy Tour of the gardens, arranged through the Friends of the Botanic Garden. Participants in the Town Hall Music in the Morning concert enjoyed sounds of the Town Hall organ. Results of a customer satisfaction survey were released with 76% of respondents indicating a 'very satisfied' score with services. The survey confirmed the value to clients of a wider program of social outings and forward service planning, based on these results is underway.
Deliver Community Transport Services across the Wollongong and Shellharbour Local Government Areas to connect older people to social and recreational activities	On-Track 	Community transport services continued to focus on activities to increase the number of trips delivered to the community with a recent focus on reconnecting with the local Aboriginal community. Engagement commenced with the local Elders, the Aboriginal specific community groups and service providers who work closely with the Aboriginal Community in Wollongong and Shellharbour to promote access. A cultural awareness information session for staff and volunteers was also delivered to assist us in delivering culturally responsive and safe services to this community.

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Aged and Disability Services Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update		
Actions	Status	Comment
Promote access to community transport services to meet the needs of eligible consumers	On-Track 	A current service focus is promotion of services to the local Aboriginal community. Planning for transport of community groups to NAIDOC week celebrations being a highlight of the June Quarter. During the 2022-2023 year, community transport has deployed several marketing strategies to promote access to the service. This included website updates, several social media posts and the updating of promotional materials, as well as presentations to community groups, attendance at the Child and Family Interagency and a stand at the Shellharbour Seniors' Expo as part of Seniors' Week celebrations. In addition, the Community Transport website has been reviewed, updated, refreshed and transferred to a Wollongong City Council platform as a major project.
Continue to investigate options for alternative service delivery models for Community Transport, in response to Commonwealth and NSW Government policy	On-Track 	The Commonwealth Government continues to implement reform of the aged care sector in response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aged Care. However, details of new funding and service models for community care services have not been released. Based on information to date, it is anticipated that the new model will entail significant change to existing service funding and delivery arrangements. Council has accepted the extension of the current funding contract until June 2024, with a further extension to 30 June 2025.

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Community Programs

Responsibility *Manager Library and Community Services*

About this Service

Community programs deliver support to people living in the Wollongong Local Government Area. These services deliver community programs, building community capacity and wellbeing related to target groups and communities. Language Services (Interpreter Service and Language Aides), volunteer services, placemaking, community safety and social planning.

Quarterly Progress Update

During the June Quarter, the Nandhi Ngara project was launched and children and young people took part in Kembla Community Visioning engagement.

Access advice was provided for Crown Street footpath renewal, accessible drinking fountain installations and *Culture Mix* cultural festival.

Throughout the year, language services continued with the language aid pool expanded to include basic interpreting in Arabic, Turkish, Farsi and Kurdish. Key documents were translated including waste services, beach safety, collateral for the *250 Stories* project and prevention of older person abuse resources.



Advice was provided to increase access and inclusion at events including appropriate infrastructure and accessible information.

Community safety audits were conducted and internal advice related to social impact and crime prevention through environmental design was provided on a range of development, pre-lodgement and event applications. Information sessions were delivered on the 2021 census data.

Children were engaged to inform the designs for Unanderra Park and Figtree Oval playgrounds, the draft Stuart Park Master Plan, Tiny Forests, climate change and the State of the Children Report.

Children and Family Services Sector Interagency and Illawarra Refugee Issues Forums meetings were convened.




Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Continue to review and adapt the Volunteering Illawarra program in line with changes to funding contracts and the volunteering sector	Complete 	Volunteering Illawarra services closed in August 2022. Throughout the year, Council continued to deliver some aspects of the service through activities such as the Volunteering Expo and ongoing support to community groups who deliver other services to the community as part of the implementation of aged care reforms.
Initiate opportunities and projects to support the community specifically in response to COVID-19 pandemic	On-Track 	Throughout the year, research into the impacts of COVID-19 on local services was undertaken. The findings indicated the need for digital inclusion for our vulnerable communities and a community of practice was established to address digital disadvantage.

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Community Programs Continued





Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Implement the Child Safe Implementation Plan	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, child safe posters were displayed in Council facilities, guidelines for online interactions with children and young people were finalised and the Office of the Children's Guardian child safe self-assessment was undertaken.</p> <p>Throughout the year, the Child Safe Responding and Reporting Procedure and the Volunteer Management Policy were updated and an organisational risk assessment developed. A series of videos to promote child safety were developed and work was undertaken with the Office of the Children's Guardian to develop a local government training program.</p> <p>Council participated in the Local Government Child Safe Network and presented at the Child Safe Forum.</p>
Deliver the Reconciliation Action Plan 2021-2023	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, the design for the Aboriginal specific space at Kembla Grange Cemetery was finalised.</p> <p>To celebrate Reconciliation and NAIDOC weeks, Nandhi (Look) Ngara (Listen) was launched. Libraries delivered themed story times and Aboriginal collections and resources were promoted.</p> <p>A two-day Reconciliation Conference was delivered which fostered connections between Aboriginal Elders and organisations and Curjio was contracted to assist with cultural and creative input for the upcoming <i>Culture Mix</i> festival.</p> <p>During the 2022-2023 year, the <i>Dharawal People, Places and Stories</i> short films were launched and <i>Coomaditchie: The Art of Place</i> exhibition was held at Wollongong Art Gallery. Other highlights included the Ngaraba-aan Trail blades installation at Fisherman's Beach, Port Kembla. Aboriginal artists were also engaged in the Hooka Creek refurbishment and Mullet Creek interpretative panels.</p>
Deliver a range of community development activities and programs that focus on diversity, access, inclusion, and capacity building	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, a <i>Living Books</i> event was delivered and the Illawarra Refugee Challenge commenced. Refugee Week 2023 celebrations were held at the Town Hall. Newly arrived former refugees came together to share in performance, workshops and food.</p> <p>Throughout the 2022-2023 year, community connecting events in West Dapto and intergenerational cycling events were held. Other events and initiatives included <i>Living Books</i>, the Illawarra Refugee Challenge, the Lord Mayor's School Starter Picnic, the Reconciliation Conference delivered, the <i>250 Stories</i> project launched as well as a campaign to raise awareness of elder abuse within multicultural communities.</p>

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Community Programs Continued



Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver the Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2020-2025	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, the Easy English Tree Permit Application was updated, a community social procurement workshop was held, a new beach wheelchair hire agreement was completed and the Disability Inclusion Action Plan evaluation framework was finalised.</p> <p>Throughout the year, the Accessible and Inclusive Event Guidelines were finalised and made available to event organisers. The <i>Spin Fest Beach Party</i> featured Auslan interpreters for the duration of the event to complement the Auslan and mobility viewing areas.</p> <p>To celebrate International Day of People with Disability, workshops and an exhibition launch with an Auslan interpreter were delivered with the d/Deaf community at Wollongong Art Gallery.</p> <p>A range of support opportunities for social enterprises that provide employment for people with disability were delivered.</p> <p>People with disability and their family, friends and carers were engaged at the disabled surfers' event at Port Kembla beach.</p> <p>Diversity Awareness and Autism Awareness sessions were provided to Council staff.</p>
Provide support and participate in the Illawarra Domestic and Family Violence Trauma Recovery Centre Consultative Working Group	On-Track 	Council continues to support and participate in the Illawarra Domestic and Family Violence Trauma Recovery Centre Consultative Working Group.
Deliver the Council Resolution for Affordable Housing (targeting of commonwealth funding)	On-Track 	Three rounds of Affordable Housing tender grant funding are being managed to ensure appropriate delivery. Round 3 tender grant funding will be allocated in the second half of 2023.
Explore opportunities to work in partnership with other relevant agencies that provide services for the homeless	On-Track 	<p>The June Quarter saw planning commence to improve coordination of short-term accommodation services for rough sleepers across Wollongong.</p> <p>During the year, Council staff continued to work with Housing NSW, Wollongong Homeless Hub and Housing Services, Mental Health Assessment Team and NSW Police to connect homeless people with accommodation service providers to meet their needs.</p> <p>The Rough Sleeper count was conducted in February 2023. Council participated as a member of the working group.</p>

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Community Programs Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver the Community Safety Action Plan 2021-2025	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, engagement was conducted with women, girls and NSW Police for the <i>Safer Cities: Her Way</i> project to determine interventions.</p> <p>Graffiti prevention murals have been completed by a diverse range of artists on traffic signal boxes.</p> <p>Community Safety Audits were conducted at Edney Laneway, Rawlinson Laneway, Helensburgh Branch Library, and MacCabe Park.</p> <p>During the 2022-2023 year, graffiti removal kits were distributed to the community and Council's graffiti removal program continued to remove graffiti from non-Council assets. <i>Reclaim the Night</i> event was held, a review of Alcohol Free Zones completed and community safety audits were conducted across the Local Government Area.</p>
Advocate for accessible and appropriate medical services to be available to the community	On-Track 	<p>Council meets on a biannual basis with Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District representatives. These meetings are an opportunity to provide advocacy on behalf of the community, updates on relevant projects and strengthen networks and working relationships.</p> <p>A meeting held in November 2022 with Council and Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District (ISLHD) staff shared project updates including the urban heat study, social inclusion initiatives, Council's Climate Mitigation Plan and discussed draft Council strategies on public exhibition. ISLHD gave a presentation on the health risks associated with vaping and the impacts on local schools and youth, as well as a COVID-19 update.</p> <p>A meeting held in March 2023 saw the sharing of project updates including the Draft Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2023-2024 and public exhibition process, an update on the Urban Heat Strategy, West Dapto Draft Social Infrastructure Needs Assessment and a local area public health update.</p>

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Libraries

Responsibility *Manager Library and Community Services*

About this Service

Wollongong City Libraries delivers information, learning outcomes and access to resources for residents and visitors to the Wollongong Local Government Area. The service is delivered from seven libraries and 10 street libraries across the city, through the Home Library Service and a range of online services.

Quarterly Progress Update

The annual Comic Gong Festival was delivered during the June Quarter with the event celebrating its 10th birthday with a family friendly event at Corrimal Library where Comic Gong began as well as a Cosplay Ball in the Wollongong Town Hall. Attendees enjoyed dancing to the DJ and the band with their brass instruments and popular songs. The Cosplay Competitions were a highlight of the evening, with attendees proudly wearing their costumes.


During the year, 19 oral history stories were added to the collection, 930 Illawarra Mercury photographs were scanned and catalogued, 36 people were interviewed and added to the Illawarra Stories collection, 96 story transcripts were completed by volunteers and staff and 1,197 negatives were digitised and prepared for cataloguing. Seventeen donations were received this year. One extensive donation includes a wide variety of images, documents, reports, maps and other materials relating to the coal industry in the Illawarra.

Throughout the year, promotional campaigns such as the Reading Challenge, Book Week and Winter Book Sale, were delivered as well as giveaways and regular promotions. A renewed focus was utilising Instagram as a platform distinct from Facebook, resulting in strong follower growth from a younger audience.

The year's physical loans of 962,124 represents the highest consistent loan rate since before COVID-19. eAudiobook and eBook loans for the year totalled 330,586. The online collections continued to be prioritised and marketed to customers, with increased budget being allocated and additional content and extra copies of high demand titles being purchased in digital formats.



714 surveys were completed by customers using the in-library feedback tablets, with an average customer satisfaction rating across the libraries of 92%.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver the annual Comic Gong Festival	<p>On-Track</p> 	<p>Due to the IPAC refurbishment and the closure of the Arts Precinct, the annual Comic Gong Festival was delivered in a different format to previous years through three smaller events. A Comic Gong Cosplay Catch up event on 4 May, with the Star Wars theme (May the 4th Be With You) was held.</p> <p>A Comic Gong Family Fun Day was held at Corrimal Community Centre and Library to mark the 10th anniversary of Comic Gong. The craft, colouring, acrobatic skills, face painting, a photobooth, dancers and cosplay competitions focused on young children up to 12 years.</p> <p>The Cosplay Ball was held in the Town Hall Music Lounge on 19 May. The 120 attendees enjoyed dancing to the DJ and the band, with their brass instruments and popular songs. The Cosplay Competitions were a highlight of the evening.</p> <p>Evaluation of the event is underway and a formal report will be produced in the September 2023 Quarter.</p>




GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Libraries Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update		
Actions	Status	Comment
Implement the Wollongong Learning City Project based on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization framework and principles	On-Track 	<p>A new Project Leader was appointed during the June Quarter and will continue to work with internal and external stakeholders towards developing a Learning City Strategy and Plan. The project aims to see Wollongong become a UNESCO Learning City in 2024.</p> <p>During the 2022-2023 year, the Community Education Evaluation Framework was piloted within Council and adopted in the Library to evaluate community learning programs. Council contributed to the University of Wollongong's Global Climate Change Week program in November 2022, curating a catalogue of climate change resources, hosting a film night and an 'Act Now for a Plastic Free Future' event at Thirroul Library.</p> <p>Extensive Community Engagement was undertaken during June-August 2022, including a general community survey, service provider survey and 49 community engagement activities: focus groups, briefings and events. Results and key findings were collated into a preliminary Community Engagement Report and presented to external stakeholders in October. Findings will inform the next steps of drafting a Wollongong Learning Strategy and Plan in further consultation with stakeholders.</p>
Deliver learning programs for employment, digital inclusion, innovation and creativity from 'The Lab' digital learning space	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, six <i>Tech Savvy</i> training sessions were held, nine sessions of <i>Young Yarners</i> were held, four school holiday activities for 12-18 year olds in <i>The Lab</i>, <i>Craft for a Cause</i>, 13 <i>Club Sew</i> and sew sessions were held with 104 people attending. This program has grown in popularity during the quarter, with the purchase of more specialised equipment to meet demand and interest. The Illawarra Teacher Librarians met and held their professional development day in <i>The Lab</i>. This provided staff an opportunity to network with the 20 teachers who attended.</p> <p>Other programs throughout the year were delivered by the Illawarra Historical Society, hosting monthly historical talks, young writers' program from South Coast Writers, the Cosplay Society held monthly sewing sessions, Illawarra Family History Group with a monthly speaker program, mindfulness programs with Beyond Blue, Young Gamers with Youth on Youth and Game On with a local board gaming group.</p> <p>A community volunteer continues to deliver Tech Help one-on-one sessions, with the Library offering over the phone support and more detailed assistance to more complex IT enquiries. Recent <i>Tech Savvy</i> sessions focused on job searching and identity theft. <i>Tech Savvy</i> sessions were also held at Bellambi Neighbourhood Centre.</p>



GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Libraries Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update		
Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver customer driven, evolving library collections	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, physical loans totalled 233,109, while eAudiobook and eBook loans totalled 84,063. The LGBTQI+ and English as a second language collections continued to be developed. Customers placed 42,023 reservations this quarter.</p> <p>The year's physical loans of 962,124 represents the highest consistent loan rate since before COVID-19. Audiobook and eBook loans for the year totalled 330,586 confirming that online loans have remained at the rates established during period of COVID-19 related library closures.</p> <p>The online collections continued to be prioritised and marketed to customers with increased budget being allocated and additional content and extra copies of high demand titles being purchased in digital formats. Customer recommendations for purchase are further facilitated by the newly acquired Hoopla platform. Customers placed 164,029 reservations on items during the 2022-2023 year.</p>
Investigate opportunities to enhance Library opening hours	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, after hours access investigations commenced for Helensburgh Library. Council staff liaised with local police and undertook a crime prevention audit of Helensburgh Library during late afternoon/early evening opening hours and is now preparing a Development Application.</p> <p>During the year, from 3 January 2023, the Helensburgh Library was opened throughout the lunch hour each weekday following extensive community consultation and data analysis.</p>
Deliver tailored library programs to facilitate access and participation of people with disability	On-Track 	<p>Three sessions of <i>Vision Impaired Yarners</i> were held during the June Quarter. <i>Sensory Storytime</i> was renamed <i>Welcome Hour</i> as part of a review to encourage families along to join in activities that support the development of social play in an inclusive library space. All libraries welcomed groups from various National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) providers to join in pre-school story times. Corrimal Library welcomed a group of high school students from the <i>Kickstart for Life</i> program (a program designed for students with a NDIS plan) for a tour of the library.</p> <p>Highlights throughout the year include delivery of a Sensory Garden as part of the <i>Luminous Festival</i>, an Aboriginal experience held with an Auslan interpreter for the deaf community and a Samba experience for the vision impaired community.</p> <p>International Day of People with Disability was celebrated across two libraries.</p>

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY



Libraries Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update		
Actions	Status	Comment
Review and deliver the Wollongong City Libraries Marketing Strategy	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, Expressions of Interest were sought from community artists to create an engaging artwork for a new Street Library (also known as a Book Box) being installed at Luke's Place Playground in Corrimal. A marketing campaign for participation in the National Simultaneous Storytime (NSS) resulted in positive media and social media engagement and strong attendance at NSS events across the libraries.</p> <p>During the 2022-2023 year, Comic Gong 2023 was celebrated with a twist, with three events celebrating the joy of pop culture and Cosplay. A proactive marketing plan effectively managed the public's understanding and expectations. Excellent customer feedback was received for the Comic Gong Cosplay Ball held in the Town Hall.</p> <p>An audit of physical and digital signage was completed, resulting in the removal of obsolete signage from libraries.</p>
Investigate and deploy enhancements to library multimedia, and digital services and technology	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, staff implemented a streamlined marketing request form and program master list to enhance workflow; installed temporary signage templates as an interim minor rebrand solution and investigated remote update capability for library check-out machine promotions to increase the visibility of programs for all locations.</p> <p>During the 2022-2023 year, promotional campaigns such as the Reading Challenge, Book Week and Winter Book Sale, were delivered using structured communications plans, giveaways, regular promotions and enhanced collaboration between Council areas.</p> <p>There was a renewed focus on Instagram as a platform distinct from Facebook, resulting in strong follower growth from a younger audience. A digital social media/promotions calendar was implemented to track project delivery and standardise post times for audience retention. New digital social media and poster templates were designed to streamline promotional delivery and refine WCL's digital presence. Multimedia hardware including mics, lighting and accessories were also purchased enabling more significant video projects, such as those for National Simultaneous Storytime and Harmony Week, to test audience interest.</p>

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Libraries Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Collect, analyse and review customer feedback to continually improve the Wollongong City Library customer experience	On-Track 	<p>New customer feedback tablets, with a new question set, were implemented across all libraries resulting in an increase in the number of surveys completed each month. Average customer satisfaction for all libraries is 87%. Results are positive across all questions – with staff performance and service having the highest rating with an average of 92% satisfaction. 57% of respondents selected 'Very Likely' to recommend the library experience to people in their lives. New posters are being designed to prompt customers to leave additional free text feedback.</p> <p>Program evaluation ran throughout the year across regular programs and events, school holiday activities and special events. From the 153 surveys completed, 94% of customers advised that they learned something new from attending the program or event. 100% of respondents advised that the experience was accessible, inclusive and safe.</p>
Deliver library programs that recognise and reflect the cultural diversity of our community	On-Track 	<p>During Refugee Week, a range of programs were held across the libraries including a Persian craft workshop, a guest talk at Corrimal Library, a Burmese <i>Tech Savvy</i> and parenting session, Strategic and Community Assistance to Refugee Families Homework Club, high school tutoring and <i>Let's Chat</i> and a school visit from the Intensive English Class from Warrawong High School at Wollongong and Warrawong Libraries.</p> <p>Warrawong Library continues to offer space to newly arrived community members for English conversation and Australian Citizenship Test tips. Illawarra Shoalhaven Multicultural Health Service provided flu shots for the local refugee community in <i>The Lab</i>.</p>

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Youth Services

Responsibility *Manager Community Cultural and Economic Development*

About this Service



Youth Services provides a program of recreation, cultural and education activities to meet the needs of young people aged 12-24 at Wollongong Youth Centre and across the Wollongong Local Government Area. These programs build social connections and inclusion, community engagement, information and referrals. Council funds the Neighbourhood Youth Work Program (NYWP) in three areas (Port Kembla, Berkeley and Dapto and surrounds) to support the needs of young people in the community.

Quarterly Progress Update

During the June Quarter, *Speak. Share. Change.* was delivered at six high schools and Wollongong Youth Centre. Students met with the Lord Mayor and General Manager to discuss ideas. Youth Week activities were delivered, including Youth Week Awards, youth markets, *Music Mayhem* event and workshops. International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia Day at the University of Wollongong and Intensive English Centre assembly were attended to provide information about Youth Services programs and activities.

Throughout the 2022-2023 year, a program of recreation, cultural and education activities was provided for young people aged 12-24 at Wollongong Youth Centre and across the Wollongong Local Government Area. Sector support was provided including coordination of the Wollongong Youth Network and funding and support was provided for the Neighbourhood Youth Work Program.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver a range of youth development opportunities with a focus on engagement, inclusion, skill development, sector development and support.	On-Track 	In the June Quarter, new programs included a fitness program for young women, resume writing and cooking workshops. Throughout the year, a range of youth development opportunities were delivered, including: <i>Rainbow League</i> ; Girls Café for young women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, <i>Crafts and Chat</i> , Dungeons and Dragons, Fit Youth, Bundaleer Connect, <i>Teenz Connect</i> and workshops on sport, art, mindfulness, mental health, work readiness, resume writing and cooking.
Provide opportunities for young people to develop skills, experience and exposure in creative industries	On-Track 	In the June Quarter, <i>Team Ignite</i> supported live music and events including Music Mayhem at Corrimal High School, Rainbow Formal in Pride Month and a metal music event. Throughout the year, a range of weekly workshops were delivered including guitar, cartooning, comic book and sound and lighting. A fully equipped music rehearsal space is available and a weekly performance space hosted bands, open mic nights, world music nights and DJ. <i>Team Ignite</i> provided a platform for young people to inform live music, production activities and events at Wollongong Youth Centre. A new 'I love Wollongong because...' exhibition was curated by Warramong High School students for Refugee Week.

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Corporate Strategy

Responsibility *Corporate Strategy Manager*

About this Service

Prepare and report progress on the Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan. Report progress to the Councillors and community in a timely and accessible way. Coordinate an organisational approach to Supporting Document (Strategy and Plan) development. Coordinate organisational research as well as facilitate, advise and support management in timely, accurate and accountable strategic and corporate reporting. Respond as required to policy change and local government reform.

Quarterly Progress Update


During the June Quarter, the March Quarterly Review Statement was finalised and adopted by Council on the 29 May.

A significant achievement for the quarter was the adoption of Council's Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2023-2024 on the 26 June.

The Project Management Framework was refreshed during the year and will continue to be rolled out and promoted throughout the organisation.

The Service Optimisation program for 2023-2024 was adopted as part of the adoption of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan. During the year, significant work occurred on determining the methodology to be used for the optimisation process.


Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Coordinate the preparation and review of Council's Operational Plan	<p>On-Track</p> 	<p>During the June quarter, Council adopted the Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2023-2024, including attachments: Budget 2023-2024, Infrastructure Delivery Program 2023-2024 - 2026-2027 and Revenue Policy, Rates, Annual Charges and Fees 2023-2024. This was the culmination of nine months of work, including a cross organisational review of all Supporting Documents and strategic planning workshops held with Councillors in December 2022 and February 2023. This lead to the development of a Draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2023-2024, which was endorsed by Council to be placed on public exhibition for 28 days from 5 April to 2 May 2023.</p> <p>205 submissions were received from the community during the exhibition period that informed the finalisation of the Plan.</p>

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Corporate Strategy Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Develop a Service Review methodology	Complete 	<p>During the year, Council embarked upon developing a service review program. In June 2022, staff commenced design of the Service Optimisation Program which supports Council's continuous improvement approach. The approved methodology and approach builds on industry best practice and introduces an evidence-based approach to the prioritisation of services to be included in the program. The June 2023 Quarter saw the following activities undertaken: development of a range of tools and templates to support staff through the optimisation process, training design commenced, engagement of a consultant to deliver training to key stakeholders, significant engagement occurred across the organisation to increase awareness and understanding of what the Program aims to achieve and investigation into a suitable system to track program progress.</p> <p>The Service Optimisation Program is on track to commence in the 2023–2024 financial year.</p>

GOAL 4 | WE ARE A CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Measuring Success

Measure	Target/Desired Trend	Comparative Data Where Available – June 2022	Result June 2023
Aged and Disability Services			
People Over 65 Using Community Transport – Number [#]	Increase	New Measure	15,153
Hours of Social Support Provided to People Aged Over 65 [#]	Maintain	11,853*	21,392
Integrated Customer Service			
Telephone calls are answered within 30 seconds	80%	87%	80%
Correspondence Met to Target	80%	92%	93%
Libraries			
Library visitations*	Increase	947,207 [^]	964,827
Library - membership	Increase	New Measure	79,957
Library – total number of loans [#]	Increase	744,327*	1,292,710
Library programs: number of programs [#]	Increase	758*	1,979
Library programs: number of participants [#]	Increase	16,529*	39,343
Property Services			
Occupancy rates of commercial buildings	90%	96%	96%
Youth Services			
Wollongong Youth Services - participation of young people in programs and projects [#]	24,000	New Measure	24,788

[#] Figures (including comparatives) have been prepared on an accumulative, annual basis.

* Comparative figures impacted by COVID-19. [^]Includes online participants.

Performance measures from the Delivery Program are reported in the Quarterly Review where data is available on a quarterly or annual basis. Performance measures that are tracked every two years will be reported in the State of the City Report.

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

June Quarter Highlights



Cringila Hills Recreation Park Pump track takes out the prestigious Park of the Year awards at the Parks and Leisure Australia NSW Conference Awards.



Botanic Gardens goes Jurassic with plants from the Juassic Period unveiled in May with the new collection making it easy to imagine dinosaurs roaming the Gardens (left to right: digitally altered image, and Botanic Garden's Cycad Collection).

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Public Health and Safety

Responsibility *Manager Regulation + Enforcement*

About this Service

This service conducts and manages the registration, inspections and monitoring of regulated public and environmental health premises including public swimming pools and On-site Sewage Management systems with the aim of ensuring compliance. The service provides environmental and public health related assessment and referrals as part of the development assessment process. It also involves the development of environmental and public health policies, community education programs and customer information.



Quarterly Progress Update

During the June Quarter, health programs continued to be implemented and over 480 customer requests responded to covering a range of matters including air, water and noise pollution, food safety, skin penetration, on-site wastewater systems and requests for technical advice.

Staff continued to implement development and environment compliance programs with a focus on non-compliance building works that impact public health and safety and adverse environmental impacts.

Throughout the 2022-2023 year, staff inspected 153 skin penetration premises, completed 127 inspections of on-site wastewater systems, 15 sex industry premises inspections, 163 cooling tower audits and processed related risk-management plans. 72 Development Application referrals were processed. Staff received 1,570 customer requests that resulted in 137 compliance actions being undertaken to rectify non-compliances and protect the safety of our community and prevent environmental harm.


Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Inspect all medium and high-risk food premises annually	On-Track 	Council's food surveillance program continued throughout the June Quarter with officers conducting inspections of fixed and mobile food businesses and responding to customer requests. Throughout the 2022-2023 year, officers completed a total of 1,892 inspections of medium and high-risk food businesses with 33 improvement notices issued and nine fines issued to businesses for non-compliances with the Food Act 2003. Council's food surveillance program remains on track to meet requirements under the Food Act 2003 and NSW Food Authority's Food Regulation partnership.
Maintain inspection programs for public swimming pools, places of shared accommodation and mortuaries	On-Track 	Council continued to implement a routine inspection program regarding public swimming pools, places of shared accommodation and mortuaries throughout the June Quarter. Throughout the 2022-2023 year, staff conducted water sampling of 30 public swimming pools, identifying and following up a number of non-compliances which were mostly minor in nature. 23 places of shared accommodation were inspected throughout the year and a total of six mortuaries were inspected, all showing a high level of compliance.

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Public Health and Safety Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
<p>Implement a community safety and parking awareness raising programs based on scheduled patrols of schools and identified high risk areas</p>	<p>On-Track</p> 	<p>During the June Quarter, Council implemented a proactive School Zone Parking Compliance Program. Staff conducted patrols during school days at a number of primary schools, raising awareness of parking requirements for parents and caregivers. Educational banners with road safety messages were displayed at a number of primary schools.</p> <p>Throughout the 2022-2023 year, staff conducted patrols during school days at 792 primary schools with educational banners displayed at 31 schools. A total of 1,057 actions were undertaken during these patrols, including issuing fines, warnings and engaging in educational conversations with parents and caregivers. These efforts have greatly improved community safety and parking awareness in school zones across the Local Government Area.</p>

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Community Facilities

Responsibility *Manager Library and Community Services*

About this Service

This service manages and operates 56 Council-owned community facilities across the Wollongong Local Government Area. This includes Neighbourhood Centres, Senior Citizens' Centres, Childcare Centres, Libraries, Community Centres and Community Halls. The service provides accessible community spaces to support the delivery of a diverse range of community programs, activities and events. The service also manages a number of 'direct run' Council facilities supporting community development and enabling community groups to develop and deliver community services. The service includes long term social infrastructure planning and managing a range of functions associated with the maintenance, design, replacement or refurbishment of new and existing community facilities.

Quarterly Progress Update



Community Facilities continue to rebuild community participation and hire post COVID-19. District facilities at Dapto Ribbonwood, Corrimal and Thirroul recorded strong interest in bookings. Seven new bookings were also secured during the June Quarter and one fee reduction/waivers was processed providing support for not for profit groups via provision of affordable access to community assets.

Community events hosted this quarter included *Rainbow Storytime*, Thirroul Seaside Festival, Libyan Association Community of NSW-Eid Festival and Citizenship ceremonies at Corrimal.

A range of facility upgrades and improvements were completed at Corrimal, Dapto and Thirroul to improve the customer experience.

Engagement was held with the community regarding Needs Analysis study for Planning Area 7 (Figtree, Unanderra, Kembla Grange and Cordeaux Heights). The 'Places for the Future Social Infrastructure Future Directions Plan 2023-2036' was adopted by Council on 8 May 2023.






Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Plan for a new Community Centre and Library at Warrawong to serve Wollongong's southern suburbs	Delayed 	Demolition of existing structures is scheduled for March 2024. Construction drawings and pre-tender estimate is nearing completion while options to re-house existing tenants are continuing. A submission to the Office of Local Government's Capital Works Guidelines is underway with consultant firm engaged to look at economic indicators. Council continues to advocate for NSW and Commonwealth funding for the project.
Plan for a new Community Centre and Library to meet the needs of the community in Helensburgh and surrounding suburbs	Delayed 	Council has received approval to exhibit a draft Plan of Management that would enable the site on Helensburgh Park to be used for the purpose of an integrated Community Centre and Library with the Helensburgh Swimming Pool amenities project. Refinement and finalisation of the scope of the Centre continues.

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Community Facilities Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Progress planning and construction of Wongawilli Hall extension and refurbishment	On-Track 	Concept design has commenced and progressing, however, potential structural issues with the floor and walls have seen the concept design process placed on hold until a full building condition report can be undertaken. The condition report will inform the concept design.
Complete Community Needs Analysis for City Centre Social Infrastructure	Complete 	Community needs analysis to understand the social infrastructure needs of people living in the Wollongong CBD was completed in October 2022. Findings of this assessment have informed the development of the Places for the Future Social Infrastructure Future Directions Plan: 2022-2036.
Complete Social Infrastructure Feasibility Studies at Bong Bong Road, Yallah/Marshall Mount and Figtree	On-Track 	The project to complete a needs analysis study for Planning Area 7 (Figtree/Unanderra/Kembla Grange/Cordeaux Heights) commenced in March 2023 with the appointment of a consultant. Studies for social infrastructure at Bong Bong Road and Yallah/Marshall Mount will be informed by the West Dapto needs analysis study completed in November 2022. These studies are scheduled to be completed in 2023-2024 (Bong Bong Road) and 2024-2025 (Yallah/Marshall Mount).
Develop and deploy 'Places for People' Forward Directions Plan 2022-2036 (Implementation Plan)	On-Track 	During the June Quarter, an implementation approach has been developed and the plan deployed within Council. A key outcome is to have newly identified projects placed onto the Infrastructure Delivery Program list of unfunded projects for future Council consideration. The Draft 'Places for the Future' - Social Infrastructure Future Directions Plan 2023-2036 was endorsed by Council on 12 December 2022 for public exhibition during January-February 2023. Results of the public exhibition were reported to Council in May 2023, with the Plan subsequently adopted.
Complete Community Needs Analysis for social, cultural and recreational infrastructure for emerging West Dapto communities	On-Track 	The Draft West Dapto Community Facilities and Open Space community needs analysis was endorsed for public exhibition by Council in November 2022. It was placed on public exhibition in January-February 2023. The results of the exhibition will be reported to Council in July 2023.

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Memorial Gardens and Cemeteries

Responsibility *Manager Property + Recreation*

About this Service



This service provides memorial, burial and funeral service facilities at six sites across the Local Government Area.

Quarterly Progress Update

During the June Quarter, the first newly identified sites at Scarborough and Bulli Cemeteries utilised by the community. In total, 50 sites have been made available with the identification of further sites currently being explored. New headstone beams have been constructed at Wollongong Lawn Cemetery, providing an additional three years of space for the community. Concept plans were also finalised for the Aboriginal and Children's sections at Kembla Grange.

Throughout the year, staff continued the implementation of education sessions, providing valuable advice to our community through groups such as the Rotary Club, UA3 and Men's Shed. Staff conducted a number of memorial services to commemorate significant days such as Christmas and Anzac Day with activities well attended. Staff continued to identify new areas for development with new beams laid in a number of sections across the cemetery network. At Scarborough and Bulli new sites were also identified for 'at need' sales, giving the local community opportunity to bury within their immediate area. In total, staff have completed over 800 burials or ash placements this year and a further 400 people reserved sites for future use.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Manage Council's commercial businesses to optimise service delivery at Wollongong Memorial Gardens and cemeteries	On-Track 	The June Quarter saw the completion of new burial beams at Kembla Grange Cemetery as well as the first burials at Scarborough and Bulli Cemetery following the identification of new sites. A 'Friends of the Cemeteries' group has also been established this quarter to include opportunities across all Council sites. The identification of vacant sites at a number of closed cemeteries has been a priority for staff throughout the year. Over 50 sites are now available for at-need burials at Bulli and Scarborough Cemeteries with over 200 under investigation. A review of systems and processes continued in preparation for the introduction of the Cemeteries Interment Scheme which will require the cemeteries to meet identified standards in order to be licensed and to continue operating. Construction of new beams and gardens were also completed to ensure sites remained available to meet the ongoing needs of the community.
Reinstate the Cemetery at Waterfall (Garrawarra)	Deferred 	This project is currently on hold pending a decision by the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service regarding taking ownership of the site from Council.

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Aquatic Services

Responsibility *Manager Property + Recreation*

About this Service

Wollongong City Council operates 17 patrolled beaches, two heated swimming pools at Dapto and Corrimal, six free public swimming pools located at Helensburgh, Thirroul, Western Suburbs (Unanderra), Continental Baths Wollongong, Port Kembla and Berkeley. We have nine ocean rock pools situated at Coalcliff, Wombarra, Coledale, Austinmer, Bulli, Woonona, Bellambi, Towradgi and Wollongong Gentleman's pool. Aquatic Services also provides ocean and pool lifeguard services and surf education programs.



Quarterly Progress Update

During the June Quarter, a number of pools were closed for the winter period, which will reopen in September. Corrimal and Dapto heated pools continue to operate throughout winter. Council is currently planning and completing minor works during the winter shutdown period of the seasonal pools, ready for the 2023-2024 summer season. During the quarter, there were 71,000 visitations across unheated swimming pools and 28,000 visitors at the heated swimming pools.

Throughout the year, Council's eight outdoor swimming pools enjoyed one of the busiest summer periods seen for the last 10 years.

Council will continue to review and improve on the reliability of ocean pools to ensure facilities are fit for purpose for our community.






Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Plan, design and complete the renewal of the downstairs Lifesaving building of North Wollongong Surf Life Saving Club	Complete 	Construction of the Lifesaving building at North Wollongong Surf Lifesaving Club has been completed during this financial year. Minor works and defects are continuing to be managed moving forward, with the Club able to continue to provide essential lifesaving services moving into the 2023-2024 lifesaving season. Work throughout the June Quarter continued with approvals underway to install a natural gas connection point to the building, as well as an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment at the building entry point on the ground floor.
Plan, design and undertake renewal works at Council's Community, Commercial Pools and Ocean Rock Pools in accordance with the Infrastructure Delivery Program	On-Track 	Council is currently seeking community input into the future form of Helensburgh Pool following the award of a \$3.24M grant from the NSW Government during the June Quarter. The grant will contribute towards the refurbishment of the pool and sportsfield lighting at the adjoining Helensburgh Park. Short term repairs at the Western Suburbs Toddlers Pool have proven successful and will ensure continuity of service while a review of the design and procurement method for the water play space is undertaken. Throughout the year, Council completed the replacement of intake lines at the Continental Pool Wollongong and installed an accessible ramp at Port Kembla Pool.

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Aquatic Services Continued


Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Implement funded actions from The Future of Our Pools Strategy 2014-2024	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, community consultation was completed on the Helensburgh Swimming Pool redevelopment.</p> <p>The community was supportive of the plan to redevelop the swimming pool with input being provided by the community on the toddler play area and the size and number of lanes being provided.</p> <p>Engagement of the architect will be completed in the September 2023 Quarter.</p>
Implement funded actions from the Beach and Foreshore Access Strategy 2019-2032	On-Track 	<p>During the June Quarter, rectification works are continuing on the access ramp at Port Kembla Beach including adjustments to hand rails.</p> <p>Works continued to improve the booking process for beach wheelchairs with an online booking solution being explored for the upcoming 2023-2024 summer period.</p> <p>Throughout the year, Council delivered a new access ramp at Port Kembla Beach. This access ramp allows beach users to safely enter the sand from an accessible ramp from the promenade. This ramp also allows easier access for beach users to the accessible facilities adjacent to Port Kembla Swimming Pool building.</p>
Design and construct a boat storage shed for North Wollongong Surf Life Saving Club	On-Track 	<p>Council has provided a temporary option for consideration by North Wollongong Surf Lifesaving Club for surf boat storage. This temporary solution enables investigations to continue and source a suitable longer term solution.</p>
Explore and deploy Smart Technology options to better obtain and utilise attendance and event data to inform Lifeguard services provision	On-Track 	<p>Staff are now collecting data from a number of collection points with relation to equipment. These data collection points are currently placed on 'Beach Closed' signs, red and yellow flags, rescue boards and jet skis across six beaches.</p> <p>Council continues to work with the NSW Department of Planning in relation to the installation of Smart people counting technology with the ultimate goal of collecting accurate real-time data to inform service levels and improvements.</p>
Progress concept plans, investigations, and detailed designs for a Community Recreation & Aquatic Centre at Cleveland to service the Southern Suburbs	On-Track 	<p>Council continues to work on progressing the opportunities plan for the Community Recreation and Aquatic Centre in West Dapto to support service provision for the Southern Suburbs.</p> <p>Conceptual plans are currently being completed to identify a suitable layout and sighting of the new facilities.</p>

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Aquatic Services Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Design and implement the North Wollongong Beach Seawall Renewal	Delayed 	Work is continuing on the construction of Stage 1 of the seawall at North Wollongong Beach. The foundation system buried rock armouring and the reinforced concrete support system which underpins the final precast seating bleachers is complete. The beach vehicle access ramp and associated stairway is substantially complete and works have commenced off site on the precast bleachers, with installation planned to commence in July 2023.

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Botanic Garden and Annexes

Responsibility *Manager Open Space + Environmental Services*

About this Service

The Botanic Garden and Nursery Service involves managing and promoting the conservation, education, recreation and aesthetic values of the main 30 hectare site in Keiraville, including the maintenance of the Gleniffer Brae grounds and the three natural area annexes of Mt Keira, Puckey's Estate and Korringulla Wetland. Environmental education programs and interpretation are conducted at the Discovery Centre.

Quarterly Progress Update


The Discovery Centre saw an increase in participation rates from schools and education was assisted by volunteers from the Friends of Wollongong Botanic Garden. The School Holiday Program increased education to a further 400 people. Several media interviews were completed for *Tiny Forests*, *Poem Forests* and *Verge Gardens*. *Sculpture in the Garden* concluded on 30 April, seeing over 40,000 visitors. Surveys conducted found that 20% of the participants had never visited the Garden before.

A poetry workshop held in May 2023 saw Farmborough Road Public School students learn from Worimi poet, Nicole Smede, and plant trees with Council staff along Allan's Creek. An environmental Volunteers Week celebration, combining with Bushcare and Rise and Shine groups, was also hosted by the Garden. The Cycad collection was completed 25 May with a special media launch ahead of the Botanic Gardens Day event.

Botanic Gardens Day celebrating the conservation work of botanic gardens nationwide was held 28 May, with several hundred people participating.

During the 2022-2023 year, 51 Botanic Garden tours and events were held with an overall visitation of 316,608 and the nursery distributed 66,203 local native plants.






Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Deliver priority actions from the Urban Greening Strategy Implementation Plan 2017 2021	On-Track 	Strong community collaboration and support for Urban Greening has been achieved through the year. Council is the primary partner of the National Poetry Red Room prize that results in a new tree planted in Wollongong for every poem submitted nationwide. Planting of these trees in partnership with local school children is also a benefit as demonstrated by the recent mass tree planting by Farmborough Road Public School students at Allan's Creek. The Tiny Forest Program delivered in partnership with local schools has also improved the community's appreciation and understanding of the importance of trees. A highlight of the year was the adoption by Council of a new integrated Tree Management Policy and plain English Customer Guide. This provides a consistent incentive based approach to tree management across both private and public realms and is expected to encourage more new trees across public and private realm which is critical for Council in meeting its canopy cover targets.

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Botanic Garden and Annexes Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Enhance Botanic Garden visitor experience with programs, interpretation, education and events	On-Track 	<p>The Discovery Centre saw an increase in participation rates from schools and education and was assisted by volunteers from the Friends. The School Holiday Program was run by Creative Ark which increased education to a further 400 people.</p> <p>A poetry workshop held in May 2023 saw Farmborough Road Public School students learn from Worimi poet, Nicole Smede, and plant trees with staff from Council's Natural Areas Team and Wollongong Botanic Garden along Allan's Creek. The Botanic Garden hosted an environmental Volunteers Week celebration combining with Bushcare and Rise and Shine in May. There were also two volunteer working bees in May within the Palm Collection.</p> <p>The Cycad collection was completed on 25 May with a special media launch ahead of the Botanic Gardens Day event.</p> <p>Botanic Gardens Day celebrating the conservation work of Botanic Gardens nationwide was held 28 May, with several hundred people participating.</p>
Finalise the review of the Botanic Garden Plan of Management and Masterplan	On-Track 	The Botanic Garden Plan of Management has been adopted by Council. During the June Quarter, the Gleniffer Brae Conservation Management Plan was endorsed by Heritage NSW. The Botanic Garden Masterplan will be presented to Council for adoption with the Gleniffer Brae Conservation Management Plan following stakeholder consultation.
Implement priority actions from the Botanic Garden Masterplan	On-Track 	<p>Two capital projects remain in design phase during the quarter: a new fully accessible amenities block and new rainforest boardwalk and accessible pathway.</p> <p>Investigations commenced for a planned refurbishment of the Nursery production glasshouses. The draft Botanic Garden Masterplan will be reconfirmed with stakeholders prior to being considered for adoption by Council.</p>
Facilitate future uses of Gleniffer Brae	On-Track 	Council received endorsement of the Gleniffer Brae Conservation Management Plan in March 2023. Council is undertaking stakeholder engagement and finalisation of the Botanic Garden Masterplan. This process is also reviewing future alternate uses for Gleniffer Brae.
Implement actions arising from the Mt Keira Summit Park Plan of Management	On-Track 	During the quarter, Council's partnership with The Illawarra Aboriginal Land Council continued at Djeera/Mt Keira Summit Park. Plant expertise was provided by the Botanic Garden nursery staff to support on site vegetation works.

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Leisure Centres

Responsibility *Manager Property + Recreation*

About this Service





This service involves the provision of commercially operated recreation centres at Beaton Park Wollongong and Lakeside Leisure Kanahooka.

Quarterly Progress Update

The June Quarter saw significant recovery across all programs with attendance only 10% below pre COVID-19 levels. Over 90,000 attendances were recorded across all program areas including group exercise, learn to swim, competitive and social swimming, athletics, tennis, squash, fitness, table tennis and badminton.

This year has been one of recovery and the reintroduction of all programs following two years of COVID-19 interruptions. The centres continue to deliver on programs targeted to specific community groups including seniors (15 group exercise classes per week), juniors (over 800 enrolled students in Learn to Swim each week and fitness classes for 12–18 year olds) as well as the general community (over 100 group exercise classes per week). The centres also introduced fitness information sessions designed to educate our community on making good health decisions and also took fitness to the community, delivering classes at community centres as well as at Council's outdoor fitness equipment for free.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Projects Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Provide a variety of affordable senior programs at the Leisure Centres	On-Track 	Fifteen classes were run specifically for seniors during the June Quarter with class numbers reaching on average 90% capacity across all classes. Four specialised classes were run each week including yoga, active seniors, aquarobics and <i>Health Moves Plus</i> (a low to moderate intensity workout). Staff have visited local community centres this year to deliver programs directly to seniors.
Develop a concept plan for the Beaton Park Regional Precinct	On-Track 	The finalisation of the Master Plan was delayed due to the completion of the Tennis Court development on site. A review of the studies undertaken as part of the work for the Master Plan is currently underway to ensure they remain contemporary.
Pursue the renewal and relocation of Beaton Park Tennis Courts in accordance with the Beaton Park Masterplan	On-Track 	Works commenced on the renewal of the tennis court infrastructure at Beaton Park with an official start recognised during a media event on 2 June. The finalisation of the design for the tennis court renewal was completed throughout 2022-2023 and was followed by the engagement of a contractor. Works commenced in June 2023 with the tennis courts to be completed by June 2024 and ancillary works by October 2024.
Increase utilisation of Council's recreation and leisure assets	On-Track 	Leisure centres recovery post COVID-19 closures and restrictions continued throughout 2022-2023 with the first full year of trade completed. There has been an increase in attendance of over 80% on previous year, reaching 316,000 across both sites in 2022-2023.

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Parks and Sports Fields

Responsibility *Manager Property + Recreation*

About this Service

This service operates 493 parks, 65 sports fields, 220 playing fields, 7 outdoor fitness stations, 9 turf wickets and 154 playgrounds across the Wollongong Local Government Area and includes Russell Vale Golf Course. Provision of passive access to community parks and playgrounds, and affordable and equitable access to sports fields and facilities. Service planning for the creation of enhanced public amenity and recreational opportunities. These services are supported through facilitating casual hire and bookings of parks and sports fields. Twenty-two sports fields are licensed by volunteer or semi-professional sporting clubs.





Quarterly Progress Update

During the June Quarter, Council received 2,998 bookings. This period predominately winter sports are being played across sportsfields. There were minimal periods of wet weather resulting in limited fields offline during this period.

Throughout 2022-2023, Council received a total of 4,340 bookings with the largest number of cancellations taking place in the July, August and September period of 2022 due to wet weather.






Council has supported a number of events that have taken place on our sportsfields and parks which include a Rock Fishing Safety Workshop at King George V Oval, Port Kembla as well as a number of music festivals at Thomas Dalton Park, Fairy Meadow .

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Involve children in the design of public art features within key regional play space renewals	Complete 	Council engaged with children as part of the redevelopment of Figtree Playground. As part of the engagement it was determined the existing piece of public art would be retained as part of the redeveloped play space that has now been completed.
Collaborate with Destination Wollongong to encourage local sporting associations to host and facilitate events	On-Track 	Council has worked with Destination Wollongong on a number of event opportunities including Football Australia Youth League, Veterans Women's Cricket Event and the Gridiron Championships.
Implement the Figtree Oval Recreational Masterplan 2016-2029	On-Track 	Council continues to implement the Figtree Oval Master Plan through the renewal of the playground as part of the 2022-2023 renewal program. Council also worked with the local sporting groups regarding a proposed design for the new amenities building.
Finalise the Bulli Showground Masterplan	On-Track 	Community engagement has taken place during the June Quarter, with a further report proposed to be brought back to Council for adoption later this year. Council staff met with a number of stakeholders as well as attended a number of local events as part of the exhibition period for this plan.

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY





Parks and Sports Fields Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update		
Actions	Status	Comment
Implement the Landscape Masterplan recommendations for Hill 60 Reserve, Port Kembla	On-Track 	Council finalised the detailed plan for Stage 1A of the Hill 60 Landscape Master Plan, with public exhibition commencing June 2023. Construction will commence in 2023-2024 financial year.
Develop and implement the Landscape Master Plan for Stuart and Galvin Parks, North Wollongong	On-Track 	The Master Plan was adopted by Council on 20 March 2023. Council completed a tender process for the construction of all the abilities playground at Stuart Park with this work to be undertaken in 2023-2024.
Progress the staged realignment of the outdoor netball courts at Fred Finch Park, Berkeley	On-Track 	Council continues to progress Stage 2 of Fred Finch Netball Courts which will include the resurfacing of eight netball courts, painting and line marking as well as the extension of lighting and sound infrastructure to incorporate these courts. Works will be undertaken in 2023-2024 year. Stage 1 works, involving the extensive refurbishment of 16 courts was successfully completed in February 2023.
Implement the Landscape Masterplan for King George V Oval, Port Kembla	On-Track 	Council continues to work with a number of stakeholders for the delivery of three projects in the 2023-2024. These projects include: permanent Skate Park within King George V Oval, irrigation and drainage for the football field and renewal of the existing cricket fencing surrounding the main cricket field. Each project will be delivered over the next 18-24 months. These projects have been funded through the Port Kembla Community Infrastructure Funding program.
Provide in principle support to the Illawarra United Stingrays in their planning for a home ground location	On-Track 	Council staff continue to support the Illawarra United Stingrays in planning for their home ground. Council issued a proposed licence agreement for the outer fields of JJ Kelly Park in 2022, however, is yet to be finalised. Additional information was also provided related to potential site constraints. Staff continue to meet with representatives from the Illawarra United Stingrays. An action has been included in Council's adopted Operational Plan 2023-2024, 'Finalise the draft licence agreement with Illawarra Stingrays for a home ground at JJ Kelly Park, Wollongong.'

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Parks and Sports Fields Continued





Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Collaborate with Destination Wollongong and the Australian Baseball League to establish Wollongong as a home base location for a National Baseball League team	On-Track 	Council has completed initial investigations on electrical capacity of Fred Finch Baseball fields to determine suitability for future site improvements. Council continues to collaborate with Destination Wollongong and the Australian Baseball League.
Progress the planning and development of a Wollongong City Centre Skate Park	On-Track 	Council has completed initial site investigations for the Wollongong City Centre Skate Park with community consultation to take place on the design and elements of the skate park during the first half of the 2023-2024 financial year. Council was successful in securing funding through the NSW Government Places to Play program for \$300,000 to support the delivery of the project.
Preparation of the Bellambi Foreshore Precinct Plan	Delayed 	Investigations are continuing into land ownership and planning constraints, including meetings with Land and Housing Corporation who own significant parcels of land in this area. Council has engaged with stakeholders regarding the cultural significance of the area to inform the development of the Master Plan. Measures have been implemented to improve the protection of culturally significant areas. Plans have been prepared for the renewal of amenities at Bellambi Boat Ramp and a building contractor has been engaged to carry out these works in the 2023-2024 year. Investigations and design are underway to repair the jetty adjacent to the boat ramp.
Implement key projects identified in the Cringila Hills Recreation Master Plan	On-Track 	During the June Quarter, works were completed on Stage 2 of the pathways which included an additional 1,575m of pathway. Throughout the year, Council has completed a number of improvements at Cringila Hills in line with Councils Master Plan for the site. These included the pump track, mountain bike skills area and the mountain bike tracks as well as other facility improvements on pathways and parking. Council will continue to work with the community on the management and operations of Cringila Hills Park and investigate funding opportunities for further improvements in line with the Master Plan.

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Parks and Sports Fields Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Develop and implement the Sportsgrounds and Sporting Facilities Strategy 2022-2026	On-Track 	<p>Council adopted the 2023-2027 Sportsground and Sporting Facilities Strategy in May 2023.</p> <p>The document has been used to inform the new round of Sports Grants that will open in July 2023 to allow sporting groups to apply for funding to support improvements at Council owned or managed sporting facilities.</p> <p>The new Strategy supports the continued development of sporting infrastructure as well as supporting participation across the Local Government Area.</p>
Manage the multi-use criterium cycle track at Lindsay Maynes Park, Unanderra	Complete 	<p>Council continues to manage the multi-use criterium cycle track bookings at Lindsay Maynes Park. During the June Quarter, there was a total of 10 bookings.</p> <p>The Lindsay Maynes Criterium Track opened late 2022. This track has been developed to support the Wollongong Cycling Strategy 2030 and provide a safe space for the community and visitors to cycle on a criterium track within the Wollongong Local Government Area.</p> <p>Council continues to work with the cycling community and club enabling events and bookings to take place at the track.</p> <p>Future works include the delivery of public facilities to support the continued use of the criterium track for events and bookings.</p>
Undertake feasibility assessments for sportsfields drainage and irrigation across priority sites	On-Track 	<p>Three priority site investigations were undertaken at Lakelands Oval, Judy Masters and Cawley Park in regards to sportsfield drainage.</p> <p>These works will inform the tender package that will be finalised in the September 2023 Quarter with works to be undertaken thereafter.</p>
Implement recommendations of the Public Toilets Strategy 2019-2029 to improve accessibility	On-Track 	<p>Council continues to plan for future public toilets as part of the strategy to improve accessibility.</p> <p>Bellambi boat ramp public toilets are continuing to progress, with works to be undertaken in the 2023-2024 year.</p> <p>Planning continues for new amenities at the Unanderra Criterium Track and Figtree Oval, which will provide additional and improved accessible toilet facilities.</p>

GOAL 5 | WE HAVE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY IN A LIVEABLE CITY

Measuring Success

Measure	Target/Desired Trend	Comparative Data Where Available – June 2022	Result June 2023
Aquatic Services			
Total Visits commercial heated pools: Corrimal [#]	At least 180,000 per annum	101,299*	151,809
Total Visits commercial heated pools: Dapto [#]	At least 180,000 per annum	47,924*	77,161
Botanic Garden and Annexes			
Wollongong Botanic Garden - Visitation [#]	At least 400,000 per annum	New Measure	316,608
Community Facilities			
Utilisation of Direct-Run District Level Community Facilities (hours) [#]	Increase	22,332*	32,413
Direct-Run District Level Community Facilities visitation [#]	Increase	124,753*	203,546
Community Hall/ Centre - Hours of Use [#]	Increase	New Measure	9,917
Community Halls/Centres - Visitation [#]	Increase	New Measure	46,732

[#] Figures (including comparatives) have been prepared on an accumulative, annual basis.

* Comparative figures impacted by COVID-19.

Performance measures from the Delivery Program are reported in the Quarterly Review where data is available on a quarterly or annual basis. Performance measures that are tracked every two years will be reported in the State of the City Report.

GOAL 6 | WE HAVE AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT

June Quarter Highlights



*Wollongong Lighthouse in yellow for National Road Safety, May 2023.
Image credit: Brendon Reece Comber of R&R Productions.*



West Dapto Road Upgrade Works (Stage 1B) – April 2023.

GOAL 6 | WE HAVE AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT

Transport Services

Responsibility *Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Planning*

About this Service

This service provides the delivery, management and advocacy of transport infrastructure. The service aims to provide a transport network that is safe, efficient, equitable, effective and sustainable. The service supports the community through creating the provision of transport access for residential, business, recreation, leisure and tourism activities.

This Service also includes provision of road safety, traffic and integrated transport planning support and advice. Road Safety Education Programs and promotion is a critical activity implemented across all aspects of our transport services.

Quarterly Progress Update

Council staff attended the South East Australian Transport Strategy Annual meeting held on 18 May 2023 while 28 local traffic committee items were prepared for consideration.


The Regional Network Wayfinding Signage design was completed.

Council is now included in the Transport for NSW 'OneRoad' pilot project rollout. This project will allow Council to implement road closures for our works, events or unforeseen impacts on a centralised platform to update live traffic. This is a project Council has been advocating for to have clear communication to our community when changes occur on our roads. Training for Council staff is scheduled for July 2023.

Council continues to contribute as key stakeholders in the Transport for NSW customer behaviour strategy development and in focus groups for the Austroads project *Keeping People Safe When Walking* which will lead to contemporary guidelines and standards across Australia to encourage people to walk and safely.





The bus stop upgrade compliance strategy has been drafted and will be reviewed with an implementation plan prepared to support planned improvements.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Collaborate with the New South Wales Government to fund and deliver the Safe Routes to School Program	On-Track 	The Safer Routes to School Working Group have progressed 19 schools. The remainder of 2023 aims to have a detailed consultation period with schools and their Parents and Citizens associations. This will finalise both short and long-term solutions for specific school precincts which can be shared across projects within Council or Transport for NSW.



GOAL 6 | WE HAVE AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT

Transport Services Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update		
Actions	Status	Comment
Implement actions from the Wollongong Cycling Strategy 2030	On-Track 	<p>Council has awarded the contract for the Lake Illawarra Active Transport Masterplan. This project is fully funded by the NSW Government Resources for Regions Program. Council will deliver a strategic plan which sets out scope for completing the journey around the lake. The document will identify the roles and responsibilities addressing fragmented ownership of the area and guide infrastructure to be consistent, convenient, safe and inviting for all path users. The project is programmed to have a draft by December 2023.</p> <p>Council is participating in National Walking and Cycling Participation Survey in 2023. Council purchased four e-bikes to be included within Council's fleet. Standard operating procedures and user training is currently under development.</p> <p>Council was successful with <i>Get NSW Active</i> grant funding for the design of Grand Pacific Walk Headlands Avenue to Coledale Avenue.</p>
Subject to funding, explore the installation of tactile and braille street signage to support navigation and wayfinding throughout the Wollongong Local Government Area	Deferred 	Transport for NSW advised that funding may become available after the completion of their Customer Experience Strategy.
Develop and implement the Integrated Transport Strategy	On-Track 	The Integrated Transport Strategy workshops have been completed and draft sections of the document have been received for review. The workshops have involved many community, industry and government agency representatives and the draft document will be prepared for public exhibition.
Advocate for the provision of expanded public transport services and support the provision of existing services	On-Track 	Transport for NSW continues to liaise with Council on plans to support access to public transport, primarily the rail network. Council continues to advocate for expanded services including urban release areas of West Dapto.

GOAL 6 | WE HAVE AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT

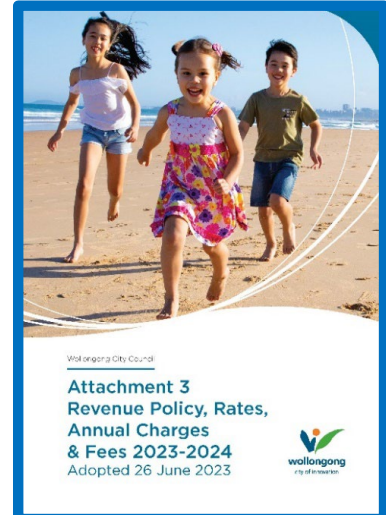
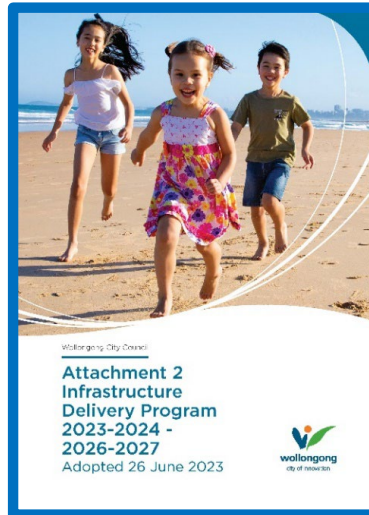
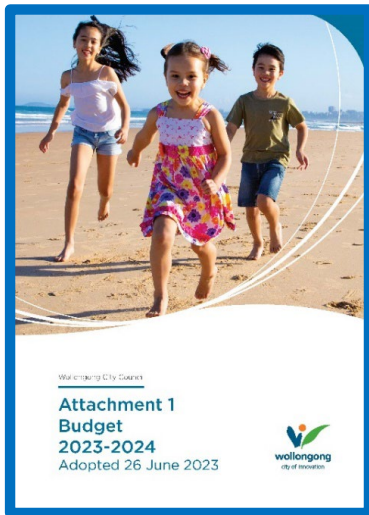
Transport Services Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update		
Actions	Status	Comment
Work with key agencies and partners to progress the Illawarra Regional Transport Plan	On-Track 	Council has been working towards strategic alignment with Council key transport projects and Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) committed projects. Wollongong Station Masterplan precinct plan is underway by TfNSW with Council a key stakeholder through its development. Council has been seeking information on timing of TfNSW Illawarra Public Transport Services Plan and the future Transport Strategy. Council continues to advocate for these two pieces of work to be delivered from TfNSW to deliver actions from the Regional Transport Plan.
Develop road safety programs, education and promotion of sustainable multi modal transport options	On-Track 	Council participated in Road Safety Week and turned the Wollongong lighthouse yellow to promote road safety across the City. Council staff also participated in a road safety stall at the Friday markets (Crown Street Mall) and held workshops for parents of learner drivers. Council staff also presented to Strategic and Community Assistance to Refugee Families group to build capacity among multicultural communities of Wollongong with road safety advice and messages, guidance, and support.

Performance measures from the Delivery Program are reported in the Quarterly Review where data is available on a quarterly or annual basis. Performance measures in Goal 6 are tracked every two years via the Community Survey and will be reported in the State of the City Report.

SUPPORT SERVICES

June Quarter Highlights



Council adoption of the Budget 2023-2024, Infrastructure Delivery Program 2023-2024 – 2026-2027 and Revenue Policy, Rates, Annual Charges and Fees 2023-2024.



our safety

everyone everyday everywhere

means we are:

- 1 Ready and capable of working safely
- 2 Aware of our risks and act to control them
- 3 Taking ownership of our actions
- 4 Speaking up if we see hazards or unsafe behaviours
- 5 Celebrating our successes and learning from our mistakes

Our Vision

We work together to achieve a healthy, safe environment, free from harm. We lead the way, by caring for one another, looking after the environment and the well-being of our community.

Council's Our Safety vision statement.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Financial Services

Responsibility *Chief Financial Officer*

About this Service

Wollongong City Council is a large and diverse organisation that provides services from the funding it receives from its community through rates, fees, and charges. Financial Sustainability and efficiency are aims of this service. This is achieved through financial strategy, policy, budgets and controls; while ensuring Council meets its taxation obligations, investment return, and internal and external reporting that provides transparency about decision making. Council's primary source of income is property rates and sundry debtors systems used for billing and recovery, and customer service relating to these areas.

Quarterly Progress Update



The 2023-2026 Long term Financial Model and annual Budget was completed for the Operational Plan 2023-2024 and the Revenue Policy, Rates, Annual Charges, and Fees as part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Process. The annual Fringe Benefits Tax return was completed along with other taxation compliance during the quarter.

Other functions have been broadly delivered as expected throughout the year. This includes the timely delivery of financial planning and reporting functions through the Budget, Quarterly Reviews, and Monthly Financial Reporting and other financial support services to the organisation.

Council's supplier payment function has been further improved with weekly payments continuing for all suppliers and the availability of e-invoicing. Taxation processing has been maintained and the annual Fringe Benefits Tax return completed.

Council's new rating system has continued to be fully embedded. Council is now in a position to further enhance the use of functionality within the system to improve service and efficiency, including greater use of the customer portal.


Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Manage and further develop a compliance program to promote awareness of Council's Procurement Policies and Procedures and other related policies	On-Track 	Enhancements to the existing policy framework identified through internal audit have been complete and will be assessed through the next compliance program. Education to relevant staff is being prepared to support knowledge of key policy and procedural changes.
Review Financial Strategy to include goals and actions aimed to improve financial capacity to respond to increased service demands	Deferred 	The 2022-2026 Delivery Program and 2023-2024 Operational Plan have been adopted with a revised set of budget parameters and assumptions in response to the rapidly changing economic environment experienced and the lower than sustainable rate peg applied to the 2023-2024 rating year. In the context of those external pressures, the opportunity for creating increased capacity was extremely limited in the timeframe and this task has been extended into future periods. Further consideration of Council's current financial position, future capacity and opportunities moving forward will progress further in the 2023-2024 year and beyond.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Financial Services Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Continue the review of the rating structure to align to legislative changes	Deferred 	Council is awaiting changes to the legislation to allow review and implementation of any changes to the rating structure.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Governance and Administration

Responsibility *Manager Governance + Customer Service*



About this Service

The Governance and Administration Service includes policy, internal audit, legal, insurance, claims management, supply chain, risk management, business paper functions and corporate governance. The service also captures the Office of the General Manager and Executive Group, support for Councillors and the Professional Conduct Coordinator.

Quarterly Progress Update

Ongoing support provided to the organisation via the procurement, governance, councillor support, and risk management functions. Support was provided for four ordinary council meetings in the quarter.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Continue to collaborate with NSW Government and partners to help the Wollongong community navigate COVID-19 pandemic	On-Track 	During the June Quarter, COVID-19 case numbers across the NSW continued at relatively low numbers. No specific pandemic response action was required in the quarter.
Deliver the Internal Audit Program	On-Track 	The 2022-2023 Internal Audit Plan was completed with eight internal audits undertaken during the 2022-2023 year. A tender for the next internal audit contract from 1 July 2023 was undertaken and awarded.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Employee Services

Responsibility *Manager Organisational Development*




About this Service

Council's Employee Services provides support, advice and information to staff, including staff attraction and retention, health and wellbeing initiatives, and ongoing learning and development. This service fosters a safe and equitable work environment where people are skilled, valued and supported.

Quarterly Progress Update

Employee services continue to support core business activities that support Workforce Strategy and Business Plan objectives. Key progress has been made in supporting *Our Safety Program*, workforce planning approach, payroll system integration and learning pathways.



Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Implement the Workforce Strategy 2022-2026	On-Track 	<p>Council's Equal Employment Opportunity Management Policy and Plan have been drafted and are pending endorsement.</p> <p>Bullying and Harassment e-Learning continues to be rolled out to all staff. This training focused on the fundamentals of anti-discrimination, harassment and bullying in the workplace.</p> <p>Council's Cadet, Apprentice and Trainee 2024 intake process has commenced with roles anticipated to be advertised in August and September 2023.</p> <p>Mental Health Awareness training continues to be rolled out across the organisation.</p>
Refresh Council's Attraction and Retention Strategies	On-Track 	<p>The new performance planning and review process has completed its first full annual cycle, aligning individual performance objectives to the Community Strategic Plan, community expectations and delivery streams. The new salary progression processes have also been through a full annual cycle. Both of these processes will move to the new enterprise resourcing technology program platform in July 2023, which will further streamline processes and enable improved reporting and evaluation.</p> <p>The Recruitment Review Project is nearing completion and is expected to deliver enhanced attraction and recruitment strategies and a more contemporary recruitment service.</p>
Support Council's Cadet, Apprentice and Trainee program	On-Track 	<p>During 2022-2023 Council supported the following opportunities in our Cadet, Apprentice, Trainee and School-based Trainee (CATS) program:</p> <p>23 Cadets, two apprentices, 12 trainees and six school based trainees.</p> <p>Of the current cohort, six identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and five identify as living with disability.</p>

SUPPORT SERVICES

Employee Services Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
<p>Enhance Council's Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Programs</p>	<p>On-Track</p> 	<p>Council's Equal Employment Opportunity Management Policy and Plan have been drafted and are awaiting endorsement.</p> <p>Training continues to be rolled out across the organisation including cultural intelligence, diversity awareness and bullying and harassment eLearning.</p> <p>Council has applied to take part in the Council for Intellectual Disability's 'Inclusion Works' project. This program will offer free tailored coaching, training and advice about accessible recruitment and employment for people with intellectual disability.</p> <p>Council's Cadet, Apprentice and Trainee 2024 intake process has commenced with an intention to provide targeted roles.</p>
<p>Implement Safety and Wellbeing Programs</p>	<p>On-Track</p> 	<p>The June Quarter saw work finalised on 'Our Safety' Key Performance Indicators that measures safety leadership, culture, risk and performance. Reporting to commence from 1 July 2023.</p> <p>Projects reaching final stages of completion include: Workplace Health and Safety Management System procedures and operational procedures with an expected completion date of the end of August 2023 along with confirming the Critical Risk + Control Management Framework. Critical risks and its critical controls have been identified and verification of these draft critical controls has been undertaken, which will be finalised in September 2023. Mental Health training program commenced in 2023 with over 225 employees completed the mental health awareness program. Council established 55 accredited mental health first aid officers across the organisation. Council has partnered with Lifeline for suicide prevention training during the quarter.</p>

SUPPORT SERVICES

Information Management and Technology

Responsibility *Chief Information Officer*

About this Service

This service delivers digitally enabled, information driven and secure services that empower our customer community.

Quarterly Progress Update

Information Management and Technology (IMT) has continued to implement initiatives outlined in the IMT Strategic Plan 2021-2024.

Council's cloud transformation is well progressed with electronic document and records management and property and ratings systems migrated to the cloud. The migration of the payroll platform to the cloud based Enterprise Resource Planning solution is well progressed with a go live scheduled in late July 2023. Work continued on the roll out of mobile working solutions. These have assisted outdoor employees to improve the quality and timeliness of data.




With the continued network upgrade, Council have been able to migrate the legacy telephony platform to Microsoft Teams providing a fully integrated collaboration platform for all staff.

SMART initiatives are moving to the next phase. The Road Condition Auditing Solution which uses artificial intelligence to identify road defects has been trialled and a business case is in development.

A number of cyber security enhancements have been implemented to ensure sensitive data that is entrusted to us by the community is secure and well managed.

The Big Data project has visualised emissions and Work Health and Safety data, providing staff with readily available dashboards to evaluate actions or interventions applied.



Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Implement the Cyber Security Strategy	On-Track 	During the June Quarter, implementation of 'Essential 8' requirements continued with progress made with Application Control, Microsoft Office macros hardening and Multi-Factor Authentication to strengthen Council's cyber security.
Finalise the Information Technology Cloud Transformation Program	Delayed 	This project has been delayed due to the re-baselining of the OneCouncil program. With the imminent completion of OneCouncil resources will be made available to scope this program in its entirety.
Implement the CCTV Strategy	On-Track 	Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) upgrades continued in the June Quarter with Beaton Park Leisure Centre completed and commencement of works at the Lakeside Leisure Centre. All CCTV audit actions and recommendations were finalised throughout the 2022-2023 year and verified by an external auditor. The CCTV evaluation framework was developed and will be the foundation and guide to evaluating the effectiveness of the CCTV network within Council.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Information Management and Technology Continued

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Continue to consolidate information technology systems and platforms	On-Track 	<p>The OneCouncil roll out continued throughout the 2022–2023 year.</p> <p>Human Resources and Payroll is scheduled to go live at the end of July 2023. This is the final module in OneCouncil Program. Once complete, Council will be in a position to decommission many of our legacy applications such as Regulation and Enforcement, Property and Rating, HR and Payroll and Electronic Document and Record Management systems. Planning is extensive to ensure Council's information and history remains accessible.</p> <p>Legacy finance and customer requests systems have been decommissioned.</p>
Pilot and expand the use of robust SMART technologies across Council	On-Track 	<p>The road artificial intelligence trial concluded in May after a 12 week trial. The project review has been successfully completed with the list of recommendations presented to project sponsors. A business case is being developed to continue the roll out of road artificial intelligence more broadly.</p> <p>Other projects successfully completed throughout the year include a trial of bin sensors along foreshore areas, completion of a dashboard to report on Council's progress towards net zero emissions and development of a safety scorecard to report on WHS across the organisation.</p> <p>Projects currently in-progress include trialling of monitoring technology for Council's prescribed dams, and integration with the NSW State Government's planning portal.</p> <p>Improvement opportunities resulting in financial savings have been identified through the insights program of work, such as review of wastewater discharge factors.</p>

SUPPORT SERVICES

Infrastructure Strategy and Support

Responsibility Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Planning

About this Service

This service includes the strategic management and technical planning of Council's infrastructure that supports all Council Services. It also includes the development and review of Council's Asset Management Strategy, Asset Management Plans, the development and delivery of rolling capital works and planned annual maintenance programs.




Quarterly Progress Update

Staff supported the review of the Infrastructure Delivery Program, with workshops and community engagement, resulting in Council adoption during the June quarter.

External funding opportunities have been actively pursued to support the delivery of projects listed in the Infrastructure Delivery Program.

A review of procedures and opportunities to better collaborate with stakeholders to improve project outcomes has commenced.

Operational Plan 2022-2023 Update

Actions	Status	Comment
Develop and regularly review Asset Management Plans to ensure appropriate investment in Council's asset base	On-Track 	Summary Asset Management Plans have been drafted to support Council's Asset Management Strategy and include proposed asset management performance indicators
Progressively implement the Asset Management Improvement Program	On-Track 	Priority actions identified in Council's Asset Management Strategy and Plans are underway with a focus on improving data confidence and documentation of processes and structures.
Review Asset Management Plans to include latest methodology, asset condition and performance data	On-Track 	Summary asset management plans have been updated to include latest data from stormwater and transport revaluation. Condition information is being collected on all road pavements across the Wollongong Local Government Area, in addition to kerb and gutter, with footpaths to commence in the 2023-2024 year. Information collected will be used to update the transport asset management plan.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Measuring Success

Measure	Target/Desired Trend	Comparative Data Where Available – June 2022	Result June 2023
Financial Services			
Available funds.	3.5% to 5.5% of Operating Revenue (Pre-Capital)	\$32.3M or 10.7%	\$39.4M or 11.7%
Operating result pre capital income, including depreciation	Small Operational Surplus (average over 3 years)	\$15M	-\$4.3M
Information Management and Technology			
Formal Government Information Public Access (GIPA) Applications Processed Within 20 Days	100%	New Measure	100%

Performance measures from the Delivery Program are reported in the Quarterly Review where data is available on a quarterly or annual basis. Performance measures that are tracked every two years will be reported in the State of the City Report.

ITEM 6

COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE AT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW (LGNSW) ANNUAL CONFERENCE - ROSEHILL 12-14 NOVEMBER 2023

The Local Government NSW Conference is an annual event which provides opportunities for Councillors to network and participate in debate on local government policy issues at a state level. The purpose of this report is to nominate seven Councillors as voting delegates to the Local Government NSW Annual Conference, scheduled for 12-14 November 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 Council nominate the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor, and an additional five Councillors as its seven voting delegates to the Local Government NSW Annual Conference, to be held at Rosehill from 12-14 November 2023.
- 2 Council delegate to the General Manager authority to approve attendance of any additional Councillors requesting to attend the Conference, over and above the nominated voting delegates.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Todd Hopwood, Manager Governance and Customer Service
Authorised by: Renee Campbell, Director Corporate Services - Connected + Engaged City

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

BACKGROUND

The Local Government NSW Annual Conference provides an opportunity for Councillors to meet, discuss and debate issues facing local government, and develop agreed positions which can inform the development of future NSW Local Government policies.

Voting entitlements

While all Councillors can attend, Wollongong City Council is entitled to nominate seven voting delegates to the 2023 Conference.

Motions

All LGNSW members are invited to submit motions for inclusion in the Conference business paper. The deadline for submitting motions is 15 September 2023. Proposed motions should be strategic, affect members state-wide and introduce new or emerging policy issues and actions. As in previous years, the Executive Officer to the Lord Mayor will liaise with Councillors on possible motions for submission.

Program

The 2023 conference will be held from 12 to 14 November 2023 at the Rosehill Garden Racecourse.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal "We are a connected and engaged community".

It specifically delivers on core business activities as detailed in the Governance and Customer Service Divisional Service Plan 2023-24.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has a budget to enable Councillors to attend conferences and meet associated costs.

Registration: Early bird registration at the conference is approximately \$1,385 per Councillor. The fees include online business papers, the President's Welcome Reception, two-day business sessions including morning and afternoon tea, lunch, and name badge and conference dinner on one night.

Accommodation: will cost approximately \$390 per Councillor, which is for two nights.

Other expenses: Councillors may claim for reimbursement of any travel or incidental expenses in accordance with the Councillor Expenses and Facilities policy.

CONCLUSION

The Local Government NSW Conference provides an opportunity for Councillors to network and participate in local government debate at a state level. Wollongong City Council is entitled to register seven voting delegates to the 2023 Conference. This report seeks agreement for the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor and five other Councillors to attend the Conference as voting delegates, and any additional Councillors able to attend as non-voting delegates.

ITEM 7 DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS FOR 2024 - 2028 TERM OF OFFICE

This report recommends that Council retain the current number of Councillors (being 13, one of whom is the Lord Mayor) for the 2024-2028 term of office.

RECOMMENDATION

In accordance with section 224(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council determine the number of Councillors for the 2024-2028 term of office to be 13 (one of whom is the Lord Mayor).

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Todd Hopwood, Manager Governance and Customer Service
Authorised by: Renee Campbell, Director Corporate Services - Connected + Engaged City

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

BACKGROUND

The *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) requires Council to determine the number of Councillors for the 2024-2028 term of office not less than 12 months before the next ordinary election i.e., before 14 September 2023. The Act requires the number of Councillors to be at least 5 and not more than 15 (one of whom is the Lord Mayor).

PROPOSAL

The number of Councillors for the 2024-2028 term of office is submitted for Council's determination in accordance with section 224(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*. It is proposed the number of Councillors for the 2024-2028 term of office remain the same as the current term.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 goal "We are a connected and engaged community".

It specifically delivers on core business activities as detailed in the Governance and Customer Service Business Plan 2023-24.

CONCLUSION

Council is required by the *Local Government Act 1993* to determine the number of Councillors for the 2024-2028 term of office, and it is recommended that the current number of Councillors be retained.

ITEM 8

AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE - EXTENSION OF TERM - MS DONNA RYGATE

The initial term of Donna Rygate, Independent member and Chair of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) expires on 31 October 2023. This report recommends that the appointment of Donna Rygate to the Committee be extended, in accordance with the ARIC Charter, for four years, for the period up to 31 October 2027.

RECOMMENDATION

The term of Ms Donna Rygate as an independent member and Chairperson of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee be extended for the period up to 31 October 2027.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Todd Hopwood, Manager Governance and Customer Service
Authorised by: Renee Campbell, Director Corporate Services - Connected + Engaged City

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

BACKGROUND

The Council ARIC Committee has three appointed independent external members, one of which is appointed by Council as Chairperson.

The current independent members of the Committee are as follows:

- Donna Rygate (Chairperson) appointment expires 31 October 2023
- Carl Murphy appointment expires 31 October 2025
- Robert Lagaida appointment expires 31 October 2026

The ARIC Terms of Reference states the following in relation to term limits of independent members of the ARIC:

- 5.5 *Members will be appointed for a four-year period. Members can be reappointed for a further term, but the total period of continuous membership cannot exceed eight years and extension is at the discretion of Council. This includes any term as Chair of the Committee. Members who have served an eight-year term (either as member or Chair) must have a two-year break from serving on the Committee before being appointed again.*

Ms Rygate was appointed for an initial term of three years. Ms Rygate's appointment was made under a previous Charter of the ARIC that allowed initial terms of between three years and five years. The current Terms of Reference for the ARIC has moved to a 4 year with a 4-year extension approach.

Ms Rygate has a strong background in public sector management including previously holding the Chief Executive Officer roles with Local Government NSW and with the NSW Office of Communities, as well as senior executive roles with several NSW Government agencies. Ms Rygate also has experience in local government Audit Risk and Improvement Committees.

PROPOSAL

In accordance with the ARIC Terms of Reference it is recommended that Ms Rygate be appointed to an additional 4-year term as independent member and Chairperson of the ARIC for the period up to 31 October 2027.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 goal "We are a connected and engaged community". It specifically delivers on core business activities as detailed in the Governance and Customer Service Business Plan 2023-2024.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications relating to the extension of term.

CONCLUSION

The Audit Risk and Improvement Committee is a key component of Council's governance framework. The objective of the ARIC is to provide independent assurance and advice to the General Manager and Council by overseeing and monitoring Council's governance, risk and control frameworks and its external accountability requirements. Extending the appointment of Ms Rygate on the Committee allows for continuity following the appointment of two new independent external members in October 2022.

ITEM 9 POLICY REVIEW - CHILD SAFE COUNCIL POLICY

Creating an extraordinary Wollongong requires making our community safe where every child is valued and their right to safety and wellbeing is respected and upheld. The Child Safe Council Policy (Policy) includes Council's commitment to creating and maintaining a Child Safe Organisation and guides policies, strategies and actions that align with the continual enhancement of child safety in all Council activities.

The Policy has been updated to align with the *Children's Guardian Amendment (Child Safe Scheme) Act 2021*, Council's Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Policy and other Child Safe related policies and procedures. This report presents the draft Policy to Council for endorsement.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the draft Child Safe Policy.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Sue Savage, Manager Community Cultural + Economic Development
Authorised by: Kerry Hunt, Director Community Services - Creative and Innovative City

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Draft Child Safe Council Policy

BACKGROUND

The Child Safe Council Policy was first adopted in August 2021 to assist Council in meeting its legislative requirements as a Child Safe Organisation. The Policy outlines Council's obligations and commitment to creating a safe place, where every child is valued and their rights to safety and wellbeing are respected and upheld.

The draft Policy supports the implementation and compliance with our legislative obligations. It contains our Child Safety Commitment Statement and guides how we involve and consider children in decision making, selection and recruitment, training and inductions, reporting, privacy and confidentiality and risk management and sets out the roles and responsibilities.

The draft Policy has been updated to align with the *Children's Guardian Amendment (Child Safe Scheme) Act 2021*, Council's Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Policy and other Child Safe related policies and procedures.

Key changes include:

- Detailing our commitment to diversity, inclusion and belonging
- Including a statement about the Child Safe Standards being the primary framework that guides child safe practice in NSW
- Expanding the list of who can report to include community members
- Updating the Legislative Requirements to include the *Children's Guardian Amendment (Child Safe Scheme) Act 2021*
- Updating the related Strategies, Policies and Procedures
- Minor edits and formatting changes.

PROPOSAL

It is proposed the draft Child Safe Council Policy be adopted as a Council Policy.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Feedback was sought and considered from the Child Safe Working Group which has representation from: Community, Cultural and Economic Development; Property and Recreation; People and Culture; Library and Community Services; and Governance and Customer Service.

Executive Management Committee resolved to approve the draft Child Safe Council Policy for Council’s consideration at the 28 August meeting.

Once adopted the final Policy will be promoted to our community via the Council webpage and to staff via the Hub and direct email.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal 4 “*We are a Connected and engaged community*” and Goal 5 “*We have a healthy community in a liveable city*”. It specifically delivers on:

Community Strategic Plan 2032	Delivery Program 2022-2026
Strategy	Service
4.7 Demonstrate responsible decision-making based on our values, collaboration, and transparent and accountable leadership.	Community Programs Action - Implement the Child Safe Implementation Plan
4.11 Quality services, libraries and facilities are available to communities to access and gather.	
5.4 Provide a variety of quality and accessible public places and opportunities for sport, play, leisure, recreation, learning and cultural activities in the community.	
5.5 Provide safe, well-maintained and accessible beaches and aquatic recreation facilities.	

RISK MANAGEMENT

The draft Child Safe Council Policy assists the Council in meeting its legislative requirements as a Child Safe Organisation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Implementation of the draft Child Safe Council Policy will be managed within existing staff resources and operating budget. Any additional costs associated with the implementation of the NSW Child Safe Standards will be subject to the annual operational budget process and Council approval.

CONCLUSION

Creating a safe community for children is everyone’s responsibility. A safe place for our most vulnerable community members, children, is a safe place for everyone. Council leads the way in creating an organisation and community that is a safe place, where every child is valued and their rights to safety and wellbeing are respected and upheld. The draft Child Safe Council Policy supports the implementation and compliance with our legislative obligations, aligns with the Disability, Inclusion and Belonging Policy and outlines Council’s commitment to creating and maintaining a child safe organisation.



CHILD SAFE COUNCIL POLICY

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL: [TO BE COMPLETED BY GOVERNANCE]

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline Council's commitment to creating and maintaining a Child Safe Organisation.

POLICY INTENT

The policy informs Councillors, employees, contractors and volunteers of their obligations in keeping children safe. For the purposes of this policy, a child is a person under the age of 16 years and a young person is a person aged 16 years or above, but under the age of 18 years.

The policy will inform Council policies, strategies and actions that align with the continual enhancement of child safety in all Council activities.

The main objectives of this policy are to:

1. Deliver on Council's obligations as a Child Safe Organisation.
2. Demonstrate Council's commitment to child safety and provide the over-arching framework for creating a Child Safe Organisation.

WOLLONGONG 2032 OBJECTIVES

Our Wollongong 2032 outlines the community's main priorities for the future and includes strategies for achieving them. This policy contributes towards the achievement of Wollongong 2032.

- Goal 4 "We are a connected and engaged community"
- Goal 5 "We have a healthy community in a liveable city".

POLICY

Commitment to Child Safety

We believe children and young people have the right to be respected, empowered and safe. We are dedicated to listening to their views and committed to our responsibilities in keeping them safe.

Council is committed to implementing the Child Safe Standards which are the primary framework that guides child safe practice in organisations in NSW. The Child Safe Standards aim to improve the way organisations provide services for children and young people and to prevent and respond to child abuse that may occur within organisations. The Child Safe Standards are:

- Standard 1: Child safety is embedded in organisations leadership, governance and culture
- Standard 2: Children participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously
- Standard 3: Families and communities are informed and involved
- Standard 4: Equity is upheld, and diverse needs are taken into account
- Standard 5: People working with children are suitable and supported
- Standard 6: Processes to respond to complaints of child abuse are child focused
- Standard 7: Staff are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children safe through continual education and training
- Standard 8: Physical and online environments minimise the opportunity for abuse to occur
- Standard 9: Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is continuously reviewed and improved
- Standard 10: Policies and procedures document how the organisation is child safe.

CHILD SAFE

COUNCIL POLICY

The Office of the Children's Guardian oversees the implementation and enforcement of the Child Safe Standards.

Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging

Council recognises the diversity of our children and young people and their differences such as what we look like, our lived experiences, our perspectives, what we know and our beliefs. Council also acknowledges diversity relates to things like our age, gender expression and identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, nationality, religion, race, cultural background, family or relationship status, socioeconomic background, health and ability. Diversity exists not just in and between individuals, but within and between communities.

Council recognises the diversity of our children and young people and will provide an environment that is culturally safe and free from discrimination. Children and young people's diverse circumstances are considered when delivering services and programs.

Involving children in decision making

Council supports the active participation of children in our services, programs and events. Council will provide accessible opportunities and encourage children to take part in decisions that affect them now and in the future. This is to:

- Help us better meet their needs and interests
- Involve them in their community
- Encourage them to share their ideas and opinions
- Teach them a new skill.

We inform children and young people about what they can do if they feel unsafe.

Recruitment and selection

Council employs a fit for purpose recruitment and selection process for all direct contact work with a child or young person, where contact is a usual part of and more than incidental to the work as defined by the *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*. A current Working with Children Check (WWCC) is required for all child related work.

Training and induction

Council will meet its training and onboarding obligations by ensuring that all Councillors, employees, volunteers and contractors are inducted in child safety and understand that child safety is everyone's responsibility. Councillors, employees, volunteers and contractors will be provided with training to support their understanding of Council's commitment to child safety and that everyone has a role to play in safeguarding children.

Reporting a child safety concern or complaint

A reportable allegation is made where a child, young person, or adult makes an allegation, based on a reasonable belief that a Councillor, employee, contractor, or volunteer of Wollongong City Council has been, or allegedly been, involved in the harm or abuse of a child or young person.

In line with legislative requirements, Council will appoint a Child Protection Officer. All reportable allegations of child abuse must be reported to Council's Child Protection Officer. Allegations can be reported by children or young people, families, Councillors, employees, contractors, volunteers or community members. Council must immediately take the appropriate steps to assess and minimise any further risk of harm, as well as report the matter to the relevant oversight agencies and/or Police. Council will support relevant authorities' investigations into allegations of abuse or risk of harm to children and young people.

Council will meet its mandatory reporting obligations and will take action to protect children and young people at risk of significant harm.

CHILD SAFE

COUNCIL POLICY

Privacy and confidentiality

Council is committed to protecting an individual's right to privacy. All personal information considered during the process of reporting or investigation will be collected and managed in accordance with Council's Privacy Management Plan. Personal information will only be disclosed to another party if there is a legislative requirement for such disclosure.

Risk management

Council recognises the importance of a risk management approach to minimising the potential for child abuse or harm to occur and this informs all associated policies, strategies and actions. To ensure Council maintains a child safe culture all Councillors, employees, contractors and volunteers will be informed, resourced and supported to understand their role in providing a child safe environment.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

This policy complies with and supports implementation and compliance with the following policies and instruments, but is not limited to:

Children's Guardian Act 2019

Children's Guardian Amendment (Child Safe Scheme) Act 2021

Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Regulation 2012

Advocate for Children and Young People Act 2014 Child Protection (Offenders Prohibition Orders) Act 2004

Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000

Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012

Child Protection (Working with Children) Regulation 2013

Environmental Planning and Assessment (EPA) Act 1979

Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

Ombudsman Act 1974 Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998

State Records Act 1998

The NSW Local Government Act (1993)

Young Offenders Act 1997

REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed a minimum once every term of Council, or more frequently as required.

REPORTING

The Child Protection Officer will report to the General Manager and the relevant agencies in accordance with child protection reporting obligations.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Council

Publicly commits to child safety and embeds a child safe culture.

CHILD SAFE

COUNCIL POLICY

General Manager

The General Manager is responsible for ensuring that Council fulfills its responding and reporting obligations and to notify the Office of the Children's Guardian (NSW) when an allegation of child abuse is made against a Councillor, employee, volunteer or contractor.

Divisional Managers

Divisional Managers are responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy and that all employees, contractors and volunteers are informed, resourced and supported to understand their role in providing a child safe environment.

Child Protection Officer

Council's Public Officer has been appointed as the Child Protection Officer and their responsibilities are:

- provide ongoing support and response to concerns about the safety and wellbeing of children while engaged in services, programs or events delivered by Council
- to notify the Office of the Children's Guardian (NSW) when an allegation (of which they are aware) of child abuse is made against a Councillor, employee, volunteer or contractor.

Council employees, contractors and volunteers

Employees, contractors and volunteers must adhere to the requirements of this policy, reportable conduct and responding and reporting obligations and be able to demonstrate their awareness of their child safety responsibilities.

Employees and Councillors are also to be aware of their obligations relating to Child Protection outlined in Section 3 of Wollongong City Council Code of Conduct.

All staff should be aware that the appointment by Council of a Child Protection Officer does not remove mandatory reporting obligations that other officers of Council may have under s27 of the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998*.

All staff must adhere to their responding and reporting and reportable conduct obligations and take action when a child or young person is at risk of harm.

RELATED STRATEGIES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Code of Conduct
Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Policy
Employment Policies and Procedures
Recruitment, Training and Onboarding – Child Safe Procedure
Responding and Reporting - Child Safe Procedure
Professional Conduct Investigation Policy
Social Media Community Guidelines
Interacting with Children and Young People Work Instruction

CHILD SAFE

COUNCIL POLICY

APPROVAL AND REVIEW	
Responsible Division	[Name of Division]
Date adopted by Council	[To be inserted by Corporate Governance]
Date/s of previous adoptions	[List previous adoption dates]
Date of next review	[Not more than two years from last adoption]

ITEM 10 POLICY REVIEW - GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT COUNCIL POLICY

The Graffiti Management Council Policy (Policy) has been revised as part of the Council policy review process. The Policy remains relevant with changes limited to formatting and minor edits. The draft Policy is presented to Council for endorsement.

RECOMMENDATION

Council endorse the Graffiti Management Council Policy

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Sue Savage, Manager Community Cultural + Economic Development
Authorised by: Kerry Hunt, Director Community Services - Creative and Innovative City

ATTACHMENTS

1 Draft Graffiti Management Council Policy

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Graffiti Management Council Policy (Policy) is to provide a clear and consistent framework for managing graffiti, so that we are a healthy community in a liveable city.

Through the Policy, Council recognises the significant community impact of graffiti and will minimise and manage the impacts of graffiti through the implementation of its Graffiti Prevention and Management Program.

A review of the existing Policy has been undertaken. The Policy remains relevant, with changes limited to formatting and minor edits.

PROPOSAL

It is proposed that Council endorse the draft Graffiti Management Council Policy.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

A review of compliance to the current targets was undertaken with City Works division. The proposed targets remain relevant and achievable.

A benchmarking exercise was undertaken with other Councils. Comparisons were made against the timeframes for the removal of offensive graffiti/non-offensive graffiti on Council assets and the method of reporting graffiti to Council. The targets proposed remain in range with other Councils.

Consultation was also undertaken with:

- Infrastructure Strategy and Planning Division
- City Works Division
- Governance and Customer Service Division
- Legal Services
- Project Delivery Division
- City Strategy Land Use Planning Division
- Development Assessment and Certification Division

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal 5 “We have a healthy community in a liveable city”. It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan 2032		Delivery Program 2022-2026
Strategy		Service
5.11	Local crime continues to be prevented and levels of crime reduced	Community Programs

The Policy supports the delivery of the Wollongong Community Safety Plan 2021-2025.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is a current budget for the implementation of graffiti removal, prevention and management strategies.

CONCLUSION

The Graffiti Management Policy provides Council with a framework for the effective management of graffiti in the Wollongong local government area



GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT COUNCIL POLICY

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL: [TO BE COMPLETED BY GOVERNANCE]

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to provide a framework for managing graffiti so that we are a healthy community in a liveable city.

POLICY INTENT

Council recognises the significant community impact of graffiti and will minimise and manage the impacts of graffiti through the implementation of the Graffiti Prevention Management Program.

The main objectives of this policy are to:

1. Minimise the incidence of graffiti on public and private property
2. Reduce the impact of graffiti on residents and business operators
3. Increase quality of community life in relation to personal safety and security
4. Reduce the financial impact of responding to graffiti.

WOLLONGONG 2032 OBJECTIVES

The Policy contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong Our Future 2032 Community Strategic Plan “We have a healthy community in a liveable city”. It specifically contributes to the delivery of Objective 5.11 Local crime continues to be prevented and levels of crime reduced.

POLICY

Council’s approach to graffiti management is based on the following principles:

- Prevention
- Detection and reporting
- Prompt removal
- Criteria for prioritisation of removal work
- Enforcement of legal sanctions
- Community information and education
- Data collection and analysis
- Ongoing program evaluation and research
- Facilitation of legal avenues for expression.

Council will respond to graffiti within the Wollongong local government area via the following strategies:

Reporting Graffiti

Promotion of Council’s Graffiti Reporting Line and Graffiti Removal Services will encourage the community to report incidents of graffiti in the Local Government Area. The Council Graffiti Reporting Line will be the central point for the collation and allocation of graffiti removal jobs for the Local Government Area. Ownership of the property affected by graffiti (Council assets, private property or owned by another government authority) will determine action or referral. The Graffiti Reporting Line phone number and website will be displayed on Council assets for easy reporting of graffiti.

GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT

COUNCIL POLICY

Prioritisation of Graffiti Removal on Council Assets

Removal of graffiti on Council assets is prioritised based on the type of graffiti, with priority given to the removal of offensive, racist or defamatory graffiti and/or graffiti on prominent sites or sites of significance within the community. The following table outlines the graffiti removal timelines on Council assets depending on the type of the graffiti.

TYPE OF GRAFFITI	PRIORITY REMOVAL TIME
<p>Type 1 Racist, defamatory, offensive graffiti on Council assets and/or prominent sites or sites of significance.</p>	<p>Within 2 working days from when it is reported, where possible</p>
<p>Type 2 All non-offensive or other types of graffiti.</p>	<p>Within 20 working days in accordance with Council's asset routine maintenance schedule.</p>

Graffiti Prevention Program

The Graffiti Prevention Program aims to reduce graffiti from Council assets and non-Council assets through a community development approach that engages the community and partners with other levels of government and business. This includes actions such as maintaining community partnerships which remove graffiti from non-Council assets, completing community prevention murals to reduce graffiti costs on Council assets which also act to improve amenity in the area and conducting community education prevention programs such as Graffiti Removal Day.

Support for removal of graffiti on private property

Council does not remove graffiti from private property (subject to *Graffiti Control Act 2008*). Council will only remove graffiti from Council owned assets. Council will provide information regarding the removal or prevention of graffiti using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles, incorporating situational prevention, activating spaces and community development to reduce graffiti on private property. Council provides free graffiti removal kits for residents.

Access for graffiti removal on private/commercial properties

The *Graffiti Control Act 2008* provides councils with the power to remove graffiti where the graffiti can be seen and accessed from a public place. The removal of graffiti from private property is set out in Part 4 Sections 10, 11 and 12 of the *Graffiti Control Act 2008*.

The Act states that local councils, by agreement with the owner/occupier of any private land, can remove graffiti on the land.

Council has also been given the authority to remove graffiti without agreement from the owner/occupier if:

- Graffiti removal can only occur from a public place
- Graffiti is visible from a public place
- Council must cover the cost of graffiti removal
- Council must, within a reasonable time, inform in writing the owner/occupier of the work that has occurred at that property

If any damage is caused by Council while removing the graffiti, Council must pay compensation.

The *Graffiti Control Act 2008* states that if a local Council is carrying out work on private property it must keep a register of graffiti removal work including location, the nature of the graffiti, and cost for the work for each incident.

GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT

COUNCIL POLICY

Community participation and prevention of graffiti

Council's Graffiti Management Action Plan includes a range of strategies for community participation and prevention. Community education programs will focus on primary and high schools and link to key local activities such as festivals and social events.

Partnerships have been developed to work with Council on the removal of graffiti from private/commercial property. Council supplies the material and equipment so that our partners can remove and paint over graffiti on Council's behalf.

Encouraging participation in community development activities such as community murals, is intended to encourage a shift away from illegal graffiti activities. Key groups within the community will be targeted for engagement in planning community murals and participation in all aspects of the projects.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Graffiti Control Act 2008.

REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed at least once during a term of council, or more frequently as required.

REPORTING

As part of the *Graffiti Control Act 2008* - Section 13, Council must keep a register of graffiti removal work carried out. The register is available on Council's web page and updated regularly.

The register must specify the:

- Graffiti removal work carried out
- Location address of the graffiti
- Nature of the work carried out
- Cost of carrying out the work
- Actual cost of the graffiti removal by Council.

Council will record and analyse data regarding frequency of graffiti, location, reported details and cost of removal. This information will be utilised to inform Council in its ongoing approach to the management of graffiti. Council will continue to review the effectiveness of its prevention activities and assess other models of intervention that may be applicable to the Wollongong local government area.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Graffiti Prevention Program will be coordinated and delivered by the Community Cultural and Economic Development Division.

Governance and Customer Service Division

Customer Service receives all enquires relating to graffiti (including Council and non-Council assets) that come through Council's dedicated Graffiti Reporting Line and directs the enquiry to the appropriate Council division for action or advice.

Infrastructure, Strategy and Planning Division

The division considers CEPTD principles in the management of assets and integrates opportunities that discourage graffiti.

GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT

COUNCIL POLICY

City Works Division

Graffiti removal on Council assets in accordance with the Graffiti Management Policy and the Service Level Agreement/s.

Project Delivery Division

Development of technical manuals (eg West Dapto Open Space and Technical Manuals and Public Doman Technical Manual) and design projects that integrate CPTED principles.

Development Assessment and Certification Division

Undertake assessment of development applications incorporating CPTED principles.

City Strategy Division

Preparation of town and village plans, incorporating CPTED principles. Preparation of Council planning policies (eg Wollongong Development Control Plan, Chapter E2 Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design), in reviewing Neighbourhood Plans, incorporate CPTED principles.

RELATED STRATEGIES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Wollongong Community Safety Plan 2021-2025.

APPROVAL AND REVIEW	
Responsible Division	[Name of Division]
Date adopted by Council	[To be inserted by Corporate Governance]
Date/s of previous adoptions	[List previous adoption dates]
Date of next review	[Not more than two years from last adoption]

ITEM 11 POLICY REVIEW - VERTEBRATE ANIMAL PEST MANAGEMENT POLICY

This report is being returned to Council for resolution following deferral from the 26 June 2023 meeting pending further information being provided.

The Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy (Policy) was first created in 2010 and then updated in 2015. The Policy defined what Council considered to be vertebrate pest including deer. It set out our approach to control vertebrate pest and reduce the risk to public safety.

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* is now the primary legislation which places obligations upon landowner's including councils to control priority pests. The legislation is supported by programs administered by Local Land Services.

Council's commitment to the control and management of priority pests is also outlined in the Our Wollongong Our Future 2032 Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

It has been identified that there is no longer a need for a Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy to guide our approach to pest management as there is a regional program and governance framework in place associated with the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 Council note its existing and continued commitment under the Our Wollongong our Future 2032 Community Strategic Plan and legislative framework related to Vertebrate Animal Pest Management.
- 2 The Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy be revoked.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Chris Stewart, Manager City Strategy

Authorised by: Linda Davis, Director Planning + Environment - Future City + Neighbourhoods

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy 2015
- 2 Information Note - Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy

BACKGROUND

The Policy was first created in 2010 to guide Council's approach to managing vertebrate pests including feral deer. At the time deer were considered 'game animals' under NSW Government legislation.

A Council Policy was developed to facilitate active management of feral deer in our agricultural, peri-urban, and environmental areas including the escarpment. The Policy was then updated in 2015 to reflect the creation of Local Land Services (LLS) under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

Soon after the Policy was updated in 2015, the *Biosecurity Act 2015* was brought into force along with the *Biosecurity Regulation 2016*. This legislation allowed deer to be considered priority pests as part of Regional Pest Management Plans. It also empowered LLS to coordinate multi-stakeholder groups to develop and implement management plans for pest animals. The Pest Animal Advisory Group that was coordinated by Council was replaced by LLS to update and implement the Northern Illawarra Wild Deer Management Program and regularly review pest management actions across other priority pests including foxes and rabbits. Council now works with LLS on defining management actions associated with priority pests in the region.

A report relating to this Policy being revoked was presented to the Council meeting held 26 June 2023. Council resolved that the matter be deferred and brought back after a Councillor Briefing or Information Note. An Information Note has been provided (Attachment 2) and a Councillor Briefing held on 7 August 2023.

PROPOSAL

In recognition of the legislative and governance framework now in place to manage vertebrate pests, it is recommended that the Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy (Attachment 1) be revoked. It is no longer necessary for Council to have a separate policy to define deer as pest vertebrate or detail our approach to control and manage pest animals.

Council has biosecurity duties under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* including financially contributing to the delivery of the State Government’s South-East Regional Strategic Pest Management Plan and Illawarra Feral Deer Management Program co-ordinated by Local Land Services.

Council’s commitment to undertake vertebrate pest management is also outlined in our Delivery Program and Operational Plan under the Community Strategic Plan. Under Goal 1 - we value and protect our environment in our Delivery Program a commitment is made to implement control programs for priority pests including rabbits, deer, fox, and myna birds.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

This item was deferred from the 26 June 2023 Council meeting with a resolution to provide an Information Note or Councillor Briefing prior to it being further reconsidered by Council. An Information Note was provided to Council (Attachment 2) and a Councillor Briefing delivered 7 August 2023.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal 1 – We value and protect our environment. It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan 2032	Delivery Program 2022-2026
Strategy	Service
1.2 Manage and effectively improve the cleanliness, health, biodiversity of land and water including creeks, lakes, waterways and oceans.	Environmental Services

The delivery of vertebrate pest animal management is part of the delivery stream of Open Space and Environmental Services Division.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Council’s commitment to undertaking vertebrate pest management is not diminished in any way by the revoking of this Policy. The recommendation to revoke the Policy is based on there being no need for a separate Council policy when the NSW Government framework for pest management is better able to deliver the governance required to ensure ongoing effective pest management action.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Policies are only recommended for removal from the Policy Register if they do not answer a genuine policy question or appropriate provisions have been incorporated into another policy or suitable council document. In this case there has been an alternative approach to the existing Policy in place for several years and removal of the Policy will not disrupt the ongoing delivery of pest management for the community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no reduction in budget associated with the removal of the Policy. Vertebrate Pest Management Activities are already resourced within the Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

CONCLUSION

Council has an ongoing commitment to undertake vertebrate pest management in Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan. The legislative and governance framework to manage vertebrate pests is provided by the State Government's South-East Regional Strategic Pest Management Plan and Illawarra Feral Deer Management Program co-ordinated by Local Land Services

It is recommended that the Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy be revoked as it is no longer necessary for Council to have a separate policy to define deer as a pest vertebrate or detail our approach to control and manage pest animals.



ADOPTED BY COUNCIL: 3 AUGUST 2015

BACKGROUND

The Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy (VPAMP) was developed by Council following advice from the Department of Primary Industries that Council should develop a policy for the management of vertebrate pests as a first step in addressing the problem of feral deer affecting the Wollongong Local Government Area (LGA). The VPAMP was endorsed by Council in April 2010. The VPAMP provided the framework for Council to develop and implement pest management across the City.

The management of vertebrate pests is an element of Council's overall land management responsibility. It is important that Council takes a coordinated approach to managing vertebrate pests as they cannot be managed by Council alone, and an *ad-hoc* approach reduces the chance of successful control and is an inefficient use of Council resources. Council must meet its legislative requirements under the *Local Land Services Act 2013* and the *Local Government Act 1993* and also manage community expectations regarding control of vertebrate pests.

OBJECTIVE

The main objectives of this policy are to –

- 1 Commit Council to working collaboratively with State government agencies and key stakeholders to manage vertebrate pest issues.
- 2 Improve the quality of information and advice provided to residents on vertebrate pest matters.
- 3 Outline a methodology for prioritising pest species and implementing on-ground works to control vertebrate pests affecting the Wollongong Local Government Area.
- 4 Improve the efficiency of Council pest control measures.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy sets out the approach, clarifies Council's obligations, and outlines what the community should expect from Council in terms of vertebrate pest management. The policy is focussed on the delivery of core services to the community and is the foundation for ongoing process improvements and on-ground works to manage vertebrate pests in the Wollongong LGA.

VERTEBRATE PEST ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

COUNCIL POLICY

DEFINITION OF 'VERTEBRATE PEST'

For the purposes of this policy, 'vertebrate pests' are introduced non-human vertebrate animals, currently found to be a health hazard, a general nuisance, or to be destroying food, fibre or natural resources. This definition is for the purposes of this policy and does not supersede laws and regulations regarding the management of animals included in the policy. The species considered in this policy are:

- Deer (deer species)
- European Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)
- Dog (*Canis spp.*) – Wild and uncontrolled dogs
- Cat (*Felis catus*) – Wild and uncontrolled cats
- Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)
- Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*)
- Feral Pig (*Sus scrofa*)
- Feral Goat (*Capra hircus*)
- Common Myna Bird (*Acridotheres tristis*)
- Cane Toad (*Bufo marinus*)

ROLE OF COUNCIL

Council must consider its approach to management of pest species for land under its direct control and, more broadly, in accordance with its obligations under the *Local Government Act 1993* and in the context of the many competing priorities of its operations. Council's primary responsibility is to control vertebrate pests affecting land under its control and management, in particular when an animal is declared a pest under the *Local Land Services Act 2013* or is threatening the viability of threatened species, populations or endangered ecological communities. The approach outlined in this policy will guide these actions.

Wollongong City Council has limited resources for controlling vertebrate pest species and therefore must implement a process of prioritisation of actions for pest control that is clear and accountable to the community. By nominating priority pests and making Pest Management Plans for these pests, Council can provide a clear indication of its planned actions and approach. The Pest Management Plans also provide a resource for other land managers addressing vertebrate pest problems.

In addition to Council's responsibilities as a land manager, it has a broader responsibility to the community to minimise risks to public safety and loss of amenity caused by vertebrate pests. For vertebrate pest matters affecting the community and outside of Council's direct control, Council will concentrate on supporting the work of key agencies and landholders addressing these matters. This support includes collecting and mapping information related to pest impacts, chairing the Pest Animal Advisory Group, partnering in joint programs, providing information on pest management to residents through fact sheets, frequently asked questions sheets and written responses.

PRINCIPLES OF VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT

INTEGRATED APPROACH

Pest management should be targeted, coordinated and integrated, involving all relevant land managers and any relevant regional or national programs. Pest control works should be integrated with other land management activities such as weed, fire and recreational management.

EARLY DETECTION

New emerging pests should be targeted rapidly to ensure the most cost effective treatment. Council will seek feedback from residents and land managers regarding emerging pest species.

VERTEBRATE PEST ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

COUNCIL POLICY

DEFINED OBJECTIVES

Most vertebrate pest species affecting Wollongong LGA are established in such numbers that eradication is impossible. For these species, it is important that control programs have clearly defined objectives so that resources can be allocated appropriately. It is also important that Council defines the objectives of its pest control activities and monitors their effectiveness in order that it is fully accountable for its expenditure. Objectives will relate to the management of pest impacts and will have monitoring to ensure programs are meeting stated objectives.

BEST PRACTICE METHODS

All vertebrate pest control activities conducted by Council or on behalf of Council will be conducted in accordance with the Vertebrate Pest Control Manual published by the Department of Primary Industries and guided by the principles outlined in the NSW Invasive Species Plan. Risk assessments will be conducted to ensure the occupational health and safety of staff and residents. All methods will minimise suffering of animals and comply with relevant animal welfare legislation. The use of pesticides will be in accordance with the relevant legislation and cause minimal harm to the environment.

STATEMENT OF PROCEDURES

1 WORK COLLABORATIVELY TO MANAGE VERTEBRATE PEST ISSUES

Council will chair the Pest Animal Advisory Group (PAAG) which currently comprises members of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, Water NSW, NSW Police Service, Local Land Services, Animal Welfare League, RSPCA NSW and Council staff.

The role of this group is to:

- 1.1 assist Council to improve its approach to pest management;
- 1.2 collaborate with Council on implementing pest management plans and pest control programs;
- 1.3 discuss emerging pest issues; and
- 1.4 ensure Council activities are meeting animal welfare standards.

2 PROVIDE INFORMATION AND ADVICE TO RESIDENTS ON VERTEBRATE PEST MATTERS

Fact sheets on vertebrate pests identified in this policy will be developed by Council in consultation with the PAAG and made available to the public. Responses to Frequently Asked Questions are also provided to residents through the Customer Service function of Council. These resources are reviewed and updated at a minimum annually.

3 OUTLINE A METHODOLOGY FOR PRIORITISING ACTIONS ON VERTEBRATE PESTS

Priority Pests

Council uses a rational decision-making framework for ranking priority pests and determining priority actions for pest management. This approach is informed by the principles of the NSW Invasive Species Plan and is based on the Pestplan methodology successfully implemented by other councils.

Pest species are ranked according to a combination of pest significance and the feasibility of control measures as defined by the pest priority matrix (Table 1). Pest significance refers to the level of social, economic and environmental impact of a pest. Pest control feasibility refers to the cost of control, current population levels, risks involved in control and the likelihood that control could eliminate the pest problem. Council allocates a score for each of these factors based on information from residents, scientific literature, field data and information from Council staff. Council conducts this assessment in consultation with the PAAG. The latest priority assessment is available on Council's website.

VERTEBRATE PEST ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

COUNCIL POLICY

Table 1 Pest Priority Matrix

Control Feasibility	Pest Significance			
	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
Very High (Prevent)	High	High	High	High
High (Eradicate)	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
Moderate (Reduce)	Low	Low	Medium	High
Low (Contain)	Low	Low	Low	High

4 PEST MANAGEMENT PLANS

Where a pest species is identified as a high priority, Pest Management Plans guide the implementation of pest management actions. Pest Management Plans specify objectives, control measures, consultation approach, standard operating procedures and measures of success for subject species. In preparing a Pest Management Plan, Council considers information from residents, government agencies, scientific literature, field data and information from Council staff. Pest Management Plans are updated and reviewed in consultation with the Pest Animal Advisory Group.

5 IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF COUNCIL PEST CONTROL MEASURES.

Pest Management Plans will include measures of success that will be reviewed annually by Council and the Pest Animal Advisory Group. Reviews aim to evaluate the effectiveness of the pest management approach and identify improvements in efficiency and opportunities for cooperation.

VERTEBRATE PEST ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

COUNCIL POLICY

SUMMARY SHEET

SUMMARY SHEET	
Responsible Division	Environmental Strategy and Planning
Date adopted by Council	3 August 2015
Date of previous adoptions	27 April 2010
Date of next review	31 August 2019
Prepared by	Environment Strategy Officer
Authorised by	Manager Environmental Strategy and Planning

VERTEBRATE PEST ANIMAL MANAGEMENT POLICY

This Information Note is provided in response to Item 11 – Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy Review at Council's meeting on 26 June 2026 Minute No. 837 where Council resolved that [this item be deferred and brought back after a Councillor Briefing or Information Note](#).

Key questions raised by Council are addressed in the following information.

What are Council's obligations under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, *Local Land Services Act 2013* and *Local Government Act 1993* regarding pest management?

Council's primary responsibility for vertebrate pest management is to meet our biosecurity duty as a land manager under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. This means that we manage biosecurity risks on land under our management. This includes taking reasonable measure to ensure we are controlling priority pest species as defined in the Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan on our land. See Figure 1.5 on page 8 of the attachment, for an overview of the current pest management framework for NSW under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

In addition to this obligation as a land manager, Council has a broader responsibility under the *Local Government Act 1993* to implement the goals of the integrated planning and reporting framework which include Goal 1 We value and protect our environment. Pest species, in particular deer species, have been identified as a threat to our natural environment and a hazard to safety by our community. The impacts of wild deer were a primary motivation for the creation of the Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy in 2010. Council required a policy to consider deer as a pest species at a time when NSW Government legislation protected deer as a game species. The policy also helped Council meet the objectives of the *Local Government Act 1993* in terms of efficient use of community resources by allocating pest management resources based on a matrix of the impacts of pests and the cost of control.

How do we determine prioritisation and resourcing of pest management without a separate policy?

The prioritisation and resourcing of pest management is currently undertaken by Council using a combination of local monitoring of customer service complaints and consultation with key Council stakeholders such as our Tourist Park operators, open space managers and natural areas contractors. This information is then discussed with Local Land Services staff to gain a perspective on regional priorities and opportunities for coordinated pest management responses.

Council has a budget for implementing pest management defined by the Delivery Plan as part of the integrated planning and reporting framework. Pest management activities are reported through the quarterly review update.

It is important to note that it is very difficult for Council to undertake effective vertebrate pest management alone. Although we manage a large area of land, pest management activities almost always require coordinated operation over the landscape involving several landowners. In addition to this, although Council has many years of experience in pest management, the experts in effective pest management are the Local Land Services.

Over the 13 years that the Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy has been a policy of Council, our approach to vertebrate pest management has matured and it has become increasingly evident that Council is more effective as a supportive partner to Local Land Services in the delivery of pest management rather than taking the lead by itself. The level of expertise and experience of the Local Land Services is difficult to replicate given limited Council resources and the variety of community demands placed on us. Local Land Services has coordinated a multi-agency and multi-landholder committee for determining regional pest management priorities and monitoring and reporting on key efforts such as the deer management program. A separate policy of Council which replicates this committee would not be an effective use of community resources and therefore contradict our obligations under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The concern expressed in the public access forum at the 26 June 2023 Council meeting that the removal of Council's Vertebrate Pest Animal Management Policy would demonstrate a reduced commitment to pest management is understandable, but it does not consider the key drivers of Council involvement in pest management activities. We are primarily motivated by meeting the needs of our local community and pest

management is continually brought to our attention as an important function of Council. Without a separate policy, Council has all the necessary elements for an ongoing commitment to pest management. We have pest management embedded in the Delivery Program 2022 – 2026 and we have commitments made to Local Land Services through a service level agreement for the delivery of the Illawarra Wild Deer Management Program.

What is our level of commitment to ongoing pest management?

Council has a commitment to undertake vertebrate pest management as part of the Natural Area Management delivery stream. We have up to \$145,000 per year budgeted each year for pest management programs. Council staff work to target high priority vertebrate pest species in conjunction with Local Land Service and the *South East Regional Strategic Pest Animal Plan 2018-2023*.

We participate in both the governance and operational committees of the Illawarra Feral Deer Management Program coordinated by Local Land Services. Our financial commitment to the program is bound by a Service Level Agreement that allows Council to negotiate operational outcomes relative to our contribution and determine high priority sites for operations. The agreement extends to the disposal of deer and Council have also invested in research that will assist in monitoring the movements of deer populations and their distribution. Deer exclusion fencing to protect natural assets is also utilised to protect natural areas and plantings in high priority areas.

Rabbits are another priority pest species for the LGA and are targeted in partnership with Local Land Service. High priority sites are assessed with Local Land Service and appropriate control measures implemented and resourced.

The Indian Myna Bird Action program continues to educate the community through workshops and training in reducing numbers and impacts on the community. Free workshops are run on a monthly basis, with 35 participants undertaking the training in the past 12 months.

How do we represent the concerns of residents to guide pest management activities?

Council continues to respond to customer requests related to vertebrate pests. Customer requests highlight areas of community concern and allow management programs to be targeted to reduce impacts of pests. Our ongoing involvement in the Illawarra Wild Deer Management Program gives Council influence over the approach to deer control. The service level agreement with Local Land Services provides Council with the opportunity to vary our financial contribution based on the operational performance of the control program and its ability to address our strategic pest management goals.

Council staff work with Local Land Services to identify potential operational sites on both public and private land, and works with the community to increase participation from private landholders in the program.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 South East Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan ([24420442](#))

Prepared by

Chris Stewart
Manager City Strategy
26 July 2023

ITEM 12

OTFORD ROAD CAUSEWAY REPLACEMENT - QUOTATION E1000367 - OUTCOME OF PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Council called for quotations for the replacement of Otford Road causeway that crosses the Hacking River due to severe damage during the extreme weather event of February 2023. Otford Road is the second means of egress to the west for the community of Otford in emergency events such as a bushfire event.

Two (2) suitably experienced civil contractors were invited to quote. These suppliers were chosen due to their capabilities to provide the required level of service, to achieve the required timeframe for construction and for the capability to ramp up during construction should it be required. Other large civil contractors were contacted prior to the quotation period; however, all others advised they would not have the required resources or capacity during the specified construction period.

RECOMMEDATION

Council receive the report on the procurement process followed and note the engagement of Abergeldie Contractors Pty Ltd for Otford Road Causeway Replacement, in the sum of \$1,244,630.38 including GST.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Glenn Whittaker, Manager Project Delivery
Authorised by: Joanne Page, Director Infrastructure + Works

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Location Plan

BACKGROUND

Council has undertaken a formal quotation process for the replacement of the causeway across the Hacking River on Otford Road, Otford.

The significant weather event experienced on 9 February 2023 caused major damage to the existing causeway on Otford Road at the crossing of the Hacking River.

The event was declared a natural disaster by the NSW Government which has provided Council the opportunity to apply for grant funding to perform rectification works to assets affected by the relevant event. Council staff are currently negotiating the total value of the contribution with the funding body. Under the funding guidelines all rectification work is required to be completed no later than 30 June 2025. This includes design and construction works for the project.

Otford Road is currently closed for vehicles at the causeway. This leaves a single road access via Lady Wakehurst Drive/Lawrence Hargrave Drive for the Otford community in the event of emergencies. A temporary pedestrian pathway across the damaged causeway was established for the Otford community; however, no pedestrian access will be permitted during construction.

The replacement causeway has been designed in accordance with current standards for width/clearances and incorporates improvements to minimise debris blockage during storm events while additional road safety measures are being introduced on the roads leading to the causeway.

At its meeting on 29 May 2023, Council resolved as follows –

- 1 Pursuant to section 55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993, tenders not be invited for the contract (or contracts) for the repair of the failed causeway and associated works at Otford Road, Otford. This is due to extenuating circumstances, being the risk to the community due to fire and/or flood causing further inability of residents to escape, the pending Statutory Bushfire Danger Period commencing 1 October 2023 and the MS to the Gong Bike Ride event planned for 5 November 2023.
- 2 Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to undertake and finalise a formal

quotation process, in accordance with Council's procurement policies and procedures with available contractors with demonstrated experience and ability to undertake the works with a view to enter a contract (or contracts) for these works.

3 Council delegate to the General Manager authority to enter a contract (or contracts) with the contractor or contractors selected following the process outlined at 2 above.

4 A report describing the outcome of the procurement process be submitted to the next available Council meeting following the successful engagement of contractor or contractors.

Quotations were invited from suitable suppliers for the project commencing on Thursday, 1 June 2023, in accordance with the Council resolution, with a close of quotations of 10.00 am on Thursday, 22 June 2023.

Two (2) submissions were received by the close of quotations and all submissions have been scrutinised and assessed by a Quotation Evaluation Panel constituted in accordance with Council's Procurement Policies and Procedures and comprising representatives of the Project Delivery and Infrastructure, Strategy and Planning Divisions in consultation with representatives from the Procurement and Supply and Governance business units.

The Quotation Evaluation Panel assessed all submissions in accordance with the following evaluation criteria and weightings as set out in the formal quotation documents:

Mandatory Criteria

1. Satisfactory references from referees for previous projects of similar size and scope
2. Financial assessment acceptable to Council which demonstrates the respondent's financial capacity to undertake the works
3. Accredited Workplace Health and Safety System

Evaluation Criteria

1. Cost to Council - 35%
2. Demonstrated Strengthening of Local Economic Capacity – 10%
3. Appreciation of Scope of Works and Construction Methodology – 15%
4. Demonstrated Prior Experience and Satisfactory Performance in Undertaking Projects of Similar Size, Scope and Risk Profile, including Staff Qualifications and Experience – 10%
5. Proposed Sub-contractors – 5%
6. Project Schedule – 20%
7. Workplace Health and Safety and Environmental Management Systems – 5%

The mandatory evaluation criteria have been met by the recommended respondent.

The Assessment Panel utilised a weighted scoring method for the evaluation of quotations which allocates a numerical score out of 5 in relation to the level of compliance offered by the respondents to each of the evaluation criteria as specified in the quotation documentation. The method then takes into account pre-determined weightings for each of the evaluation criteria which provides for a total score out of 5 to be calculated for each quotation. The quotation with the highest total score is considered to be the quotation that best meets the requirements of the quotation documentation in providing best value to Council. Table 1 below summarises the results of the quotation evaluation and the ranking of quotations.

TABLE 1 – SUMMARY OF QUOTATION ASSESSMENT

Name of Respondent	Ranking
Abergeldie Contractors Pty Ltd	1
Select Civil Pty Ltd	2

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 1 Members of the Quotation Evaluation Panel
- 2 Nominated Referees

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2028 Goal 1, “We value and protect our environment”.

It specifically delivers on core business activities as detailed in the Stormwater Services Service Plan 2022-26.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The risk in accepting the recommendation of this report is considered low on the basis that the procurement process has fully complied with Council’s Procurement Policies and Procedures and the Local Government Act 1993.

The risk of the project works or services is considered medium based upon Council’s risk assessment matrix and appropriate risk management strategies will be implemented.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic sustainability implications are considered relevant to the installation of the replacement causeway to reduce ongoing maintenance costs and to improve the amenity of the area.

The replacement causeway design will provide a long-term, low maintenance finished product that also enhances the aesthetic appearance of the area and surrounding properties.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is proposed that the total project be funded from the following source/s as identified in the Operational Plan –

2023/24 Capital Budget


The project will be supported by the NSW Government Disaster Recovery Arrangements funding program.

CONCLUSION

Abergeldie Contractors Pty Ltd were appointed on 17 July 2023 and commenced on site in early August 2023.

Council should endorse the recommendation to receive the report on the procurement process followed and note the outcomes achieved.

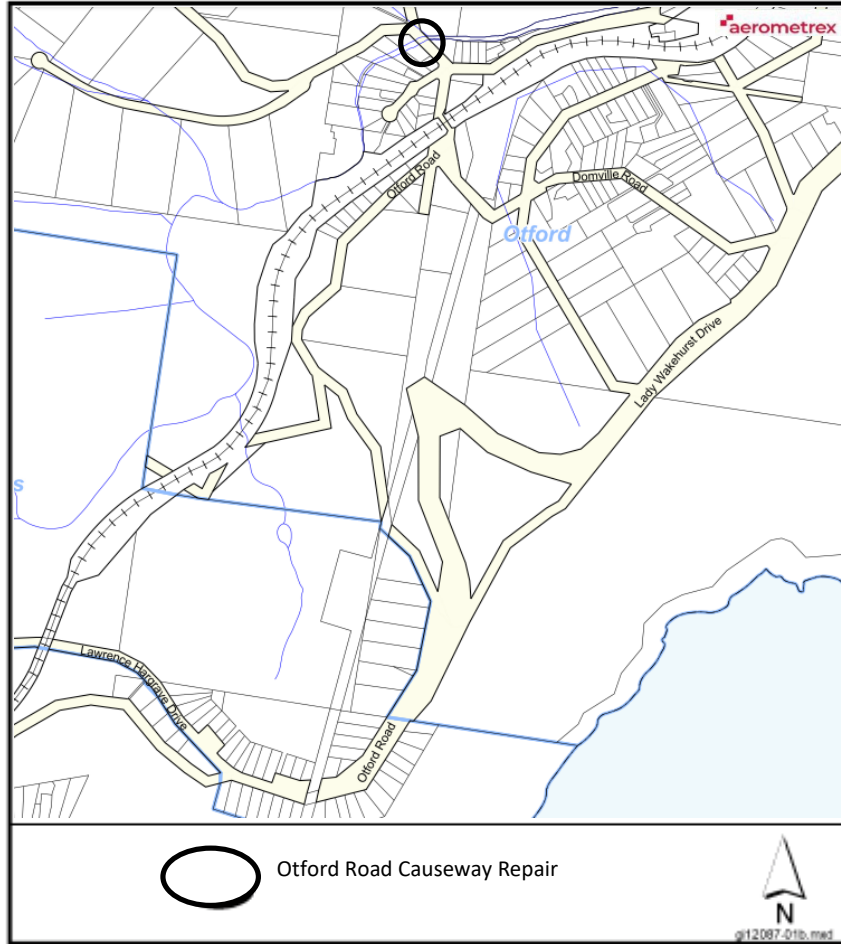


 Otford Road Causeway Repair



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ITEM 13 BELLAMBI BOAT RAMP AMENITIES - TENDER T1000075 - OUTCOME OF PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Council is proposing to replace the existing dilapidated amenities building at the Bellambi Boat Ramp with a new accessible facility.

Council called tenders for the replacement of the amenities building located at the Bellambi Boat Ramp received one non-conforming offer. On 28 November 2023, Council resolved to decline to accept the tender received and to undertake and finalise negotiations with a view to enter a contract on the subject matter of the tender. This report details the outcomes of the negotiation process.

RECOMMEDATION

Council receives the report on the negotiation process followed and note the engagement of:

- a. Rebus Pty Ltd for the provision of Stage 1 Build, Deliver and Place of Prefabricated Toilet Building, in the sum of \$326,716.50 (including GST).
- b. Batmac Construction Pty Ltd for the provision of Stage 2 Concrete and Services Construction Works Package, in the sum of \$392,661.72 (including GST).

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Glenn Whittaker, Manager Project Delivery
Authorised by: Joanne Page, Director Infrastructure + Works

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Location Plan

BACKGROUND

The existing amenities located adjacent to the Bellambi Boat Ramp were constructed in the early eighties, does not incorporate accessible amenities and being located in a harsh coastal environment has reached its end of life.

Tenders were required to be invited for the construction of the new amenities block located at Bellambi Boat Ramp, Robert Cram Drive, Bellambi 2518. The main purpose of this work is to replace the existing amenities block with a prefabricated toilet block, comprising two accessible cubicles. Associated works include the installation of a larger septic system, installation of associated services, regrading of asphalt adjacent to the amenities building, carpark line marking and other minor infrastructure works. Tenders were invited by the open tender method with a close of tenders of 10.00 am on Wednesday, 28 September 2022.

On 29 November 2022, Council Resolved:

- 1 a *In accordance with Section 178(1)(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Council decline to accept the tender received for the Bellambi Boat Ramp Amenities and resolve to enter into negotiations with the tenderer or any other party with a view to entering into a contract in relation to the subject matter of the tender.*
- b *In accordance with Section 178(4) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, the reason for Council hereby resolving to enter into negotiations with the tenderer or any other party and not inviting fresh tenders is that it is anticipated that a satisfactory outcome can be achieved with one of those parties who demonstrate a capacity and ability to undertake the works.*
- 2 *Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to undertake and finalise the negotiations, firstly with the tenderer, and, in the event of failure of negotiations with that tenderer, any other party, with a view to entering into a contract in relation to the subject matter of the tender.*
- 3 *Council grant authority for the use of the Common seal of Council on the contract and any other documentation, should it be required, to give effect to this resolution.*

- 4 *A report describing the outcome of the procurement process be submitted to the next available Council meeting following the successful engagement of contractor or contractors.*

Negotiations commenced following the Council resolution which resulted in separating the works into two distinct contracts:

- Stage 1 – Build, Deliver and Place of Prefabricated Toilet Building (OFFSITE)
- Stage 2 – Concrete and Services Construction Works Package (ONSITE)

The intention of this separation was to provide the best value for money outcome for Council.

Stage 1

Direct negotiations were held between Rebus and Council which resulted in a successful outcome for a supply contract for the prefabricated toilet.

Stage 2

A selective quotation was undertaken for the Stage 2 contract which closed 10:00am 13 April 2023.

Two quotations were received by the close of quotations and all quotations were scrutinised and assessed by a Quotation Evaluation Panel constituted in accordance with Council's Procurement Policies and Procedures and comprising representatives of the Project Delivery and Infrastructure, Strategy and Planning Divisions.

The Quotation Assessment Panel assessed all quotations in accordance with the following assessment criteria and weightings as set out in the formal quotation documents:

Evaluation Criteria

- 1 Cost to Council – 40%
- 2 Appreciation of scope of works and construction methodology – 15%
- 3 Experience and satisfactory performance in undertaking projects of similar size, scope and risk profile, including staff qualifications and experience – 10%
- 4 Project Schedule – 10%
- 5 Environmental Management System – 5%
- 6 Workplace Health and Safety System – 5%
- 7 Proposed Subcontractors – 5%
- 8 Demonstrated strengthening of local economic capacity – 10%

The Quotation Evaluation Panel utilised a weighted scoring method for the evaluation of quotations which allocates a numerical score out of 5 in relation to the level of compliance offered by the quotation to each of the evaluation criteria as specified in the quotation documentation. The method then takes into account pre-determined weightings for each of the evaluation criteria which provides for a total score out of 5 to be calculated for each quotation. The quotation with the highest total score is considered to be the quotation that best meets the requirements of the quotation documentation in providing best value to Council. Table 1 below summarises the results of the quotation evaluation and the ranking of tenders.

TABLE 1 – SUMMARY OF QUOTATION ASSESSMENT

Name of Respondent	Ranking
Batmac Constructions Pty Ltd	1
Davone Constructions Pty Ltd	2

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 1 Members of the Quotation Evaluation Panel
- 2 Officers from Governance and Customer Service

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal 5 We have a healthy community in a liveable city. It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan 2032		Delivery Program 2022-2026
Strategy		Service
5.4	Provide a variety of quality and accessible public places and opportunities for sport, play, leisure, recreation, learning and cultural activities in the community	Infrastructure Strategy and Support

RISK ASSESSMENT

The risk of the project works, or services is considered medium based upon Council's risk assessment matrix and appropriate risk management strategies will be implemented.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The amenities building has been specified with consideration for the long-term durability of the asset in the local environment.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

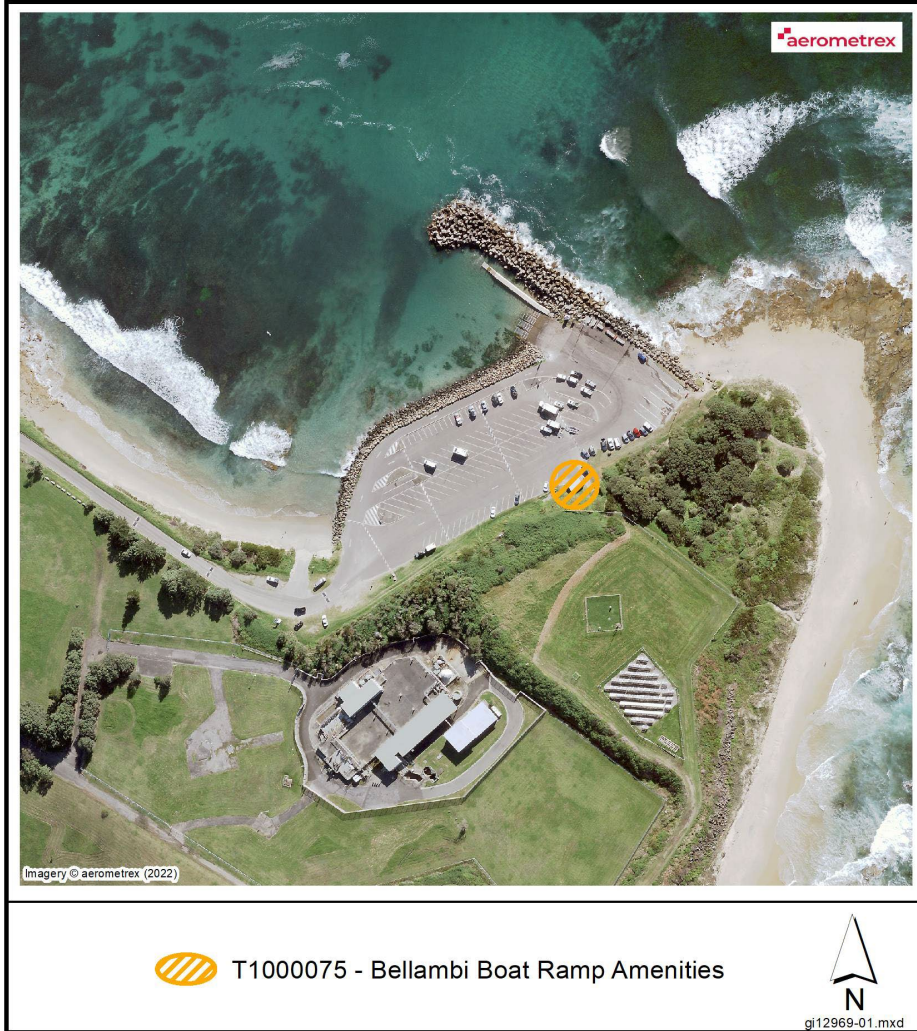
It is proposed that the total project be funded from the following source/s as identified in the Operational Plan –


2023/24 Capital Budget

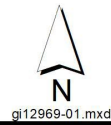
CONCLUSION

The initial single non-conforming tender submission received for this project (T1000075) totalled \$1,025,233 (Inc GST). Through this negotiation process the combined value of the two proposed contracts is now \$719,378.22 (Inc GST) resulting in a substantial saving for Council.

Council should endorse the recommendations to receive the report on the procurement process followed and note the outcomes achieved.



 T1000075 - Bellambi Boat Ramp Amenities



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ITEM 14 TENDER T1000083 - MATTRESS RECYCLING TO COUNCIL

This report recommends acceptance of a tender for Mattress Recycling to Council in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

The mattress recycling process used by the recommended tenderer diverts around 70% of mattress components from landfill.

The purpose is to engage a contractor to provide a viable resource recovery solution for mattresses from residents through the on-call household clean up service and through drop off at the Wollongong Waste and Resource Recovery Park – (WWARRP).

RECOMMEDATION

- 1 In accordance with Section 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Council accept the tender of Mattrec Holdings Pty Ltd for Mattress Recycling services.
- 2 The contract be awarded for an initial term of two years, with three optional extensions of one year each for a maximum term of five years. Any such extensions being exercised at the sole discretion of Council.
- 3 Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to finalise and execute the contract and any other documentation required to give effect to this resolution.
- 4 Council grant authority for the use of the Common Seal of Council on the contract and any other documentation, should it be required, to give effect to this resolution.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Vanni De Luca, Manager Open Space + Environmental Services [Acting]
Authorised by: Joanne Page, Director Infrastructure + Works

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

BACKGROUND

Mattress recycling is an important component in Council's diversion of material from landfill. Mattress recycling diverts around 70% of mattress components from landfill through the separation and recycling of:

- steel springs into new steel products
- timber and husk into products like weed matting, mulch and animal bedding
- foam into carpet underlay

The current contract for the Mattress Recycling service has expired and Council is seeking a new contract with a Contractor to store, transport and recycle mattresses.

The objective of this Contract is to provide a viable resource recovery solution for mattresses from residents through the on-call household clean up service and through drop off at the Wollongong Waste and Resource Recovery Park – (WWARRP).

Council sources mattresses through the on-call household clean up service and through drop off at the Wollongong Waste and Resource Recovery Park – WWARRP (Whytes Gully).

The on-call clean up service is paid by residents through the domestic waste management charge levied through the rates system and customers who drop off mattresses at the WWARRP which incurs a charge for the disposal of mattresses at the weighbridge.

Tenders were invited for this project by the Open tender method with a close of tenders of 10.00 am on 30 March 2023.

Three (3) tenders were received by the close of tenders and all tenders have been scrutinised and evaluated by a Tender Evaluation Panel constituted in accordance with Council’s Procurement Policies and Procedures and comprising representatives of the Open Space + Environmental Services, City Works Divisions and Procurement & Supply and Governance representatives.

The Tender Evaluation Panel evaluated all tenders in accordance with the following Evaluation criteria and weightings as set out in the formal tender documents:

Mandatory Criteria

- 1 Satisfactory references from referees for previous projects of similar size and scope
- 2 Financial evaluation acceptable to Council which demonstrates the tenderer’s financial capacity to undertake the works

Evaluation Criteria

- 1 Cost to Council – 40%
- 2 Outline proposed methodology for delivery of specified scope of works for Mattress Collection & Recycling – 15%
- 3 Demonstrate prior experience and satisfactory performance in delivering services of similar size, scope and risk profile - 10%
- 4 Outline methods of sustainability in delivering the specified scope of works – 10%
- 5 Demonstrate strengthening of local economic capacity – 10%
- 6 Provide an established Workplace health and safety management system – 5%
- 7 Provide established environmental management policies and procedures – 5%
- 8 Demonstrate Social Values and/or Procurement Initiatives – 5%

The mandatory evaluation criteria have been met by the recommended tenderer.

The Tender Evaluation Panel utilised a weighted scoring method for the evaluation of tenders which allocates a numerical score out of 5 in relation to the level of compliance offered by the tenders to each of the evaluation criteria as specified in the tender documentation. The method then takes into account pre-determined weightings for each of the evaluation criteria which provides for a total score out of 5 to be calculated for each tender. The tender with the highest total score is considered to be the tender that best meets the requirements of the tender documentation in providing best value to Council. Table 1 below summarises the results of the tender evaluation and the ranking of tenders.

TABLE 1 – SUMMARY OF TENDER ASSESSMENT

Name of Tenderer	Ranking
Mattrec Holdings Pty Ltd	1
Great Lakes Community Resources Inc	2
Max Mattress and Furniture Pty Ltd	3

PROPOSAL

Council should authorise the engagement of Mattrec Holdings Pty Ltd to carry out the Mattress Recycling Service in accordance with the scope of works and technical specifications developed for the project.

The recommended tenderer has satisfied the Tender Evaluation Panel that it is capable of undertaking the works to Council’s standards and in accordance with the technical specification.

Referees nominated by the recommended tenderer have been contacted by the Tender Evaluation Panel and expressed satisfaction with the standard of work and methods of operation undertaken on their behalf.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 1 Members of the Tender Evaluation Panel
- 2 Nominated Referees

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal 1 We value and protect our environment. It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan 2032		Delivery Program 2022-2026
Strategy		Service
1.4	Work together to achieve net zero carbon emissions and reduce waste going to landfill.	Waste Management

RISK ASSESSMENT

The risk in accepting the recommendation of this report is considered low on the basis that the tender process has fully complied with Council’s Procurement Policies and Procedures and the Local Government Act 1993.

The risk of the project works or services is considered low to moderate based upon Council’s risk assessment matrix and appropriate risk management strategies will be implemented.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The tender recommendation has positive sustainability implications based on the current services received. Mattresses will be recycled locally reducing the transport impacts of travelling to Sydney for processing. The local recycling solution will support local jobs and the circular economy.

The recommended tenderer recycles and diverts around 70% of mattress components from landfill through the separation and recycling of:

- steel springs into new steel products
- timber and husk into products like weed matting, mulch and animal bedding
- foam into carpet underlay

The recommendation also frees up Council operational land currently used to store mattresses before transport. The recommendation also supports innovative solutions addressing manual handling and storage costs.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is proposed that the service will continue to be funded from Council’s Waste Management budget as identified in the Operational Plan. The project costs will be covered by income generated by gate fees collected via Wollongong’s Waste and Resource Recovery Park (Whytes Gully) and Domestic Waste Fees associated with Council’s Household Bulky Clean-up Service.

CONCLUSION

Council should endorse the recommendations of this report.

ITEM 15 TENDER T1000100 - WOLLONGONG WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY PARK (WWARRP) STAGE 2B-2 CELL AND ASSOCIATED WORKS

Council is proposing to construct the next landfill cell at the Wollongong Waste and Resource Recovery Park (WWARRP) to ensure Council can fulfil its ongoing obligation to provide landfill capacity for the City.

This report recommends that Council decline to accept any of the tenders submitted for the Wollongong Waste and Resource Recovery Park (WWARRP) Stage 2B-2 Cell Construction and Associated Works in accordance with Section 178(1)(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

The Tender Evaluation Panel has concluded that both submissions received included tender qualifications that would require negotiation and hence are not considered conforming submissions. It is anticipated that negotiation with one or both tenderers, or another party, in relation to the works will result in a satisfactory outcome being achieved.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 a In accordance with Section 178(1)(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Council decline to accept any of the tenders received for Wollongong Waste and Resource Recovery Park (WWARRP) Stage 2B-2 Cell and Associated Works and resolve to enter into negotiations with one or all of the tenderers or any other party with a view to entering into a contract in relation to the subject matter of the tender.
- b In accordance with Section 178(4) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, the reason for Council hereby resolving to enter into negotiations with one or all of the tenderers or any other party and not inviting fresh tenders is that it is anticipated that a satisfactory outcome can be achieved with one of those parties who demonstrate a capacity and ability to undertake the works.
- 2 Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to undertake and finalise the negotiations, firstly with the tenderers, and, in the event of failure of negotiations with those tenderers, any other party, with a view to entering into a contract in relation to the subject matter of the tender.
- 3 Council grant authority for the use of the Common seal of Council on the contract and any other documentation, should it be required, to give effect to this resolution.
- 4 A report describing the outcome of the procurement process be submitted to the next available Council meeting following the successful engagement of contractor or contractors.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Glenn Whittaker, Manager Project Delivery
Authorised by: Joanne Page, Director Infrastructure + Works

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Location Plan

BACKGROUND

Tenders were called for the construction of the new Stage 2B-2 landfill cell at Wollongong Waste and Resource Recovery Park (WWARRP). Capacity of the existing landfill cell is expected to be reached midway through 2025. Construction of the new cell is required for Council to fulfil its ongoing obligation to provide landfill capacity for the City. The works will involve the installation of environmental liners and leachate management infrastructure within the next planned landfill cell for this site.

Construction of the Stage 2B-2 landfill cell is anticipated to provide an additional seven years of landfill capacity for the WWARRP.

The scope of works includes but is not limited to:

- Demolition of existing roads and stormwater infrastructure
- Cut and fill earthworks for the new landfill cell
- Early works excavation for Stage 2A (Central Ridge)
- Construction of lean mix concrete access road
- Construction of new stormwater infrastructure including bunds, swales, gabions and culverts
- Construction of new base and piggy-back liners
- Install leachate pipework including connections to existing lines

Tenders were invited by the selective tender method with a close of tenders of 10.00 am on Thursday, 20 July 2023.

Two tenders were received by the close of tenders and all tenders have been scrutinised and evaluated by a Tender Evaluation Panel constituted in accordance with Council's Procurement Policies and Procedures and comprising representatives of the Project Delivery, Open Space + Environmental Services, Governance + Customer Service Divisions.

The Tender Evaluation Panel evaluated all tenders in accordance with the following Evaluation criteria and weightings as set out in the formal tender documents:

- 1 Cost to Council – 40%
- 2 Appreciation of scope of works and construction methodology – 15%
- 3 Experience and satisfactory performance in undertaking projects of similar size, scope and risk profile, including staff qualifications and experience – 15%
- 4 Proposed sub-contractors – 10%
- 5 Project schedule – 10%
- 6 Demonstrated strengthening of local economic capacity – 10%

PROPOSAL

The Tender Evaluation Panel has concluded that none of the tenders are acceptable and has recommended that all tenders be declined and negotiations be undertaken with one or all of the tenderers, or any other party, with a view to entering into a contract for the subject matter of the tender.

The Panel anticipates that a satisfactory outcome will be achieved through a negotiation process conducted in accordance with Council's Procurement Policies and Procedures.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 1 Members of the Tender Evaluation Panel

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal 1 'We Value and Protect Our Environment'.

It specifically delivers on core business activities as detailed in the Waste Management service detailed in the Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2023-2024.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The risk in accepting the recommendation of this report is considered low on the basis that the tender process has fully complied with Council's Procurement Policies and Procedures and the Local Government Act 1993.

The risk of the project works or services is considered moderate based upon Council's risk assessment matrix and appropriate risk management strategies will be implemented.

There are significant community impact risks along with environmental, safety, financial and reputational risks that should be considered if Council does not undertake the construction of the Stage 2B-2 landfill cell.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Construction of the new Stage 2B-2 landfill cell provides an estimated additional seven years of filling for local residents enabling for development of further sustainable outcomes for waste disposal during this period.

The following sustainability implications have been considered:

- Weighting in the quotation assessment provided for using local services, labour and materials.
- The design of the works incorporated reuse of site won excavations as landfill cell cover material.

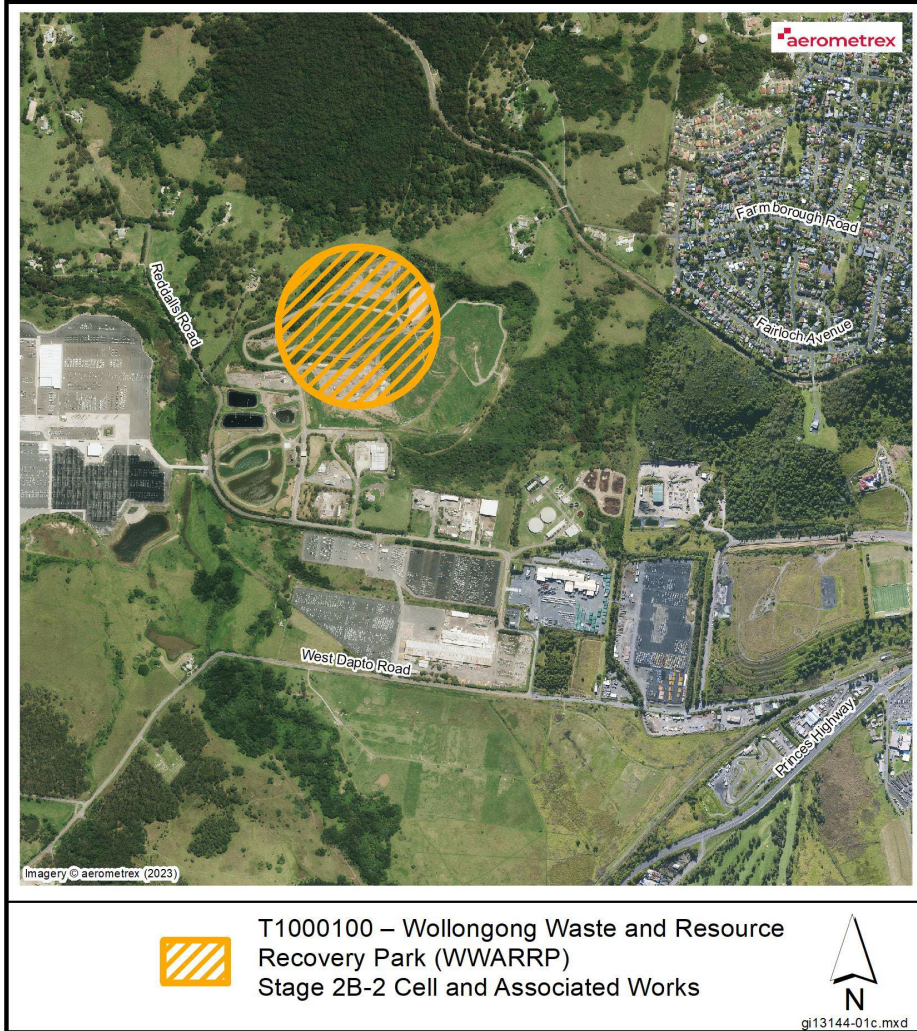
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is proposed that the total project be funded from the following source/s as identified in the Operational Plan –

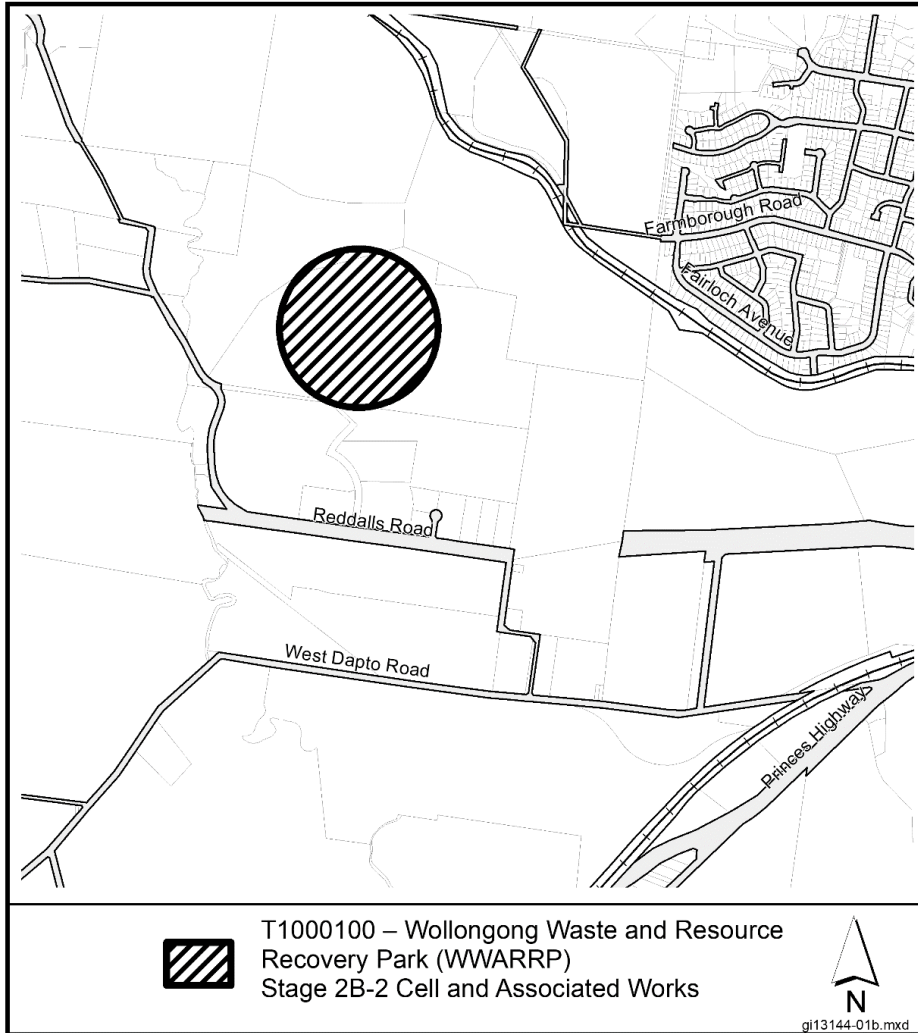
2023/24 and 2024/25 Capital budgets

CONCLUSION

It is anticipated that the best outcome for Council can be achieved through direct negotiations with one or both of the tendering parties, or any other party who has demonstrated capacity and ability to undertake the works. Council should endorse the recommendations of this report.



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ITEM 16

TENDER T1000111 - LICENCE TO OPERATE CORRIMAL POOL KIOSK AND CASH COLLECTION SERVICES

Council sought tenders for the kiosk operation and collection of entry fees at Corrimal Pool on behalf of Council during the peak summer pool season (September 2022 through to April 2023). The current licence and services agreement expired on 24 April 2023 and a new licence and services agreement is proposed for a further three-year term.

This report recommends declining the tender for the licence to operate Corrimal Pool Kiosk and Cash Collection Services in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 and commencing negotiations with the tenderer or any other party who has demonstrated capacity and ability to undertake the service.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 In accordance with Section 178(1)(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Council decline to accept the tender received for the –
 - a. Licence to operate the Corrimal Pool Kiosk, and
 - b. provision of Corrimal Pool Cash Collection Services for cash collection duties,and enter into negotiations firstly with the Tenderer and, in the event of failure of negotiations with the Tenderer, and any other party, with a view to entering into a contract in relation to the licence to operate the Corrimal Pool Kiosk and Cash Collection Services.
- 2 In accordance with clause 178(4) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, the reason for Council hereby resolving to enter negotiations with the tenderer or another party and not inviting fresh tenders is that it is anticipated that a satisfactory outcome can be achieved with a party who demonstrates a capacity and ability to undertake the service.
- 4 Council delegate to the General Manager the authority to undertake and finalise the negotiations, with a view to entering into an agreement in relation to the subject matter of the tender.
- 5 Council grant authority for the use of the Common Seal of Council on the contract and any other documentation, should it be required, to give effect to this resolution.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Lucielle Power, Manager Property + Recreation

Authorised by: Kerry Hunt, Director Community Services - Creative and Innovative City

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

BACKGROUND

Since the introduction of entry fees at Corrimal Pool in the early 2000s, Council has licensed the operation of the Corrimal Pool Kiosk including a service agreement for cash collection of entry fees at the pool. The proposed contract period is for three swim seasons commencing 16 September 2023 and expiring 24 April 2026.

Tenders were invited for this licence and service agreement by the open tender method, with a close of tenders at 10:00 am on 27 July 2023.

One (1) tender was received from Corrimal Swim Squad Pty Ltd by the close of tenders which has been scrutinised and evaluated by a Tender Evaluation Panel constituted in accordance with Council's Procurement Policies and Procedures, comprising representatives of the Property and Recreation, Finance, Governance, Information and Governance and Customer Service (Supply Chain) Divisions.

The Tender Evaluation Panel evaluated all tenders in accordance with the following Evaluation criteria and weightings as set out in the formal tender documents:

MANDATORY CRITERIA

Referees	Provision of satisfactory references from professional referees for provision of services of a similar size, scope and risk profile.
Bronze Medallion or equivalent	Tenderers and/or key personnel must provide evidence of or a commitment to obtain (within three (3) months of commencing the Licence and Services Agreement), a Bronze Medallion qualification or equivalent. The tenderer must ensure one staff member is on site from 6am to 12 midday who holds a Bronze Medallion qualification or equivalent.
First Aid Certificate	Tenderers and all key personnel on site must provide evidence of or a commitment to obtain (within three (3) months of commencing the Licence and Services Agreement), a current first aid certificate.
POS Training	Tenderers must commit to undertake training in Council's Point of Sale System.
Armed Holdup Training	Tenderers must commit to undertake Armed Holdup Training (Coordinated by Wollongong City Council) within three (3) months of commencing the Licence and Services Agreement.
Financial capacity	Tenderers may be required to provide information required by an independent financial assessment provider engaged by Council. Council will review and determine whether such financial assessment is acceptable to Council and demonstrates the tenderer's financial capacity to enter into the lease/licence.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Cost to Council - Proposed Council payment per month for operation of cash collection facility
Proposed kiosk rental payable to Council per month
Demonstrated prior experience and satisfactory performance in undertaking cash collection services
Demonstrated prior experience and satisfactory performance in undertaking operation of takeaway food outlet
Proposed controls to ensure cash handing and reconciliation is consistent with Council's policies and procedures
Demonstrated Work Health & Safety Management System incorporating management of risks associated with cash handling, including armed robbery
Demonstrated Social Value and/or Social Procurement initiatives
Demonstrated strengthening of local economic capacity

PROPOSAL

The Tender Assessment Panel has concluded that the tender received is not acceptable and recommend the tender be declined and negotiations be undertaken with the tenderer, and in the event of failure of negotiations with the Tenderer, any other party, with a view to entering into an agreement for the subject matter of the tender.

The Panel anticipates that a satisfactory outcome will be achieved through a negotiation process conducted in accordance with Council's Procurement Policies and Procedures.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 1 Members of the Tender Evaluation Panel
- 2 Governance
- 3 In accordance with Section 47 of the Local Government Act, 1993 (NSW), public notice of the proposal to grant the licence was provided to adjoining residents and a notice was placed on the land and on the Council’s public notices webpage. No submissions were received by the closing date of 13 July 2023.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal 5 ‘we have a healthy community in a liveable city’. It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan 2032	Delivery Program 2022-2026
Strategy	Service
5.2 Participation in recreational and lifestyle activities is increased.	Property & Recreation

RISK ASSESSMENT

The risk in accepting the recommendation of this report is considered low on the basis that the tender process has fully complied with Council’s Procurement Policies and Procedures and the Local Government Act 1993.

The risk of the services is considered low based upon Council’s risk assessment matrix and appropriate risk management strategies will be implemented.

The risk should negotiations be unsuccessful is that the tender is accepted in its current format. In this regard this is a considered a low risk to Council.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The following sustainability implications have been considered:

- Sustainable procurement by providing open tender to give local companies the opportunity to tender for the work.
- Weighting in tender assessment provided for using local services, labour and materials.
- The licence agreement and cash collection services agreement promote adherence to sustainability of the environment by ensuring the successful tenderer has an environmental management system focusing on reducing waste and single use packaging and products whilst complying with Council’s policies.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is proposed that the service agreement be funded from the operational working budget GL-7991 Corrimal Heated Pool. Any amount above would require a request for additional budget to cover any shortfall.

CONCLUSION

That Council decline the tender for the licence to operate Corrimal Pool Kiosk and Cash Collection Services in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, anticipating that the best outcome for Council can be achieved through direct negotiations.

ITEM 17 PRELIMINARY AND PRE-AUDIT FINANCIALS - 30 JUNE 2023

This report presents the preliminary pre-audit financial results for the year ended 30 June 2023. The financial result for June 2023 compared to budget is favourable for the Operating Result [pre-capital] \$28.6M. Funds Available from Operations were favourable compared to budget \$22.1M and the Total Funds Result was favourable \$24.2M compared to budget. This includes a cash payment of \$22M made in advance on 27 June for the 2023-2024 Financial Assistance Grant.

The Statement of Financial Position at the end of the period indicates that there is enough cash to support external restrictions.

Council has expended \$91.1M on its capital works program compared to an annual budget of \$95.2M. This reflects the result after \$1.9M was transferred from capital to operating as it did not meet Council’s accounting practice for capitalisation. Inclusive of the works transferred to operational expenditure, the overall capital works expenditure was \$93.0M or 98% of the budget.

The finalisation of the financial statements is still in process. The financial result reflected in this paper may be impacted by the following:

- Fair value adjustment for CivicRisk
- Completion of year end audit procedures by Audit Service Provider

RECOMMENDATION

The financials be received and noted.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Brian Jenkins, Chief Financial Officer
 Authorised by: Renee Campbell, Director Corporate Services - Connected + Engaged City

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Financial Statements – June 2023
- 2 Capital Project Report - June 2023

BACKGROUND

This report presents the Financial Performance of the organisation for June 2023. The below table provides a summary of the organisation’s overall financial results for the year.

Wollongong City Council	Original	Revised	YTD	YTD	
30 June 2023	Budget	Budget	Forecast	Actual	Variation
Forecast Position	\$M	\$M	\$M	\$M	\$M
	1-Jul	30-Jun	30-Jun	30-Jun	
Operating Revenue	283.2	293.9	293.9	334.5	40.6
Operating Costs	(308.0)	(326.8)	(326.8)	(338.9)	(12.0)
Operating Result [Pre Capital]	(24.8)	(32.9)	(32.9)	(4.3)	28.6
Capital Grants & Contributions	40.4	34.6	34.6	65.2	30.7
Operating Result	15.6	1.6	1.6	60.9	59.2
Funds Available from Operations	52.2	49.6	49.6	71.8	22.1
Capital Works	101.9	95.2	95.2	91.1	4.2
Contributed Assets	10.1	10.1	10.1	37.6	(27.3)
Transfer to Restricted Cash	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	-
Borrowings Repaid	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	-
Funded from:					
- Operational Funds	52.2	49.6	49.6	71.8	22.2
- Other Funding	48.9	45.5	45.5	70.7	25.2
Total Funds Surplus/(Deficit)	(16.9)	(16.3)	(16.3)	7.7	24.2

FINANCIAL & BUDGET PERFORMANCE

The June 2023 Operating Result [pre-capital] deficit of \$4.3M is a favourable variance of \$28.6M compared to the budget deficit of \$32.9M. All the preliminary pre-audit financial results have been impacted by early payment the 2023-2024 Financial Assistance Grant (FAG) of \$22M, while the Operating Results are also impacted by year-end variations relating to revaluations, reclassifications and recognition of unexpended grant income that do not impact Council's funds results, including:

- Recognition of Grant & Contribution Income in addition to FAG \$15.1M (F)
- Revaluation of Waste Facility provision \$2.1M (F)
- Adjustment and Revaluation of Employee leave Entitlements provision \$7.1M (U)
- Revaluation of Workers Compensation provision \$0.8M (U)
- Revaluation of Investment Property \$0.7M (U)
- Reclassification of prior year works in progress to operational \$3.8M (U)
- Reclassification of current year works to operational \$1.9M (U)
- Loss on disposal of assets \$0.6M (U)

The Operating Result surplus of \$60.9M is a favourable variance of \$59.2M compared to budget. This additional variance is due to substantial variance in Capital Grants and Contributions of \$30.7M.

The Funds Available from Operations result is favourable by \$22.1M compared to phased budget. This result excludes non-cash variations and transfers to and from Restricted Assets but includes the variation in cash payments for Employee Entitlements and the \$22M early payment of the Financial Assistance Grant, which is not restricted. This result best represents the operational budget variations that impact our funding position and current financial capacity.

The Total Funds result as at 30 June 2023 is a favourable variance of \$24.4M compared to phased budget.

At the end of June, the Capital Works Program had an expenditure of \$91.1M compared to a budget of \$95.2M. This reflects the result after \$1.9M was transferred from capital to operating as it did not meet Council's accounting practice for capitalisation.

FINANCIAL POSITION

Cash, Investments & Available Funds

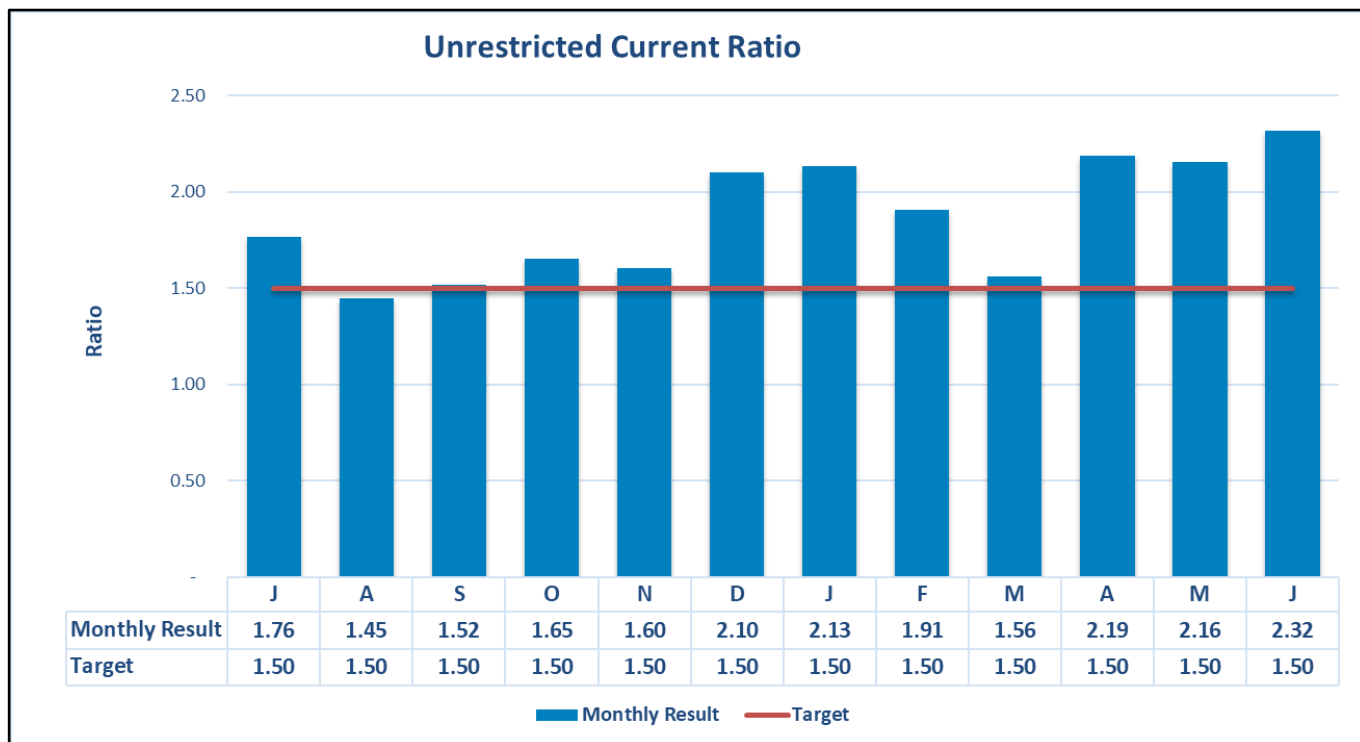
Council's cash and investments increased during June 2023 to holdings of \$176.8M compared to \$158.7M at the end of May 2023. A significant portion of these funds are subject to restriction meaning they can only be utilised for specific purposes. As a result, Council's true available cash position is more accurately depicted by considering available funds that are uncommitted and not subject to restriction.

Wollongong City Council				
30 June 2023				
Cash, Investments and Available Funds				
	Actual 2021/22	Original Budget 2022/23	March QR 2022/23	Actuals YTD June 2023
	\$M	\$M	\$M	\$M
Total Cash and Investments	162.0	130.9	131.7	176.8
Less Restrictions:				
External	75.3	75.1	64.7	94.3
Internal	62.9	48.4	61.3	61.7
CivicRisk Investment	2.5			2.5
Total Restrictions	140.8	123.5	125.9	158.5
Available Cash	21.3	7.4	5.8	18.3
Adjusted for :				
Payables	(27.4)	(27.9)	(29.4)	(20.1)
Receivables	24.7	34.0	25.6	35.2
Other	13.0	0.0	13.1	6.1
Net Payables & Receivables	10.3	6.1	9.4	21.1
Available Funds	31.6	13.5	15.1	39.4

External restrictions are funds that must be spent for a specific purpose and cannot be used by Council for general operations. Internal restrictions are funds that Council has determined will be used for a specific future purpose, although Council may vary that use by resolution of Council. Further details on the internal and external restrictions can be found in the Cash Flow Statement (Attachment 1).

The level of cash and investments in Council’s available funds position is above the Financial Strategy target range of 3.5% to 5.5% of operational revenue (pre-capital). The increase in cash and investments is in line with anticipated cash flows.

The Unrestricted Current Ratio measures the Council’s liquidity position or ability to meet short term obligations as they fall due. The below graph reflects Council’s performance against the Local Government benchmark of greater than 1.5 times.



Borrowings

Council continues to have financial strength in its low level of borrowing. Council’s Financial Strategy includes provision for additional borrowing in the future and Council will consider borrowing opportunities from time to time to bring forward the completion of capital projects where immediate funding is not available.

Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

The Statement of Financial Position shows that \$3.55B of assets (written down value) are controlled and managed by Council for the community at 30 June 2023.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong Our Future 2032 Goal 4 “We are a connected and engaged community”. It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan 2032	Delivery Program 2022-2026
Strategy	Service
4.8 Council’s resources are managed effectively to ensure long term financial sustainability.	Financial Services

CONCLUSION

The preliminary pre-audit financial result at the end of June is positive across all key performance indicators.

Wollongong City Council						
1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023						
Income Statement						
	2022/23 Original Budget \$'000	2022/23 Current Budget \$'000	2022/23 YTD Budget \$'000	2022/23 Actual YTD \$'000	Variance \$'000	
	23GLBUD Period 0	23GLBUD Period 3	23GLPHAS	23GLACT		
Income From Continuing Operations						
Revenue:						
Rates and Annual Charges	221,315	222,064	222,064	222,072	8	
User Charges and Fees	33,841	37,540	37,540	39,779	2,239	
Interest and Investment Revenues	2,333	5,024	5,024	5,737	712	
Other Revenues	5,977	6,002	6,002	6,948	945	
Rental Income	5,874	5,996	5,996	6,092	96	
Grants & Contributions provided for Operating Purposes	13,818	17,734	17,734	54,876	37,142	
Grants & Contributions provided for Capital Purposes	40,442	34,556	34,556	65,216	30,659	
Other Income:						
Profit/Loss on Disposal of Assets	0	(431)	(431)	(990)	(559)	
Total Income from Continuing Operations	323,601	328,486	328,486	399,729	71,243	
Expenses From Continuing Operations						
Employee Costs	145,502	151,554	151,554	158,430	(6,876)	
Borrowing Costs	242	609	609	602	7	
Materials & Services	88,796	96,296	96,296	95,349	947	
Other Expenses	19,155	22,342	22,342	24,065	(1,723)	
Depreciation, Amortisation + Impairment	75,642	77,977	77,977	78,339	(362)	
Labour Internal Charges	(19,578)	(20,008)	(20,008)	(16,391)	(3,617)	
Non-Labour Internal Charges	(1,795)	(1,927)	(1,927)	(1,538)	(388)	
Total Expenses From Continuing Operations	307,964	326,844	326,844	338,855	(12,011)	
Operating Result	15,637	1,642	1,642	60,874	59,232	
Operating Result [pre capital]	(24,806)	(32,914)	(32,914)	(4,342)	28,572	
Funding Statement						
Net Operating Result for the Year	15,637	1,642	1,642	60,874	59,232	
Add back:						
- Non-cash Operating Transactions	92,764	96,701	96,701	106,568	9,867	
- Restricted cash used for operations	15,710	24,741	24,741	23,132	(1,609)	
- Income transferred to Restricted Cash	(57,120)	(56,442)	(56,442)	(101,407)	(44,965)	
Leases Repaid	(413)	(413)	(413)	(384)	29	
Payment of Employee Entitlements	(14,354)	(16,592)	(16,592)	(17,010)	(418)	
Funds Available from Operations	52,224	49,636	49,636	71,772	22,136	
Loans Repaid	(3,702)	(3,702)	(3,702)	(3,714)	(11)	
Advances (made by) / repaid to Council	0	0	0	0	0	
Operational Funds Available for Capital Budget	48,522	45,934	45,934	68,059	22,125	
Capital Budget Statement						
Assets Acquired	(101,916)	(95,231)	(95,231)	(91,078)	4,152	
Contributed Assets	(10,056)	(10,056)	(10,292)	(37,567)	(27,275)	
Transfers to Restricted Cash	(2,367)	(2,367)	(2,367)	(2,367)	0	
Funded From :-						
- Operational Funds	48,522	45,934	45,934	68,059	22,125	
- Sale of Assets	1,885	1,455	1,455	1,451	(3)	
- Internally Restricted Cash	6,310	5,892	5,892	5,876	(16)	
- Borrowings	0	0	0	0	0	
- Capital Grants	22,825	16,774	16,774	13,004	(3,770)	
- Developer Contributions (Section 94)	6,834	10,462	10,462	10,434	(28)	
- Other Externally Restricted Cash	0	0	0	0	0	
- Other Capital Contributions	11,031	10,871	10,871	39,936	29,065	
TOTAL FUNDS SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	(16,931)	(16,266)	(16,502)	7,747	24,250	

WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL			
Statement of Financial Position			
as at 30 June 2023			
		YTD Actual 2022/23 \$'000	Actual 2021/22 \$'000
Current Assets			
Cash Assets		44,370	34,118
Investment Securities		99,425	88,184
Receivables		35,208	24,675
Inventories		514	461
Current Contract Assets		5,554	9,711
Other		6,352	6,881
Assets classified as held for sale		65	65
Total Current Assets		191,488	164,095
Non-Current Assets			
Non Current Cash Assets		30,450	37,200
Non Current Investment Securities		2,530	2,530
Non-Current Inventories		5,972	5,972
Property, Plant and Equipment		3,680,191	3,347,445
Investment Properties		5,050	5,600
Intangible Assets		0	76
Right-Of-Use Assets		718	1,094
Total Non-Current Assets		3,724,911	3,399,917
TOTAL ASSETS		3,916,398	3,564,012
Current Liabilities			
Current Payables		20,142	27,376
Current Contract Liabilities		14,238	5,491
Current Lease Liabilities		129	403
Current Provisions payable < 12 months		16,748	16,005
Current Provisions payable > 12 months		44,689	39,591
Current Interest Bearing Liabilities		2,572	3,569
Total Current Liabilities		98,518	92,435
Non-Current Liabilities			
Non Current Interest Bearing Liabilities		657	3,374
N/C Lease Liabilities		655	788
Non Current Provisions		28,371	28,671
Total Non-Current Liabilities		29,684	32,832
TOTAL LIABILITIES		128,202	125,267
NET ASSETS		3,788,197	3,438,744
Equity			
Accumulated Surplus		1,491,551	1,440,238
Asset Revaluation Reserve		2,149,062	1,862,285
Restricted Assets		147,584	136,221
TOTAL EQUITY		3,788,196	3,438,744

WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL			
Cash Flows and Investments			
as at 30 June 2023			
	YTD Actual	Actual	
	2022/23	2021/22	
	\$ '000	\$ '000	
Cash Flows From Operating Activities			
Receipts			
Rates & Annual Charges	215,961	215,632	
User Charges & Fees	48,194	31,914	
Interest & Interest Received	5,768	1,549	
Grants & Contributions	132,051	64,618	
Bonds, deposits and retention amounts received	-	1,201	
Other	14,643	21,387	
Payments			
Employee Benefits & On-costs	(135,718)	(131,464)	
Materials & Contracts	(106,143)	(86,914)	
Borrowing Costs	(217)	(442)	
Bonds, deposits and retention amounts refunded	-	(755)	
Other	259,976	(28,808)	
Net Cash provided (or used in) Operating Activities	434,514	87,918	
Cash Flows From Investing Activities			
Receipts			
Sale of Investments	36,301	54,491	
Sale of Investment Property			
Sale of Real Estate Assets			
Sale of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	1,451	2,161	
Payments:			
Purchase of Investments	(41,833)	(59,990)	
Purchase of Investment Property	1,100	-	
Purchase of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	(417,161)	(96,906)	
Net Cash provided (or used in) Investing Activities	(420,141)	(100,244)	
Cash Flows From Financing Activities			
Payments:			
Repayment of Borrowings & Advances	(3,714)	(5,496)	
Repayment of Finance Lease Liabilities	(406)	(380)	
Net Cash Flow provided (used in) Financing Activities	(4,121)	(5,876)	
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents	10,253	(18,202)	
plus: Cash & Cash Equivalents - beginning of year	34,118	52,320	
plus: Investments on hand - end of year	132,405	127,915	
Cash & Cash Equivalents and Investments - year to date	176,775	162,033	

WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL			
Cash Flows and Investments			
as at 30 June 2023			
	YTD Actual	Actual	
	2022/23	2021/22	
	\$ '000	\$ '000	
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents and Investments	176,775	162,033	
- year to date			
Attributable to:			
External Restrictions (refer below)	94,280	75,344	
Internal Restrictions (refer below)	61,684	62,886	
Unrestricted	20,811	23,803	
	176,775	162,033	
External Restrictions			
Developer Contributions	45,109	40,065	
RMS Contributions	2,158	205	
Specific Purpose Unexpended Grants	20,299	8,378	
Special Rates Levy Wollongong Mall	722	407	
Special Rates Levy Wollongong City Centre	94	88	
Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme	-	-	
Unexpended Loans	883	907	
Domestic Waste Management	6,880	7,604	
Private Subsidies	6,848	5,708	
Housing Affordability	8,380	9,604	
Stormwater Management Service Charge	2,907	2,378	
Total External Restrictions	94,280	75,344	
Internal Restrictions			
Property Investment Fund	9,531	9,388	
Strategic Projects	27,181	34,962	
Flood Mitigation Works	-	-	
Sports Priority Program	893	671	
Car Parking Strategy	1,348	1,189	
MacCabe Park Development	1,890	1,740	
Darcy Wentworth Park	18	171	
Garbage Disposal Facility	10,083	5,831	
West Dapto Development Additional Rates	10,062	8,281	
Natural Areas	173	173	
Lake Illawarra Estuary Management Fund	505	480	
Total Internal Restrictions	61,684	62,886	



Notes to the Financial Statements:

While reviewing the information presented through this report, it should be noted that Council has elected to process additional transactions that vary from the accounting standards applied to year end reports to ensure the information at monthly intervals provides support to the decision-making and monitoring process. These transactions are summarised below:

- Timing of the recognition of Rates income – under AASB 1058, the Rates income is required to be recognised when it is raised. Through the monthly financial reports, the income has been spread across the financial year.
- Timing of the recognition of Financial Assistance Grant – under AASB 1058, the Financial Assistance Grant is required to be recognised on receipt. Through these financial reports, the income is spread across the financial year.

Commentary on June 2022-2023 Capital Budget Report

On 27 June 2022, Council approved a capital budget for 2022-2023 of \$102.91M which was subsequently adjusted and reported each month till the end of May 2023, the budget was reduced to \$95.23M. This was the final amount of the capital budget for 2022-2023 so the June Capital Budget Report consists of final expenditure vs final capital budget for each Capital Budget Program as detailed in the attached financial report and the commentary below.

Council achieved expenditure at the end of June 2023 of \$91.08M which is 96% of the final capital budget for 2022-2023.

Listed below is a summary of the significant variations between the final capital budget and corresponding end of financial year expenditure.

Program	Final Expenditure v Budget - Commentary on Significant Variations
Traffic Facilities	Several projects not completed by 30 June due to delays in completing consultation and/or planning approvals.
Public Transport Facilities	Several projects not completed by 30 June due to delays in completing consultation and/or planning approvals.
Roadworks	Multiple projects not fully completed by 30 June. Multiple projects with some final costs transferred to operational to comply with asset accounting requirements.
Bridges Boardwalks and Jetties	Design costs allocated for the Otford Road/Hacking River Causeway which was destroyed in the February 2023 storm event.
West Dapto	Multiple design projects behind schedule due to delays in obtaining various planning and utility approvals or land acquisitions.
Footpaths	Multiple projects not fully completed by 30 June.
Cycle/Shared Paths	Multiple projects not fully completed by 30 June. Transfer of costs from operational to capital to satisfy asset accounting requirements as part of EOFY reconciliations
Car Park Reconstruction or Upgrading	Two projects not fully completed by 30 June.
Floodplain Management	Two projects not fully completed by 30 June.
Stormwater Management	Two pipe reline projects completed for less than budget due to reduced scope of work.
Cultural Centres (IPAC, Gallery, Townhall)	Increase in allocated budget for the IPAC refurbishment project due to escalation of cost of materials and additional works identified as required by the planning approval process.
Community buildings	The extended planning approval and subsequent design changes at Southern Suburbs Library and Community Centre resulted in under expenditure against 2022-2023 budget for this project.
Tourist Parks - Upgrade and Renewal.	Design costs under budget for project to upgrade lighting at Corrimal Tourist Park due to delays arising from heritage investigations.
Crematorium/Cemetery – Upgrades and Renewal	Design costs less than budget for several projects which were not completed by 30 June.

Program	Final Expenditure v Budget - Commentary on Significant Variations
Play Facilities	One project delayed due to identification of heritage item. Transfer of costs from operational to capital to satisfy asset accounting requirements as part of EOFY reconciliations.
Recreation Facilities	Two projects costs partially or fully transferred to operational to comply with asset accounting requirements.
Sporting Facilities	Multiple projects not fully completed by 30 June.
Beach Facilities	Project not fully completed by 30 June.
Whytes Gully New Cells	Transfer of costs from operational to capital to satisfy asset accounting requirements as part of EOFY reconciliations
Motor Vehicles	Delays in delivery of multiple vehicles which were ordered for delivery by 30 June.
Information Technology	Delays in delivery of IT hardware which were ordered for delivery by 30 June.
Land Acquisitions	Land acquisitions for West Dapto Road failed to settle by 30 June.

CAPITAL PROJECT REPORT					
as at the period ended 30 June 2023					
ASSET CLASS PROGRAMME	\$'000			\$'000	
	CURRENT BUDGET		YTD EXPENDITURE	VARIATION	
	EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDING		EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDING
Roads And Related Assets					
Traffic Facilities	2,273	(1,357)	2,119	(0)	0
Public Transport Facilities	369	0	329	0	0
Roadworks	18,509	(5,218)	17,663	(0)	0
Bridges, Boardwalks and Jetties	2,004	(40)	2,081	0	(0)
TOTAL Roads And Related Assets	23,155	(6,615)	22,192	(0)	0
West Dapto					
West Dapto Infrastructure Expansion	9,058	(9,058)	8,812	(0)	0
TOTAL West Dapto	9,058	(9,058)	8,812	(0)	0
Footpaths And Cycleways					
Footpaths	12,944	(3,497)	12,966	(0)	0
Cycle/Shared Paths	4,026	(2,735)	4,005	(0)	(0)
Commercial Centre Upgrades - Footpaths and Cyclewa	2,504	(169)	2,491	(0)	0
TOTAL Footpaths And Cycleways	19,474	(6,401)	19,462	(0)	(0)
Carparks					
Carpark Construction/Formalising	254	0	257	0	0
Carpark Reconstruction or Upgrading	1,600	0	1,499	(0)	0
TOTAL Carparks	1,854	0	1,756	(0)	0
Stormwater And Floodplain Management					
Floodplain Management	871	(150)	696	(0)	0
Stormwater Management	3,452	(50)	3,068	0	0
Stormwater Treatment Devices	40	0	31	0	0
TOTAL Stormwater And Floodplain Mar	4,363	(200)	3,795	0	0
Buildings					
Cultural Centres (IPAC, Gallery, Townhall)	11,355	(2,421)	12,096	0	0
Administration Buildings	383	0	364	(0)	0
Community Buildings	7,701	(1,450)	7,368	0	0
Public Facilities (Shelters, Toilets etc.)	51	0	53	0	0
TOTAL Buildings	19,490	(3,871)	19,880	0	0
Commercial Operations					
Tourist Park - Upgrades and Renewal	281	0	219	(0)	0
Crematorium/Cemetery - Upgrades and Renewal	201	0	168	0	0
Leisure Centres & RVGC	100	0	97	0	0
TOTAL Commercial Operations	582	0	485	(0)	0
Parks Gardens And Sportfields					
Play Facilities	1,286	(255)	1,251	(0)	0
Recreation Facilities	1,772	(1,220)	1,410	(0)	0
Sporting Facilities	3,549	(1,700)	3,422	0	(0)
TOTAL Parks Gardens And Sportfields	6,606	(3,175)	6,083	(0)	0
Beaches And Pools					
Beach Facilities	563	(560)	390	0	0
Rock/Tidal Pools	105	0	105	0	0
Treated Water Pools	664	0	659	(0)	0
TOTAL Beaches And Pools	1,333	(560)	1,154	(0)	0
Waste Facilities					
Whyties Gully New Cells	1,001	(1,001)	1,104	0	0
TOTAL Waste Facilities	1,001	(1,001)	1,104	0	0

CAPITAL PROJECT REPORT					
as at the period ended 30 June 2023					
ASSET CLASS PROGRAMME	\$'000			\$'000	
	CURRENT BUDGET		YTD EXPENDITURE	VARIATION	
	EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDING		EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDING
Fleet					
Motor Vehicles	1,300	(685)	1,058	(0)	263
TOTAL Fleet	1,300	(685)	1,058	(0)	263
Plant And Equipment					
Mobile Plant (trucks, backhoes etc.)	2,067	(769)	2,068	(0)	167
TOTAL Plant And Equipment	2,067	(769)	2,068	(0)	167
Information Technology					
Information Technology	1,213	0	1,108	(0)	0
TOTAL Information Technology	1,213	0	1,108	(0)	0
Library Books					
Library Books	1,315	0	1,321	(0)	0
TOTAL Library Books	1,315	0	1,321	(0)	0
Public Art					
Art Gallery Acquisitions	100	0	80	(0)	0
TOTAL Public Art	100	0	80	(0)	0
Land Acquisitions					
Land Acquisitions	846	(587)	720	(0)	0
TOTAL Land Acquisitions	846	(587)	720	(0)	0
Non-Project Allocations					
Capital Project Contingency	1,473	0	0	(0)	0
TOTAL Non-Project Allocations	1,473	0	0	(0)	0
GRAND TOTAL	95,231	(32,924)	91,079	(0)	431

ITEM 18 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT - JULY 2023

This report provides an overview of Council's investment portfolio performance for the reporting period July 2023.

Council had an average weighted return for July 2023 of 0.33% which was slightly below the benchmark return of 0.37%. This result was primarily due to the positive valuations of the consolidated Floating Rate Notes and NSW TCorp investments with the performance negatively impacted by some of the long-term deposits being purchased at comparatively lower rates. The remainder of Council's portfolio continues to provide a high degree of credit quality and liquidity.

RECOMMENDATION

Council receive the Statement of Investment for July 2023.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Brian Jenkins, Chief Financial Officer

Authorised by: Renee Campbell, Director Corporate Services - Connected + Engaged City

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Statement of Investment – July 2023
- 2 Investment Income Compared to Budget 2023-2024

BACKGROUND

Council is mandated to invest surplus funds in accordance with the Ministerial Investment Order and Office of Local Government guidelines. The Order reflects a conservative approach and restricts the investment types available to Council. In compliance with the Order and Office of Local Government guidelines, Council adopted an Investment Policy on 12 December 2022. The Investment Policy provides a framework for Council to manage investment credit quality, institutional diversification and maturity constraints. Council's investment portfolio was controlled by Council's Finance Division during the period to ensure compliance with the Investment Policy. Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee's (ARIC) provides oversight of the review of Council's Investment Policy and the Management Investment Strategy.

Council's Responsible Accounting Officer is required to sign the complying Statement of Investment contained within the report, certifying that all investments were made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government Regulation 2005.

Council's investment holdings at 28 July 2023 were \$173,908,438 (Statement of Investment attached) [29 July 2022 \$141,710,130] and include Council's interest in CivicRisk Mutual Ltd recognised at fair value as at 30 June 2022. An actuary report on the fair value of Council's interest in CivicRisk at 30 June 2023 will be made available to us early August and any material movements in fair value recorded within the 2023 Audited Financial Statements.

Council had an average weighted return for July 2023 of 0.33% which was slightly below the benchmark return of 0.37%. This result was primarily due to the positive valuations of the consolidated Floating Rate Notes and NSW TCorp investments, but the performance was also dragged down by some of the long-term deposits being locked in at much lower rates. The remainder of Council's portfolio continues to provide a high degree of credit quality and liquidity. The global markets are still experiencing high levels of instability and the heightened volatility in interest rates, driven by the persistent ongoing inflation issues, is providing levels uncertainty in rates of return for the foreseeable future.

At 28 July 2023, year to date interest and investment revenue of \$643,622 was recognised compared to the year to date budget of \$413,616.

Council's 16 floating rate notes had a net increase in value of \$162,970 for July 2023.

Council holds two Mortgaged Backed Securities (MBS) that recorded a net increase in value of \$8,581 for July 2023. The market value of this security takes into account the extended term of the security along with the limited liquidity and the coupon margin reflects pre-Global Financial Crisis (GFC) pricing.

While the maturity dates are outside Council’s control, the investment advisors had previously indicated capital is not at risk at that stage and recommended a hold strategy due to the illiquid nature of the investment.

Council holds two investments within the NSW TCorp Hour Glass Facility; Long-Term Growth Fund and Medium-Term Growth Fund. The Long-Term Growth recorded a net increase in value of \$66,838 and the Medium-Term Growth Fund recorded a net increase in value of \$45,835 in July 2023. The fluctuations in both the Long-Term Growth and Medium-Term Growth Funds are a reflection of the current share market volatility both domestically and internationally and is diversified across a number of different asset classes that have differing risk and return characteristics.

At their August 2023 meeting, the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) decided to hold the official cash rate at 4.10%. The RBA remains resolute in its determination to return inflation to target of 2–3% and continues to monitor uncertainties regarding the global economy, adjust policy as determined by the RBA and determine the timing and extent of future interest rate increases.

The current Investment Policy sets a 40% maximum exposure limit to individual institutions within the AAA category. This limit is currently considered to include funds held within the Commonwealth Bank (CBA), savings account which holds Council’s operating cash balances. Through the banking services contract with the CBA, that includes a fixed margin over the current cash rate, Council’s savings account provides a higher return than alternate short- to medium-term investments available to Council. At the end of July 2023, the exposure to CBA was 26.91%, which is marginally above the 25% target set in the Investment Strategy.

The current investment portfolio complies with Council’s Investment Policy which was endorsed by Council on 12 December 2022. Council’s Responsible Accounting Officer has signed the Statement of Investment contained within the report, certifying all investments were made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government Regulation 2005.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong Our Future 2032 Goal 4 “We are a connected and engaged community”. It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan 2032		Delivery Program 2022-2026
Strategy		Service
4.8	Council’s resources are managed effectively to ensure long term financial sustainability.	Financial Services

CONCLUSION

The investments for July 2023 recorded an average weighted return that was slightly below the AusBondBank Bill Index Benchmark and performed favourably when compared to the year-to-date budget.

WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT 28 July 2023								
DIRECT INVESTMENTS								
Investment Body	Rating	Purchase Price \$	Fair Value of Holding \$	Security	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Interest / Coupon Rate	
CBA Business Online Saver	A1+	-	37,427,607	BOS A/c	28/07/2023	28/07/2023	4.35%	
CBA General Fund A/c	A1+	-	3,425,366	General A/c	28/07/2023	28/07/2023		
NAB General Fund A/c	A1+	-	372,418	General A/c	28/07/2023	28/07/2023		
Bank of Queensland Ltd	Moodys ST P-2	3,000,000	3,000,000	T/Deposit	16/03/2023	16/08/2023	4.40%	
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	S&P ST A1+	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	16/09/2022	15/09/2023	4.30%	
Judo Bank	S&P BBB-	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	17/09/2021	18/09/2023	0.95%	
Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	S&P AA-	5,000,000	5,000,000	T/Deposit	20/10/2021	20/10/2023	0.84%	
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	S&P AA-	5,000,000	5,000,000	T/Deposit	20/10/2021	20/10/2023	0.87%	
Bank of Queensland Ltd	Moodys A3	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	25/11/2021	27/11/2023	1.15%	
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	S&P AA-	5,000,000	5,000,000	T/Deposit	2/12/2021	4/12/2023	1.21%	
Bank of Sydney Ltd	Unrated ST UR	250,000	250,000	T/Deposit	16/03/2023	11/12/2023	4.75%	
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	S&P AA-	5,000,000	5,000,000	T/Deposit	23/12/2020	22/12/2023	0.60%	
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank Ltd	Moodys ST P-2	3,000,000	3,000,000	T/Deposit	16/03/2023	16/01/2024	4.50%	
Australian Unity Bank	S&P ST A2	3,000,000	3,000,000	T/Deposit	16/03/2023	16/02/2024	4.50%	
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	S&P AA-	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	6/03/2019	6/03/2024	5.05%	
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank Ltd	Moodys ST P-2	3,000,000	3,000,000	T/Deposit	16/03/2023	15/03/2024	4.50%	
IMB Ltd	Moodys Baa1	3,000,000	3,000,000	T/Deposit	28/03/2023	26/04/2024	4.51%	
Bank of Queensland Ltd	Moodys A3	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	23/05/2023	24/06/2024	5.11%	
Australian Unity Bank	S&P ST A2	750,000	750,000	T/Deposit	10/07/2023	9/07/2024	5.75%	
Judo Bank	S&P BBB-	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	17/09/2021	17/09/2024	1.20%	
Bank of Queensland Ltd	Moodys A3	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	9/06/2023	11/11/2024	5.50%	
Bank of Queensland Ltd	Moodys A3	4,000,000	4,000,000	T/Deposit	2/06/2023	2/12/2024	5.25%	
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	S&P AA-	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	2/12/2021	2/12/2024	1.63%	
Coastline Credit Union Ltd	Moodys Baa3	250,000	250,000	T/Deposit	5/06/2023	5/12/2024	5.25%	
Judo Bank	S&P BBB-	2,200,000	2,200,000	T/Deposit	7/03/2022	11/03/2025	2.30%	
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	S&P AA-	5,000,000	5,000,000	T/Deposit	7/03/2022	13/03/2025	2.03%	
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank Ltd	Moodys A3	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	9/06/2023	9/05/2025	5.45%	
Bank of Queensland Ltd	Moodys A3	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	30/06/2023	30/06/2025	5.50%	
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	S&P AA-	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	30/06/2023	30/06/2025	5.35%	
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	S&P AA-	3,000,000	3,000,000	T/Deposit	25/11/2022	25/11/2025	4.59%	
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	S&P AA-	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	30/06/2023	30/06/2026	5.19%	
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	S&P AA-	2,000,000	2,000,000	T/Deposit	30/06/2023	30/06/2027	5.09%	
Total			117,675,391					

WOLLONGONG CITY COUNCIL STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT 28 July 2023 continued								
Bond and Floating Rate Note Securities								
DIRECT INVESTMENTS								
Investment Body	Rating	Purchase Price \$	Fair Value of Holding \$	Security	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Interest / Coupon Rate	
National Australia Bank Ltd	S&P AA-	3,000,000	3,017,430	FRN	26/09/2018	26/09/2023	5.25%	
Westpac Banking Corporation Ltd	S&P AA-	1,500,000	1,517,175	FRN	16/11/2018	16/11/2023	4.86%	
ANZ Banking Group Ltd	S&P AA-	2,000,000	2,019,180	FRN	6/12/2018	6/12/2023	5.08%	
National Australia Bank Ltd	S&P AA-	2,000,000	2,020,260	FRN	19/06/2019	19/06/2024	5.24%	
Macquarie Bank	S&P A+	2,000,000	2,023,520	FRN	12/02/2020	12/02/2025	4.72%	
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank Ltd	Moodys A3	1,700,000	1,693,999	FRN	2/12/2020	2/12/2025	4.54%	
Macquarie Bank	Moodys A2	6,500,000	6,497,725	FRN	11/03/2022	9/12/2025	4.69%	
Suncorp-Metway Ltd	S&P A+	2,100,000	2,095,863	FRN	24/02/2021	24/02/2026	4.37%	
Newcastle Greater Mutual Group Ltd	S&P BBB	5,000,000	4,942,200	FRN	4/03/2021	4/03/2026	4.70%	
Teachers Mutual Bank Ltd	Moodys Baa1	1,100,000	1,081,707	FRN	16/06/2021	16/06/2026	4.98%	
Suncorp-Metway Ltd	S&P A+	3,750,000	3,722,513	FRN	15/09/2021	15/09/2026	4.72%	
Suncorp-Metway Ltd	S&P A+	1,500,000	1,492,350	FRN	11/03/2022	25/01/2027	5.13%	
ANZ Banking Group Ltd	Moodys Aa3	3,500,000	3,552,220	FRN	12/05/2022	12/05/2027	4.85%	
Cooperative Rabobank U.A. Australia Branch	S&P A+	2,500,000	2,526,325	FRN	19/01/2023	19/01/2028	5.46%	
ANZ Banking Group Ltd	Moodys Aa3	2,500,000	2,519,225	FRN	31/03/2023	31/03/2026	5.18%	
ANZ Banking Group Ltd	Moodys Aa3	2,500,000	2,529,525	FRN	31/03/2023	31/03/2028	5.41%	
Emerald Reverse Mortgage Trust	Unrated UR	424,058	342,647	MBS	17/07/2006	21/08/2051	4.37%	
Emerald Reverse Mortgage Trust	Unrated UR	2,000,000	1,317,140	MBS	17/07/2006	21/08/2056	4.67%	
Total			44,911,003					

Managed Funds & Other

MANAGED FUNDS						
Investment Body	Rating	Purchase Price \$	Fair Value of Holding \$	Purchase Date	Monthly	FYTD (Actual)
Tcorp Long Term Growth Facility Fund	N/A		3,858,007	13/06/2007	1.76%	1.76%
Tcorp Medium Term Growth Facility Fund	N/A		4,940,037	14/06/2007	0.94%	0.94%
Total			8,798,044			

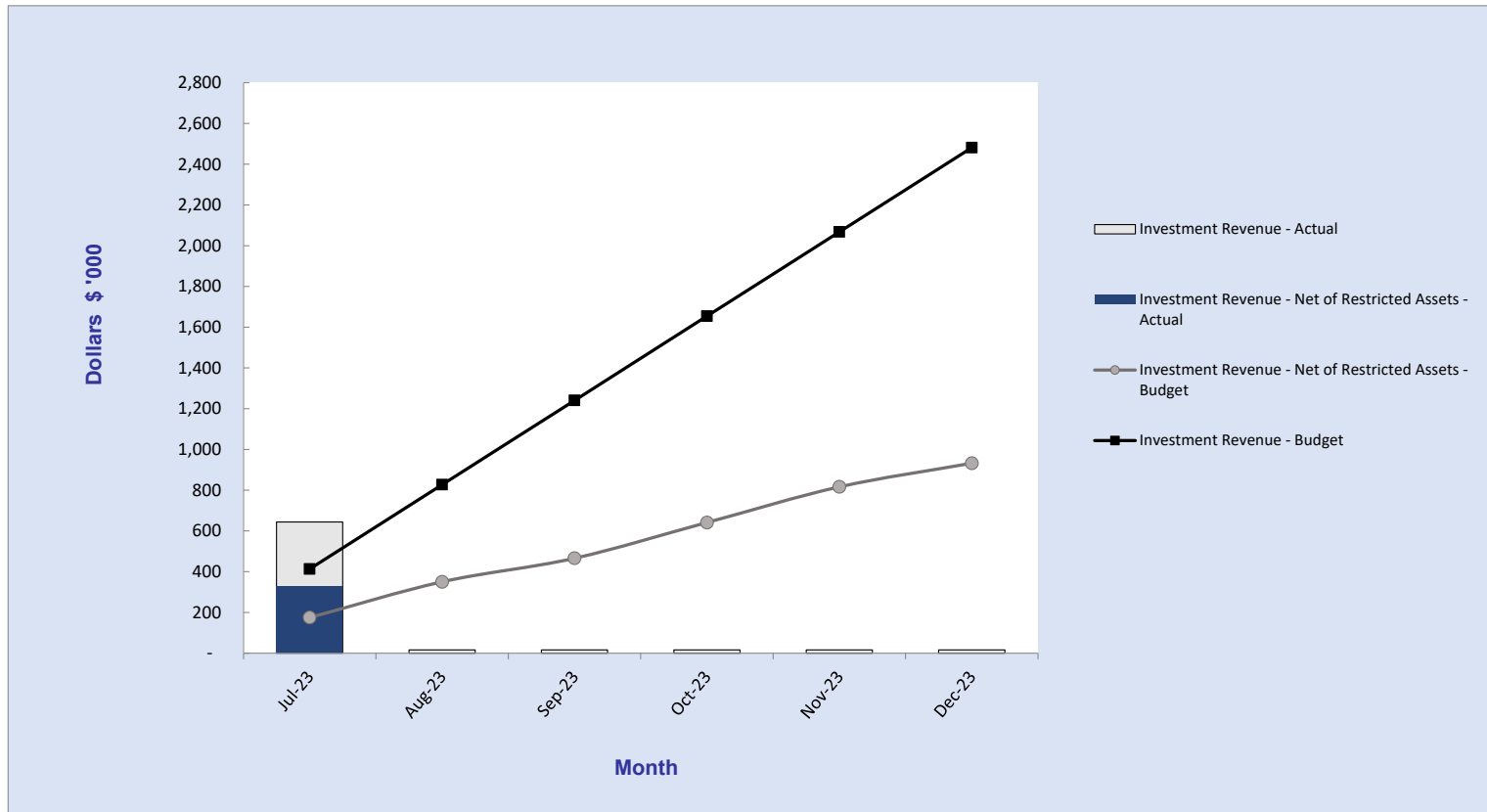
Membership interest in Investment Body	Fair Value of Holding \$
CivicRisk Mutual Limited	2,524,000

TOTAL INVESTMENTS \$ **173,908,438**

* The maturity date provided is the weighted-average life of the security. This is the average amount of time that will elapse from the date of security's issuance until each dollar is repaid based on an actuarial assessment. Assessments are carried out on a regular basis which can potentially extend the life of the investment. Current assessments anticipate an extension of life of the investment.

This is to certify that all of the above investments have been placed in accordance with the Act, the regulations and Council's Investment Policies.

Brian Jenkins
RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER



ITEM 19 CITY OF WOLLONGONG TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 AUGUST 2023

The City of Wollongong Traffic Committee was held on 8 August 2023. The recommendations of items listed in Section 3 of the Traffic Committee Minutes, relating to temporary road closures, are referred to Council for consideration. Temporary road closures, in accordance with the regulation of public works or events by independent parties, must be considered by Council. Road closures are not considered under delegated authority to the General Manager.

The items in Section 2, 4 and 5 of the Local Traffic Committee Minutes are endorsed under Delegated Authority of the General Manager and do not require referral to Council. Items that appear in Section 2, 4 and 5 of previous Wollongong Traffic Committee will form part of the published minutes.

RECOMMENDATION

In accordance with the delegated authority to Council, the Minutes and Recommendations of the Wollongong Traffic Committee held on 8 August 2023 in relation to Regulation of Traffic as outlined within this report, be adopted.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Nathan McBriarty, Manager Infrastructure Strategy + Planning (Acting)
Authorised by: Joanne Page, Director Infrastructure + Works

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Council - 8 August 2023 - Austinmer, Tree Lopping of Trees Private Property
- 2 Council - 8 August 2023 - East Corrimal, Corrimal Community Church Christmas Carols
- 3 Council - 8 August 2023 - Wollongong, Stihl Timbersports Series 1
- 4 Council - 8 August 2023 - Wollongong, Stihl Timbersports Series 2
- 5 Council - 8 August 2023 - Wollongong, Stihl Timbersports Series 3
- 6 Council - 8 August 2023 - Wollongong, Culture Mix 1
- 7 Council - 8 August 2023 - Wollongong, Culture Mix 2
- 8 Council - 8 August 2023 - Port Kembla, Illawarra Triathlon Club
- 9 Council - 8 August 2023 - Kembla Grange, More Trains More Services Program 1
- 10 Council - 8 August 2023 - Kembla Grange, More Trains More Services Program 2
- 11 Council - 8 August 2023 - Kembla Grange, More Trains More Services Program 3
- 12 Council - 8 August 2023 - Kembla Grange, More Trains More Services Program 4

1. AUSTINMER, MOORE LANE – WARD 1 – HEATHCOTE ELECTORATE – TREE PRUNING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

BACKGROUND

A resident of Moore Lane, Austinmer has applied to close Moore Lane to undertake urgent tree pruning work on private property at 22 Moore Street, Austinmer. The only way to access the tree safely is from the laneway. The date for the proposed works is Monday, 11 September 2023 from 10am to 2pm (4 hours) with backup dates of Tuesday 12 September or Wednesday 13 September at the same time.

The trees to be pruned currently hang over the lane and create difficulties for trucks using the lane, particularly the garbage trucks. With recent strong winds the tree coverage has dropped further onto the lane. There is some concern that the trees supporting this vegetation may collapse.

Walton's Tree Car Service will be contracted, and they have indicated that to carry out the work a mechanical cherry picker would be required. Traffic control would be contracted to provide traffic management on the day.

PROPOSAL

The road closures be approved subject to the submitted Traffic Control Plans and [Council's Standard Conditions for Road Closures](#).

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Impacted Residents will be advised via letterbox drop a week prior to the works.

2. EAST CORRIMAL, AUGUSTA STREET BETWEEN PIONEER ROAD AND LINGA STREET – WARD 1 – WOLLONGONG ELECTORATE - CORRIMAL COMMUNITY CHURCH CHRISTMAS CAROLS (CLASS 3)

BACKGROUND

Corrimal Community Church has applied for a temporary road closure on Augusta Street East Corrimal between Pioneer Road and Linga Street to hold a Christmas Carol Event on Sunday, 10 December 2023 from 4pm to 9pm. The Church is located on 9 August Street, East Corrimal. The event has been held for several years successfully and the event organisers work in with the community to ensure there is minimal disruption. There will be heavy vehicle mitigation at the closure points and residents will need to detour around the intersection of Augusta Street and Pioneer Road.

PROPOSAL

The road closures be approved subject to the submitted Traffic Control Plans and [Council's Standard Conditions for Road Closures](#).

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

The applicant must consult with affected property owners at least 14 days prior to the event.

3. WOLLONGONG, ENDEAVOUR DRIVE – WARD 2 – WOLLONGONG ELECTORATE - STIHL TIMBERSPORTS SERIES (CLASS 2)

BACKGROUND

A development application has been lodged with Council for a 1 day event from 11am to 8pm, Saturday, 16 September 2023 at Belmore Basin Foreshore 2 Endeavour Drive Wollongong. The event comprises of the Australian Wood Chopping Championship - Stihl Timbersports Series. The biggest and best series of international wood chopping, Stihl Timbersports Series has established itself worldwide as the prestigious major league of lumberjack sports, with a massive global fan base following live events and on TV.

Athletes compete in a variety of disciplines based on traditional logging skills to determine the best all-round lumberjack. Discipline includes Hot Saw, Single Buck, Springboard Chop, Standing Block Chop, Stock Saw, and Underhand Chop. With roots in Australia, Canada, the United States and New Zealand, the series calls upon the best athletes to compete across 6 disciplines across the world and test their strength, endurance and technical ability with an axe and a chainsaw.

The DA reference is DA-2023/507. Whilst the event is to occur over 1 day, it requires several additional days to bump in/out, which may extend traffic impacts over a wider period:

- Bump In: 7am Monday 11 September 2023 – 11am Saturday 16 September 2023
- Event: 11am Saturday 16 September – 8pm Saturday 16 September
- Bump Out: 8pm Saturday, 16 September 2023 – 5pm Monday 18th September

The item requires consideration by the Wollongong Traffic Committee due to the proposed regulation of traffic and closure of the Endeavour Drive and the impact of detoured traffic on the local road network.

PROPOSAL

- TfNSW raised major concerns with consultation that has been undertaken to date. Wollongong Harbour has several commercial vessels that operate from the harbour and the adjacent car park. The current proposal does not appear to accommodate the access required for day-to-day operations of the slipway and commercial fishing boats. Our Maritime partners have received concerns from operators about impacts to their business from the proposed closures associated with the event.

Council approves the placement of signs on the local road network subject to:

1. The Event Organiser reaching out to representatives from Maritime Infrastructure Delivery Office (MIDO) and TfNSW Property team due to a lack of consultation with affected businesses. The proposed road closure is on Crown land and is operated under licence by TfNSW. Endorsement from MIDO and TfNSW property teams is required prior to proceeding with the event as outlined in the support letters provided with the development application.
2. The road closures be approved subject to the submitted Traffic Control Plans and Council's Standard Conditions for Road Closures.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- Public notification and consultation with the relevant state authorities is being undertaken as part of the application.
- As the event is held on land owned by the State of NSW, the Event organiser has received a letter of Support from
- Transport for NSW (TfNSW) Senior Portfolio Property Leasing Manager.
- The event has also Development Consent from the Department of Planning and Environment.
- The event organiser has provided vehicle mitigation on advice from NSW Police.

4. WOLLONGONG, VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN WOLLONGONG CBD – WARD 2 – WOLLONGONG ELECTORATE – CULTURE MIX (CLASS 2)

BACKGROUND

Culture Mix is proposed to occur on Saturday, 21 October 2023 between 12pm and 8pm at various locations in Wollongong CBD, including Wollongong Town Hall, The Arts Precinct, Wollongong Library and Wollongong Art Gallery. This one-day outdoor event will celebrate Wollongong's diverse community with vibrant music, dance, workshops, installations, and food from around the world.

It is expected 10000 visitors throughout the day will attend the event. The road closures will be from Lower Crown Street from Kembla Street and to Corrimal Street. Access to the event will be by walking, public transport and driving to nearby carparks.

Crown Street will be closed for the duration of Culture Mix, access will be maintained from Moore Lane and the Carpark managed by Traffic Control. Cyclists will be subject to the same road closures.

The proposed 5-minute pick-up and drop-off zone for Uber/Medical Centre in the current No Stopping Zone at Town Hall Place.

PROPOSAL

The road closures be approved subject to the submitted Traffic Control Plans and [Council's Standard Conditions for Road Closures](#).

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Consultation has occurred prior to the local traffic committee with Local businesses and NSW Police have been informed. There is also another round of consultation with businesses.

Property access will be maintained for all affected businesses on Crown Street. The traffic control company may be required to apply for a Road Occupancy Licence and stated in their TMP.

5. PORT KEMBLA, GLOUCESTER BOULEVARDE, BETWEEN DARCY AND MILITARY ROADS – WARD 3 – WOLLONGONG ELECTORATE – ILLAWARRA TRIATHLON CLUB (VEHICLE RACE ON ROAD)

BACKGROUND

The Illawarra Triathlon Club has submitted a Traffic Management Plan to hold its Monthly Club Triathlon races as it has done for many years. The Triathlons occur from October to April each year. The State Junior Championships Billigence Race on the 15 October will be larger than normal, however within the footprint of the Traffic Guidance Scheme.

The Club proposes its Triathlon Race Series for the following Sunday race dates:

- Sunday 15 October 2023 (Billigence Race)
- Sunday 12 November 2023
- Sunday 10 December 2023
- Sunday 21 January 2024
- Sunday 18 February 2024
- Sunday 17 March 2024
- Sunday 14 April 2024

The on-road cycling part of the triathlon program requires the closure of Gloucester Boulevard between Darcy Road and Military Road Street from 7am to 11am. Access for pedestrians and cyclists will be maintained around the event area, cyclists will be subject to the same road closures as drivers or will be required to dismount. Property access will be maintained for affected residents.

This event was previously approved by the City of Wollongong Traffic Committee at its meeting on 12 October 2021 and 29 November 2022.

PROPOSAL

The road closures be approved subject to the submitted Traffic Control Plans and [Council's Standard Conditions for Road Closures](#).

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

The Illawarra Triathlon Club has conducted triathlon events over a number of years and has worked to ensure that the events have minimal impact on the community. A letter box drop to affected residents will be undertaken in advance of the Triathlon dates. Consultation also occurs with Port Kembla Surf Life Saving Club.

6. KEMBLA GRANGE, WEST DAPTO ROAD – WARD 3 – KEIRA ELECTORATE – MORE TRAINS MORE SERVICES PROGRAM (MTMS)

BACKGROUND

The More Trains, More Services (MTMS) program is delivering platform extensions and asset upgrades between Sydney's CBD and the South Coast to support the introduction of the Mariyung fleet. Work at Kembla Grange involves preliminary site investigations including geotechnical assessments and survey work, and construction of overhead wiring footings.

Closure of West Dapto Road at the Kembla Grange level crossing to enable dropping of current overhead wires on track and running new ones, involving exclusion zones.

- Possession WE11: 9pm Friday 8 September 2023 to 11pm Sunday 10 September 2023

Detours will be in place.

It is noted that the approval for closure of the Dapto level crossing on Bong Bong Road has been approved through traffic committee for the same date. This closure will not proceed at the same time as Kembla Grange to avoid unnecessary pressure on the surrounding road network.

PROPOSAL

1. TfNSW has confirmed only one road closure will occur as this date conflicts with the Bong Bong Road closure.

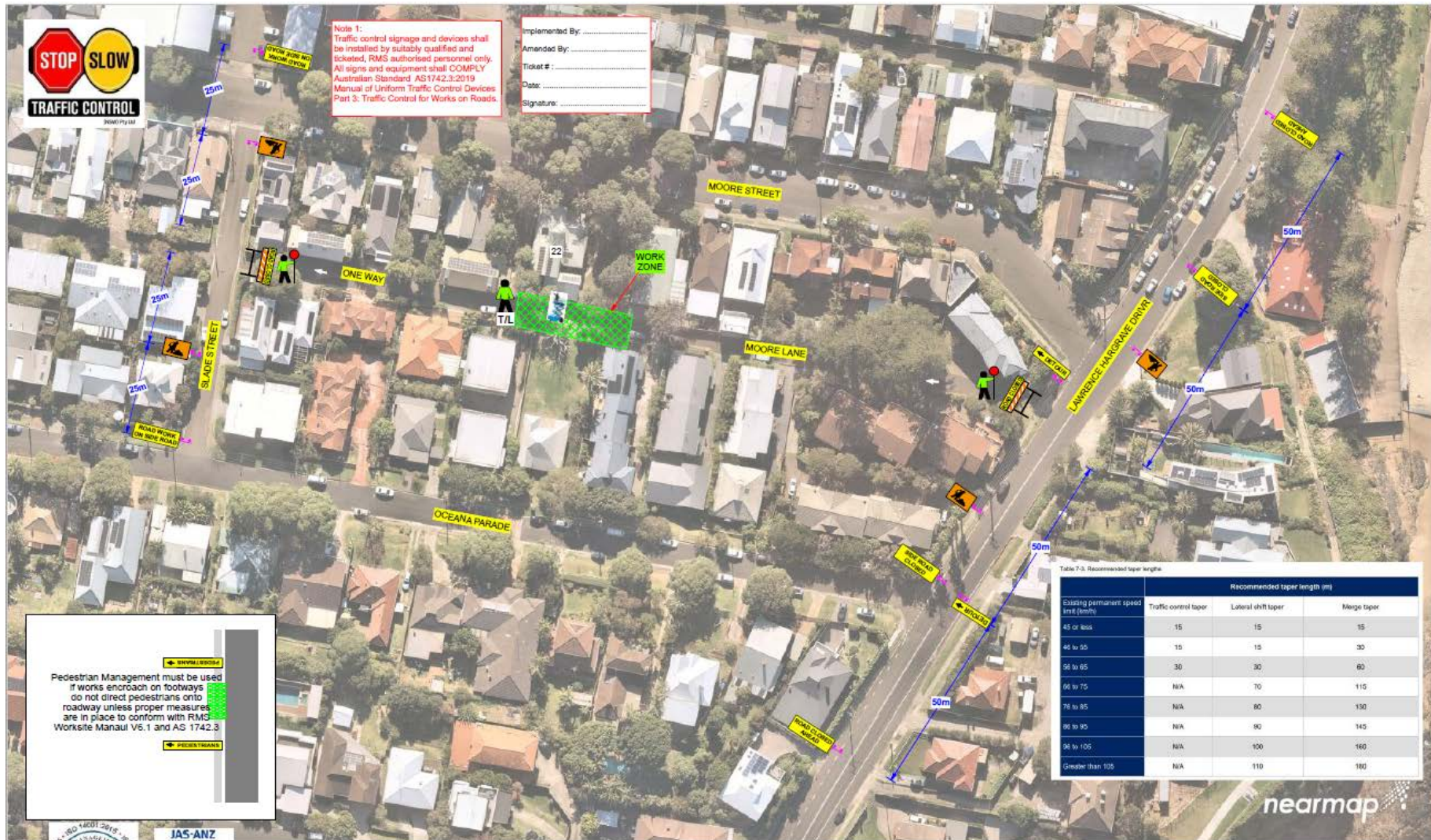
The road closures be approved subject to the submitted Traffic Control Plans and [Council's Standard Conditions for Road Closures](#).

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

1. This scope will be notified in the September 2023 community notification, distributed in August 2023.
2. The contractor (Transport for Tomorrow) will work with Transport for NSW to notify internal stakeholders, Council and Sydney Trains (including possession replacement bus services).
3. Transport for Tomorrow have contacted the Illawarra Turf Club (Kembla Grange Racecourse) and they have advised that although they have a race meeting on Saturday 9 September, the impact is low as work is on the other side of the highway.
4. The closest resident lives 200 metres away from the work area on other the side of the Princes Highway and is not expected to be impacted.
5. Transport for Tomorrow have direct contacts for heavy vehicle and trucking associations to ensure impacts are appropriately communicated to the relevant stakeholders.
6. VMS will be in place prior to the closure to inform the broader community of the closure.

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal “We have affordable and accessible transport”. It specifically delivers on the core business activities as detailed in the Transport Services.



Note 1:
Traffic control signage and devices shall be installed by suitably qualified and ticketed, RMS authorised personnel only. All signs and equipment shall COMPLY Australian Standard AS1742.3:2019 Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices Part 3: Traffic Control for Works on Roads.

Implemented By: _____
Amended By: _____
Ticket #: _____
Date: _____
Signature: _____

Table 7-3: Recommended taper lengths

Existing permanent speed limit (km/h)	Recommended taper length (m)		
	Traffic control taper	Lateral shift taper	Merge taper
45 or less	15	15	15
46 to 55	15	15	30
56 to 65	30	30	60
66 to 75	N/A	70	110
76 to 85	N/A	80	130
86 to 95	N/A	90	145
96 to 105	N/A	100	160
Greater than 105	N/A	110	180

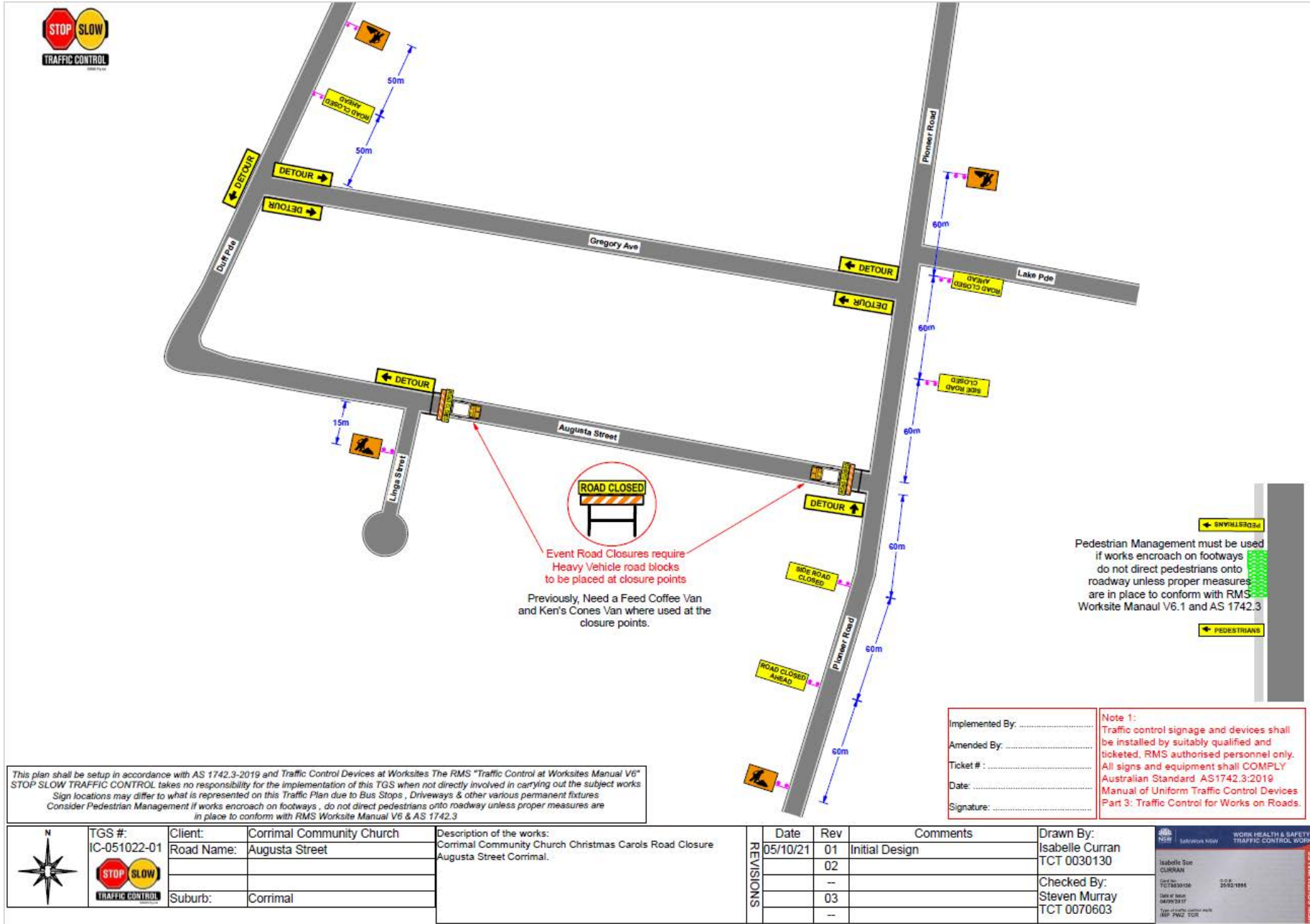
Pedestrian Management must be used if works encroach on footways do not direct pedestrians onto roadway unless proper measures are in place to conform with RMS Worksite Manual V6.1 and AS 1742.3

PEDESTRIAN GUIDANCE
PEDESTRIAN EXCLUSION



This plan shall be setup in accordance with AS 1742.3-2019 and Traffic Control Devices at Worksites The RMS "Traffic Control at Worksites Manual V6.1 STOP SLOW TRAFFIC CONTROL takes no responsibility for the implementation of this TGS when not directly involved in carrying out the subject works Sign locations may differ to what is represented on this Traffic Plan due to Bus Stops, Driveways & other various permanent fixtures Consider Pedestrian Management if works encroach on footways, do not direct pedestrians onto roadway unless proper measures are in place to conform with RMS Worksite Manual V6.1 & AS 1742.3

	TGS #: SM110723-01	Client: COOKIE LLOYD	Description of the works TREE REMOVAL MOORE LANE CLOSURE REAR OF 22 MOORE STREET AUSTINMER	Date 11/07/22	Rev 00	Comments Initial Design	Drawn By: Steve Murray	
	Road Name: MOORE STREET	Suburb: AUSTINMER		REVISIONS	01		TCT 0070603	
				02		Checked By: Allan Smith	TCT 0003407	



GENERAL NOTES

- THIS DRAWING TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH AS1742.3
- TC@WS Version No: 6.1
- ALL TRAFFIC CONTROL DIAGRAMS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH TC@WS 20.346 Version No: 6.1
- NON-APPLICABLE EXISTING SIGNAGE SHALL BE COVERED E.G SPEED SIGNS DUE TO THE TEMPORARY SPEED ZONE
- ALL SIGNAGE DISTANCE SHALL COMPLY WITH AS 1742.3 & TC@WS V6.1 2022
- IN ACCORDANCE WITH TC@WS V6.1 2022 TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS TO ASSIST PEDESTRIANS WITH MOVEMENT THROUGH & AROUND THE WORKSITE
- SIGNAGE SHALL BE PLACED ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD ADJACENT TO THE TRAFFIC FLOW
- REMOVAL OF TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNS AND DEVICES SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN THE REVERSE ORDER OF ERECTION PROGRESSING FROM THE WORK AREA OUT TOWARDS THE APPROACHES.

RECOMMENDED TAPER LENGTHS

APPROXIMATE SPEED OF TRAFFIC KM/H	TRAFFIC CONTROL AT BEGINNING OF TAPER	LATERAL SHIFT TAPER	MERGE TAPER
45 OR LESS	15	0	15
46 - 55	15	30	30
56 - 65	30	30	60
66 - 75	N/A	70	115
76 - 85	N/A	85	130
86 - 95	N/A	90	145
96 - 105	N/A	100	160
> 105	N/A	110	180

DIMENSION 'D'

SPEED OF TRAFFIC KM/H	AS 1742.3	TC@WS
45 OR LESS	15m	15m
46 - 55	15m	50m
56 - 65	15m	60m
GREATER THAN 65 KM/H	EQUAL TO POSTED SPEED	

TOLERANCES

POSITIONING OF SIGNS
MINIMUM 10% LESS THAN
THE DISTANCE OR LENGTHS GIVEN
MAXIMUM 25% MORE THAN
THE DISTANCE OR LENGTHS GIVEN
SPACING OF DELINEATING DEVICES
MAXIMUM 10% MORE THAN THE
SPACINGS GIVEN
NO MINIMUM

LANE WIDTHS

THE MIN LANE WIDTH TO BE PROVIDED THROUGH OR PAST THE WORKSITE SHALL BE 3.0m (3.5m DESIRABLE & 2.9 min)

QUEUE MANAGEMENT PLAN

AT ALL TIMES DURING THE COURSE OF THE WORK TRAFFIC QUEUES SHALL BE MONITORED TO ENSURE THAT TRAFFIC DOES NOT EXCEED BEYOND THE LIMITS OF ADVANCE WARNING SIGNS

VEHICLE MANAGEMENT PLAN

ALL WORKSITE VEHICLES TO ENTER AND EXIT WORKSITE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS WITH THE TRAFFIC FLOW ON DESIGNATED UHF CHANNEL

TGS 1 - BUMP IN

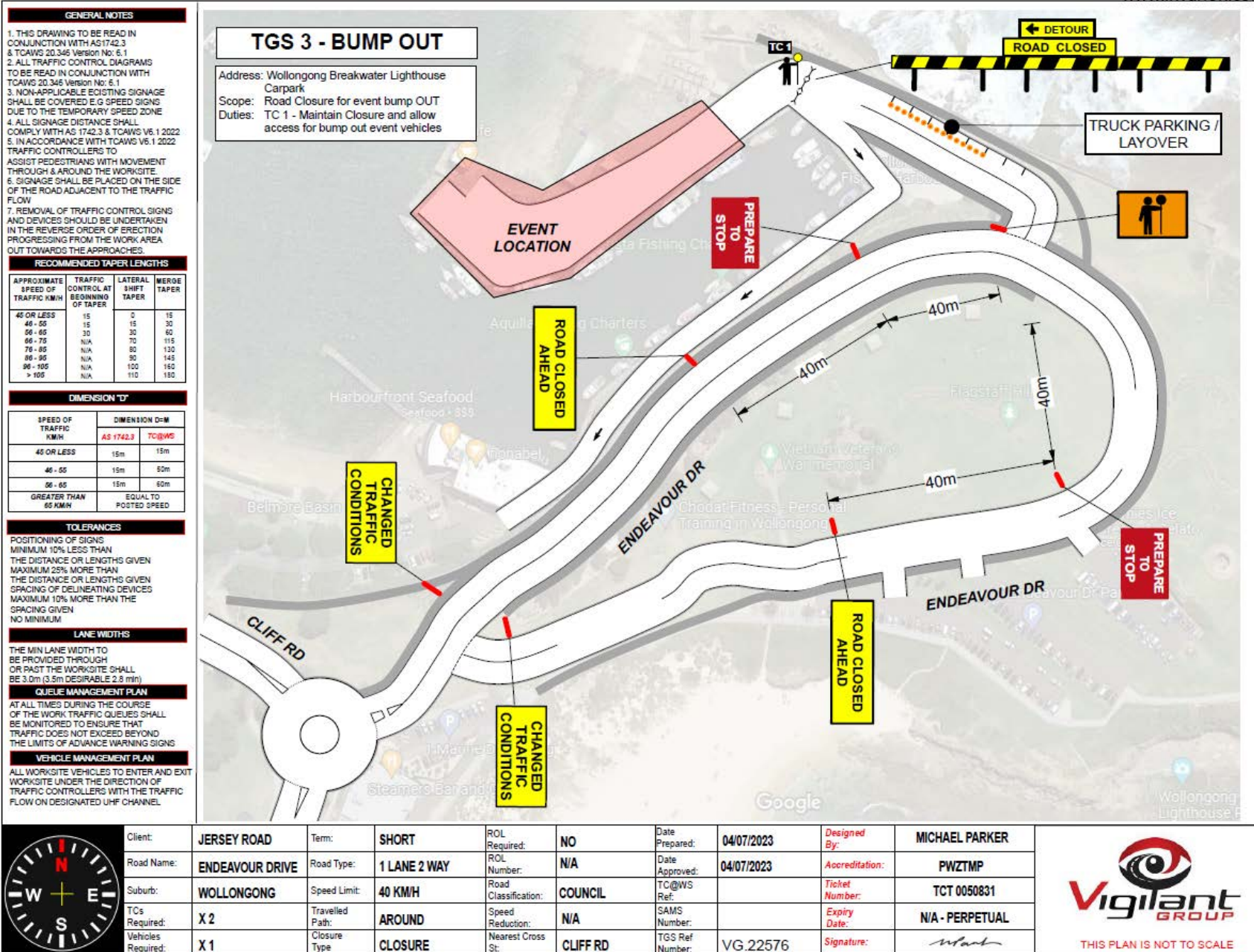
Address: Wollongong Breakwater Lighthouse Carpark

Scope: Road Closure for event bump IN

Duties: TC 1 - Maintain Closure and allow access for bump in event vehicles

Client:	JERSEY ROAD	Term:	SHORT	ROL Required:	NO	Date Prepared:	04/07/2023	Designed By:	MICHAEL PARKER
Road Name:	ENDEAVOUR DRIVE	Road Type:	1 LANE 2 WAY	ROL Number:	N/A	Date Approved:	04/07/2023	Accreditation:	PWZTMP
Suburb:	WOLLONGONG	Speed Limit:	40 KM/H	Road Classification:	COUNCIL	TC@WS Ref:		Ticket Number:	TCT 0050831
TCs Required:	X 2	Travelled Path:	AROUND	Speed Reduction:	N/A	SAMS Number:		Expiry Date:	N/A - PERPETUAL
Vehicles Required:	X 1	Closure Type:	CLOSURE	Nearest Cross St:	CLIFF RD	TGS Ref Number:	VG.22574	Signature:	<i>Mark</i>

THIS PLAN IS NOT TO SCALE



GENERAL NOTES

- THIS DRAWING TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH AS1742.3 & TC@WS 20.345 Version No: 6.1
- ALL TRAFFIC CONTROL DIAGRAMS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH TC@WS 20.345 Version No: 6.1
- NON-APPLICABLE EXISTING SIGNAGE SHALL BE COVERED E.G SPEED SIGNS DUE TO THE TEMPORARY SPEED ZONE
- ALL SIGNAGE DISTANCE SHALL COMPLY WITH AS 1742.3 & TC@WS V6.1 2022
- IN ACCORDANCE WITH TC@WS V6.1 2022 TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS TO ASSIST PEDESTRIANS WITH MOVEMENT THROUGH & AROUND THE WORKSITE
- SIGNAGE SHALL BE PLACED ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD ADJACENT TO THE TRAFFIC FLOW
- REMOVAL OF TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNS AND DEVICES SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN THE REVERSE ORDER OF ERECTION PROGRESSING FROM THE WORK AREA OUT TOWARDS THE APPROACHES.

RECOMMENDED TAPER LENGTHS

APPROXIMATE SPEED OF TRAFFIC K/M/H	TRAFFIC CONTROL AT BEGINNING OF TAPER	LATERAL SHIFT TAPER	MERGE TAPER
45 OR LESS	15	0	15
46 - 55	15	15	30
56 - 65	30	30	60
66 - 75	N/A	70	115
76 - 85	N/A	90	130
86 - 95	N/A	90	145
96 - 105	N/A	100	160
> 105	N/A	110	180

DIMENSION 'D'

SPEED OF TRAFFIC K/M/H	DIMENSION D=M	TC@WS
45 OR LESS	15m	15m
46 - 55	15m	50m
56 - 65	15m	60m
GREATER THAN 65 K/M/H	EQUAL TO POSTED SPEED	

TOLERANCES

POSITIONING OF SIGNS
MINIMUM 10% LESS THAN
THE DISTANCE OR LENGTHS GIVEN
MAXIMUM 25% MORE THAN
THE DISTANCE OR LENGTHS GIVEN
SPACING OF DELINEATING DEVICES
MAXIMUM 10% MORE THAN THE
SPACING GIVEN
NO MINIMUM

LANE WIDTHS

THE MIN LANE WIDTH TO BE PROVIDED THROUGH OR PAST THE WORKSITE SHALL BE 3.0m (3.5m DESIRABLE 2.8 m)

QUEUE MANAGEMENT PLAN

AT ALL TIMES DURING THE COURSE OF THE WORK TRAFFIC QUEUES SHALL BE MONITORED TO ENSURE THAT TRAFFIC DOES NOT EXCEED BEYOND THE LIMITS OF ADVANCE WARNING SIGNS

VEHICLE MANAGEMENT PLAN

ALL WORKSITE VEHICLES TO ENTER AND EXIT WORKSITE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS WITH THE TRAFFIC FLOW ON DESIGNATED UHF CHANNEL

TGS 2 - EVENT DAY

Address: Wollongong Breakwater Lighthouse Carpark
Scope: Road Closure for event.
Duties: TC 1 - Maintain Closure
TC 2 - Assist with pedestrian movement and traffic calming

The diagram shows a road closure on Endeavour Drive. Key features include:

- Event Location:** A pink shaded area at the top left.
- Road Closure:** A central section of Endeavour Drive is closed, marked with yellow 'ROAD CLOSED AHEAD' signs.
- Drop Off Zone:** A designated area for pedestrian drop-off, marked with a 'DROFF ZONE' sign.
- Traffic Control:** Two traffic controllers (TC 1 and TC 2) are positioned at the closure points.
- Signage:** 'PREPARE TO STOP' signs are placed at the start and end of the closure. 'CHANGED TRAFFIC CONDITIONS' signs are placed further ahead.
- Dimensions:** 40m distances are marked between various points along the road.
- Approaches:** Cliff Rd is shown at the bottom left, and a detour is indicated at the top right.

Client: JERSEY ROAD **Term:** SHORT

Road Name: ENDEAVOUR DRIVE **Road Type:** 1 LANE 2 WAY

Suburb: WOLLONGONG **Speed Limit:** 40 K/M/H

TCs Required: X 2 **Travelled Path:** AROUND

Vehicles Required: X 1 **Closure Type:** CLOSURE

ROL Required: NO **Date Prepared:** 04/07/2023

ROL Number: N/A **Date Approved:** 04/07/2023

Road Classification: COUNCIL **TC@WS Ref:**

Speed Reduction: N/A **SAMS Number:**

Nearest Cross St: CLIFF RD **TGS Ref Number:** VG.22575

Designed By: MICHAEL PARKER

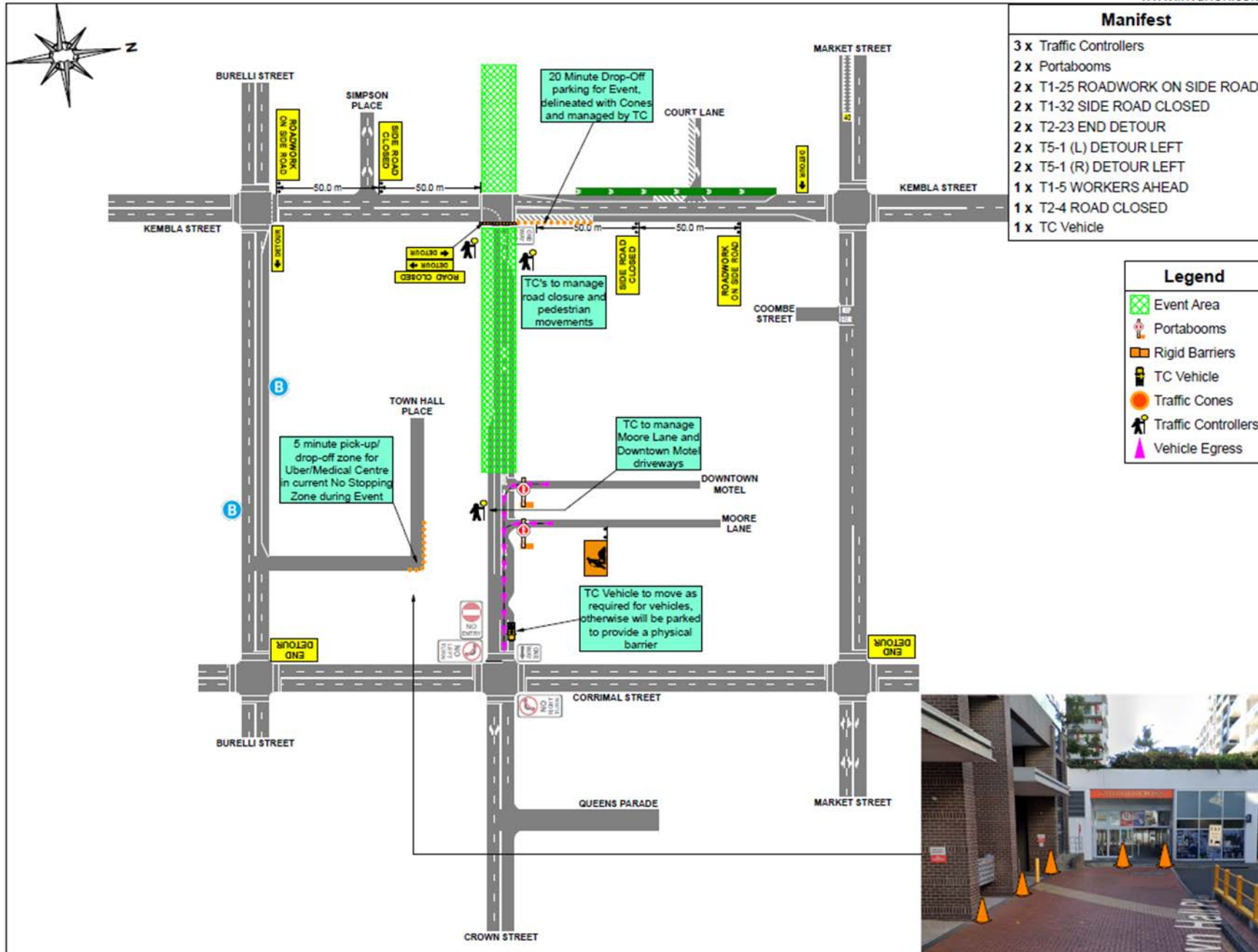
Accreditation: PWZTMP

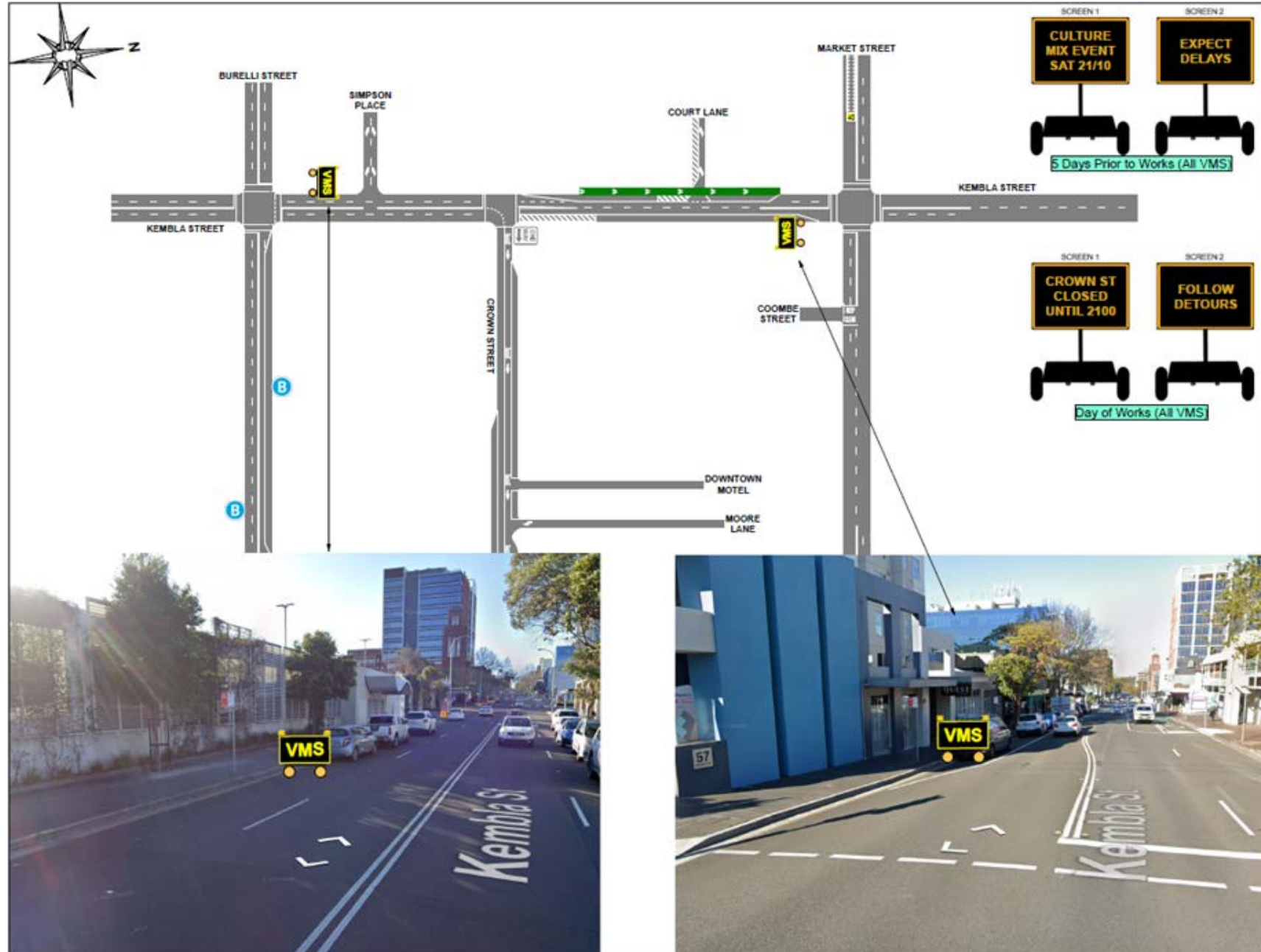
Ticket Number: TCT 0050831

Expiry Date: N/A - PERPETUAL

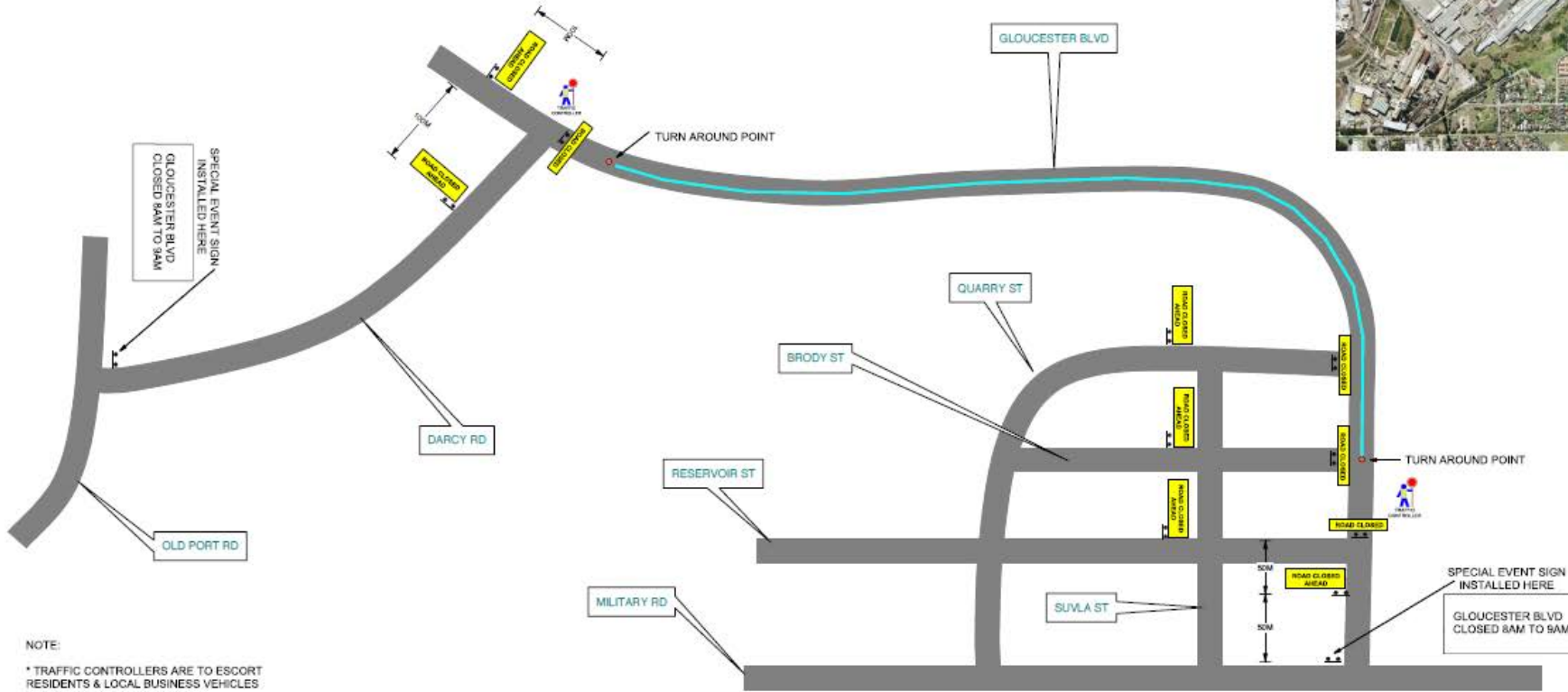
Signature: *[Signature]*

THIS PLAN IS NOT TO SCALE





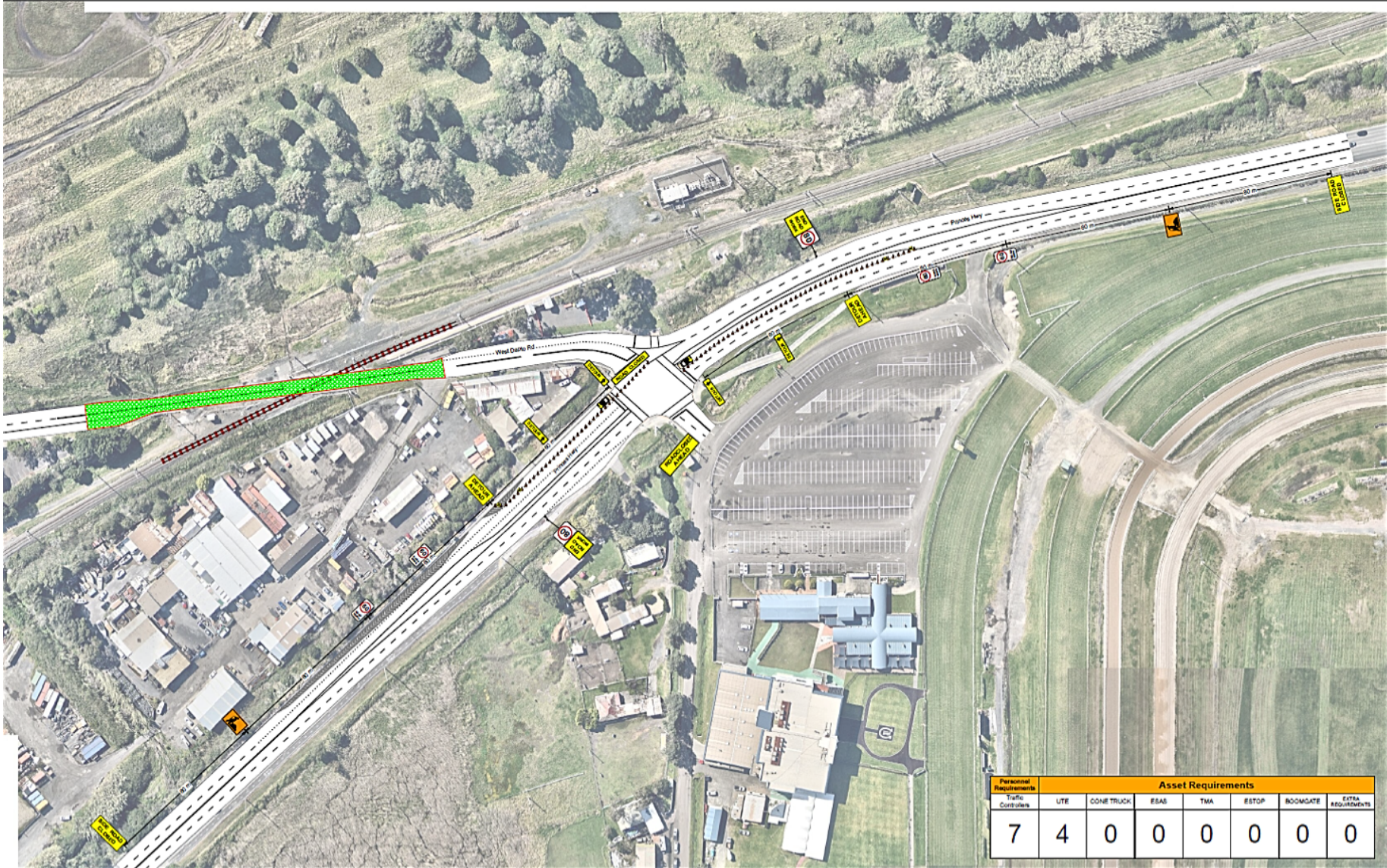
ILLAWARRA TRIATHLON CLUB
Location - **GLOUCESTER BLVD PORT KEMBLA**



NOTE:
* TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ARE TO ESCORT RESIDENTS & LOCAL BUSINESS VEHICLES IN & OUT OF GLOUCESTER BLVD
* EXTRA SIGNS TO BE INSTALLED IF REQUIRED WHERE APPLICABLE

D = THE SPEED OF TRAFFIC MEASURED IN KMH SEE SECTION 4.2 TRAFFIC CONTROL AT WORK SITES MANUAL	E.G: 80KM = 80M 70KM = 70M 60KM = 60M 50KM = 50M	PEDESTRIANS PEDESTRIANS PEDESTRIANS TO BE INSTALLED WHERE APPLICABLE IF REQUIRED	TCP 54 USED AS A GUIDE
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 PLAN NOT TO SCALE	Author : P. DELLOREFFICE PREPARED BY Phaly Dellorefice CERT NO: 5293612201 TMP No: ITCGEN-J48	Implemented By Name:..... Date:..... Signed:..... Cert No:.....	Comments: 1. TCP Designed as a guide only. Team leader to Select & Modify TCP to suit. 2. All signage in to be removed on completion of the works. 3. Sign distances may vary due to obstructions, driveways etc. 4. Traffic Controllers are to manage pedestrians as well. This plan is in accordance with AS 1742.3 Traffic Control Devices at work sites and The RTA "Traffic Control at work sites" manual 4.0	PROJECT 	 WOLLONGONG SYDNEY Phone: (02) 42727133 Phone: (02) 9631 7962 Fax: (02) 42727134 Fax: (02) 9631 7963 D&B TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT DOES NOT ACCEPT LIABILITY FOR NON IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS TCP IF NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN ITS IMPLEMENTATION	
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Issue	Desg	Appd	Date & Time	Amendment Description	TGS Name & Number: LGP - 35429	TGS Designed By: Karisa Dwyer	PWZTMP: TCT0039102	Exp: N/A	Signature: <i>[Signature]</i>	Date of Approval: 23/05/2023
01	AC	PL	23/05/2023 10:44	Original Issue		TGS Approved By: Peter Lozano	PWZTMP: TCT0058486	Exp: N/A	Signature: <i>[Signature]</i>	
02					Works Location: West Dapto Rd, Wollongong NSW, Australia	TGS Implemented By:	PWZTMP:	Exp:	Signature:	
03					Project name & Description: Full Road Closure			Client Company: Transport for Tomorrow Client Contact: Alvaro Rielves Contact Number: 0429027745		
04										
05										

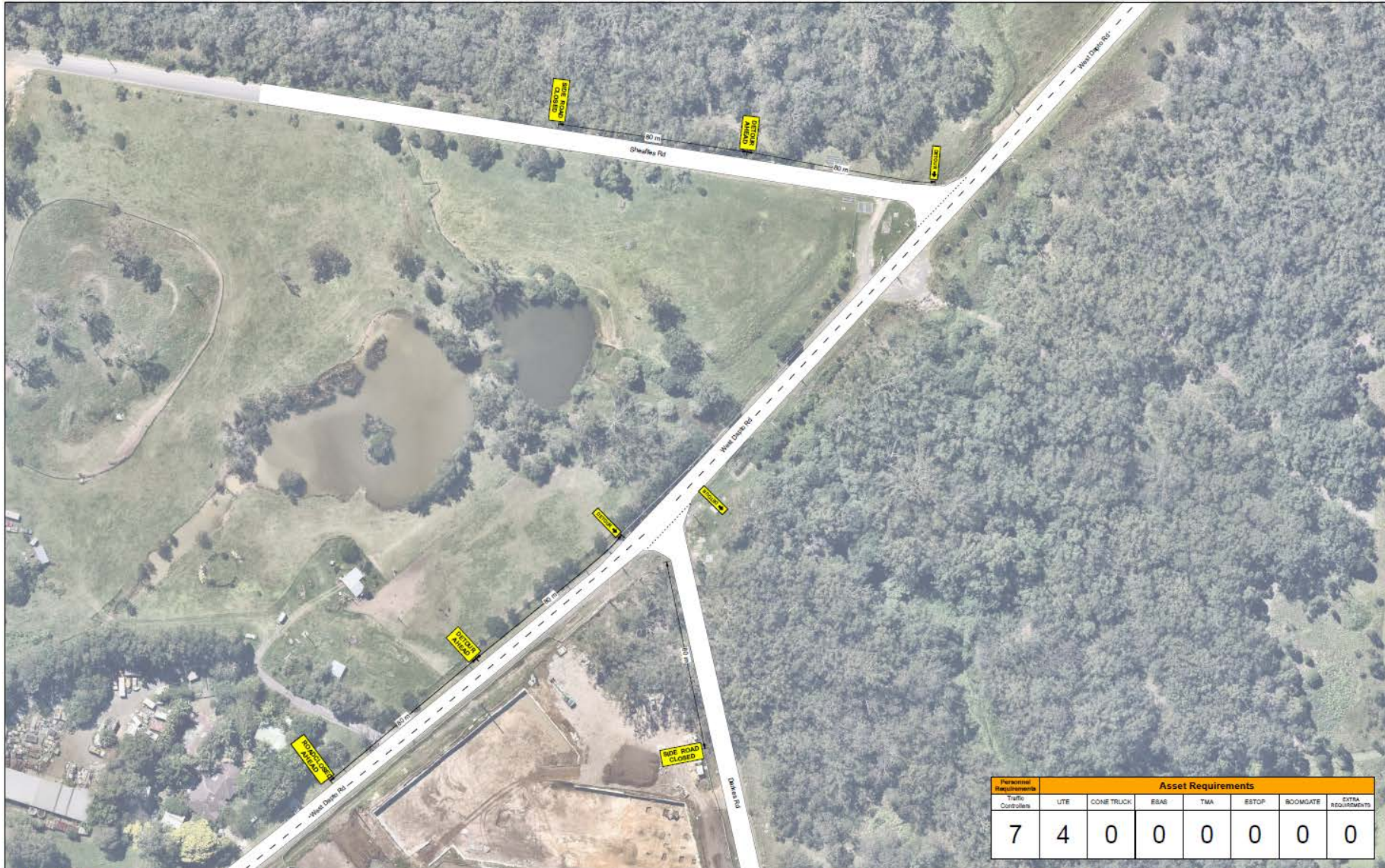


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03							Client Company: Transport for Tomorrow			
04					Project name & Description: Full Road Closure		Client Contact: Alvaro Rielles			
05							Contact Number: 0428027745			



Personal Requirements	Asset Requirements							
	Traffic Controllers	LITE	CONE TRUCK	ESAS	TMA	SETOP	BOOMGATE	EXTRA REQUIREMENTS
7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Issue	Desg	Appd	Date & Time	Amendment Description	TGS Name & Number: LGP - 35429	TGS Designed By: Karisa Dwyer	PWZTMP: TCT0039102	Exp: N/A	Signature:	Date of Approval: 23/05/2023	
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03					Project name & Description: Full Road Closure		Client Company: Transport for Tomorrow	Client Contact: Alvaro Rielves	Contact Number: 0429027745		
04											
05											



Personnel Requirements	Asset Requirements						
Traffic Controllers	LITE	CONE TRUCK	ESAS	TMA	ESTOP	ROOMMATE	EXTRA REQUIREMENTS
7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0

Issue	Desg	Appd	Date & Time	Amendment Description	TGS Name & Number: LGP - 35429	TGS Designed By: Karisa Dwyer	PWZTMP: TCT0039102	Exp: N/A	Signature:	Date of Approval: 23/05/2023
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03							Client Company: Transport for Tomorrow			
04					Project name & Description: Full Road Closure	Client Contact: Alvaro Rielves	Contact Number: 0429027745			
05										

ITEM 20

CITY OF WOLLONGONG TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MINUTES OF EMEETING HELD 11 AUGUST 2023

The City of Wollongong Traffic Committee participated in an eMeeting on 11 August 2023. The recommendations of the item listed in Section 2 of the Traffic Committee Minutes, relating to temporary road closures, are referred to Council for consideration. Temporary road closures in accordance with the regulation of public works or events by independent parties, must be considered by Council. Road closures are not considered under delegated authority to the General Manager.

The items in Section 1 of the Local Traffic Committee Minutes are endorsed under Delegated Authority of the General Manager and do not require referral to Council. Items that appear in Section 2 of previous Wollongong Traffic Committee will for part of the published minutes.

RECOMMENDATION

In accordance with the delegated authority to Council, the Minutes and Recommendations of the City of Wollongong Traffic Committee eMeeting held on 11 August 2023 in relation to Regulation of Traffic as outlined in this report, be adopted.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Nathan McBriarty, Manager Infrastructure Strategy + Planning (Acting)
Authorised by: Joanne Page, Director Infrastructure + Works

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SAT) 1
- 2 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SAT) 2
- 3 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SAT) 3
- 4 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SAT) 4
- 5 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SAT) 5
- 6 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 6
- 7 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 7
- 8 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 8
- 9 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 9
- 10 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 10
- 11 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 11
- 12 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 12
- 13 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 13
- 14 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 14
- 15 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 15
- 16 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 16
- 17 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 17
- 18 Council - 11 August 2023 - Wollongong, Ride Wollongong Festival (SUN) 18

1. WOLLONGONG, MARINE DRIVE AND ENDEAVOUR DRIVE – WARD 2 – WOLLONGONG ELECTORATE – RIDE WOLLONGONG FESTIVAL (RACE ON ROAD/CLASS 2)

BACKGROUND

Ride Wollongong is proposed to occur 23 Saturday September 2023 and 24 Sunday September 2023 at Lang Park and Flagstaff Hill Wollongong. The event is a community cycling event to celebrate the first-year anniversary of the 2022 UCI world road cycling champion ships, along with the UCI Bike City status Wollongong city now boasts. Estimated daily attendance is 3500 riders spread over free community events and races, along with free activations built on community engagement.

The road closures will be from Flagstaff Hill on Saturday 23 September 2023 and additionally Marine Drive on Sunday 24 September 2023. The methods of accessing the event will include car, walking and public transport. Ride Wollongong's Festival of Cycling is a free community ride celebrating the legacy of

the 2022 UCI Road World Championships, the Festival of Cycling has something for everyone to enjoy, in the beautiful City of Wollongong.

On Saturday 23 September 2023, Endeavour Drive will be closed from 9am to 5pm and on Sunday 24 September 2023, Marine Drive and Endeavour Drive will be closed from 7am to 5pm:

A link to the current event schedule is provided: [Event Schedule | RIDE WOLLONGONG](#)

PROPOSAL

Transport for NSW representative raised the following concerns with the proposal:

- The proposed traffic management of the surrounding local roads creates a situation where vehicles can exit the harbour and surrounding car park but not enter. Several commercial businesses operate out of the harbour including commercial fishing vessels, a café, slipway, and fishing charter boat. The harbour is a popular weekend spot for recreational kayaking and swimming. The car park is one of the closest available to the event. Some people will likely ignore the current one-way arrangement to access parking in this area. This creates a potential conflict between pedestrians and vehicles (it is currently a shared zone). A summary of the consultation with the affected business is missing from the traffic committee agenda. I have included a copy of the relevant Transport for NSW contacts as Transport manages the harbour which is on Crown Land.
- The Wollongong foreshore area has a high parking demand. It is not uncommon for cars to park overnight in the car parks that are proposed to be closed. Trapped vehicles on road or in car parks will need to be addressed. This is based on previous experience with similar closures with UCI event in 2022. It is recommended that the event organiser work with NSW Police on a strategy to minimise the risk of parked vehicles being present on event days.
- The Wollongong bus layover is critical to the operation of most buses in the Wollongong region. It is noted that the event organiser is working with the operators to minimise disruption to the public transport network.

Noting the above, the Traffic Committee recommends that the event (including the Traffic Guidance Schemes and Traffic Management Plans) be approved subject to:

1. Council's Standard Conditions for Road Closures.
2. The proposed Traffic Guidance Scheme (TGS) including the management of access to the harbour via lower Endeavour Drive (currently one-way shared zone).
3. The Special Event Parking signs illustrating the temporary bus layover zones (identified on page 22 of the Traffic Committee Agenda) being erected 7 days prior to the event. Signs must show the event dates and times the restrictions apply to and ensure buses are exempt from restrictions.
4. Additional Special Event Parking sign being added to the "Bus Zone 4x spots" location on page 22 of the Traffic Committee Agenda noting that this location is not currently a bus zone. This location will be for buses to pick-up and drop-off passengers as part of their route servicing.
5. Additional event parking signage being installed in critical locations for the event. These include on-street parking areas/entrances to parking areas which will be closed/occupied for the event.
6. Council's Compliance & Regulation team being notified through Council's Transport Team representatives once all special event parking signs have been installed.
7. The Event Organiser working with the Church, Events Team and Bus Operators to organise toilet facilities for the bus drivers during the event times.
8. Resolution with bus companies on temporary bus layover arrangements.
9. The TGS and TMP being revised (updated date and versions) to reflect all Traffic Committee recommendations. Revised TGS and TMP plans must be re-submitted to Council's Transport and Events teams prior to the event.
10. The proposed road closure near the roundabout of Cliff Road/Endeavour Drive on page 14 of the Traffic Committee Agenda) being relocated closer to the entrance to lower Endeavour Drive. This is

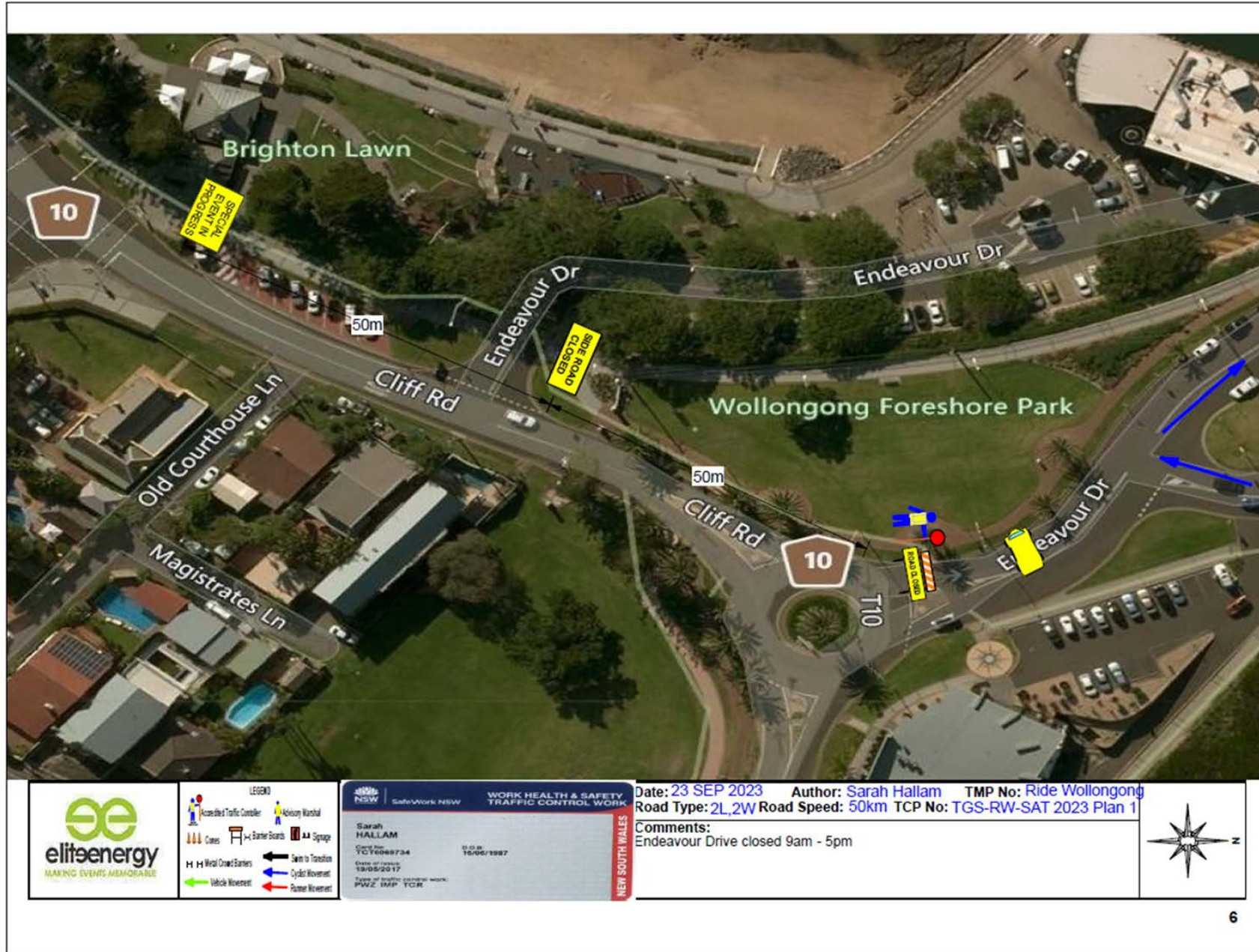
to improve driver safety by reducing the need for drivers to perform U-turns. Driver will instead be able to utilise the Endeavour Drive carpark area to turn around.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- The event organiser has consulted with NSW Police to discuss the upcoming event as part of the TMP implementation.
- The event organiser has discussed key issues raised by bus operators regarding the event including the closure of the bus terminus and providing toilet facilities. In response a plan has been created which includes relocation of the bus terminus to Harbour Street and Crown Street as per the attached TGS plans (to offset the bus parking lost at the terminus) - See final pages of the TGS plans.
- The applicant has confirmed there will be toilet facilities provided for the bus layover for both days at either the church or on Lang Park (as close as possible to the layovers). This will be subject to separate Council approval.

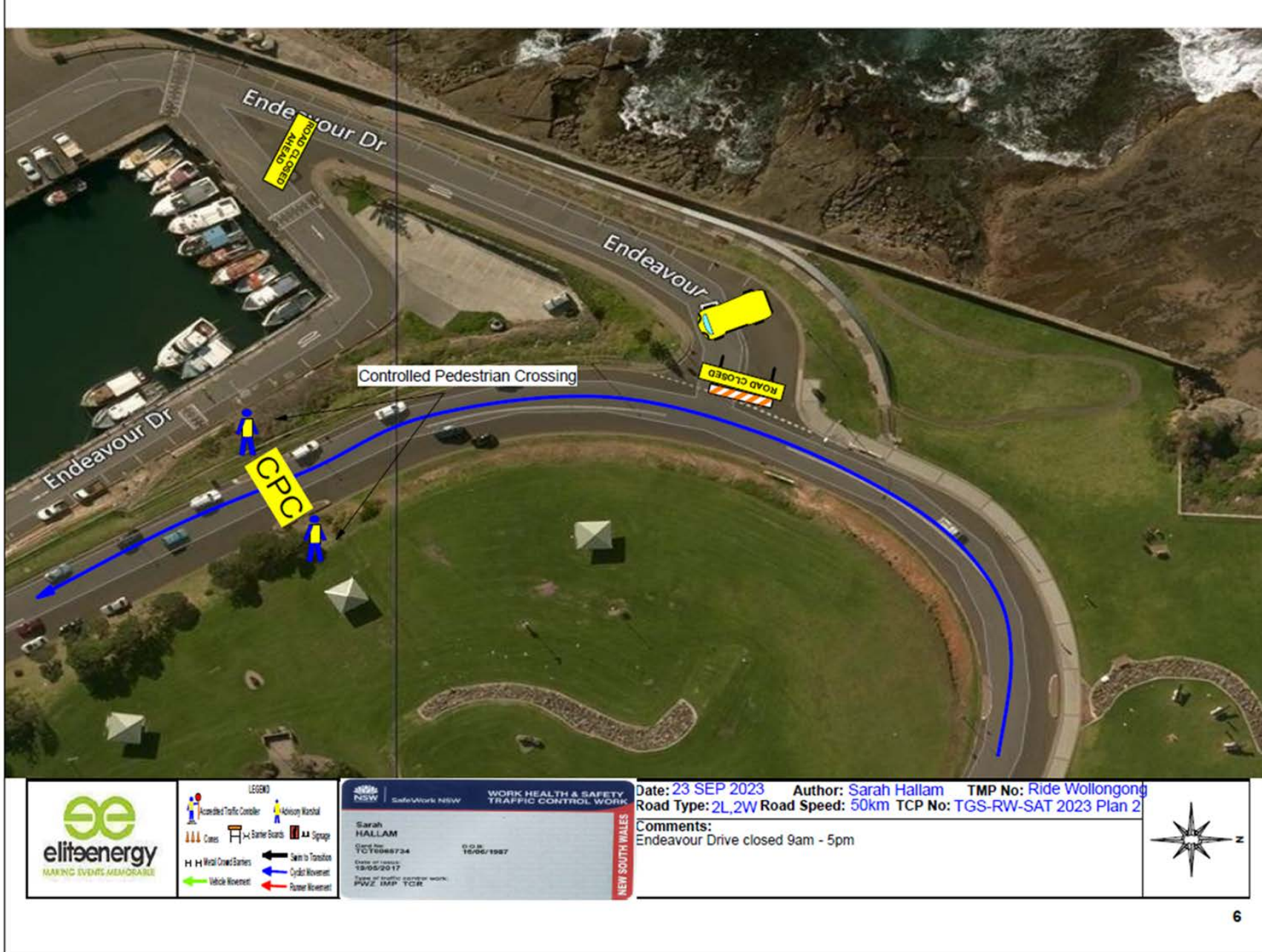
PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal “We have affordable and accessible transport”. It specifically delivers on the core business activities as detailed in the Transport Services.





<p>elitsenergy MAKING EVENTS MEMORABLE</p>	<p>LEGEND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accredited Traffic Controller Advisory Marshal Cones Barrier Boards Signage Metal Crowd Barriers Saw to Transition Cyclist Movement Vehicle Movement Planner Movement 	<p>NSW SafeWork NSW</p> <p>WORK HEALTH & SAFETY TRAFFIC CONTROL WORK</p> <p>Sarah HALLAM <small>Contract No: TC16046734 O.D.B. 19/05/1987</small> <small>Date of Issue: 18/08/2017</small> <small>Type of traffic control work: PWZ IMP TCR</small></p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">NEW SOUTH WALES</p>	<p>Date: 23 SEP 2023 Author: Sarah Hallam TMP No: Ride Wollongong</p> <p>Road Type: 2L,2W Road Speed: 50km TCP No: TGS-RW-SAT 2023 VMS Plan 1</p>	
			<p>Comments: VMS to be in place from 15th September 2023</p>	



LEGEND

	Accredited Traffic Controller		Advisory Marshal
	Cone		Barrier Boards
	H H Metal Crowd Barriers		A4 Signage
	Vehicle Movement		Sign to Transition
	Cyclist Movement		Busset Movement

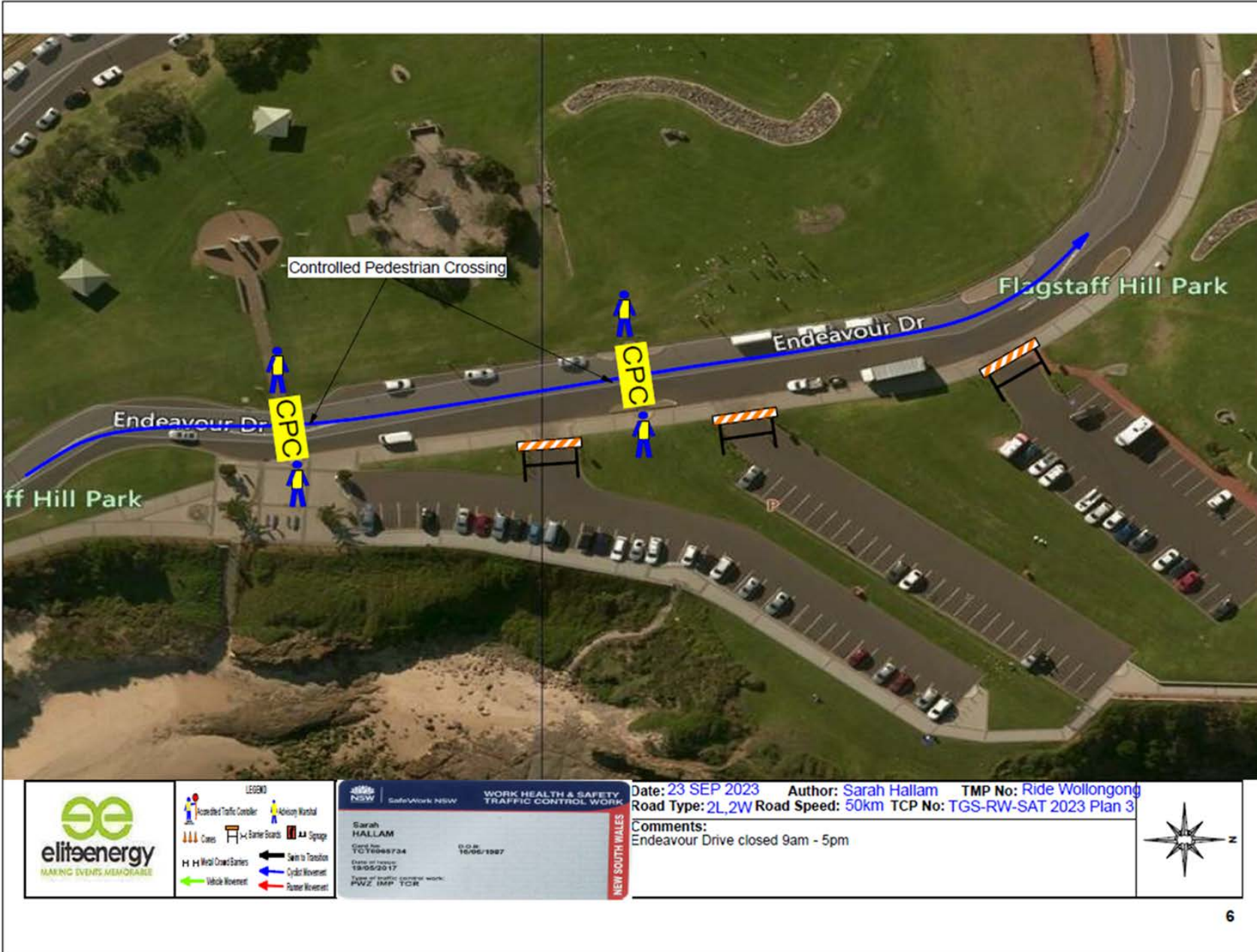
WORK HEALTH & SAFETY TRAFFIC CONTROL WORK

Sarah HALLAM
 T 02 42086734
 Date of Issue: 13/05/2017
 Type of Traffic Control Work: PWZ IMP TCP

NEW SOUTH WALES

Date: 23 SEP 2023 Author: Sarah Hallam TMP No: Ride Wollongong
 Road Type: 2L,2W Road Speed: 50km TCP No: TGS-RW-SAT 2023 Plan 2
 Comments:
 Endeavour Drive closed 9am - 5pm







	<p>LEGEND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accredited Traffic Controller Advisory Marshal Cones Barrier Boards Spillage H H Metal Crowd Barriers Left to Right Right to Left Cyclist Movement Vehicle Movement Bus/Tram Movement 	<p>WORK HEALTH & SAFETY TRAFFIC CONTROL WORK</p> <p>Sarah HALLAM <small>Cell No: 02 10966734 Date of Issue: 19/05/2017 Type of traffic control work: PWZ IMP TCR</small></p>	<p>Date: 24 SEP 2023 Author: Sarah Hallam TMP No: Ride Wollongong Road Type: 2L,2W Road Speed: 50km TCP No: TGS-RW-SUN 2023 VMS Plan 1</p>	
			<p>Comments: VMS to be in place from 15th September 2023</p>	

MARINE DR CLOSED 24 SEP 23 7AM to 5PM

VMS

St Fran

Crown St

Harbour St

10

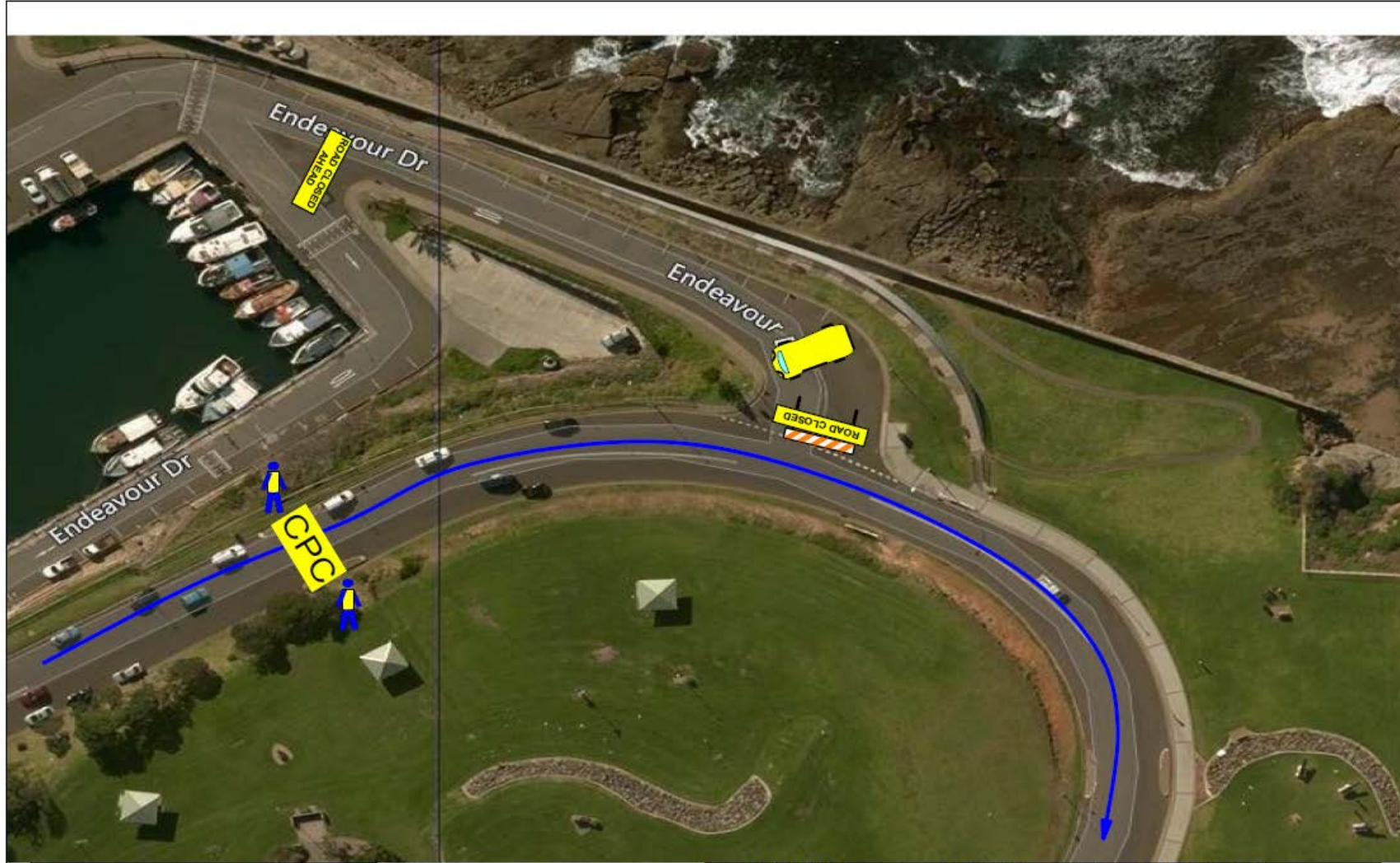
WIN Sports & Enter

Crown St

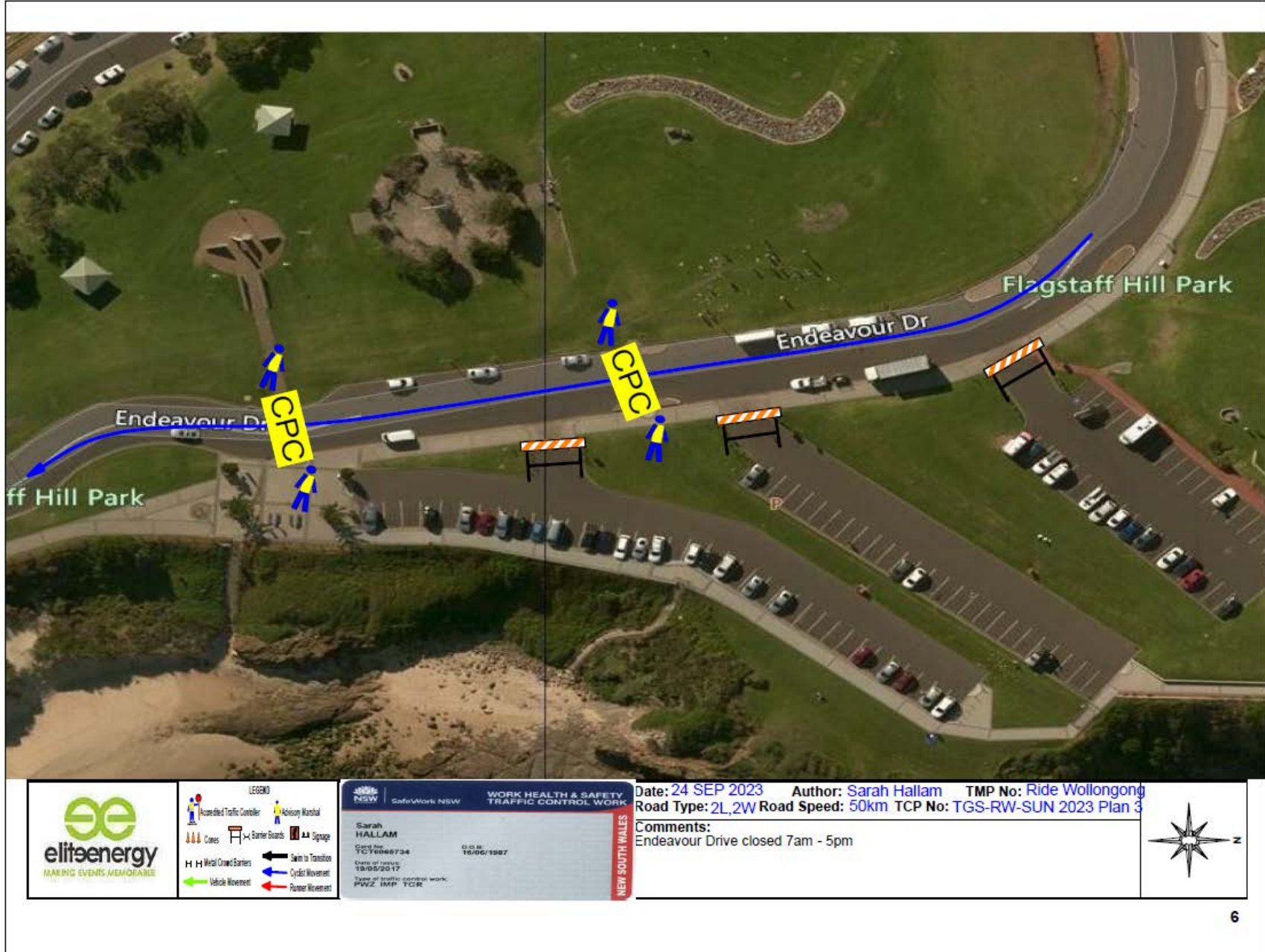
Crown St

<p>elitsenergy MAKING EVENTS MEMORABLE</p>	<p>LEGEND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accredited Traffic Controller Advisory Marshal Cones Barrier Boards AA Signage Metal Crowd Barriers Vehicle Movement Saw to Transition Cyclist Movement Planner Movement 	<p>WORK HEALTH & SAFETY TRAFFIC CONTROL WORK</p> <p>Sarah HALLAM <small>Client No: TCT10049734 Date of Issue: 15/05/2017 Type of traffic control work: PWZ IMP TCR</small></p>	<p>Date: 24 SEP 2023 Author: Sarah Hallam TMP No: Ride Wollongong</p>	
			<p>Road Type: 2L,2W Road Speed: 50km TCP No: TGS-RW-SUN 2023 VMS Plan 2</p> <p>Comments: VMS to be in place from 15th September 2023</p>	

NEW SOUTH WALES

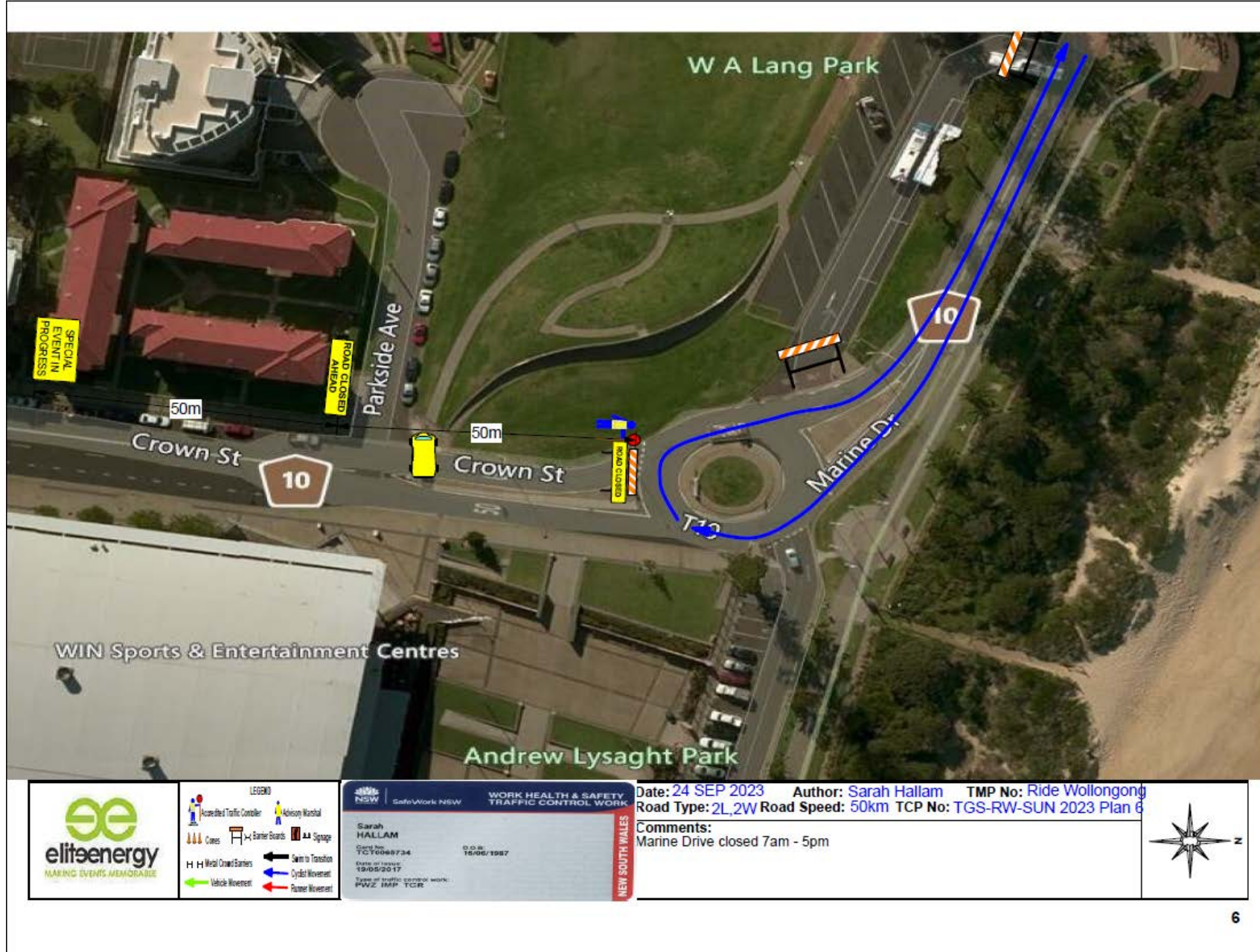


<p>elitsenergy MAKING EVENTS MEMORABLE</p>	<p>LEGEND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accredited Traffic Controller Advisory Marshal Cones Barrier Boards Signage Meal Crowd Barriers Sign to Transition Vehicle Movement Cyclist Movement Planner Movement 	<p>SafeWork NSW WORK HEALTH & SAFETY TRAFFIC CONTROL WORK</p> <p>Sarah HALLAM Contract No: TGS10086734 Date of issue: 18/08/2023 Type of traffic control work: PWZ IMP TCR</p> <p>02 82 15 06 1987</p> <p>NEW SOUTH WALES</p>	<p>Date: 24 SEP 2023 Author: Sarah Hallam TMP No: Ride Wollongong</p>	
			<p>Road Type: 2L_2W Road Speed: 50km TCP No: TGS-RW-SUN 2023 Plan 2</p> <p>Comments: Endeavour Drive closed 7am - 5pm</p>	











LEGEND

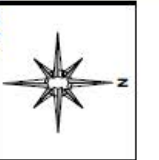
	Accredited Traffic Controller		Advisory Marshal
	Cone		Barrier Board
	Signage		Sign to Transition
	Wheel Crowd Barriers		Cyclist Movement
	Vehicle Movement		Planner Movement

SafeWork NSW WORK HEALTH & SAFETY TRAFFIC CONTROL WORK

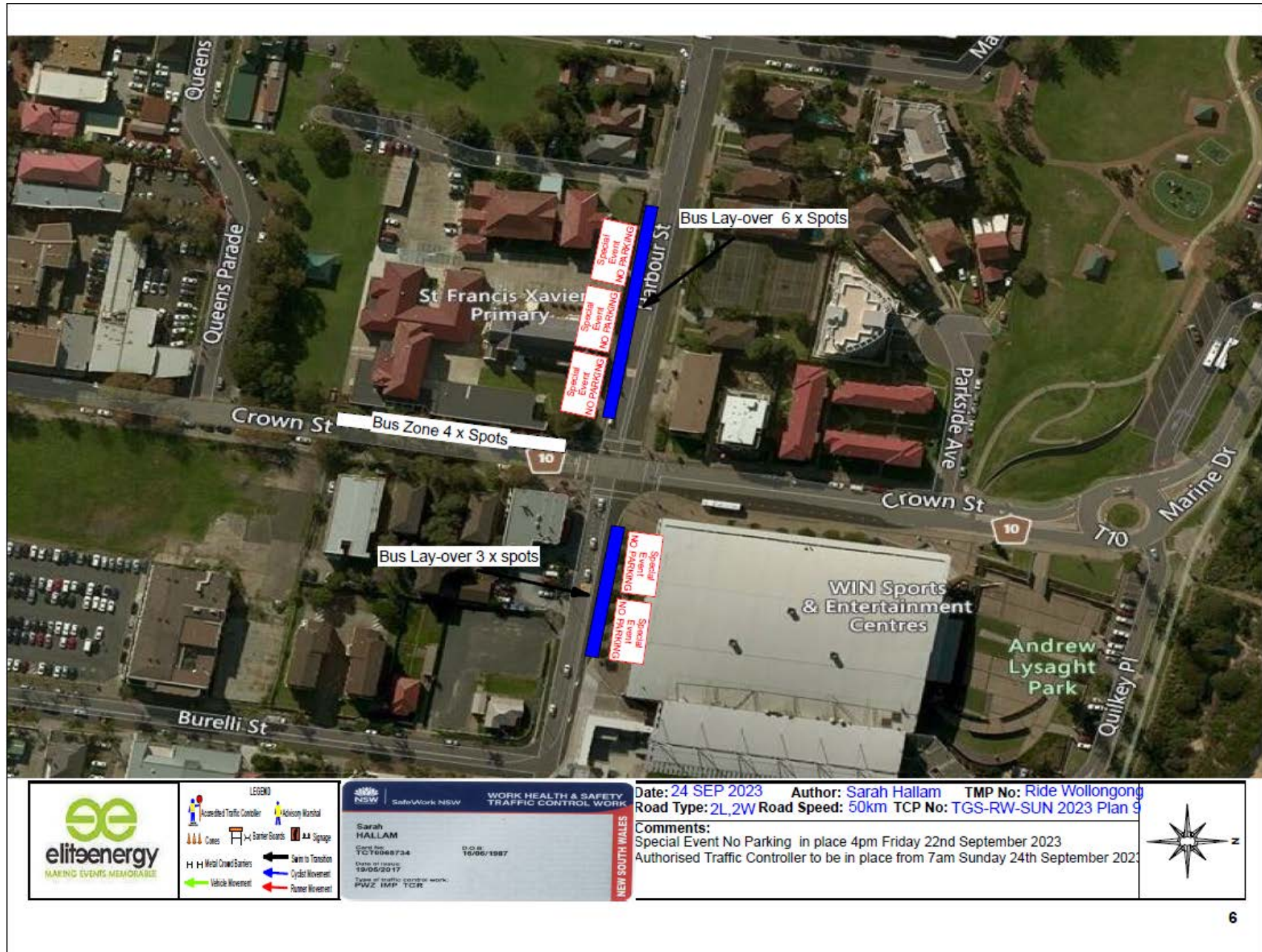
Sarah HALLAM
 Contact No: 02 422 10985/734
 Date of issue: 15/08/2023
 Type of traffic control work: PWZ IMP TCR

NEW SOUTH WALES

Date: 24 SEP 2023 Author: Sarah Hallam TMP No: Ride Wollongong
 Road Type: 2L,2W Road Speed: 50km TCP No: TGS-RW-SUN 2023 Detour
 Comments:
 Detours in place 7am - 5pm







LEGEND

**WORK HEALTH & SAFETY
TRAFFIC CONTROL WORK**

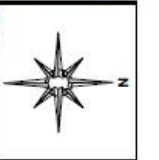
Sarah HALLAM
 Cert No: TCT10049734
 Date of issue: 13/05/2017
 Type of traffic control work: PWZ IMP TCR

02 82 16 06 1987

NEW SOUTH WALES

Date: 24 SEP 2023 Author: Sarah Hallam TMP No: Ride Wollongong
 Road Type: 2L,2W Road Speed: 50km TCP No: TGS-RW-SUN 2023 Plan 9

Comments:
 Special Event No Parking in place 4pm Friday 22nd September 2023
 Authorised Traffic Controller to be in place from 7am Sunday 24th September 2023





ITEM 21 NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR CATH BLAKEY - RIGHT TO REPAIR

Councillor Cath Blakey has submitted the following Notice of Motion –

“I formally move that Wollongong City Council –

- 1 Note that a ‘Right to Repair’ is the ability of consumers to have their products repaired at a competitive price using a repairer of their choice. The ‘Right to Repair’ helps households increase the usage time of products and minimise waste to landfill.
- 2 Investigate enhancing repair opportunities such as men’s shed’s, repair cafés, repair skill sharing, up-cycling, tip shop workshops and e-waste collection schemes for repair through revision of the Waste Strategy and inclusion in Community Development programs.
- 3 Write to the Federal Ministers for the Environment, Trade and Consumer Affairs to request the release of the government response to the Productivity Commission’s report on the Right to Repair.
- 4 Write to the NSW Ministers for the Environment and Fair Trading requesting action in support of the Right to Repair.
- 5 Submit a Notice of Motion to the up-coming LGNSW conference that urges the NSW government to take action to enable the Right to Repair.

Background provided by Councillor Cath Blakey:

As everyday consumer items have become more technologically advanced, from fridges to mobile phones to cars and even tractors, the ability to repair them has reduced, with many companies insisting only the manufacturer is able to do so. Through collaboration between business, all levels of government and the community there is the opportunity to improve the repair of consumer goods and reduce waste to landfill. The 2021 Productivity Commission Report on the Right to Repair illustrates pathways that the Federal government can take, including changes to consumer and intellectual copyright laws, product labelling and the e-waste product stewardship scheme.¹ The Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association of Australia has highlighted that “other countries have demonstrated it can be done. For example, France has introduced a reparability index at the point of sale similar to the energy efficiency rating on white goods; Austria allows consumers to claim back half the cost of their old electrical device repair; and some states in the US have digital right to repair laws.²

The Right to Repair aligns with the Australian government’s target towards a Circular Economy by 2030³, and the 2018 NSW Environment Protection Authority’s “Too Good to Waste, a Discussion paper on a circular economy approach for NSW”⁴. It has been identified that Australia has a billion-dollar economic opportunity through enabling a right to repair for all key product categories commencing with white goods.⁵

¹ “Right to repair: Productivity Commission inquiry report” , Productivity Commission, 2021
Accessed 15/8/2023 <https://apo.org.au/node/315328>

² “End ‘Bin it if it’s broken’ ways or miss circular economy target: WARR Industry” by Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association of Australia published Friday 11 August 2023, accessed 15/8/2023
https://www.wmrr.asn.au/Web/Media/Media_Release/2023/End%20bin%20it%20if%20its%20broken%20ways%20or%20miss%20circular%20economy%20target.aspx

³ “Transitioning to a more circular economy” Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Last updated: 02 June 2023 accessed 15/8/2023
<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/protection/circular-economy>

⁴ “Too Good To Waste, a Discussion paper on a circular economy approach for NSW”, NSW EPA, 2018
<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/recycling-and-reuse/response-to-china-national-sword/circular-economy-policy>

⁵ “Towards the Circular Economy: Accelerating the scale-up across global supply chains”, World Economic Forum, 2014, accessed 15/8/2023 <https://www.weforum.org/reports/towards-circular-economy-accelerating-scale-across-global-supply-chains/>

ITEM 22

LATE REPORT: APPROVAL FOR COUNCILLOR TRAVEL - COUNCILLOR CATH BLAKEY - CITIES POWER PARTNERSHIPS CLIMATE SUMMIT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2023

Councillor Cath Blakey has requested approval for travel to Melbourne to attend the Cities Power Partnership's Climate Summit for Local Government 2023 in accordance with the *Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy*.

RECOMMENDATION

Council approve the travel and accommodation costs for Councillor Blakey to attend the Cities Power Partnership's Climate Summit for Local Government at RMIT University in Melbourne in September 2023.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Todd Hopwood, Manager Governance and Customer Service
Authorised by: Ingrid McAlpin, Director Corporate Services (Acting)

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

BACKGROUND

The Climate Council's Cities Power Partnership is Australia's largest network of local councils leading the way to a thriving, zero emissions future. It is made up of over 175 councils from across the country, representing almost 65 percent of the Australian population. Wollongong City Council is a member council of the Climate Council's Cities Power Partnership.

Councillor Cath Blakey has requested to attend the Climate Summit for Local Government from 6 to 8 September 2023 in Melbourne to gain insight into Australian Council initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This aligns with Wollongong City Council's emissions reduction targets and climate emergency declaration, and the upcoming Climate Mitigation Plan.

PROPOSAL

Councillor Blakey has submitted a request to the General Manager for approval for the travel costs of attendance at the climate summit to be funded by Council.

Clause 6.28 of the *Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy* (Expenses Policy) states the following must be considered in assessing a Councillor request for professional development.

6.28. Approval for professional development activities is subject to a prior written request to the General Manager outlining the:

- *details of the proposed professional development*
- *relevance to Council priorities and business*
- *relevance to the exercise of the Councillor's civic duties.*

Clause 6.9. of the Expenses Policy states that Councillors seeking approval for any interstate travel must obtain the approval of a full Council meeting prior to travel.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funds are available within the relevant budget to enable Councillors to attend conferences and meet costs associated with attendance at the Cities Power Partnership's Climate Summit for Local Government 2023.

The estimated total cost of attendance in person at the Climate Summit for Local Government for each attendee, if participating in all available sessions, functions and events is \$2650.

Travel is to be undertaken in accordance with the Councillors Travel and expenses Policy.

A breakdown of estimated costs is shown below, all costs shown are inclusive of GST:

Expense	Amount
Climate Summit Registration 6-8 September 2023 (CPP Member)	\$950
Accommodation (4 nights)	\$1000
Travel	\$700
TOTAL	\$2650

*Accommodation will be booked in accordance with the *Councillors Expenses and Facilities* policy.

CONCLUSION

Cr Blakey will be attending the Cities Power Partnership's Climate Summit for Local Government 2023 as a professional development opportunity as it presents an opportunity to expand knowledge and understanding of climate change mitigation approaches undertaken by other Council's which is aligned to Council's climate change mitigation commitments.