



INNER WEST COUNCIL

Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West

OCTOBER 2021 UPDATE



Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West

Client: Inner West Council

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We acknowledge the Gadigal and Wangal peoples of the Eora nation who are the traditional custodians of this land, and would also like to pay respect to Aboriginal Elders, past and present, and acknowledge their young people who will be our future leaders.

CONTENTS

1.0	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
2.0	INTRODUCTION	9
3.0	STRATEGIC AND PLANNING CONTEXT	11
4.0	RECREATION BENEFITS AND PARTICIPATION	22
5.0	CURRENT AND FORECAST COMMUNITY PROFILE	26
6.0	THE FUTURE INNER WEST COMMUNITY	33
7.0	PLANNING FRAMEWORK	37
8.0	OPEN SPACE - LGA WIDE PROVISION AND BENCHMARKING	43
9.0	RECREATION FACILITIES - LGA WIDE PROVISION AND BENCHMARKING	50
10.0	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES (2018)	70
11.0	URBAN RECREATION BEST PRACTICE TRENDS AND CASE STUDIES	74
12.0	LGA WIDE NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES	86
13.0	STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK	95
14.0	PLANNING CATCHMENT PROVISION AND NEEDS BASED ON BENCHMARKING	97
15.0	FUNDING AND DELIVERY	119
APPENDICES		132
APPENDIX 1 APPLICATIONS AND IDEAS FOR THE INNER WEST		133
APPENDIX 2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS BY PARK/FACILITY		152
APPENDIX 3 PARKS IN THE INNER WEST COUNCIL AREA AND NEIGHBOURING AREAS		162
APPENDIX 4 INNER WEST LGA EMPLOYMENT GROWTH METHODOLOGY		165
APPENDIX 5: SMALLER CENTRES NON-RETAIL DEMAND ESTIMATION METHODOLOGY		171
APPENDIX 6: SMALLER CENTRES RETAIL DEMAND ESTIMATION METHODOLOGY		173
APPENDIX 7: EMPLOYMENT PRECINCT JOB ESTIMATIONS TO 2036		176
APPENDIX 8: TRANSFERABLE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS SCHEMATIC		179

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2021 UPDATE

Since releasing the *Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West* (RNS 2018) in 2018, several changes at the local, regional and state level have warranted an update to this document. These changes include:

- Population growth data has been updated to align with the forecasts included in the Inner West Local Housing Strategy (2020). See Chapters 5 and 6 of this Study for details on the revised population assumptions.
- The recreational demands of workers have been incorporated in this update to align with the employment forecasts included in the Inner West Employment and Retail Land Study (2020). Worker demands had not previously been analysed in the benchmarking process, see appendixes 4, 5, 6 and 7 for the detailed methodology used in this update.
- An evolved policy context – Since the 2018 Study was published, the NSW Government and Council have endorsed several new policies and strategies. This 2021 update expands on the previous Strategic Context Chapter (Chapter 3) and outlines the policy objectives in each.
- Inclusion of State Government open space as an Open Space Contributor – the 2018 RNS study did not include State Government-owned open space in benchmarking calculations. Council's approach has since changed, and has determined that State Government-owned open spaces (such as Callan Park) should be included in the revised benchmarking calculations.
- Adoption of a Planning Catchment approach – the Inner West Community Asset Needs Strategy (CANS) is currently in progress and has adopted a catchment-based approach. This revision of the RNS is to align with the same planning catchments. See Chapter 7 for more details about what a planning catchment is, and how the 4 catchments have been applied to the Inner West.

These updates and additions will provide more up-to-date guidance to Council as they amalgamate eight (8) development contributions plans to create a consolidated *Inner West Council Development Contributions Plan* under Sec 7.11 and Sec 7.12 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (formerly s.94 and s.94A). Council will continually monitor growth data over time to ensure assumptions are as accurate as possible as part of Council's comprehensive reviews of its local infrastructure contribution plans.

Following on from the endorsement of the Recreation Needs Study in 2018, Council has developed a draft *Inner West Recreation Strategy and Action Plan 2021-30* which provides the strategic direction for the next 10 years. This includes measurable and defined outcomes which provide direction to Council on key deliverables for activating Our Inner West 2036 – Community Strategic Plan (CSP).

IMPACTS OF COVID-19

In addition to strategic and population changes since the previous RNS, we have experienced the impacts of a global pandemic. This has seen communities accessing public open spaces and outdoor recreation facilities more than ever.

Our public open spaces are more valued by communities since COVID-19, with increasing proportions of people using their local parks and streets for walking, cycling, social interaction and fitness. The way people use public open spaces and recreation facilities will continue to change over time for individual and small group activities, social cohesion and connection, health and wellbeing, and for informal recreation and access to nature.

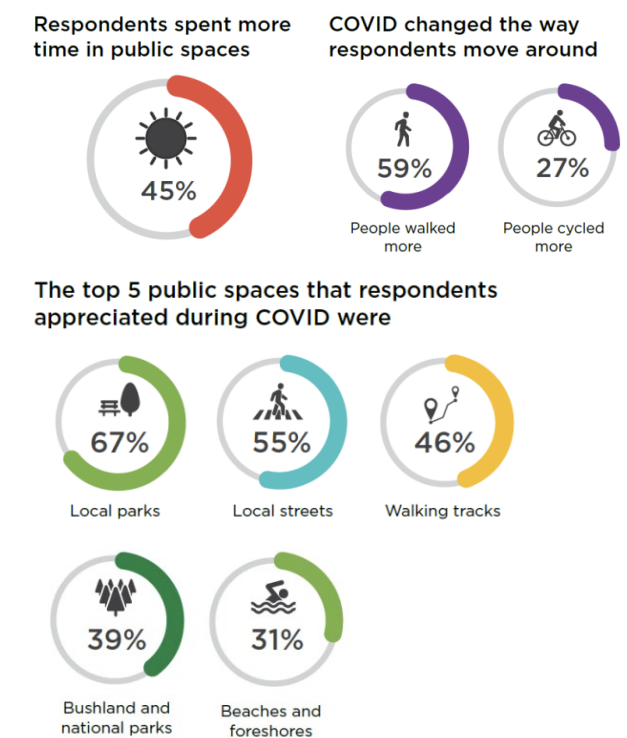


Figure 1 - Increase in participation in cycling and walking since COVID-19 (Source: NSW Department of Planning Industry and Environment, *Public Spaces Streets as Shared Spaces Report*)

BACKGROUND

Council plays an active role in encouraging participation in recreation activities by providing, planning, facilitating and advocating for recreation spaces and activities. The Recreation Needs Study – A Healthier Inner West (the Needs Study) provides an analysis of the current and projected recreation needs of the Inner West community.

For the purposes of this Needs Study, recreation is defined across a broad spectrum, ranging from unstructured activities like picnics, walking the dog and playing in parks, streets and laneways, to organised sport and everything in between. Participation in, and access to, recreation opportunities brings significant physical and mental health and social benefits to individuals, improved development outcomes for children and young people, and social benefits to the community.

POPULATION AND DENSITY

The Inner West Council area (the Inner West) is a 3,519ha urban community with an estimated resident population of 192,022 residents (2016). As a result of major renewal projects, the area will undergo significant population growth and change, and increase population density over the next 10 to 20 years (see Figure 1). This growth presents challenges and opportunities for Council to provide for the community's recreation needs.

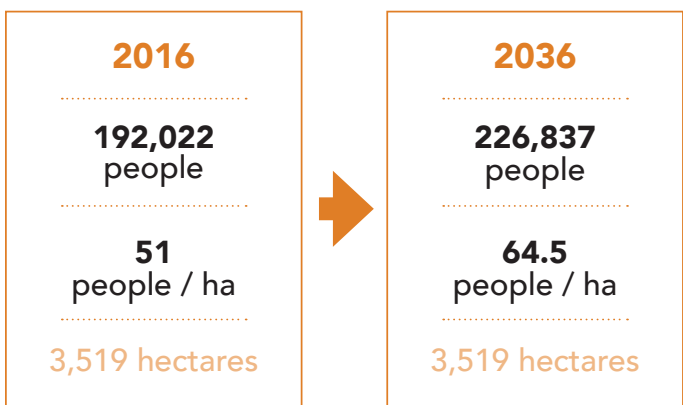


Figure 1 - Increasing population density over time

PLANNING CATCHMENTS

The Inner West Local Infrastructure Contribution Planning Framework will adopt a catchment-based approach to assess the recreational demands to align with the approach taken for the Community Assets Needs Strategy 2021 (CANS). A catchment approach is a useful planning tool that aims to reflect patterns of community preference in accessing recreational space and facilities.

The four planning catchments are:

- Catchment 1 - North includes the suburbs of Balmain, Balmain East, Birchgrove, Rozelle and Lilyfield
- Catchment 2 - West includes the suburbs of Ashfield North, Ashfield South, Croydon, Summer Hill and Haberfield
- Catchment 3 - East includes the suburbs of Annandale, Leichhardt, Camperdown, Enmore, Lewisham, Newtown, Petersham and Stanmore
- Catchment 4 - South includes the suburbs of Marrickville North, Marrickville South, Tempe, Dulwich Hill and St Peters - Sydenham

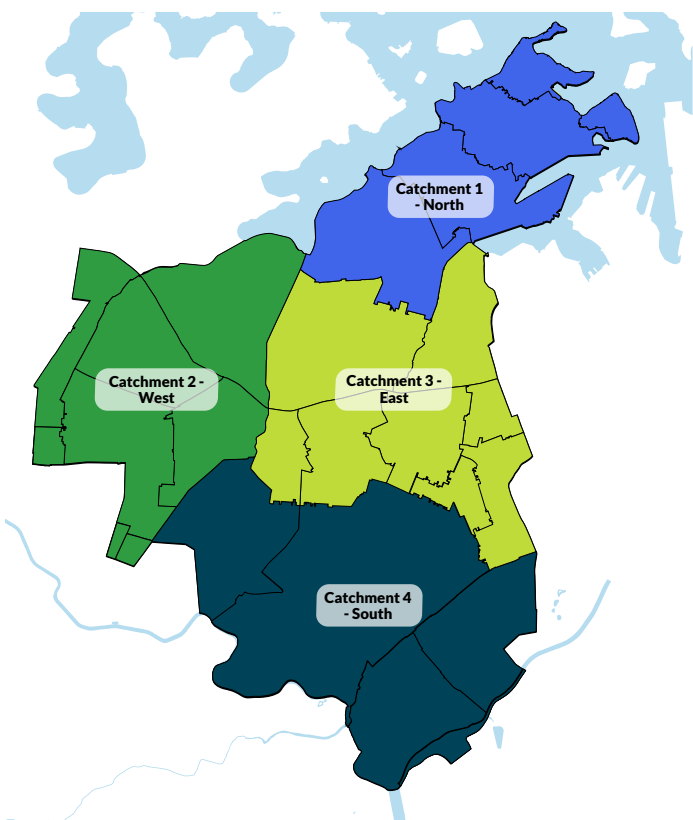


Figure 2 - IWC planning catchments

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN RECREATION

The 2018 Needs Study was informed by extensive community and stakeholder engagement (more than 2,000 points of engagement). Similar to national participation trends, engagement indicated that the most popular recreation activities in the Inner West are unstructured and informal, including walking (for fun, transport and with dogs), play, fitness, cycling and swimming (see Figure 3).

Local participation trends that align with national and international trends include:

- Increased demand for unstructured and informal participation in a more flexible setting
- Declining access for children to unsupervised play, particularly in natural environments
- Lower levels of participation in recreation activities for people with disability
- Less access to formal sporting opportunities and concerns about safety restricting women's and girl's participation

In the Inner West, parks are the most common types of facilities visited for recreation (80% of respondents visit parks weekly) followed by footpaths and streets (75%).

	Walking		Cycling
	Playing		Swimming
	Personal fitness/outdoor fitness		
	Walking the dog		
	Running		Team sports
	Relaxing in a park		
	Tai Chi, table tennis, and badminton are also popular activities amongst the older population of people who speak a language other than English at home.		

Figure 3 - Community engagement results - top recreation

URBAN RECREATION TRENDS

In urban areas like the Inner West, where there is limited land but increasing residential growth and density, there are a number of key design and planning trends:

- Multipurpose and flexible design (making what we have work harder)
- Networked and connected recreation places and programs (connecting parks, sporting grounds, and users within a network)
- Sharing the city for recreation (learning to share space for competing needs)
- Inclusion and universality (inclusive and universal design and programming from 8 to 80 years of age)
- Connecting to nature and healthy built environments (biophilic design, nature and adventure play for children, supporting biodiversity, reducing climate impacts)
- Co-designing places and programs (working with communities, sporting groups and agencies to co-design future recreation settings and activities)

LGA-WIDE PROVISION & BENCHMARKING

Current provision

In total (including non-Council owned land), there is 321.6 hectares of open space within the Inner West, making up 9.1% of the total land area.

Based on the 2016 population, this equates to 16.4m² of open space provision per person. This rate presents a median and it should be noted that provision differs greatly across planning catchments with a high of 34.4m² of open space in Catchment 1 and a low of 7.6m² of open space in Catchment 3.

There are 278 Council-owned or controlled parks and sporting grounds, totalling 256 hectares. This makes up 7.3% of the total land area of the Inner West.

The Inner West has 28 sporting grounds, 11 outdoor gyms (plus 1 under construction at the time of updating this report), 126 play spaces, 18 community gardens, 16 creek corridor parks, 2 indoor recreation facilities, and 5 aquatic centres (including 3 with warm-water pools).

There are 4 State Government-owned parks and sporting grounds, specifically: Ballast Point Park, Callan Park, Enmore TAFE Park and Fraser Park.

State open space (66ha, 20%)

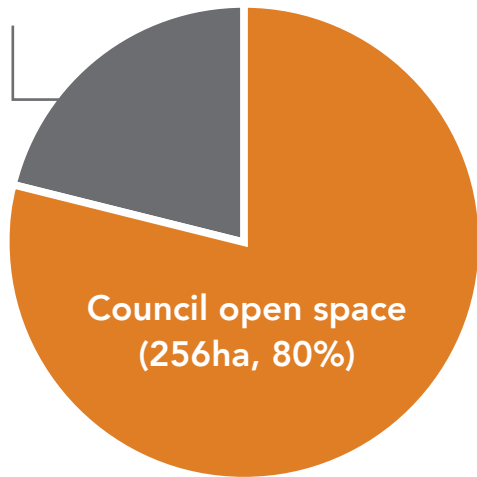


Figure 4 - Current open space ownership in the Inner West

Benchmarked demand

Population benchmark

If no new open space is provided as the population increases, the amount of open space per person for the whole LGA will decline from 16.4m² in 2016, to 15.4m² per person in 2026, and 14.3m² per person in 2036.

In terms of recreation facilities, based on industry benchmarks and forecast population growth, by 2036 there will be a need for an additional:

- 6 summer sporting fields
- 9 winter sporting fields
- 7 indoor multipurpose courts (MPC)
- 16 outdoor multipurpose courts (MPC)
- 1 indoor leisure centre (dry)
- 1 indoor leisure centre (aquatic)
- 1 skate park/facility

Table 1 - Population Benchmarking - Recreation Facility Gaps* (LGA Average)

	2016	2026	2036
Summer sporting fields	0	3	5.7
Winter sporting fields	1	5	9
Indoor MPCs	5	6	7
Outdoor MPCs	1	9	16
Indoor leisure centre (dry)	0.6	0.9	1.1
Indoor leisure centre (aquatic)	0.1	0.6	1
Skate facility / park	0.1	0.5	0.8
Playgrounds	0	0	0

Note: gaps have been rounded up to whole numbers

Proximity benchmarks

The Government Architect’s Draft Greener Places Guide and the Greater Sydney Commission also advocate for open space planning to take a proximity approach to open space to ensure all residents can access a local park within 400m² of their home, or for high-density areas, within 200m.

400m catchment to local parks

As shown in Figure 5, the following areas cannot easily access a local park within 400m² of their homes. These include:

- Parts of Leichhardt, Haberfield and Annandale - particularly along the Parramatta Road Corridor
- Parts of Croydon, Croydon Park, and Ashfield. There is a concentration of smaller Level 2 Local parks and Pocket parks in this area.

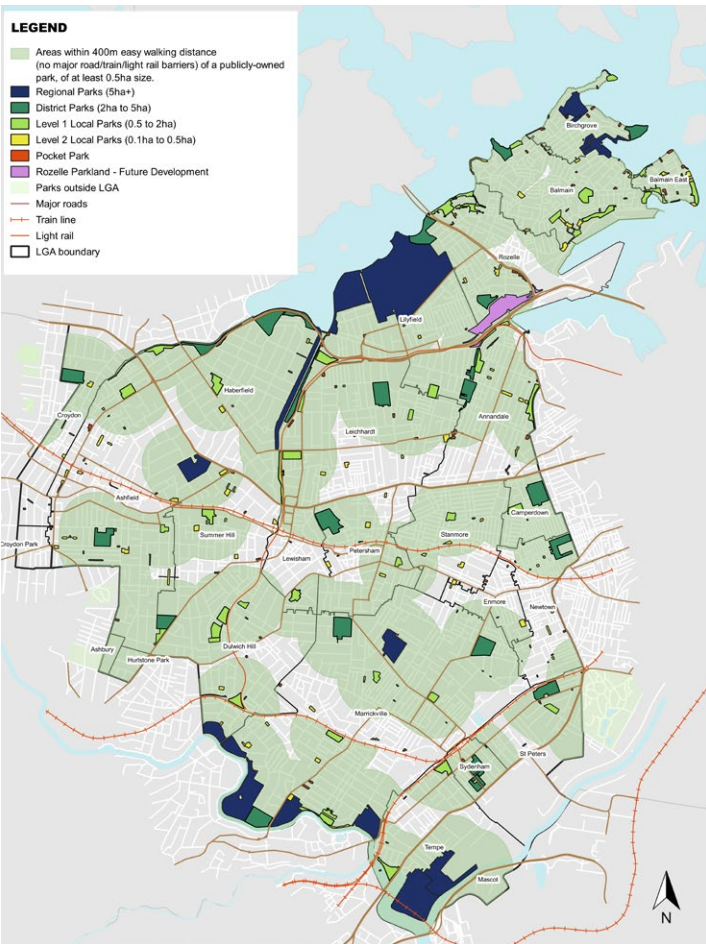


Figure 5 - Proximity to open space (400m walking catchment)

- Parts of Lewisham to the south of the rail line
- Parts of Enmore, Newtown and Stanmore between Enmore Road and the train line. There is a concentration of smaller Level 2 Local parks and Pocket parks in this area
- Industrial areas in St Peters
- Parts of central Tempe
- Parts of Marrickville and Dulwich Hill, in a band along the northern side of the train line
- Areas of Lewisham south of the train line, and Marrickville north of the train line, are particularly impacted by pedestrian barriers. These locations are within 400m of at least Level 1 Local open space, but the train line forms a significant pedestrian barrier reducing access.

High-density areas (200m catchment)

Chapter 12 provides a proximity analysis of high density areas that are located further than 200m of park of a minimum size of 0.1ha.

Areas of Lewisham, Petersham and Dulwich Hill do not meet the benchmark requirement for access to open space and should be considered a priority for future planning.

Proximity benchmarks for recreation facilities including playgrounds

Proximity mapping can also be a useful tool in understanding the distribution of, and access to, various recreation facility types.

While population benchmarking shows no gap in provision of playgrounds, some areas of the LGA are outside of a 400m walk to a playground. The NSW Government’s Everyone Can Play Strategy recommends that all children should be able to access a playground in walking distance from home. Priority areas without walkable access to a playground include parts of Ashfield and Dulwich Hill.

PLANNING CATCHMENT
PROVISION AND BENCHMARKING

Population growth

As shown in Table 2, Catchments 3 and 4 will have the highest population growth in terms of the number of people and proportional growth by 2036. However, the NSW State Government is continuing investigations into the redevelopment of the Bays West Precinct which could impact on forecasts for Catchment 1.

Population characteristics

The characteristics of the current and future population will also impact on the open space and recreation needs for each catchment, including how dense the area is, the age and cultural background of residents, and also their income and ability to participate in activities or access open space.

- Catchment 1’s population is characterised by a concentration of affluent residents with some of the LGA’s highest levels of household income and higher education. This catchment also has a higher proportion of babies, pre-schoolers and school children. This catchment has the lowest forecast residential population growth compared to the other catchments.
- Catchment 2’s population is characterised by a higher proportion of people aged 18 to 34 years old and seniors and elderly people.

This catchment area has a considerable number of residents who were born overseas and speak a language other than English at home.

- Catchment 3’s population is the most densely populated catchment in the LGA and has the highest forecast growth of all catchments. This catchment has a high proportion of students attending university or TAFE, a high proportion of group households, and fewer families and children. It also has a very high proportion of same-sex couples.
- Catchment 4’s population is characterised by higher levels of relative social disadvantage, particularly in Marrickville South which has the lowest score Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) in the LGA, highest levels of youth disengagement, highest number of households without internet and high levels of social housing. It is also well-known for its alternative and community-minded residents. This catchment also has a very high proportion of same-sex couples and a higher proportion of people in need of assistance due to disability. This catchment has the second highest forecast residential growth of all the catchments and is also facing challenges of loss of industrial and creative spaces to residential renewal and gentrification.

Table 2 - Inner West LGA forecast population growth

Catchment	2016	2026	2036	Additional people 2016-36	Growth % 2016-36
1	34,050	34,864	38,959	4,909	14.4%
2	45,412	49,254	52,941	7,529	16.6%
3	61,937	67,568	73,140	11,203	18.1%
4	50,623	58,462	61797	11,174	22.1%
Total	192,022	210,148	226,837	34,815	18.1%

Open space provision and benchmarking

As shown in Table 3, Catchment 2 and Catchment 3 currently have the lowest provision rate of open space per person.

Catchment 4 has the most significant population growth and the most significant change in provision from 20.7m² to 16.9m² by 2036.

Recreation facility and benchmarking

Table 4 shows the above or below benchmarked demand of various recreation facility types in each of the four catchments.

Results in red indicate that there is an under-benchmarked demand in that catchment, while a result in black indicates that the supply is meeting or exceeding demand.

Table 3 - Open space provision rates (m² per person*) by catchment

	Catchment 1 (C1)	Catchment 2 (C2)	Catchment 3 (C3)	Catchment 4 (C)	LGA
2016	34.4	10.1	7.6	20.7	16.4
2026	36.3	9.3	6.9	17.9	15.4
2036	32.5	8.7	6.4	16.9	14.3

*Including worker demand equivalent

Table 4 - Population benchmarking - recreation facility gaps (by catchment)

		Summer sporting fields	Winter sporting fields	Indoor MPCs	Outdoor MPCs	Indoor leisure centre (dry)	Indoor leisure centre (aquatic)	Skate facility / park	Playgrounds
C1	2016	6.66	6.28	-1.74	-3.90	-0.46	1.10	0.28	9.63
	2026	6.52	6.08	-1.78	-4.26	-0.48	1.07	0.26	9.18
	2036	5.87	5.15	-1.99	-5.94	-0.53	0.97	0.17	7.08
C2	2016	-1.11	-4.27	-2.31	1.52	-0.62	-0.20	0.04	3.90
	2026	-1.71	-5.13	-2.51	-0.04	-0.67	-0.30	-0.04	1.95
	2036	-2.29	-5.97	-2.69	-1.54	-0.72	-0.40	-0.12	0.07
C3	2016	-5.73	-8.05	-3.16	-14.30	-0.84	-0.64	-1.32	11.38
	2026	-6.62	-9.34	-3.45	-16.61	-0.92	-0.79	-1.44	8.49
	2036	-7.50	-10.61	-3.74	-18.90	-1.00	-0.94	-1.56	5.63
C4	2016	0.00	5.45	2.40	15.20	1.31	-0.35	0.92	3.01
	2026	-1.23	3.67	2.00	12.01	1.20	-0.56	0.75	-0.99
	2036	-1.77	2.89	1.83	10.61	1.15	-0.65	0.68	-2.74

NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Overview of needs and opportunities

Overall, this Needs Study has identified that Council aspires to continue to deliver increased and improved open space and recreation facilities to meet growth and change, and to maintain, where possible, the current provision rates for open space and recreation facilities. It aims to ensure that its community can lead a healthy lifestyle and be socially connected and resilient. COVID-19 has highlighted the basic need of all residents to access adequately sized and high-quality public open space near their homes.

This Study is based on analysis of needs across a range of indicators. This includes population growth and characteristics, strategic context, best-practice trends, participation trends, community engagement, and comprehensive auditing and benchmarking against industry standards considering proximity, population and comparative benchmarks.

It is important that this Needs Study responds to this aspiration and that it should not be discarded, despite the high likelihood that even with a suite of strategies some needs are unlikely to be fulfilled due to the limited opportunities to add to the existing open space network. The primary limitation is the limited availability and extremely high cost of land areas suitable for open space and recreation facilities.

If Council wants to see development and growth occur and have a greater quantity and quality of open space and recreation facilities for both the existing and new residents, a multi-pronged approach to address these needs is required.

Council also aspires to be led by best-practice approaches and participation trends to support a holistic approach to meet recreational needs. These include: improving our streets as shared spaces and playful recreational links, partnering with other landowners for shared and multi-use of their facilities, and ensuring that our increasingly high density population, including our children, have access to nature for their health and wellbeing.

Summary of needs

This Needs Study has identified five overarching needs and opportunities to address:

- Plan to increase provision of open space and recreation facilities in areas with current and forecast gaps
- Increase the capacity of what we have to handle increased, multipurpose and diverse use
- Re-imagine our streets and laneways for open space and recreation, including for walking, running, cycling and play
- Partner with other agencies to share spaces that are inclusive to all
- Increase opportunities for our population to connect with nature

Opportunities to address needs

- Maximising use of current public and private open space and recreation facilities through partnerships and agreements
- Requiring planning proposals to be supported by evidence-based open space and recreation studies, based on minimum-set benchmarking requirements
- Identifying any underutilised parcels of land that are well located for public open space (including NSW Government sites)
- Including open space and public squares in redevelopments of under-capitalised Council-owned land
- Targeted embellishment such as improved surfaces, improved amenities, synthetics and multi-use of existing open space areas funded by developer contributions
- Prepare plans to create 'linear green linkages' between existing significant parks (i.e. parks with an area >1ha). This may include reclaiming road space for pedestrians, cyclists and street trees / furniture, and strategic land purchases so that more direct links can be provided
- Open space minimum benchmarks in terms of open space size and proximity being applied to sites the subject of rezonings for increased density/intensity of development
- Re-development and masterplanned sites to facilitate the provision of functional and high-quality new open spaces – the size, shape and area of parkland being informed by the site size and the community needs
- Re-imagining single-use recreation areas as multipurpose spaces

- Where development sites are too small to accommodate both development and parkland, the Council and developer would negotiate a contribution extra to s7.11 that would enable delivery of high-quality linear open space/shared zones that connect to existing open spaces (i.e. linear green linkages)
- Re-thinking what open space is through activation of laneways, streets and roads as recreational spaces for informal recreation
- Better connections to district and regional open space and recreation facilities via linear parks

Detailed needs and opportunities for the LGA are provided in Chapter 12.

Detailed needs and opportunities by Planning Catchment are provided in Chapter 13.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

This study has adopted a broad definition of recreation - ranging from unstructured activities like picnics, walking the dog and playing in parks, streets and laneways, to organised sport and everything in between.

BACKGROUND

Inner West context

The Inner West Council area (the Inner West) is an urban area with approximately 192,022 residents (2016), covering an area of approximately 36km² from Balmain in the north, Newtown in the east, Tempe in the south and Croydon in the west (See Figure 6). The traditional custodians of the area are the Gadigal and Wangal peoples of the Eora nation. Inner West Council was formed in May 2016 when the former Ashfield, Leichhardt and Marrickville Councils were amalgamated.

The Inner West is an increasingly urbanised, medium-density, inner-city area that is undergoing rapid change, including:

- Significant residential development with increasing density, including in mixed-zoned areas
- Major projects including the upgrades to the T3 Bankstown Metro Line in Sydenham, Marrickville and Dulwich Hill, Westconnex, the Bays West Precinct, Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy, Callan Park and the Greenway
- Population change including an increasing resident population, changes in cultural groups, and an increasing proportion of older residents.

Council's role in recreation

Inner West Council (Council) plays an active role in encouraging participation in recreation by providing and planning for recreation settings and facilitating programs and services. Council's recreation spaces include parks, sporting grounds, facilities, community venues, streets and footpaths, cycle paths, aquatic centres, bushland and waterways. There are also numerous privately or State-owned/operated facilities available to users.

Recreation services and programs are provided directly by Council, Council-engaged service providers, community organisations and the private sector. Council plays a key role in facilitating recreation through partnerships with relevant organisations and the provision of funding through grants programs.

There are numerous other providers of recreation facilities, programs and services in the Inner West including private facilities (such as fitness gyms, rock-climbing centres, and private pools), community facilities (such as community centres and church halls), private providers (dance schools, personal trainers), schools, sports clubs, and the NSW State Government. The recreation sector as a whole is important in delivering for the recreation needs of the Inner West community.

Scope and aims of this Study

This Study will provide the evidence base to inform the development of Council policy and strategy in relation to the recreation needs of the Inner West to 2036. It investigates:

- The Inner West community and implications for recreation
- The current situation and future demand
- Recreation standards and benchmarks
- Urban recreation trends and best practice
- Recommended opportunities to meet future needs
- Ideas and applications for the Inner West
- Inform the development of an infrastructure works schedule for Council's future comprehensive section 7.11 local infrastructure contribution plan

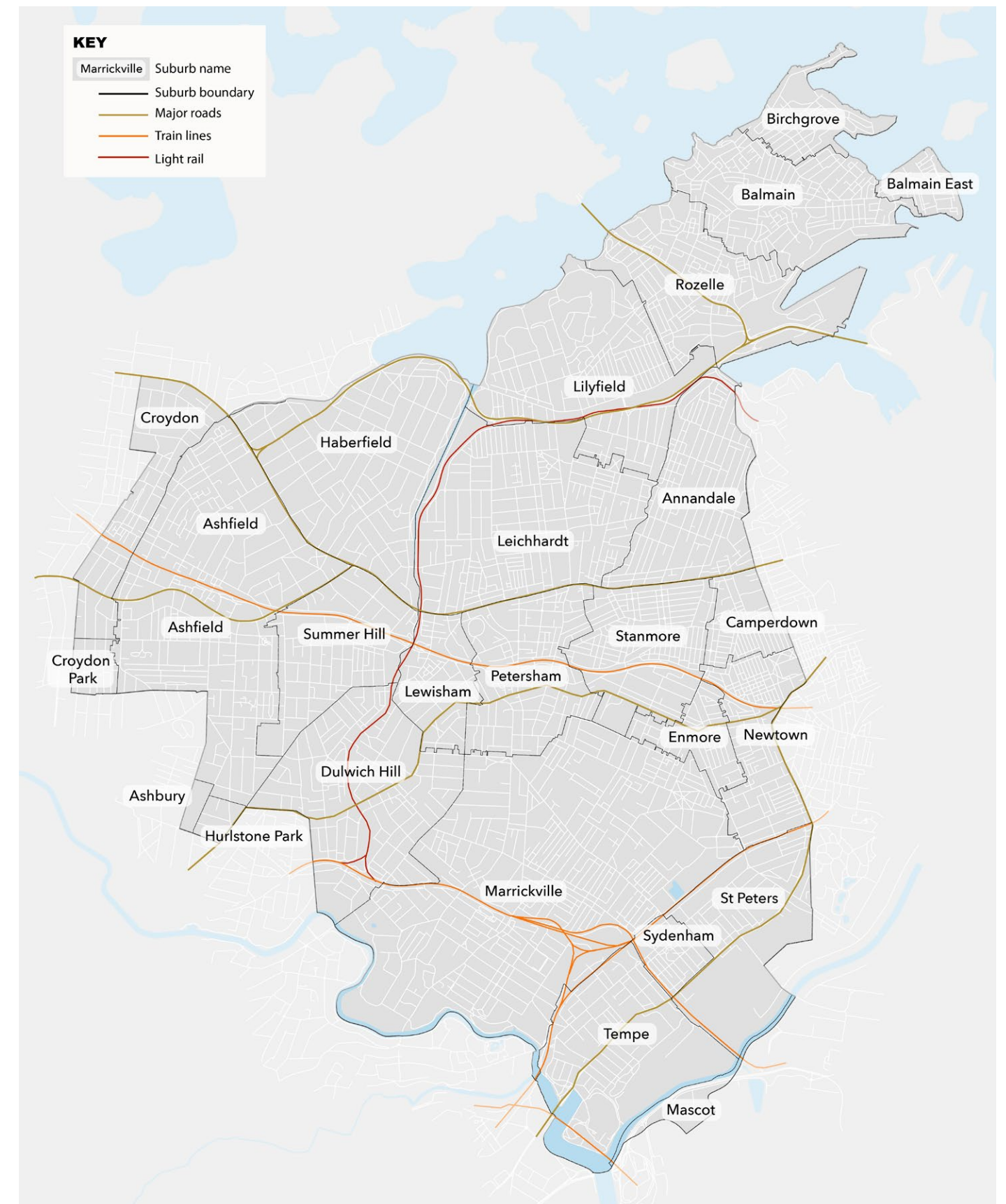


Figure 6 - Inner West Council area and suburbs

THE RECREATION SPECTRUM

As the population of the Inner West grows, and the urban landscape changes, people participate in, and experience, recreation across a broad range of activities and settings.

For the purposes of this Study, Council defines recreation as a broad spectrum, ranging from unstructured activities like picnics, walking the dog and playing in parks, streets and laneways, to organised sport and everything in between. This spectrum is shown in Figure 7.

Recreation can be undertaken indoors or outdoors, and covers a diverse range of activities that help us to stay physically and emotionally healthy, and to connect with our friends and families, our communities, and nature.

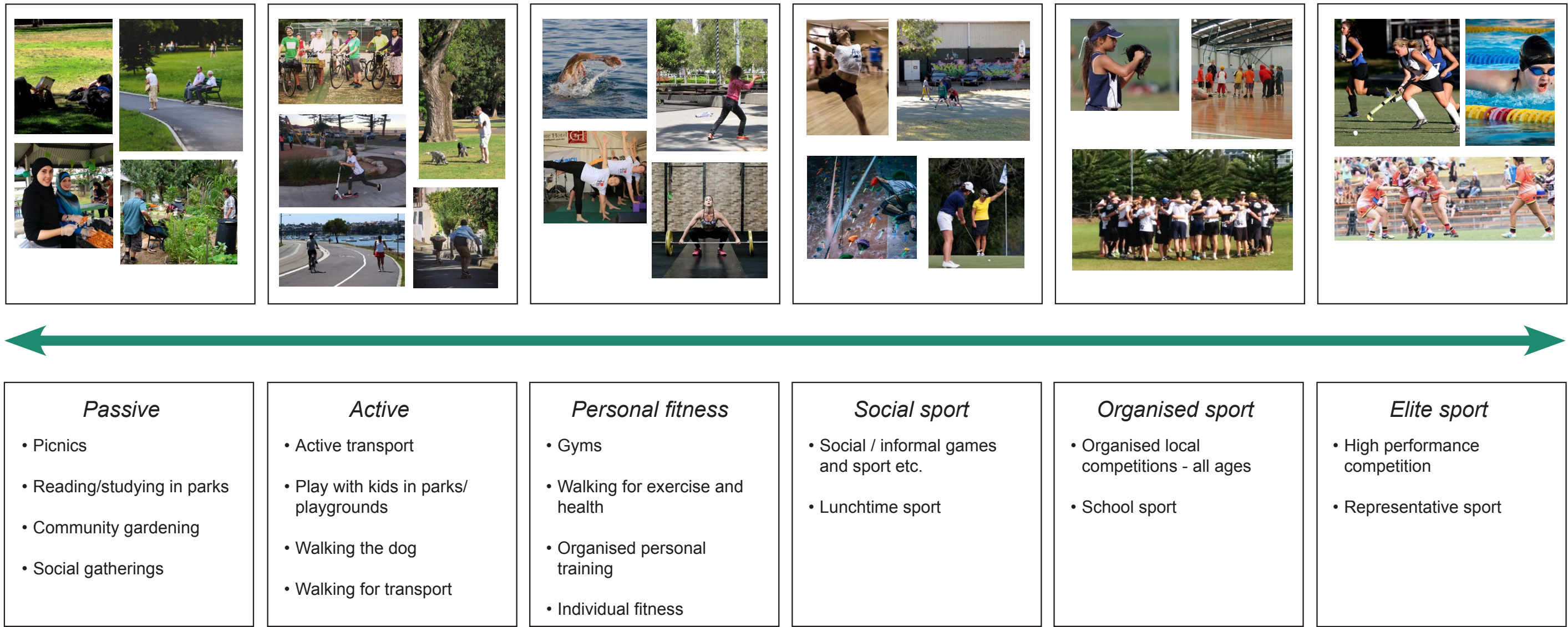


Figure 7 - The Inner West Recreation Spectrum

3.0 STRATEGIC AND PLANNING CONTEXT

This section reviews the key strategic drivers influencing recreation needs and planning in the Inner West, including strategic context at a local, regional, State and Commonwealth level and local major projects. Commonwealth, NSW, regional and local planning all impact on current and future recreation needs in the Inner West.

KEY FINDINGS

- The provision of quality public spaces close to people’s homes is a priority for the NSW Government, who also acknowledge the role that streets and lanes can play in urban areas with limited land available for new public open space.
- The Greater Sydney Region Plan - A Metropolis of Three Cities identifies that high-density development (over 60 dwellings per hectare) should be located within 200m of quality open space, and all dwellings should be within 400m of open space.
- Walkable neighbourhoods (where the physical infrastructure encourages walking and cycling, where the streets are safe from traffic and are well connected, and where public spaces are fun to be in) provide access to recreation (eg. walking), as well as improving access to recreation opportunities in open space and other facilities. Street trees, increased walkability and the recreation opportunities of private and public spaces including helping to mitigate the urban heat island effect, and providing shade.
- Regional planning for the area emphasises the importance of providing a network of diverse, accessible, high-quality open spaces that meets a wide range of community needs, connected through the Green Grid, within the Inner West LGA and connecting to regional public open space and recreational opportunities in neighbouring LGAs.
- Major projects will have significant impacts on population growth and densities across the LGA. This will require Council to work collaboratively with neighbouring councils and State Government agencies to deliver increased recreation opportunities in an innovative way as the population and density increases, but not the land area.
- Council’s strategic and social planning identifies a need for:
 - Planning for recreation and environmental outcomes together
 - A connected cycling network
 - Walkable neighbourhoods and using the public domain for recreation
 - Increasing the capacity and amenity of existing facilities
 - Equitable access to public open space in all suburbs of the LGA, and affordable access to public open space and recreation facilities for lower income and disadvantaged residents.
 - Consideration of how public open space can support connection to Country outcomes and increased visibility of First Nations culture.
 - Recreation opportunities that are welcoming and meet the needs of the community - all abilities, sexual orientations, genders, and ages
 - Some new facilities, including indoor recreation, skate facilities and community gardens

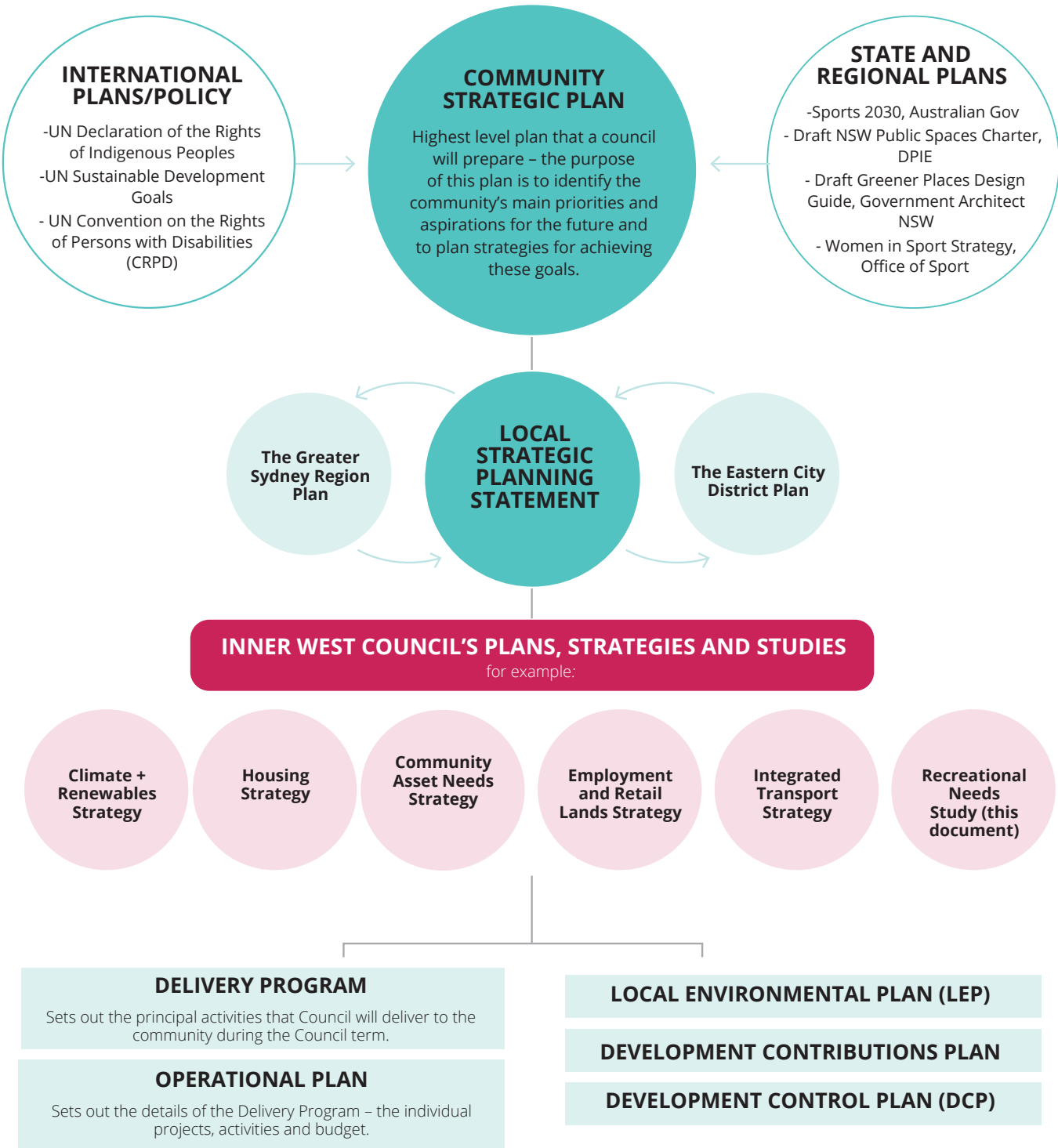


Figure 8 - Indicative strategic context document relationship

Note: Strategy documents included in this document are examples only and not an exhaustive list of strategic context for this Study.

INTERNATIONAL DRIVERS

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals recognise that access to high-quality public space (which includes public open space and recreation facilities) is critical to social, economic and environmental sustainability.



(Source: United Nations)

NATIONAL DRIVERS

National Sport and Active Recreation Policy Framework 2011

The Framework provides a mechanism for the achievement of national goals for sport and active recreation. The Framework identifies the roles of Regional/Local Government as:

- Facilitating a strategic approach to the provision of sporting and active recreation infrastructure, including open space, and other needs
- Establishing local management and access policies to sport and recreation facilities
- Supporting and coordinating local and regional service providers (venues and programs)
- Liaising and partnering with State and territory governments on targeted program delivery
- Supporting and partnering with non-government organisations that enable sport and active recreation participation
- Incorporating sport and recreation development and participation opportunities in Council plans
- Collaborating, engaging and partnering across government departments on shared policy agendas
- Investment in sport and active recreation infrastructure

Sport 2030

The vision for Australian sport in 2030 is: Australia is the world's most active, healthy sporting nation, known for its integrity and excellence. The target outcomes of the Strategy are to improve the physical and mental health of Australians, grow personal development, strengthen our communities and grow our economy. Principles include:

- Sport and physical activity for all, for life: every Australian, at all stages of their life, can undertake the exercise they need and want in a safe, fun and inclusive way, whether it is through sport or other types of activity
- A diverse sports sector, from the playing field to the boardroom: promote a diverse sector that represents our population. A varied range of sports opportunities has the greatest chance of getting more Australians active and producing better, well-rounded athletes

NSW GOVERNMENT DRIVERS

Premier's Priorities

Two of the Premier's Priorities focus on the delivery of quality green public open space.

Greener Public Spaces aim to increase the proportion of homes in urban areas within 10 minutes' walk of quality green, open and public spaces by 10% by 2023.

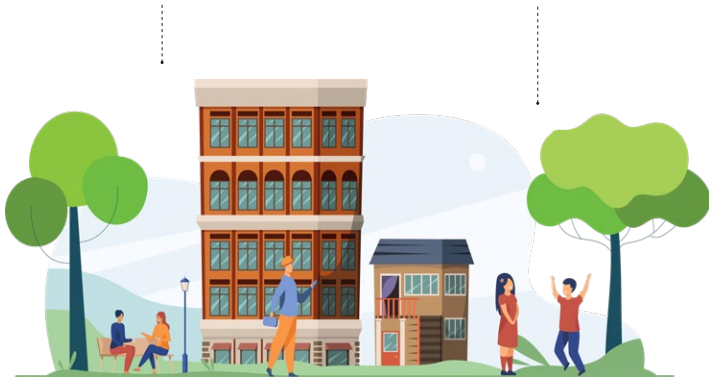
The Place Strategy will aim to investigate opportunities to improve movement outcomes which increase the population's access to high-quality green, open and public space. Delivering on this priority requires a local, place-based approach, considering opportunities to improve existing local assets, as well as identifying new opportunities to improve access and deliver additional public open spaces.

Greening Our City seeks to increase the tree canopy and green cover across Greater Sydney by one million trees by 2022.

The Place Strategy will aim to support this priority through the delivery of priorities to increase canopy cover in line with the NSW Government Architect's Greener Places Guide.

10% increase in proportion of homes in urban areas within 10 minutes' walk of quality green, open and public space by 2023

Increase the tree canopy and green cover planting by one million trees by 2022



Draft NSW Public Spaces Charter, DPIE

To support the *Greener Public Spaces Premier's Priority*, the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is developing a *NSW Public Spaces Charter* (the Charter) outlining the Government's commitment to quality public spaces. It will sit alongside and complement other key NSW policies that support the planning and delivery of green, public and open space.

The draft Charter identifies 10 principles for quality public space, developed through evidence-based research and discussions with a diverse range of public space experts and closely aligned to the *UN Charter of Public Space*. These principles are intended to support all those who advocate on behalf of, provide advice on, make decisions about, or undertake planning, design, management and activation of public spaces in NSW.

NSW Government agencies will be asked to endorse the final Charter when it is released later in 2021 and to support planning, design, management and activation of public spaces in line with its principles. Local government, industry and other groups caring for, and using, public space across NSW will be encouraged to consider and apply the principles in their strategies and planning.

The NSW Public Spaces Charter principles are:

- 1 | Open and welcoming**
Public space belongs to everyone.
- 2 | Community-focused**
Public spaces are where communities forge the ties that bind them.
- 3 | Culture and creativity**
Public space is where we share our stories and values.
- 4 | Local character and identity**
Public spaces make us proud of where we live.
- 5 | Green and resilient**
Public space can help us adapt and thrive in a changing climate.
- 6 | Healthy and active**
Public space supports healthy lifestyles and refreshes our spirits.
- 7 | Local business and economies**
Public space supports more dynamic and exciting local economies.
- 8 | Safe and secure**
Everyone should feel safe using public space at all times of the day.
- 9 | Designed for people**
Public space that's flexible can meet the needs of our diverse population.
- 10 | Well managed**
Public space is more inviting when it's well cared for.

Office Of Sport Strategic Plan

NSW Office of Sport has developed Office of Sport Strategic Plan 2020-24 aimed at increasing people's activity levels. The Office of Sport is working in collaboration with key partners, including councils, to develop a Sport and Recreation Participation Strategy and a Sport and Recreation Facility Plan for each Greater Sydney district.

Common opportunities include:

- Various site-specific opportunities in each LGA
- Partnerships with schools both public and private
- Increasing synthetic fields and multi-use specs
- Using non-traditional facilities for sport use
- Developing a district/regional booking system
- Increasing use at off-peak times
- New and expansion of indoor facilities
- Increasing opportunities at golf courses and private recreation sites
- Standardising terminology and benchmarking

Everyone Can Play, DPIE

'Everyone Can Play' is a set of design principles and best practice recommendations for play spaces in NSW, focusing on inclusive play spaces. An inclusive play space invites people of all ages, abilities and cultures to come together to socialise and thrive. The principles focus on addressing three questions:

- Can I get there?
- Can I play?
- Can I stay?

NSW Disability Inclusion Plan 2016

NSW Disability Inclusion Plan 2016 focuses on four areas for concentrated action identified by people with disability, the NSW Government and community stakeholders. They are:

- Developing positive community attitudes and behaviours
- Creating liveable communities
- Supporting access to meaningful employment
- Improving access to mainstream services through better systems and processes

Draft Open Space for Recreation Design Guide, GANSW

The *Draft Open Space for Recreation Design Guide* provides information on how to design, plan and implement green infrastructure in urban areas throughout NSW. The draft Guide provides a consistent methodology to help State and Local Governments, and industry, create a network of green infrastructure.

The Guide responds to the Premier's Priorities: *Greening our City*, seeking to increase the tree canopy and green cover across Greater Sydney by one million trees by 2022, and Greener Public Spaces, aiming to increase the proportion of homes in urban areas with 10 minutes' walk of quality green, open and public spaces by 10% by 2023.

Strategies recommended for providing open space and recreation include:

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

The Design Guide advocates for quality of open space over quantum of open space

The Government Architect NSW has noted in its *Draft Open Space for Recreation Design Guide* that planning that relies on a spatial standard such as 2.8 ha/1000 people is not effective without high levels of quality control, and often works against opportunities for multiple use and innovative solutions – particularly in high-density urban areas (such as the Study Area) in small sites. A large amount of poor quality open space may not meet a community's needs as well as a smaller, high-quality open spaces.

Evidence from around the world indicates a focus on quality and accessibility to open space, including active recreation areas, green streets, and walking and cycling infrastructure will deliver improved health, social cohesion, vibrant local economies, productivity and environmental benefits.

The Guidelines further note that the quality of open space is key to its usability and attractiveness. Quality indicators can include:

- Amenity (e.g. maintenance, noise, facilities and equipment, aesthetics)
- Access (visual and physical access, disability access)
- Safety
- Size, shape and topography
- Vegetation and setting

Better Placed, Government Architect NSW

Better Placed by Government Architect NSW is an integrated design policy for the built environment and underscores the importance of good design at the centre of all development processes, from project definition to concept design through to construction and maintenance. Better Placed is based around seven distinct objectives that together seek to create a “well-designed built environment that is healthy, responsive, integrated, equitable and resilient”. These are:

- Contextual, local and of its place
- Sustainable, efficient and durable
- Equitable, inclusive and diverse
- Enjoyable, safe and comfortable
- Functional, responsive and fit-for-purpose
- Value-creating and cost-effective
- Distinctive, visually interesting and appealing

Draft Connecting with Country, Government Architect NSW

Connecting with Country is a draft framework for understanding the value of First Nations Peoples knowledge in the design and planning of places. It includes the Design Objectives for NSW.

Connecting with Country is informed largely by the experiences and knowledges of people who work on, and are from, Countries in and around the Sydney basin. As such, the principles and framework that follow reflect an emphasis on this part of NSW. We acknowledge that further work is required to determine the appropriateness of these principles and framework for the other Countries of NSW.

For Local Governments, the intent of *Connecting with Country* is to help them respond to, and advocate for, community needs in local planning policies and projects. The ambition of *Connecting with Country* is that everyone who is involved in delivering government projects will adopt the following commitment:

“Through our projects, we commit to helping support the health and wellbeing of Country by valuing, respecting and being guided by First Nations Peoples, who know that if we care for Country – it will care for us.”

The ambition of the commitment to improving health and wellbeing of Country is to help realise three long-term strategic goals:

Reduce the impacts of natural events such as fire, drought and flooding through sustainable land- and water-use practices.

Value and respect First Nations Peoples cultural knowledge with First Nations Peoples co-leading design and development of all NSW infrastructure projects.

Ensure Country is cared for appropriately, and sensitive sites are protected by First Nations having access to their homelands to continue their cultural practices.

Connecting with Country provides statements for commitment and principles for action to help project teams fulfill their commitment to Country. These are practical ways of implementing each of the seven commitments.

Women in Sport Strategy, Office of Sport

The Women in Sport Strategy focus areas include participation; places and spaces; leveraging investment; and leadership. 'Places and spaces' acknowledges that facilities influence participation.

The Strategy encourages facility providers to apply a gender lens to the design of regionally significant facilities. Appropriate facilities are those that exhibit universal design principles, prioritise safety, have family-friendly social spaces and are clean and easy to access.

Improving the quality of existing surfaces, lighting and amenities is identified as the minimal critical strategy to reduce immediate barriers for women and girls.

Equitable allocation of playing spaces, training venues and other resources were also identified as key needs.

NSW Healthy Eating and Active Living Strategy 2013-2018

The goal of the Strategy is "To keep people healthy and out of hospital", with targets around obesity, increased participation in sport and recreation, and increased mode share of active transport trips. Strategic Directions include:

- Environments to support healthy eating and active living
- State-wide healthy eating and active living support programs
- Healthy eating and active living advice as part of routine service delivery
- Education and information to enable informed, healthy choices

NSW Ageing Strategy

The NSW Ageing Strategy includes relevant priorities around health and wellbeing, getting around and inclusive communities. Key recreation needs include:

- Limited transport options is a major barrier, including living in an isolated area, cost, physical barriers, poor-quality footpaths and a lack of accessible parking
- Caring roles are associated with poor physical and mental health
- Social isolation and loneliness are growing concerns

Joint Use of Schools Facilities and Land Policy, Department of Education

Inner West has a number of public and private schools with high-quality recreation facilities, including outdoor and indoor courts and sportsfields.

The Department of Education's Joint Use of School Facilities and Land Policy encourages shared use of school facilities (such as open space and sporting facilities), with significant investment in new, upgraded or maintained facilities.

'Joint use' is where the Department and other parties make significant investments (land and/or capital) in new facilities, upgrading facilities or maintaining facilities. The asset is typically shared between the school and the other parties over an extended period of time, or the lifetime of the asset. These projects are voluntary and intended to be of mutual benefit to all parties.

The Department recognises that all parties to a Joint Use Program Agreement must have mutually beneficial outcomes that meet their requirements in ways that build trust and openness.

Benefits of joint use agreements may include cost-sharing for maintenance of school grounds and buildings, and improved access to places so that families and individual community members become more physically active.

Greater Sydney Green Grid

The Greater Sydney Green Grid is a long-term vision for a network of high-quality green spaces that connect communities to the natural landscape. It includes tree-lined streets, waterways, bushland corridors, parks and open spaces linked to centres, public transport and public places.

The Green Grid Project aims to enhance access to open space, provide routes for walking and cycling, conserve natural areas and provide opportunities for active and passive recreation. It also aims to support the management of stormwater, flood risk and water quality, while improving Sydney's landscape value and urban amenity.

Green Grid Principles include:

- The Recreation Grid: Increase access to open space; encourage sustainable transport connections and promote active living; create a high-quality and active public realm.
- The Ecological Grid: Conserve the natural environment; adapt to climate extremes, improve air quality and increase urban greening; promote green skills, improve management, maintenance and sustainable green space design.
- The Hydrological Grid: Utilise the network quality of the hydrological system; increase environmental quality; reduce infrastructure risk; reveal the unique character of Sydney's waterscapes; reframe waterways as connectors not barriers.
- The Agricultural Grid: The Values of the Metropolitan Rural Area of the Greater Sydney Region Report will form an important part of the Green Grid.

GREATER SYDNEY & REGIONAL CONTEXT

A Plan for Growing Sydney

The NSW Government's plan for the future of the Sydney Metropolitan Area over the next 20 years provides key directions and actions to guide Sydney's productivity, environmental management and liveability – including the delivery of housing, employment, infrastructure and open space. The plan includes directions to:

- Create a network of green and open spaces across Sydney
- Create healthy built environments, including providing access to the Harbour and its foreshores
- Match population growth with the delivery of social infrastructure, including recreation facilities, separated footpaths, cycleways and cycle infrastructure, and creative attractive public spaces to support physical activity and connect and strengthen communities

Greater Sydney Region Plan - A Metropolis of Three Cities

The *Greater Sydney Region Plan* is built on a vision where the people of Greater Sydney live within 30 minutes of their jobs, education and health facilities, services and great places. The Plan includes a focus on universal design, healthy, resilient and socially connected communities with walkable streets, great places that bring people together, conserving environmental heritage, increasing the urban tree canopy cover, access to protected and enhanced open space, and delivering the green grid.

Objective 31 of the plan is that “public open space is accessible, protected and enhanced”. The plan also highlights that the key considerations for planning open spaces are quantity, quality and distribution, and provides the following insights:

- Access to high-quality open space is becoming increasingly important as higher housing densities, more compact housing and changing work environments develop
- Where land for additional open space is difficult to provide, innovative solutions will be needed, as well as a strong focus on achieving the right quality and diversity of open space
- Enhancing open space so it can meet a wider range of community needs is important in areas where it is difficult to provide additional open space. This can include better landscaping, more durable and high-quality facilities, better lighting and multi-use playing fields and courts
- Open spaces within school grounds are a potential asset that could be shared by the wider community outside of school hours
- The use of golf courses may also be examined to provide a wider range of sport and recreation facilities for local communities
- There may be opportunities to use surplus government-owned land as open space for sport and recreation facilities
- Urban renewal needs to begin with a plan to deliver new, improved and accessible open spaces that will meet the needs of the growing community, particularly where density increases
- High-density development (over 60 dwellings per hectare) should be located within 200 metres of quality open space, and all dwellings should be within 400 metres of open space

Eastern City District Plan

The Plan aims to achieve the Vision for Greater Sydney in the Eastern City through:

- Nurturing quality lifestyles through well-designed housing in neighbourhoods close to transport and other infrastructure
- Sustaining communities through vibrant public places, walking and cycling, and cultural, artistic and tourism assets
- Aligning growth with infrastructure, including transport, social and green infrastructure, and delivering sustainable, smart and adaptable solutions
- Being innovative in providing recreation facilities and open space areas, and increasing urban tree canopy
- Building effective responses to climate change and natural and urban hazards

In terms of recreation infrastructure, the Plan identifies Green Grid priority projects, including the Iron Cove GreenWay and the Hawthorne Canal, and the Cooks River open space corridor.

The Plan also provides advocates for way to maximise the use of existing open space and protect, enhance and expand public open space by:

- Providing opportunities to expand a network of diverse, accessible, high-quality open spaces that respond to the needs and values of communities as populations grow
- Investigating opportunities to provide new open space so that all residential areas are within 400 metres of open space and all high-density residential areas (over 60 dwellings per hectare) are within 200 metres of open space
- Requiring large urban renewal initiatives to demonstrate how the quantity of, or access to, high-quality and diverse local open space is maintained or improved

- Planning new neighbourhoods with a sufficient quantity and quality of new open space
- Delivering shared and co-located sports and recreation facilities, including shared school grounds and re-purposed golf courses
- Delivering or complementing the Greater Sydney Green Grid
- Providing walking and cycling links for transport as well as leisure and recreation

The Eastern City District Plan also identifies the Camperdown-Ultimo Collaboration Area as part of the innovation corridor, and one of the largest and most comprehensive health and education precincts in Greater Sydney. Royal Prince Alfred Hospital (RPAH) is a key anchor of this precinct. It is fundamental to the precinct being distinctive in world-leading education, health and training institutions. It is also key for providing opportunities for innovative health and medical-related commercial premises as well as complementary uses that support the hospital and benefit the Inner West community.



SSROC Liveability Indicator Mapping, 2017

The SSROC completed Liveability Indicator Mapping to baseline and understand the liveability performance of each area of the SSROC region against a range of indicators. Benchmarking identified that the existing provision of open space and sport and recreation facilities within an LGA should be used as the minimum benchmark to determine future supply as population grows. The Study identifies that the open-space challenge is very significant in this area and suggests three approaches:

1. More intervention in the way large sites are developed or smaller sites amalgamated for development. A much clearer approach to creating small communal open space areas and pocket parks, to which multiple development sites should contribute, is required. This will involve early structure planning guidance and intervention. The expectation should be that 5 to 10 percent of sites for development is provided for open space
2. There is a need for the multi-use of school playing fields. This has long been on the agenda but the security, cost and maintenance obligations to allow for greater community use of school and other institutional fields have been a barrier. A concerted effort to resolve these issues is necessary
3. The quality of streets and public domain is increasingly important where it is difficult to create new open space. New developments should contribute to quality of these assets, via coordinated guidance and funding obligations.

INNER WEST COUNCIL STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Our Place Inner West – Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020

The Our Place Inner West – Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020 (the LSPS) is a document to guide land-use planning and development for the Inner West LGA to 2036 and is informed by community values and priorities, by State Government plans and by evidence based studies and strategies.

The vision is for “a place of creative, connected, sustainable and productive neighbourhoods as vibrant, innovative and diverse as our community”.

The LSPS consists of Council’s vision and a set of planning priorities, objectives and actions under six themes. Relevant planning priorities to this RNS include:

An ecologically sustainable Inner West

- Planning Priority 1: Adapt to climate change
- Planning Priority 2: Inner West is a zero emissions community
- Planning Priority 3: A diverse and increasing urban forest that connects habitats of flora and fauna
- Planning Priority 4: Inner West is a water-sensitive city with clean waterways
- Planning Priority 5: Inner West is a zero-waste community

Unique, liveable, networked neighbourhoods

- Planning Priority 6: Plan for high-quality, accessible and sustainable housing growth in appropriate locations integrated with infrastructure provision and with respect for place, local character and heritage significance
- Planning Priority 7: Provide for a rich diversity of functional, safe and enjoyable urban spaces connected with, and enhanced by, their surroundings

Caring, happy, healthy communities

- Planning Priority 10: Recognise and sustain Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories
- Planning Priority 11: Provide accessible facilities and spaces that support active, healthy communities

Progressive local leadership

- Planning Priority 13: Develop diverse and strong stakeholder relationships through collaboration with government, community and business to deliver positive planning outcomes and realise the benefits of growth
- Planning Priority 14: Deliver visionary long-term planning and responsible decision-making reflective of the Community Strategic Plan

Inner West Employment and Retail Lands Strategy, August 2020

The Inner West Employment and Retail Lands Strategy 2020 provides an approach for managing land to maximise productivity and facilitate jobs growth, with both being important to the long-term prosperity of the LGA.

The vision: The Inner West LGA has a rich industrial and urban services economy and is a leading destination for creative industries and entrepreneurship. It leverages strategic connections from the Eastern City’s trade gateways and Harbour CBD. The thriving local economy provides a diversity of employment opportunities and services for local residents. The industrial precincts and employment corridors are productive and well managed, providing businesses with the confidence to invest and expand. The centres are enjoyable locations to visit, live and work in, with high amenity, quality services and strong transport connections supporting their growth.

Four principles support the vision, three of which are relevant to this Study:

- Principle 1 - Centres are distinctive and productive: Development in centres will prioritise employment and will be complemented by quality public space
- Principle 3 - Spaces for business are suitable and available: A pipeline of new, well-located suitable employment floor space will be delivered in employment corridors and key precincts
- Principle 4 - Planning framework is clear: The planning framework supports local business and minimises land use conflict

The findings and recommendations in this plan are discussed in more detail in Parts 6 and 7 of this report.

Inner West Council Property Asset Management Strategy 2018-2028

The *Asset Management Strategy* was prepared to assist IWC in improving the services from its infrastructure including roads, bridges, footpaths, stormwater, fields, buildings, aquatic centres, sea walls, wharves and marine structures. These assets have a replacement value of \$1.8 billion as at 30 June of the 2017 financial year. The purpose of the asset management strategy is to:

- enable Council to show how its asset portfolio will meet the services needs of the community into the future
- enable Council’s asset management policies to be achieved
- ensure the integration of Council’s asset management with long-term planning

Draft Inner West Local Environmental Plan 2021

The Draft Inner West Local Environmental Plan 2021 (LEP) consolidates all three former Ashfield, Leichhardt and Marrickville LEPs. All existing principal development standards and controls are retained and the same floor space ratios, building heights and minimum lot size standards will continue to apply. Some alignment issues addressed as part of the Draft Inner West LEP include:

- rezoning of the central portion of Ashfield Town Centre from B4 Mixed Use to B2 Local Centre
- permitting light industries such as creative makers in some business zones
- ensuring centres have active uses at street level by restricting residential development to upper floors
- prohibiting dual occupancies in residential zones
- Develop village centre plaza/park space linked to streets that are usable for recreation and community events
- Use open space for community events and activities

IMPACTS OF COVID-19

In addition to strategic and population changes, since the previous RNS we have experienced the impacts of an international pandemic, with all in our communities accessing public open spaces and outdoor recreation facilities more than ever.

Our public open spaces are increasingly valued by communities since COVID-19 with increasing proportions of people using local parks and streets for walking, cycling, social interaction and fitness. The way people use public open space and recreation facilities will continue to change overtime for individual and small group activities, social cohesion and connection, health and wellbeing, and for informal recreation and access to nature.

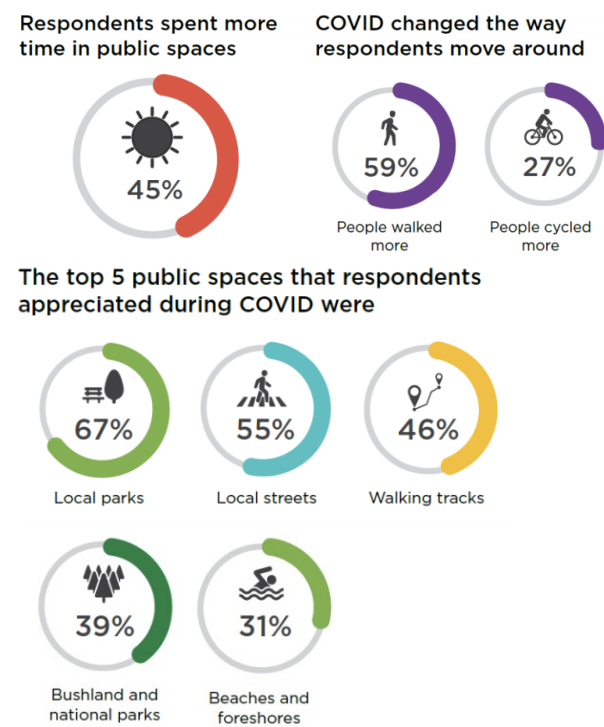


Figure 2 - Increase in participation in cycling and walking since COVID-19 (Source: NSW Department of Planning Industry and Environment, *Public Spaces Streets as Shared Spaces Report*)

MAJOR PROJECTS

In addition to ongoing infill residential development at a range of scales, there are four major NSW government development and infrastructure projects that will impact on recreation in the Inner West, and two current master plans for open space areas. The current understanding of these projects is outlined below. The implications of these projects for recreation is likely to become clearer as more information is made available by the NSW State Government.

State Government-led projects

The Bays West Precinct

The NSW Government has prepared a draft Bays West Place Strategy to guide the transformation of Bays West into the future. The draft Place Strategy builds upon previous urban renewal work in the wider Bays West Precinct and was exhibited from 22 March 2021 to 29 April 2021.

The Bays West Precinct is divided into eight distinct but linked destinations, comprising 5.5km of harbourfront, 95ha of largely Government-owned land and 94ha of waterways in Sydney Harbour. The Plan includes:

- Providing 5.5km of public foreshore access
- Staging public access to previously excluded areas, starting with Stage 1, linking Blackwattle Bay to Pyrmont
- Providing benefits for existing and future businesses exposed to new pedestrian trade
- Reconnecting Balmain to Pyrmont by working towards the adaptive reuse of Glebe Island Bridge
- Increasing visual and physical links to Sydney Harbour
- Providing a mix of green shorelines and living sea walls

A number of these areas fall within the Inner West LGA.

IWC's priorities for the Bays West Precinct are:

- World-class public transport access
- Reopening of the Glebe Island Bridge to pedestrians and cyclists
- Public access to foreshore
- Up to 30% of all new housing to be affordable housing (on government owned land)
- New recreational facilities including an indoor sports centre and multiple outdoor sporting grounds

The White Bay Power Station is a key destination as part of the transformation of The Bays West Precinct. The NSW Government's objective for this precinct is to unlock the potential of the White Bay Power Station to recognise its history in an authentic way. Key features of this precinct include:

- Providing a hub for knowledge intensive and advanced technological industries
- Adaptively reusing the State Heritage-listed White Bay Power Station
- Providing housing choices to support and attract talent for a knowledge-intensive destination
- Merging with the Bays Waterfront Promenade in a new activated forecourt that provides access to the water
- Reviewing opportunities for a new ferry service

Renewal will largely take place following the construction of major projects in the area and linked with the proposed Bays Metro station (part of the Sydney Metro West project), which will be operational in the second half of the 2020s.

Rozelle Rail Yards will be the first piece of significant new open space for the community at Bays West, with up to 10ha of new parkland to be provided as part of the WestConnex M4-M5 Link.

Structural works will continue on the White Bay Power Station, a State Heritage-listed item and much-loved feature of Inner West.

Callan Park Master Plan

Callan Park is 60ha of parkland at Iron Cove in Lilyfield, with a number of heritage buildings with community uses, including a former recreational hall which now houses the Community Refugee Welcome Centre.

Master planning of the site is a State Government responsibility, however the former Leichhardt Council took on this challenge as a result of many previous unsuccessful State Government attempts.

In September 2021, the NSW Government released the Draft Landscape Structure Plan for Callan Park. The Plan's key moves include removing intrusive buildings, relocating carparking from the waterfront and opening up the space for better pedestrian access.

Westconnex

Westconnex is an ongoing road infrastructure project delivered by the NSW State Government.

Impacts of Westconnex on recreation in the Inner West, as currently known by Council, include:

- Acquisition and lease of Council land for the project including Reg Coady Reserve, Camdenville Park
- Possible funding for the upgrade of Camdenville Park in line with Council's adopted master plan once Stage 2 is completed
- Dedication of land to Council for open space when construction is finished, including in Haberfield, Rozelle and St Peters:
 - St Peters Interchange Recreation Area and associated land bridge
 - Rozelle Rail Yards recreation area (up to an additional 10ha of open space), and new north/south walk and cycle connections.

IWC-led projects

Camperdown-Ultimo Collaboration Alliance

IWC is working with the Camperdown-Ultimo Collaboration Alliance to meet the Collaboration Area Place Strategy productivity priorities for the Camperdown activity node. This work includes the current Inner West Council, City of Sydney Council, Sydney Local Health District (RPA) and the University of Sydney-funded *Camperdown Innovation Precinct Land Use and Strategic Employment Study*, which will underpin a master plan, planning controls and policies for this health and education precinct with its core biotechnology hub.

The Place Strategy identifies “the lack of, and growing demand for, local open space and community facilities and services, and limited capacity to provide these services and facilities” as a key challenge for this area. Preliminary findings of the *Camperdown Innovation Precinct Land Use and Strategic Employment Study* indicate the precinct needs shared/collaborative spaces for individuals and businesses to thrive as well as development contribution-funded social and open space infrastructure. The shared spaces should include seminar and conference facilities and meeting rooms for formal events, as well as cafes, restaurants and bars for more informal events and social activities. The draft Study recommends devising appropriate funding mechanisms for the development and long-term operation of such collaborative spaces.



Figure 11 - Camperdown-Ultimo Collaboration Area activity nodes

Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy

This Strategy is the NSW Government’s 30-year plan setting out how the Parramatta Road Corridor will “grow and bring new life to local communities living and working along the Corridor”. The Parramatta Road Corridor spans 20km from Granville in the west to Camperdown in the east. It comprises the land adjoining and at least one block back from Parramatta Road, as well as precincts that have been identified as focuses for future growth based on their different functions and characters.

Inner West LGA includes part of the “Corridor East” section of Parramatta Road and four precincts: Taverners Hill, Leichhardt, Camperdown and Kings Bay.

The *Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy* was finalised in November 2016, however it required further detailed traffic and transport modelling to be undertaken by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. This modelling is due to be completed by the end of 2021 and will enable further investigation work to commence in the four precincts within the Inner West LGA.

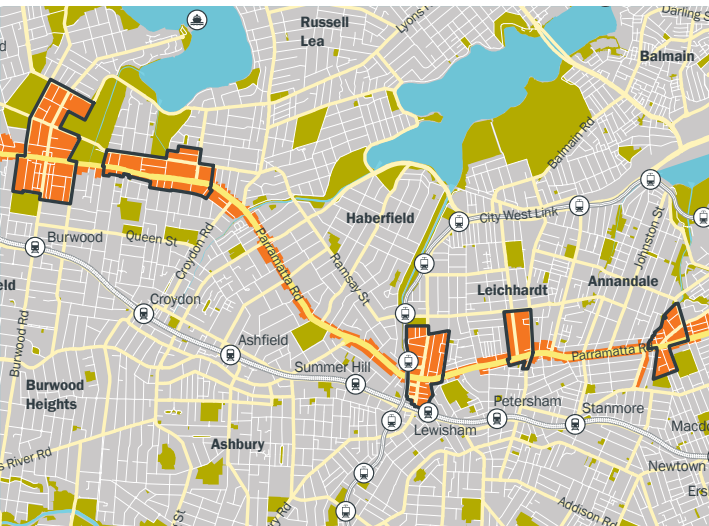


Figure 12 - Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation areas

Investigation areas for additional housing

The Inner West LSPS identifies the following investigation areas for additional housing. It is separated into two phases: the first from 2019 and the second from 2026 (see maps below).

The LSPS does not include the growth estimates for these investigation areas, rather these are available in the Draft Local Housing Strategy for each area identified, along with descriptions of the type and amount of growth envisioned. All growth estimates come with the preface that the additional growth is subject to refinement by further urban planning studies.

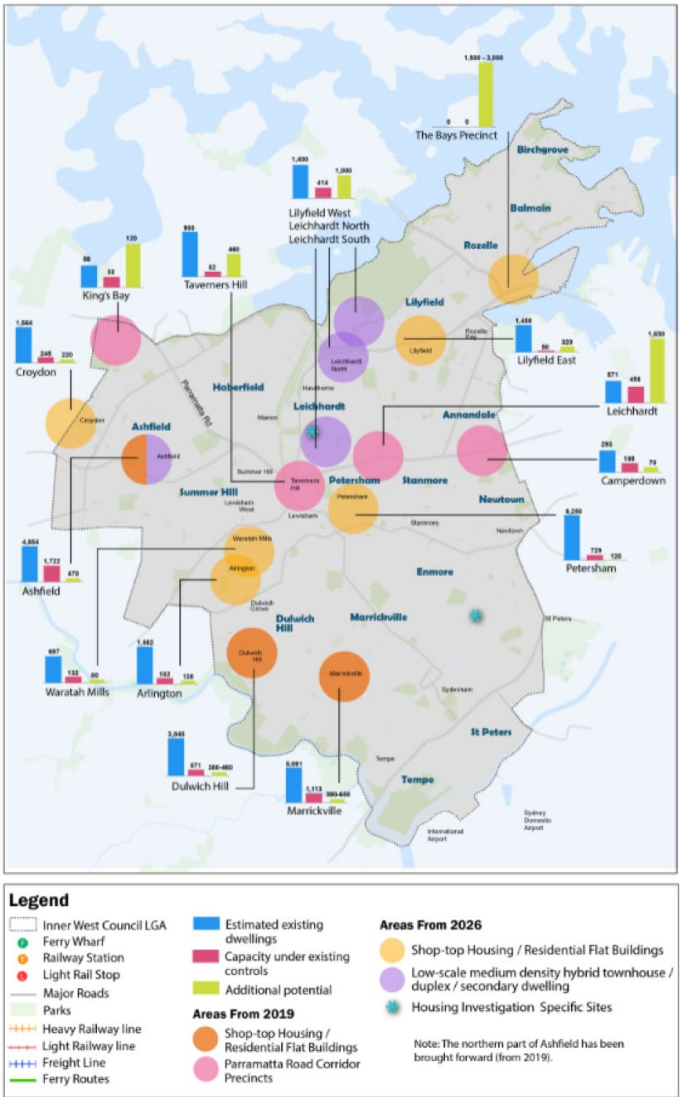


Figure 13 - Investigation areas for additional housing

South Area Urban Design Study

IWC has commenced its initial investigations of the *South Area Urban Design Study* (Dulwich Hill and Marrickville investigation area). The below map shows the South Area and the neighbourhoods for the purpose of the local character statements. There are draft statements for Marrickville and Dulwich Hill.

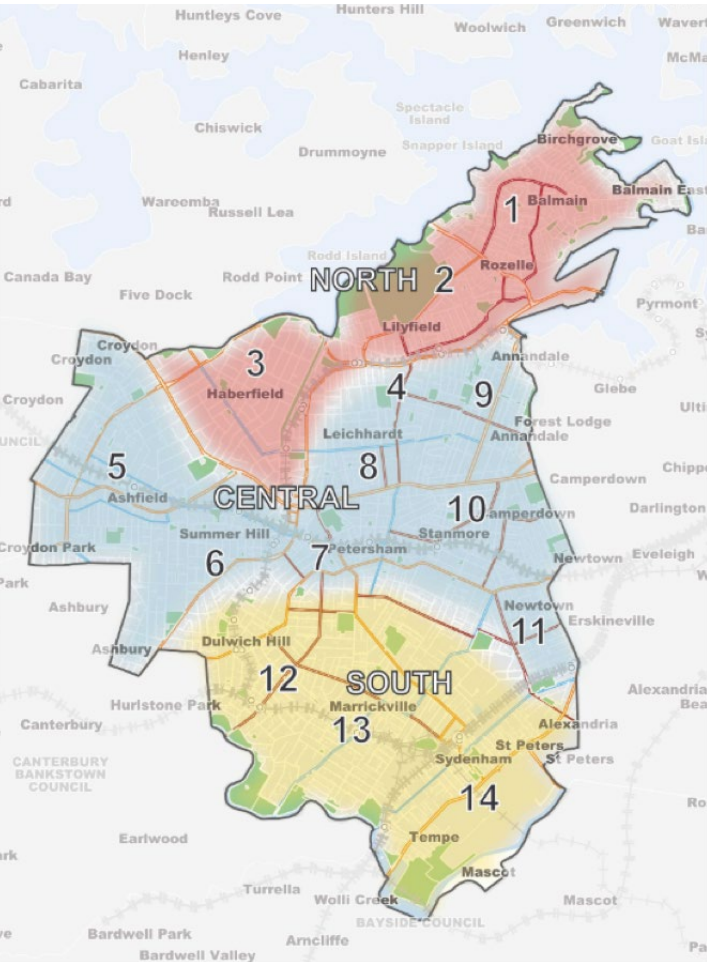


Figure 14 - Local character statement areas

Iron Cove to Cooks River GreenWay

The GreenWay is a 5.8km environmental and active travel corridor linking the Iron Cove to the Cooks River. Following the route of the Inner West Light Rail, the GreenWay features bike paths and foreshore walks, cultural and historical sites, cafes, bushcare sites and a range of parks, playgrounds and sporting facilities.

The Inner West community and local councils have been campaigning for over 10 years to complete the GreenWay. The NSW Government and the new Inner West Council have announced a joint commitment of \$14.5 million towards the cost of completing the GreenWay missing links. A further \$8.8 million has been committed by the NSW State Government under the Parramatta Road Urban Amenity Improvement Program. This will unlock approximately 3ha of open space not currently accessible to the community.

Council is developing a Master Plan for the whole 5.8km GreenWay corridor. The GreenWay Master Plan will guide the delivery of landscaping and infrastructure within the GreenWay corridor over the next 10 years. The master planning process is currently underway but will likely include new open space, naturalised spaces, shared and separated bike paths, and upgrades to existing parks.

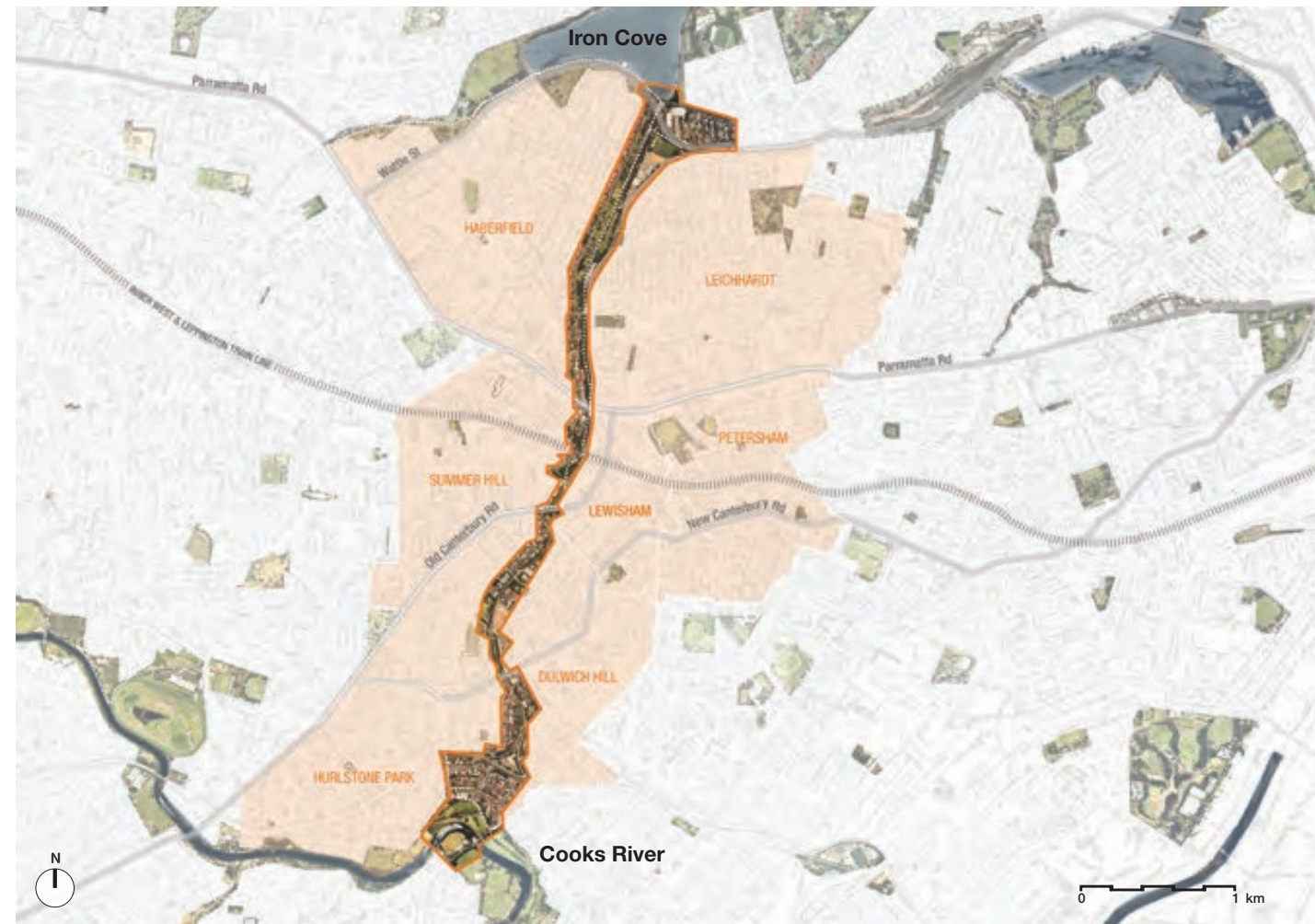


Figure 15 - Greenway Location Map (Source: GreenWay Master Plan, 2008)



Figure 16 - Artist impression (Source: GreenWay Master Plan, 2008)



4.0 RECREATION BENEFITS AND PARTICIPATION

Participation in recreation has social and health benefits (both mental and physical) to the individual, and also contributes to community cohesion and connection, which is particularly important in dense urban areas. Recreation provides an opportunity for connection to nature, and for children to explore and take risks. The urban environment of the Inner West can support participation in recreation by providing spaces for flexible, informal recreation, such as streets for walking and running, natural spaces, and parks for outdoor fitness, as well as facilities for organised sport.

KEY FINDINGS

- Participation in recreation brings significant health and social benefits to individuals, including mental health benefits and improved development outcomes for children and young people
- Recreation provides benefits at the community level, supporting community cohesion and community development, and public health benefits
- A majority of Australians participate in sport or other physical activities at least 3 times a week
- Nationally, the most popular recreation activities include walking, fitness, swimming, cycling and running, and this is reflected by local participation trends in the Inner West
- The major change in participation in recreation is a trend to more flexible and non-organised participation
- Children have declining access to unsupervised participation in recreation activities, with Planet Ark estimating that only 35% of Australian children play outside every day, compared to 72% a generation ago¹
- People with disability have lower levels of participation in recreation and are less likely to take part as a spectator

¹ Planet Ark, 'Climbing Trees: Getting Aussie Kids Back Outdoors', 2011, <https://treeday.planetark.org/documents/doc-534-climbing-trees-research-report-2011-07-13-final.pdf>

BENEFITS OF RECREATION

Health & wellbeing

On an individual level, participation in recreation brings significant health and social benefits, including:

- Physical health benefits such as reduced risk of heart disease and stroke; reduced risk of developing high blood pressure; prevention of some cancers; reduced risk of developing diabetes; better bone and muscle development and prevention of osteoporosis; improved muscle flexibility, strength and endurance; reduced risk of dying prematurely; reduced risk of falling, and improved mobility and strength for older adults; and improved quality of sleep¹
- Social and mental wellbeing benefits including encouraging social interaction; improving concentration and learning; increasing personal confidence and self-awareness; reducing feelings of depression and anxiety; enhancing self-esteem; and improving quality of life²
- For children and young people, regular physical activity also helps to improve health, emotional wellbeing, mental health, concentration skills, social skills, learning outcomes, and a reduction in anti-social behaviour³.

¹ Queensland Government, 'Benefits of being active', 2016, <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/health/get-active/benefits>

² Government of Western Australia department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, 'Benefits of Sport and Recreation', 2017, <http://www.dsr.wa.gov.au/support-and-advice/research-and-policies/policies/benefits-of-sport-and-recreation>

³ Queensland Government, 'Benefits of being active', 2016, <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/health/get-active/benefits>

Stronger communities

Recreation also provides benefits at the community level. As the Inner West community grows and changes, recreation can be an opportunity to support community development and cohesion.

The Clearinghouse for Sport research recognises the role of recreation in community development: it "can contribute to community identity, as a focal point for personal interaction and community engagement. The diversity of sports and sporting activities (including social sport and active recreation) make it an ideal medium to reach men and women from every age group, culture and socio-economic background. Sport can be used to address social inequities and disadvantage."

Recreation can support increased community capacity building and social, cultural and religious cohesion and sense of belonging, as well as reduction in youth offending, antisocial behaviour and crime, and improved early childhood development. Public health benefits include a reduced burden of disease, reduced cost of hospitalisation, faster hospital recovery times, and increased workplace productivity⁴.

Sport is one of the key sectors for volunteering in Australia. The Clearinghouse for Sport states that the labour input of Australian volunteers in sport has been estimated to be valued at AUD \$4 billion annually.

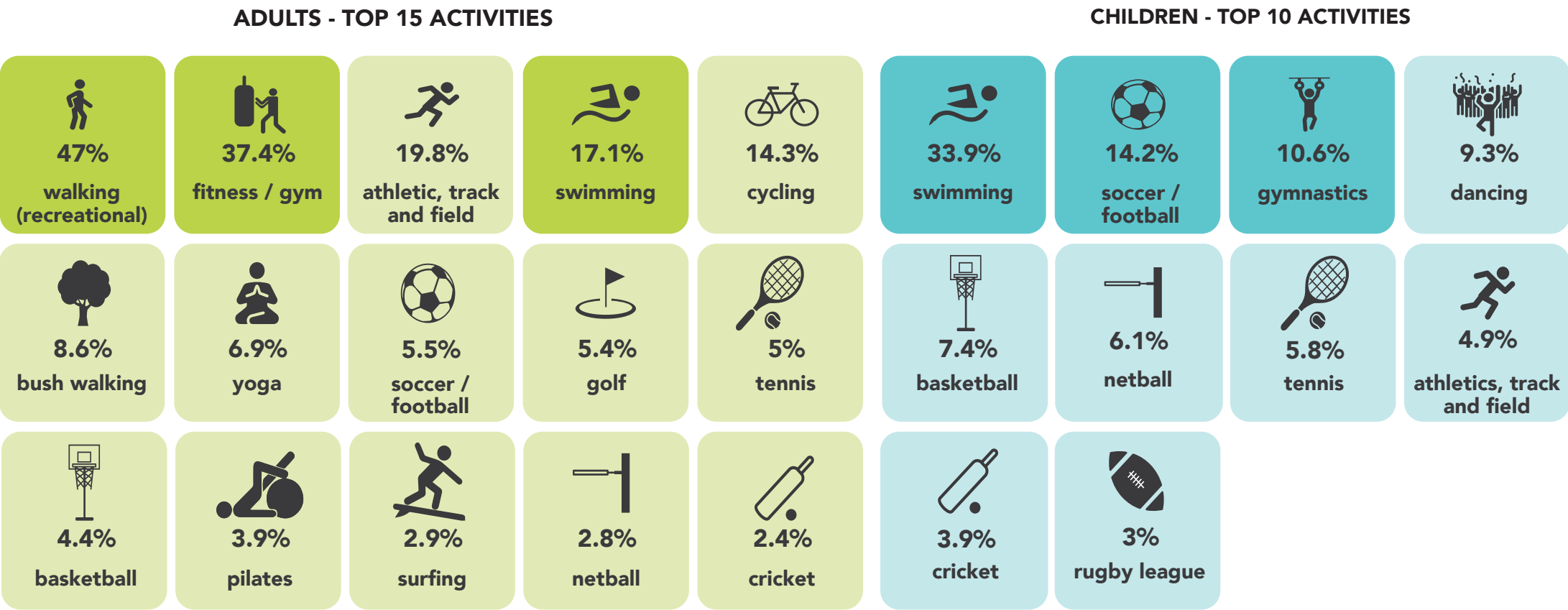
⁴ Cred Consulting for the Greater Sydney Commission, 'Greater Sydney's Social Capital: Its Nature and Value', 2017, https://gsc-public-1.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/social_capital_report_-_cred_-_october_2017.pdf

⁴ NSW Government Office of Sport, 'Participation in sport and active recreation', 2017, <https://sport.nsw.gov.au/sectordevelopment/participation>

NATIONAL PARTICIPATION
IN RECREATION

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) AusPlay survey tracks the physical recreation activities (both sport and non-sport) that Australians participate in. Some key trends are outlined below.

- A majority of Australians (61%) participate in sport or other physical activities at least 3 times a week. The most popular physical recreation activities were recreational: walking, fitness/gym, swimming and athletics (including running and jogging)
- 89% of Australians over the age of 15 participate in physical activity, 17% participate in sport-based activity only, 28% in non-sport related physical activity and 4% in both
- Participation in physical activity remains similar at all age groups. However, activity type changes with age towards non-sport related activities
- The major motivation for participation in physical activities is for physical health and fitness
- Not enough time, and poor health or injury, are the main barriers to participation
- Figure 17 shows the most popular recreation activities in NSW by participation rates for adults, children, males and females



RECREATION PARTICIPATION TRENDS

Children's participation trends

- In 2010, Planet Ark estimated that only 35% of Australian children play outside every day, compared to 72% a generation ago
- The ASC AusPlay survey found that 76% of children 0-14 years participate in physical activity, outside school, at least once a week. They are more likely to participate in sporting activities (rather than non-sport physical activity), and in organised sport
- 75% of children who have at least one active parent participate in organised physical activity outside school
- Children are more likely to participate in organised and physical school activity outside school hours if they have active parents, if they are from a high-income family and if they have 1 or 2 siblings
- Research by the University of British Columbia shows that risky play is associated with increased physical activity, social skills, risk management skills, resilience and self-confidence within children and plays an important role in their self-development¹

Participation by culturally diverse communities

- A 2020 survey conducted by the ASC shows that people from culturally diverse backgrounds have slightly higher levels of participation in organised physical activity, but are less likely to do organised physical activity with a sport club. They are more likely to be involved with fitness, leisure or indoor sports centres, recreation clubs or community programs

Participation by people with disability

- A nationwide survey conducted by AusPlay in 2020 found that for 12% of people over 55 years disability is a barrier to participation

and for 48%, poor health or injury is the main barrier

- At least four in five Australians (79%) with long-term disability participate in some kind of sport or physical activity
- One of the key policy directions of the National Disability Strategy (2010-2020) is "Health and wellbeing: health services, health promotion and the interaction between health and disability systems; wellbeing and enjoyment of life."²

Participation by women and girls

According to the ASC Women and Girls Participation report 2017, adult men and women participate in physical activity at similar levels across life stages. This contradicts the common perception that women and girls are less active than boys and men. However, some differences were that:

- Overall, women participate more in organised sport and physical activity than men. This changes during the years of 25-55, where men are more likely to participate in these activities. However, women of all age groups participate more than males in non-sport related physical activity
- Women were slightly more likely to participate because of health reasons (and to lose or maintain weight) than men and much less likely to participate for fun and enjoyment. 85% of women over 15 participate in physical activities for health and fitness reasons, including to lose or maintain weight and for psychological reasons
- The activities women are most likely to participate in are walking (especially in midlife – 45 to 64) and to a lesser extent gym or fitness activities (especially from 18 to 34). Women's participation in sport drops dramatically after

they leave school, as does participation in team sport. Whereas 65% of 15-year-old girls participate in team sports, only 17% of 25-34-year-old women do

Based on community engagement for this Study, in the Inner West, females were more likely than males to participate regularly in passive recreation, active recreation and personal fitness activities, while males were more likely to participate regularly in social sport, organised sport and elite sport

Unstructured vs structured

The AusPlay survey shows that one of the major recreation participation trends is that non-sport physical activities have increased significantly (by more than 20% from 2001 to 2020), as people:

- "Are increasingly time poor, have limited budgets and are being inundated by new forms of entertainment
- "Have new preferences for greater flexibility, more tailored products and sport that works around people's busy lifestyles
- "Are increasingly favouring more flexible, non-organised forms of physical activity, such as running with headphones on and pursuing new adventure sports."

Running/athletics is catering to this change with 7.8% participation in 2001, to becoming the top recreational activity with 19.8% participation rate. Overall, fitness/gym participation has increased by almost 20% in 20 years, and golf and tennis have experienced the biggest declines.

Some sporting clubs provide both social and club/competitive leagues: for example, Inner West Ultimate has two social leagues and three club teams. There are also emerging community, organisation-based and private providers of social sport who offer beginner-friendly, recreation leagues of adapted sports, with short seasons and social events.

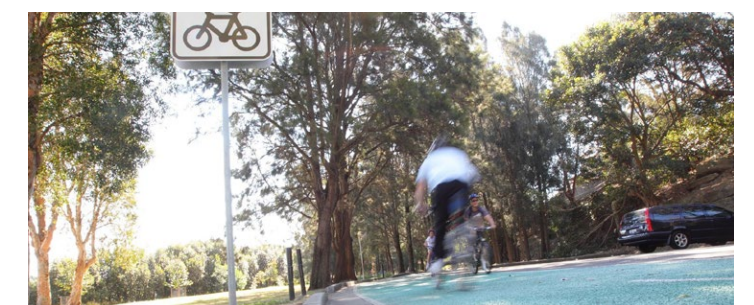
In urban environments such as the Inner West, where people rely on public spaces for recreation, this trend indicates a need for access to recreation activities in the evenings (with lighting and safety) as well as access to recreation spaces for informal and social recreation activities such as personal fitness activities and social pick-up games.

Impact of COVID-19

More adults frequently participated in physical activities, and children participating in organised sports have decreased significantly due to the restrictions.

"Australians are increasingly time poor, have limited budgets and are being inundated by new forms of entertainment. With these changes, new preferences are emerging; Australians want greater flexibility, more tailored products and sports that work for them."

- Australian Sports Commission, Corporate Plan 2017-2021



¹ Brussoni, M. et al. (2012) 'Risky Play and Children's Safety: Balancing Priorities for Optimal Child Development', International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 9(9), pp. 3134–3148. doi:10.3390/ijerph9093134.

² Australia and Department of Families, H., Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (2011) National Disability Strategy 2010-2020: an initiative of the Council of Australian Governments. Canberra, A.C.T.: Council of Australian Governments.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Community engagement completed for this Study investigated recreation participation in the Inner West. Local participation in recreation broadly corresponds to national and state participation trends - walking is the most popular activity at a local, state and national level.

Across the spectrum of recreation activities, people participated most often in “active recreation” activities, with 80% of survey respondents participating at least weekly.

This was followed by personal fitness, with 66% of people participating at least weekly.

In total, 4.5% of people engaged did not participate regularly (at least weekly) in recreation (of any kind), and an additional 1.4% participated regularly in “passive recreation” but not any other kind of recreation.

Figure 18 shows the most popular recreation activities across all community engagement types.



Figure 18 - Most popular recreation activities identified through community engagement completed for the Inner West Recreation Needs Study (Source: Cred Consulting, 2018)

POPULAR INNER WEST PLACES FOR RECREATION

The most popular recreation spaces in the Inner West identified through a range of consultation activities:

- Footpaths, streets and town centres
- Cycle paths
- Bay Run
- Cooks River foreshore path
- Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre
- Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre
- The GreenWay
- Steel Park
- Private gyms
- Hawthorne Canal/Richard Murden Reserve
- Enmore Park
- Ashfield Park

Key differences between different groups:

- Females used children’s playgrounds, aquatic centres and footpaths more often, while males used cycle paths, sporting fields and courts, and the Greenway more often than females.
- People who speak a language other than English at home used all facilities less regularly than the general community.

The most common types of facility that people visited for recreation in the Inner West:

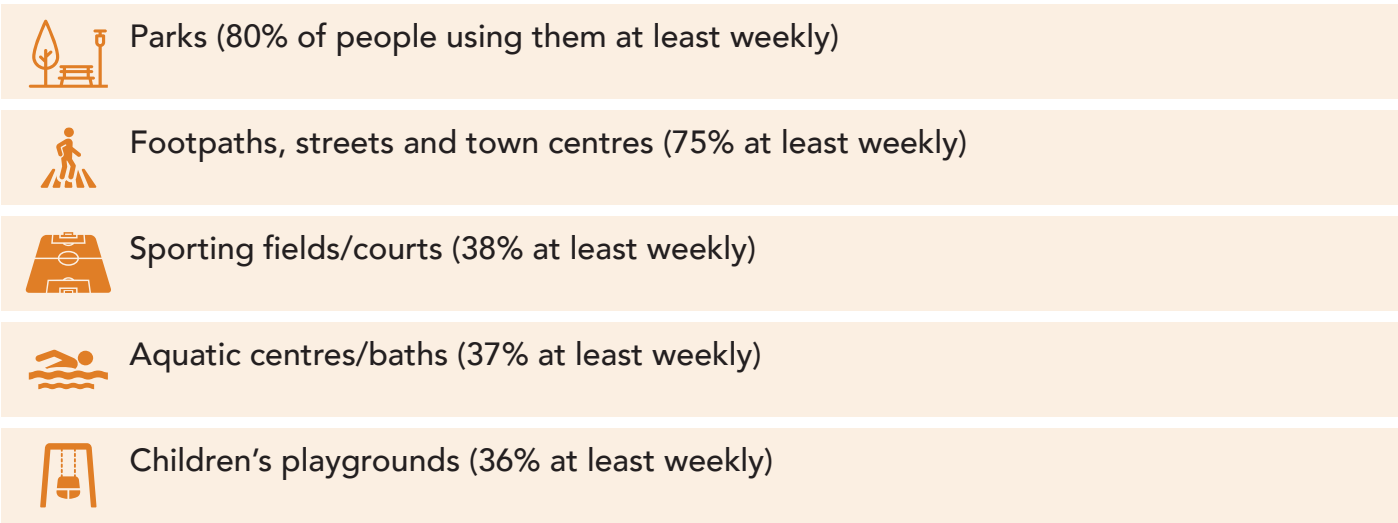


Figure 19 - Most common types of facility that people used for recreation in the Inner West identified through community engagement completed for the Inner West Recreation Needs Study (Source: Cred Consulting, 2018)

5.0 CURRENT AND FORECAST COMMUNITY PROFILE

This section outlines the current community profile of the Inner West LGA by suburb and for key areas, using data from the LHS, ERLS, 2016 ABS Census and Profile.id. The Inner West Council area is home to a dense and diverse urban community. Analysis of census data shows changing demographics including an ageing population and new cultural groups. Providing for the varied recreation needs of a diverse community, with limited space, will mean that recreation spaces and activities have to support flexible uses, support sharing and conviviality, and reduce conflict between users.

KEY FINDINGS

- The Inner West population is growing, and will increase by 34,815 people, from 2016 to 2036. This means that there are increasing and competing demands for limited open space and recreation facilities
- The Inner West is already dense, with a population of 54.5 persons per hectare (based on 2016 population figures), significantly higher than Greater Sydney at 5 persons per hectare. This means access to open space away from the home is of critical importance to the community's health and wellbeing.
- The Census shows how the 15 suburbs of the Inner West differ in their community makeup. This presents different place-based opportunities and challenges for recreation provision across the Inner West, and may also help Council identify priorities for the provision of accessible and inclusive recreation facilities that meet the needs of the community:
 - **An ageing population:** The Inner West has an increasingly ageing population, indicating a need for access to recreation facilities and programs that increase the health and wellbeing of older residents. This includes focusing on walkable streets, low-impact exercise equipment, and senior's programs in Council's indoor recreation and aquatic facilities.
 - **Students and young people:** There is a higher proportion of students and young people living within the Inner West than Greater Sydney, particularly in the suburbs of Newtown, Camperdown and Ashfield. This could indicate a need for passive recreation spaces for relaxing, reading, socialising and studying, as well as access to affordable, unstructured and informal recreation facilities such as outdoor courts and gyms.
 - **People with a disability:** 4.5% of the people living within the Inner West self-report a need for assistance in their day-to-day lives due to disability. However, there are some suburbs within the Inner West that have higher proportions, including Ashfield (South), Haberfield, Marrickville and Tempe. These areas also generally correspond to higher density, ageing populations and lower household incomes. While universal access is important across the whole of the Inner West, priorities for accessible upgrades to recreation facilities and spaces should be considered in the western portion of the city to ensure they meet the needs of the existing community. Furthermore, the 4.5% figure only represents people who need daily assistance – the highest level of daily needs – but it is broadly acknowledged that up to 20% of populations experience some level of disability.
- **A culturally and linguistically diverse community:** The Inner West is home to culturally and linguistically diverse communities, with a high proportion of people who speak a language other than English at home, largely living in the west portion of the LGA. Engaging this diverse community in the design and upgrade of recreation spaces is particularly important to ensure these spaces meet the community's needs, particularly within typically 'hard to reach' groups.
- **High rates of public transport use:** With a high proportion of households who do not have a private vehicle, particularly around Newtown, Ashfield, Enmore and Camperdown, access to a network of connected open spaces, as well as incidental opportunities for recreation throughout the neighbourhood's networks of streets and parks, is important to ensure easy and walkable access to recreation.
- **Pockets of disadvantage:** Within the Inner West there is a strong correlation between income and housing density, with some of the highest density areas also home to some of the lowest income households. This highlights the spatial inequality that can occur within cities, and the need to focus adequate, affordable and appropriate recreation opportunities within these parts of the Inner West.
- **Employment:** The Inner West Council's Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020 estimates that employment within the LGA is forecast to increase from 77,510 jobs in 2019 to 94,950 jobs by 2036. This represents +17,420 or 22% employment growth over the period. Key employment destinations include parts of Marrickville, Sydenham and Ashfield town centre. The largest industries are health care and social assistance (13.9% of jobs), retail trade (11.4%) and education and training (9%) and construction (9%). Workers are recognised as generating a demand for recreation facilities and open space.
- **Impact of COVID-19:** This report is not yet able to reflect the impact of COVID-19 on population and worker growth or participation trends across the community asset network (at the time of writing, these are unknown), IWC will be conducting a COVID-19 impact assessment over the next few years.

CURRENT TOTAL POPULATION

Population change 2011 to 2016

In 2016, the Estimated Resident Population of the Inner West (IWC) was 192,022¹ people.

As shown by Table 1, the total population of the Inner West increased by 11,729 people, or 6.5% between 2011 and 2016. This was a lower rate of growth than Greater Sydney (9.8%).

While the overall population of the IWC area increased by 6.5% between 2011 and 2016, population growth was uneven over the 5-year period across the Inner West with some suburbs experiencing higher growth. The suburbs with the highest growth between 2011 and 2016 were:

- Marrickville (+2,003 people or 8.1%)
- Leichhardt (+1,097 people or 8.1%)
- Ashfield (North) (+1,085 people or 9.0%)
- Balmain (+1,019 people or 10.5%)

The suburbs with the highest percentage growth between 2011 and 2016 were:

- Camperdown (+718 people or 25.4%)
- Lewisham (+382 people or 13.6%)
- Balmain (+1,019 people or 10.5%)
- St Peters – Sydenham (+403 people or 10.4%)
- Rozelle (+805 people or 10.1%)

Haberfield was the only suburb that had a decrease in population between 2011 and 2016 (-177 people or -2.7%).

A note on population counts

Profile.id states: “The most comprehensive population count available in Australia is derived from the Census of Population and Housing conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics every five years. However the Census count is generally an under-estimate of the actual population, due to people missed in the Census and people overseas on Census night. To provide a more accurate population figure which is updated more frequently than every 5 years, the Australian Bureau of Statistics also produces ‘Estimated Resident Population’ (ERP) numbers for the Inner West Council area.

“The Estimated Resident Population is the official Inner West Council population for 2016, based on the usual residence population and includes adjustments for Census undercount. Each year’s updates take into account births, deaths and both internal and overseas migration.”

However, as the Estimated Resident Population is not broken down into population characteristics such as birthplace, religion, industry or occupation, for all demographic information in this report, except for the overall Inner West LGA population, the Usual Residence Population (URP) has been used.

Table 5 - Total population (URP) (Source: Profile.id)

Area	2016	2011	Change #	Change %
Annandale	9,406	8,652	754	8.7%
Ashfield (North)	13,081	11,996	1,085	9.0%
Ashfield (South)	11,389	10,705	684	6.4%
Balmain	10,746	9,727	1,019	10.5%
Balmain East	1,940	1,859	81	4.4%
Birchgrove	3,231	3,129	102	3.3%
Camperdown	3,544	2,826	718	25.4%
Croydon	5,135	4,988	147	3.0%
Dulwich Hill	13,692	13,195	497	3.8%
Enmore	3,867	3,591	276	7.7%
Haberfield	6,471	6,648	-177	-2.7%
Leichhardt	14,623	13,526	1,097	8.1%
Lewisham	3,185	2,803	382	13.6%
Lilyfield	7,611	7,323	288	3.9%
Marrickville	26,602	24,599	2,003	8.1%
Marrickville South	10,213	9,574	639	6.7%
Newtown	7,927	7,281	646	8.9%
Petersham	8,101	7,557	544	7.2%
Rozelle	8,752	7,947	805	10.1%
St Peters - Sydenham	4,267	3,864	403	10.4%
Stanmore	7,858	7,417	441	6.0%
Summer Hill	7,300	6,840	460	6.7%
Tempe	3,552	3,302	250	7.6%
LGA (URP)	182,043	169,799	12,244	+7.21%
LGA (ERP)	192,022	180,301	11,729	+6.51%

¹ Inner West Local Housing Strategy 2021

INNER WEST AGE PROFILE

Table 6 shows the age profile of the Inner West.

The median age in the LGA is 36, the same as Greater Sydney.

Overall, the IWC age profile is quite similar to the age profile of Greater Sydney, with slightly higher proportions of working age adults and slightly lower proportions of children and young people, in particular:

- A lower proportion of secondary school-aged people (12-17 years) (4.6% compared to 6.9%)
- A much higher proportion of young workforce-aged people (25-34 years) (20.3% compared to 16.1%)
- A much higher proportion of parents and homebuilder-aged people (35-49 years) (24.8% compared to 21.1%)

Table 6 - Age profile (URP) (Source: Profile.id)

Age group	2016			2011			Change
	Number	%	Greater Sydney %	Number	%	Greater Sydney %	2011 to 2016
Babies and pre-schoolers (0 to 4)	10,743	5.9	6.4	11,761	6.9	6.8	-1,018
Primary schoolers (5 to 11)	12,872	7.1	8.8	10,777	6.3	8.7	+2,095
Secondary schoolers (12 to 17)	8,292	4.6	6.9	7,201	4.2	7.4	+1,091
Tertiary education and independence (18 to 24)	15,517	8.5	9.6	14,394	8.5	9.5	+1,123
Young workforce (25 to 34)	36,902	20.3	16.1	34,418	20.3	15.4	+2,484
Parents and homebuilders (35 to 49)	45,205	24.8	21.1	44,528	26.2	21.9	+677
Older workers and pre-retirees (50 to 59)	21,762	12.0	12.2	19,818	11.7	12.2	+1,944
Empty nesters and retirees (60 to 69)	15,636	8.6	9.5	13,352	7.9	9.0	+2,284
Seniors (70 to 84)	11,943	6.6	7.5	10,779	6.3	7.2	+1,164
Elderly aged (85 and over)	3,170	1.7	2.0	2,771	1.6	1.8	+399
Total LGA (URP)*	182,042	100	100	169,799	100	100	+12,243
Total LGA (ERP)	192,022			180,301			+11,729

*See 'a note on population counts on the previous page.

INNER WEST POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS BY SUBURB

Figure 20 and Figure 21 illustrate population characteristics within the Inner West that can influence recreation participation including key age groups (babies and children, young people and older people), people with a disability, and cultural diversity.

These characteristics influence recreation needs in each suburb; they also highlight the need for recreation to be inclusive of all cultures, abilities and ages.

Service age groups

Figure 20 shows key age profile characteristics for each suburb within the Inner West, highlighting areas with high numbers or above the IWC area average proportions of children aged 0 to 11, young people aged 12 to 24, and older people 65+.

- Compared to the IWC area average, the north of the Inner West is characterised by high proportions of children and older people
- The east of the LGA is characterised by high proportions of young people and working age adults, and low proportions of children and older people
- In the south of the Inner West, there are high proportions of children and young people, while the western area has high proportions of children, young people and older people, and corresponding lower proportions of working-age adults

The suburbs with the lowest median age were:

- Ashfield (CBD) (30)
- Newtown (33)
- Camperdown (33)
- Ashfield (North) (33)

The suburbs with the highest median age were:

- Balmain East (43)
- Haberfield (43)
- Birchgrove (42)

Student profile

Overall the Inner West has a slightly lower proportion of students than Greater Sydney, with lower proportions of primary and secondary school students and a higher proportion of university students.

- In 2016, 23% of people in the LGA attended an educational institution (39,268 people), slightly lower compared to 25% in Greater Sydney. The major differences between the LGA and Greater Sydney were a lower proportion of primary school students (6.5% compared to 8.1%) and secondary school students, (4.2% compared to 6.3%), and a slightly higher proportion of university students (7.6% compared to 6.1%)
- Camperdown had the highest proportion of people attending university in the LGA (14.2%), followed by Ashfield (North) (10.7%), and Newtown (10%). Ashfield (South) had the highest proportion of people attending TAFE, 2.5%, followed by Tempe (2.2%), and Ashfield (North) (2.2%).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents

Overall the Inner West has a low proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, however there some areas with larger populations.

In 2016, 1.1% of the LGA's population identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (2,029 people), a lower proportion compared to 1.5% in Greater Sydney. Tempe (2.3%) and Lewisham (1.9%) had higher proportions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents than Greater Sydney.

People with disability

The 2015 Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers survey (SDAC) indicated that almost one in five Australians reported living with a disability (18.3% or 4.3 million people), and that the majority (78.5%) of people with disability reported a physical condition, such as back problems, as their main long-term health

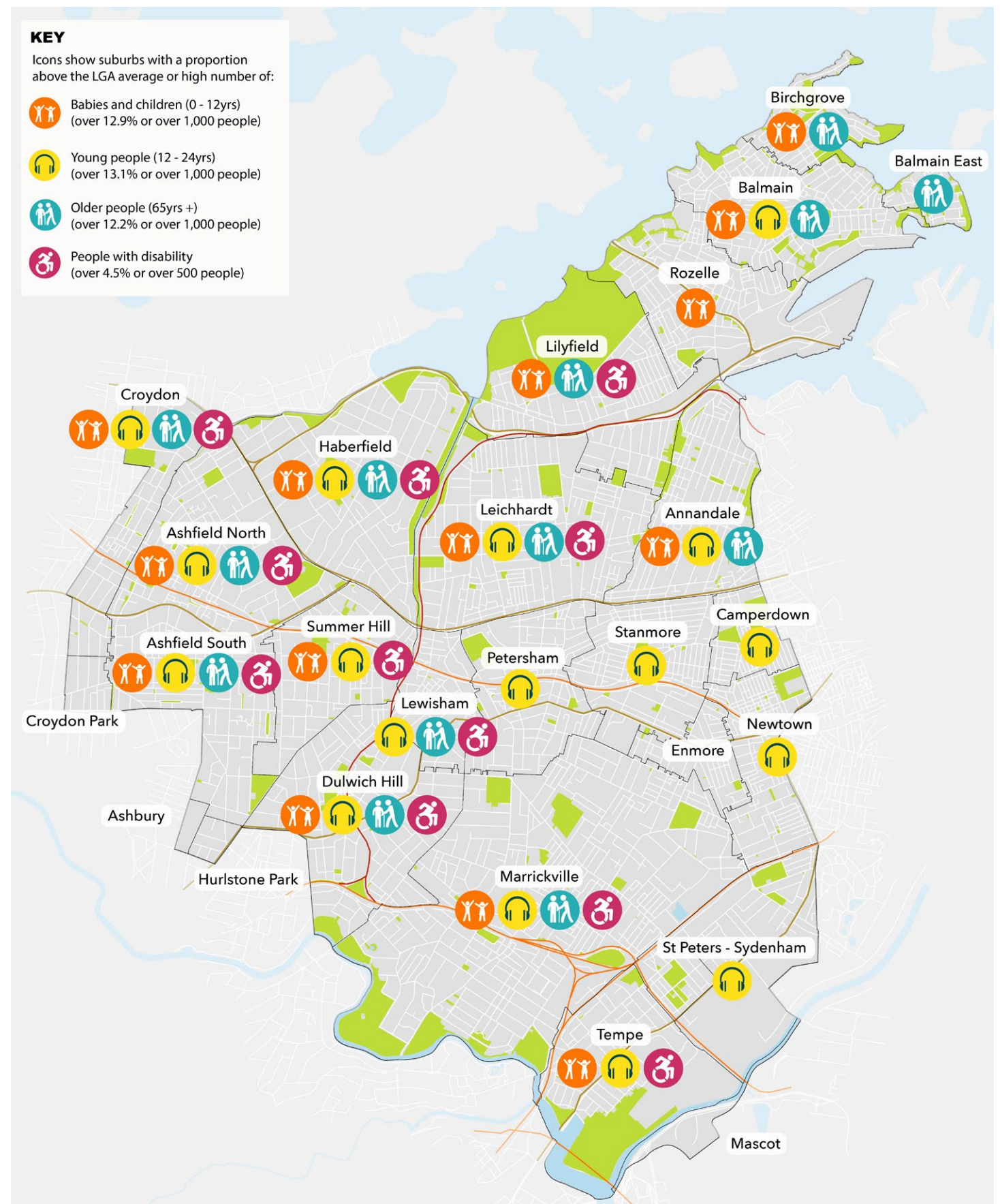


Figure 20 - Inner West Age and disability profile

condition. The other 21.5% reported mental and behavioural disorders. This data is not available at a local level, however the ABS Census collects information for people who report a need for assistance in their day-to-day lives due to a disability.

The Inner West has a slightly lower proportion of people who identified need for assistance with disability than Greater Sydney, however some suburbs have significantly higher rates of disability.

- In 2016, 4.5% of the LGA's population reported a need for assistance with day-to-day activities due to disability (8,168 people), a slightly lower proportion compared to 4.9% in Greater Sydney. Areas in the south and west had higher proportions/numbers of people reporting a need for assistance (Figure 20).
- The four suburbs with the highest proportion of people reporting a need for assistance were:
 - Ashfield (South) (7.3%)
 - Haberfield (6.8%)
 - Marrickville (6.5%)
 - Tempe (6.1%)
- Marrickville South* also had a high proportion of people reporting a need for assistance (5.8%).

Note: The Census Data above relies on people evaluating themselves (or being evaluated by their carers), as being in need of assistance and cannot be relied upon to provide details as to the total number of people with disability. Furthermore, the 4.5% figure only represents people who need daily assistance – the highest level of daily needs – but it is broadly acknowledged that up to 20% of populations experience some level of disability.

It is also acknowledged that accessibility issues impact a far broader population cohort than people with disability statistics alone indicate, including family and those in caring roles.

Cultural diversity

Overall the Inner West has a relatively low proportion of people speaking a language other than English at home, however some areas have very high non-English speaking populations.

Overall, 28.4% of the population of the LGA spoke a non-English language, a lower proportion compared with 35.8% for Greater Sydney. In 2016, the most common languages spoken at home were:

- Chinese languages (Mandarin: 3.6%, Cantonese: 1.9%)
- Greek (2.9%)
- Italian (2.8%)
- Vietnamese (2.0%)

The number of Greek and Italian speakers declined in the Inner West between 2011 and 2016 (Greek: -497 people or an 8.5% decrease; Italian: 506 people or a 9.1% decrease).

The fastest growing language groups in the Inner West were (between 2011 and 2016):

- Mandarin: +1,405 people or 27% increase
- Nepali: +610 people or 34% increase
- Thai: +554 people or 60% increase
- Vietnamese: +349 people or 10% increase
- Spanish: +342 people or 15% increase

Figure 21 shows areas with above IWC area average proportions, or high numbers of people speaking a language other than English at home:

- There are higher proportions of people speaking a language other than English in the south and west of the Inner West:
 - Ashfield (North) (55%) – Mandarin, Nepali and Cantonese
 - Ashfield (South) (52%) – Mandarin, Cantonese and Nepali
 - Croydon (44%) – Mandarin, Italian and Cantonese
 - Marrickville (37%) – Greek, Vietnamese and Arabic
 - Marrickville South* (40%) – Greek, Vietnamese and Arabic

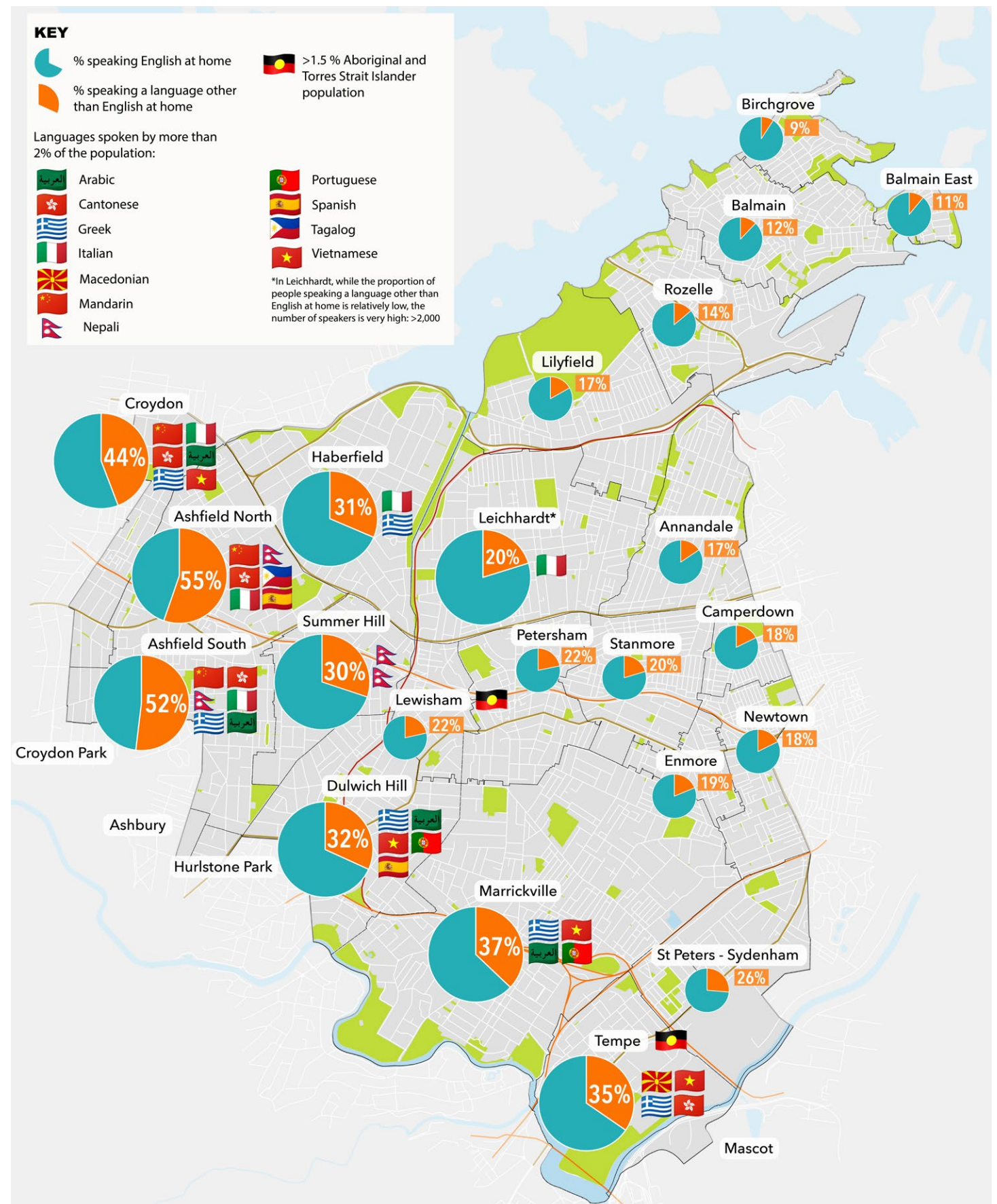


Figure 21 - Inner West cultural profile

* Profile.id provides demographic data for the Marrickville South area (also included as part of Marrickville suburb). This has been highlighted throughout this section where significant.

HOUSEHOLDS AND DENSITY

Figure 22 shows population size, income, car ownership, and dwelling type characteristics for each suburb in the Inner West:

- Most suburbs are characterised by medium-density dwelling types (eg terraces). Ashfield North has a majority of high-density dwellings
- The north of the IWC area has higher income areas while incomes are generally lower in the south and west
- Overall, there is low car ownership in suburbs along the train lines

High population density

In 2016, the population density in the LGA was 51 persons per hectare, which is much higher than Greater Sydney (4 persons per hectare).

The suburbs with the highest population density were:

- Enmore (90 persons per hectare)
- Newtown (88 persons per hectare)
- Camperdown (85 persons per hectare)
- Ashfield (North) (83 persons per hectare)

The suburbs with the lowest population density were:

- Tempe (17 persons per hectare)
- St Peters – Sydenham (24 persons per hectare)
- Haberfield (27 persons per hectare)

High proportion of medium- and high-density dwellings

In 2016, 73% of dwellings in the LGA were medium- or high-density dwellings, which is much higher compared to 44% in Greater Sydney.

The dominant dwelling type in the LGA was medium-density dwellings (47%), which includes townhouses, terraces, villa units and semi-detached dwellings, flats in single and 2-storey blocks and flats attached to houses.

The second most common dwelling type was high-density housing (27%), which includes flats in 3 or more storey blocks.

The areas with the highest proportion of high-density dwellings were:

- Ashfield (North) (59%)
- Camperdown (37%)
- Balmain East (37%)
- Dulwich Hill (35%)
- Marrickville (31%)

Higher than average income overall, despite pockets of low income houses

In 2016, households in the LGA had a median weekly income of \$2,042. This is \$297 higher compared to Greater Sydney (\$1,745). Within the LGA, median household incomes range from a low of \$1,585 in Ashfield (South) to a high of \$3,267 in Birchgrove.

In 2016, 13% of the LGA's total households were low-income households (receiving less than \$650 per week (before tax in 2016), a lower proportion compared to 15% in Greater Sydney.

The four suburbs with the highest proportion of low-income households were:

- Ashfield (South) (17%)
- Lilyfield (17%)
- Croydon (16%)
- Ashfield (North) (15%)

Marrickville South also had a high proportion of low-income households: 16%.

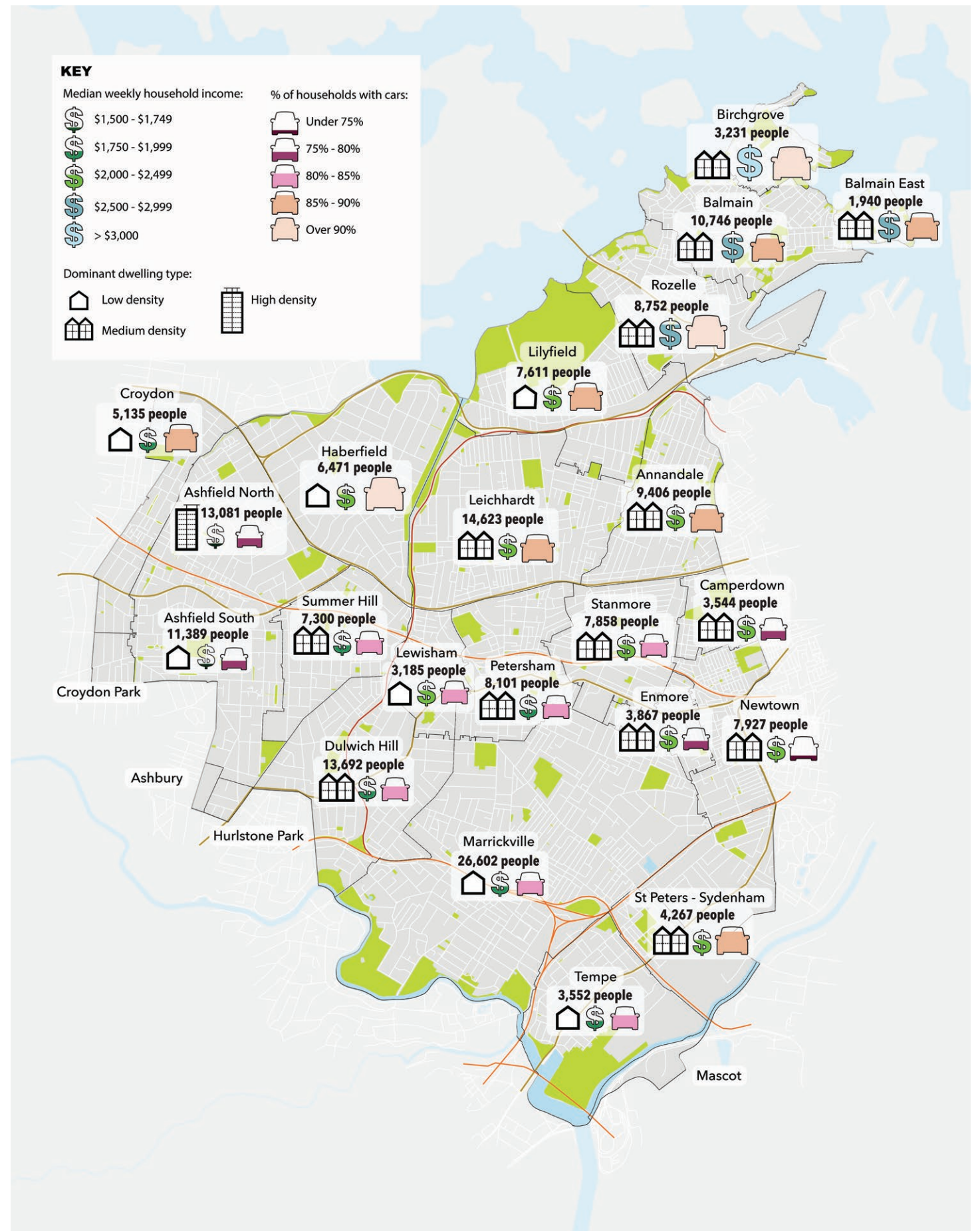


Figure 22 - Inner West density, income and housing profile

Low car ownership in suburbs along the train lines

Car ownership is much lower in the LGA compared to Greater Sydney. For example:

- A higher proportion of households in the LGA did not own a car (16%) compared to Greater Sydney (11%)
- A lower proportion of households in the LGA owned at least 1 car (74%) compared to Greater Sydney (81%)
- A lower proportion of households in the LGA had access to 2 or more motor vehicles (28%) compared to 46% in Greater Sydney

The 5 areas with the highest proportions of households without a car were:

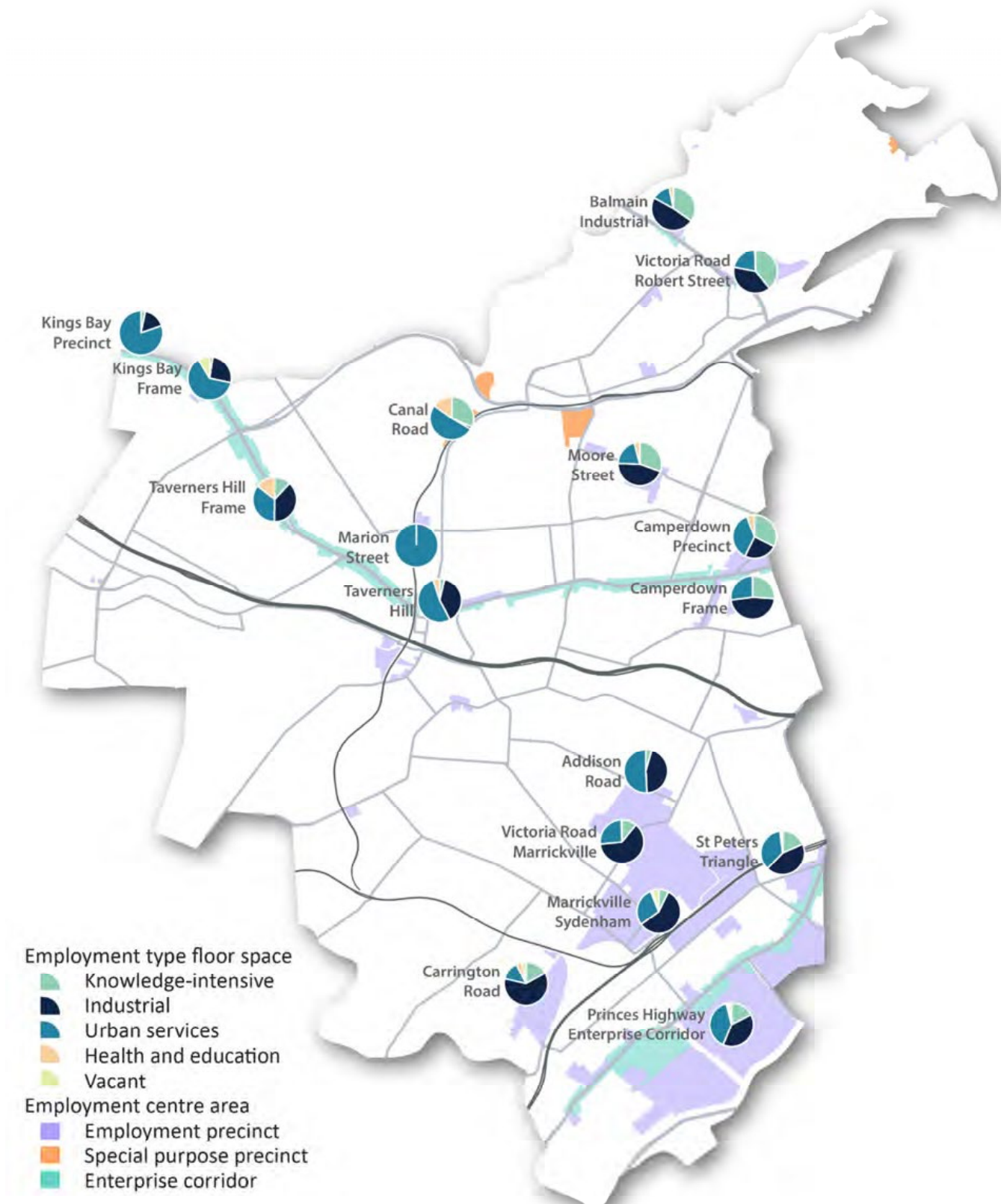
- Newtown (26.0%)
- Ashfield (North) (21%)
- Enmore (21%)
- Camperdown (21%)
- Ashfield (South) (21%)

The 5 areas with the highest proportions of households with 2 or more cars were:

- Haberfield (52%)
- Croydon (40%)
- Lilyfield (37%)
- Birchgrove (37%)
- Tempe (35%)

Employment

- **Employment:** The Inner West Council's Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020 estimates that employment within the LGA is forecast to increase from 77,510 jobs in 2019 to 94,950 jobs by 2036. This represents +17,420 or 22% employment growth over the period. Key employment destinations include parts of Marrickville, Sydenham and Ashfield town centre. The largest industries are health care and social assistance (13.9% of jobs), retail trade (11.4%) and education and training (9%) and construction (9%). Workers are recognised as generating a demand for recreation facilities and open space. See appendix 7 for detailed employment data.



*Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2016, per destination zone (113261414 and 113281420), Economy.id

**Australian Business Register -filtered counts, current at 3rd Dec 2018, per destination zone (113261414 and 113281420), Economy.id

Figure 23 - Employment precincts overview (Source: ERLS, 2020)

6.0 THE FUTURE INNER WEST COMMUNITY

This section outlines the future total population of the Inner West by suburb and planning catchment. Population projections show how the Inner West Council area will change over the coming decades. Becoming home to more people means that existing and new recreation spaces will need to innovate to support the growing community's needs.

KEY FINDINGS

The Inner West’s increasing population and changing density will mean that recreation spaces will not only be in higher demand, but will also be increasingly important spaces for people to socialise, recreate and build a sense of community. While the delivery of recreation for an increased population and dense environment is a challenge, it also brings opportunities for innovation in service delivery. This includes the application of multi-use and multi-purpose spaces, universal design, creating networks of open space and sharing spaces - all approaches that allow Council to get more out of their existing and future recreation assets.

Residential population growth update 2021

At the time of the 2016 Census, the Usual Resident Population (URP) of the Inner West LGA was 192,022 people. From 2011 to 2016, the total population grew by approximately 7%. This was a lower growth rate compared to Greater Sydney (10%). In 2019, the population was estimated to be 200,811 (Estimated Resident Population/ERP).

The Inner West Local Housing Strategy was adopted by Council in March 2020 and revises previous population assumptions used in the Recreation Needs Study 2018. Its population assumptions are shown in Table 7, the updated forecast expects a slower rate of growth to that of the RNS 2018.

The Inner West LGA is forecast to grow to a community of 226,837 by 2036. This is an estimated additional 34,815 people, or about 18% growth. This a lower forecast growth rate than Greater Sydney over the same period (+30%).

Growth by suburb

The suburbs with the highest forecast growth are:

- Marrickville (+7190 people, 25.7%)
- Leichhardt (+5,049 people, 33%)
- Ashfield South (+3,742, 32%)
- Dulwich Hill (+3,225 people, 23%)

The suburbs with the lowest forecast growth are:

- Balmain East (+4, +0%)
- Camperdown (+131 people, 4%)
- Enmore (+156 people, 4%)

Table 7 - Inner West forecast residential population - 2021 update (source: IWC)

Suburb	Updated LHS 2016	Updated LHS 2026**	Updated LHS 2036**	Additional people 2016-36	Growth % 2016-36
Annandale	9,973	10212	10543	570	5.7%
Ashfield	25,546	27,926	30,178	4632	18.1%
Balmain	11,146	11157	11434	288	2.6%
Balmain East	2,053	2052	2057	4	0.2%
Birchgrove	3,415	3400	3712	297	8.7%
Camperdown	3,689	3781	3820	131	3.6%
Croydon-Croydon Park	5,421	5831	6837	1416	26.1%
Dulwich Hill	14,295	16294	17520	3225	22.6%
Enmore	4,125	4249	4281	156	3.8%
Haberfield	6,779	7140	7536	757	11.2%
Leichhardt	15,514	16775	20563	5049	32.5%
Lewisham	3,383	4173	4474	1091	32.2%
Lilyfield	8,088	8596	9390	1302	16.1%
Marrickville	28,000	33,179	35,190	7190	25.7%
Newtown	8,411	8757	8773	362	4.3%
Petersham	8,522	10790	11555	3033	35.6%
Rozelle	9,348	9659	12366	3018	32.3%
St Peters-Sydenham	4,546	5042	5117	571	12.6%
Stanmore	8,320	8831	9131	811	9.7%
Summer Hill	7,666	8357	8390	724	9.4%
Tempe	3,782	3947	3970	188	5.0%
TOTAL	192,022	210,148	226,837	34,815	18.1%

**The LHS assumes household size decline in its population forecasts that are aligned with the methodology used by the Department of Planning & Environment Projections.

Growth by catchment

The residential population projections in Table 7 have been categorised into their assigned Planning Catchments in Table 8 for comparison.

Catchment 1 will experience the slowest growth rate* (14.4%) while Catchment 4 will experience the fastest (22.1%).

Catchment 3 and Catchment 4 are both forecast to be home to an additional 11,000+ each by 2036.

See Chapter 7 for a detailed explanation of Planning Catchments.

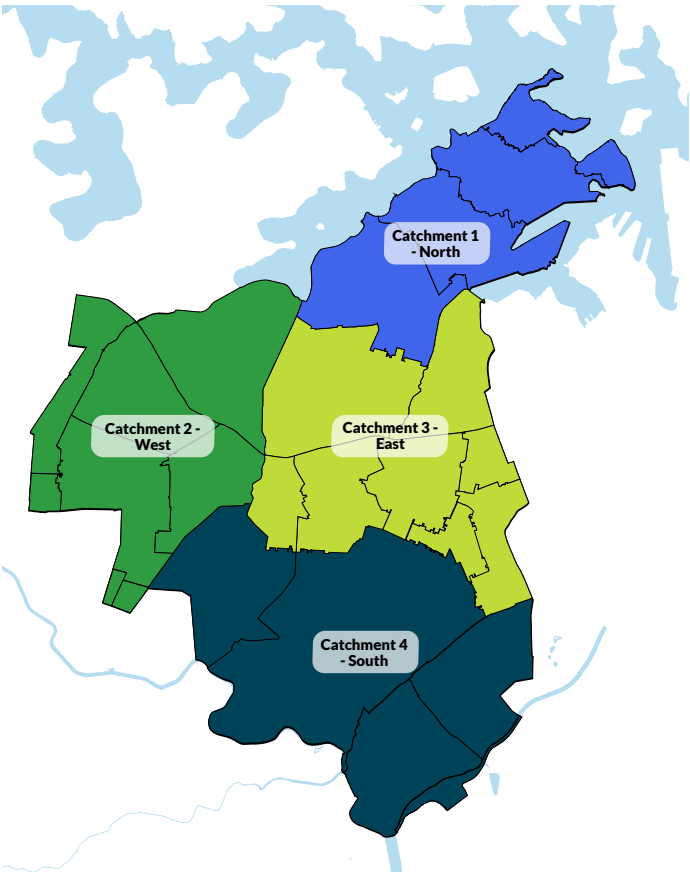


Figure 24 - Inner West Planning Catchments

Population density

The Inner West has a land area of 3,519 hectares, which will need to be shared amongst more people as the residential population continues to grow. The population density of the Inner West will increase from 54.5 persons per hectare in 2016, to approximately 64.5 persons per hectare in 2036.

The top four suburbs with the greatest projected percentage increase in population density from 2016 to 2036 are:

- Petersham +23.6 persons per hectare (66 persons per hectare in 2016, increasing to 89.9 in 2036)
- Leichhardt +19.5 persons per hectare (60 persons per hectare in 2016 to 80 in 2036)
- Lewisham +17.2 persons per hectare (53 persons per hectare in 2016 to 71 in 2036)
- Rozelle +16.8 persons per hectare (51 persons per hectare in 2016 to 69 in 2036)

With significant increases in the projected population densities within these suburbs, particularly Lewisham which is almost doubling the density, and Leichhardt which is increasing the population by one third, future development must take into account recreation needs and provision.

A consideration of worker growth, in addition to residential growth is discussed over the page, as workers generate a level of demand for open space and recreation facilities in addition to residents.

Table 8 - Residential Growth Forecasts by Catchment Area 2021 update (source: IWC)

Catchment	Suburbs	Updated LHS 2016	Updated LHS 2026*	Updated LHS 2036*	Additional people 2016-36	Growth % 2016-36
1*	Balmain Balmain East Birchgrove Rozelle Lilyfield	34,050	34,864	38,959	4,909	14.4%
2	Ashfield Croydon Summer Hill Haberfield	45,412	49,254	52,941	7,529	16.6%
3	Annandale Leichhardt Enmore Lewisham Newtown Petersham Stanmore	61,937	67,568	73,140	11,203	18.1%
4	Dulwich Hill Marrickville St Peters-Sydenham Tempe	50,623	58,462	61797	11,174	22.1%
Total	LGA	192,022	210,148	226,837	34,815	18.1%

* The NSW State Government is continuing investigations into the redevelopment of the Bays West Precinct, the population and employment projections will be revised when the Governments' planning investigations are completed, and is likely to impact th forecast growth for Catchment 1.

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH UPDATE & CONSIDERATION OF WORKERS IN RECREATION STUDY

The 2018 IWRNS stated worker demands can be measured at 10% of residential demand, however it did not analyse the worker demands in its benchmarking process. This update provides revised benchmarking results, with the inclusion of non-resident worker demands on open space and recreation facilities.

The Inner West Council's Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020 also identifies a *requirement for employment generating development to contribute to additional open space, cultural and recreational facilities for workers.*

The Inner West Council's Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020 estimates that employment within the LGA is forecast to increase from 77,510 jobs in 2019 to 94,950 jobs by 2036. This represents +17,420 or 22% employment growth over the period.

To accommodate this growth, the Employment and Retail Lands Study estimates that Council will need to provide approximately:

- 60,000m² of additional retail floorspace
- 176,000m² of additional commercial floorspace; and
- 218,000m² of industrial/large-format business floorspace by 2036.

The number of additional jobs this is expected to provide across the catchment areas is identified below:

- Catchment 1 – North is expected to accommodate approximately 3,627 additional jobs
- Catchment 2 – Central West is expected to accommodate approximately 2,423 additional jobs.
- Catchment 3 – Central East is expected to accommodate approximately 5,639 additional jobs.
- Catchment 4 – South is expected to accommodate approximately 5,857 additional jobs.

Appendixes 4-7 describe the methodology taken to derive at the additional floorspace and job estimates below for each catchment area.

Consideration of worker-residents

To avoid double dipping in the future contribution plans, the number of workers that are also residents of the Inner West has been deducted from the employment demand analysis. In 2016, the current number of workers who also live in the LGA is 31.3%¹. This percentage rate has been assumed to remain static through to 2036, although can be revised upon the release of new census data.

Consideration of full-time and part-time labour force

In section 4.2 of the Employment and Retail Lands Strategy it is stated that the workforce is comprised of 64.8% full-time workers and 26.2% part-time workers in 2016 (the remainder 9% were described as 'away from work' or not stated). The Employment and Retail Lands Study states that 17,420 additional jobs will be created. It is not expressly stated by the Study if these are full-time jobs or are comprised of part-time jobs as well. For the purposes of this paper, 64.8% of the total jobs (17,420) will be assumed to be full-time workers, that is to say they will have 10% equivalent demand of a resident, and 26.2% will be assumed to be part-time workers, that is to say they will have 5% equivalent demand of a resident.

Calculating worker demands by catchment

Table 9 over the page quantifies the additional demands made on recreational facilities by workers. Currently, workers generate a recreational demand that is equal to 5,087 additional residents across the LGA.

By 2036, this increases to an expressed equivalent of 5,085 additional residents (+939). These figures have been included in the benchmarking process in Chapters 8 and 9.

¹ Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2016. Compiled and presented in economy.id by id, the population experts. <https://profile.id.com.au/inner-west/workers> (accessed on 13 November 2020).

Table 9 - Number of workers and their recreational demands 2018-2036

Time	Catchment Area	No. of workers 2018	Reduction of worker-residents (31.3%)	No. of full-time workers (64.8%)	No. of part-time workers (26.2%)	Demand of full-time workers (10% of a resident) (expressed as additional residents)	Demand of part-time workers (5% of a resident) (expressed as additional residents)	Total additional worker demand (expressed as no, of additional residents)
2016	1	12,867	8,839	5,728	2,315	572	115	688
	2	14,718	10,111	6,552	2,649	655	132	787
	3	24,406	16,767	10,865	4,392	1086	219	1,306
	4	25,519	17,531	11,360	4,593	1,136	229	1,365
2026	1	14,680	10,085	6,535	2,642	653	132	785
	2	15,929	10,943	7,091	2,867	709	143	852
	3	27,226	18,704	12,120	4,900	1,212	245	1,457
	4	28,448	19,543	12,664	5,120	1,266	256	1,522
2036	1	16,494	11,331	7,342	2,968	734	148	882
	2	17,141	11,775	7,630	3,085	763	154	917
	3	30,046	20,641	13,375	5,408	1,337	270	1,607
		31,377	21,555	13,968	5,647	1,396	282	1,679

7.0 PLANNING FRAMEWORK

This section provides an overview of planning catchments, forecast growth methodologies and possible benchmarking approaches for recreation in the Inner West.

Benchmarking is just one of the indicators that are used to understand the needs of a community - alongside other indicators such as community engagement, analysis of the community profile, best practice, and an understanding of the existing facilities and opportunities. Benchmarks should be applied with caution to ensure that they are relevant to the local context. For example, a more socially disadvantaged area may have a higher need for open space than benchmarking alone would indicate.

A PLANNING CATCHMENT APPROACH

The Inner West Local Infrastructure Contribution Planning framework will adopt a catchment-based approach to assess the recreational demands to align with the approach taken for the Community Assets Needs Strategy 2021 (CANS). A catchment approach is a useful planning tool that aims to reflect patterns of community preference in accessing recreational space and facilities. The catchments have been defined from the following considerations:

- The location of key urban centres
- Likely travel patterns
- Population and employment densities, both current and future (2036) across the LGA
- Natural barriers (eg waterways and topography)
- Built barriers (e.g. arterial roads and rail corridors)

Whilst not perfect, catchments remain a useful tool to consider the network provision of local

and district spaces across a large area, with Regional Assets more likely to service the LGA. A catchment approach facilitates a more equitable approach to community asset planning (understanding how supply, demand and quality are located across the LGA – rather than looking at the whole LGA as one). The catchments utilised for the CANS and RNS Update are shown in Figure 25.

The four planning catchments are:

- Catchment 1 - North includes the suburbs of Balmain, Balmain East, Birchgrove, Rozelle and Lilyfield
- Catchment 2 - West includes the suburbs of Ashfield North, Ashfield South, Croydon, Summer Hill and Haberfield
- Catchment 3 - East includes the suburbs of Annandale, Leichhardt, Camperdown, Enmore, Lewisham, Newtown, Petersham and Stanmore
- Catchment 4 - South includes the suburbs of Marrickville North, Marrickville South, Tempe, Dulwich Hill and St Peters - Sydenham

The following chapters apply the adopted benchmarks to each of the 4 catchments, as well as to the LGA overall.

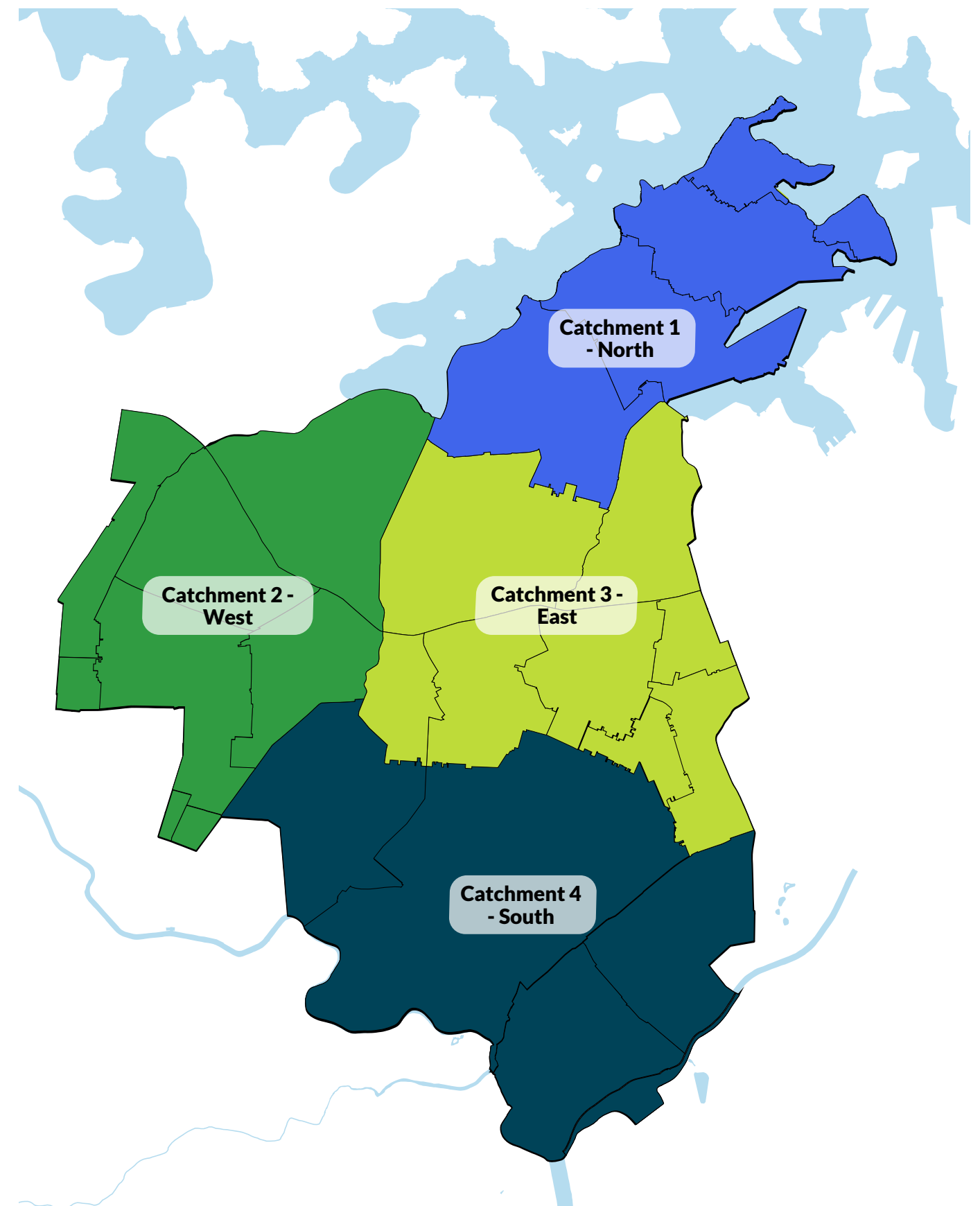


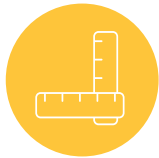
Figure 25 - Planning Catchment Areas

OPEN-SPACE BENCHMARKING APPROACH

Current best practice is to use a range of benchmarks to understand demand for open space and recreation facilities as one of a number of indicators. Other indicators should include community engagement, analysis of the community profile, best practice, and an understanding of the existing facilities and opportunities. Benchmarks could include quantity per person or as a percentage of land area; proximity; quality; diversity; hierarchy and size. There is also a move to include a specific benchmark for the proximity to open space in high-density areas.

With increasing densities and declining land supply, the typical approach of setting aside a quantum of land as part of every development is no longer effective. Rather than focusing on quantity only, there is a need to consider what recreation opportunities are required and the strategies available to achieve them in innovative and efficient ways.

This RNS adopts four benchmarks to analyse and benchmark open-space provision now and into the future in the Inner West: quantity, hierarchy and size, proximity and quality.



Quantity

- How much open space is there now?
- How much open space is there per person?
- How will this change as the population grows?



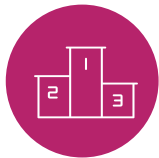
Hierarchy and size

- How do different parks service different open-space needs?
- Are there diverse types of open space available to cater for different activities and functions?



Proximity

- Can residents easily walk to a park?



Quality

- What are residents' experience of open space and recreation facilities?
- Does the quality of open space and recreation facilities vary?
- Are there needs for improvements to increase capacity?

Quantity

Quantity per person or 'quantum' of open space benchmark can provide a high-level indicator of how an LGA or planning catchment is performing in terms of the total amount of open space available per person living there. These benchmarks are commonly used to estimate the current and likely future demand for additional open space generated by a future population, and how the provision rate per person may change over time with population growth.

As a high-level indicator, quantum does not account for accessibility barriers that may be present – such as rail lines or highways/major roads – and must be read in conjunction with the other benchmarking approaches (hierarchy and size, proximity and quality). Despite this drawback, quantum is the primary tool used to establish minimum benchmarks for open space as future development occurs.

For Development Contributions plans, precedents from the Land and Environment Court have established that it is reasonable for Councils to at least seek to maintain the same quantum of open space post-development as there was prior to development.

Quantity is calculated per person (resident and equivalent worker demand) and the amount of Government-owned and managed, open space (RE1).

The Inner West LGA has a current provision rate of 16.4m² of open space per person.

Table 11 provides the 2016 population data (resident and non-resident workers) and quantum of open space used to calculate the benchmark standard.

Inclusion of State Government-Owned open space into the benchmarking process

There are 4 State Government-owned parks and sporting grounds in the Inner West LGA:

- Ballast Point Park, Birchgrove
- Callan Park, Lilyfield
- Enmore TAFE Park, Enmore
- Fraser Park, Marrickville

The State Government has also made a commitment to deliver an additional 10 hectares of open space at the Metro West Rozelle Interchange, expected for delivery around 2026.

The 2018 RNS did not include State Government- owned land, resulting in the 13.3m² benchmark. This 2021 revision now includes State Government-owned land, as well as the additional 10 hectares of open space into the benchmarking process to 2036. This has resulted in the open space per person increasing to a current provision of 16.4m².

Hierarchy and size

Hierarchy approaches recognise that different parcels of open space should provide different levels of service, and is a useful approach to ensure different needs (eg for local community space vs major regional space) are met efficiently. Generally, public open space is classified into some form of a local, district and regional hierarchy, based on size and uses.

See Table 10 for examples of Inner West parks of all hierarchies.

Proximity

Proximity benchmarks can assess the geographic distribution of open space: the distance from home, work, or school required to travel to access open space. There may be different proximity benchmarks for different types of open space. For example, local open space should be within walking distance of most people, but regional open space could be further away. When applying proximity benchmarks, connectivity and access should be considered – how well connected is the open space to the surrounding area, and how walkable are the main access routes?

In NSW, there is a move towards proximity benchmarks for the provision of open space near high-density areas. Best practice research also recommends a benchmark for the provision of open space in vulnerable areas, for instance, areas with ageing populations and low income areas.

The Draft Greener Places Guide provides performance indicators for accessibility to open space in high-density areas (high density is considered to be areas that have 60 dwellings or more per hectare). See Table 12 for performance indicators adopted by this RNS.

Accessibility

Council has not completed an accessibility audit of its parks, sporting grounds or recreation facilities which can create a barrier for inclusion for mobility impaired persons. It is recommended that Council considers a future accessibility and inclusion audit of all recreational facilities and park plans of management. It needs to consider accessibility, disadvantaged populations, gender and multicultural diversity to promote Council’s strategic objective of facilitating a welcoming and inclusive community.

Quality

The quality of open space is key to its usability and attractiveness. Quality indicators can include amenity (maintenance, noise, facilities and equipment, aesthetics); access (visual and physical access, disability access); safety; size, shape and topography; vegetation and setting. A large, poor-quality open space may not meet a community’s needs as well as a smaller, high-quality provision.

Council is preparing Park Plans of Management for all parks across the LGA, which will include assessing their quality and identifying opportunities for embellishment. This study has not assessed the quality of parks in the LGA, however the community identified a number of parks with opportunities for improvement through the engagement process carried out in 2017.

Once Council has completed a comprehensive review of all plans of management in the LGA, a consolidated schedule of works should be prepared for the consideration of future local infrastructure contribution plans.

Table 10 - Adopted open space hierarchy/size and proximity benchmarks

Hierarchy	Proximity
Regional (5+ha)	All residents should be within 5-10km of a regional park
District (2-5ha)	All residents should be within 2km of a district park
Level 1 Local (0.5-2ha)	All residents should be within 400m of an area of high-quality open space of at least 0.5ha, with walkable connections and no major barriers
Level 2 Local (0.1-0.5ha) (High density and vulnerability)	In addition to the above, all residents living in high density or seniors’ housing should also be within 200m of an area of high-quality open space of at least 0.1ha, with walkable connections and no major barriers
Pocket park (less than 0.1ha)	n/a

Table 11 - Adopted open space quantity benchmark - current provision rate



	2016 res pop (LHS revision)	2016 non-residential worker pop equivalent (LHS revision)	2016 total pop (residential +worker)	2016 open space area m ²	m ² per person
LGA	192,022	4,148	196,170	3,215,794	16.4m ²

*Note: Open space includes Council and State-owned open spaces.

Table 12 - Draft Greener Places Accessibility to local open space performance indicators

Density	Proximity
High-density areas > 60 dwellings/ha	2-3 minutes walk / 200 m walking distance to a local park (barrier free)
Medium- to low-density areas < 60 dwellings/ha	5 minutes walk / 400 m walking distance to a local park (barrier free)

Table 13 - Examples of parks according to hierarchy and size benchmark

Pocket park (less than 0.1ha)	Darley St Playground, Newtown 235m ²	 (Source: Kid Size Living)	Ashford St Reserve, Ashfield, 802m ²	
	Federation Plaza Reserve, Haberfield, 3,203m ²		Wangal Nura Park, Leichhardt 1,961m ²	
Level 2 Local park (0.1 to 0.5ha)	McNeilly Park, Marrickville, 11,400m ²		Punch Park, Balmain, 8,677m ²	
	Easton Park, Rozelle, 20,400m ²		Marrickville Park, Marrickville, 44,900m ²	
Level 1 Local park (0.5-2ha)	Henson Park, Marrickville, 58,500m ²		Ashfield Park, Ashfield, 61,700m ²	
District (2ha-5ha)				
Regional (5ha+)				

RECREATION FACILITIES BENCHMARKING APPROACH

The SSROC Liveability Benchmark study recommends that local governments should plan for the supply of future recreation facilities based on maintaining the current provision of recreation facilities per person. However, in the Inner West the current provision of some types of recreation facilities is not meeting demand, and industry benchmarks are more appropriate.

Table 14 shows the proposed benchmarks for recreation facilities, based on industry benchmarks from Parks and Leisure Australia, and on the current provision of recreation facilities per person in the Inner West LGA.

Table 14 - Adopted recreation facility benchmarks

Type	Benchmark: Current provision per person / Parks and Leisure Australia
Summer sporting field (located in sporting grounds)	1:6,500 people
Winter sporting field (located in sporting grounds)	1:4,500 people
Indoor (multipurpose) courts (# of courts)	1:20,000
Outdoor (multipurpose) courts	1:2,500
Indoor leisure centre (dry)	1:75,000 (middle range of Parks and Leisure Australia benchmark: 1:50,000 to 100,000)
Indoor leisure centre (aquatic)	1:38,500
Skate park/facility	1:48,000
Play space (including district and regional provision)	1:2,000

MONITORING TOOLS

There are a number of possible monitoring tools that could be used to measure and record how well the recreation needs of the Inner West community are being met in future years. These include objective measures as well as qualitative approaches. Recreation indicators should be simple to gather, record changes over time, and provide a basis for assessment and future planning for the provision of recreation spaces and programs.

Table 15 - Potential monitoring tools

Indicator	Source
Resident satisfaction with recreation opportunities	Community Satisfaction Survey - satisfaction with opportunities to participate in recreation
Resident access to recreation opportunities (affordability, disability inclusion)	Community Satisfaction Survey - access to recreation opportunities
Maintained or improved quality of life ratings	Community Wellbeing Survey / Community Capacity Survey - quality of life rating
Maintaining current provision per person (aiming to maintain a provision of 16.4m ² per person)	Council mapping data - m ² of open space per person.
Increased proportion of dwellings within benchmark proximity of open space	Council mapping data - all dwellings within 400m of open space of minimum 0.5ha. All high-density dwellings or seniors' housing also within 200m of open space of minimum 0.1ha
Increasing capacity of sporting fields to address increased demand and reduce overuse	Council booking system - capacity of sporting fields vs utilisation
Securing new open space through development	% of new developments delivering high-quality new open spaces (privately owned, publicly manager, or dedicated to Council) that are publicly accessible
Number of people using recreation facilities	Entrance and booking data at aquatic centres and parks

8.0 OPEN SPACE - LGA-WIDE PROVISION AND BENCHMARKING

This chapter provides an audit of open space currently available in the Inner West, and applies adopted benchmarks for open space and recreation facilities to estimate future demand and needs based on a range of indicators and benchmarks.

OVERVIEW

Open space is all publicly owned land with unrestricted public access that is managed for leisure, recreation and amenity purposes. It includes all parks, reserves, playgrounds and outdoor playing fields.¹ It also includes civic spaces in commercial centres, such as squares and plazas that are key community focal points for formal and informal gatherings. Open space does not include aquatic centres and indoor recreation spaces. These are considered recreation facilities, as described in later in this chapter.

Open space provides the setting for activities across the spectrum of recreation, from quiet reading to social gatherings to active sport. Local parks meet the needs of a local community, such as for playspace, space to walk the dog, or relief from the urban environment. Larger parks may meet a district or regional need, providing a range of uses for different groups, including space for community gatherings, sporting grounds, iconic spaces and major facilities.

¹ NSW Department of Planning, 'Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government' (2010).

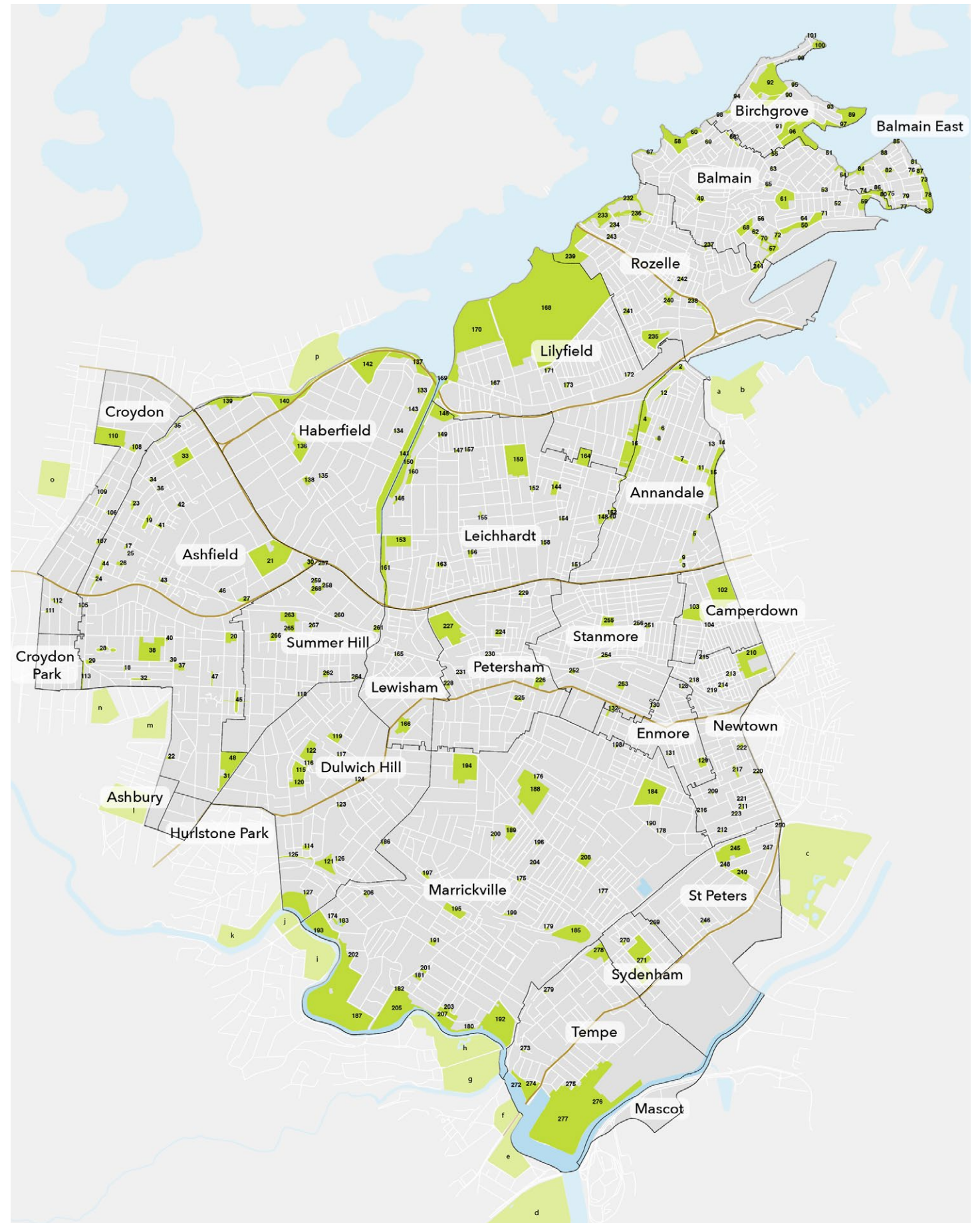


Figure 26 - Current Government-owned open space provision in the Inner West

CURRENT PROVISION

Overall, there is estimated to be 321.6 hectares of open space located within the Inner West LGA, currently supporting 192,022 residents and 59,277 workers.

Open space owned by Government

IWC is a major provider of open space and recreation assets across the Inner West LGA. This includes:

Open space

- 12 regional parks (5+hectares)
- 23 district parks (2-5 hectares)
- 45 local Level 1 parks (0.5-2 hectares)
- 86 local Level 2 parks (0.1-0.5 hectares)
- 117 pocket parks (less than 0.1 hectares)

Existing open space

The existing open space network contains a range of different-sized open spaces. Open spaces for the purposes of this Study are categorised as either pocket, local Level 2, local Level 1, district and regional open space, based on their size.

The total number and area of different types of open spaces in each catchment are summarised in Table 16. A map of the existing open space network is shown in Figure 26.

There is a total of 283 parks equaling 321.6 hectares across the 4 catchment areas that are covered by this plan, making up a total of 9.1% of the total land area of the LGA.

Figure 26 shows the overall locations of these open spaces, and appendix 3 provides a detailed audit.

Neighbouring open spaces

Residents of the Inner West may also use neighbouring council’s parks and open spaces, particularly near LGA boundaries. Figure 26 illustrates open space immediately adjoining the Inner West LGA boundary.

Ownership

Of the 321.6 hectares of Government-owned land, Council owns 256.08 hectares, and State Government owns 66 hectares (see Figure 27).

The 4 State Government-owned open spaces include:

- Ballast Point Park
- Callan Park
- Enmore TAFE Park
- Fraser Park

Future planned open space

There are two known open spaces that are planned for delivery by 2026. These include:

- Department of Defence subdivision - a subdivision in Haberfield has been enacted upon (from a consent issued in 2001). As part of the consent, the applicant will deliver an embellished park of 900m² and dedicate to Council
- Rozelle Interchange - The State Government has also made a commitment to deliver an additional 10 hectares of open space at the Metro West Rozelle Interchange, expected for delivery around 2026.

These additional open spaces will bring the total open space provision in the Inner West LGA up to 331.67 hectares.

Table 16 - Existing open space 2016 (Source: Inner West Council)

	Catchment 1		Catchment 2		Catchment 3		Catchment 4		ALL	
Type	Count	Area (ha)	Count	Area (ha)	Count	Area (ha)	Count	Area (ha)	Count	Area (ha)
Regional	4	86.15	2	12.78	0	0	6	66.89	12	165.82
District	5	11.5	6	18.39	6	24.38	6	22.05	23	76.35
Local level 1	13	14.14	6	8.16	13	16.69	13	14.82	45	53.80
Local level 2	27	6.34	25	5.96	24	5.34	10	2.29	86	19.99
Pocket	25	1.24	27	1.44	34	1.52	31	1.45	117	5.65
Total	74	119.44	66	46.72	77	47.92	66	107.5	283	321.6

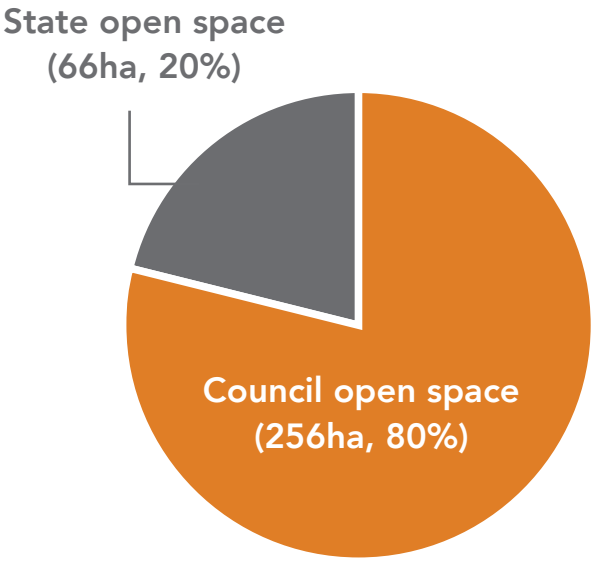
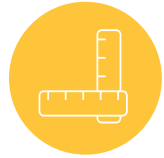


Figure 27 - Current open space ownership in the Inner West



Quantity of open space and provision per person

Currently the Inner West has an average of 16.4m² of open space per person. This Study assumes the delivery of 10 hectares of new open space at the Rozelle Parklands. However, even with the assumed delivery of this new open space, the provision rate declines to 15.4m² per person by 2026, and 14.3m² per person in 2036.

Currently, Catchment 2 and Catchment 3 have the lowest provision rate of open space per person (see Figure 28, Figure 29 and Figure 30).

Table 17 shows the current and forecast provision per person of Council-owned, publicly accessible open space.

Table 17 - Open space provision rates by Planning Catchment

		Catchment 1 (m ² per person)	Catchment 2 (m ² per person)	Catchment 3 (m ² per person)	Catchment 4 (m ² per person)	LGA (m ² per person)
Open space (m ²)	2016	34.4	10.1	7.6	20.7	16.4
	2026	36.3	9.3	6.9	17.9	15.4
	2036	32.5	8.7	6.4	16.9	14.3

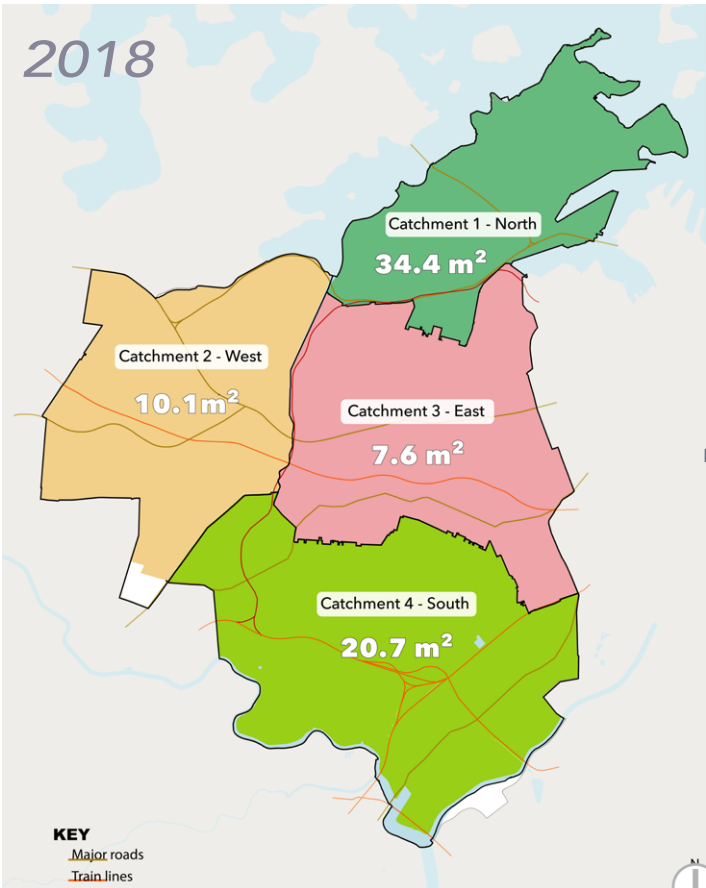


Figure 28 - Current provision per person 2018

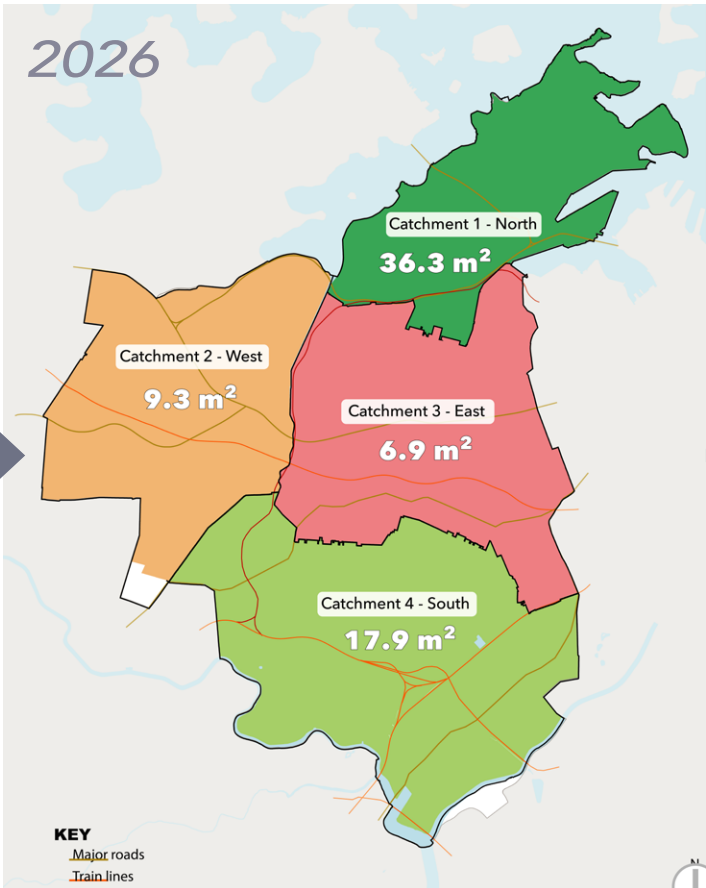


Figure 29 - Forecast provision per person 2026

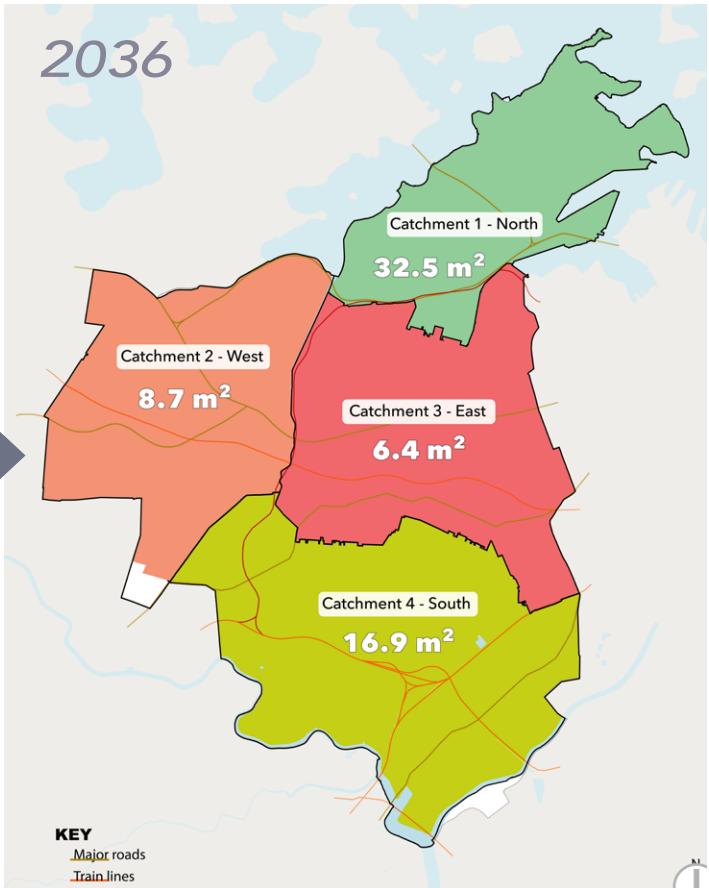


Figure 30 - Forecast provision per person 2036

Population benchmarking

Table 18 shows the application of the open space current provision benchmark ratios adopted by the RNS 2018 (16.4m² per person), and applied to the 2016, 2026 and 2036 population, which is inclusive of worker considerations previously outlined.

In 2016, the equivalent resident population of the LGA was 196,170 and the open space provision was 321.6 hectares. This is equivalent to an average provision of 16.4m² of open space per person across the LGA.

By 2026, the LGA equivalent population will increase to 214,766 (an additional 18,596 residents between 2016-2026) decreasing the provision rate of open space to 15.4m² per person. The additional population would generate a demand for an additional 30.4 hectares of open space.

By 2036, the LGA equivalent population will increase to 231,924 (an additional 35,754 residents between 2026-2036) decreasing the provision rate of open space to 14.3m² per person. The additional population would generate a demand for an additional 28.14 hectares of open space.

The total demand generated by new residents (2016 to 2036 growth) in the LGA is equivalent to 58.64 hectares.

Table 18 - Catchment 2016 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Residential population 2016	Total recreation demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Total equivalent population 2016	Council-owned open space 2016 (m ²)	State Government-owned open Space (m ²)	Total open space (ha)	Benchmark 2016 m ² per person
Catchment 1	34,050	689	34,739	558422	636000	119.4	34.4
Catchment 2	45,412	788	46,200	467266	0	46.7	10.1
Catchment 3	61,937	1,306	63,243	474535	4454	47.9	7.6
Catchment 4	50,623	1,366	51,989	1060377	14740	107.5	20.7
LGA	192,022	4,148	196,170	2560599.63	655194	321.6	16.4

Table 19 - Catchment 2026 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Residential population 2016	Total recreation demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Total equivalent population 2026	Council-owned open space 2026 (m ²)	State Government-owned open space (m ²)	Total open space (ha)	Benchmark 2026 m ² per person
Catchment 1	34,864	786	35,650	558422	736000	129.4	36.3
Catchment 2	49,254	852	50,106	468165.63	0	46.8	9.3
Catchment 3	67,568	1,457	69,025	474535	4454	47.9	6.9
Catchment 4	58,462	1,522	59,984	1060377	14740	107.5	17.9
LGA	210,148	4,618	214,766	2561499.63	755194	331.7	15.4

Table 20 - Catchment 2036 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Residential Ppopulation 2016	Total recreation demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Total equivalent population 2036	Council-owned open space 2036 (m ²)	State Government-Owned open space (m ²)	Total open space (ha)	Benchmark 2036 m ² per person
Catchment 1	38,959	883	39,842	558422	736000	129.4	32.5
Catchment 2	52,941	917	53,858	468165.63	0	46.8	8.7
Catchment 3	73,140	1,608	74,748	474535	4454	47.9	6.4
Catchment 4	61,797	1,679	63,476	1060377	14740	107.5	16.9
LGA	226,837	5,087	231,924	2561499.63	740454	331.7	14.3



Hierarchy and size of open space

Figure 31 shows existing parks categorised by hierarchy type (see Table 21 below for the hierarchy of parks and their size thresholds).

Larger regional parks are more likely to be located in a waterfront position (harbour foreshore or creek frontage).

Four suburbs have relatively high proportions of pocket parks. This size of park can struggle to deliver recreation benefits of space for social gathering, active recreation, relief from the urban environment and connection to nature, and space for community gatherings:

- Enmore
- Newtown
- Stanmore
- Summer Hill
- Ashfield

Table 21 - Current hierarchy including State-owned land

Type	Number of parks	Ha	% of all parks (as a % of total area)
Regional (5ha+)	12	165.8ha (including Callan Park (61ha)	52%
District (2ha to 5ha)	23	76.4ha	24%
Level 1 Local (0.5ha to 2ha)	45	53.8ha	17%
Level 2 Local (0.1ha to 0.5ha)	86	20ha	6%
Pocket park (<0.1ha)	117	5.65ha	2%

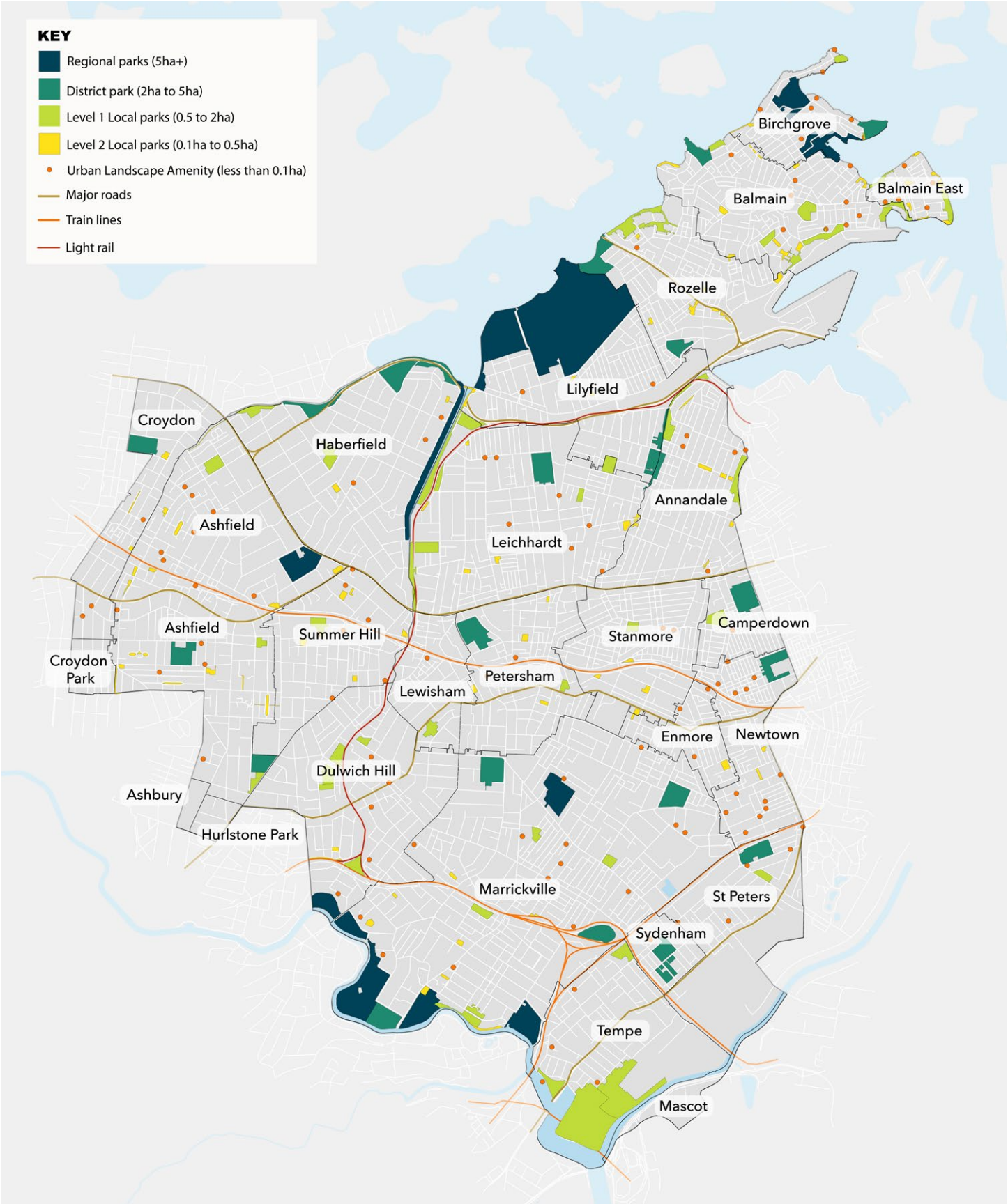


Figure 31 - Current provision by hierarchy type



Open space proximity mapping

Figure 32 is an indicative map showing the catchment areas of existing open space throughout the Inner West to identify areas that have below benchmark access to open space. This is based on the proximity benchmark (all residents within 400m of at least Level 1 local open space). The catchment areas exclude areas that are across access barriers, such as major roads and above-ground train lines.

Key areas with below benchmark access to open space include:

- Glebe Island, White Bay Power Station and parts of Rozelle north of Victoria Road
- Parts of Leichhardt, Haberfield and Annandale - particularly along the Parramatta Road Corridor
- Parts of Croydon, Croydon Park, and Ashfield. There is a concentration of smaller Level 2 local parks and pocket parks in this area
- Parts of Lewisham to the south of the rail line
- Parts of Enmore, Newtown and Stanmore between Enmore Road and the train line. There is a concentration of smaller Level 2 local parks and pocket parks in this area
- Industrial areas in St Peters
- Parts of central Tempe
- Parts of Marrickville and Dulwich Hill, in a band along the northern side of the train line

Areas of Lewisham south of the train line, and Marrickville north of the train line, are particularly impacted by pedestrian barriers. These locations are within 400m of at least Level 1 local open space, but the train line forms a significant pedestrian barrier, reducing access.

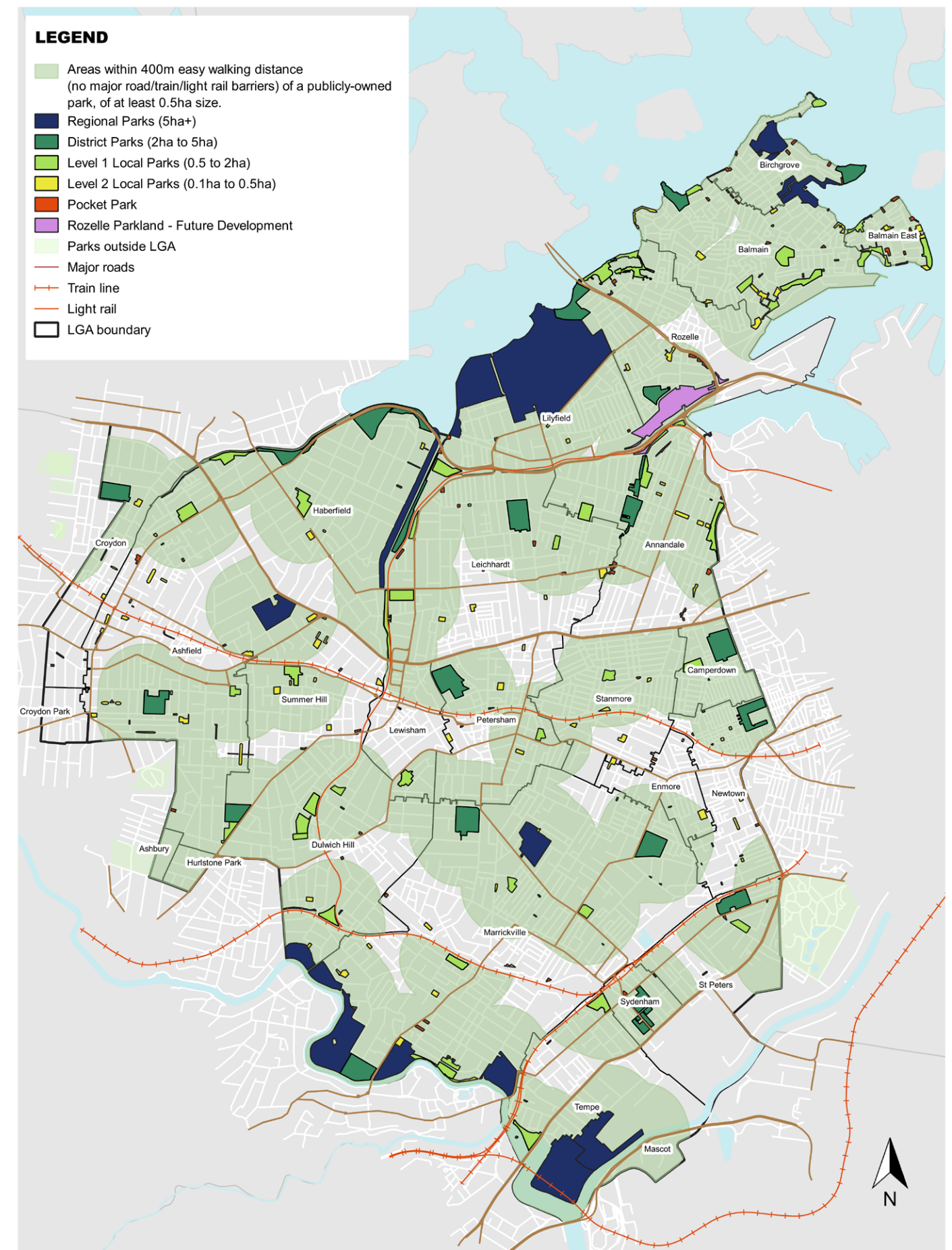


Figure 32 - Areas with below proximity benchmark access to open space (Source: Inner West Council, 2021)

Access to open space in high-density zoned areas

Figure 33 shows a 200m catchment area around parks that are at minimum 0.1 hectare, and areas that are currently zoned for high-density residential areas (R4 High Density Residential).

The map indicates that there are areas currently zoned for high-density residential dwellings, that are not within 200m of at least 0.1 hectare of open space (shown in pink).

In particular, areas of Lewisham, Petersham, and Dulwich Hill do not meet the benchmark requirement for access to open space in high density and should be considered a priority for future planning.

While the former Ashfield and Leichhardt Council areas do not currently have any areas zoned R4 High Density Residential, there are areas and developments that could be considered high density (eg more than 60 dwellings per hectare). The high-density benchmark should be applied to all new high-density residential developments.

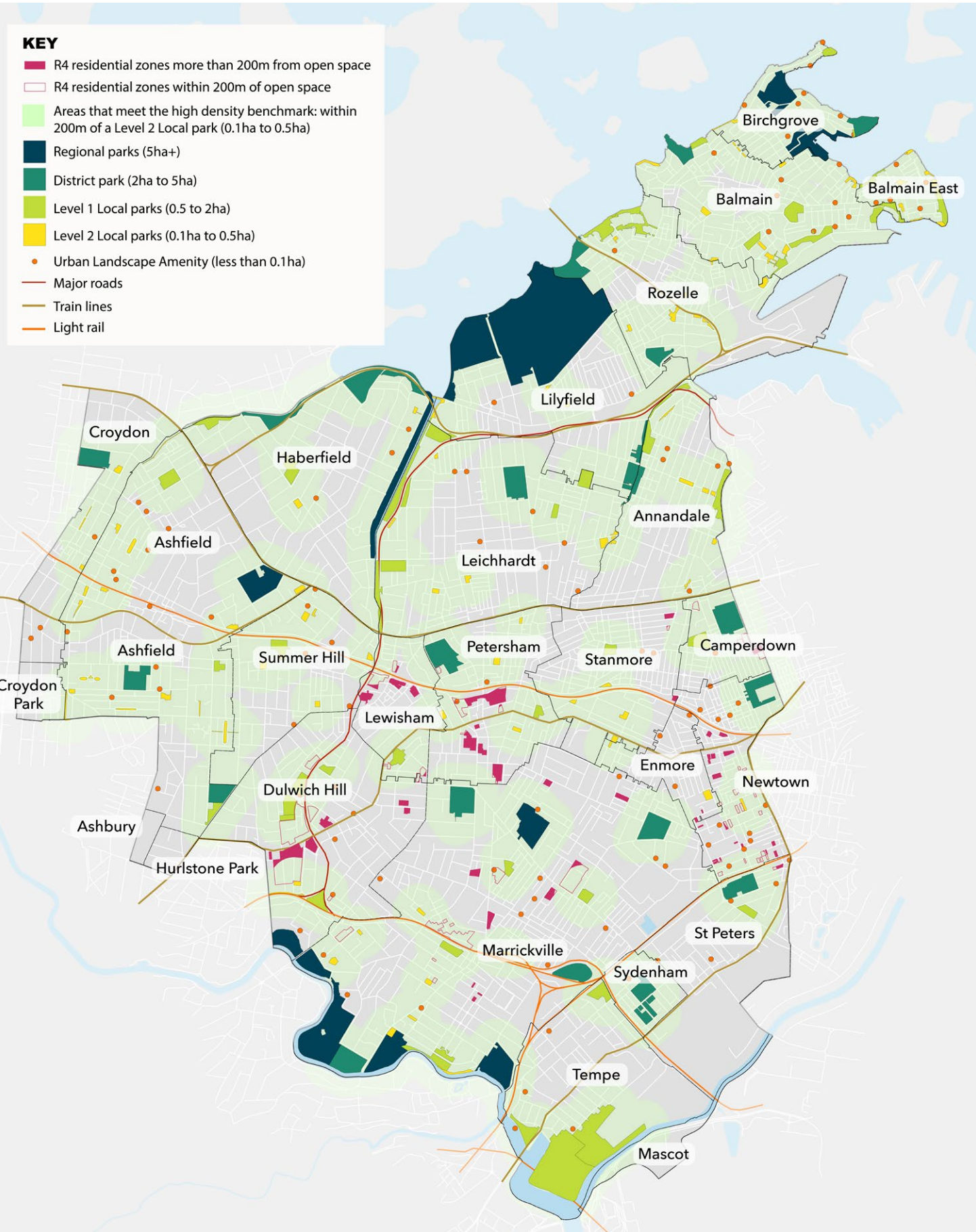
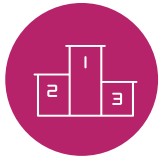


Figure 33 - Current provision in high-density zoned areas



Quality of open space

The community engagement completed for this Study indicates that the most visited parks in the Inner West are:

- Steel Park
- Hawthorne Canal/Richard Murden Reserve
- Mackey Park
- Camperdown Memorial Rest Park
- Callan Park
- Ashfield Park
- Enmore Park
- Petersham Park
- Darrell Jackson Gardens, and
- Camperdown Park.

See appendix 2 for community feedback on the quality of parks in the Inner West.

9.0 RECREATION FACILITIES - LGA-WIDE PROVISION AND BENCHMARKING

This chapter provides an audit of recreation facilities currently available in the Inner West, and applies adopted population based benchmarks to broadly estimate future demand for various types of recreation facility.

OVERVIEW

Open space and recreation facilities located in the Inner West LGA are owned and provided by IWC, the NSW State Government, the community sector and private providers.

Council plays an active role in encouraging participation in recreation by providing settings for recreation and facilitating recreation programs and activities. Council's recreation spaces include parks, sporting grounds, recreation facilities, natural areas and community venues. Increasingly in urban environments, streets and laneways are becoming places for recreation participation. There are also numerous privately or State-owned/operated facilities available to users.

Other providers of recreation spaces in the Inner West include private facilities such as gyms, yoga studios, dance studios, gymnastics facilities and rock-climbing businesses; schools (who are also regular users of Council's facilities); and providers who lease Council's assets, such as bowling clubs.

However, because these spaces are not owned or managed by Council, there is no guarantee they will continue to exist in the future. Therefore, Council will need to continue to play a role in providing and managing accessible, welcoming, affordable spaces for the local community, creatives, workers and visitors.

Residents of the Inner West may also use neighbouring Council's recreational facilities, in the same way people from around Sydney visit the Inner West for its recreation facilities.

CURRENT PROVISION

IWC is a major provider of recreation facilities across the Inner West LGA. This includes:

- 32 summer sporting fields
- 45 winter sporting fields
- 5 indoor (multipurpose) courts
- 77 outdoor (multipurpose) courts
- 2 indoor leisure centre (dry)
- 5 indoor leisure centre (aquatic), and
- 5 skate park/spaces
- 126 play spaces

The delivery of a new skate park plaza (2,250m²) in Lilyfield is identified for delivery in Council's Delivery Program 18-22 and Operational Plan 2021-2022 over the next 1-5 years in Council. The delivery of the remainder of these items is discussed further in this section.



Sydenham Green Skate Park (Source: Cred Consulting)

Sports grounds

Council has 28 sporting grounds that provide for different sports, with facilities including sporting fields catering for different codes, courts, amenities and spectator infrastructure, and supporting facilities such as cricket nets (see Table 22).

Sporting grounds are vital social infrastructure for all of the community. They support formal and informal sport and recreation, and enable the community to lead healthy active lifestyles. Through sports clubs and organisations, a strong sense of community belonging and social cohesion can be built.

The full audit of Council’s sporting fields (many contained within sports grounds) is provided in Table 22.

Table 22 - Sports grounds (Source: Inner West Council, 2021)

Sports grounds	AFL	Baseball/ softball	Cricket Wicket	Cricket Nets	Soccer/football	Rugby League / Union	Athletics Track	Basketball	Netball	Tennis	Multi-Purpose	Skating	Other
Algie Park					1								
Arlington Oval					1 synthetic								
Ashfield Park			1 synthetic (junior)		1								lawn bowls
Balmain Road					1								
Bill Peters Reserve								1					
Birchgrove Park	1*		1 turf	4	2*	2*				7 synthetic			
Blackmore Oval			1 synthetic (junior)	3		1							
Camdenville Oval					1								
Camperdown Oval			1 turf			1		2		3 synthetic	3 tennis/futsal		2 table tennis roller derby
Centenary Park			2 synthetic	2	2 1 mini			1					
Cohen Park			1 synthetic (junior)	1	2 mini						2 tennis/ futsal/netball		
Darrell Jackson Gardens			1 mini					½	½	2		1	
Easton Park			1 synthetic (junior)	2	1			½					
Fraser Park (State owned)					1 synthetic 3 junior								2 bowling lawns

Sports grounds	AFL	Baseball/ softball	Cricket Wicket	Cricket Nets	Soccer/football	Rugby League / Union	Athletics Track	Basketball	Netball	Tennis	Multi-Purpose	Skating	Other
Gladstone Park											1 basketball/ futsal/netball		Lawn bowls
Glover Street	1 (junior)*	1 senior 1 Junior			2*								
Hammond Park			1 synthetic (junior)		1					1			
Henson Park	1*					1*				7 synthetic			
HJ Mahoney Memorial Reserve	1	2 (grass)									1 basketball/ netball/ handball	1	
Jack Shanahan Reserve											1 tennis/ ½ basketball	1	
Jarvie Park								1					
Johnson Park				2				1					
King George Park					1*	1*	1						
Lambert Park					1 synthetic								
Leichhardt Oval					1*	1*							
Leichhardt # 2						1							
Leichhardt # 3					2 mini								
Mackey Park			1 synthetic		3								croquet
Marrickville Park			1 turf	3		1				6 lawn 2 synthetic	3 tennis/ 1 basketball/ 1 netball		croquet
Mort Bay Park								1					
Petersham Park		1	1 turf										

Sports grounds	AFL	Baseball/ softball	Cricket Wicket	Cricket Nets	Soccer/football	Rugby League / Union	Athletics Track	Basketball	Netball	Tennis	Multi-Purpose	Skating	Other
Pratten Park			1 turf	2 synthetic 4 turf	1				1/2	4 lawn 2 synthetic			lawn bowls
Punch Park										1	1 tennis/ ½ basketball, /½ netball		
Richard Murden Reserve									6	4	3 basketball/ netball		
Simpson Park				1				1/2					
SSC Leichhardt Campus					1								
Steel Park			1 synthetic		3								
Sydenham Green								2			Roller derby	1	
Tempe Reserve			2 synthetic	4	4 turf	1 turf			11		1 synthetic football/ rugby league		
Waterfront Drive			1 synthetic	3	2								
Whites Creek Valley Park								1				1	
Wicks Park										4 synthetic			
Yeo Park			1 mini										
Total	4	5	19	27	39	10	1	10	17	43	16	5	10

*Only one of these sports can be played at a time at the sporting ground

Capacity and Utilisation of Existing Sporting fields

In urban environments where there is limited space for new facilities, increasing the capacity of existing fields is a priority. The current capacity and utilisation of Council's existing sporting grounds is detailed in Table 23. The table provides an outline of the existing utilisation of sporting grounds in the Inner West, as well as their optimum capacity (the maximum amount of use per week that would still enable a useable surface condition).

Table 23 - Weekly sporting grounds and courts utilisation and capacity (winter 2021) (source: Inner West Council)

Field	Hours of use*	Capacity (hours)**	% of capacity currently used	Year of last upgrade
Algie Park	36	30	120	2016
Arlington Oval	41	41(as per current operational plan)	100	2020
Ashfield Park	36	30	120	2018
Balmain Road	36	30	120	Built in 2013
Birchgrove Oval	36	30	120	2014
Blackmore Oval	36	30	120	2015
Camdenville Oval	26	30	120	2023 scheduled
Camperdown Oval	36	30	120	2016
Centenary Park	36	30	120	2018
Cohen Park	32	30	120	2017
Easton Park	36	30	120	2000
Glover Street	36	30	120	Built in 2013
Hammond Park	28	30	93	2016 and 2018
Henson Park	30	30	100	2020
HJ Mahoney Memorial Re-serve	36	30	120	2007
King George Park	36	30	120	20+ years ago 2022 scheduled
Lambert Park	50	50	100	2013
Leichhardt #2	36	30	120	120
Leichhardt #3	32	30	93	2012
Mackey Park	36	30	120	2009
Marrickville Park	32	30	93	2009
Petersham Park	32	30	93	20+ years ago

Field	Hours of use*	Capacity (hours)**	% of capacity currently used	Year of last upgrade
Pratten Park	40	30	133	2016
SSC Leichhardt Campus	36	30	120	Built in 2011
Steel Park	36	30	120	2007
Tempe Reserve	36	30	120	2021
Waterfront Drive	36	30	120	2018

Notes:

*Hours of use based on weekly winter bookings of seasonal hirers.

** Does not include school bookings, fitness trainers and events bookings

Winter and summer sporting fields/
outdoor and indoor (multipurpose)
courts

Current provision

Currently, there are 30 summer sporting fields, and 43 winter sporting fields and 77 outdoor courts located within the Inner West.

Benchmarking

Table 24 is the application of the recreational facilities benchmark ratios adopted by the RNS 2018 (column 3) and applied to the 2016, 2026 and 2036 population. It is inclusive of worker considerations previously outlined.

The application of the adopted benchmark to the current and future additional population will create the demand for 6 new summer sporting fields, 9 new winter sporting fields, and 16 new outdoor courts by 2036.

While the adopted benchmarks for sportsfields are separated into winter and summer, it is recommended that all new sporting fields serve a dual purpose for both summer and winter sports, and existing fields are upgraded to multi-seasonal use where appropriate.

The provision of new summer sporting fields in Catchments 2 and 3 along the central corridor of the LGA is where demand is greatest and should be prioritised. High land costs and small lot site subdivision patterns are largely prohibitive to the acquisition of new land for sporting fields in this area.

However, opportunities exist for Council to explore partnerships or agreements with educational establishments to facilitate community use of sporting fields and multipurpose courts outside of hours of use in exchange for the maintenance and embellishment of grounds.

In addition, the Rozelle Interchange site is likely to facilitate an additional 1-2 new sporting ovals including a large format synthetic multipurpose field in the future (not included in the benchmarking process).

Table 24 - Recreational facilities benchmarks and gap analysis

Type	Catchment area	Benchmark ¹	Current Provision	Current GAP	2026 GAP	2036 GAP
Summer sporting field (located in sporting grounds)	1 - North	1:6,500 people	12	0	0	0
	2 - Central West		6	1.1	1.6	2.2
	3 - Central East		4	5.7	6.4	7.4
	4 - South		8	0	0.9	1.7
	LGA (average)		30	0.1	2.3	5.6
Winter sporting field (located in sporting grounds) (43)	1 - North	1:4,500 people	14	0	0	0
	2 - Central West		6	4.2	5.1	6.0
	3 - Central East		6	8.0	9.3	10.6
	4 - South		17	0	0	0
	LGA (average)		43	0.5	4.7	8.5
Outdoor (multipurpose) courts)	1 - North	1:2,500	10	3.9	4.2	5.9
	2 - Central West		20	0	0	1.5
	3 - Central East		11	14.3	16.6	18.9
	4 - South		36	0	0	0
	LGA (average)		77	1.5	8.9	15.8

¹ Benchmarks based on either current provision per person / Parks and Leisure Australia

Indoor leisure centres (dry) and indoor multipurpose courts

Current provision

Currently, there are 2 Council-owned indoor leisure centres located within the Inner West: the Debbie Abbey Borgia recreation centre and Robyn Webster Sports Centre. These are shown in Figure 34.

Together, they provide a total of 5 indoor multipurpose courts, and are both located in Catchment 4 - South.

The Robyn Webster Sports Centre is operated through an external provider (Sydney University Sport and Fitness and City of Sydney Netball Association). Community engagement indicates that the condition is passable, however court surface improvements could be worthwhile to increase utilisation and support a range of sports such as roller derby.

The Debbie and Abbey Borgia Recreation and Community Centre is operated by NSW PCYC through a service agreement with Council. In 2017, there were around 168,000 visits to the centre. Community engagement indicates that while it was built to a high standard in 2003, the facility, including the court surfaces, has aged. A particular issue is the lack of good ventilation or air conditioning.

On 27 October 2020, the Tempe Reserve Plan of Management was adopted by Council. It acknowledged the ageing nature of the Robyn Webster Sports Centre and recommended that it be replaced with a new indoor sports facility with spaces for arts and music, and community café.

Council may wish to consider the renewal of recreational centres as part of a future feasibility study into the location of a new aquatic centre as discussed on page 58.

Schools, universities and private sporting clubs in the Inner West are likely to have indoor recreation facilities, although none are currently available for hire and use by the general public.

Benchmarking

The application of benchmarks for indoor leisure centres (dry) in Table 25 shows that:

- Overall, there is an existing gap of 0.6 indoor leisure centres in the LGA
- By 2036, this gap will have increased to an average of 1.1 across the LGA
- A demand of 0.5 centres is generated by the additional population between 2016-2036

The application of benchmarks for indoor multipurpose courts in Table 26 shows that:

- There is an existing gap of 4.8 indoor multipurpose courts in the LGA
- By 2036, this gap will have increased to an average of 6.6 across the LGA
- A demand of 1.8 courts is generated by the additional population between 2016-2036

Table 25 - Indoor leisure centre (dry) benchmarking

Type	Catchment area	Benchmark: Current provision per person / Parks and Leisure Australia	Current Provision	Current GAP	2026 GAP	2036 GAP
Indoor leisure centre (dry)	1 - North	1:75,000	0	0.46	0.47	0.53
	2 - Central West		0	0.61	0.61	0.71
	3 - Central East		0	0.84	0.91	1.00
	4 - South		2	0	0	0
	LGA (average)		2	0.61	0.86	1.09

Table 26 - Indoor multi-purpose courts benchmarking

Type	Catchment area	Benchmark: Current provision per person / Parks and Leisure Australia	Current Provision	Current GAP	2026 GAP	2036 GAP
Indoor (multipurpose) courts (No. of courts)	1 - North	1:20,000	0	1.7	1.8	2.0
	2 - Central West		0	2.3	2.5	2.7
	3 - Central East		0	3.2	3.5	3.7
	4 - South		5	0	0	0
	LGA (average)		5	4.8	5.7	6.6



Debbie Abbey Borgia recreation centre (Source: IWC)

Aquatic facilities

Current provision

Swimming is one of the most popular recreation activities among adults and children. At least 37% of people consulted for this Study (2017) visit an aquatic facility weekly. Aquatics facilities form part of a diverse range of recreation opportunities that respond to the modern demands of Australian communities. These facilities provide services that promote physical fitness, water safety skills and confidence. They are a place for competition and play; a place to seek relief from the summer heat.

Figure 34, shows the 5 aquatic facilities and 2 indoor leisure centres (dry) currently located within the Inner West.

Attendance at Council’s aquatic facilities is detailed in Table 28.

As part of these facilities, Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre, Ashfield Aquatic Centre, and Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre have warm-water program pools. The redevelopment of the Ashfield Aquatic Centre will also support warm-water aquatics therapy, with the current heated indoor pool integrating a new spa, steam and sauna. This will increase access to aquatics therapy including aqua classes, hydro classes, walking lanes and passive access.

Council provides 2 pools for water polo competitions (Ashfield Aquatic Centre and Dawn Fraser Baths), and an additional training pool at Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre. Private water polo facilities are also available at Newington College. Regionally, public pools for water polo competitions are also available at Sydney University, Lidcombe, and Drummoyne.

Benchmarking

The application of benchmarks (see Table 27) suggest that:

- By 2026 there will be demand for an additional 0.5 aquatic leisure centre
- By 2036 there will be demand for an additional 1 aquatic leisure centre

Catchments 3 and 4 are showing the strongest demand for an additional aquatic centre. Council has indicated an interest in investigating a location that could benefit neighbouring LGAs to the south of Cooks River.

A future feasibility study could explore the potential for cross boundary contribution arrangements to be developed with neighbouring council areas. A focus on an integrated provision model of aquatic centres and recreational indoor facilities could also be further explored.

Non-Council aquatic facilities

There are number of non-Council-owned aquatic options within the LGA with varying degrees of public access for the community, including:

- 6 private Learn to Swim operators (including JUMP! Swim Schools in Leichhardt and Rozelle, Col Jones Swim Centre in Tempe, NewSPORT Swim School in Stanmore, Future Swim in St Peters and Little Monsters in Ashfield)
- School facilities
- Commercial fitness clubs
- Commercial rehabilitation and wellness businesses
- Private/communal swimming pools – backyard or within residential developments

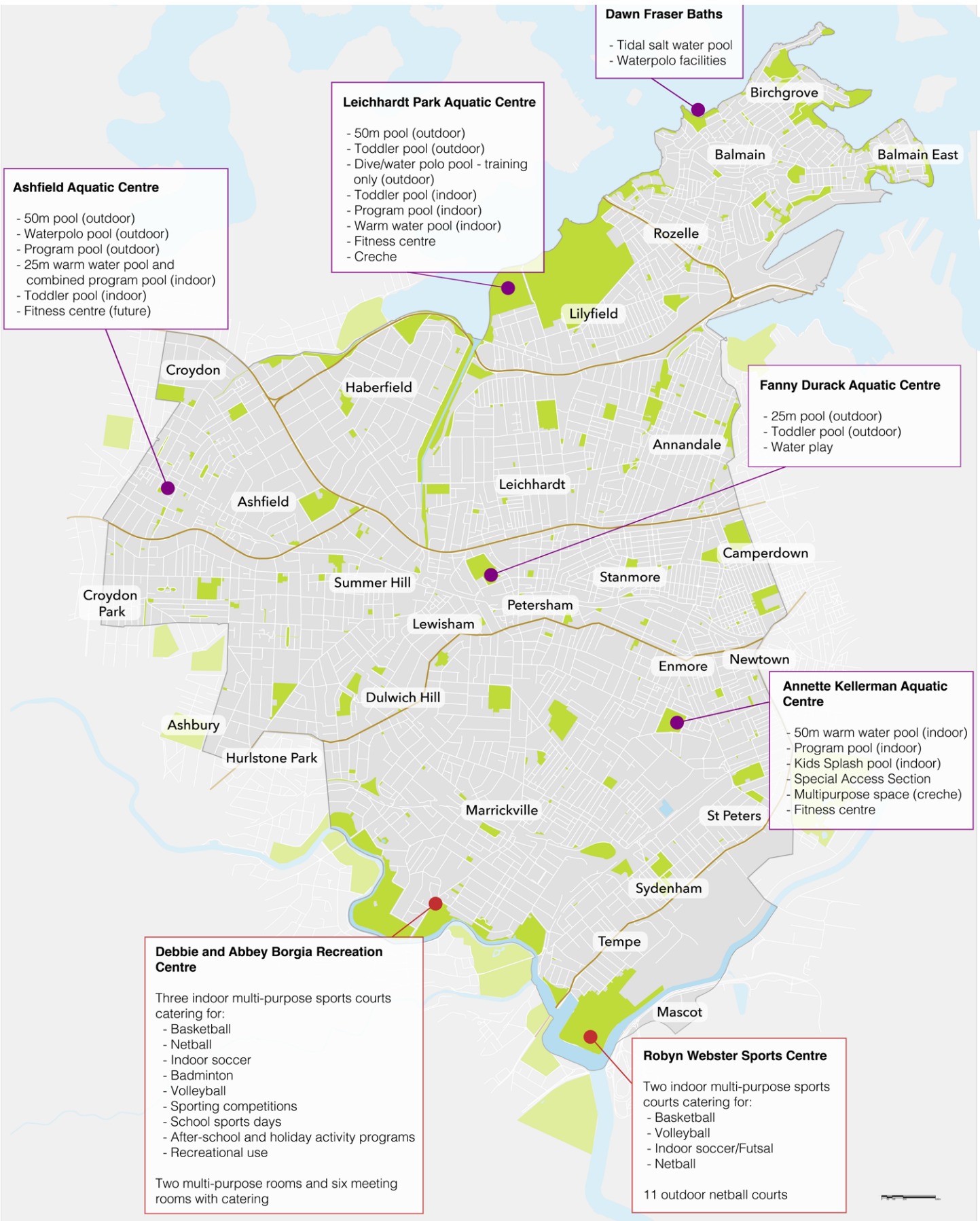


Figure 34 - Council’s aquatic centres, baths, and indoor recreation centres

Table 27 - Indoor leisure centre (aquatic) benchmarking

Type	Catchment area	Benchmark	Current provision	Current GAP	2026 GAP	2036 GAP
Indoor leisure centre (aquatic) (5)	1 - North · Dawn Fraser Baths · Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre	1:38,500	2	0	0	0
	2 - Central West · Ashfield Aquatic Centre		1	0.2	0.3	0.4
	3 - Central East · Fanny Durack Aquatic Centre		1	0.6	0.8	0.9
	4 - South · Anette Kellerman Aquatic Centre		1	0.3	0.5	0.6
	LGA (average)		5	0	0.5	1.0

Table 28 - Aquatic centre annual attendance (Source: Inner West Council, 2021)

Centre	Target	Projected	Actual
Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre	Maintain at 430,000 each year	480,000- achieved as pre-COVID-19 attendances	Attendance at the AKAC has risen to 480,000 in the last full operating year prior to the COVID 19 disruption.
Ashfield Aquatic Centre	Increase, after opening of the new centre in 2021/22 to 475,000 from 315,000 in 2016/17	576,000- predicted annual attendance for current first 12 months of operation	The AAC has not yet been open for 12 months, however the initial opening monthly average tracks the attendance projections at 576,000 for the first 12 months. This far exceeds initial projections of 475,000 attendances. A great opening success.
Dawn Fraser Pool	Maintain at 38,000 each year	Predicted to return to 38,000 attendances post opening	The DFB receives approximately 38,000 visits per year as an average. The DFB has been closed for 2 seasons, however the prediction is that it will return to full former usage from summer 2021 and will experience 38,000 visits.
Debbie and Abbey Borgia Recreation Centre	Maintain	Information not available	Information not available.
Fanny Durack Aquatic Centre	Maintain at 55,000 each year	51,000 visits achieved in FY 20/21	The DFB experienced 51,000 visits in the 20/21 summer season. Whilst there has been a small variation, the outdoor pool is subject to weather-driven variations and the attendance may fluctuate year on year, however average attendance over several years remains at approx. 55,000 per annum.
Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre	Maintain at 700,000 each year	800,000 achieved in 19/20 financial year	Visits in the last full year of operation (pre-COVID-19 disruption totaled 800,000 visits per year. This was for the 2019/20 financial year.
Overall - Inner West Aquatic Centres	Increase, after opening of new Ashfield Aquatic Centre in 2021/22, to 1,700,000 (1,500,000 in 2016/17)	1,949,000 adjusted for projected full year attendance tracking once operations are return to normal post-COVID-19 disruption	Current adjusted averages using pre-COVID-19 pandemic attendance data combined with AAC actual data has provided projected total attendances of 1,949,000. This exceeds attendance targets of 1.7 million by 250,000. It is projected that attendance will return to full and former levels post-COVID-19 disruption.

Outdoor gyms

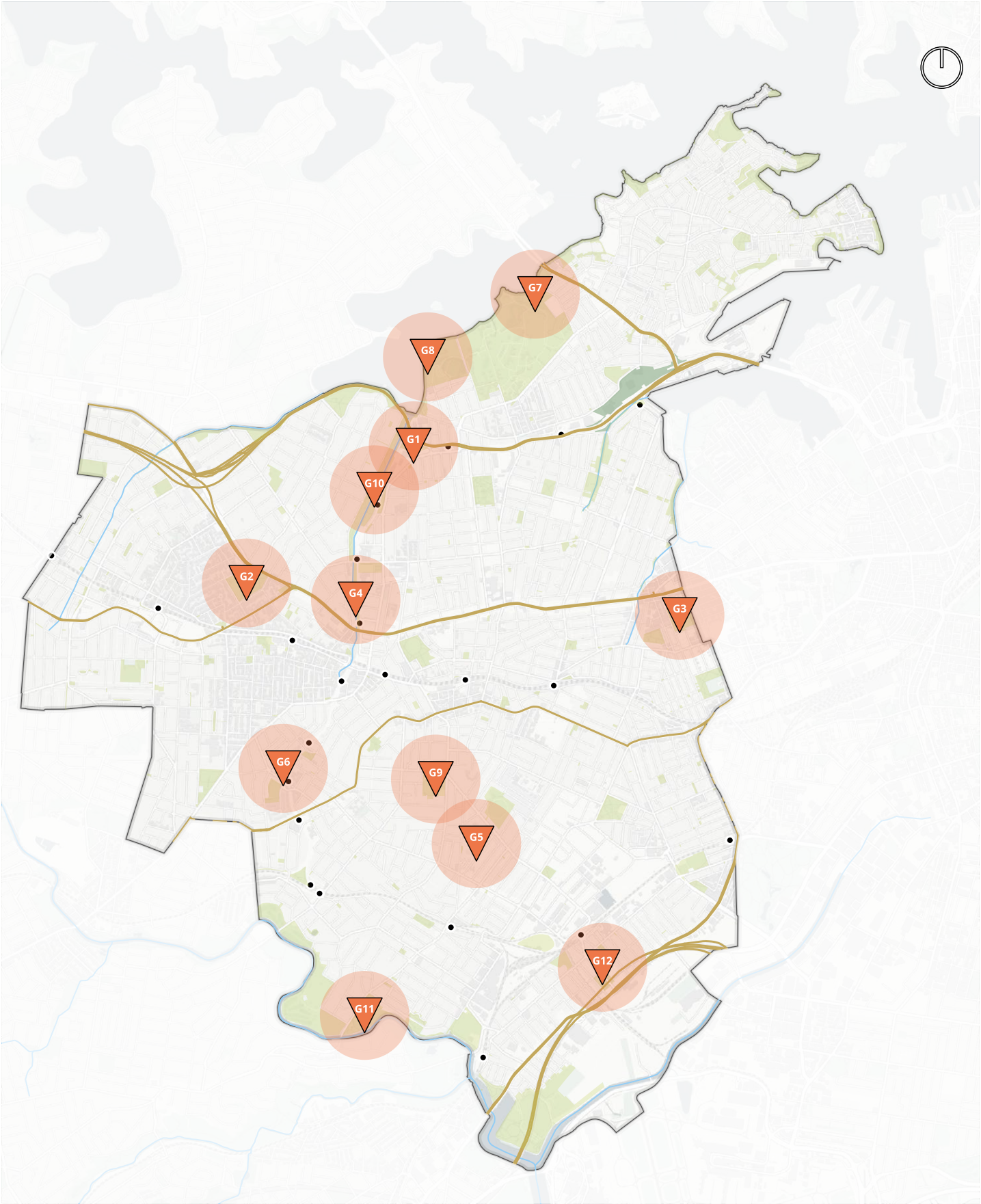
Current provision

Council provides 11 outdoor gyms in parks across the LGA, and 1 new station is currently under construction. These include spaces for personal fitness as well as gentler seniors' exercise. Outdoor gyms include:

- Ashfield Park
- Blackmore Park
- Camperdown Park
- Greenway (Bay Run) – under development
- Jarvie Park
- Johnson Park
- King George Park
- Leichhardt Park
- Marrickville Park
- Richard Murden Reserve
- Steel Park
- Sydenham Green

Benchmarking

There are no population-based benchmarks that have been adopted in the RNS. Figure 35 shows the distribution of outdoor gyms, illustrating a clustering of outdoor gyms along the Hawthorne Canal and fairly sparse distribution elsewhere in the LGA.



Key

Outdoor gym	Key
King George Park	G7
Leichhardt Park	G8
Ashfield Park	G2
Richard Murden Reserve	G10
Blackmore Oval	G1
Camperdown Park	G3
Greenway	G4
Jarvie Park	G5
Johnson Park	G6
Marrickville Park	G9
Steel Park	G11
Sydenham Green	G12

Figure 35 - Outdoor gyms in the LGA

Skateparks

Current provision

Council provides 5 skate spaces in the LGA:

- Whites Creek Valley Park
- Darrell Jackson Garden
- Jack Shanahan Reserve
- Sydenham Green
- HJ Mahoney Memorial reserve

In addition, a new skate park plaza (2,250m²) in Lilyfield is identified for delivery in Council's Delivery Program 2018-22 and Operational Plan 2021-22 over the next 1-5 years in Council.

Benchmarking

LGA-wide benchmarking indicates that a new skatepark should be facilitated by 2036, however Council is already actioning plans for the delivery of a new skate park facility in Lilyfield over the next 1-5 years.

Applying the benchmarks at the catchment level highlights the existing provision of skate spaces is uneven, and atachment 3 indicates there is a gap of 1.3 skateparks, which will increase to a gap of 1.6 by 2036.

This is also reflected in proximity mapping (see Figure 36).

Table 29 - Skate space benchmarking

Type	Catchment area	Benchmark: Current provision per person / Parks and Leisure Australia	Current provision	Current GAP	2026 GAP	2036 GAP
Skate park/ facility (5)	1 - North · Whites Creek Valley Park	1:48,000	1	0	0	0
	2 - Central West · Darrell Jackson Garden		1	0	0	0.1
	3 - Central East		0	1.3	1.4	1.6
	4 - South · Jack Shanahan Reserve · Sydenham Green · HJ Mahoney Memorial reserve		3	0	0	0
	LGA (average)		5	0.1	0.5	0.8

Skate park map with 400m radius

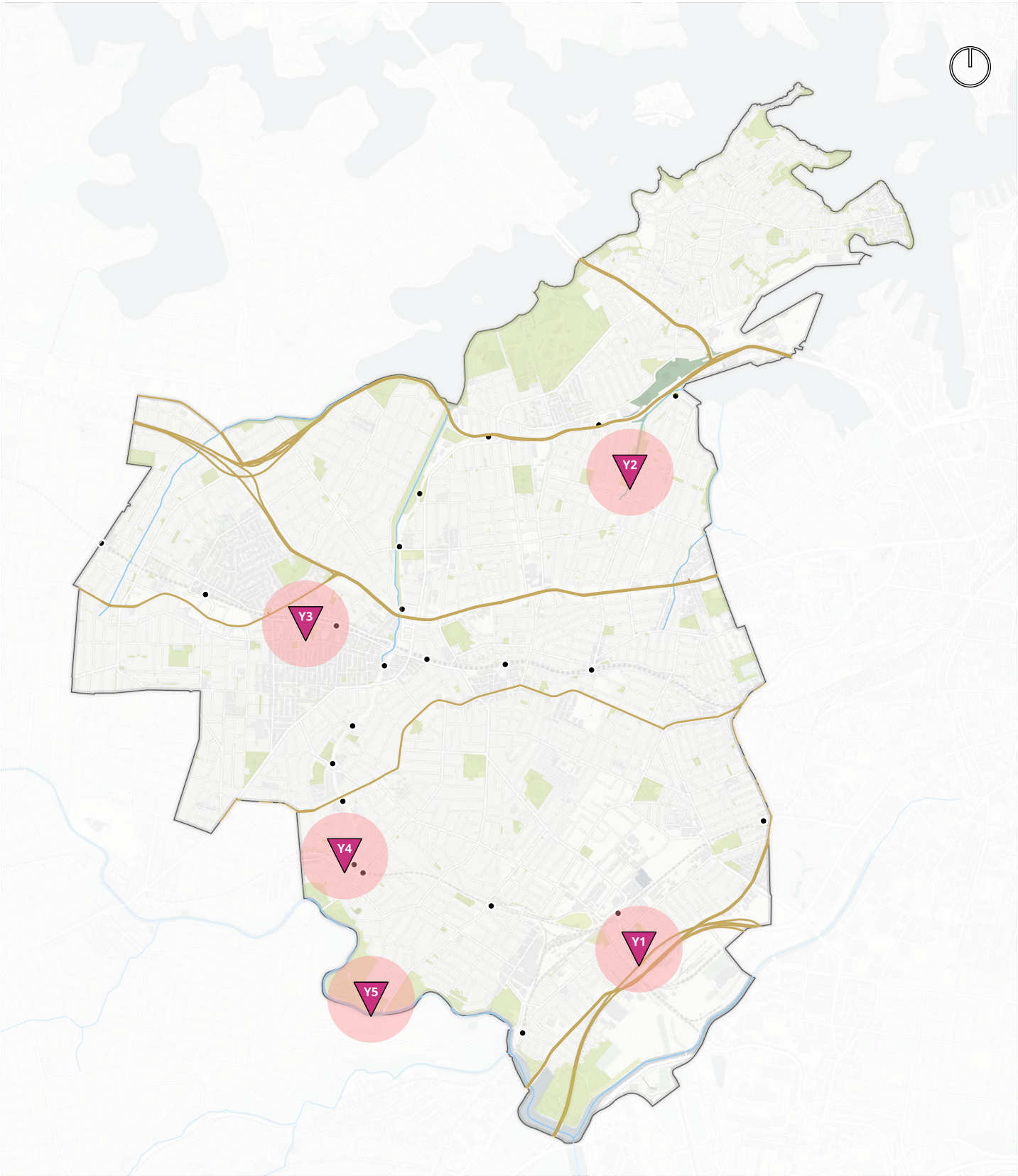


Figure 36 - Skate spaces in the LGA

Play spaces

Current provision

A play space refers to recreation spaces with a play focus for younger and older children. These include playgrounds, nature play or adventure play.

Inner West has a total of 126 play spaces across the LGA.

There is 1 seniors' play space in Leichhardt Park.

Benchmarking

The application of population-based benchmarks (see Table 30) suggest that the Inner West's population has a good provision of play spaces.

Benchmarking indicated that:

- By 2026 there will be demand for 1 additional playground in catchment 4
- By 2036 there will be demand for 3 additional playgrounds in catchment 4

Proximity benchmarking (see Figure 37) indicates that most residential areas within the LGA are within a 400m radius of a playground, with the exception of Ashfield and Dulwich Hill.

Table 30 - Playspace benchmarking

Type	Catchment Area	Benchmark: Current provision per person / Parks and Leisure Australia	Current Provision	Current GAP	2026 GAP	2036 GAP
Play space (including district and regional provision)	1 - North	1:2,000	27	0	0	0
	2 - Central West		27	0	0	0
	3 - Central East		43	0	0	0
	4 - South		29	0	-1	-3
	LGA (average)		126	0	0	0

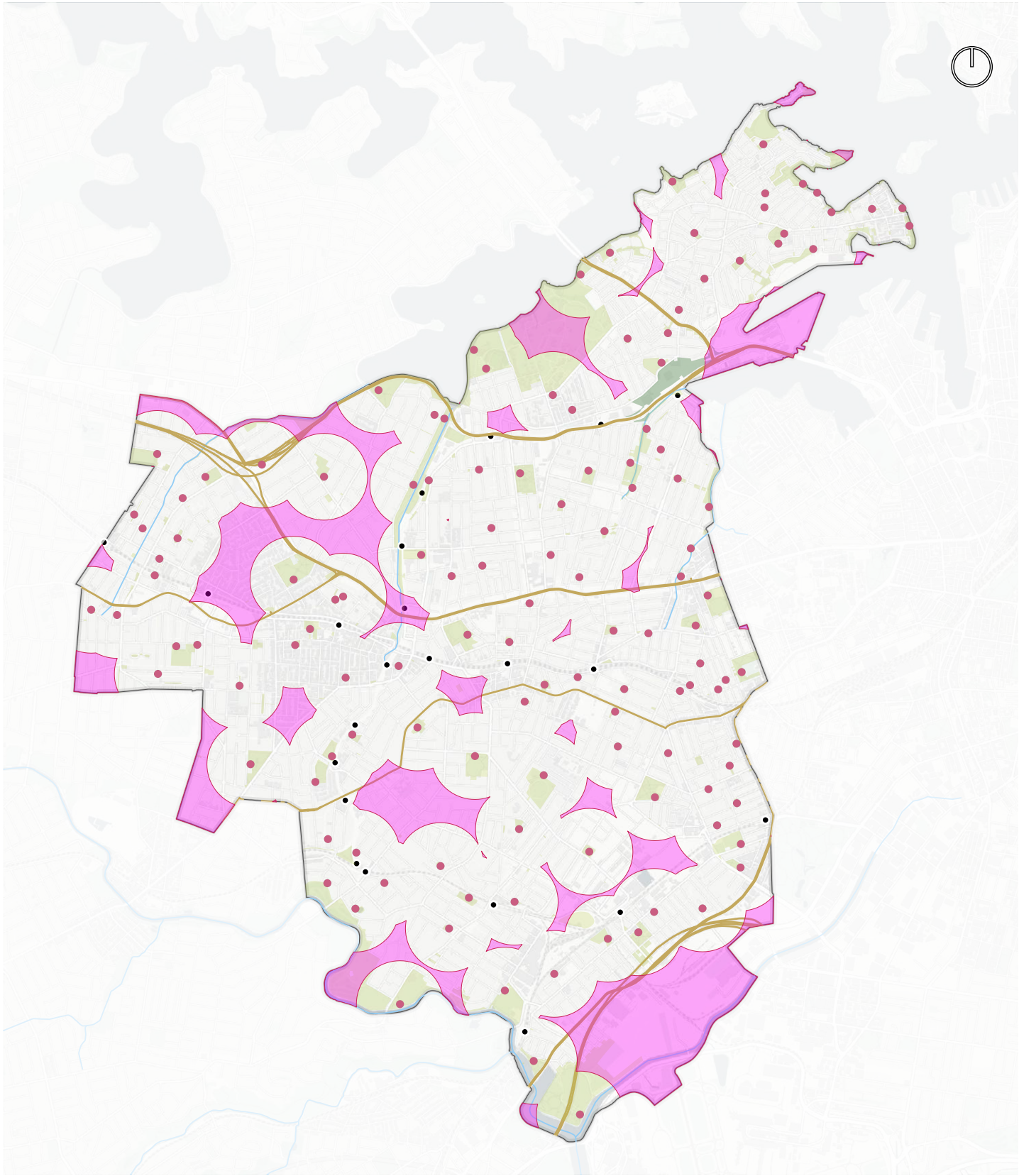


Figure 37 - Play spaces in the LGA

Council-owned leased facilities

As detailed in Table 31, Inner West Council owns 16 recreation facilities, such as bowling clubs, tennis clubs, sheds and amenities buildings, that are leased out. These facilities may be used for, or support recreation activities but also may have other uses such as restaurant and bar uses.

Table 31 - Leased recreation facilities

Name	Type of space	Function
Ashfield Park Bowling Club, Ashfield	Bowling greens including clubhouse, restaurant, function hire & event space	Recreational
Balmain Rowing Club	Rowing club and function hire space	Recreational
Balmain Sailing Club	Sailing club and function hire space	Recreational
Birchgrove Tennis	Tennis court for hire and lessons	Recreational
Camperdown Tennis, Camperdown Park	Tennis court for hire and lessons	Recreational
Cooks River Croquet Club, Mackey Park	Croquet green and facilities	Recreational
Gladstone Park Bowling Club, Balmain	Bowling greens including clubhouse, restaurant, function hire & event space	Recreational
Lambert Park, Leichhardt	Synthetic soccer field, stadium and facilities	Recreational
Marrickville Croquet Club, Marrickville Park	Croquet green and facilities	Recreational
Marrickville District Hardcourts Tennis Club, Henson Park	Tennis courts for hire and lessons	Recreational
Marrickville Golf Course	18-hole golf course and including clubhouse, bistro, function and event space	Recreational
Marrickville Lawn Tennis Club, Marrickville Park	Tennis courts for hire and lessons, clubhouse, bistro, function and event space	Recreational
Pratten Park Community Sports & Bowling Club, Ashfield	Bowling greens including clubhouse, restaurant, function and event space	Recreational
Tempe Basin Motor Boat Association	Club and facilities	Recreational
The River Canoe Club, Mackey Park	Canoe and kayak boat shed and clubhouse	Recreational
Western Suburbs Tennis, Pratten Park Ashfield	Tennis courts for hire and lessons	Recreational

Non-Council-owned recreation facilities

The following data is as per the 2018 report and has not been updated in this 2021 revision.

There are other facilities within the area which service residents with varying degrees of public access for the community, including:

- Commercial fitness clubs and gyms
- Commercial recreation spaces
- Commercial rehabilitation and wellness businesses

An indicative audit of dedicated recreation facilities is provided in Table 32.

Gymnastics facilities

Gymnastics facilities are highly utilised by children, with high proportions of female staff. There are two dedicated gymnastics facilities in the Inner West – a rhythmic gymnastics facility at PLC Sydney, and an artistic gymnastics facility in Marrickville, Inner West Gymnastics. Inner West Gymnastics will need to relocate due to Sydney Metro construction which will mean the loss of the only dedicated artistic gymnastics facility in the Inner West.

There are also a number of parkour, circus and acrobatics facilities and children’s gymnastics/ movement classes in halls in the Inner West. Additional gymnastics facilities near the LGA are located at Sydney University (adult gymnastics and cheerleading), Five Dock Leisure Centre and in Belfield.

Table 32 - Non-Council recreation facilities (Source: Google.com, 2017)

Facility type	# of private facilities
Fitness gyms	69
Yoga and Pilates	33
Martial arts studios	30
Dance studios	19
Lawn bowls	4
Rowing clubs	3
Gymnastics facilities	2
Indoor rockclimbing/bouldering	3
Sailing clubs	2
Parkour and circus studios	2



Figure 38 - BK’s Gymnastics Marrickville (Source: Kids Activities)

COUNCIL COMMUNITY VENUES
USED FOR RECREATION

The following data is as per the 2018 report and has not been updated in this 2021 revision.

Community venues

As shown in Table 33, Council owns 18 community venues used for recreation. Council has completed an accessibility audit of these venues. Fifteen of 18 are current accessible for people with disability.

Recreation programs

There are 71 recreation programs delivered in Council venues and facilities. Of these, 40 are targeted to older people. Recreation programs include:

- Children’s activities
- Seniors' gentle exercise programs
- Magic Yellow Bus, a free activities and information service for children 0 to 12 and their families
- Cycling courses
- Yoga, Tai Chi and meditation
- Table tennis
- Dancing classes
- Skate clinics
- Walking groups

Table 33 - Council-owned venues for recreation (including disability access)

Name	Suburb	Facilities and recreation use	Disability access
Annandale Community Centre	Annandale	2 halls and 1 meeting room. Gentle exercise & dance	Yes but not to upstairs hall
Ashfield Civic Centre Activity Rooms	Ashfield	4 activity rooms. Table tennis. Yoga. Main Hall - dancing	Yes
Balmain Town Hall	Balmain	Hall (not used for recreation as defined by this Study)	Yes
Bastable St Hall Not available	Croydon	Hall. Dance & Yoga	No
Cadigal Room (at Ashfield Aquatic Centre) No longer available	Ashfield	Room. Gentle exercise	No
Graham Yarroll Room (Haberfield Library)	Haberfield	Suitable for yoga classes	No
Hannaford Community Centre	Rozelle	Main hall, activity room, therapy room and meeting room. Gentle exercise & dance	Yes
Herb Greedy Hall	Marrickville	Hall. Dance	Yes
Jimmy Little Community Centre	Lilyfield	Hall. Exercise & dance	Yes
Leichhardt Town Hall	Leichhardt	Hall (not used for recreation as defined by this Study)	Yes
Marrickville Town Hall	Marrickville	Hall with stage, used for dance classes	Yes
Mervyn Fletcher Hall	Haberfield	Suitable for dance classes, karate, yoga or Tai Chi classes.	Yes
Michael Maher Room (Haberfield Library)	Haberfield	Activity room (not used for recreation as defined by this Study)	Yes
Petersham Town Hall	Petersham	Hall with stage, used for dance classes and recreational dancing	Yes
Seaview Street Hall	Dulwich Hill	Hall suitable for yoga, pilates, meditation.	Yes
St. Peters Town Hall	Sydenham	Hall (not used for recreation as defined by this Study)	Yes
Summer Hill Community Centre	Summer Hill	Three halls suitable for martial arts classes, yoga, Pilates, meditation etc.	
Tom Foster Community Care	Newtown	Hall suitable for seniors' gentle exercise and yoga groups	Yes

RECREATION SPACES IN SCHOOLS

Schools provide recreation spaces and opportunities for recreation within, and in addition to, the curriculum. There is a move by the NSW Government including the Department of Education and the Department of Planning and Environment to open recreation facilities, including playgrounds, sporting fields and halls, in schools to increase access for the community.

A few local public schools have participated in the NSW State Government's "Share Our Schools" program since 2018, providing community access to their sports fields and outdoor courts during school holidays.

Many schools have Community User Agreements with local sporting groups for the use of their sports fields, outdoor courts and indoor facilities.

Schools in the area, both public and private, are also high users of Council's recreation facilities, including using parks as playgrounds, sporting grounds for school and extracurricular sport, and aquatic centres for swimming carnivals and programs.

Inner West Council has shared use agreement with Sydney Secondary College Leichhardt for its football field, Dulwich High School of the Visual Arts and Design for Graham Green and Yeo Park Infants School for shared use of Gough Reserve. Shared use allows for community access, with Council being responsible for park maintenance.

As part of future body of work, Council could identify existing recreational assets held in private/public agency ownership and develop a prioritised advocacy program that seeks to establish and maintain partnerships. This will enable community use of such assets either after hours, on weekends, or during holiday periods. This should prioritise areas that have existing low levels of open space provision and/or areas experiencing high rates of growth.

Comprehensive engagement with regional and local sporting associations, surrounding local government organisations, and educational providers within the LGA, should be undertaken as part of this project to ascertain future needs and collaborative investment opportunities.

Public primary schools

Schools in the Inner West LGA include:

- Annandale North Public School
- Annandale Public School
- Ashfield Public School
- Australia Street Infants School
- Balmain Public School
- Birchgrove Public School
- Bridge Road School
- Camdenville Public School
- Dobroyd Point Public School
- Dulwich Hill Public School
- Ferncourt Public School
- Haberfield Public School
- Kegworth Public School
- Leichhardt Public School
- Lewisham Public School
- Marrickville Public School
- Marrickville West Public School
- Newtown North Public School
- Nicholson Street Public School
- Orange Grove Public School
- Petersham Public School
- Rozelle Public School
- St Peters Public School
- Stanmore Public School

- Summer Hill Public School
- Taverners Hill Infants School
- Tempe Public School
- Wilkins Public School
- Yeo Park Infants School

Croydon Public School is also located close to the LGA and regularly hires Council's sporting grounds.

Public high schools

- Ashfield Boys High School
- Canterbury Boys High School
- Dulwich High School of Visual Arts and Design
- Fort Street High School
- Marrickville High School
- Sydney Secondary College Balmain Campus
- Sydney Secondary College Leichhardt Campus
- Tempe High School

Catholic/private schools

- Athena School
- Aspect South East Sydney School
- Bethlehem College
- Casimir Catholic College
- Christian Brothers High School Lewisham
- De La Salle College
- Eileen O'Connor Catholic College
- Fr John Therry Catholic Primary School
- Inner Sydney Montessori School
- Newington College
- St Brendan's Catholic Primary School
- St Brigid's Catholic Primary School

- St Columba's Catholic Primary School
- St Fiacre's Catholic Primary School
- St Joan of Arc Catholic Primary School
- St Maroun's College
- St Michael's Catholic Primary School
- St Paul of the Cross Catholic Primary School
- St Pius' Catholic Primary School
- St Vincent's Catholic Primary School
- The Athena School
- The John Berne School
- The Waranara Centre
- Trinity College

Trinity Grammar and Presbyterian Ladies' College Croydon are also located close to the Inner West LGA and regularly hire Council's sporting grounds.

Note: Should Council pursue an advocacy program that seeks to enable community use of school sporting grounds and recreational facilities to the broader community, it is recognised that most schools are too busy and risk averse to deal with this type of proposal individually. A proposal of this type would likely need support from the Department of Education or School Infrastructure. Council may wish to prepare a management model template that outlines what such arrangements would involve, such as 'leasing' land from the Department of Education in exchange for ongoing payments to assist towards maintenance, security, liability, and insurance.

CYCLE PATHS

The following data is as per the 2018 report and has not been updated in this 2021 revision.

Council’s cycle paths including on- and off-road paths are shown in Figure 39. Council is also considering options to make the Lilyfield Road corridor safer for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists, and developing design plans for an east-west route linking Lewisham to Newtown.

Major off-road routes include shared paths on the Bay Run, Cooks River foreshore path, the GreenWay, and Victoria Road. However, there are no dedicated off-road cycle paths, and much of the network is on streets with mixed or heavy motor vehicle traffic.



Figure 39 - Inner West Council cycle paths

PUBLIC TOILETS

There are 46 parks with toilets, with the infrastructure schedule associated with this Study facilitating the upgrade of amenities in Hawthorne Canal. It also includes provision of new toilet amenities the southern Greenway Corridor.

Council has also completed the Inner West Public Toilet Strategy (2020) to guide the provision and renewal of public toilets across the LGA.

A high-quality public toilet network support will increase the use of public spaces (people can stay for longer) and also support more inclusive spaces (older people, young families, people with disability).

NATURAL RECREATION SPACES

The following data is as per the 2018 report and has not been updated in this 2021 revision.

Best practice planning for recreation in urban environments emphasises opportunities to connect and be in nature, to provide relief from the urban environment, support physical and mental health, and contribute to environmental outcomes¹. Recreation spaces that provide connection to nature include community gardens and bushcare; foreshore, creek and river corridor parks; and the Green Grid. The harbour also provides recreation opportunities such as swimming, kayaking, and sailing.

Green Grid

The Greater Sydney Green Grid is a long-term vision for a network of high-quality green spaces that connect communities to the natural landscape. It includes tree-lined streets, waterways, bushland corridors, and parks and open spaces linked to centres, public transport and public places.

Key links in the Green Grid in the Inner West are:

- The Cooks River Foreshore path: from Tempe Reserve along the Cooks River, and continuing to Homebush and Botany Bay
- The GreenWay: urban green corridor connecting the Cooks River to Iron Cove
- The Bay Run: approximately 7km harbourside walking and cycle route.

Other identified Green Grid links include:

- Sydney Harbour Foreshore
- Parramatta River Walk

- Whites Creek and Whites Creek Lane parkland and recreational trail
- Callan Park
- Johnson Creek and Harold Park parkland and recreational trail, and
- Tom Uren & Balmain Foreshores Heritage Walking Trail.

Community gardens and bushcare

There are 18 community gardens in the Inner West, including on Council land and in local non-Council facilities such as schools, community centres and churches.

There are 9 bushcare groups in the Inner West, working at around 15 locations.

Foreshore, creek and river corridor parks

A number of parks have natural waterfront settings:

- 16 creek corridor parks
- 39 foreshore parks
- 18 river corridor parks

While these offer opportunities for connection to nature, water, and cool environments, they are also at risk from the effects of climate change including flooding, increased rainfall and rising sea levels.

Future urban planning studies should aim to increase tree canopy and biodiversity along streetscapes (“green lungs”) to offset localised urban heat island effects. These studies should examine the potential for incremental increases of open space along pedestrian corridors. For example, this could be achieved through increasing streetfront setback requirements to facilitate safer pedestrian corridors, improved streetscape amenity, and obtain additional open space for plantings and passive rest stops.



Inner West Bush Care Programs (Source: Inner West)



Whites Creek Cottage Community Garden (Source: Cred)

¹ Soderlund and Newman, 'Biophilic architecture: A review of the rationale and outcomes', AIMS Environmental Science, 2015

DISTRICT AND REGIONAL FACILITIES IN NEIGHBOURING COUNCIL AREAS

The following data is as per the 2018 report and has not been updated in this 2021 revision.

Residents of the Inner West travel to other areas to participate in recreation, and visitors come to the Inner West to use local facilities. There is a need to work with neighbouring councils to plan regionally for the provision of major recreation

facilities to avoid duplication, meet gaps, and provide increased access to recreation facilities. There are a number of regional-level facilities located within 30 minutes drive of the Inner West.

- This includes:
- 2 aquatic centres
 - 18 sporting grounds providing over 75 fields, 21 tennis courts, 87 netball courts
 - 5 indoor recreation centres

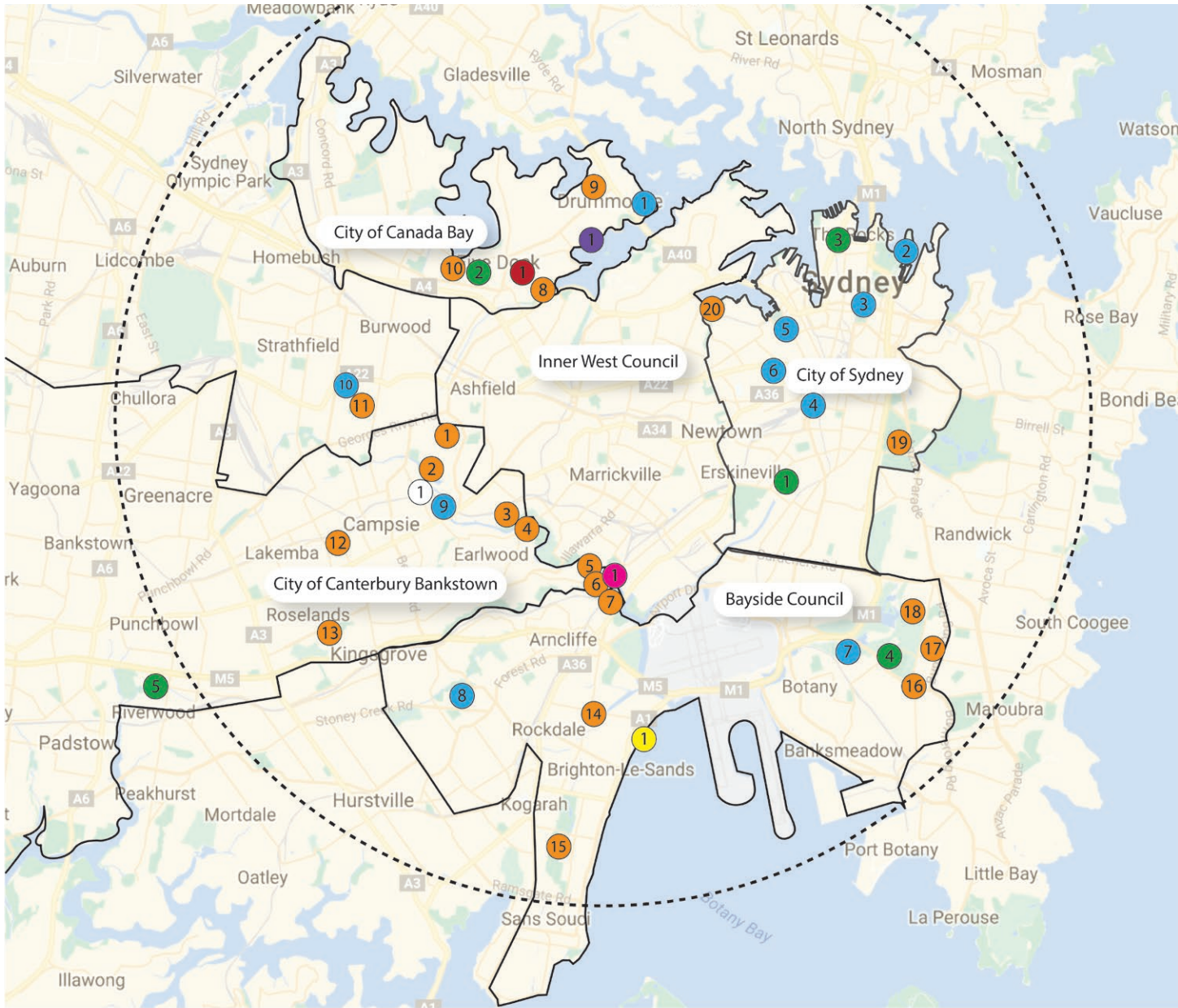


Figure 40 - District and regional facilities in neighbouring council areas

Sportsgrounds

1. Wagener Oval

Oval x1

2. Canterbury Park

Horse-racing course

3. Ewen Park

Tennis courts x6, cricket pitch, soccer fields x2

4. Beaman Park

Tennis courts x4, grass fields x6, cricket pitch x2

5. Gough Whitlam Park

Oval x1, cricket net x1, basketball court x1

6. Waterworth Park

Multipurpose fields x3

7. Cahill Park

Cricket/rugby field x1

8. Timbrell Park

Baseball fields x 2, touch fields x 5, cricket/soccer fields x2

9. Drummoyne Oval

Cricket/AFL field x1

10. Cintra Park / St Lukes Park

Netball courts x 34, hockey field x1

11. Henley Park

Cricket pitch and practice nets x 1, multipurpose fields x 3

12. Belmore Park

Rugby League, football

13. Clemton Park

Netball courts x12

14. Womens Sports fields

Netball courts x31

15. Scarborough Park

Summer: cricket x11 Winter: rugby league x3, soccer x4

16. Hensley Athletic field

Synthetic athletics track x1, synthetic multipurpose field x1

17. Jellicoe Park

Soccer fields x6, cricket pitch x1

18. David Phillips Sports Complex

Synthetic hockey pitch x1, multiuse football pitch, grass fields x3, tennis courts x4

19. Centennial Parklands

Athletics field x1, netball courts x10, tennis courts x7, various other fields x29

20. Jubilee Park

Hockey/AFL/cricket oval x1

Indoor recreation

1. Perry Park Recreation Centre [to be completed mid-2018]

Multipurpose courts: indoor x2, outdoor x2

2. Five Dock Leisure Centre

Olympic standard gymnastics hall, multipurpose stadium

3. King George V Recreation Centre

Multipurpose courts: indoor x2, outdoor x1

4. Mutch Park Tennis & Squash Centre

Indoor squash courts x4, outdoor tennis courts x6, cricket nets

5. Morris lemma Indoor Sports Centre

Indoor multipurpose courts x2

Ice rink

1. Canterbury Olympic Ice Rink

Velodrome

1. Canterbury Velodrome

Aquatic Centre

1. Drummoyne Swimming Centre

2. Andrew (Boy) Charlton Pool

3. Cook and Phillip Park Aquatic Centre

4. Prince Alfred Park Pool

5. Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre

6. Victoria Park Pool

7. Botany Aquatic Centre

8. Angelo Anestis Aquatic Centre

9. Canterbury Leisure and Aquatics Centre

10. Enfield Aquatic Centre

Skate Park

1. Five Dock Park

Beach

1. Lady Robinsons beach

Other

1. The Bay Run

Running, walking and cycling path

Note: This audit is as per the 2017 audit, and has not been updated in 2021.

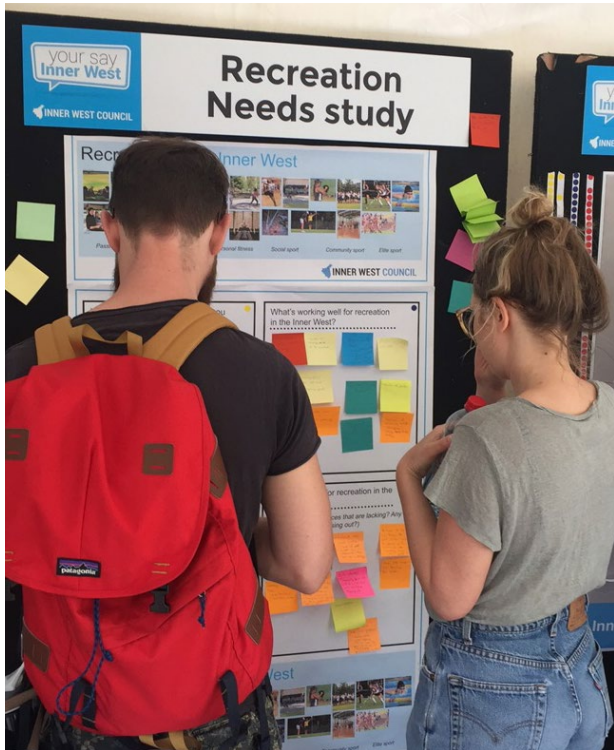
10.0 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES (2018)

Extensive community engagement was completed to inform this Study. This chapter is reported on as per the Recreational Needs Study 2018 - no more relevant engagement has been undertaken since the original publication. There was a high rate of participation in the community engagement, reflecting local enthusiasm for recreation. The community was positive about current provision, and focused on identifying opportunities to meet recreation needs for a growing and changing community.

This section summarises the findings from community engagement completed to inform this Study. A full community engagement report is available as an appendix to this Study.

Community engagement was completed for the Study between 27 October 2017 and 6 March 2018.

Promotion of the project reached over 17,000 people through multiple communication channels including emails to 8,200 people, Your Say Inner West, social media, local media, and posters and flyers in Council venues. In total, around 2,000 people participated in community engagement activities - 1% of the Inner West population.



Promotion of the project included:

- Postcards and posters at Council facilities (all libraries, service centres, Council-run childcare and out-of-school hours care centres, Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre, Fanny Durack Aquatic Centre, Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre, Dawn Fraser Baths, Ashfield Aquatic Centre)
- Email promotion through Council's databases and e-news (8,199 people reached)
- Facebook, Instagram and Twitter posts on Council's social media (9,077 people reached)
- Your Say Inner West web page
- Inner West Courier Council Page Your Say section
- Face-to-face promotion through 19 pop-ups, intercept surveys, and festival stalls throughout the Inner West.

Figure 41 shows community engagement activities completed for the Study.

The community engagement was broadly representative of the Inner West community, with residents, workers and visitors from a range of ages, suburbs, genders, and cultures participating. For example, Table 34 details the age profile of survey respondents, compared to the age profile of the Inner West LGA. Targeted engagement was also completed with young people, culturally diverse groups etc to ensure community engagement was representative of the community.

ENGAGEMENT COMPLETED



* Over 12% (126 responses) of survey responses were received from hockey players, after promotion of the study by local hockey organisations. While this response is welcomed, the high occurrence of hockey uses and needs may not be reflective of actual participation rates and needs across the general Inner West community.

Figure 41 - Community engagement activities

Table 34 - Age profile of survey respondents

Age group	Survey (%)	Inner West (%)
Babies and pre-schoolers (0-4)	n/a	5.9
Primary schoolers (5-11)	1.5	7.1
Secondary schoolers (12-17)	6.9	4.6
Tertiary education and independence (18-24)	5.9	8.5
Young workforce (25-34)	18	20.3
Parents and homebuilders (35-49)	34	24.8
Older workers and pre-retirees (50-59)	15.2	12.0
Empty nesters and retirees (60-69)	12.8	8.6
Seniors (70-84)	5.4	6.6
Elderly aged (85 and over)	0.3	1.7

In total, 177 survey respondents (17% of total responses) describe themselves as a worker in the Inner West, an 120 survey respondents (11% of total responses) describe themselves as a volunteer for a local sports club.



Figure 42 - Community engagement activities

KEY FINDINGS

Across all engagement types, people identified 10 key needs for recreation in the Inner West:

Improved footpath and active street network for walking

Walking is the most popular recreation activity in the Inner West. While footpaths in some areas work well, people said they would like to see better surfaces, less cluttered and wider footpaths, more pram ramps, and more lights. This was particularly important for older people, people with disability, parents with prams, and people who speak a language other than English at home.

- Well-maintained and connected footpaths to enable people to go for walks, safer walking and inclusion of older people, people with prams, and people with disability
- Improved walking access to recreation opportunities such as wider pathways and more trees and seating on streets, lighting, and better pedestrian safety
- Improving wayfinding and signage

Connected cycling networks and facilities, and safer shared paths for pedestrians

Cycling, and cycle paths, were among the most popular activities and facilities. While people said that they appreciate having long, connected paths such as the Bay Run and Cooks River foreshore path, there were suggestions for improvements including more separate, designated cycle ways that are wider, better connected, and better surfaced, and safer shared paths including more signage, more separate cycle/pedestrian paths, and better cyclist behaviour. There is also a need to encourage more use of cycle paths by women and girls, and older people. While 34 per cent of males use cycle ways at least weekly, only 24 per cent of females do. Older people including in the culturally diverse focus groups also commented that they avoid cycling as it seems unsafe on the roads.

- More well-connected and well-maintained cycling infrastructure and facilities to expand opportunities for active transport, support cyclist/pedestrian safety, and improve connectivity throughout the area and to other areas.
- Safer shared paths and encouraging better sharing by users: some people spoke about conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists on shared paths.

Places to play for all ages and abilities

Playing in parks and playgrounds, and taking children to play, is among the most popular recreation activities in the Inner West. People would like to see playgrounds and spaces for older children/young people, with new equipment and different types of playgrounds like water play. Play opportunities for other age groups and abilities, such as older people's play, sensory play, and play for adults with disability.

Addressing heat and providing shade

Across all engagement, and for a range of different facilities, people spoke about the need for shelter and shade so that people can continue to be active and social in the heat. This includes more trees on streets and in parks, shade in playgrounds, over pools, on the streets and at recreation facilities, and air conditioning and ventilation in indoor centres.

Information and promotion of recreation opportunities, and better communication

One of the major barriers to people participating in their preferred recreation activities is that they don't know about opportunities, particularly people who speak a language other than English at home, and women and girls. There is a need for more information about opportunities for recreation including in different languages.

While "communication with Council" is one of the things that recreation user groups said is working well, they would like to see better customer service and easier booking processes for sporting grounds.

New facilities

A key priority in the community engagement is retaining and creating new green spaces, particularly with an increasing population and increasing density.

Other new facilities suggested include access to the Cooks River for swimming and water-based activities, table tennis tables and outdoor gyms in parks, more community gardens, and a multipurpose, community-level synthetic hockey field.

Providing for, and managing recreation with dogs

Walking dogs is one of the most popular recreation activities in the Inner West. People spoke about a need for more facilities such as more fenced, off-leash, well-maintained dog areas with shade, seating and bubblers and more dog bag dispensers. Some people suggested more places for dogs to swim.

There are some conflicts between dogs and other users of parks and recreation facilities. There is a need for better dog control, and better design of spaces to encourage better sharing among users (like fencing playgrounds or other designs to keep children and dogs separate). More resources for enforcement, more signage, and resources for maintenance could be required. Some submissions suggested awards and training to encourage better responsibility from dog owners.

Increasing the capacity of existing sporting grounds to optimise use

Recreation user groups and sporting peak bodies identified improving sporting grounds as a priority, including better surfaces, lighting and amenities. This was also important for player safety, and to allow people to play at night, reflecting trends to more casual participation.

- Improving lighting to expand opportunities for activities including competitions to take place at night
- Improving playing surfaces eg different types of grass, synthetic fields, and drainage improvements
- Improving amenities including amenities blocks, club houses and storage facilities
- Improving maintenance of sporting grounds including strategies to reduce wear and tear

Safety

This issue is particularly important for women and girls, young people, older people and people who speak a language other than English at home. People would like to see improved lighting and design of parks, paths, streets and town centres in order to increase (feelings of) safety for pedestrians and cyclists in the evening and at night. Some people spoke about avoiding going for walks in the evening in winter.

People also spoke about improved pedestrian safety including on shared paths and at pedestrian crossings, particularly crossings on the Cooks River walkway.

Improving park amenities for social and passive uses, and connection to nature

Passive recreation activities such as picnics and BBQs, reading or studying in parks, relaxing in parks, community gardening and bushcare were all popular in the community engagement. People spoke about visiting parks and gardens as respite from the urban environment, to look at nature, to relax, to be social, and for mental wellbeing. There is a need for:

- Parks that provide space for social and passive recreation, like relaxing, barbecues, reading, studying and meditating, and support mental wellbeing.
- Public toilets and water bubblers that are well-maintained and located in convenient locations to make them easy to use and to support inclusion of older people and people with disability.
- More picnic/BBQ facilities with seating and shade to increase opportunities for formal and informal social gatherings in parks.
- Green and natural spaces for connection to nature, respite from the urban environment, and mental and environmental wellbeing.

11.0 URBAN RECREATION BEST PRACTICE TRENDS AND CASE STUDIES

Emerging trends for the delivery of recreation in urban environments address the need for innovative approaches where space is limited, including getting more out of existing and new facilities through the design of multipurpose and flexible spaces, ensuring recreation facilities and spaces are networked and connected, sharing existing and underutilised spaces of the city, and the role recreation can play in building more resilient communities and cities.

1. MULTIPURPOSE AND FLEXIBLE

A key trend in increasingly urban and dense built environments is the design of multipurpose and flexible spaces that both maximise usage and meet a greater diversity of recreation needs within the same space.

Getting more out of existing recreation facilities

With an increase in high-density living, more Inner West residents will be seeking a greater variety of spaces for recreation. With limited space to build more courts, fields or facilities it is important that existing recreation facilities are maximised to their full potential. This can be achieved through the development of multipurpose, flexible and adaptable spaces and facilities.

Hybrid courts and fields allow different sports and activities to use the same space. Design interventions, such as the installation of synthetic turf, can also increase the capacity of fields from 30 hours a week (natural grass) to around 60 hours of playing time. This effectively doubles the amount of playing time per week and increases the time and number of teams that can play across the year.

While synthetic turf can be useful for getting more out of existing recreation facilities and fields, considerations such as impacts on local use, parking, and heat are important when deciding where synthetic fields are best located.

Making big parks work harder

As the population grows, regional and district parks need to take on a variety of roles. While traditionally the hierarchy of regional, district and local parks has its own typology and use, with increased development in the Inner West, it is important that even big parks are people-focused and meet residents' diverse needs. Passive parks are also becoming more active spaces, with people using them as spaces to play informal sports or where there is a shortage of formal fields. Regardless of the park hierarchy, every open space needs to function as backyard, should have a purpose as well as versatility, and include spaces that provide a 'heart' for communities and developments.

Parks as 'living rooms'

Increasing high density development in the Inner West means that parks and open spaces must function as 'living rooms,' providing residents with a place to connect, play, relax, exercise, meet friends and family, host events, or walk their dog. Imagining parks as living rooms means that they are adaptable spaces suited to the different uses and needs of the Inner West's diverse community.

MULTIPURPOSE ACTIVE RECREATION SPACE: BOX HILL GARDENS, MELBOURNE

Box Hill Gardens is an innovative, multipurpose, flexible space that provides for an array of recreation activities and events.

Designed by Aspect Studios for the Whitehorse City Council in Victoria, the site functions as both community space and courts for multiple sports and recreation activities including table tennis, football and basketball. There's also the future incorporation of a 1km walking and running track that will start and finish at the multipurpose site.

The dynamic graphic and colours of Box Hill Gardens define the hybrid recreation functions of the space, while also giving a strong, engaging and playful identity for the growing community.

Public toilets, bubblers and seating are integrated into the space, forming a rebound

wall for ball sports, while the previous tennis court building has been recycled as seating for the court. These features are important in providing an inclusive space where people can stay and linger for extended periods of time.

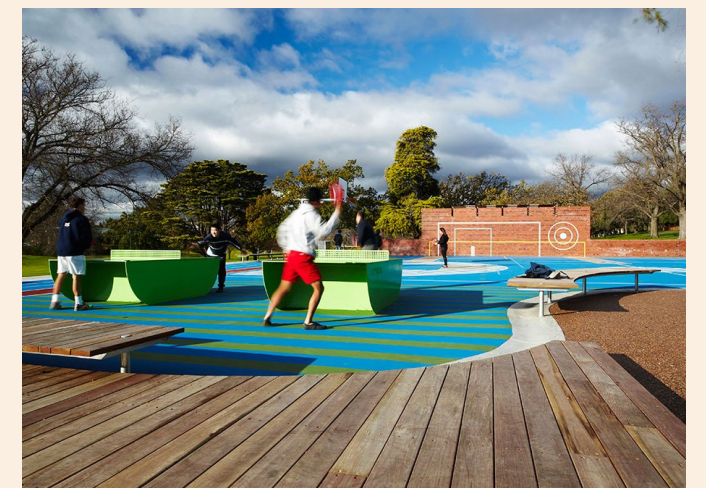


Figure 43 - Box Hill Gardens by ASPECT Studios. Source: Andrew Lloyd

FLEXIBLE FUNCTIONS: ASHFIELD AQUATIC CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT, INNER WEST COUNCIL

An example of how to obtain greater use of recreation assets through the design of multipurpose spaces, the Ashfield Aquatic Centre redevelopment has a focus on delivering options and functionality for a diverse range of recreation needs.

The redevelopment provides an outdoor pool with a movable floor, opening it up for a wide range of uses. Competitions, learn to swim, rehab/therapy activity, wheelchair access, and water polo are among the activities that require different water depths. The movable floor also allows for events such as whole pool kids splash areas or splash in movies, and increases safety by enabling the whole pool to be closed

off. The indoor 50m pool includes a movable boom, allowing combinations of 50m and 25m pools. Together, this allows for a large variety of combinations and functionality to support a range of uses and meet the needs of a diverse community.

The redevelopment also supports warm-water aquatics therapy, with the current heated indoor pool integrated with a new spa, steam and sauna. This will increase access to aquatics therapy including aqua classes, hydro classes, walking lanes, passive access etc. Overall, these combined features greatly enhance the warm-water access available at AAC and will complement the broad goals listed above of functionality and diversity within the design of the centre.

MULTI-USE PARKS WITH SUPPORTING AMENITIES: CAMPERDOWN PARK, CAMPERDOWN, INNER WEST COUNCIL

Camperdown Park is a large, leafy park offering a range of facilities and activities. The park received a \$3.1 million upgrade in 2016 with a new playground for younger and older children, youth space with removable art walls and table tennis tables, a refurbishment of the basketball courts, a new accessible amenities building, new pathways and lighting, and new trees and gardens. Sustainable design including LED lighting, water tanks and recycled materials were included. The former Camperdown Bowling Club was reopened in 2016 as Camperdown Commons and features an urban farm, restaurant, community lawn, kids' play space, and spaces for hire. Council's own Chrissie Cotter Gallery is situated on Pidcock Street (underneath the tennis courts) and hosts artist exhibitions and cultural events.



Figure 44 - Pocket City Farm at Camperdown Commons (Source: Christine Knight)



Figure 46 - Camperdown Park playground

MULTIPURPOSE SYNTHETIC FIELDS: MOLONG MULTIPURPOSE PITCH, MOLONG

The new synthetic field in Molong, in regional NSW, provides a synthetic hockey field with tennis courts. Other large format sports can also be co-located on synthetic surfaces including hockey and football.



Figure 45 - Molong multi-purpose hockey and tennis fields (Source: via Glebe District Hockey Association)

ACTIVATED SMALL SPACES: PIGALLE BASKETBALL COURT, PARIS

Wedged between two apartment buildings in Paris, the Pigalle basketball court's electric pink and blue hues with pops of yellow is an inviting and attractive example of how recreation spaces can elevate and enliven leftover spaces within the city.

By combining art with recreation, the courts have become a destination, increasing the likelihood of use, and encouraging people to be active and engage with the recreation opportunities within the city.



Figure 47 - Pigalle Basketball court, Paris. Source: Dezeen

2. NETWORKED AND CONNECTED

Ensuring recreation facilities within the Inner West operate as a network will become increasingly important as the population continues to grow. Improving linkages both across and within parks and recreation facilities will ensure both communities and recreation spaces remain connected, and the availability and catchment of existing and new spaces will be expanded to their full potential.

Civic Spaces

Civic spaces located within town and village centres can provide important recreation functions. They may vary in sizes and form, from larger, sometimes formal spaces associated with important public buildings, such as plazas; malls; and forecourt of a building. They can also be smaller spaces such as street closures and down to widening of the footpath, seating nooks or pedestrianisation of laneways. They are predominantly hard surfaced areas, but may also include pocket- park-like green elements such as lawn areas, landscape plantings, water features, as well tree canopies. Successful plazas encourage people to travel across them by embedding them within the street (pedestrian movement) network.

Civic spaces accommodate a broad variety of activities as nodes of vibrancy, during day and night, bringing people together. They offer opportunities for incidental interactions that help build healthier and less isolated communities. Successful civic spaces encourage lingering and interaction and give the community a space in which everyone is invited to participate and belong. They can also provide the space for special events that further establish place identity, community development and the sharing of culture.

A network of sporting grounds

Sporting grounds have the potential to be managed and planned for as a network, meaning that frequent users, including sports clubs and organisations, can utilise different sporting grounds and clubs for training and competition purposes, as well as sharing the use of sporting grounds and club buildings by different sports clubs, organisations and codes (where appropriate) to maximise their utilisation, and reduce competition for spaces. Technology can play a key role in organising existing sporting grounds as a network of spaces, with an app or website able to inform teams which fields are available for their sport during what times, as well as allow them to book the fields easily and efficiently.

Streets as recreation places and connections to open space

In the increasingly urban environment of the Inner West, the network of streets themselves are critical public spaces that lend richness to the social, civic, and economic fabric of the community. Active, green, walkable streets extend opportunities for recreation beyond the boundaries of parks, and improve connections to parks in areas with low provision.

Like few other places in cities, streets are public places of encounter where everyday life takes place. Through verge planting, traffic calming, wide footpaths, seating, shade, and places to stop such as parklets or skate and play features, streets can provide places for existing and future residents to recreate and come together with neighbours.

COMMUNITY-LED RECLAIMING STREETS: LEEFSTRAAT (LIVING STREETS), GHENT

Leefstraat or living street, is an experiment where residents take over their street by temporarily or partially banning cars from the street, and finding another place to park. By considering the challenges faced in their street or neighborhood, the intervention gives them the opportunity to find a solution and realise their own ideas and aspirations. The absence of cars means children can play safely on the streets, while new activities also provide a space for adults to meet each other.

After completing their experiment, Lab van Troje passed on the results to the local council. Lessons that were learnt included the issue that arose from late-night noise that was sometimes found to disturb residents nearby, as well as the necessity to maintain accessible access by vehicle for people living in the street with a disability, as well as for emergency vehicles.



Figure 48 - By removing cars and delivering a streetscape envisioned by local residents, local government and residents were able to test what life could be like if streets were turned into places for recreation, socialising and play. (Source: Trojan Lab)

PLAYFUL AND SOCIAL STREET FURNITURE, COPENHAGEN

Collaboration is at the core of the great urban design outcomes in Copenhagen. Collaboration with local communities about park/neighbourhood renewal or redesign is a core part of all planning processes. Designers, planners, sociologists and other city builders also regularly collaborate on solutions for improved urban and social outcomes. The Danish Cabinet Makers Association explored the social potential of outdoor furniture and included two person adult sized swings along streets, and socially connective furniture for a 2017 exhibition.



Figure 49 - Social furniture in Copenhagen (Source: Cred Consulting)

MORE PLACES TO MEET AND STAY: GLEBE PARKLETS, SYDNEY

Parklets re-imagine and reclaim on street car parking spaces and bring parks to town-centres. The typical design of a parklet is a platform that extends the sidewalks and provides amenities like seats, tables, bike racks and landscaping.

In March 2015, the Glebe Chamber of Commerce was awarded a \$10,000 Community Matching Grant to deliver the City of Sydney area's first moveable parklet trial. The Glebe Point Road Trial Parklet Program ran for a 6 month period between September 2015 - March 2016, and moved three times along Glebe Point Road. The project aimed to enliven street life, create a place to meet and gather, provide a space for creative expression, and increase dwelling times.

Despite the success of the parklet in Glebe and documented community and business support to make it a permanent feature of Glebe Point Road, there were many challenges in moving the project forward at both the state and local levels of government. Many of the barriers in the approval process were related to existing policy and laws around car parking, metered/timed parking spaces and permitted use of roads.

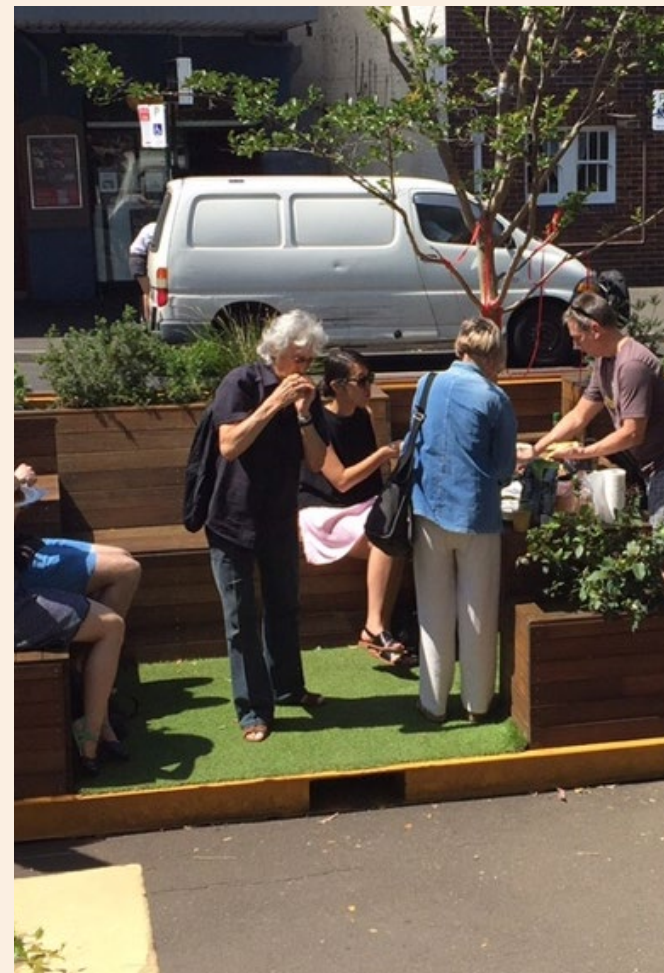


Figure 50 - Meeting at the Parklet, Glebe (Source: Cred Consulting)

CIVIC SPACES: ENMORE ROAD PLAZA, ENMORE

This small plaza on Enmore Road is the result of footpath widening for traffic calming. The small space includes colourful public art, garden beds, seating, water bubbler, bin and a small tree. The plaza is popular with the local community, from people eating icecreams purchased across the road to older men gathering to chat. The plaza is also a space for cultural expression through street art.

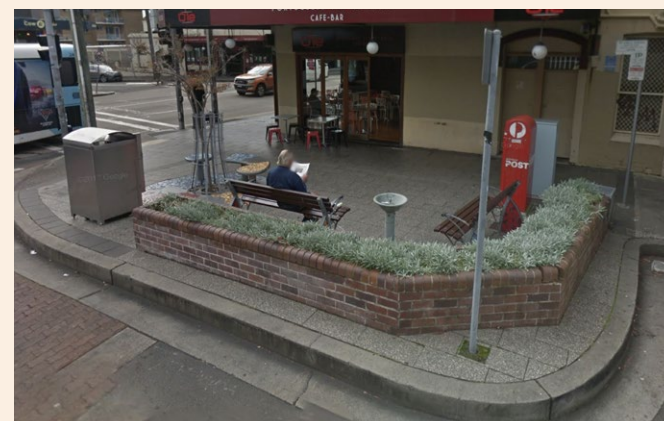


Figure 51 - Enmore Road Plaza (Source: Google Street View)

PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY PUBLIC DOMAIN: LONSDALE ST, DANDENONG

The plaza on Lonsdale St, Dandenong has a protected edge providing psychological comfort and a sense of safety from passing vehicular traffic. There is integrated seating and sittable edges, and iconic paving to support a sense of identity. Pathways along the street include colourful lighting at night, trees for shade, and lots of seating. The extension of the patterned paving onto the quieter parking area/side street creates a pedestrian and cyclist priority environment. This project won the 2014 AILA National Award for Excellence in Urban Design.

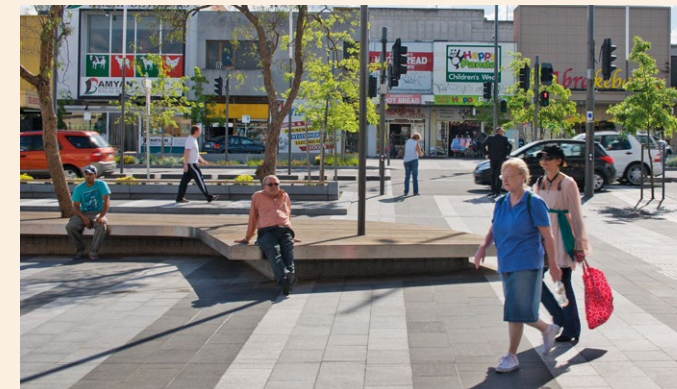


Figure 52 - Lonsdale St Dandenong (Source: TCL/ John Gollings)

URBAN PLAZAS: MELBOURNE CITY SQUARE, MELBOURNE

Melbourne City Square is an excellent example of an urban plaza, a vibrant meeting place in the city centre where people can meet, hold events, or simply take time out from the city and relax. The square has an activated building ground floor, suitable edges to the main road, and relaxing landscaping including sunny areas, raised turf, large trees, and water features. Other features include public art and bike racks. There is a great café that helps to activate the place.



Figure 53 - Areas of green used as places to sit and rest in Melbourne City Square (Source: Dianna Snape)

STREET LIBRARIES

Street Libraries are, essentially, a box of books, accessible from the street and are an invitation to share the joy of reading. They are often installed on people's front fences - on key pedestrian routes - adding to the interest of the street and creating opportunities for building social capital. Various councils have supported street library uptake in their area by purchasing the street library council reverse grant pack. There are examples where councils have included them in parks and at recreation facilities.



Figure 54 - Street library (Source: Street Libraries Australia)

3. SHARING THE CITY FOR RECREATION

From schools, sports clubs, roofs or unused and underutilised pockets or parking spaces, sharing the city for recreation is an emerging trend within cities where available land at street level is increasingly scarce, and more innovative approaches to recreation provision are needed.

Sharing spaces

Many schools have recreation facilities such as fields, courts and halls that can be underutilised outside of school hours. Conversely, schools are very high users of Council's sporting grounds. Unlocking these assets and integrating them into the network of places available for recreation will increase the opportunities and options for play within the Inner West. However it is important to acknowledge the variety of challenges that arise when securing these spaces for community use, including the uncertainty of long-term tenure and child-protection concerns. The NSW Government implemented a pilot program in 2018 called Share Our Schools, which opened up 81 playgrounds to the community in the school holidays. With an increasing population, multiple sporting codes also need to share a limited number of sporting grounds.

Private provision

Trampolining, parkour classes, squash courts, pop-up football training and indoor rock-climbing are some examples of privately provided recreation spaces and activities that are available to residents of the Inner West, outside the bounds of traditional recreation provision. These market-led recreation services and spaces play an important role in providing different recreation options for residents living in increasingly urbanised places.

New life to old infrastructure

Converting redundant road or rail infrastructure into parks is an emerging trend across the globe. Building parks above or amongst roads, overpasses, tunnels or railways opens up spaces for recreation within the city that were previously inaccessible to the community.

Communal and public rooftop recreation

In built-up areas like the Inner West, where there is little available land at street level for new recreation facilities, both private and public rooftops and podiums can be utilised as recreation spaces. From the provision of communal rooftop gardens or pools, to publicly accessible basketball courts, there is potential for future and existing public and private roofs to create opportunities for recreation in the sky and provide additional recreation spaces for a growing Inner West population.

Giving life to leftover spaces

Pedestrian tunnels, laneways, transport hubs and irregular or vacant parcels of land in the Inner West often contain leftover and underutilised spaces. Simple and small design interventions to these spaces, such as the installation of mirrors for residents to practice dance, or the installation of a pop-up park can turn these spaces from an unused and often unsafe place, to lively spaces for recreation and fun in the Inner West.

ROOFTOP RECREATION: MORINOMIYA MALL RUNNING TRACK, OSAKA

Morinomiya Mall's rooftop 300m running track is an example of provision of a public recreation asset. In addition to the running track that circles the rooftop and levitates over the building, the mall also supports two futsal courts, a children's climbing wall, and privately run gyms and indoor climbing facilities.



Figure 55 - Rooftop running track and futsal courts, Osaka (Source: Spoon & Tamago)

RECREATION IN LEFTOVER SPACES: TAIPEI METRO

In Taipei, street dancing is a popular activity, and young people meet up in places where there are mirrors to dance together. This underground path between two subway stations, has been panelled with mirrors, and groups of young people use the path to practice K-pop dance. The space has been designed with a dance floor finish and acoustics, and includes free WiFi, seating and drinking fountains on site. By serving a dual purpose as a train station/underground passageway, and recreation space, the area is activated and entertaining for the passers-by. Underground spaces can be more than retail and paths and there are opportunities through development processes to work with communities to identify and claim spaces.

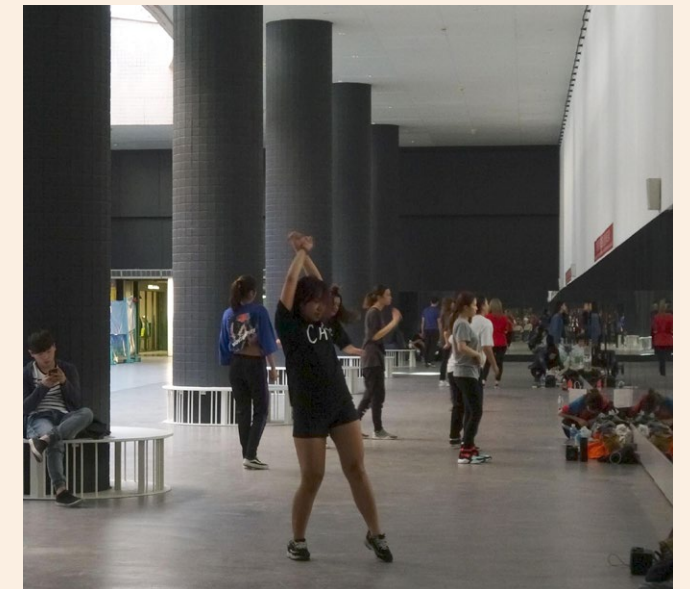


Figure 56 - Mirrors in a tunnel between metro stations in Taipei transform a leftover space into an informal recreation space for dancing (Source: Julia Suh)

COMMUNAL SPACE IN HIGH-DENSITY DEVELOPMENTS:

SIGNATURE APARTMENTS, REDFERN

Signature Apartments in Redfern is a great example of communal spaces helping to build community in high-density areas. A group of residents converted the rooftop garden beds into a community garden, which has since expanded into common areas on the lower levels. The Strata runs events like Christmas parties and Earth Hour board games by candlelight on the roof, and a community swap room has been set up in the bin room. Residents can follow the building's Facebook group, managed by the Strata, and ask advice, post about events, and welcome new people moving in. The community garden has even been featured on *Gardening Australia*. The building's residents are also connected with the broader community, including through hosting a FoodConnect drop-off point.



Figure 58 - Communal gardens at Signature Apartments, Redfern (Source: greenvillages.com)

1 FRESHWATER PLACE, SOUTHBANK, MELBOURNE

The green roof at Freshwater Place is part of the communal facilities that include barbeque areas, pool, gym and function spaces. The green roof is an elevated landscape located on top of the nine-storey car park. It is made up of a series of garden mounds, a grass lawn, storage sheds and planter boxes for growing vegetables. A windbreak wall was added to protect the site from the strong southerly wind. Residents and their guests have full access to the level 10 roof and it can be seen from most of the apartments as they extend many floors higher than the car park.

NIC ON FIFTH, MINNEAPOLIS and DIVERCITY, WOOLLOOMOOLOO

Amenities at Nic on Fifth include a rooftop garden with lounge areas and firepits, a grilling area and outdoor kitchen, Zen garden, and outdoor dog run. Divercity includes landscaped podium top space with cabanas, barbeques, pizza ovens and outdoor yoga studio.



Figure 59 - Communal dog run at Nic on Fifth, Minneapolis (Source: The Star Tribune)

ROOFTOP RECREATION: PARK 'N' PLAY, NORDHAVEN, DENMARK

A new playground called 'Park 'n' Play' has been built above Copenhagen's harbour scenery. The bright red space is located 24m above sea level on the roof of a car park and has set new standards in the way people think about designing public spaces. This project's challenge was to create centrally located parking facilities that would optimally integrate into the surroundings of the modern Nordhavn city district. Nordhavn is a rapidly growing urban city which will have thousands of new residents. Such an ambitious urban renewal required ambitious approaches to recreation spaces addressed by this playground.

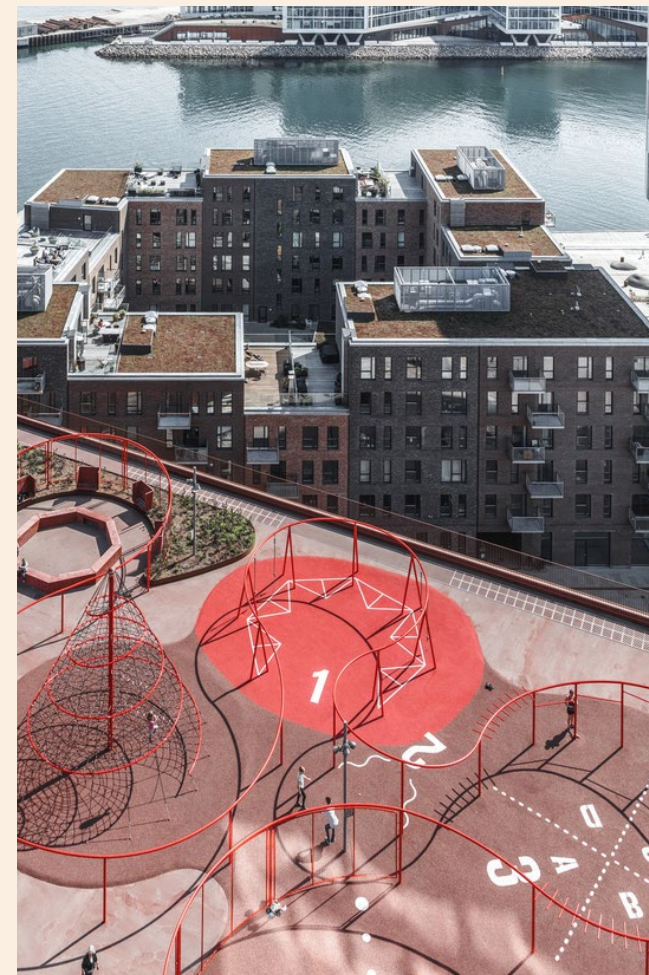


Figure 57 - Playspace on a carpark rooftop in Copenhagen (Source: JAJA Architects)

SHARING SPACE WITH SCHOOLS: SSC LEICHARDT CAMPUS, INNER WEST COUNCIL

Inner West Council worked with Sydney Secondary College Leichhardt Campus and the NSW Department of Education to deliver one of the first examples of sharing school facilities with the community. Inner West Council built, maintained, enhanced, refurbished and manages a field on the school grounds (land owned by the Department of Education), which can be booked for community sport outside of school hours, and is also used by the school for school sport and lessons.

UNDERGROUND SPACES: HUME PARK, CROWS NEST

On a small site in an urban renewal area, the Hume Park upgrade and expansion will provide an underground indoor sports centre with natural light, cinema, carpark, and 8,000m² of ground level open space. A plaza and pedestrian link will connect the site into the urban fabric.



Figure 60 - Artist impression of Hume Park (Source: via Sydney Morning Herald)

ROOFTOP RECREATION: ULTIMO COMMUNITY CENTRE, SYDNEY

Ultimo Community Centre is an example of an innovative and compact multipurpose community and recreation facility. Hosting a library, multipurpose hall (community hall and indoor courts), childcare, seniors' centre, art & craft room, and two multipurpose outdoor courts on the building's rooftop, it is a successful example of how rooftops can be used to provide for community sport and recreation in dense urban areas where space for recreation on the ground is sparse. The rooftop is suitable for basketball, netball, football and tennis and can be set up to include:

- 2 basketball courts: 15m x 28m each
- 2 tennis courts: 15m x 28m each
- 1 netball court 15m x 18m



Figure 61 - Ultimo Community Centre (Source: City of Sydney)

OFF-LEASH DOG PARKS: FORMER MARRICKVILLE COUNCIL

Walking with dogs is the second most popular recreation activity in the former Marrickville Council area, and dog parks can be important social connectors. However, new off-leash dog parks can also create conflict or be concerning to local residents and other park users. New off-leash dog parks have been trialled for 6 months, including promoting shared use of the areas and awareness and education of dog owners of the presence of bandicoots. The trials were evaluated after 6 months, with some changes made and most parks continuing to operate with off-leash areas.

Signage in the off-leash parks is strengths-based rather than regulation- and punishment-focused, and encourages shared use of the areas.

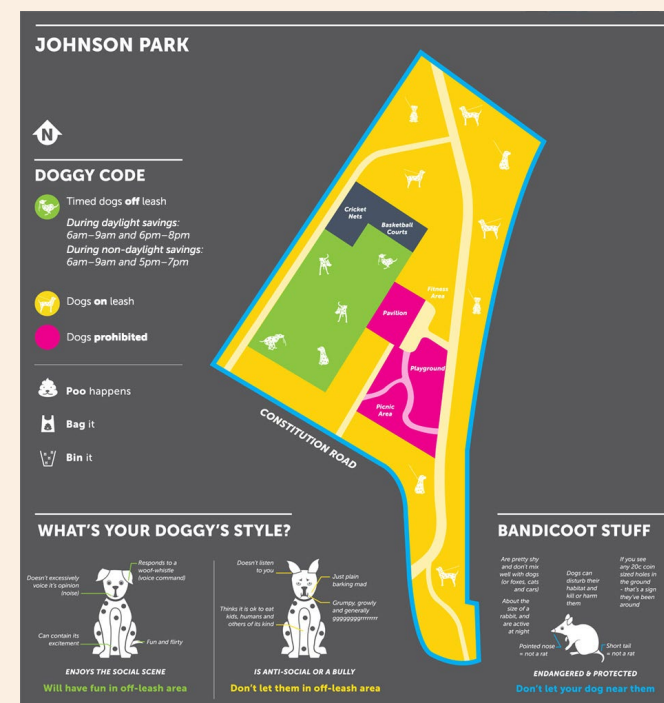


Figure 62 - Johnson Park off-leash signage (Source: Inner West Council)

4. INCLUSION AND UNIVERSALITY

The Inner West is home to a unique and diverse community, with a range of age groups, cultures and abilities. Inclusion happens when every person who wishes to can access and participate fully in all aspects of an activity or service in the same way as any other member of the community (irrespective of age, disability, gender, religion, sexual preference or cultural heritage).

Inclusion of people with disability

Dimensions of inclusion include:

- Being heard and valued
- Meaningful participation
- Connection and belonging
- Opportunity to access supports
- Choice and control in your life

Parks and recreation facilities and programs are important to the wellbeing and health of adults and children with disabilities. Universal design is an approach that ensures that recreation options and programs are inclusive of everyone. Where implemented, it is also important that universal and accessible design features within existing and new facilities, and parks are communicated to the community.

8 to 80 approach to design

In terms of access to open space and recreation, inclusion can mean taking an 8 to 80 approach to design and management of spaces. By asking “how do we create cities in which both 8-year-olds and 80-year-olds can move about safely and enjoyably?” parks and recreation spaces will be able to accommodate all ages, needs and abilities.

Inclusion is about going beyond the removal of barriers. While previous disability action planning has focused on addressing discrimination based on disability and responding to systemic disadvantage as a consequence of a disability,

current legislation and practice recognises that this, while still necessary, is only a foundation part of the wider issues people face. Inclusion planning means that agencies need to be proactive in creating the opportunities that facilitate inclusion, while ensuring their business considers and accommodates everyone.

Gender inclusion

Women and girls can often feel less welcome or safe in public parks or streets – an Australian study found that 70 per cent of girls believe it's not safe to share public parks already occupied by older boys. A recent PLAN Australia survey indicated that 90 per cent of young women in Sydney feel unsafe in public at night. Additionally, local government sporting grounds are often dominated by male sports teams and competitions, making it harder for girls and women to formally participate in sport. The safe and inclusive design and management of public parks, streets and places has also been linked to creating more equitable communities increasing women's empowerment and reducing crime such as domestic violence.

SPORT FOR CULTURAL INCLUSION:

GAME PLAN RESOURCE KIT - CENTRE FOR MULTICULTURAL YOUTH, VICTORIA

More than simply producing promotional material for sports and activities in community languages other than English, The Centre for Multicultural Youth's 'Game Plan Resource Kit' acknowledges the importance for a sports club's leadership - including committees, coaches and team managers - to take the lead in promoting cultural inclusion. The Game Plan Resource Kit provides comprehensive information and ideas on how sports clubs and associations can build a culture of inclusiveness that is aware and respectful of different cultures and religions in the community, and is a safe and welcoming place.

COLLINGWOOD BASKETBALL CLUB, MELBOURNE

Collingwood Basketball Club is located in a community with high-density, high-rise public housing flats with many young people from low socio-economic, migrant and refugee backgrounds. The club overcame barriers to participation including financial burdens, the standard process of requesting permission from parents, and competing priorities - particularly for young women. They did this by providing informal, after-school 'come and play', allowing kids to try out basketball, securing a grant from the local council to subsidise costs, and building formal relationships with parents to communicate the importance of sport. Certain changes in approach, such as calling parents after school when players are home and able to help translate, has allowed the club to build a relationship with parents who speak English as a second language, and helped parents feel more comfortable about the activity. Since adopting these approaches more than 80 children and young people from this cohort have joined the club.

SAVANNAH PRIDE, BLACKTOWN

Savannah Pride is a youth organisation dedicated to inspiring young people through basketball, education and mentoring. The organisation started in the South-Sudanese community in Blacktown and now attracts young people from all backgrounds across NSW. Much like the Savannah Tree, basketball has grown into something that brings all walks of life together: families, students, mentors, educators and outsiders.

AUBURN GIANTS WOMEN'S AFL TEAM

The Auburn Giants Women's AFL Team was the first women's AFL team in Western Sydney. The club was founded in 2011, and formed by a partnership with Greater Western Sydney Giants in 2014. Team members come from many backgrounds, with about 80 per cent Muslim players. The club seeks to create pathways for women to start playing football and to continue playing, including at an elite level. The club uses sport as a vehicle for social inclusion, through engaging with local schools and with young girls and their families.



Figure 63 - Auburn Giants Women's AFL
(Source: Harvey Norman)

SENIORS' PLAYGROUNDS

Dubbed London's first "pensioners playground", Hyde Park Senior Playground is a space for older people located amongst existing sports facilities and cafes, surrounded by trees and shrubs and close to public transport and accessible parking spaces. The recreation facility includes six pieces of exercise equipment that provide twisting, cycling and cross-training motions to help users improve core strength, flexibility and balance. The equipment chosen was specifically selected to ensure that a high level of accessibility, ease of use and enjoyment can be ensured for all users, although is not suitable for use by people under the age of 15 years. As a space designed for older people, the playground also allows older people to meet new people while getting active, acting as an important social connector and helping to minimise the high levels of social isolation often felt by older residents.



Figure 64 - Hyde Park Senior's Playground
(Source: Sourceable.com)

WELCOMING WOMEN: GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN URBAN PLANNING, VIENNA

Over the past 17 years, Vienna has completed projects large and small to address how the city works for women and girls. Projects have ranged from redesigning playgrounds to boost the participation of girls in active play, to making cemeteries more accessible for older women who are the most common visitors, to affordable apartments designed with childcare, access to work and access to open space in mind.

The urban planning group's gender expert, Eva Kail, says "For me, it's a political approach to planning, it's about bringing people into spaces where they didn't exist before or felt they had no right to exist."

In a 1996 to 1997 study, city planners in Vienna found that after the age of nine, the number of girls in public parks dropped dramatically, while the number of boys held steady. Researchers found that girls were less assertive than boys. If boys and girls were in competition for park space, the boys were more likely to win out.

City planners wanted to see if they could reverse this trend by changing the parks themselves. In 1999, the city began a redesign of two parks in Vienna's fifth district. Footpaths were added to make the parks more accessible, and volleyball and badminton courts were installed to allow for a wider variety of activities. Landscaping was also used to subdivide large, open areas into semi-enclosed pockets of park space. Almost immediately, city officials noticed a change. Different groups of people - girls and boys - began to use the parks without any one group overrunning the other.

5. CONNECTION TO NATURE AND HEALTHY BUILT ENVIRONMENTS

Opportunities for connection to nature support mental and physical health, and provide relief from the built environment, particularly important in urban areas and for people living in high density. Making space for nature also helps to cool the city, create healthy built environments, and provide opportunities for free and unstructured play.

Cooler urban environments

Sydney is getting hotter, which can restrict people from participating in recreation in their local areas. Research from UNSW and Sydney Water shows that the strategic inclusion of water in public places can reduce the ambient temperature by 2.5 degrees, increasing potential for recreation activities in our streets and public places.

Integrating water into urban environments through design features such as water play, mists, green walls or water curtains in conjunction with street planting and the use of lighter and reflective building materials is important to enable people to take part in recreational activities and stay safe in the heat. The use of natural materials is also critical in designing outdoor recreation equipment.

Research by Western Sydney University has found that artificial materials commonly used in playgrounds, such as soft-fall surfaces can become dangerously hot in full sun, reaching 71°C - 84°C when summer temperatures are in the low 30s. Trees and tree canopy within parks and streets also play an important role in providing necessary shade, reducing local temperatures, improving air quality and providing habitat.

Healthy built environments

Health NSW recognises that creating healthy built environments is more than providing spaces for people to get active - it is also about developing built environment interventions that support human health more holistically, including connecting and strengthening communities, and thinking about ways the built environment can provide access to healthy food options. Access to fresh food can be provided through communal vegetable and fruit gardens, a particularly important trend in high-density and increasingly urban environments.

Green Grid

Acknowledging that green space is key to Greater Sydney's liveability, the NSW Government Architect's Green Grid is a long-term vision for a network of high-quality green spaces that connects people with transport hubs, homes and town centres. This vision for an interconnected network of open space will cool down the city, encourage physical activity and healthy living, provide habitat for biodiversity and strengthen ecological resilience. As development in the Inner West increases, strategic Green Grid connections help to link residents from their homes to work, school and play as well as to each other.

Biophilic design

Biophilic design brings nature into the urban fabric of the city, to meet our innate need for connection with nature and support mental and physical health in urban environments. Through rooftop gardens, green walls and the incorporation of natural materials into the built environment, biophilic design can provide residents with access to nature in unexpected places. This form of landscape diversity in urban environments can activate fascination and interest in residents, encouraging people to linger longer and enjoy passing through these well-designed spaces of the city. Connection to nature and natural forms is also linked to improved mental health and reduced stress.

COMMUNITY-LED TREE PLANTING: COOL STREETS, BLACKTOWN

A pilot project developed by Gallagher Studio, Cool Streets™ is a model of urban street planting, that empowers residents to take the lead in the layout of their street.

In Blacktown, the Cool Streets Model™ analysed streetscape components, including types of trees, layouts, kerbs and pavements, to determine the best environmental and urban design outcome. This data was then used to start a conversation with residents about what kind of look and feel they want for their street.

By coming together to talk about their street, the new residents were able to get to know each other, understand each other's preferences and shape an appropriate design for their street. Having approved the final design for their street themselves, residents felt a sense of ownership over the trees, and will continue look after them as they grow.



Figure 65 - Cool Streets planting crew (Source: Cool Streets)

BIOPHILIC DESIGN: 14 PATTERNS OF BIOPHILIC DESIGN

Biophilic design doesn't have to be large scale or expensive. Simple design interventions can be very effective in meeting the human need for connection to nature. Terrapin Bright Green identifies the 14 patterns of biophilic design:

- Visual connection to nature - views to natural spaces
- Non-visual connection to nature - using natural materials, sounds of nature, pets
- Non-rhythmic sensory stimuli - reflections of water on a surface, billowy fabric, shadows that change with movement or time
- Thermal airflow and variability - natural ventilation
- Presence of water
- Dynamic and diffuse light - natural light, variety of light sources for different spaces
- Connection with natural systems - seasonal patterns, night/day changes
- Biomorphic forms and patterns - symbolic references to coloured, patterned, textures, numerical arrangements from nature eg spirals, curves
- Material connection with nature - use of natural materials
- Complexity and order - fractal geometries
- Prospect - unimpeded view over a distance
- Refuge - place for withdrawal from the main flow of activity or environmental conditions, in which individuals are protected from behind and overhead
- Mystery - a sense of anticipation, compelling one to investigate the space
- Risk/peril - an identifiable threat coupled with a safeguard eg infinity edges, passing over, under or through water, life-size photos of predatory animals or snakes

Melton Library and Learning Hub in Melbourne features natural patterns, views to nature, natural light, natural materials, and replication of local natural features, such as this sculptural wattle flower.

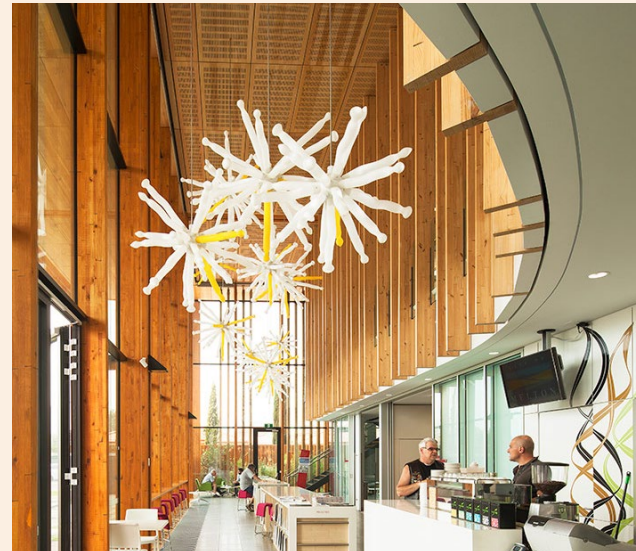


Figure 69 - Melton Library and Learning Hub (Source: FJMT)

One Central Park proved that green walls can work on towers too. One of the first examples in the world, over 2,500 climbers and vines span the building, having a positive, cooling effect on the city, as well as connecting people back to nature right in the middle of the city.

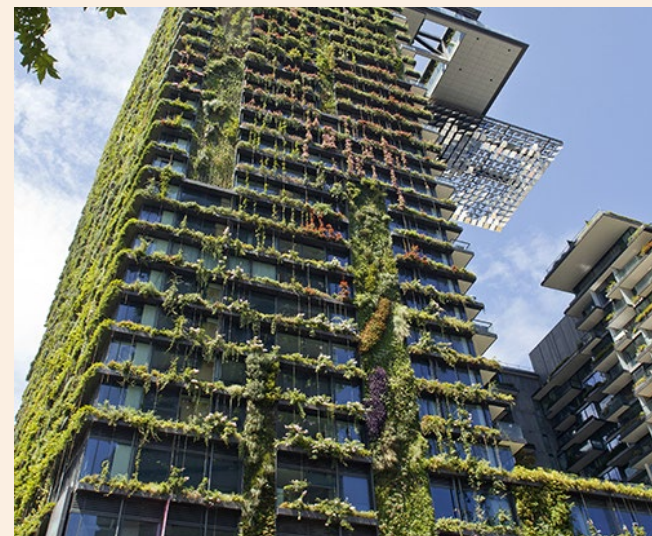


Figure 68 - One Central Park's green facade (Source: Tensile)

BICYCLE PLAYGROUNDS, COPENHAGEN

In the centre of Copenhagen, a 2,500m² space was temporarily turned into a bicycle obstacle course for children by the Danish Cyclist's Federation. The course allowed kids to practice their coordination, timing, speed and balance while having fun. After the project's success, 10 cities in Denmark will now build permanent, dedicated spaces for children to safely practice their cycling skills. The playgrounds are fully enclosed and feature ramps and different surfaces. "Experience has shown that bike playgrounds are a great way to get children to move and be safe in traffic," according to the head of the Federation, Klaus Bondam. Denmark is one of the most cycle-friendly countries in the world: 9 out of 10 Danes owns a bike, and 45 per cent of children cycle to school.

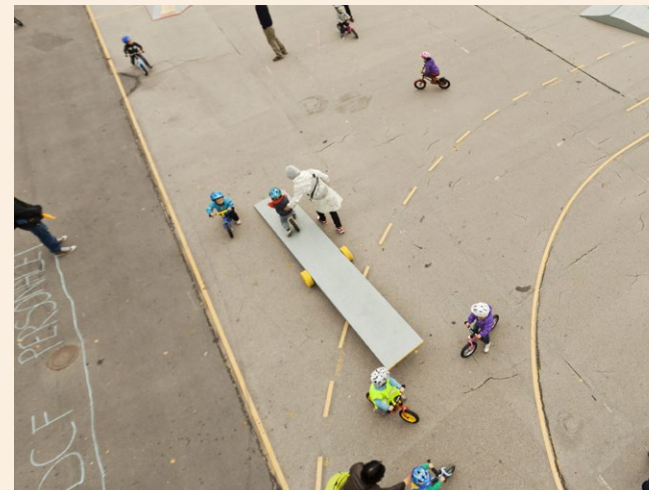


Figure 67 - Pop-up bicycle playground, Copenhagen (Source: Eltis)

BOURKE STREET CYCLEWAY, SYDNEY

Dedicated cycle paths make riding on the road feel safer for different groups including kids and parents riding to school, work or other recreation spaces. In addition to the existing path, the planned 1.5km upgrade between Phillip St, Redfern and Botany Rd, Green Square will include wider footpaths allowing pedestrians and bikes to share the space off-road, improved street lighting, and signage to remind cyclists to ride slowly. By providing dedicated space for riding off-road, these design changes will increase the ridership of children, young people and women. The cycleway already has been successful getting kids riding to school. The Bourke Street Public School principal Peter Johnston said: "About 80 per cent of the school's pupils already walk, ride or scooter every day. The kids enjoy it because they can ride along the bike lane to the school gate." Lilyfield Road is an important commuter corridor in the Inner West where similar treatments could work well.



Figure 66 - Bourke St Cycleway (Source: GSA)

6. CO-DESIGN

Community-led change

People know what’s needed, and what will and won’t work in their area. Involving the community - in all its diversity - in the design of recreation spaces and activities at an early stage is important to secure positive recreation and community outcomes.

Beyond community engagement, councils can also support communities to deliver on their own recreation needs, for example, by connecting people to resources and also by ‘getting out of the way’ and removing regulation to make it easier to carry out community projects like verge gardens.

COMMUNITY-LED CHANGE: RESIDENT FOOD PLANTING IN PUBLIC SPACE, BAYSWATER COUNCIL, PERTH

At a time where communities are wanting more control over positive social, recreational and urban change in their neighbourhoods, Bayswater Council in Perth is opening up their public parks and street verges to resident food planting. Red tape is significantly reduced in an effort to create a healthy built environment and community led change, particularly in their urban areas.



Figure 70 - Bayswater Council resident with his verge garden (Source: Bunbury Mail)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN PARK DESIGN: SUPERKILEN PARK, COPENHAGEN

Superkilen Park is a 30,000m² park in Copenhagen designed to enable “extreme participation” and engagement by the local residents, the most diverse in Denmark with more than 50 nationalities. Residents nominated different objects to include in this incredible social, cultural, recreation, multipurpose, and intergenerational space. There’s a boxing ring and coal barbeques for large family gatherings, and places (as throughout Copenhagen) for adults to play.

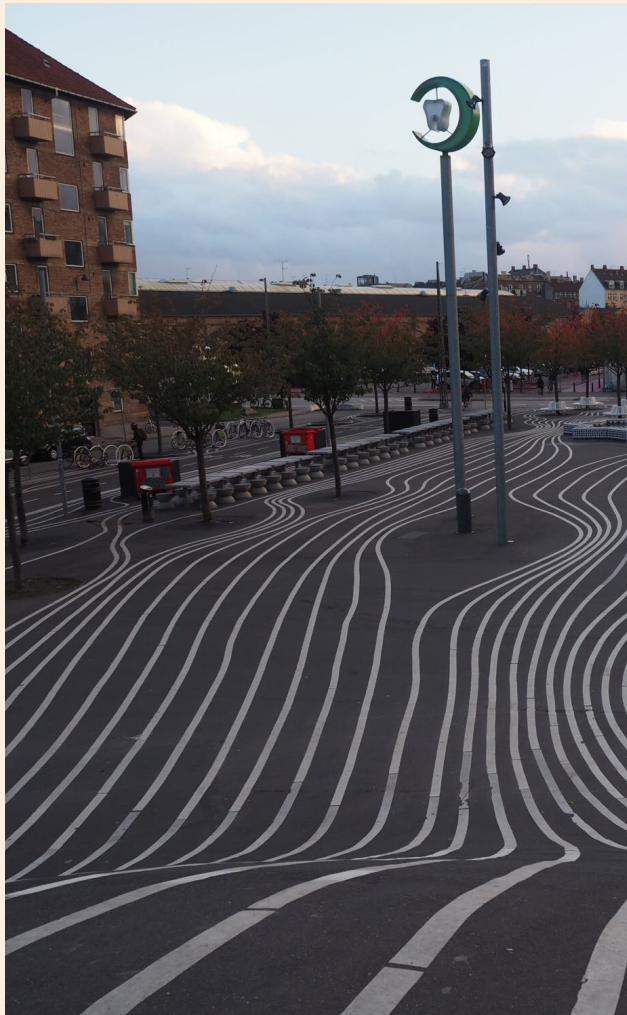


Figure 71 - Superkilen Park (Source: Sarah Reilly)

7. RISK AND ADVENTURE;
CHILD-DIRECTED PLAY

Wild play and adventure play

Children are spending less time outside, and in free, unsupervised play than a generation ago. In 2010 Planet Ark estimated that only 35 per cent of Australian children play outside every day, compared to 72 per cent a generation ago.

Adventure and nature parks embrace the theory that free and unstructured play is essential to children’s growth and development. Providing an antidote to digital distractions, wild or adventure playgrounds allow children to create their own spaces in a hands-on way, empowering kids to self-organise and learn by doing. These formative opportunities for growth and creativity are being lost due to either a lack of access to nature, fear of risk or over-scheduling of children’s free time. In an increasingly developed and more densely populated environment, giving agency and play spaces for children to invent their own games is important, encouraging them to experience and develop a strong connection to nature.

ADVENTURE PLAY: THE LAND, PLAS MADOC, WALES and TOKYO PLAY PARKS

In a highly disadvantaged housing estate in Wales, The Land is a 55m² “junk” playground, a fenced-off grassy area with scrounged and donated items - pallets, wheelbarrows, tyres, ropes, shopping trolleys, upside down boats. A resident opened the playground two years ago with funding from the Welsh government to establish an adventure playground. The focus is on child-directed play, with two playworkers on site who observe the play but step in only when needed. The space is an opportunity for children to engage in risky, adventurous play; to build, make fires, and construct hiding space; to imagine. While cheap to build and stock, barriers to this kind of play space can be the staffing resource (which is where volunteers come in), as well as community perceptions that it is an ugly space.

There are more than 80 play parks (adventure playgrounds) in Tokyo, ranging from pop-ups and gatherings in local neighbourhoods to expansive play-worker staffed spaces like Yume Park, which has hand built zip-lines, towers, fire pits and a pizza oven.



Figure 73 - Tokyo Play Parks (Source: Sarah Reilly)



Figure 72 - The Land (Source: Erin Davis)

WILD PLAY: SYDNEY PARK, ST PETERS

Containing sporting fields, a village green, shared paths through rolling hills, barbeque areas, wetlands and a large children’s inclusive, universal playground, Sydney Park is a regional-scaled park that also functions as a local park, with plenty of zones for both passive and active recreation. The wetland provides space for nature play, interacting with flora and fauna, hopping over stepping stones, and hide and seek in natural spaces.



Figure 74 - Sydney Park wetlands. (Source: Destination NSW)

12.0 LGA-WIDE NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

This chapter provides a summary of LGA-wide needs and opportunities, based on analysis of needs across a range of indicators. These include population growth and characteristics, strategic context, best-practice trends, participation trends, community engagement, and comprehensive auditing and benchmarking against industry standards having consideration for proximity, population and comparative benchmarks. Needs and opportunities by Planning Catchment are detailed in Chapter 14.

Overview of needs and opportunities

Overall, this Needs Study 2021 has identified that Council aspires to continue to deliver increased and improved open space and recreation facilities to meet growth and change, and to maintain, where possible, the current provision rates for open space and recreation facilities. It aims to ensure that its community can lead a healthy lifestyle and be socially connected and resilient. COVID-19 has highlighted the basic need of all residents to access adequately sized, high-quality public open space near their homes.

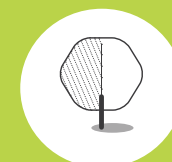
This Study is based on analysis of needs across a range of indicators, from population growth and characteristics, strategic context, best-practice trends, participation trends, community engagement, and comprehensive auditing and benchmarking against industry standards having consideration for proximity, population and comparative benchmarks.

It is important that this Needs Study responds to this aspiration and that it should not be discarded, despite the high likelihood that even with a suite of strategies some needs are unlikely to be fulfilled because the opportunities to add to the existing open space network are very limited. This is primarily due the scarcity and extremely high cost of land areas suitable for open space and recreation facilities.

If Council would like to meet its growth target and at the same time, have a greater quantity and quality of open space and recreation facilities for both the existing and new residents, then a multi-pronged approach to address these needs is required.

Council also aspires to be led by best practice approaches and participation trends to support a holistic approach to meet recreational needs. These include improving our streets as shared spaces and playful recreational links, partnering with landowners for shared and multi-use of their facilities. It also includes ensuring that our increasingly high-density population, including our children, have access to nature for their health and wellbeing.

Priority recreation needs for the Inner West:



Need 1

Plan to increase provision of open space and recreation facilities in areas with current and forecast gaps



Need 2

Increase the capacity of what we have, to handle increased, multipurpose and diverse use



Need 3

Re-imagine our streets and laneways for open space and recreation including for walking, running, cycling and play



Need 4

Partner with other agencies to share spaces that are inclusive to all



Need 5

Increase opportunities for our population to connect to nature

Opportunities to address needs

The following pages provide a summary of each need at the LGA level. In summary the broad opportunities include:

- Maximising use of current public and private open space and recreation facilities through partnerships and agreements
- Requiring planning proposals to be supported by evidence-based open space and recreation studies, based on minimum set benchmarking requirements
- Identifying any underutilised parcels of land that are well located for public open space (including NSW Government sites)
- Including open space and public squares in redevelopments of under-capitalised Council-owned land
- Targeted embellishment such as improved surfaces, improved amenities, synthetics and multi-use of existing open space areas funded by developer contributions
- Prepare plans to create 'linear green linkages' between existing significant parks (i.e. parks with an area >1ha). This may include reclaiming road space for pedestrians, cyclists and street trees/furniture, and strategic land purchases so that more direct links can be provided.
- Open space minimum benchmarks in terms of open-space size and proximity being applied to sites the subject of rezonings for increased density/intensity of development
- Re-development and masterplanned sites to facilitate the provision of functional and high-quality new open spaces – the size, shape and area of parkland being informed by the site size and the community needs
- Re-imagining single use recreation areas as multipurpose spaces
- Where development sites are too small to accommodate both development and parkland, the Council and developer would negotiate a contribution extra to s7.11 that would enable delivery of high quality linear open space/shared zones that connect to existing open spaces (i.e. linear green linkages)
- Re-thinking what open space is through activation of laneways, streets and roads as recreational spaces for informal recreation
- Better connections to district and regional open space and recreation facilities via linear parks

Chapter 14 provides a summary of needs and opportunities at a catchment level.



Image: Since publishing the 2018 Recreation Needs Study, Council successfully trialled a Play Street in Cary Street in Leichhardt where a single pilot event was held in March 2020. Using streets as shared spaces and play spaces is part of Inner West Council's approach to think differently about how to meet the recreation needs of their community.



Need 1

Increase the provision of open space and recreation facilities in areas with current and forecast gaps

Across the LGA there is currently an average of 16.4m² of open space per person, that is forecast to decline to 14.3m² per person by 2036. While limited land availability and high land values will make it difficult to maintain this provision rate, Council still needs to remain aspirational and plan for the delivery of increased open space and recreation facilities in areas where there are identified proximity and provision gaps.

If Council would like to facilitate alignment between population growth and have a greater quantity and quality of open space and recreation facilities for existing and new residents, then we need to take a multi-pronged approach to address this need. This includes delivery of new open space through planning proposals, town centre renewal, and use of underutilised Council and Government land. Opportunities need to be assessed to provide new civic space in town and village centres and the dual-use of existing assets.

OPPORTUNITIES

Increased quantity and access to open space

Overall, the Recreation Needs Study has identified that Council aspires to continue to deliver increased and improved open space and recreation facilities to meet growth and change, and to maintain where possible the current provision rates for open space and recreation facilities. It aims to ensure that its community can lead a healthy lifestyle and be socially connected and resilient. COVID-19 has particularly highlighted the high priority of access to public open space for the community.

Proximity benchmarking indicates that there is a latent need to address open space gaps in some areas along the Parramatta Road Corridor (through the middle of the LGA) as well as in parts of Marrickville, Newtown, Enmore and Lewisham - which have large areas that are further than a 400m walk from open space.

Population-based benchmarking indicates that to maintain the current provision of 16.4m² of open space per person, by 2026 an additional 28.1 hectares will be needed, and a total of 58.6 hectares by 2036.

Delivering this quantum of open space in an inner city, densely populated and high land value location such as the Inner West is acknowledged to be an unrealistic goal to aim to deliver, but still an important measure to be aware of.

Opportunities to address this need could include the following:

- Council aspires to be led by best practice approaches and participation trends to support a holistic approach to meet recreational needs. This includes improving our streets as shared spaces and playful recreational links, partnering with other landowners for shared and multi-use of their

facilities, and ensuring that our increasingly high density population, including our children, have access to nature for their health and wellbeing.

- Developers to directly provide new parks on land on rezoned land – the size, shape and area of parkland being a function of site size and maximum building heights
- Require planning proposals to be supported by evidence-based open space and recreation studies, based on minimum set benchmarking requirements including:
 - Access to a local park of a minimum 0.3 hectares to 0.5h hectares within 200m
 - Access to a district park of a minimum 2 hectares within 2km
 - Access to a regional park within 5km
- Set requirements for future new parks are that they must be located on edge of site and publicly accessible and usable. Where possible they must be connected to other open space or recreation facilities
- Identify any underutilised parcels of land that are well located for public open space (including NSW Government sites)
- Include open space and public squares in redevelopments of under-capitalised Council-owned land.
- Council to undertake a land dedication and acquisition strategy
- Encourage high-density developments to provide publicly accessible communal open space in appropriate locations to support social cohesion and passive/active recreation opportunities in high-density developments, and alleviate pressure on local public open space.

Sportsfields

Currently there is good benchmarked provision of sportsfields in the LGA

However, by 2036, benchmarking indicates that there will be a need for an additional 6 summer sportsfields and 9 winter sporting fields.

There is also a need to work regionally to identify an appropriate location for a new community level, multipurpose synthetic hockey field to service Sydney's inner city areas. Possible locations to include a synthetic multipurpose large format field at Tempe Reserve, and residual land WestConnex in St Peters and/or Rozelle.

Opportunities to address this need could include the following:

- Partnerships with educational institutions and establishment of joint use agreements
- Work with local sporting clubs and regular hirers of Council's sporting grounds to encourage the accommodation of different ways of playing and organising junior and senior competitions. This could include:
 - Sharing the use of sporting grounds and club buildings by multiple sports clubs and organisations
 - Sporting clubs using different sporting grounds for training and competition purposes
 - Supporting complementary use of fields for formal and informal sports
- Ensuring that sports fields are multipurpose where possible, and can be used for both summer and winter sports

A new indoor leisure centre (aquatics)

Inner West owns 4 aquatic centres and 1 tidal bath that was recently upgraded.

The application of the aquatic centre benchmark indicates demand for 1 new aquatic centre by 2036.

Council has identified Catchment 4 – South as the catchment area that would benefit most from the provision of a new aquatic centre as no council-owned indoor recreation facilities exist in this catchment area currently.

This study recommends Council undertake a future feasibility study to investigate opportunity sites and potential for co-location with indoor recreation centre (dry).

Playspaces

With an increasing number of children living in apartments, playspaces are needed for play outside the home.

Currently there is a good benchmarked provision of playground in all catchments, except for Catchment 4, which by 2036, there will need an additional 2 playspaces.

Proximity benchmarking indicates that some areas in the catchment are further than a 400m walk from a playground. Therefore, priority areas for future provision should include:

- Ashfield Town Centre
- Parts of Ashfield (north) and Haberfield
- Parts of Dulwich Hill
- Bays West

Increased opportunities for indoor recreation

The application of benchmarks indicates that there is demand for an additional indoor recreation centre in the LGA.

The former Leichhardt section 94 Plan included provisions for a feasibility study to be undertaken for a new indoor recreational facility in the north of the LGA.

This study supports the actioning of this feasibility study and identifies that the redevelopment of the Bays West Precinct by the NSW Government provides a major opportunity site for the delivery of this item.

Other opportunity areas for the provision of a new indoor recreation centre in Catchments 2 & 3. It is suggested that this feasibility study also examine the ageing nature of the existing indoor centres in the south of the LGA to determine their potential renewal and upgrade to cater for the future population, particularly as the Tempe Park Plan of Management (2020) has identified an indicated a need to upgrade the Robyn Webster Centre. This feasibility study could be combined with the recommended future aquatic centre feasibility study to enable considerations of an integrated recreation hub model.

The future indoor recreation feasibility study should investigate multipurpose uses including multipurpose courts, program space and activity space (eg dance, yoga, Pilates) and also consider opportunities to provide for gymnastics uses in the north and south of the LGA.¹

¹ Note: the reference to additional gyms is intended to address the loss of Inner West Gymnastics in Marrickville due to the Sydney Metro Project in the south, and also facilitate facilities in the north with the new recreational facility recommendation.

Best practice is to locate indoor recreation centres with other sporting uses in a precinct. Siting considerations include traffic and parking impacts, proximity to public transport, and walkable connections.

Indoor courts

Benchmarking indicates there is a latent demand for 4.8 indoor multipurpose courts across the LGA, with a demand for an additional 2 by 2036, due to an increasing population. This demand could be met through the provision of a new indoor recreation centre (with multipurpose indoor courts), or via joint use agreements with educational institutions.

Increased access to number of multipurpose outdoor courts

Multipurpose outdoor courts can provide informal and free recreation opportunities for all age groups, as well as a hard surface for markets and cultural activities such as tai chi and dance. Currently there is a latent need for 1.1 outdoor courts. By 2036, there will be a need for an additional 16 outdoor courts.

Opportunities for provision include:

- Encourage provision of multipurpose courts as part of new open space delivered through planning proposals and town centre renewal or existing park embellishments
- As part of the design of new community facilities or public buildings, consider inclusion of rooftop multipurpose courts similar to those provided at Ultimo Community Centre

Skate parks

LGA-wide benchmarking indicates that a new skatepark should be facilitated by 2036. Council is currently actioning plans for the delivery of a new skate park facility in Lilyfield over the next 1-5 years. However based on benchmarking at a catchment level and looking at proximity mapping, there remains a need for a new skatepark is in catchment 3 in the future. Further opportunities to provide this type of recreation facility in catchment 3 should be further explored.

Partnerships with schools

As part of future body of work, Council could identify existing recreational assets held in private/public agency ownership and develop a prioritised advocacy program that seeks to establish and maintain partnerships to enable community use of such assets either after hours, on weekends, or during holiday periods. This should prioritise areas that have existing low levels of open-space provision and/or areas that are experiencing high rates of growth. Comprehensive engagement with regional and local sporting associations, surrounding local government organisations, and educational providers within the LGA, should be undertaken as part of this project to ascertain future needs and collaborative investment opportunities.



Need 2

Increasing the capacity of what we have, to handle increased, multipurpose and diverse use

Maintaining the existing benchmark provision of open space and recreation facilities as the LGA grows will be challenging for an area like Inner West where land is limited and high value. Council needs to be creative in how we increase people's access and growing numbers of residents use our open space areas. We can embellish and improve open space and recreation facilities through higher-quality surfaces and use of new technology such as synthetic fields, multi-functionality for a range of recreation and for both day and night use, and increased amenity so more people can use them more often.

This includes all open space and recreation types such as sportsfields, indoor recreation, play spaces, golf courses, and access to water for water recreation

Where new open space and recreation facilities are not able to be provided through growth, we need to leverage contributions through development proposals to embellish open space in areas where new open space is not feasible.

OPPORTUNITIES

Increased quality and capacity of open space

In areas where additional new open space and recreation facilities are not able to be facilitated, Council will need to leverage contributions through development proposals to embellish nearby open spaces to increase their capacity, diversity of use, hours of usability and quality.

Opportunities and considerations:

- Targeted embellishment of existing parks, informed by a comprehensive review of all plans of management in the LGA, a resulting consolidated schedule of work for the consideration of future local infrastructure contribution plans
- Enhancing a network of small parks including landscape/urban amenity size parks to provide quality open space connected by green streets in areas with a low provision of open space and a high proportion of smaller spaces: Enmore, Newtown, Stanmore and Summer Hill
- Activations of laneways as public open space or recreational facilities
- Comfortable and playful linear parks linking residents to district and regional parks
- Ensure that embellishments align with universal design principles, are inclusive of all abilities and genders, and can be enjoyed by all
- NSW Office of Sport has developed Office of Sport Strategic Plan 2020-24 aimed at increasing people's activity levels. It will be releasing its Sydney District Sport Infrastructure Plan that will guide future facility provision both at local and regional level and may identify opportunities that will need to be reflected in open space and recreation planning in the LGA

Sportsfields

In order to serve the growing and diverse needs of the community, sporting grounds could be managed and planned for as a network. Local, district and regional sporting grounds must work together to deliver a range of opportunities for activity and recreation throughout the LGA that cater for varied skill levels and needs, and informal and formal uses.

This could include a review of the design and use of big parks, including Tempe Reserve and Marrickville Golf Course to increased shared access, and multipurpose use including a range of local, district and regional uses.

Opportunities and considerations:

- Re-imagine single-use recreation spaces as multipurpose spaces including golf courses and non-Council open space and facilities
- Investigate the feasibility of synthetic surfaces on sporting fields at appropriate locations giving consideration to:
 - Community and social benefits – accommodating a broad range of uses including informal recreation and play
 - Sporting and recreation provision – options for multi-sports and flexibility of use
 - Environmental investment – best practice environmental design, water harvesting and recycling and heat management
 - Economic affordability, value and viability.
- Implement a rolling program of resurfacing sporting fields, based on the lifetime of a playing surface, to maintain quality over time and future-proof existing fields. Investigate which sporting fields are currently below optimum capacity and are capable of supporting increased use

through improvements to drainage, soil profile, and re-turfing.

- Work collaboratively with regular hirers and sporting groups to review sporting ground infrastructure that can be upgraded to increase usability and safety including:
 - Improving amenities blocks and other sporting building infrastructure to increase accessibility, usability, support safety, and support the participation of women and people with disability in sport
 - Upgraded spectator infrastructure at sporting grounds
 - Co-locate outdoor fitness gyms
 - Water bubblers at sporting grounds
 - Ancillary recreation facilities such as cricket nets and football goals in parks and sporting grounds for informal recreation use

Multipurpose courts

Review tennis and basketball courts to identify surface improvements, conversion to multipurpose courts to increase use (eg at Wicks Park and Richard Murden Reserve).

Review netball courts to either convert to multipurpose courts for increased community use, or surface improvements and co-location of additional courts and amenities to increase suitability for netball training and competition use.

Water sports

Continue to provide and expand public storage for water-based recreation activities (eg kayaking, canoeing storage) in foreshore parks particularly on the Balmain peninsula, and along Iron Cove (eg canoeing) and Cooks River (swimming and water sports).



Need 3

Streets and laneways as recreation facilities for walking, running, cycling and play

We need to respond to our community's recreational interests and participation trends. We know that walking is the most popular recreation activity locally and nationally, and that this has increased significantly during COVID-19 lockdowns. Running is also popular. We can increase recreation opportunities throughout the LGA by creating more walkable streets through inclusive design, well-maintained and connected footpaths with traffic calming, lighting, shade, wayfinding, and safe intersections.

By re-imagining our streets and laneways as recreation facilities, we can increase access to open space and recreational participation in areas with existing proximity and provision gaps, and in high-growth areas where new open space is not feasible. We need to make the most of our streets and laneways and improve them with shade, wayfinding, playful elements and improved safety.

In line with the NSW Government's Streets as Shared Spaces program, we need to see our streets and laneways as important recreational spaces.

OPPORTUNITIES

Green streets and links

Opportunities to facilitate the creation of more green streets and links include:

- Creating 'linear green linkages' between existing and future planned parks. This may include increasing front setback requirements to allow for additional open space and urban tree canopy cover as part of future masterplanning studies, reclaiming road space for pedestrians, cyclists and street trees/furniture, and strategic land purchases
- Increased tree canopy and inclusion of Water Sensitive Urban Design elements for heat reduction
- Modification of existing roads to linear open space/shared zones that connect to existing open spaces (i.e. linear green linkages)
- Through town centre masterplanning processes - investigate opportunities to provide civic and green spaces, street widenings and pedestrianised laneways

Through improved public domain, and green and active streets, improve connectivity to existing open space in neighbourhoods that are not within 400m of 0.5 hectares of open space or are disconnected by major barriers (eg. roads and rail lines). Priority areas include:

- Glebe Island, White Bay Power Station and parts of Rozelle north of Victoria Road
- Parts of Leichhardt, Haberfield and Annandale, close to Parramatta Road
- Parts of Croydon, Croydon Park, and the centre of Ashfield, focusing on connecting up the smaller parks in this area
- Parts of Lewisham, south of the rail line
- Parts of Enmore, Newtown and Stanmore between Enmore Road and the train line, focusing on connecting up the smaller parks in this area
- Parts of Marrickville and Dulwich Hill, north of the train line

Safety

Lighting and design of parks (including signage improvements and community education programs), paths, streets and town centres in order to increase (feelings of) safety for pedestrians and cyclists particularly in the evening and at night. Lighting should be fauna-friendly and use sustainable technologies to support environmental outcomes.

- Lighting on streets including connections to open space and linear parks/shared paths, and Ashfield Town Centre to Ashfield Park
- Lighting on the Bay Run, Cooks River, and along the Greenway
- Lighting in parks for informal night time use eg at outdoor gyms, dog parks, running paths, large flat areas for informal sport

Streets for play

In urban areas, unsupervised and unstructured safe places to play are declining. Collaborate with organisations such as Play Streets Australia to continue to trial a Play Streets Program throughout the Inner West to encourage children to participate in unsupervised and safe play in their streets.

Identify laneways in areas with low provision of open space (such as Petersham, Newtown Enmore, and Stanmore) to reimagine as recreation spaces including recreation facilities such as basketball hoops and coloured markings. Work collaboratively with local communities and relevant Council teams to co-design the laneways as safe recreation spaces and announce the space as a "Play Priority Area." Also continue and expand Council's "Love Your Lanes" program.

Cycling

Encourage increased use of cycling infrastructure through:

- Continuing existing cyclist education programs, and targeted programs for older people, women, and people from culturally diverse backgrounds
- Improved wayfinding on cycle paths
- Advocate for bicycle storage at public transport
- Provide end-of-trip facilities and bicycle storage throughout the cycle path network, such as bike storage at the Cooks River foreshore path

Continue to create a connected cycle path network through:

- Delivery of Council's cycling strategies
- Improving North-South cycle links through the GreenWay master plan
- Providing an off-road cycle path on Illawarra Road
- Work on a Lilyfield Road cycle route
- Advocating for improved cycleways through major urban renewal projects including the Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy, Bays West Precinct and upgrades to the T3 Bankstown Metro Line in Sydenham, Marrickville and Dulwich Hill



Need 4

Inclusion, SHARING and PARTNERSHIP

Our community is socially and culturally diverse with a range of needs in relation to access recreational opportunities. We also have a number of community, sporting and government partners who own recreational spaces or deliver recreational programs. We need to work in partnership with these groups to provide inclusive recreational opportunities for all and to share our existing recreational spaces to increase access. This also means we need to promote recreational opportunities in a range of ways for our diverse community. As more people use the same open spaces we also need to establish programs that support sharing by different groups including dogs, bikes, pedestrian, children young people, and older people.

Community engagement also tells us that we need to increase the representation and visibility of women and girls in recreation spaces through recreation programs and the design of our public open space to be safe and inclusive for all genders.

There are also opportunities to reflect local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and stories in open space.

The health and wellbeing needs of older residents can be better addressed through welcoming and inclusive programs and facilities and increase unstructured and unprescribed play spaces for children; play for young people; and create welcoming, accessible and inclusive recreation opportunities for people with disability, people from culturally diverse backgrounds and LGBTQI+ people.

OPPORTUNITIES

Designing with Country

Reflect local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and stories in Council parks including interpretive signage, naming and public art (eg the We Are Cooks River People schools program).

Inclusive

Make access to parks and recreation facilities more inclusive through programs and initiatives including:

- Assessment of parks and park amenities ensure they are female appropriate and safe (change rooms, lighting, active edges, universal design, connected to public transport)
- Multimedia promotion of Council's recreation spaces and activities, including inclusive sports and programs locally, targeted promotion in community languages, and targeted promotion to women and girls
- Affordable access to recreation programs for low-income residents (including concession prices, reduced prices, carer-fee waivers) at Council's recreation and aquatic centres
- Provision of recreation programs for young people at the Debbie and Abbey Borgia Recreation and Community Centre
- Collaboration with community transport providers for connections to recreation spaces and activities for older people and people with disability

Universal design principles

A lack of information on accessibility of open space and recreation facilities can be a barrier to participation for people with disability.

It is recommended that Council considers a future accessibility and inclusion audit of all recreational facilities and park plans of management, that considers accessibility, disadvantaged populations, gender and multicultural diversity to promote Council's strategic objective of facilitating a welcoming and inclusive community.

- Improve access to recreation activities and settings for people with disability including:
 - Delivery of disability awareness training for staff at Council's recreation and aquatic centres
 - Collaboration with sports clubs and the NSW Sport Disability Inclusion Program, to deliver inclusive sport activities
 - Provision of inclusive and sensory play equipment as part of new playground upgrades, including play equipment for adults with disability
 - Provision of access to kayaking and canoeing through inclusive launching equipment
 - Provision of a movable hoist and inclusive access at the Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre
- Increased specially designed recreation options including a range of inclusive and accessible programs and activities at Council's aquatic and recreation centres for people with disability.

Young people

Continue to address the recreation needs of young people by implementing the following principles in all new and upgraded parks and recreation facilities:

- Locate recreation facilities for young people within walking distance to public transport, schools and shops
- Co-design youth spaces with local young people
- Deliver public domain and park spaces with seating in groups and a range of types; shade and shelter; free WiFi, tables, and power points for studying and playing music
- Provide a skateable public domain/ skateable features throughout the LGA
- Colour and greenery, and
- Safety is important for young people, particularly young women. Provide quality lighting and locate youth areas close to activity centres to provide "eyes on the street."

Children

Increase unstructured and unprescribed play opportunities in parks, including varied and innovative play such as adventure/junk playgrounds, nature play, multigenerational play, and play for older children. Build community capacity through co-design processes for future play and recreation spaces.

Culturally diverse

Address the cultural and social diversity of the Inner West community through new recreation facilities that support informal and unstructured recreation participation, particularly in the culturally and socially diverse South and West of the LGA, including:

- Shaded tai chi spaces
- Badminton courts
- Table tennis tables

Inclusive spaces and facilities and programs

- Create inclusive recreation facilities and open space for gender diverse and LGBTQI+ people including:
 - 'Pride in Diversity' training for staff at all recreation and aquatic facilities
 - Subscribe all recreation and aquatic facilities to the ACON network to create welcoming spaces for LGBTQI+ people
 - Deliver inclusive toilet and change room facilities in recreation facilities and open space consistent with directions proposed in previous planning in this area.
- Increasing child care/creche opportunities at Council's recreation facilities to support participation in recreation by parents, particularly women.

Continue to address the recreation needs of older people

Address the health and wellbeing needs of the increasing older population through:

- Use of accessible town halls and community venues as important places for delivery of recreation programs for older people
- Seniors' fitness/play equipment in areas with high proportions of older residents
- Additional Strong Seniors classes at Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre, Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre, and redeveloped Ashfield Aquatic Centre, including for culturally diverse older people
- Supporting older people to participate in bushcare programs
- A walkable and safe public domain in and around Ashfield Town Centre including after daylight hours
- Inclusive design of links to public transport to support access for older people.

Women and girls

Increase the representation and visibility of women and girls in recreation spaces, and create a safer Inner West for women, through:

- Recreation program designed with reference to local needs and in collaboration with local groups
- Equitable allocations policy for regular hire of Council's sporting grounds to increase representation of women's sports

Recreation after dark

To support the high proportion of working residents and students, improve access to safe participation in recreation opportunities at night including:

- Extend opening hours and provide classes in the late evening at aquatic and wellness centres
- Encourage recreation providers to deliver programs and activities in Council facilities in the late evenings (eg sports clubs, fitness providers)
- Provide lighting in parks and streets to support safety and use after dark

Shared use agreements

Maximise use of current public and private open space and recreation facilities through partnerships and agreements.

Develop strong partnerships with local sporting groups to address priority needs, including participation of women and girls, people from culturally diverse backgrounds, members of the LGBTQI+ community, people with disability, and low-income families and help clubs adapt to changing recreation participation trends in the community.

Dog recreation areas

Recognising that recreation with dogs is one of the most popular activities in the Inner West, maintain and support use of Council's off-leash parks through continuing to provide and maintain off leash dog areas, in particular:

- A dog water play park
- Maintenance of dog parks, particularly co-located with sporting grounds such as King George Park
- Provision of water, seating, bags etc and promotion to spread use more evenly across parks
- Review of requirements for dog parks to support education and enforcement by rangers including high visibility signage in problem areas
- Increasing of resources for rangers to educate dog owners and enforce dog regulations
- Investigate opportunities to provide new off-leash dog space in the Ashfield area



Need 5

Connections with nature

Increasingly our residents are living in apartments including children. Research tells us that connection with nature improves our health and wellbeing and can support happier communities. Council can facilitate opportunities to connect more with nature, improve health and wellbeing and address climate and heat impacts.

We need to:

- Create new nature based and adventure play spaces for children, young people and adults
- Futureproof recreation spaces against climate impacts
- Deliver existing tree strategies and increase tree planting for cooler streets and parks
- Work in partnership to deliver identified Green Grid projects
- Collaborate with developers to incorporate biophilic design into new residential developments
- Incorporate biophilic design principles into public domain projects
- Minimise impact of recreation on sensitive ecological restoration and biodiversity areas

OPPORTUNITIES

More nature-based play

Providing opportunities to connect with nature, improve health and wellbeing and addressing climate and heat impacts.

Create new nature-based play spaces (at local and district scales) that provide opportunities for children to take risks, explore, be creative, get messy, and connect to wild nature. This is particularly important for children living in medium- to high-density environments who have limited access to unstructured nature based play opportunities. Spatial opportunities that could be explored include along the Cooks River, Tempe Reserve, The GreenWay, Whites Creek, Hawthorne Canal and within new development.

Planning for climate impacts

Future-proof recreation spaces through an investigation of the impacts of climate change, including the impact of sea level rise and increased rainfall intensity on foreshore and riverfront open space.

Investigate opportunities to create cooler environments at community centres and indoor recreation centres to encourage and enable recreation on hot days. This can include natural ventilation and shading from tree planting. Air conditioning is maladaptive to climate change as it increases emissions, however may be appropriate as a last resort in some locations.

To maintain the biodiversity of our natural environments, and to maximise habitats, future park upgrades, consider inclusion of recreation in natural areas such as nature play, walks in natural areas and naturalising spaces such as creek/river foreshores and continuing the GreenWay Master Plan. Include natural surfaces in playgrounds over artificial surfaces which are more impacted by heat.

Work in partnership to deliver identified Green Grid projects.

Work with partners such as the Greater Sydney Commission and neighbouring councils to continue to deliver identified Green Grid projects including:

- Continuing the GreenWay master plan
- Parramatta River Walk
- Whites Creek and Whites Creek Lane parkland and recreational trail
- Callan Park
- Alexandria Canal
- Lilyfield Road Active Transport Corridor
- Johnson Creek and Harold Park parkland and recreational trail
- Tom Uren & Balmain, Rozelle Foreshores Heritage Walking Trail

Deliver existing tree strategies and increase tree planting for cooler streets and parks

Deliver existing tree strategies and investigate opportunities for more tree planting and shade in parks, playgrounds and connecting streets to encourage recreation on hot days. Continue existing strategies such as the Sustainable Streets program and Water Sensitive Urban Design.

Future urban planning studies should aim to increase tree canopy and biodiversity along streetscapes to offset localised urban heat island effects. These studies should examine the potential for incremental increases of open space along pedestrian corridors. For example, this could be achieved through increasing streetfront setback requirements to facilitate safer pedestrian corridors, improved streetscape amenity, and potentially obtain additional open space for deep soil plantings and passive rest stops.

Minimise impact of recreation on sensitive ecological restoration and biodiversity areas

Continue to resource and support bushcare programs across the LGA to support recreation in nature and improved environmental outcomes, including supporting older people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to participate.

Minimise impact of recreation on sensitive ecological restoration and biodiversity areas in the design of new or upgraded recreation facilities.

Increase natural areas and native planting in open space and on streets to provide opportunities for recreation in and alongside nature. Provide interpretive signage to increase understanding of local biodiversity.

Review Council policies to reduce barriers and encourage community-led recreation programs and projects, including verge gardens, community gardens and laneway improvements.

Biophilic design principles

Incorporate biophilic design considerations in master planning the public domain to improve mental and physical health outcomes of residents.

Collaborate with developers and major project delivery partners for the incorporation of biophilic design in new residential, commercial and retail buildings to improve mental and physical health outcomes of residents.

13.0 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

This section summarises how Council intends to treat outstanding items from previous contribution plans (that responded to historical needs) as well as a suite of strategies that might be needed to work towards meeting the current and future community's needs.

ALIGNING ITEMS IN PREVIOUS INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEDULES

The infrastructure schedule associated with this Study includes transferring land acquisitions identified by the former Ashfield, Leichhardt, and Marrickville section 94 Plans that have not yet been acquired, as well as new open space that has been expressed by other adopted masterplanning policies, such as the NSW State Government's Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy.

These sites are listed below and illustrated in Figure 75:

- **C2-1** - The Ashfield Section 94 Plan (2014) included an infrastructure item for the delivery of 7,500m² of additional open space in North Ashfield.
- **C3-1** - The Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy and Greenway Masterplan identified the delivery of 8,000m² of new open space in the Taverners Hill Precinct and Hawthorne Canal Precinct, Leichhardt.
The area shown is a proximity area for further planning investigation to examine opportunity sites for the delivery of new open space, or initiatives that seek to intensify use of existing open space
- **C3-2** - The partial acquisition of land at 23-45 Susan Street, Annandale, along the Johnston

Creek Corridor, as identified by the former Leichhardt Contribution Plan No.1 – Open Space and Recreation (2005) that equates to a total of approximate 1,100m² of new open space surrounding the Camperdown Precinct identified by the Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy (2016).

- **C3-3** - The land acquisition of 15 & 15A Hearn Street, Leichhardt, as identified by the former Leichhardt Contribution Plan No.1 – Open Space and Recreation (2005) that equates to a total of approximate 1,180m² of new open space, and is in proximity to the Leichhardt Precinct identified under the Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy.
- **C3-4** - The land acquisition of 1 Cahill Street, Annandale, as identified by the former Leichhardt Contribution Plan No.1 – Open Space and Recreation (2005) that equates to a total of approximate 379m² of new open space, and is within the Camperdown Precinct identified under the Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy.
- **C3-5** - Land acquisition or agreement with public agency land owner of 30 Brighton Street, Petersham, to deliver approximately 1,700m² of new open space, as identified by the former Marrickville Section 94 Contribution Plan (2014).
- **C3-6** - Conversion of 2 Hay St, Leichhardt, carpark to open space.

The catchment summaries in the following chapter provide more detail on these items.

Legend

- Greenway boundary
- PRCUTS
- Areas outside 400m walk to a park
- New open space identified by previous section 94 plans, and proximity areas for new open space delivery
- Town Centre masterplans – priority for future open space and recreation to 2036
- Priority areas for increased open space provision to be associated with long-term investigation areas for increased density (LHS, 2021)
- Priority areas for increased open space provision to be associated with short-term investigation areas for increased density (LHS, 2021)
- Dulwich Hill Town Centre uplift area



Figure 75 - LGA infrastructure schedule map and areas for priority open space

A FLEXIBLE APPROACH TO DELIVERING ON IDENTIFIED NEEDS

Assuming all infrastructure items from previous infrastructure schedules are actioned by 2036, this would deliver 22,862m² (2.2 hectares) of additional new open space. Benchmarking indicates that the new population alone to 2036 will generate a demand for 58.6 hectares of open space (based on the current provision rate of 16.4m² per person).

It is Council's aspiration to seek to maintain prevailing rates of provision of open space, however also acknowledge that there high likelihood that even with a suite of strategies - fulfilling this aspiration is unlikely.

The primary limitation is the availability and extremely high cost of land areas that are suitable for open space in the LGA.

A suite of strategies

A multi-pronged strategy is required to address the need for additional open space. The following list of potential strategies that could be adopted by Council to work towards the provision of additional open space are suggestions only, and do not reflect the intentions of Council:

- **Partnerships and agreements:** Maximise use of current public and private open space & recreation facilities through partnerships and agreements
- **Maximise open space and recreation opportunities on Council-owned land:** Including open space and public squares in redevelopments of under-capitalised Council-owned land.
- **Embellishment to improve quality, capacity and useability of existing spaces:** Targeted embellishment of existing open space areas funded by developer contributions
- **Expansion of smaller parks:** Smaller sites next to existing open spaces to increase their size (aiming for more parks above 0.1-0.5 hectares);

- **Improved linkages to and between significant open spaces:** Create 'linear green linkages' between existing and future planned parks. This may include increasing front setback requirements to allow for additional open space and urban tree canopy cover as part of future masterplanning studies, reclaiming road space for pedestrians, cyclists and street trees / furniture, and strategic land purchases
- **Town Centre Masterplans:** As Council undertakes town centre master plans or any re-zoning activities, prioritise providing additional civic and open space recreational space of a minimum size of 0.1 hectare, aiming for 0.5 hectare that is within easy walking distance of 200m from all residents living in high density. Ideally public spaces should be provided as the heart of town centres, for social, recreational and health and wellbeing outcomes.
- **Community Benefit Analysis studies required at DA phase:** Require large redevelopment sites to provide an independent assessment of social infrastructure and open space needs (also know as a Community Benefit Analysis).
- **Developers to directly provide new public parks on land on rezoned land:**
 - The size, shape and area of parkland being a function of site size and maximum building heights
 - Where development sites are too small to accommodate both development and parkland, the Council and developer would negotiate a contribution extra to s7.11 that would enable conversion of existing roads to linear open space/shared zones that connect to existing open spaces (i.e. linear green linkages)
 - Future contribution plans should examine this recommendation to avoid 'double dipping' complexities, as is further explained in Chapter 15 – Funding and Delivery
- **Creative ways to provide more space:** Council's Street Play Program or under-utilised laneways could provide additional recreational space, as too could the provision of open space on Council owned carpark rooftops.

Land dedication and acquisition strategy

- This RNS highlights that it would be advantageous if Council were to consider undertaking further studies to define an "open space land dedication strategy/land acquisition strategy" for the Inner West LGA that identifies areas where future open space is desirable to achieve the maintenance of the open space provision rates. The strategy should consider prioritising:
 - Sites of at least 10,000m² to 20,000m² to accommodate active sports and recreation
 - Finding opportunities to provide additional open space in locations where residents do not have high-quality open space within 400 metres of their homes
 - Aligning with the Town Centre Master Planning processes to identify appropriate sites for additional open space
 - A review of Council's existing assets to ascertain where new open space could be provided, or where the dual use of existing assets could be facilitated

Amendment of Council's Planning Agreement Policy:

To facilitate this Study's recommendation - that where development sites are too small to accommodate both new density and parkland, Council and the developer should negotiate a contribution that is in addition to s7.11 contributions that would enable the delivery of high-quality linear open space/shared zones that connect to existing open spaces (i.e. linear green linkages). It is recommended a future amendment to Council's Planning Agreement Policy should occur that seeks to implement this recommendation and further examines framework considerations, methodology, and template of terms of agreements for such negotiations to occur.

Notes

It is important to note that this needs Study is not able to make new recommendations for land acquisitions in the absence of extensive cost/benefit analyses and wider consultation for such proposals. That isn't to say that additional space isn't urgently needed.

Should Council opt to move forward with the recommendation of developing an "open space land dedication strategy/land acquisition strategy", this Study should be mindful to the financial costs imposed via land dedications and acquisition. This may be best coupled with future urban design studies that explore LEP/DCP incentives to ensure delivery costs are borne by developers. It is important for Council to consider operational maintenance costs associated with land dedications as part of this work.

The completion of such work would be greatly beneficial for future recreational needs studies. as the provision of open space provided on private land, and potential new open space to be delivered on land owned by Council or other public agencies, would be known. This would allow for its calculation into Council meeting the objective of this Study – to maintain the current provision rate of 16.4m² per person over time.

Additionally, at the time of writing this update (September 2021) it is also noted that the Apartment Design Guide is undergoing a review, and is expected to provide more guidance about communal open space provision on site (and potentially publicly accessible communal open space).

14.0 PLANNING CATCHMENT PROVISION AND NEEDS-BASED ON BENCHMARKING

This Chapter provides an audit of recreation spaces currently available in the Inner West by Catchment. It applies adopted benchmarks for open space and recreation facilities to estimate future demand and needs based on a range of indicators and benchmarks.

The purpose of these Catchment profiles is to inform Council's future Inner West Comprehensive Section 7.11 and 7.12 Local Infrastructure Contribution Plans under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and associated Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000.

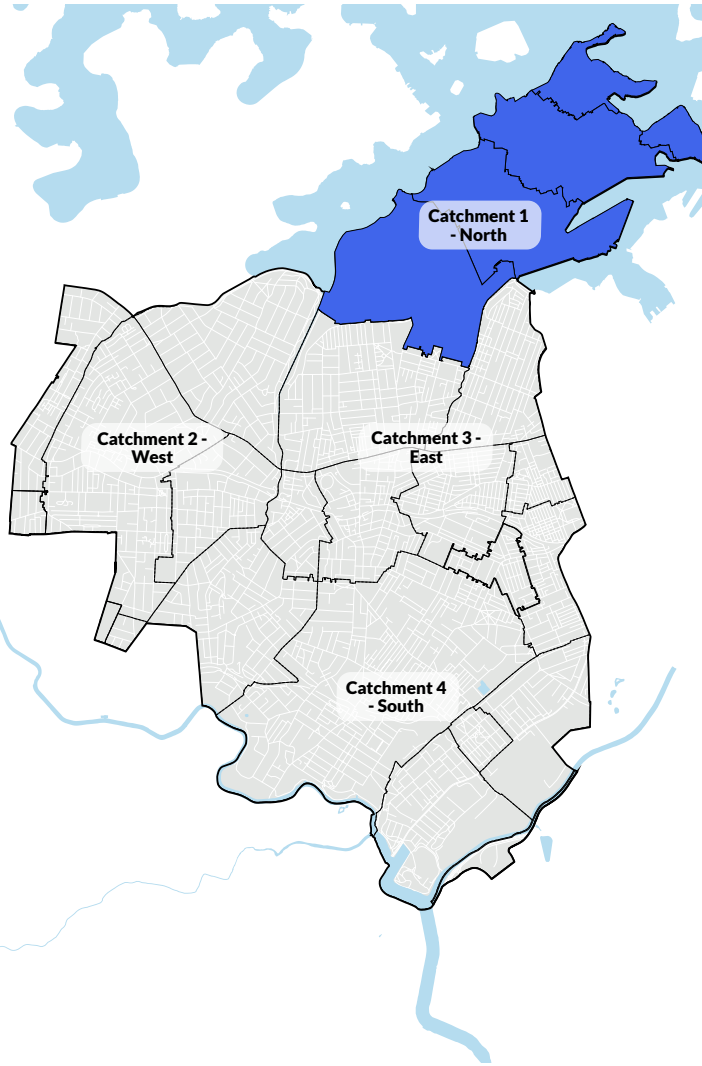
KEY FINDINGS

- Open space and sporting fields are not evenly distributed across the catchment, with the middle two catchments (Catchment 2 - West and Catchment 3 - East) having an existing and forecast below benchmark provision of open space. At the same time, the middle two catchments are the highest density and there are a number of locations (particularly along the Parramatta Road Corridor) where people are further than a 400m walk to a public open space. This RNS recommends prioritising open space upgrades and increasing the amount of open space within these catchments, particularly in areas that are not in close proximity to a quality park. It also highlights the importance of quality green links and connections to open space (within or across catchments and LGA boundaries) in areas that have a lower rate of provision.
- Some types of recreation facilities, such as sporting fields and indoor leisure centres, tend to function beyond a catchment population and are likely to be used by residents from all catchments, as well as neighbouring Council areas. Users are also more likely to travel longer distances for district or regional-level facilities. However, applying benchmarks by catchment is useful in understanding the distribution of facilities across the LGA.
- Some recreation facilities, like indoor multipurpose courts (MPCs) and playgrounds tend to operate on a catchment or local level (depending on the facility size and hierarchy). Population benchmarking indicates that there is a need for an additional skatepark in Catchment 3, while proximity benchmarking indicates that there could be a need for more playgrounds in Catchment 2 - within easy walking distance of high density communities.
- The LHS, 2021 has identified a number of areas for increased residential density. In addition, there are a number of town centre masterplanning projects being undertaken on planned by Council. These projects present opportunities to deliver new or upgraded open space.

Table 35 - Summary of benchmarked demand vs current / planned provision of recreation facilities

		C1	C2	C3	C4	LGA
Open space	2016	34.4	10.1	7.6	20.7	16.4
	2026	36.3	9.3	6.9	17.9	15.4
	2036	32.5	8.7	6.4	16.9	14.3
Summer sporting fields	2016	6.7	-1.1	-5.7	0.0	-0.2
	2026	6.5	-1.7	-6.6	-1.2	-3.0
	2036	5.9	-2.3	-7.5	-1.8	-5.7
Winter sporting fields	2016	6.3	-4.3	-8.1	5.4	-0.6
	2026	6.1	-5.1	-9.3	3.7	-4.7
	2036	5.1	-6.0	-10.6	2.9	-8.5
Indoor MPCs	2016	-1.7	-2.3	-3.2	2.4	-4.8
	2026	-1.8	-2.5	-3.5	2.0	-5.7
	2036	-2.0	-2.7	-3.7	1.8	-6.6
Outdoor MPCs	2016	-3.9	1.5	-14.3	15.2	-1.5
	2026	-4.3	0.0	-16.6	12.0	-8.9
	2036	-5.9	-1.5	-18.9	10.6	-15.8
Indoor leisure centre (dry)	2016	-0.5	-0.6	-0.8	1.3	0.6
	2026	-0.5	-0.7	-0.9	1.2	-0.9
	2036	-0.5	-0.7	-1.0	1.2	-1.1
Indoor leisure centre (aquatic)	2016	1.1	-0.2	-0.6	-0.4	-0.1
	2026	1.1	-0.3	-0.8	-0.6	-0.6
	2036	1.0	-0.4	-0.9	-0.6	-1.0
Skate facility / park	2016	0.3	0.0	-1.3	0.9	-0.1
	2026	0.3	0.0	-1.4	0.8	-0.5
	2036	0.2	-0.1	-1.6	0.7	-0.8
Playgrounds	2016	9.6	3.9	11.4	3.0	27.9
	2026	9.2	1.9	8.5	-1.0	18.6
	2036	7.1	0.1	5.6	-2.7	10.0

CATCHMENT 1: NORTH



Suburbs:
Balmain, Balmain East, Birchgrove, Rozelle and Lilyfield

Population:
2016: 34,050 residents and 9,554 workers
2036: 38,959 residents and 12,222 workers*
**Note the redevelopment of the Bays West Precinct remains under assessment by the NSW State Government.*

Catchment overview

In 2016, the population of this area was 34,050 with 9,554 workers. This is expected to increase to 38,959 residents and 12,222 workers by 2036. It has a concentration of affluent residents with some of the LGA's highest levels of household income and higher education. This catchment also has a higher proportion of babies and pre-schoolers and school children. This catchment has the lowest forecast residential population growth compared to the other catchments.

This area of Inner West has a distinctive geography owing to its location on the peninsula, with views over the harbour and White Bay Power Station. The spatial geography of this area tends to limit moveability of this population to the other planning catchments within the LGA. It is primarily a local catchment, however it does attract visitors and tourists to the area. The Bays West Precinct containing White Bay Power Station and connections to Glebe Island Bridge and Anzac Bridge are also located in this catchment.

The area's industrial and labour history has shaped its character, with many small colonial cottages and narrow foreshore terraces that housed workers.

The suburbs of Balmain, Balmain East and Birchgrove are characterised by short blocks and narrow streets, with a varying lot size pattern. It is highly walkable. Residents value living in 'a village right on the edge of the city' and the creative, progressive and cultural character of the neighbourhood.¹

The suburbs of Rozelle and Lilyfield are located on the peninsula between Iron Cove and White Bay. Public transport accessibility is currently by bus only, but could improve with the delivery of Sydney Metro West, if supporting bus services are also provided.

Key future influences

Inner West Local Housing Strategy

The LHS identifies a number of short-term investigation areas within Catchment 1 that will deliver additional dwellings over the long-term (2026 onwards). These are:

- The Bays West Precinct
- Lilyfield East and West
- The 'Balmain opportunity site' at 4 Jubilee Place, Balmain, as stated on page 165 of the Inner West Local Housing Strategy.

The NSW State Government is continuing investigations into the redevelopment of the Bays West Precinct, the projections will be revised when the Governments' planning investigations are completed.

The Bays West Precinct

The major redevelopment opportunity in this catchment over the next 20 years is the redevelopment of the Bay Precincts by the NSW State Government. The ERLS identified that planning for the Sydney Metro West includes a station at the Bays West Precinct to support a major transformation of this precinct.

Callan Park Master Plan

Currently, Callan Park Master Plan, released in 2021, has \$14 million worth of major improvement works to transform Callan Park into a more publicly accessible park with improved amenity.

Inner West Employment and Retail Lands Study and Strategy

ERLS has identified Rozelle and Balmain as Town Centres, Balmain East as a Local Centre, and Rozelle West, Lilyfield Road, and Orange Grove as Neighbourhood Centres. The ERLS recognises the importance of parks and open spaces provide relief from the urban environment and are ideal for active and quiet recreation in the LGA centres.

Table 36 - Catchment 1 - Residential population forecasts from Elton's Population Review (2020)

Suburb	Population 2016	Population 2026	Population 2036
Balmain	11,146	11,157	11,434
Balmain East	2,053	2,052	2,057
Birchgrove	3,415	3,400	3,712
Rozelle	9,348	9,659	12,366
Lilyfield	8,088	8,596	9,390
Total	34,050	34,864	38,959

Open Space provision summary

The total open space located within Catchment 1 is 119.4 hectares - equal to 37 per cent of the total open space in the LGA.

Based on size - there are 4 regional parks (over 5 hectares) located within this catchment, and all with foreshore frontage: Callan Park (State Government owned), Leichhardt Park, Brichgrove Park, Mort Bay Park.

There are 5 district parks, 13 Local level 1 parks, 27 local level 2 parks and 25 pocket parks.

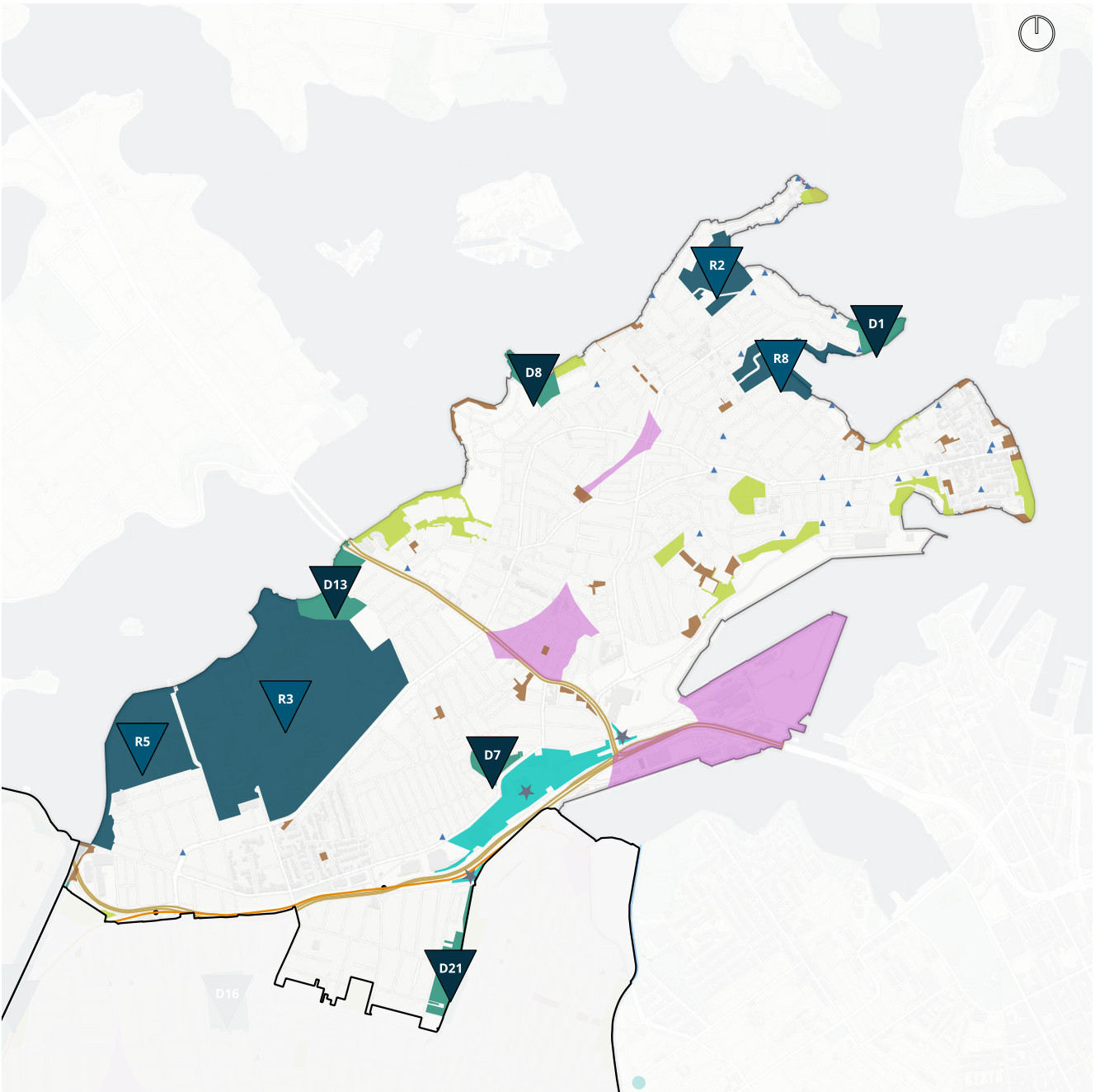
Additionally, a 10-hectare park at the Rozelle Interchange site expected to be delivered by 2026.

There are also a number of non-Council-owned open spaces that are available for use by the general community, such as school grounds for markets on weekends.

Most residential areas within this catchment are within 400m of a local level 1 park or larger.

See Figure 76 for a map of open space located within Catchment 1.

This catchment also has access to extensive foreshore open spaces and walking trails - inclusion a number of iconic, high quality and heritage parks such as Callan Park and Ballast Point Park.



Key

▼	Regional parks
▼	District parks
■	Lvl 1 Local parks
■	Lvl 2 Local parks
▲	Pocket Parks (Less than 0.1 ha)
■	Areas further than a 400m walk to a local level 1 space or larger

Regional Parks	Key
Birchgrove Park	R2
Callan Park	R3
Leichhardt Park	R5
Mort Bay Park	R8

District Parks	Key
Elkington Park	D8
Ballast Point Park - Walama	D1
Easton Park	D7
King George Park	D13

Figure 76 - Catchment 1 - open space

Open-space benchmarking

Table 37, Table 38 and Table 39 is the application of the open space current provision benchmark ratios adopted by the RNS 2018 (16.4m² per person), and applied to the 2016, 2026 and 2036 population, which is inclusive of worker considerations previously outlined.

In 2016, the equivalent resident population of the catchment was 34,739 and the open space provision was 119.4 hectares. This is equivalent to a provision of 34.4m² of open space per person - the highest in the catchment.

By 2026, the equivalent population will increase to 35,650 (an additional 991 residents between 2016-2026). The additional population would generate a demand for an additional 1.49 hectares of open space.

By 2036, the equivalent population will increase to 39,842 (an additional 4,192 residents between 2026-2036). The additional population would generate a demand for an additional 6.87 hectares.

The total demand generated by new residents (2016 to 2036 growth) in Catchment 1 is 8.37 hectares.

Table 37 - Catchment 1 2016 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Suburbs	Population 2016	Total Recreation Demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Council-owned open space 2016 (m ²)	State Government-owned open space (m ²)	Benchmark 2016 m ² per person
1 - North	Balmain	11146	688.6	116233		34.4
	Balmain East	2053		45273	-	
	Birchgrove	3415		124173	26000	
	Lilyfield	8088		148297	610000	
	Rozelle	9348		124446	-	
	LGA	34739		1194422m ² (119.4ha)		

Table 38 - Catchment 1 2026 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Suburbs	Population 2026	Total Recreation Demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Council-owned open space 2026 (m ²)	State Government-owned open space (m ²)	Benchmark 2026 m ² per person
1 - North	Balmain	11157	785.6	116233		36.3
	Balmain East	2052		45273		
	Birchgrove	3400		124173	26000	
	Lilyfield	8596		148297	610000	
	Rozelle	9659		124446	100000	
	LGA	35650				

Table 39 - Catchment 1 2036 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Suburbs	Population 2036	Total Recreation Demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Council-owned open space 2036 (m ²)	State Government-owned open space (m ²)	Benchmark 2036 m ² per person
1 - North	Balmain	11434	882.7	116233	-	32.5
	Balmain East	2057		45273		
	Birchgrove	3712		124173	26000	
	Lilyfield	9390		148297	610000	
	Rozelle	12366		124446	100000	
	LGA	39842				

Recreational Facility provision summary

Catchment 1 has a very good provision of recreation facilities currently, and contains

- 12 sporting fields used for summer sports
- 14 sporting fields used for winter sports.
- 10 outdoor multi-purpose courts
- 0 indoor leisure centres and 0 outdoor courts
- 2 indoor leisure centre (aquatic) - including the recently refurbished Dawn Fraser Baths
- 1 skatepark/facility
- 27 play spaces

Recreation Facility benchmarking

Table 40 applies the relevant adopted population benchmarks to recreation facilities in Catchment 1.

It shows that there are existing gaps (>1 facility) in the provision of outdoor courts and indoor recreation centres (dry) and indoor courts.

It also shows that by 2026, and 2036 the new population alone will generate a benchmarked demand for an additional:

- 1 outdoor multi purpose court by 2026, and an additional 1 by 2036 (2 total)

Table 40 - Catchment 1 recreation facilities

Type	Benchmark	Current Provision	Current GAP	2026 GAP	2036 GAP	Map Key
Summer sporting field (located in sporting grounds)	1:6,500 people	12	0	0	0	▼
Winter sporting field (located in sporting grounds)	1:4,500 people	14	0	0	0	▼
Outdoor (multipurpose courts)	1:2,500 people	10	3.9	4.3	5.9	na
Indoor leisure centre (dry)	1:75,000 people	0	0.46	0.48	0.53	▼
Indoor (multipurpose) courts	1:20,000 people	0	1.7	1.8	2.0	na
Indoor leisure centre (aquatic)	1:38,500 people	2	0	0	0	▼
Skate park/facility	1:48,000 people	1	0	0	0	▼
Play space	1:2,000 people	27	0	0	0	●

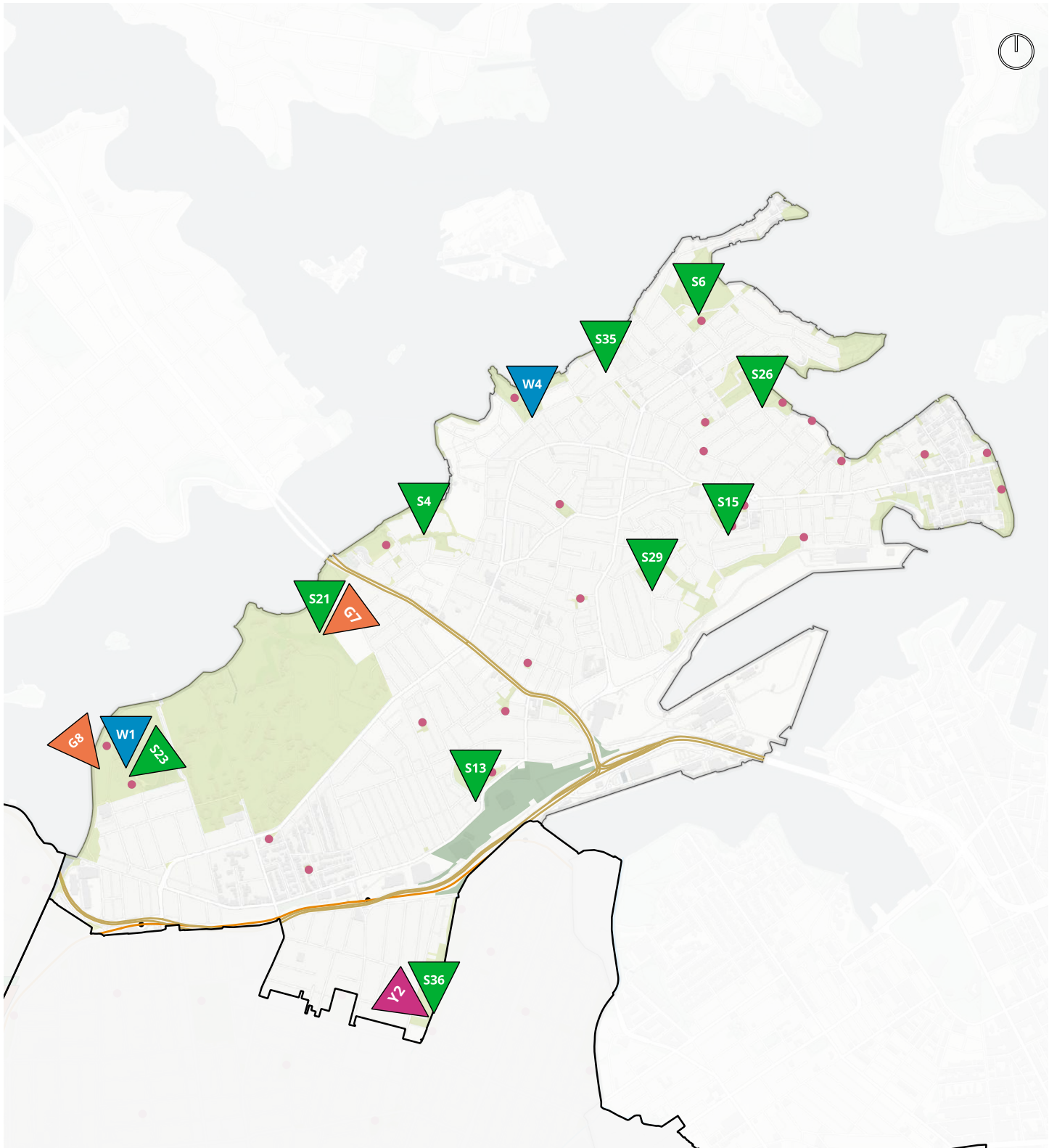


Figure 77 - Catchment 1 - recreation facilities

Catchment 1: Summary of needs and opportunities

In addition to the LGA-wide needs and opportunities outlined in Chapter 12 (that all catchments have a role in contributing towards), there are a number of Catchment specific needs and opportunities, including:

1A Embellishment of Greenway public spaces

- This Catchment has excellent access to high-quality open spaces, and is above benchmarked demand of open-space provision per person currently, as well as through to 2036. No new open space is being sought in this Catchment, however the completion of the Greenway Masterplan supported, which identifies the following projects that are yet to be completed:
 - / Boulderling wall under City West Link in Hawthorne Canal Precinct.
 - / Kayak launching deck in the Hawthorne Canal Precinct
 - / Waterfront rest point/gathering place in Richard Murden Reserve.

1B 1-2 multipurpose synthetic fields

- This Catchment also has a good provision of summer and winter sporting fields, with benchmarking indicating no gaps currently, or through to 2036. However there is an opportunity to deliver **1-2 multipurpose synthetic fields** as part of the Rozelle Interchange Park (completed by 2026).

Increased access to outdoor multipurpose courts

- Benchmarking indicates that there is existing demand for **outdoor multipurpose courts** - with an existing below benchmark provision of 3.9 courts, which will increase to a below benchmark provision of 5.9 courts by 2036. It is recommended that access to outdoor multipurpose courts be provided as part of the Rozelle Interchange Park, or through joint use arrangements with local schools.

Indoor leisure centre (dry)

- There are no indoor leisure centres or indoor courts located in catchment 1. There is existing demand for an indoor leisure centre of 0.46 facilities, only increasing to a demand of 0.53 by 2036.
- The former Leichhardt section 94 Plan included provisions for a feasibility study to be undertaken for the provision of new indoor recreational facility to occur in the north of the LGA (minimum of 4 new multipurpose indoor courts as well as space for dance, yoga, gymnastics, Pilates). This Study supports the actioning of this feasibility study and identifies that the redevelopment of the Bays West Precinct by the NSW Government provides a major opportunity site for the delivery of this item. Other opportunity areas for the provision of a new indoor recreation centre in Catchments 2 & 3. It is suggested that this feasibility study also examine the ageing nature of the existing indoor centres in the south of the LGA to determine their potential renewal and upgrade to cater for the future population.

Water recreation

- As part of future POMs look to facilitate and expand public storage for water-based recreation activities (kayaking, canoeing storage) in foreshore parks particularly on the Balmain Peninsula.
- Ensure that planning controls support the objective of achieving continuous public access to and along all foreshore area through new development

Prioritise facilitation and provision of quality open spaces through town centre masterplanning processes, as well as into nearby (within 200m) areas identified for short- and long-term increased density by the LHS, 2021.

A final, and significant consideration for this Catchment, is the potential magnitude of change that the Sydney Metro West and Bays West projects will bring to the area. These transformational projects have the opportunity to deliver major public benefit through unlocking recreational assets (e.g. access to waterfront) as well as deliver high-quality recreation facilities that could meet the needs of the existing and additional population. Future open space and recreation planning for this catchment will need to be reviewed in line with future master plans for the Bays West Precinct.

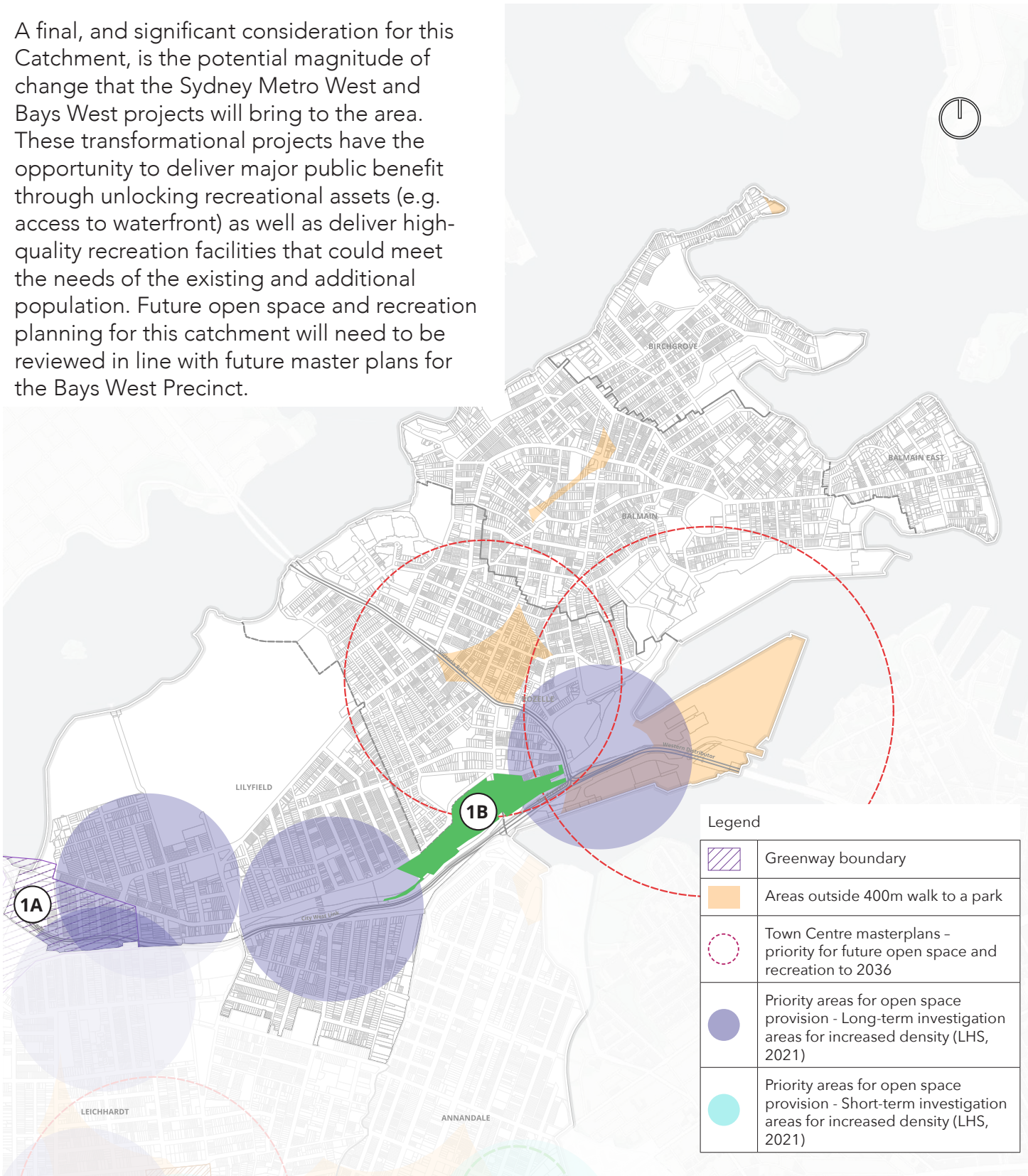
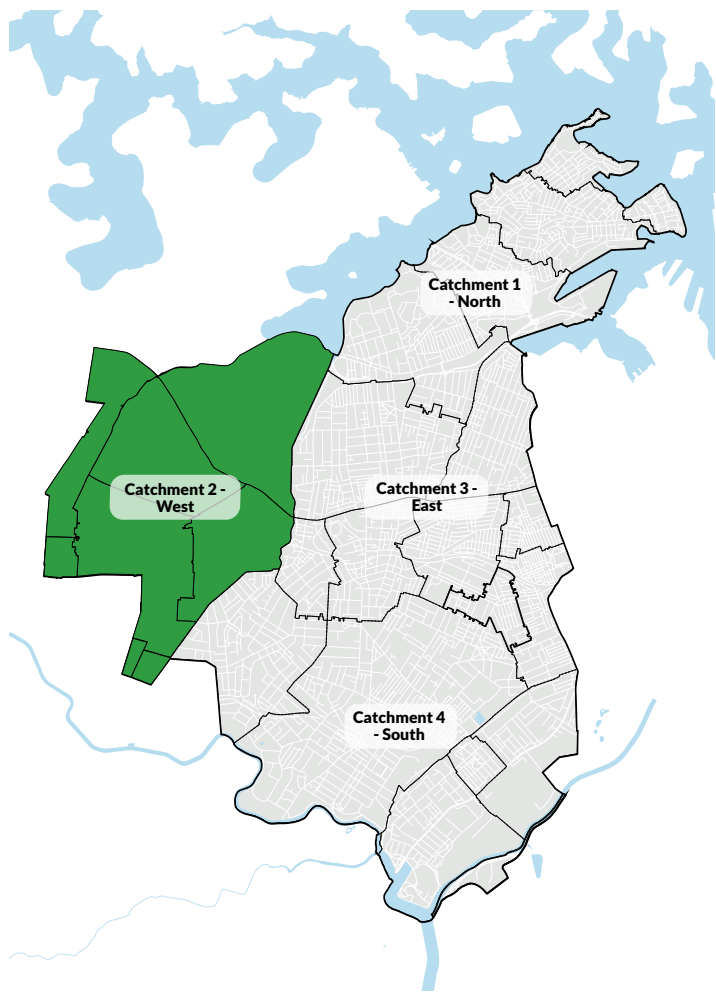


Figure 78 - Catchment 1 - Priority areas for new or upgraded open space and recreation

CATCHMENT 2: WEST



Suburbs:
Ashfield North, Ashfield South, Croydon, Summer Hill and Haberfield

Population:
2016: 45,412 residents and 9,391 workers
2036: 52,941 residents and 16,822 workers

Catchment overview

Community and place

In 2016, the population of this area was 45,412 and there were 9,391 workers. This is expected to increase to 52,941 residents and 16,822 workers by 2036. It has a higher proportion of people aged 18 to 34 years old and seniors and elderly people. This catchment area has a considerable number of residents who were born overseas and speak a language other than English at home. There is demand in this Catchment for community and cultural spaces that are welcoming, provide information in multiple languages and are flexible for large group activities, including cooking. This Catchment has the second lowest forecast residential population growth compared to the other catchments, but is already high density in some suburbs.

Haberfield is a small village neighbourhood with a strong Italian influence. There are fine examples of federation houses with decorative elements along tree-lined streets. There are no rear laneways and no strata development as a result of the garden suburb philosophy of the subdivision pattern. Council is advocating to the State Government for the State Heritage Listing of the Haberfield Conservation Area as a unique garden suburb. It is located south of Iron Cove, with the foreshore providing important recreation space and access to The Bay Run.

The suburbs of Ashfield and Croydon are diverse, multicultural communities, with a variety of household types that suit different families. Ashfield’s town centre is known as the “Chinatown of the Inner West” and provides a vibrant main street with a selection of cafes and restaurants. Residents value the mix of housing types and distinctly residential character of the precinct. This area is well served in terms of open space with a range of parks and access to the Cooks River cycleway.

In Summer Hill, a thriving village life offers restaurants, gift shops, supermarkets, fruit shops and a pub. Residents value the walkability and accessibility offered by public transport. Recent development has occurred along the train and light rail stations and is bordered by the Hawthorne Canal that provides Greenway links both north and south.

The major redevelopment opportunity in this Catchment over the next 20 years is the uplift of Ashfield Town Centre (both North and South) and the Parramatta Road Corridor along to the Kings Bay Precinct. Both additional residential and employment density is to occur within the Ashfield Town Centre, with the Local Housing Strategy also identifying that more affordable housing should occur here and additional community services and spaces should be considered for the town centre.

Key future influences

Inner West Local Housing Strategy

The LHS identifies a number of short-term investigation areas within the North West Catchment that will deliver additional housing over the short-term (current to 2026) including:

- Parramatta Road Corridor to Kings Bay Precinct
- North Ashfield

There are additional growth investigation areas identified from 2026 to 2036 in:

- Croydon
- South Ashfield

Increasing density in these areas implies that quality parks within a short walking distance (200m) to all residents living in high density should be a high priority for open space planning in the LGA in early stages of planning (and negotiating) for this growth.

Employment and Retail Lands Study and Strategy

ERLS has identified Ashfield as a major centre, and Croydon and Summer Hill as local centres. One of its objectives is to establish Ashfield as the LGA’s primary business and administration centre which will make good use of the existing commercial floor space in the centre.

Table 41 - Catchment 2 - Residential population forecasts from Elton’s Population Review (2020)

Catchment 2: West	Population 2016	Population 2026	Population 2036
Ashfield (North)	13,695	14,051	14,585
Ashfield (South)	11,851	13,875	15,593
Croydon	5,541	5,831	6,837
Summer Hill	7,666	8,357	8,390
Haberfield	6,779	7,140	7,536
Total	45,532	49,254	52,941

Open space provision summary

The total open space located in Catchment 2 is 46.7 hectares - equal to 15 per cent of the total open space in the LGA.

Based on size - there are 2 regional parks (over 5 hectares) located within this catchment: Richard Murden Reserve and Ashfield Park.

There are 6 district parks, 6 local level 1 parks, 25 local level 2 parks and 27 pocket parks, with an additional pocket park planned for delivery by 2026.

Large areas of this Catchment are further than a 400m walk to a local level 1 park or larger. At the same time, increased density is being investigated in the area, making the creation of new minimum sized parks a priority for the future.

See Figure 79 for a map of open space located within Catchment 1. It illustrates that there are a number of local level 2 and pocket parks in areas with a proximity gap - indicating that there could be opportunities to expand these existing parks to a larger size.

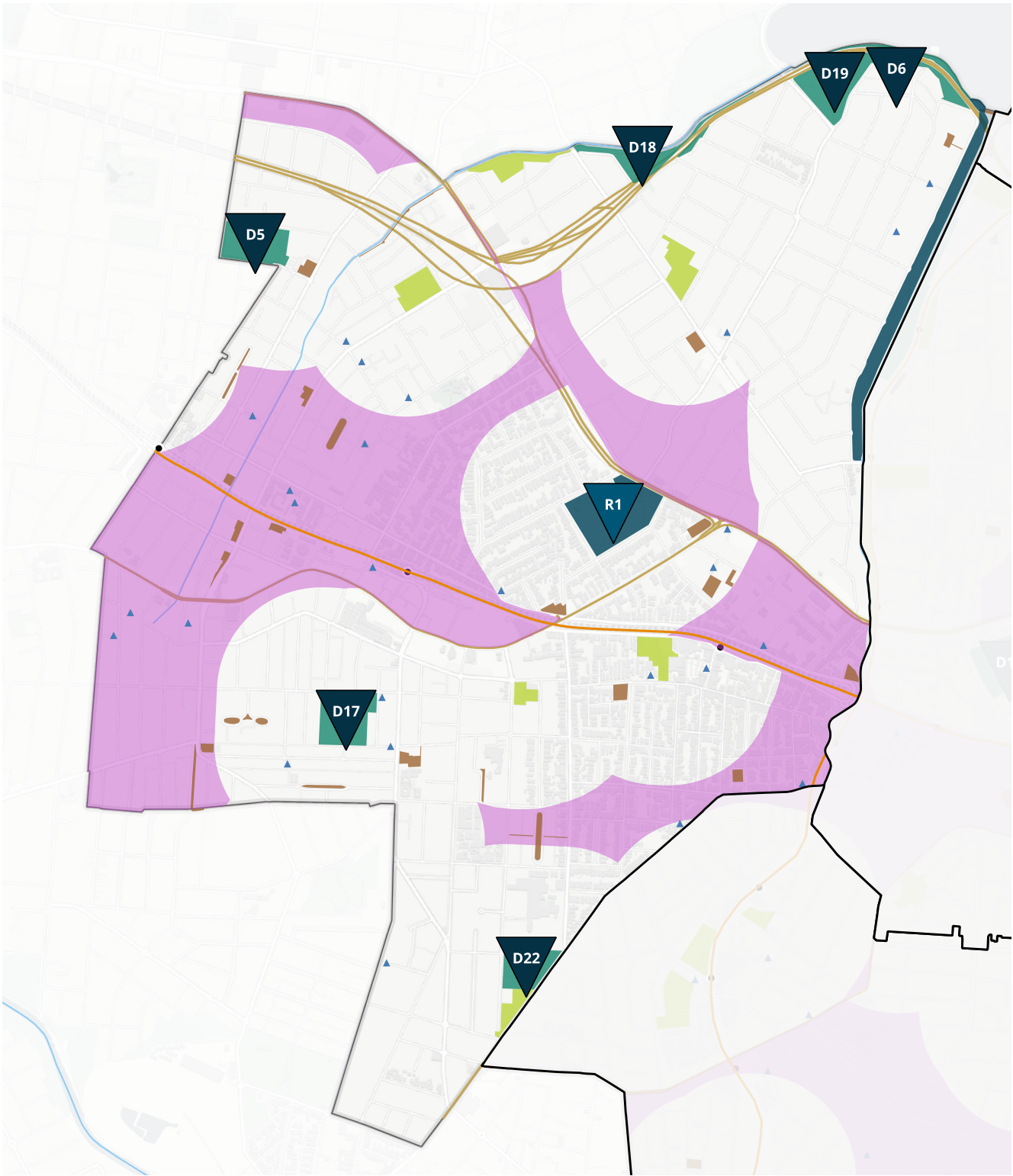


Figure 79 - Catchment 2 open space

Key

Regional parks	
District parks	
Lvl 1 Local parks	
Lvl 2 Local parks	
Pocket Parks (Less than 0.1 ha)	
Areas further than a 400m walk to a local level 1 space or larger	

Regional Parks	Key
Ashfield Park	R1
Richard Murden Reserve	R9

District Parks	Key
Pratten Park	D17
Yeo Park	D22
Centenary Sportsground Reserve	D5
Robson Park	D19
Reg Cody Reserve	D18
Dobroyd Parade Reserve	D6

Benchmarking

Table 42, Table 43 and Table 44 is the application of the open space current provision benchmark ratios adopted by the RNS 2018 (16.4m² per person), and applied to the 2016, 2026 and 2036 population, which is inclusive of worker considerations previously outlined.

In 2016, the equivalent resident population of the Catchment was 46,200 and the open space provision was 46.7 hectares. This is equivalent to a provision of 10.1m² of open space per person.

By 2026, the equivalent population will increase to 50,106 (an additional 3,907 residents between 2016-2026). The additional population would generate a demand for an additional 6.4 hectares of open space.

By 2036, the equivalent population will increase to 53,858 (an additional 3,752 residents between 2026-2036). The additional population would generate a demand for an additional 6.1 hectares.

The total demand generated by new residents (2016 to 2036 growth) in Catchment 2 is 12.6 hectares.

Table 42 - Catchment 2 2016 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Suburbs	Population 2016	Total recreation demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Council-owned open space 2016 (m ²)	State Government-owned open space (m ²)	Benchmark 2016 m ² per person
2 - West	Ashfield	25,546	788	195426	0	10.1m ²
	Croydon	5421		44426	0	
	Haberfield	6779		196190	0	
	Summer Hill	7666		31224	0	
	LGA	46200		467266		

Table 43 - Catchment 2 2026 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Suburbs	Population 2026	Total recreation demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Council-owned open space 2026 (m ²)	State Government-owned open space (m ²)	Benchmark 2026 m ² per person
2 - West	Ashfield	27,926	852	195426	0	9.3m ²
	Croydon	5831		44426	0	
	Haberfield	7140		197090	0	
	Summer Hill	8357		31224	0	
	LGA	50,106		468166		

Table 44 - Catchment 2 2036 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Suburbs	Population 2036	Total recreation demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Council-owned open space 2036 (m ²)	State Government-owned open space (m ²)	Benchmark 2036 m ² per person
2 - West	Ashfield	30,178	917	195426	0	8.7m ²
	Croydon	6837		44426	0	
	Haberfield	7536		197090	0	
	Summer Hill	8390		31224	0	
	LGA	53,858		468166		

Recreational facility provision summary

Catchment 2 contains:

- 6 sporting fields used for summer sports
- 6 sporting fields used for winter sports
- 20 outdoor multipurpose courts
- 0 indoor leisure centres and 0 outdoor courts
- 1 indoor leisure centre (aquatic) - the recently upgraded and state-of-the-art Ashfield Aquatic Centre
- 1 skatepark/facility
- 29 play spaces

The Ashfield Civic Centre also has multipurpose rooms that can be used for table tennis.

Benchmarking

Table 45 applies the relevant adopted population benchmarks to recreation facilities to Catchment 2.

It shows that there are existing gaps (>1 facility) in the provision of summer and winter sporting fields and indoor multipurpose courts.

It also shows that by 2026, and 2036 the new population alone will generate a benchmarked demand for an additional:

- 1 summer sporting field by 2036
- 1 winter sporting field by 2026, and an additional 1 by 2036 (2 total)
- 1.5 outdoor multipurpose courts by 2036

Table 45 - Catchment 2 recreation facilities

Type	Benchmark	Current Provision	Current GAP	2026 GAP	2036 GAP	Map Key
Summer sporting field (located in sporting grounds)	1:6,500 people	6	1.1	1.7	2.3	▲
Winter sporting field (located in sporting grounds)	1:4,500 people	6	4.3	5.1	6.0	▼
Outdoor (multipurpose courts)	1:2,500	20	0	0	1.5	na
Indoor leisure centre (dry)	1:75,000	0	0.62	0.67	0.72	▼
Indoor (multipurpose) courts	1:20,000	0	2.3	2.5	2.7	na
Indoor leisure centre (aquatic)	1:38,500	1	0.2	0.3	0.4	▲
Skate park/facility	1:48,000	1	0	0	0.1	▼
Play space	1:2,000	29	0	0	0	●

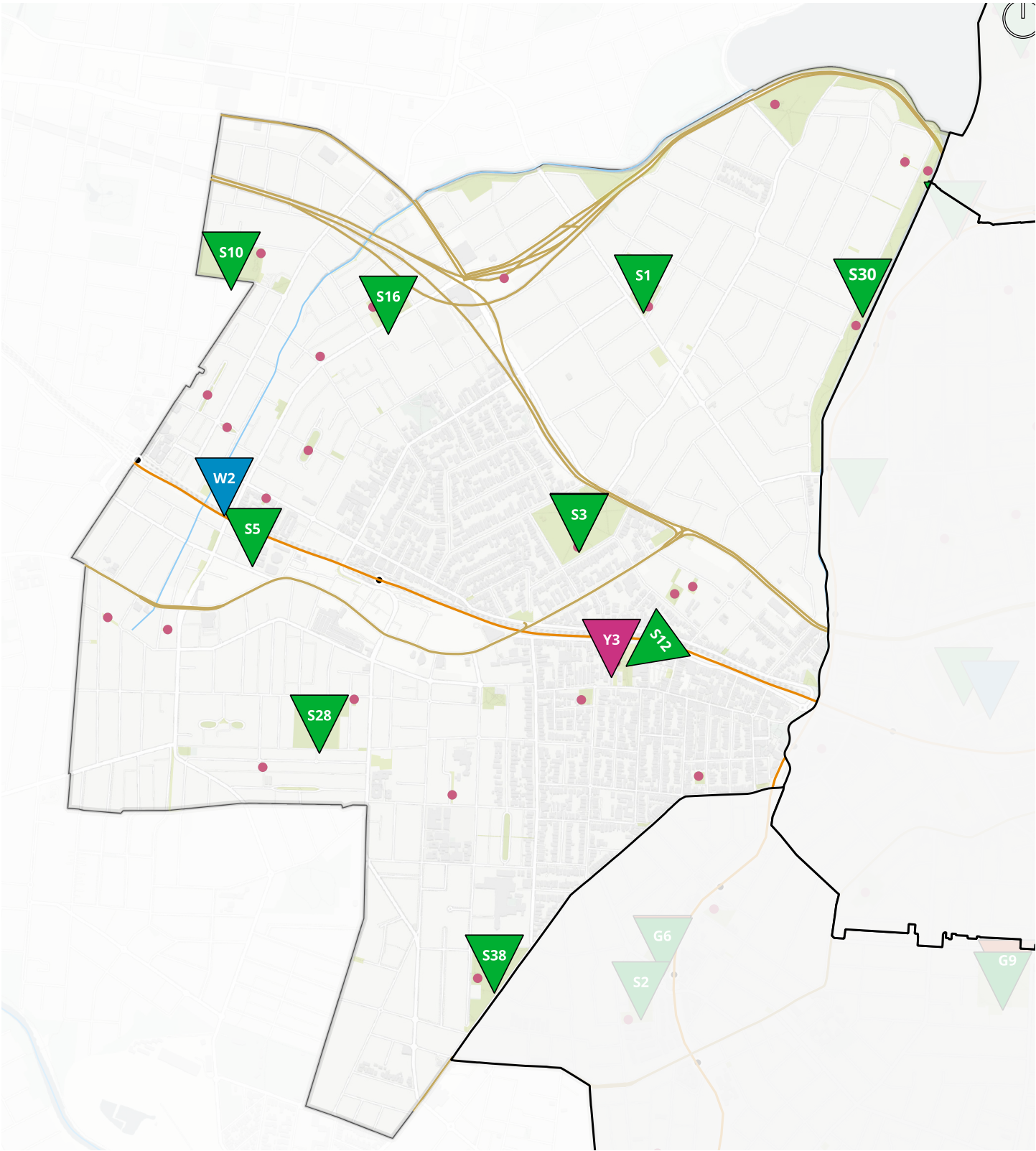


Figure 80 - Catchment 2 recreation facilities

Catchment 2: Summary of needs and opportunities

In addition to the LGA-wide needs and opportunities outlined in Chapter 12 (that all catchments have a role in contributing towards), there are a number of Catchment specific needs and opportunities, including:

2A Additional open spaces

- The Ashfield Section 94 Plan (2014) included an infrastructure item for the delivery of 7,500m² of additional open space in North Ashfield in the area indicated in Figure 81. The provision of new open space has not yet occurred, and so contributions collected for the delivery of this item will be carried into the new section 7.11 Plan with updated land and embellishment costs imposed on future development. It is recommended that Council explore the potential for its delivery as part of the Urban Design Studies of the North Ashfield Precinct being currently undertaken.

2B Embellishment of Greenway public spaces, along Hawthorne Canal and in Richard Murden Reserve

- The Greenway Masterplan identifies the following projects that need to be completed in this catchment:
 - / Refurbish existing playground in Hawthorne Canal Precinct
 - / Decking with playnet in Hawthorne Canal Precinct
 - / New tidal stairs in Richard Murden Reserve
 - / New lookout deck with seats and suspended lounge nets in Richard Murden Reserve
 - / Upgraded barbeques and new shelter in Richard Murden Reserve.

2B Sports court upgrades

- Sports court renewal in the Hawthorne Canal Precinct (6 netball courts and 4 tennis courts) including incorporation of learner bike circuit on court surface.

Increased access to recreational facilities

- A potential future land acquisition strategy or partnership arrangement with educational establishments explore potential sites for enabling community access to 1 dual purpose sporting field (catering to both summer and winter sports). and additional open spaces

Increased access to play

- That future masterplanning studies consider facilitating the delivery of a culturally appropriate playground in Ashfield town centre by 2036, as well as consider other opportunities that may arise to creating incidental opportunities for 'playable spaces' throughout the catchment.

- Prioritise facilitation and provision of quality open spaces through town centre masterplanning processes, as well as in nearby (within 200m) areas identified for short and long term increased density by the LHS, 2021.

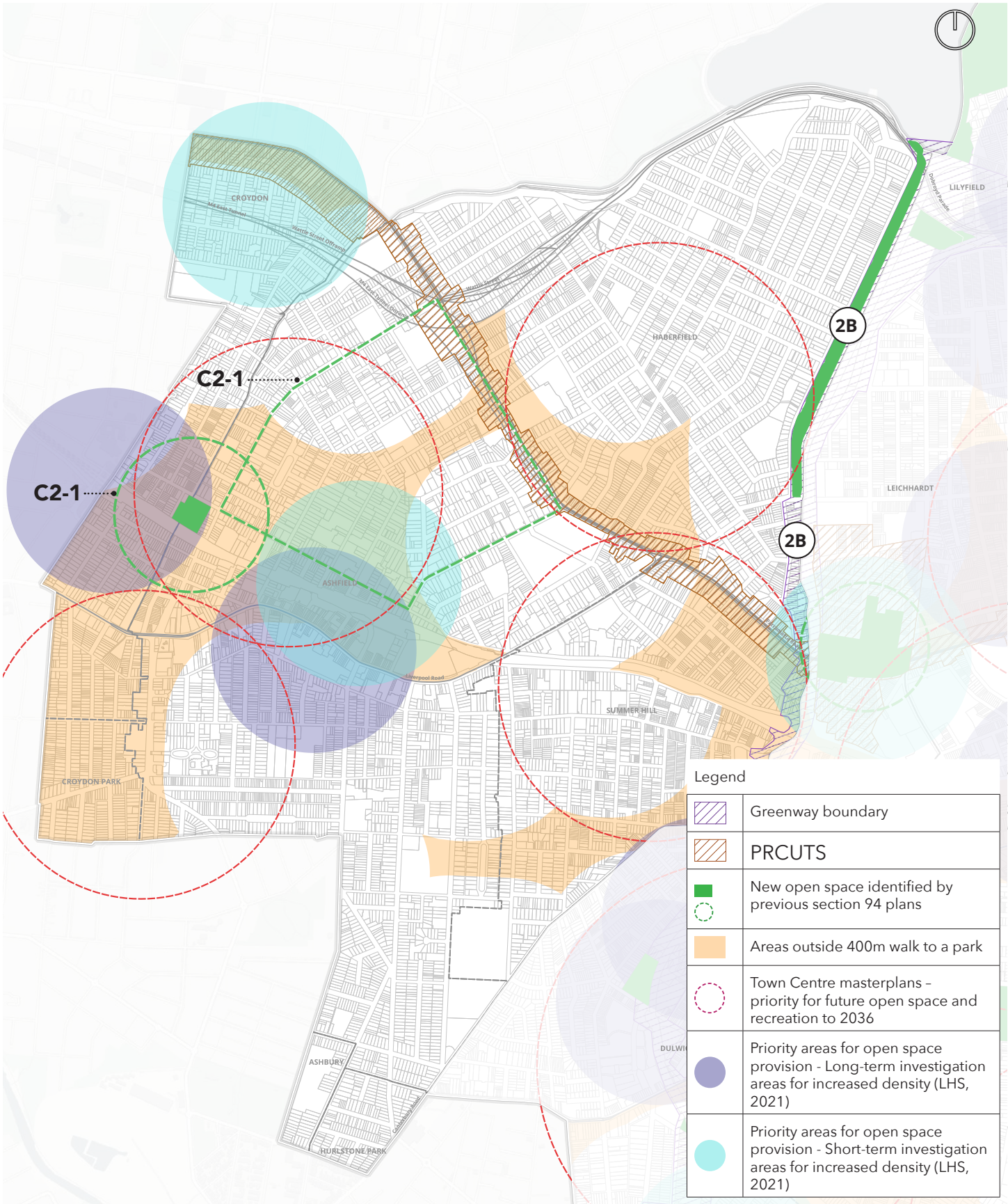
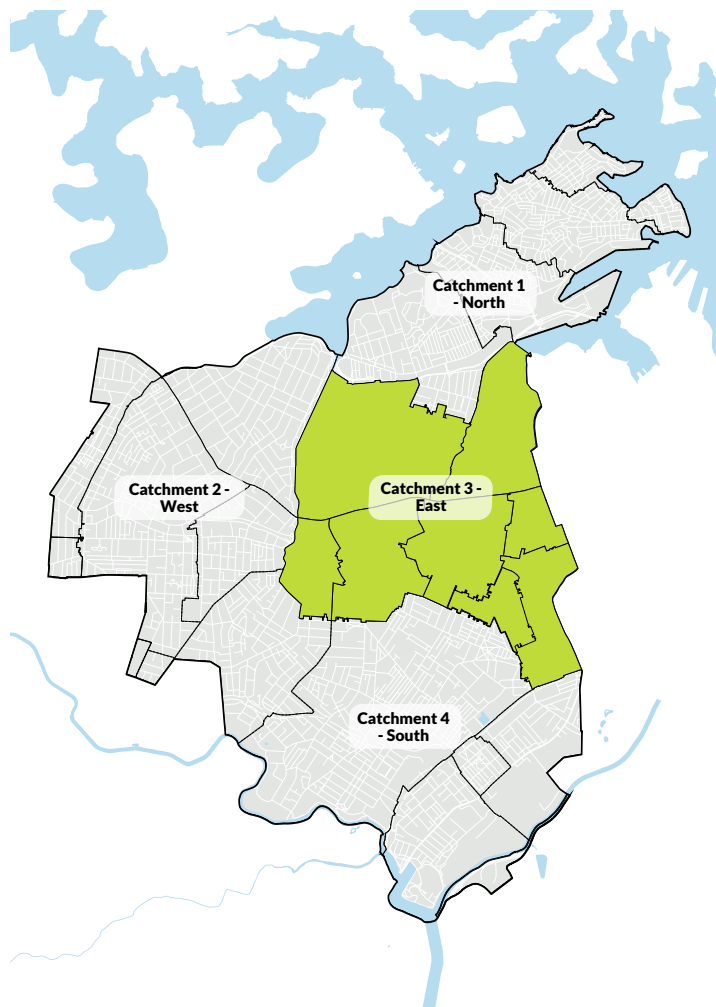


Figure 81 - Catchment 2 - Priority areas for new or upgrded open space and recreation

CATCHMENT 3: EAST



Suburbs:
Annandale, Leichhardt, Camperdown, Enmore, Lewisham, Newtown, Petersham and Stanmore

Population:
2016: 61,937 residents and 19,408 workers
2036: 73,140 residents and 24,142 workers

Catchment overview

This Catchment has the highest forecast residential growth of all the Catchments and includes major project sites such as the Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy (PRCUTS). It also has a high proportion of students attending university or TAFE, a high proportion of group households, and fewer families and children. It also has a very high proportion of same-sex couples.

The prevalence of train stations and bus routes into the Sydney CBD means that the population is mobile to other catchment areas and the Sydney CBD.

Annandale and Camperdown border the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and the University of Sydney and are on the edge of the Camperdown-Ultimo Health and Education Precinct. Residents value the village-like atmosphere, recreational spaces along the canal, access to schools and parks and a growing café, restaurant and bar scene.¹

Norton Street’s “Little Italy” provides a range of cafes, restaurants, family-run small businesses and the Italian Forum. Leichhardt’s sloping topography provides vistas over Haberfield and Iron Cove, with grander houses towards the upper slopes. The Hawthorn Canal defines the western boundary of the suburb.

Newtown and Enmore are well-known for their diversity, vibrant street and nightlife, being LGBTQI friendly and for cultivating artistic and creative activities. King Street and Enmore Road provide the street and nightlife hubs of the area, offering restaurants, eateries, shops and entertainment.

Lewisham and Petersham are located south of Parramatta Road and are bisected by the main suburban rail line. Petersham’s commercial strip along New Canterbury Road offers a range of services and retail.

Key future influences

Inner West Local Housing Strategy

The Parramatta Road Strategy has guided the development of Council’s Local Housing Strategy and locates the bulk of new dwellings within the Leichhardt (1,630 dwellings) and Taverners Hill (900 new dwellings) precincts. The strategy also identifies longer-term investigation areas from 2026 in Leichhardt North and South (including the MarketPlace Shopping Centre) and Petersham (120 new dwellings). In addition, the strategy includes a direction to increase affordable housing in these growth areas, with key-worker and student housing identified in the Camperdown precinct. Community service provision is to be mindful of the growth demands placed on community facilities provision in these areas.

Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy

The Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy identifies Taverners Hill and Leichhardt precincts as the major residential growth locations within this Catchment area. The Camperdown precinct is identified as a new health and education employment precinct that will experience some minor resident growth for students and key-worker housing.

It is envisioned that Taverners Hill will be an urban village with walking and cycling links via the Greenway, access to many public transport modes and many neighbourhood parks, squares and leafy streets. The Leichhardt precinct will be orientated towards a vibrant mixed use entertainment precinct. Camperdown precinct will evolve into an attractive, highly urbanised neighbourhood that capitalises on the area’s existing synergies with health, education, technology and reinvention industries to become a biotechnology business and innovation hub.

Table 46 - Catchment 3 - Residential population forecasts from Elton’s Population Review (2020)

Suburb (Catchment 3: East)	Population 2016	Population 2026	Population 2036
Annandale	9,973	10,212	10,543
Leichhardt	15,514	16,775	20,563
Camperdown	3,689	3,781	3,820
Enmore	4,125	4,249	4,281
Lewisham	3,383	4,173	4,474
Newtown	8,411	8,753	8,773
Petersham	8,522	10,790	11,555
Stanmore	8,320	8,831	9,131
Total	61,937	67,564	73,140

1 LHS

Open space provision summary

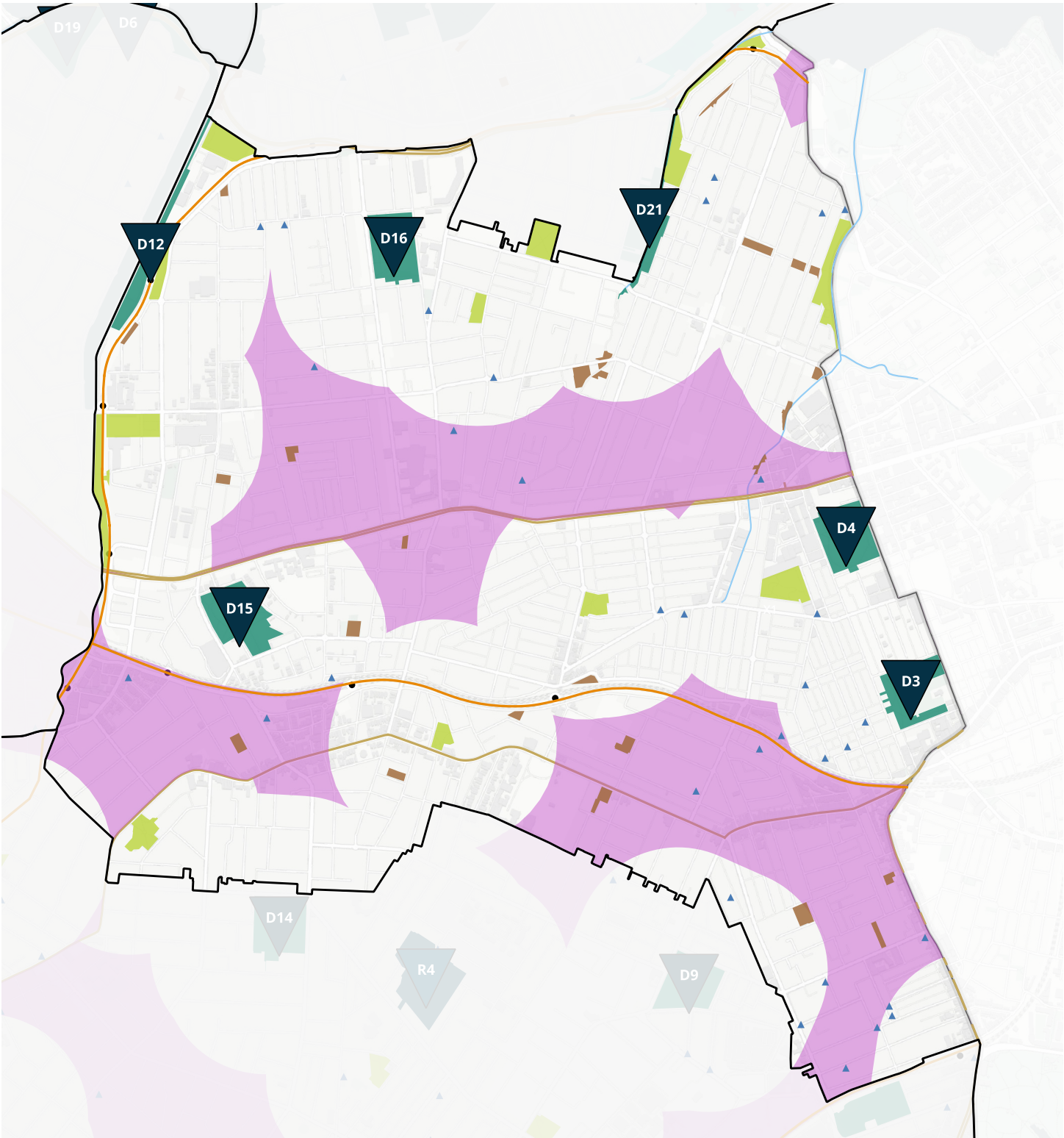
The total open space located within in Catchment 3 is 47.9 hectares - equal to 15 per cent of the total open space in the LGA.

Based on size - there are 0 regional parks, 6 district parks, 13 Local level 1 parks, 24 local level 2 parks and 34 pocket parks.

There is 1 publicly accessible, State-owned park located in the Catchment: Enmore TAFE park.

A number of areas within this Catchment are further than a 400m walk to a local level 1 park or larger. In particular these with poor access to open space areas are along Parramatta Road and to the south of the heavy rail line.

See Figure 82 for a map of open space located within Catchment 3.



Key

▼	Regional parks
▼	District parks
■	Lvl 1 Local parks
■	Lvl 2 Local parks
▲	Pocket Parks (Less than 0.1 ha)
■	Areas further than a 400m walk to a local level 1 space or larger

Regional Parks	Key
No regional parks located in this catchment	

District Parks	Key
Whites Creek Valley Park	D21
Camperdown Park	D4
Pioneers Memorial Park	D16
Hawthorne Canal Reserve	D12
Camperdown Memorial Rest Park	D3
Petersham Park	D15

Figure 82 - Catchment 3 - open space

Benchmarking

Table 47, Table 48, and Table 49 demonstrate the application of the open space current provision benchmark ratios adopted by the RNS 2018 (16.4m² per person), and applied to the 2016, 2026 and 2036 catchment population, which is inclusive of worker considerations previously outlined.

In 2016, the equivalent resident population of the catchment was 63,243 and the open space provision was 47.9 hectares. This is equivalent to a provision of 7.6m² of open space per person - the highest in the catchment.

By 2026, the equivalent population will increase to 69,025 (an additional 5,782 residents between 2016-2026). The additional population would generate a demand for an additional 9.5 hectares of open space.

By 2036, the equivalent population will increase to 74,748 (an additional 5,723 equivalent residents between 2026-2036). The additional population would generate a demand for an additional 9.4 hectares.

The total demand generated by new residents (2016 to 2036 growth) in Catchment 3 is 18.9 hectares.

Table 47 - Catchment 3 2016 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Suburbs	Population 2016	Total recreation demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Council-owned open space 2016 (m ²)	State Government-owned open space (m ²)	Benchmark 2016 m ² per person
3 - East	Annandale	9973	1306	101305		7.6m ²
	Camperdown	3689		65135		
	Enmore	4125		4651	4454	
	Leichhardt	15514		169042		
	Lewisham	3383		12022		
	Newtown	8411		41420		
	Petersham	8522		65108		
	Stanmore	8320		15852		
	LGA	63243		478989		

Table 48 - Catchment 3 2026 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Suburbs	Population 2026	Total recreation demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Council-owned open space 2026 (m ²)	State Government-owned open space (m ²)	Benchmark 2026 m ² per person
3 - East	Annandale	10212	1,457	101305		6.9m ²
	Camperdown	3781		65135		
	Enmore	4249		4651	4454	
	Leichhardt	16775		169042		
	Lewisham	4173		12022		
	Newtown	8757		41420		
	Petersham	10790		65108		
	Stanmore	8831		15852		
	LGA	69,025		478989		

Table 49 - Catchment 3 2036 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Suburbs	Population 2036	Total recreation demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Council-owned open space 2036 (m ²)	State Government-owned open space (m ²)	Benchmark 2036 m ² per person
3 - East	Annandale	10543	1,608	101305		6.4m ²
	Camperdown	3820		65135		
	Enmore	4281		4651	4454	
	Leichhardt	20563		169042		
	Lewisham	4474		12022		
	Newtown	8773		41420		
	Petersham	11555		65108		
	Stanmore	9131		15852		
	LGA	74,748		478,989		

Recreational facility provision summary

Catchment 3 contains:

- 4 sporting fields used for summer sports
- 6 sporting fields used for winter sports.
- 11 outdoor multi-purpose courts
- 0 indoor leisure centres and 0 outdoor courts
- 1 indoor leisure centre (aquatic) - the recently upgraded and state-of-the-art Ashfield Aquatic Centre
- 1 skatepark/facility
- 43 play spaces

Benchmarking

Table 50 applies the relevant adopted population benchmarks to recreation facilities in Catchment 3.

It shows that there are existing gaps (>1 facility) in the provision of summer and winter sporting fields, outdoor and indoor multipurpose courts, and a skatepark facility.

It also shows that by 2026, and 2036 the new population alone will generate a benchmarked demand for an additional:

- 1 summer sporting field by 2026, and an additional 1 by 2036 (2 total)
- 1 winter sporting field by 2026, and an additional 1 by 2036 (2 total)
- 2 outdoor multipurpose courts by 2026, and an additional 2 by 2036 (4 total)

Table 50 - Catchment 3 recreation facilities

Type	Benchmark	Current Provision	Current GAP	2026 GAP	2036 GAP	Map Key
Summer sporting field (located in sporting grounds)	1:6,500 people	4	5.7	6.6	7.5	
Winter sporting field (located in sporting grounds)	1:4,500 people	6	8.1	9.3	10.6	
Outdoor (multipurpose) courts	1:2,500	11	14.3	16.6	18.9	na
Indoor leisure centre (dry)	1:75,000	0	0.84	0.92	1.00	
Indoor (multipurpose) courts	1:20,000	0	3.2	3.5	3.7	na
Indoor leisure centre (aquatic)	1:38,500	1	0.6	0.8	0.9	
Skate park/facility	1:48,000	0	1.3	1.4	1.6	
Play space	1:2,000	43	0	0	0	

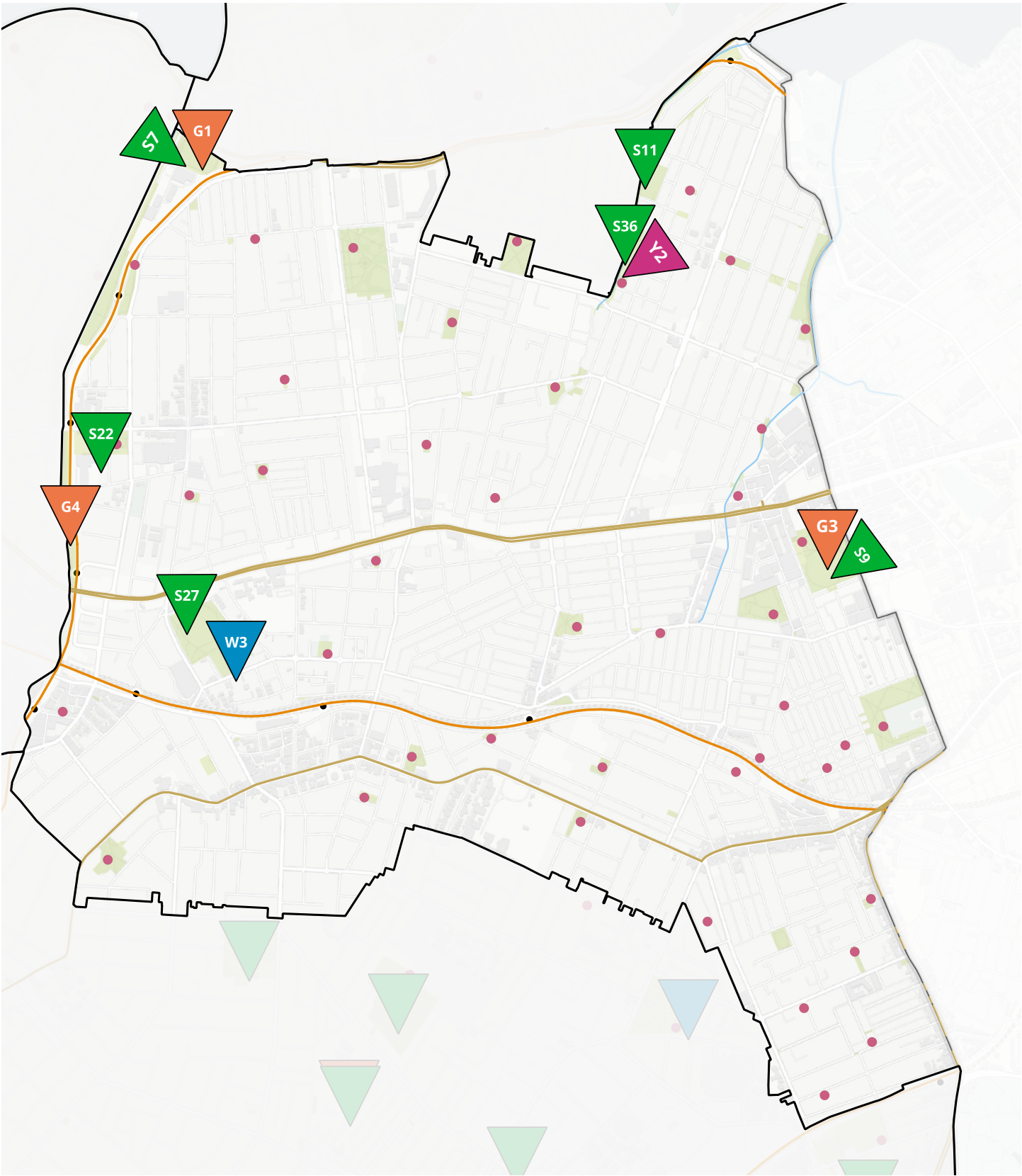


Figure 83 - Catchment 3 - recreation facilities

Catchment 3: Summary of needs and opportunities

In addition to the LGA-wide needs and opportunities outlined in Chapter 12 (that all Catchments have a role in contributing towards), there are a number of Catchment-specific needs and opportunities, including:

3A Upgrade and embellishment of 8,000m² of new open space within the Taverners Hill Precinct

- The Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy and Greenway Masterplan identified the delivery of 8,000m² of new open space in the Taverners Hill Precinct and Hawthorne Canal Precinct, Leichhardt. It is expected that this open space will be delivered via agreements with public agencies or educational establishments who have land holdings in this area, rather than through land acquisitions. However, a future delivery approach is yet to be defined by Council and is outside the scope of this Study.

3B Additional open space along the Greenway

- The Greenway Master Plan (2018) included the recommended property dedication of the rear of properties along the corridor where needed. It is recommended Council investigate land dedication delivery options as part of the South Area Urban Design Studies currently being undertaken.

3B Embellishment of Greenway public spaces

- The Greenway Masterplan identifies the following projects that are yet to be completed:
 - / Nature Play area in Hawthorne Canal Precinct
 - / Extended dog off leash area (excluding property acquisition) in Hawthorne Canal.
 - / Improving existing dog off leash areas including grass mounds in Hawthorne Canal Precinct.

- / Upgrade path from gate to Café Bones in Hawthorne Canal Precinct
- / New decking at Hawthorne Canal over containers and Café Bones.

3C Other new open spaces

- Conversion of 2 Hay Street, Leichhardt to open space (excluding acquisition costs).
- The northern section of this Catchment area will likely benefit from the provision of new open space at the Rozelle Parklands, and potential new indoor recreation centre otherwise identified in Catchment 1, provided that there is good vehicular, pedestrian and cycle connectivity.

3D Expansion to existing parks

- Expansion to Nestor Park - land acquisition of 15 & 15A Hearn Street, Leichhardt, as identified by the former Leichhardt Contribution Plan No.1 – Open Space and Recreation (2005) that equates to a total of approximate 1,180m² of new open space, and is in proximity to the Leichhardt Precinct identified under the Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy.
- Land acquisition or agreement with public agency land owner of 30 Brighton Street, Petersham, to deliver approximately 1,700m² of new open space, as identified by the former Marrickville Section 94 Contribution Plan (2014).

3E Upgraded/embellished open spaces

- The partial acquisition of land at 23-45 Susan Street, Annandale, along the Johnston Creek Corridor, as identified by the former Leichhardt Contribution Plan No.1 – Open Space and Recreation (2005) that equates to a total of approximate 1,100m² of new open space surrounding the Camperdown Precinct identified by the Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy (2016).

- Embellishment of Stanmore Reserve and amenity upgrade, coinciding with library upgrade recommended within the Community Assets Needs Study.
- Embellishment of open space and improved drainage in Weekley Park, Stanmore.
- Widening of the Greenway corridor - through the land acquisition of 1 Cahill Street, Annandale, as identified by the former Leichhardt Contribution Plan No.1 – Open Space and Recreation (2005) that equates to a total of approximately 379m² of new open space, and is within the Camperdown Precinct under the Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy.

- **Prioritise facilitation and provision of quality open spaces through town centre masterplanning processes, as well as in ro nearby (within 200m) areas identified for short and long term increased density by the LHS, 2021.**

Increased access to recreational facilities

- A potential future land acquisition strategy or joint use agreements with educational establishments explore potential sites for enabling community access to 2 dual-purpose sporting fields (catering to both summer and winter sports). and additional open spaces and at least 2 outdoor multipurpose courts by 2036.

Additional skate spaces

- Future masterplanning studies should investigate and facilitate the delivery of 1 new skate park facility in this catchment area by or exceeding 2036.

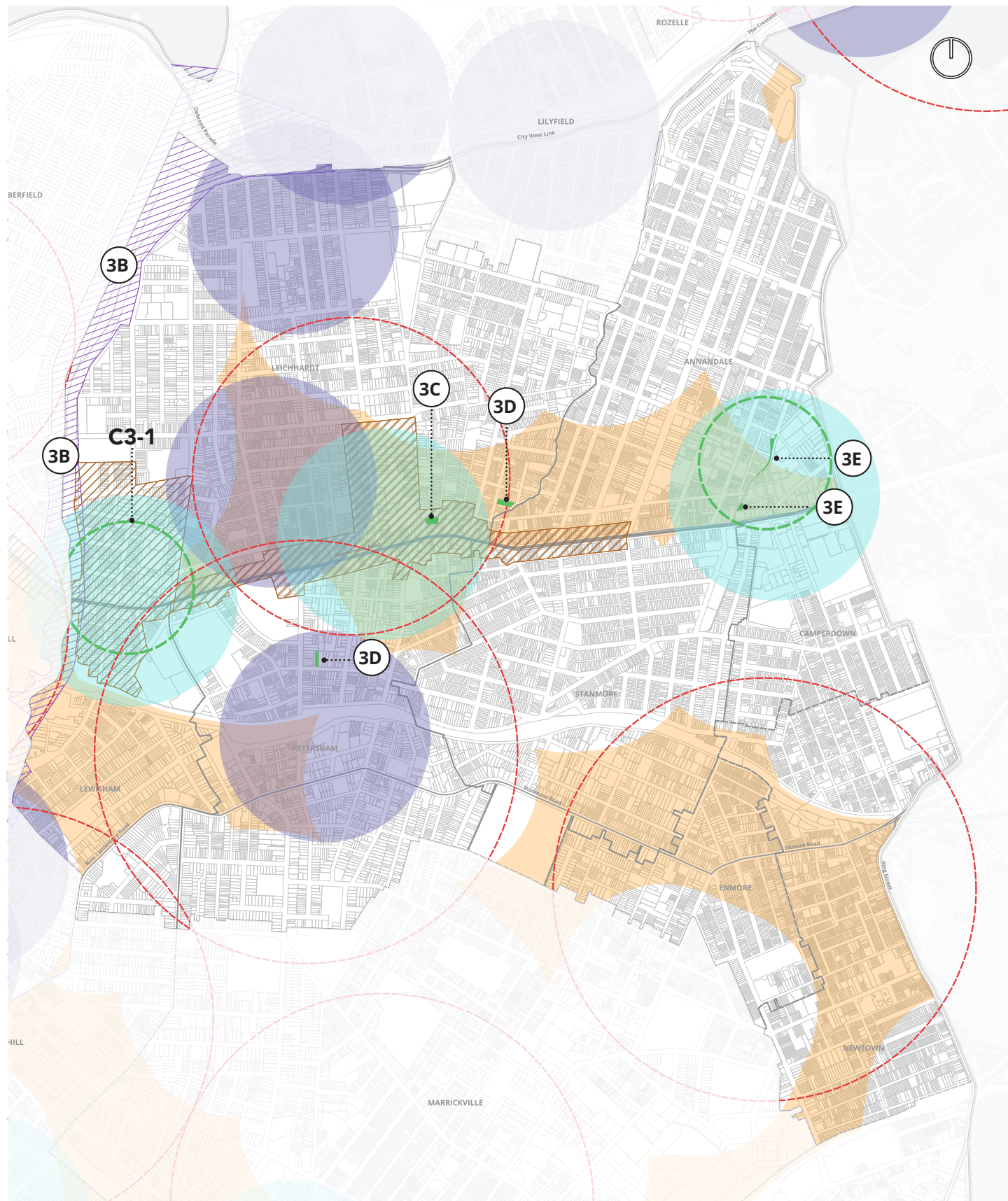
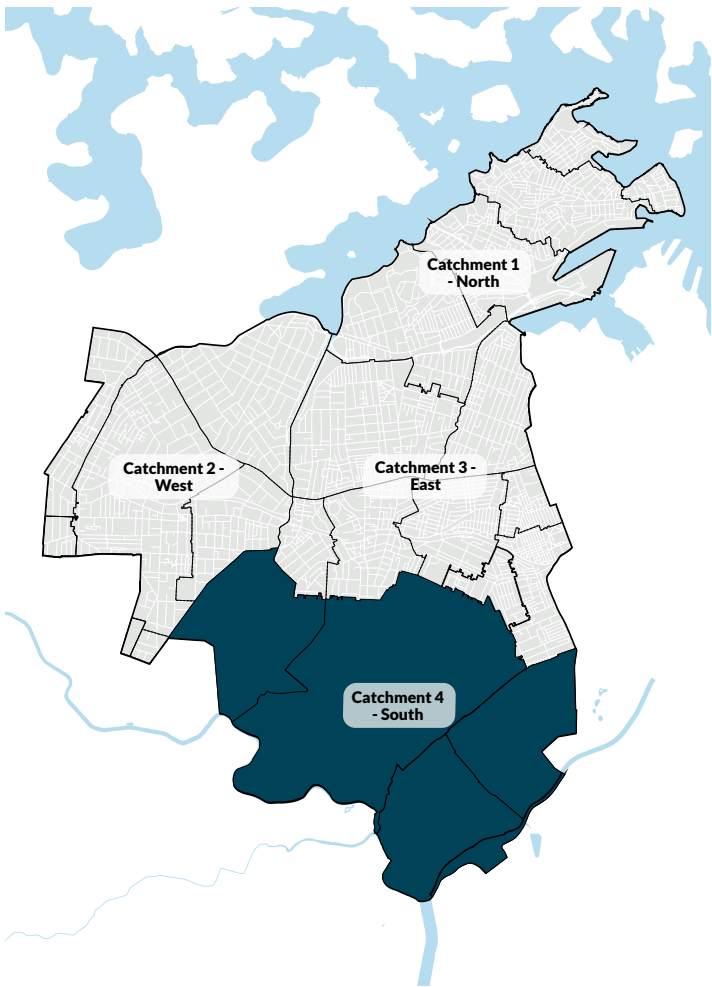


Figure 84 - Catchment 3 - Priority areas for new or upgrded open space and recreation

Legend

	Greenway boundary
	PRCUTS
	New open space identified by previous section 94 plans
	Areas outside 400m walk to a park
	Town Centre masterplans - priority for future open space and recreation to 2036
	Priority areas for open space provision - Long-term investigation areas for increased density (LHS, 2021)
	Priority areas for open space provision - Short-term investigation areas for increased density (LHS, 2021)

CATCHMENT 4: SOUTH



Suburbs:
Dulwich Hill, Marrickville, Sydenham, Tempe and St Peters

Population:
2016: 50,623 residents with 23,187 workers
2036: 61,797 residents and 29,808 workers

Catchment overview

The South Catchment is the second most densely populated catchment in the LGA. In 2016, this area had a population of 50,623 residents with 23,187 workers. This is expected to increase to 61,797 residents and 29,808 workers by 2036.

This Catchment has higher levels of relative social disadvantage, particularly in Marrickville South which has the lowest score Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) in the LGA, highest levels of youth disengagement, highest number of households without Internet and high levels of social housing. It also has a very high proportion of same-sex couples and a higher proportion of people in need of assistance due to disability. The Catchment is also currently facing challenges of loss of industrial and creative spaces to residential renewal and gentrification.

The South Catchment contains the last large agglomeration of industrial zones within central Sydney and is located between the Sydney CBD and the Sydney Airport and Port Botany freight and transport hubs. There is a breadth of unique, small-scale cultural and arts experiences here.

Dulwich Hill is predominantly residential in nature with good public transport connections – both to light rail and train – and a local centre. Residents value the village atmosphere, open and green spaces, the independent supermarket and range of restaurants, cafes and pizza bars.

There is a desire to revitalise the neighbourhood shops within the Dulwich Hill neighbourhood centre so they provide a range of useful services and create a more defined precinct. The Greenway is a popular recreational open space and active transport network that follows the light rail corridor between Lewisham and Leichhardt.

Marrickville’s town centre provides a hub for street life and the community, with a distinctly multicultural character. Marrickville has a distinct industrial heritage character, including the Sydney Steel and Carrington Road precincts. Industrial lands contain a mix of industrial uses. They increasingly support small-scale cultural, arts, making and live music experiences as well as a growing brewery, artisan food and bar culture. These industrial and employment activities are highly valued by the community and future development should preserve the existing industrial and employment lands.

St Peters, Sydenham and Tempe have a distinctly industrial character that is highly valued for its access to the airport, freight rail lines, Princes Highway and the M5 motorway. There is traditional industrial and warehousing along with a growth of creative businesses and breweries, reflecting the transitioning local employment base.

Table 51 - Catchment 4 - Residential population forecasts from Elton’s Population Review (2020)

Suburb	Population 2016	Population 2026	Population 2036
Marrickville (North)	17,255	21,356	22,727
Marrickville (South)	10,745	11,823	12,463
Dulwich Hill	14,295	16,294	17,520
St Peters-Sydenham	4,546	5,042	5,117
Tempe	3,782	3,947	3,970
Total	50,623	58,462	61,797

Key future influences

Inner West Local Housing Strategy
The Local Housing Strategy identifies two short-term growth areas to 2026 in the Marrickville and Dulwich Hill town centres. Longer-term (2026-2036) investigation sites has been identified at Waratah Mills and Arlington. The strategy also includes a direction to increase affordable housing in these growth areas. Community service provision is to be mindful of the growth demands placed on the community facilities provision in these areas.

Employment and Retail Lands Study and Strategy
Section 6.1.10 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study identifies that the main retail precinct of Marrickville along Illawarra Road and Marrickville Road is currently struggling with high reported levels of vacancies and experiencing slow activity and a lagging economy. The study also recommends that Council take action to encourage activation and revitalisation of traditional centres that have experienced decline. Strengthening the streetscape appeal and delivering public spaces creates a pleasant street environment and improved amenity, generally more conducive to outdoor dining.

Open space provision summary

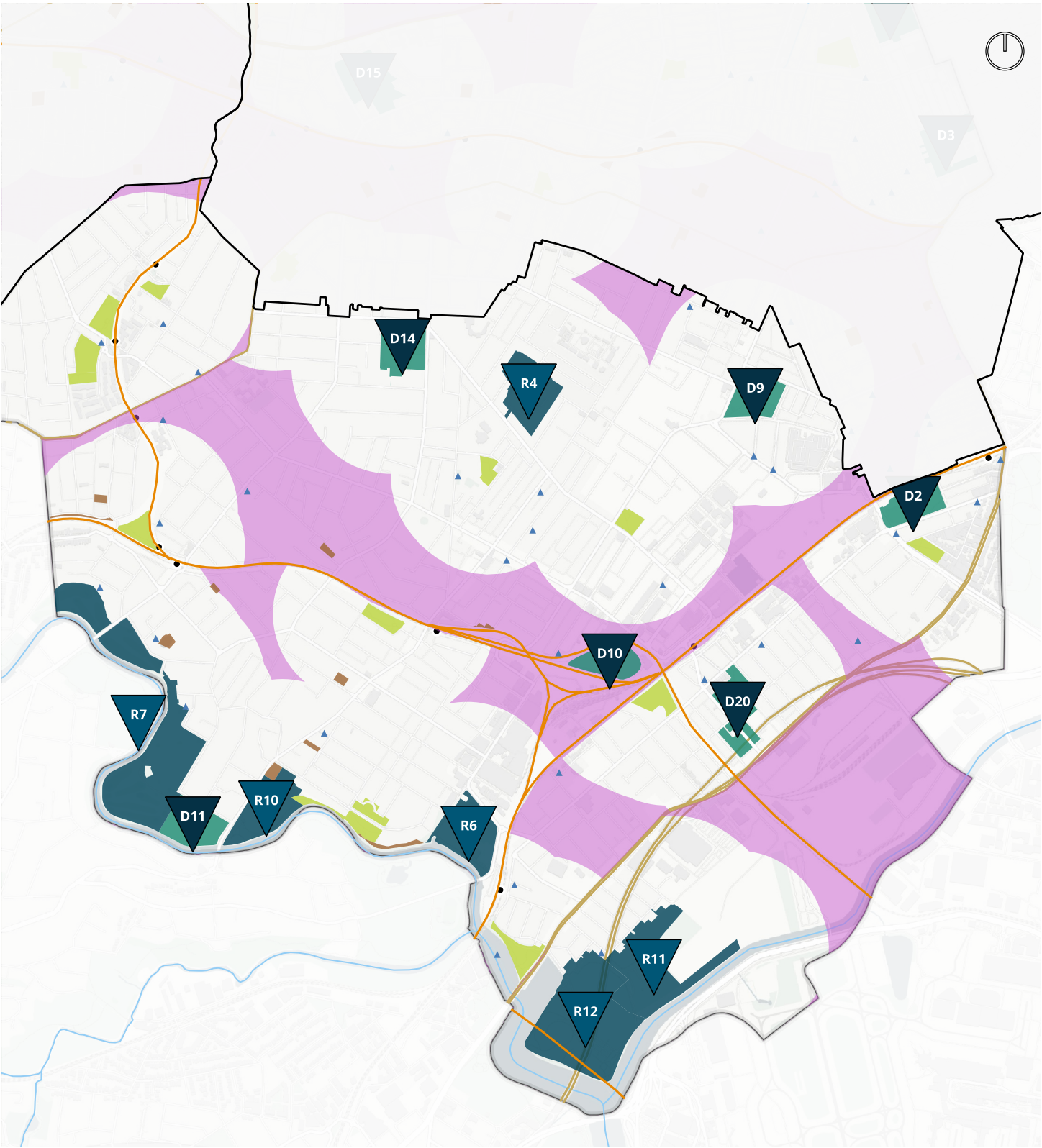
The total open space located within in Catchment 1 is 107.5 hectares - equal to 33 per cent of the total open space in the LGA.

Based on size - there are 6 regional parks (over 5 hectares) located within this Catchment, and all with foreshore frontage: Fraser Park (State Government-owned), Tempe Reserve, Tempe Lands, Marrickville Golf Course, Mackey Park, Steel Park, and Henson Park. Five of the six regional parks have a sports focus

There are 6 district parks, 13 Local level 1 parks, 10 local level 2 parks and 31 pocket parks.

There are a number of residential areas within this Catchment that are further than a 400m walk to a local level 1 park or larger. These are namely to the north and west of the heavy rail line.

See Figure 85 for a map of open space located within Catchment 4.



Key

	Regional parks
	District parks
	Lvl 1 Local parks
	Lvl 2 Local parks
	Pocket Parks (Less than 0.1 ha)
	Areas further than a 400m walk to a local level 1 space or larger

Regional Parks		Key
Henson Park		R4
Mackey Park		R6
Marrickville Golf Course		R7
Steel Park		R10
Tempe Lands		R11
Tempe Reserve		R12

District Parks		Key
Enmore Park		D9
Fraser Park		D10
Marrickville Park		D14
H.j. Mahoney Memorial Reserve		D11
Camdenville Park		D2
Sydenham Green		D20

Figure 85 - Catchment 4 - open space

Benchmarking

Table 52, Table 53 and Table 54 demonstrate the application of the open space current provision benchmark ratios adopted by the RNS 2018 (16.4m² per person), and applied to the 2016, 2026 and 2036 population, which is inclusive of worker considerations previously outlined.

In 2016, the equivalent resident population of the Catchment was 51,989 and the open space provision was 107.5 hectares. This is equivalent to a provision of 20.7m² of open space per person - the second highest in the Catchment, and above benchmark provision.

By 2026, the equivalent population will increase to 59,984 (an additional 7,996 residents between 2016-2026). The additional population would generate a demand for an additional 13.1 hectares of open space.

By 2036, the equivalent population will increase to 63,476 (an additional 3,492 residents between 2026-2036). The additional population would generate a demand for an additional 5.7 hectares.

The total demand generated by new residents (2016 to 2036 growth) in Catchment 4 is 18.8 hectares.

Table 52 - Catchment 4 2016 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Suburbs	Population 2016	Total recreation demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Council-owned open space 2016 (m ²)	State Government-Owned open space (m ²)	Benchmark 2016 m ² per person
4 - South	Dulwich Hill	14295	1366	61934		20.7
	Marrickville	28,000		590477	14740	
	St Peters-Sydenham	4546		87852		
	Tempe	3782		320114		
	LGA	51989		1075117		

Table 53 - Catchment 4 2026 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Suburbs	Population 2026	Total recreation demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Council-owned open space 2026 (m ²)	State Government-owned open space (m ²)	Benchmark 2026 m ² per person
4 - South	Dulwich Hill	16294	1,522	61934		17.9
	Marrickville	33,179		590477	14740	
	St Peters-Sydenham	5042		87852		
	Tempe	3947		320114		
	LGA	59,984		1075117		

Table 54 - Catchment 4 2036 application of open space benchmark (revised 2021)

Catchment	Suburbs	Population 2036	Total recreation demand of workers (expressed as additional residents)	Council-owned open space 2036 (m ²)	State Government-owned open space (m ²)	Benchmark 2036 m ² per person
4 - South	Dulwich Hill	17520	1,679	61934		16.9
	Marrickville	35,190		590477	14740	
	St Peters-Sydenham	5117		87852		
	Tempe	3970		320114		
	LGA	63,476		1,075,117		

Recreational facility provision summary

- Catchment 4 contains:
- 8 sporting fields used for summer sports
 - 17 sporting fields used for winter sports
 - 36 outdoor multipurpose courts
 - 2 indoor leisure centres and 5 outdoor courts
 - 1 indoor leisure centre (aquatic)
 - 3 skateparks/facilities
 - 29 play spaces

Benchmarking







Table 55 applies the relevant adopted population benchmarks to recreation facilities in Catchment 4.

It shows that there are no existing gaps (>1 facility) in the current provision.

It also shows that by 2026, and 2036 the new population alone will generate a benchmarked demand for an additional:

- 1 summer sporting field by 2026, and to start planning for an additional one for beyond 2036
- 1 playground 2026, and an additional 1 by 2036 (2 total), and to start planning for an additional one for beyond 2036

Table 55 - Catchment 4 recreation facilities

Type	Benchmark	Current Provision	Current GAP	2026 GAP	2036 GAP	Map Key
Summer sporting field (located in sporting grounds)	1:6,500 people	8	0	1.2	1.8	
Winter sporting field (located in sporting grounds)	1:4,500 people	17	0	0	0	
Outdoor (multipurpose) courts	1:2,500	36	0	0	0	na
Indoor (multipurpose) courts	1:20,000	5	0	0	0	
Indoor leisure centre (dry)	1:75,000	2	0	0	0	na
Indoor leisure centre (aquatic)	1:38,500	1	0.3	0.5	0.6	
Skate park/facility	1:48,000	3	0	0	0	
Play space	1:2,000	29	0	1	2.7	

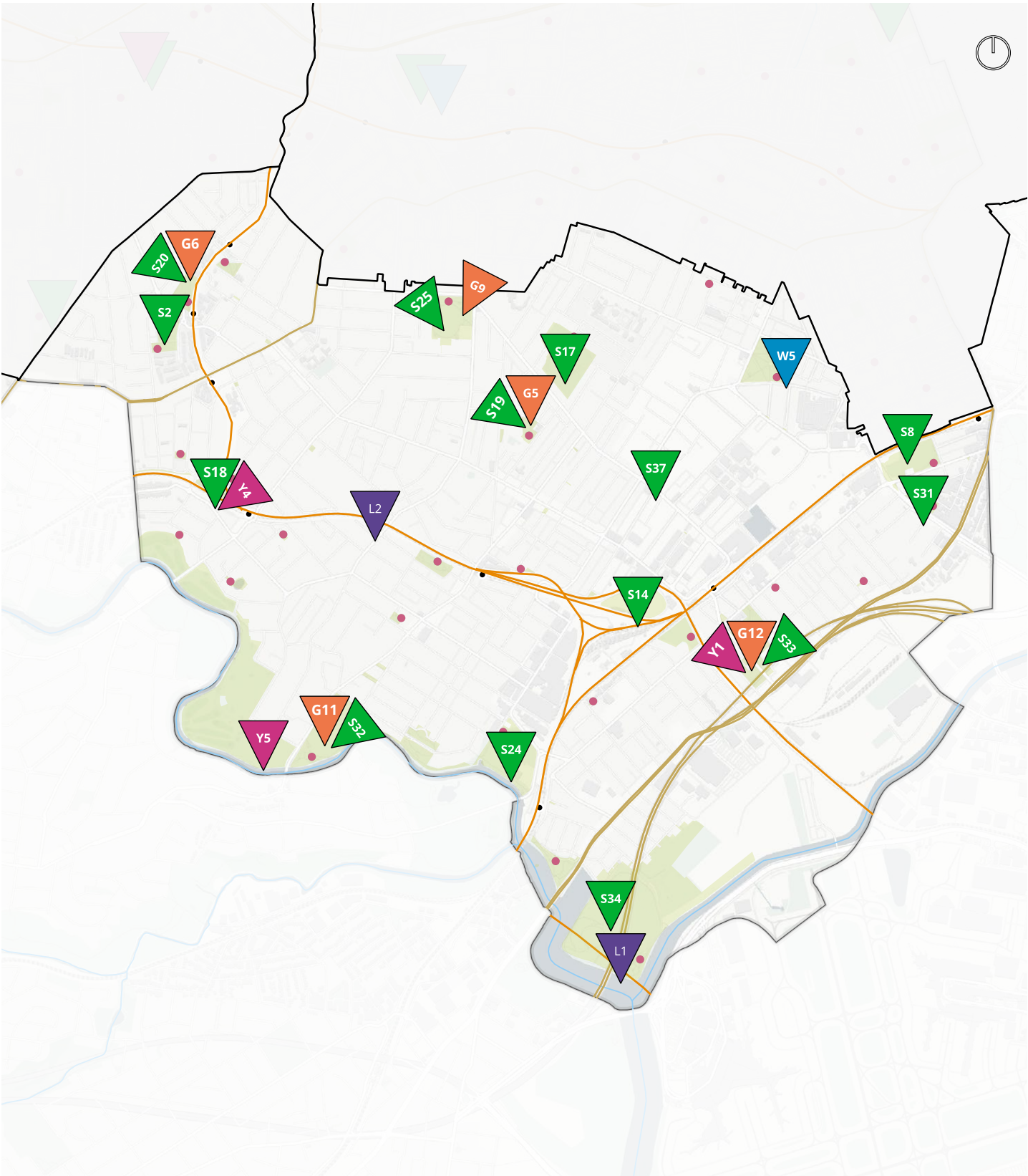


Figure 86 - Catchment 4 - recreation facilities

Catchment 4: Summary of needs and opportunities

In addition to the LGA-wide needs and opportunities outlined in Chapter 12 (that all catchments have a role in contributing towards), there are a number of catchment specific needs and opportunities, including:

- **New aquatic centre**
 - Catchment 4 is considered the ideal Catchment for the provision of a new aquatic centre given high population density. A future feasibility study is recommended to examine location and hybrid aquatics and indoor recreation centre, and it should consider the regional context and potential partnerships with Bayside Council and Canterbury Bankstown. The existing two indoor recreational facilities will be ageing towards the later scope of this Study’s timeline and consideration should be given to the upgrade or provision of new indoor recreational facilities. In addition, the Tempe Park Master Plan identified the need to upgrade the Robyn Webster Centre (Indoor leisure centre) - there may be an opportunity to provide wet and dry recreation centre when this upgrade occurs.
- **4A Embellishment of Greenway public spaces**
 - The Greenway Masterplan identifies the following projects that are yet to be completed:
 - New southern toilets amenities and café along Greenway Corridor
 - Refurbish Jack Shanahan Reserve toilets in the Dulwich Grove Precinct
 - Dulwich Hill, to convert to public open space (1,158m²) in Dulwich Grove Precinct.

- **Additional civic and open space as part of town centre masterplans**
 - Provision of new civic and open space behind Dulwich Hill village shops, expanded and enhances open space at Tom Kenny Reserve.
 - Provision of new civic and open space in the Marrickville Town Centre.
- **Increased access to recreational facilities**
 - A potential future land acquisition strategy or partnership arrangement with educational establishments explore potential sites for enabling community access to 1 dual purpose sporting field (catering to both summer and winter sports), and start planning for the facilitation of a second sporting field location.
- **Increased access to play**
 - That future masterplanning studies consider facilitating the delivery of 2 playgrounds by 2036 (aligning with pockets of the catchment that are most likely to cater to new residents and increased density), as well as consider other opportunities that may arise to create incidental opportunities for ‘playable spaces’ throughout the catchment. Consider how play spaces can respond to the character of the catchment (dynamic, cultural diversity, industrial, creative expression through street art)
- **Prioritise facilitation and provision of quality open spaces through town centre masterplanning processes, as well as in ro nearby (within 200m) areas identified for short and long term increased density by the LHS, 2021.**

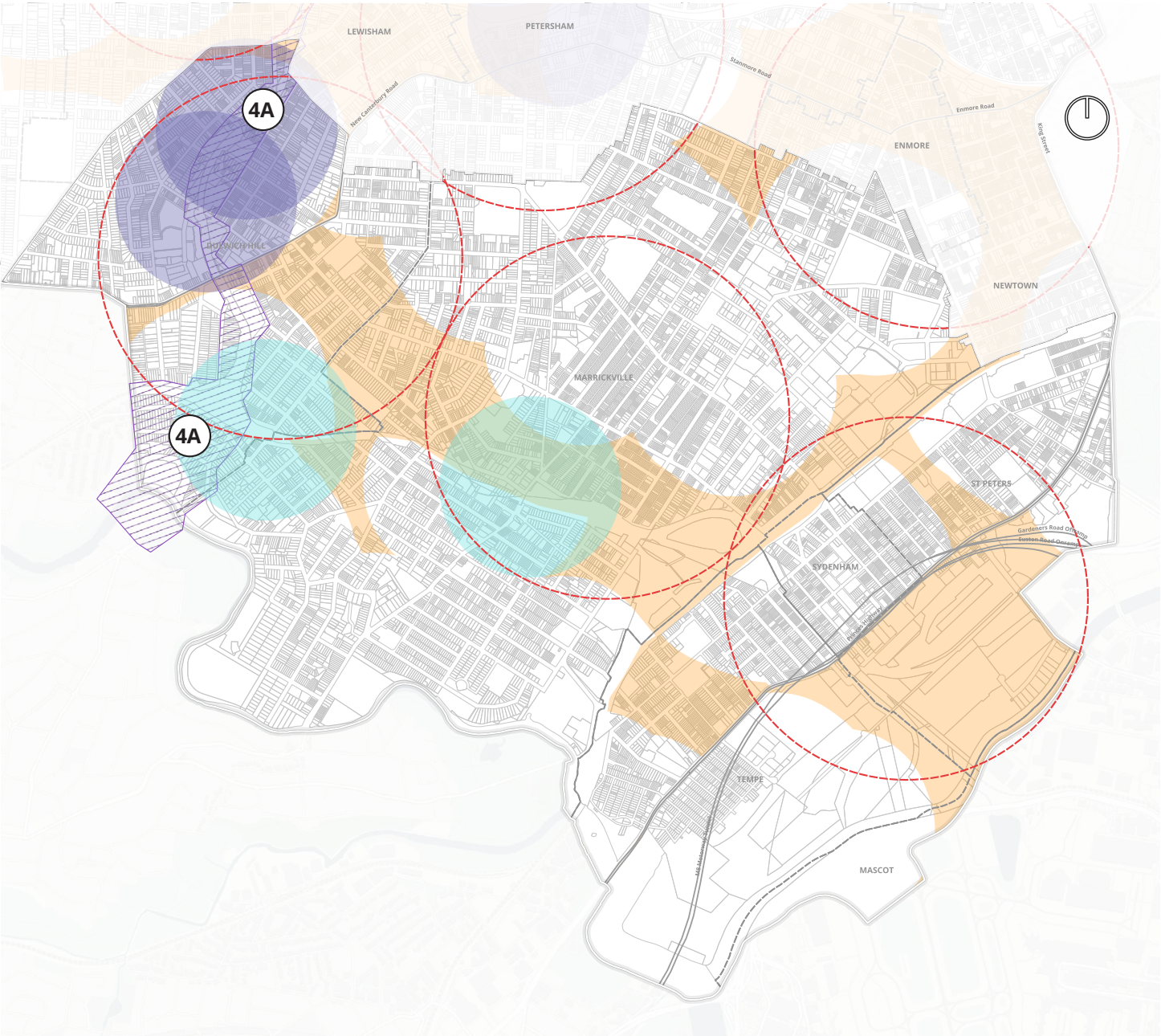


Figure 87 - Catchment 4 - Priority areas for new or upgrded open space and recreation

Legend	
	Greenway boundary
	PRCUTS
	New open space identified by previous section 94 plans
	Areas outside 400m walk to a park
	Town Centre masterplans - priority for future open space and recreation to 2036
	Priority areas for open space provision - Long-term investigation areas for increased density (LHS, 2021)
	Priority areas for open space provision - Short-term investigation areas for increased density (LHS, 2021)

15.0 FUNDING AND DELIVERY

INTRODUCTION

This chapter includes funding and delivery information to assist Council with determining which works it will deliver and how they will be funded. It has been prepared by GLN Planning.

The chapter includes a works schedule, a discussion on common funding and delivery mechanisms available to councils in NSW, nexus and apportionment, and information on the IPART review process for 'above the cap' section 7.11 contributions plans.

It is intended that this information will be used by Council for the purpose of preparing a new section 7.11 and/or section 7.12 local infrastructure contribution plan, rates revenue and planning agreement framework. It may also assist in the formulation of other urban planning policies.

It is noted that the study's recommendations are subject to Council's further assessment and the adoption of this Study does not infer Council's intent to deliver all policy items or works proposed in this Study.

INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING AND DELIVERY MECHANISMS

New or upgraded open space and recreation facilities needed to address current and forecast gaps in supply in a built-up urban context with numerous landowners can be provided via several mechanisms.

Potential mechanisms that might be used to deliver infrastructure in the Inner West local government area are shown in Table 56. It summarises the range of contributions and other planning system mechanisms that are available to deliver infrastructure that is linked to development growth. Relevant mechanisms are discussed more fully in the following subsections.

Local infrastructure contributions

The primary mechanism available to councils to fund and deliver local infrastructure is local infrastructure contributions, comprising section s7.11 and/or section 7.12 contributions.

Typical open space and recreation works that may be part or fully funded (depending on the anticipated development-generated population growth and infrastructure demand) includes (but is not limited to):

- new and upgraded recreation and sport facilities including indoor leisure centres, outdoor sports courts, sportsfields and aquatic centres
- new and upgraded open space and associated facilities such as playgrounds and public toilets
- public domain works including footpath widening and street tree planting.

Benchmarking indicates the amount of open space available to each equivalent resident across the LGA in 2016 is 16.4 square metres per equivalent resident. This is below commonly used benchmarks and other municipalities' provision rates.

The amount of open space available to each person indicates that the existing population's demand on existing open space is high. It also indicates that existing open space cannot absorb all the new population's demand.

Given that the amount of open space available to the existing population is not excessive, a reasonable strategy would be to maintain existing provision rates. Council would need to provide more than 50 hectares of new open space across the LGA by 2036 to maintain existing provision rates (assuming 35,754 new equivalent residents)

The required theoretical contributions exceeds \$100,000 per new dwelling. This assumes an average acquisition cost of \$3,800 per square metre and an average occupancy of 2.1 residents per dwelling. This contribution exceeds the government's IPART-review threshold of \$20,000 per residential dwelling.

So that contributions remain as reasonable as possible, it is recommended Council use contributions to deliver as much open space as possible given the government's \$20,000 cap and the other local infrastructure needs of the community. While this won't maintain existing provision rates, upgrading various existing open spaces to improve their capacity will assist with providing for the new population's demand.

In delivering open space, it is recommended Council use contributions to acquire land and encourage developers to dedicate land instead of paying a monetary contribution.

It is generally reasonable for Council to attribute or apportion 100 per cent of the cost of the open space works costs to the new population. This strategy is reasonable since the resultant contributions are less than needed to maintain existing provision rates.

Local infrastructure contributions will not be able to deliver all new open space requirements as recommended by the benchmarks nor will they address existing open space deficits, or fulfill all the future projected demands of the population. It is therefore recommended Council adopt a nuanced approach to requiring open space delivery through new development, for example, via introducing key sites mechanisms in its Local Environmental Plan. This is discussed in the following subsection.

It is noted that if such leveraging mechanisms are used, both Council and the community may need to accept that there will be trade-offs between building heights and densities for the delivery of new open space and recreational facilities by developers.

Table 56 - Potential infrastructure funding and delivery mechanisms

Mechanisms	Description
Planning system mechanisms	
Direct developer provision through planning controls	The developer is required to provide, replace or upgrade infrastructure as a condition on a development consent. The works are usually required directly as a result of the development works. For example: though-site links, drainage and upgrades of street adjoining their development.
S7.11 contributions	A contribution of money or land imposed as a condition on a development consent or complying development certificate. The contribution cannot be more than an amount that reflects the relationship (or nexus) between the particular development and the infrastructure the subject of the contribution.
S7.12 levies	Fixed rate levy imposed as a condition on a development consent or complying development certificate. Maximum levy rate is set by regulation and is generally 1% of development cost. Minister can approve a higher levy in certain circumstances.
S7.24 Special Infrastructure Contributions (SICs)	Contribution of money or land imposed as a condition on a development consent or complying development certificate to be applied toward the provision of public infrastructure determined by the Minister for Planning. (Note: these are to become Regional Infrastructure Contributions under the NSW Government’s local infrastructure reforms)
Voluntary planning agreements (State and Local)	An agreement voluntarily negotiated between a developer and one or more planning authorities in which the developer commits to providing contributions of land, works or money for public purposes.
Key sites provisions in an LEP	An arrangement where a developer provides infrastructure on or adjacent the development site that has a broader public benefit, in exchange for the right to develop the site for alternative and/or more intense land use. The contributions are formalised through a voluntary planning agreement.
Other mechanisms	
Council General fund	Ordinary rates revenue that is collected by the council on an annual basis to fund the operations of the council.
Special rate variation (LGA)	Additional council rates pursuant to section 495 of the Local Government Act for works or services that will service the LGA. An application is required to be made and approved by IPART.
Special rate variation (Local)	Additional council rates pursuant to section 495 of the Local Government Act for works or services limited to a specific area (e.g. land release or suburb) that will benefit from the proposed infrastructure. An application is required to be made and approved by IPART.
Subsidised borrowing schemes	Low-cost loan financing offered by the NSW Government (e.g. Low- Cost Loans Initiative, LCLI). All councils are eligible to apply for a maximum loan period of 10 years. Programs tend to support ‘enabling infrastructure’ that may include community facilities, parks and playing fields.
Non council providers of similar service	Facilities and services that have been traditionally provided by councils but are also provided by other organisations. Examples include childcare centres (increasingly provided by for-profit companies) and indoor recreation centres (increasingly provided by registered clubs and NGOs such as PCYC).
Proceeds from asset sales	Sale of publicly owned assets (usually land e.g. depots) that are surplus to needs or are otherwise redundant and are no longer required.
Redevelopment of Council-owned land (asset recycling)	Opportunities to have local infrastructure incorporated into the redevelopment of Council-owned land that is surplus to Council’s needs.
State and Commonwealth Government grants	Funds that are available for the provision of infrastructure via an application process. Most schemes require co-funding/cash contribution for projects. Projects without co-funding tend to score lower against the merit criteria.
State Budget allocations	Amounts allocated from NSW government consolidated revenue
User fees and charges	One-off and recurrent payments made by users of a facility or service, such as connection and usage fees charged by utility authorities for utility services
Partnerships	Partnerships between Council and entities that own land or floor space that could be made available as public open space and recreation facilities, for example outside of normal operating hours in the evenings and on weekends, such as TAFEs and schools.

Key sites planning provisions

‘Key sites’ planning provisions are provisions included in an environmental planning instrument such as a Local Environmental Plan (LEP) that allow developers of key sites to deliver infrastructure – works in-kind, or via land dedication – in exchange for approval to develop the land for alternative use or at a greater intensity, or both.

For example, a planning instrument may allow additional floor space or building height on a site if the developer provides open space, community facilities, through site links, or other specified public benefits. This approach can also be used to enable the entitlement to develop land for residential purposes where this is not currently permitted under the prevailing zoning.

The provision of infrastructure or other public purposes as part of a development of a ‘key site’ is formalised through the Council and the developer entering into a planning agreement with the Council. The infrastructure provided using these provisions are usually additional to mandatory section 7.11 / 7.12 contributions that are authorised to be imposed on the development under Council’s contributions plans. This is on the basis that open space provided via a key sites clause can be used to help address existing open space deficits, and as such do not provide for the infrastructure needs of the future population.

The key sites approach has been used extensively and effectively by the City of Sydney Council. It has included provisions in the Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012 that give the opportunity for developers of certain sites to directly provide community infrastructure on the development site in exchange for approval to develop the land in excess of the prevailing building height and floor space controls. Examples are set out in Part 6, Division 5 of Sydney LEP 2012.

An example of key sites being part of a comprehensive approach to the delivery of infrastructure can also be found in the Lane Cove local environmental plan provisions applying to the St Leonards South redevelopment area. These are set out in clauses 7.1-7.6 of Part 7 of Lane Cove LEP 2009.

Key sites provisions could be used on major development sites in Inner West LGA, such as the Bays Precinct.

A key site may, but not necessarily, align with existing landownership boundaries. There is nothing to prevent a key site being a consolidation of various parcels owned by various entities.

The success of the key sites planning approach, however, depends on the developer of a particular nominated key site being able to afford the particular infrastructure item or items identified for that site.

The location, extent and cost of social infrastructure, together with the development potential proposed to be afforded to potential key sites, needs to be reviewed so that infrastructure costs to be met by the developer can be absorbed by the development itself.

If Council amends its LEP to include key sites provisions, there is a risk the affected landowners/ developers decide not to develop their site and deliver the new open space, despite the key sites clause. However, providing key sites clauses are developed in consultation with landowners (for example, through the planning proposal process) and informed by adequate feasibility modelling, it is expected most sites will be developed, and open space delivered, over time.

Even if some landowners decide not to develop their site and deliver the open space, the overall impact of this on the broader open space delivery program will be reduced if Council also

seeks to deliver new and upgraded open space through other means, such as funding via local infrastructure contributions.

In most cases, where open space is delivered through a key sites mechanism, it will be secured via a planning agreement between the developer and Council. Works in-kind agreements may also be used where the works are listed in Council's local infrastructure contributions plan. The preparation of a planning agreement policy and works in-kind agreement policy, including template agreements, will help to ensure that the process is efficiently and transparently managed. It will also help to manage risks including probity and security.

Transferrable development rights

The key sites approach outlined above incentivises developers to dedicate land for new public open space as an LEP clause allows them to obtain additional or 'bonus' floor space if they do this.

Separate to this, for large sites, say over 6,000 square metres and above, that may not have capacity for additional floor space, it may be possible to rearrange or 'transfer' floor space under the FSR controls to free up space on the ground plane for new public open space that can be potentially dedicated at minimal or no cost to Council. The land cost would be minimised or avoided as the developer could 'harvest' all available floor space on the site and dedicate the residual land without the need to acquire land for new open space. There may be some additional building costs to the developer associated with the increased building height, however, this may be partially or fully offset by enhanced views from the increased height and associated positive impact on property sale prices.

This approach may require LEP height controls to be amended to enable the rearrangement of the existing maximum permitted floor space. This would also need to be the subject to built form/ urban design testing to ensure any impacts of the increased building height, such as visual amenity, streetscape and overshadowing impacts, are maintained within acceptable limits. This could be complemented with site-specific controls in the Council's development control plan showing a possible arrangement of the building envelope and public open space.

Certain sites may also offer the potential for a key sites (bonus floor space) approach to be combined with a transferable development rights approach.

Special rates and levies

Partnerships between Local and State Government

The Local Government Amendment Act 2021 proposes to allow changes to the making and levying of special rates. The change is to allow a special rate to be levied for 'intergovernmental projects'. This is where works, services or facilities are to be undertaken as a joint venture between local government and one or more government entity. The costs of the project would be split between the government entities.

Special rates levy and low-cost loan financing

A special rate imposed on certain LGA households (i.e. the development areas) would provide a funding mechanism by which a council can hypothecate revenue from the rateable properties in an area for the infrastructure needs, thereby eliminating, or at least reducing, any unnecessary burden on the broader community.

Special rates must be made pursuant to section 495 of the Local Government Act. They may be levied for works or services provided or proposed to be provided by a council which includes growth infrastructure for urban release or renewal areas. Such rates should not be levied on properties that will not benefit from the purpose for which the funds are collected.

PROPOSED WORKS SCHEDULE

This section describes the proposed infrastructure works schedule that is recommended to Inner West Council for recreation needs assets to 2036.

The proposed works schedule is shown in **Table 57**. The schedule lists the works identified in this Study as being needed to address current and forecast gaps in supply.

It includes the following information:

- Project category – for example, aquatic facilities and indoor recreation centres
- Summary description
- Priority/timing – as advised by Council staff
- Apportionment catchment – the catchment recommended by GLN that the item’s costs can be apportioned to
- Apportionment population – either the ‘existing’ population or the ‘existing + new’ population
- Apportionment rate – percentage of the item’s cost that can be reasonably apportioned to development
- Apportionment rationale (nexus) – justification for the recommended apportionment population and rate; a more detailed discussion is provided in the next section of this Chapter on ‘Nexus and apportionment.

Table 57 - Proposed recreation needs schedule

Item	Project category	Summary description	Timing	Apportionment catchment	Apportionment population	Apportionment population (equivalent res)	Apportionment (%)	Rationale (nexus)
1	Aquatic Facilities	The provision of an additional aquatic centre or equivalent facility upgrades for community use by 2036.	2036	LGA	New	35,754	89%	Benchmarking indicates LGA-wide development will generate demand for 1 new aquatic centre between 2016 and 2036. A reasonable approach is for development to fund 89% of the cost of providing 1 new facility and upgrading 1 existing facility, as the total apportioned cost will be the same the cost of providing 1 new facility.
2		Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre upgrade	2023/24	LGA	New	35,754	89%	Per item 1.
3	Indoor recreation Centres	Multi-purpose indoor recreation/ neighbourhood centre (see also Coms Facilities s94) - acquisition and capital works	2026-2031	LGA	New	35,754	47%	Benchmarking indicates development in Catchment 1 will generate demand for 1 new facility.
4	Greenway play spaces	Refurbish existing playground in Hawthorne Canal Precinct (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	As new population (35,754 equiv. res) will generate demand for 17 new playspaces (at 1 playspace per 2,000 res) it is reasonable that development fund 100% of the cost of a suite of works that will partially but not fully meet this demand.
5		Bouldering wall under City West Link in Hawthorne Canal Precinct (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 6
6		Decking with playnet in Hawthorne Canal Precinct (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 6
7		Nature play area in Hawthorne Canal Precinct (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 6

Item	Project category	Summary description	Timing	Apportionment catchment	Apportionment population	Apportionment population (equivalent res)	Apportionment (%)	Rationale (nexus)
8	Greenway dog recreation improvements	Extended dog off leash area (excluding property acquisition) *preferred to lease land off Canal Road film centre. In Hawthorne Canal Precinct (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	As the works are to increase carrying capacity and address demand from new residents and workers it is reasonable that costs be met entirely by the growth population.
9		Improve existing dog off leash areas including grass mounds in Hawthorne Canal Precinct (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 10
10		New southern toilet amenities/café (Greenway Master Plan)	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 10
11		New amenities at northern netball courts in Hawthorne Canal Precinct (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 10
12		Refurbish Jack Shanahan Reserve toilets in the Dulwich Grove Precinct (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 10
13	Greenway sports & recreation facilities	Sport court renewal in the Hawthorne Canal Precinct (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Benchmarking indicates development across the LGA will generate demand for 15 outdoor multi-purpose courts. The works program includes 19 sports courts including shared (partial access) to 18 courts. The shared access means the works program equivalent provision will be less than the demand generated by development. It is therefore reasonable the new population / development fund 100% of the costs.
14		Kayak launching deck in the Hawthorne Canal Precinct (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	The facility will partially but not fully meet demand generated by the development. It is therefore reasonable development fund 100% of the cost.

Item	Project category	Summary description	Timing	Apportionment catchment	Apportionment population	Apportionment population (equivalent res)	Apportionment (%)	Rationale (nexus)
15	Sports & recreation facilities	Provision of 2x multi-purpose, community level synthetic fields that also provide for other large format sports (PRCUTS Precinct).	2026-2036	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Benchmarking indicates development will generate demand for 6 summer sporting fields and 8 winter sporting fields. The planned facilities will partially but not fully meet demand generated by development. It is therefore reasonable that development fund 100% of the costs.
16	Shared recreational facilities	Establish community access to 8 new multi-purpose sporting fields 14 outdoor (multipurpose) courts across the LGA by 2036 (four by 2026), by collaborating with NSW Government and educational providers.	Ongoing	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 16
17		Embellishment associated with joint use arrangements for community access to a sporting field and 4 multipurpose outdoor courts along the Parramatta Road Corridor.	2023-2027	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 16
18		Upgrade costs of 8,000m ² of open space within the Taverners Hill Precinct (PRCUTS Precinct).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	LGA-wide development will generate demand for 49 ha of new open space based on maintain existing provision rates. It is reasonable the new population fully fund the works as they will partially but not fully offset development demand.
19	Greenway - park embellishments	Waterfront rest point/ gathering place in Richard Murden Reserve (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	LGA-wide development will generate demand for 49 ha of new open space based on maintain existing provision rates. It is reasonable the new population fully fund the works as they will partially but not fully offset development demand.
20		Allowance for picnic tables and shelters x 15 sets in Richard Murden Reserve (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27

Item	Project category	Summary description	Timing	Apportionment catchment	Apportionment population	Apportionment population (equivalent res)	Apportionment (%)	Rationale (nexus)
21		Tidal stair (x2) in Richard Murden Reserve (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
22		Upgraded BBQs and new shelter in Richard Murden Reserve (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
23		Lookout deck with seats and suspended lounge nets in Richard Murden Reserve (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
24		Allowance for turf (20,800m ²) in Richard Murden Reserve (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
25		Allowance for drinking water fountains in Richard Murden Reserve (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
26		Allowance for turf (12,900m ²)	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
27		Embellishment of open space facilities at Weekley Park (7,745m ²)	2026	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
28	Park embellishments	Upgrade and embellishment of passive open space for Johnston Creek Corridor upgrade (1,100m ²) in PRCUTS precinct.	2026	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
29		Conversion of 2 Hay Street to public open space (excluding acquisition costs) in PRCUTS precinct.	2026	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
30	Greenway - walking and cycling connections	Upgrade path from gate to Café Bones in Hawthorne Canal Precinct (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
31		Decking - over Hawthorne Canal at proposed containers and Café Bones in Hawthorne Canal Precinct (Greenway Masterplan).	2026-2030	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27

Item	Project category	Summary description	Timing	Apportionment catchment	Apportionment population	Apportionment population (equivalent res)	Apportionment (%)	Rationale (nexus)
32	Land acquisitions	Future land acquisitions to expand the greenway corridor in Dulwich Hill and embellishment of open space	2026-2036	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
33		Acquisition of rear of properties at 23-45 Susan Street, Annandale, and embellishment for pedestrian access.	2026	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
34		Provision of new pocket park and open space along Palace Street, Petersham	2026	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
35		Land acquisition for open space and embellishment of 15 & 15A Hearn Street, Leichhardt. Approx 1180m ²	2026	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
36		Acquisition of 1 Cahill Street, Annandale for open space.	2026	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
37		Land acquisition and base level embellishment for open space at 30 Brighton Street, Petersham (1,724m ²).	2026-2036	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
38		New open space and embellishment of 7,500m ² in Ashfield North and/or Croydon	Ongoing	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
39	Signage and wayfinding	LGA Wayfinding Improvement Project	Ongoing	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
40	Park embellishments	Embellishment of Stanmore Reserve	2036	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27
41	New open space	Provision of new open spaces or civic spaces within the Dulwich Hill Town Centre Precinct	Linked to TC masterplan	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27

Item	Project category	Summary description	Timing	Apportionment catchment	Apportionment population	Apportionment population (equivalent res)	Apportionment (%)	Rationale (nexus)
42	Town Centre Upgrade - Capital Works	Town Centre Improvement Projects across LGA	Ongoing	LGA	Existing + new	271,978	14%	As growth across the LGA is relatively modest demand for the works will be generated by both the existing and new populations. As the public domain is highly used by workers during the week it is considered that the relative demand for these facilities between residents and workers is the same (i.e. 1 worker = 1 equivalent resident). Existing res = 192,022; new res = 34,815; existing workers = 41,481; new workers = 3,660. One (1) part time worker is considered as equivalent to 0.5 full-time worker.
43	Street Play Spaces	Create additional play spaces, community gardens and enhancement to streetscapes in streets and laneways.	Ongoing	LGA	New	35,754	100%	LGA-wide development will generate demand for 49 ha of new open space based on maintain existing provision rates. Street scape works will help to green the streets so they can function as a type of supplementary / surrogate open space and help to meet the broader open space demand. It is reasonable the new population fully fund the works as the overall suite of works will partially but not fully offset development demand.
44	Additional - park embellishments	Expansion and upgrade of Fleming Park, Newtown	TBC	LGA	New	35,754	100%	Per item 27

NEXUS AND APPORTIONMENT

As noted, it is expected that most if not all the works items in the works schedule will be at least partially if not fully funded by Council using local infrastructure contributions.

Local infrastructure contributions include either section 7.11 'nexus-based' contributions and/or section 7.12 'fixed-rate' contributions. Councils can choose which type of approach to use. Councils can choose to apply different approaches in different areas and to different development. Only one type can be applied to any one development application. Detailed analysis is required to determine the optimum approach, balancing income, flexibility and complexity.

If Council decides to deliver certain works items and fund them using section 7.11 nexus-based local infrastructure contributions, the 'nexus' and 'apportionment' will need to be documented in the section 7.11 plan. 'Nexus' refers to the development-generated infrastructure demand, whereas 'apportionment' refers to the apportionment of infrastructure costs to the development-generated population growth.

The works schedule includes columns identifying the recommended apportionment catchment (LGA or a specific catchment), apportionment population ('new' or 'existing + new'), apportionment rate, apportionment rationale (nexus) and contribution rate. The recommended apportionment strategy is outlined.

Nexus and apportionment strategy

For most works items, it is recommended that 100 per cent of the item cost be apportioned to the new LGA-wide development-generated population, that is, the forecast population growth from 2016 until 2036. Exceptions are:

- Items 1 and 2, comprising a new aquatic facility and upgrade to an existing aquatic facility, where it is recommended that 89 per cent of the cost of the two facilities be apportioned to the new LGA-wide development-generated population growth
- Item 3, comprising a new indoor recreation centre, where it is recommended that 47 per cent of the cost be apportioned to the new LGA-wide development-generated population growth
- Item 43, comprising town centre upgrade works, where it is recommended costs be apportioned to the existing and new population; the effective apportionment to the new population is 14 per cent.

Works items where 100 per cent of costs are apportioned to the new population

Where it is recommended that 100 per cent of costs be apportioned to the new population, for most works items this is supported by benchmarking which quantifies the development-generated demand that can be reasonably attributed (apportioned) to the new population.

An example is open space. LGA-wide benchmarking indicates LGA-wide development will generate demand for 49 hectares of new open space based on maintain existing provision rates. As discussed previously, the suite of proposed new and upgraded open space will partially but not fully meet this demand. It is therefore reasonable that 100 per cent of costs be apportioned to the new development-generated population.

Where benchmarks are not available a qualitative approach is used. An example is item 14, comprising a new kayak launching deck in Hawthorne Canal Precinct. While benchmarks are not available for kayak facilities, it is reasonable to assume LGA-wide development will generate sufficient demand for one new kayak facility.

New aquatic facility (item 1) and upgrade to an existing aquatic facility (item 2)

As noted, it is recommended that 89 per cent of the cost of item 1 and 2 be apportioned to the new LGA-wide development-generated population growth. This is considered reasonable on the basis that LGA-wide benchmarking indicates the new LGA-wide development generated population growth will generate demand for one new aquatic facility. The cost of item 1 and 2 apportioned to development is reasonable as it is likely to be similar to the cost of providing one new facility, 100 per cent of the cost of which can reasonably be apportioned to development.

New indoor recreation centre (item 3)

It is recommended that 47 per cent of the cost of providing item 3 (new indoor recreation centre) be apportioned to new LGA-wide development. The benchmark used for indoor recreation centres is one new indoor recreation centre is required for every 75,000 residents. A total of 35,754 new equivalent residents are forecast across the LGA from 2016 until 2036. Applying the benchmark, this new development-generated population growth will generate demand for 47 per cent of one new facility. It is therefore reasonable that the new population be required to fund 47 per cent of the cost of one new facility, via local infrastructure contributions.

Town centre upgrade works (item 43)

It is recommended that 100 per cent of the cost of item 43 (town centre upgrade works) be apportioned to the existing and new development-generated population growth. As forecast growth across the LGA is relatively modest demand for the works will be generated by both the existing and new population. The effective apportionment to the new population is 14 per cent. This is the proportion of the new population over the total future (existing plus new) population.

Apportionment catchment

The apportionment catchment is the area within which it is recommended the cost for each works item be apportioned to. For all works items, it is recommended that costs be apportioned to development using an LGA-wide catchment rather than a precinct-catchment for all works items.

This Study considers benchmark demands at both a Catchment level and LGA-wide level. For the purposes of local infrastructure contributions, an LGA-wide approach is considered appropriate for all works items given the distributed nature of the open space and recreation works across the LGA. Further, for most works items LGA-wide benchmarking provides appropriate justification for apportioning 100 per cent of the costs to development (that is, the new population). Lastly, an LGA-wide approach is simpler as there will only be one set of contribution rates for recreation works.

A precinct approach is not recommended as the apportionment for many works items will be less than 100 per cent and it will be more complex, that is, there will be four sets of contribution rates, one for each precinct.

Apportionment between residents and workers

In the table, when referring to the 'existing' and the 'existing + new' population this includes both residents and workers. Workers are expressed as equivalent residents.

For all works items except item 58 (town centre upgrade works), one worker is assumed to generate demand for recreation works equivalent to 0.1 residents. The recreational demands of workers have been incorporated in this update to align with the employment forecasts included in the Inner West Employment and Retail Land Study (2020). Worker demands had not previously been analysed in the benchmarking process, see appendixes 4, 5, 6 and 7 for the detailed methodology used in this update.

For item 43, one worker is assumed to generate the same demand as one resident. As the public domain in town centres is highly used by workers during the week it is considered that the relative demand for these facilities between residents and workers is the same.

Plan administration costs

The works schedule does not include plan administration costs. It is recommended Council consider including this when preparing a new local infrastructure contribution plan.

Section 3.2 of the Department's 2019 Local Infrastructure Contributions Practice Note provides information on what public amenities and services are considered as essential works for contribution plans that seek to impose contribution rates over \$20,000 per dwelling and need to be reviewed by IPART.

It indicates plan administration costs may include:

- background studies, concept plans and cost estimates that are required to prepare the plan
- project management costs for preparing and implementing the plan (e.g. the employment of someone to co-ordinate the plan).

It also indicates plan administration costs include only those costs that relate directly and solely to the preparation and implementation of the plan and do not include costs that would otherwise be considered part of Council's key responsibilities such as core strategic planning responsibilities.

In its 2014 Final Report on Local Infrastructure Benchmark Costs: Costing infrastructure in Local Infrastructure Plans, IPART recommended that in a local infrastructure plan, councils could include up to 1.5 per cent of the total value of works to be funded by local infrastructure contributions to cover the cost of plan preparation, management and administration. Councils wishing to adopt a percentage greater than 1.5 per cent are to justify it by providing a detailed breakdown of anticipated costs in the local infrastructure plan.

The City of Parramatta (Outside CBD) Development Contributions Plan 2021 recently adopted by Parramatta Council applies 1.5 per cent per IPART's recommendation.

The cost of studies commonly included in local infrastructure contributions plans includes studies to estimate land and capital costs and strategic infrastructure studies that directly inform a contribution plan's works program, such as open space and recreation needs studies.

GLN is not aware of the cost of feasibility studies for particular works items being included in other councils' contributions plans. These costs could potentially be included in a section 7.11 contributions plan works program providing the contribution rates are below the \$20,000 per dwelling IPART-review threshold and essential works requirements do not apply. However, it is noted this would need to meet the reasonableness test, and applicant reasonableness appeals apply to section 7.11 contributions, although the contribution rate towards plan administration costs is typically small as a proportion of the total contribution rate and the risk of appeals based on this component alone are considered low. Applicant appeal rights do not apply to section 7.12 plans.

GLN is allow not aware of the cost of preparing master plans being included in other councils' contributions plans. If Council decides to prepare a section 7.11 plan that seeks to impose contribution rates over \$20,000 per dwelling and needs to be reviewed by IPART, these costs would be inconsistent the Department's Practice Note. If Council decides to prepare a section 7.11 plan that seeks to impose contribution rates below \$20,000 per dwelling, it is suggested that the extent to which the costs of preparing master plans could be included in the contributions plan works program depends on how closely related the master plan is to the infrastructure works. As an example, it would likely be easier to justify including costs of preparing a master plan for a street upgrade than it would for a more broad-based master plan where the relationship with infrastructure works is less direct.

IPART CONTRIBUTIONS PLAN REVIEW PROCESS

Under the current NSW planning framework, councils can impose contributions, but are restricted on the amount of contributions imposed on a residential development. For section 7.11, the current State Government policy is that unless a contributions plan has been reviewed by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART), the maximum amount applying to residential development is \$20,000 per dwelling or lot. Presently no corresponding limit applies to contributions imposed on non-residential development.

The review process is extensive and the infrastructure in a plan must be on the 'essential works' list to be funded by developer contributions. The essential works list is included in the Department's 2019 Practice Note for Local Infrastructure Contributions. It includes:

- Land for open space (for example, parks and sporting facilities) including base level embellishment
- Land for community services (for example, childcare centres and libraries)
- Land and facilities for transport (for example, road works, traffic management and pedestrian and cyclist facilities), but not including car parking
- Land and facilities for stormwater management
- The costs of plan preparation and administration

Essential works do not include community buildings, indoor sports centres and streetscape works not linked to traffic improvements.

The essential works list is relevant only to those contributions plans that propose a contribution level above the relevant cap (unless otherwise directed by the Minister for Planning).

The essential works list does not apply to contributions plans currently below the relevant cap or to those contributions plans that are exempted from the relevant cap.

Base level embellishment of open space is considered to be those works required to bring the open space up to a level where the site is secure and suitable for passive or active recreation. This may include:

- site regrading
- utilities servicing
- basic landscaping (turfing, asphalt and other synthetic playing surfaces planting, paths)
- drainage and irrigation
- basic park structures and equipment (park furniture, toilet facilities and change rooms, shade structures and play equipment)
- security lighting and local sports field floodlighting
- sports fields, tennis courts, netball courts, basketball courts (outdoor only), but does not include skate parks, BMX tracks and the like

NSW INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTIONS REFORMS

In November 2020, the NSW Productivity Commission completed its Final Report on the Review of the NSW Infrastructure Contributions System.

In March 2021 the State Government accepted all 29 recommendations of the review.

A bill amending the EP&A Act enabling the reforms has entered the NSW Parliament. Draft regulations, practice notes and guidelines supporting the bill were expected to be released for comment in October 2021, with the new framework expected to progressively take effect from 1 July 2022.

Key issues and themes which may have implications for Council's contributions plans in future are summarised as follows:

- Increasing the maximum allowable contribution for residential development under section 7.12 plans which could result in a significantly higher forecast contribution income under a section 7.12 plan
- The benchmarking of works costs which could be less than the actual costs incurred by Council, creating a funding gap and potential delays in infrastructure delivery
- The application of the "essential works list" and the inclusion of "development-contingent" infrastructure for all s7.11 contributions plans, regardless of whether they are above or below the current IPART-review threshold of \$20,000 per dwelling. This may affect Council's ability to collect for some recreation, open space and community infrastructure. The content of the essential works list is currently being reviewed by IPART and the final details are unknown
- Changes to the local government rate peg which may allow Council's income to increase as its population grows
- Changing to a 'direct land contribution' mechanism which applies a statutory charge on land at the time of the rezoning and requires payment when the land is sold or subdivided, whichever comes first. This is likely to have the greatest relevance to urban release areas which include larger amounts of land acquisition, compared to contributions plans for existing areas where Council generally seeks to embellish and upgrade existing land holdings
- Changes to land valuation and indexation processes
- Deferral of contributions payment until the occupation certificate stage, which could delay Council receiving contributions by up to two years for developments involving buildings

only, compared to receiving contributions at the construction certificate stage. (Note: timing of payment of contributions for subdivision is unlikely to be affected)

- The introduction of a standardised policy to define which types of development are exempt from development contributions – this could result in lower income for Council depending on the range of exemptions
- The implementation of a centralised digital contributions tool via the NSW Planning Portal.
- Incorporating the contributions system into the Integrated Performance and Reporting framework
- Requiring planning proposals to consider the efficient use of land, including opportunities for dual use and joint use
- Requiring all local infrastructure contributions plans to be updated consistent with the new framework by July 2024. If Council decides to prepare a new draft contribution plan under the current framework, it would need to be updated to be consistent with the new framework by July 2024

CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

This includes funding and delivery information to assist Council with determining which works it will deliver and how they will be funded.

This information can be used by Council to assist with preparing a new section 7.11 and/or section 7.12 local infrastructure contribution plan. It may also assist Council with preparing other urban planning policies, such as those related to planning agreements.

As noted, all recommendations herein are subject to Council's further assessment and the adoption of this policy does not infer Council's intent to deliver all policy items or works recommended herein.

The preparation of a new local infrastructure contributions plan, potentially applying to the whole Inner West local government area, will be important in determining which works can be funded using local infrastructure contributions, how much funding will be available, and how much of the cost will need to be met from other funding sources.

Key steps in preparing a new local infrastructure contributions plan include:

- Works schedule – preparation of a comprehensive and costed works schedule across all relevant infrastructure categories potentially including community facilities, open space and recreation, traffic and transport and drainage
- Income testing – income scenario testing to identify income that would likely be received under different section 7.11 and section 7.12 approaches and how much of the cost reasonably apportioned to development can be met from local infrastructure contributions
- Other – plan preparation and drafting, Council approval for public exhibition purposes, public exhibition, and (if approved) post exhibition finalisation and adoption.

Where most of the population growth and development will be from residential development, section 7.11 plans typically generate more income than section 7.12 plans. A 'hybrid' section 7.11 and section 7.12 approach can be explored, for example, where section 7.11 contributions are applied to new residential development and section 7.12 contributions are applied to residential alterations and additions and potentially also non-residential development.

In deciding whether to include section 7.12 contributions their potential benefits need to be balanced against their potential limitations.

Potential benefits of a hybrid approach including section 7.12 contributions is that income may be

slightly higher, although this needs to be tested to determine if income will be higher or not. Further, income from section 7.12 contributions can be applied to the 'unapportioned' cost, that is, the component of the cost that cannot reasonably be apportioned to development and funded using section 7.11 contributions.

Potential limitations of including section 7.12 contributions is that the income from section 7.12 contributions may be small compared to section 7.11 contributions where the extent of expected non-residential development is small compared to residential development. However, as noted, the NSW Government is considering increasing the maximum allowable contribution for residential development under section 7.12 plans as part of the current NSW infrastructure funding reforms. This would increase income from section 7.12 contributions relative to income from section 7.11 contributions.

Notwithstanding possible increases to section 7.12 contribution rates, another potential limitation with section 7.12 plans relates to efficiency and administration considerations. Efficiency considerations are relevant if a relatively small amount of income is generated from a large number of applications. Administration considerations are relevant as applicants need to complete cost summary forms to confirm the development cost which then needs to be checked by staff. Cost summary forms do not need to be completed for section 7.11 contributions.

Detailed income testing and analysis needs to be undertaken to identify the optimum contributions approach.

Apportionment analysis indicates that if works are to be funded using section 7.11 contributions the percentage of the cost that can apportioned to development and funded using section 7.11 contributions is approximately 80 per cent.

The unapportioned cost will need to be funded from other funding sources, for example, section 7.12 contributions, general revenue and grants. If works can be funded and delivered by developers, for example, under a 'key sites' approach, it will avoid or minimise the need for Council to fund the works using section 7.11 contributions and general revenue and associated budget impact.

If infrastructure works schedule costs cannot be fully met by the various funding sources and delivery mechanisms, options available to Council include:

1. Delaying certain works
2. Reducing the scope or certain works, to reduce their cost
3. Not proceeding with certain works.

Potential prioritisation criteria could include:

- Is the works item identified as a priority in a complementary policy or study, such as Council's Community Strategic Plan or Local Strategic Planning Statement?
- Does the works item provide a net increase in carrying capacity to meet the needs of growth?
- What is the budget impact – can the works item be delivered directly by developers at no or minimal cost to Council, for example, as works in-kind?
- Is the works item likely to attract grant funding?
- Is there a funding stream available to meet the works item's operational / life cycle costs?
- Does the item have a broad service catchment or broad public benefit?
- Are there no other providers likely to deliver the infrastructure?
- Is the works item considered "essential infrastructure" under the Department of Planning, Industry and the Environment's 2019 Local Infrastructure Contributions Practice Note?

When preparing a new local infrastructure contribution plan, if the total contribution rate across all infrastructure categories (open space, community facilities, transport, drainage, plan administration etc) is more than \$20,000 per dwelling, Council will need to decide whether to:

1. seek an IPART review of the draft plan, so that a contribution rate of more than \$20,000 per dwelling can be applied, but contributions can only be used to fund essential works, or
2. not seek an IPART review, so that the essential works list will not apply, but be subject to the \$20,000 cap per residential dwelling. This will generate a funding gap that will need to be funded from other funding sources, such as general revenue. The size of the gap will depend on the extent to which the \$20,000 per dwelling cap is exceeded.
3. amend the works program to reduce the works program cost so the resultant contribution rate is below the \$20,000 per dwelling cap / IPART review threshold and the essential works list does not apply. The works cost could be reduced by excluding works from the works list (for example, using the prioritisation criteria outlined above) or by reducing the scope (and associated cost) of selected works items.

As noted, the essential works list is relevant only to those contributions plans that propose a contribution level above the relevant cap, unless otherwise directed by the Minister for Planning. The essential works list does not apply to contributions plans currently below the relevant cap or to those contributions plans that are exempted from the relevant cap. Under the current NSW framework land for open space including base level embellishment is considered as essential works.

While land for community facilities is considered as essential works, does not include associated capital works. While the scope of this report is limited to recreational works, if substantial community facilities capital works are also required, there may be limited benefit in seeking an IPART review as the community facilities capital works are not considered as essential works and would not be able to be funded using local infrastructure contributions.

The implications of proposed changes to the NSW infrastructure funding system including local infrastructure contributions will also need to be considered. As noted, the "essential works list" and the inclusion of "development-contingent" infrastructure will be applied to all section 7.11 contributions plans, regardless of whether they are above or below the current IPART-review threshold of \$20,000 per dwelling. This may affect Council's ability to collect for some recreation, open space and community infrastructure. The content of the essential works list is currently being reviewed by IPART and the final details are unknown.

Draft regulations, practice notes and guidelines supporting the Bill are expected to be released for comment in late 2021, with the new framework expected to progressively take effect from 1 July 2022.



APPENDICES

APPENDICES	132
APPENDIX 1 APPLICATIONS AND IDEAS FOR THE INNER WEST	133
APPENDIX 2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS BY PARK/FACILITY	152
APPENDIX 3 PARKS IN THE INNER WEST COUNCIL AREA AND NEIGHBOURING AREAS	162
APPENDIX 4 INNER WEST LGA EMPLOYMENT GROWTH METHODOLOGY	165
APPENDIX 5: SMALLER CENTRES NON-RETAIL DEMAND ESTIMATION METHODOLOGY	171
APPENDIX 6: SMALLER CENTRES RETAIL DEMAND ESTIMATION METHODOLOGY	173
APPENDIX 7: EMPLOYMENT PRECINCT JOB ESTIMATIONS TO 2036	176
APPENDIX 8: TRANSFERABLE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS SCHEMATIC	179

APPENDIX 1 APPLICATIONS AND IDEAS FOR THE INNER WEST

This section explores 10 ideas for how the 6 Themes of the Recreation Needs Study could be applied across the Inner West through design and programming interventions.

For each of the 10 ideas, relevant design considerations are provided to apply each case study to possible recreation areas in the Inner West. A supporting study has also been included that shows how each principle could be incorporated into design strategies.

This section considers not only how to improve the recreation value of parks but other elements of the public domain including streets, laneways, paths and trails. The recommendations identify a wide range of opportunities, from the broad to the detail. Consideration has been given to principles that support the key drivers of sharing, generosity, co-design and quality.

The ideas in this report are intended to illustrate the needs outlined in this Study and are not intended as specific master plans. A specific master planning process including community engagement would be undertaken to identify proposals most suited to individual parks.

The case studies and content in its entirety was created by Gallagher Studios.

1. GETTING MORE FROM BIG PARKS

WHERE SHOULD THIS BE APPLIED TO?

- Large parks such as Tempe Recreation Reserve, Leichhardt Park, Marrickville Golf Course, Birchgrove Park and Ashfield Park.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- To increase the capacity of existing parks and sports grounds to address the forecast gap in provision and competing local and district access to recreation opportunities
- To create multifunctional spaces that cater for a wider range of activities, day and night.
- To create safe, inviting and ecologically sustainable parks.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

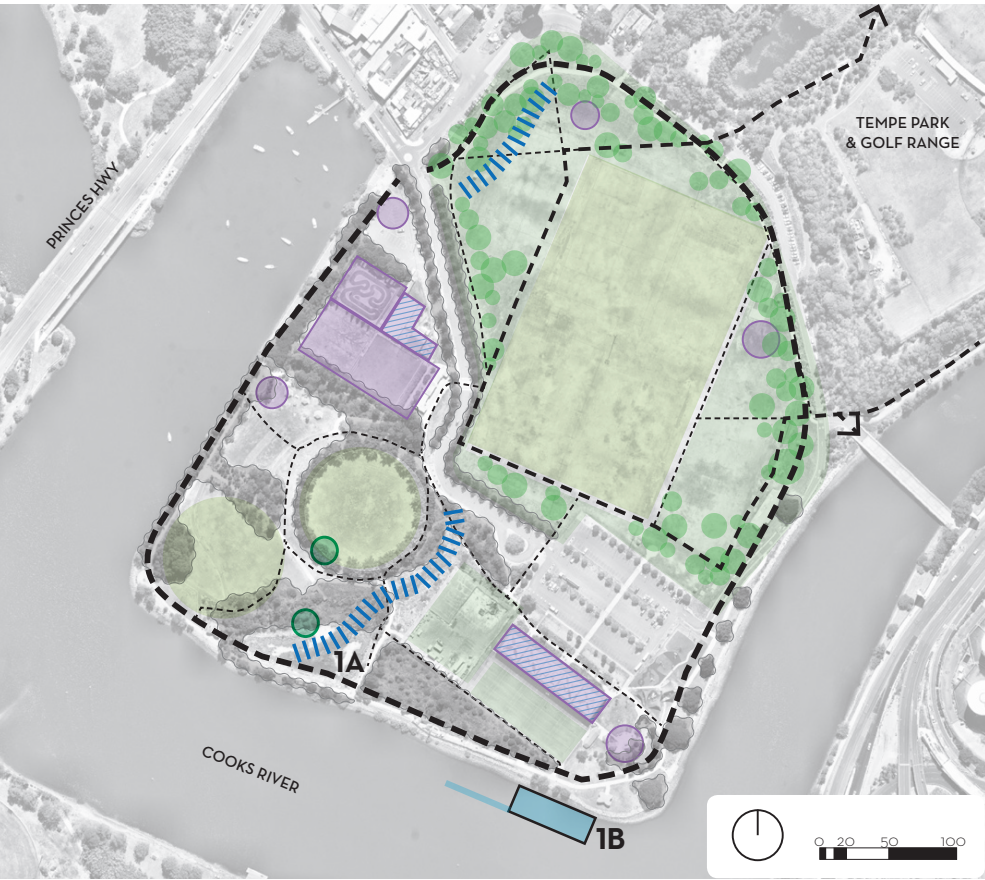
- Develop park master plans that provide a balance of active and passive spaces.
- Consider opportunities to amplify and enhance landscape assets– i.e. river frontage, natural and heritage features, drainage lines and creeks.
- Design facilities for night time use.
- Consider incorporating destination facilities such as unique playgrounds, skate parks, nature play and water-based facilities.
- Provide safe destinations that provide multiple functions (such as kiosk/ cafe collocated with public toilets).
- Provide new types of play such as climbing walls, circuit trails, biking tracks, nature play etc.
- Design ecological improvements such as storm water treatment, energy generation, and habitat creation that can provide new recreational opportunities.
- Incorporate cycleway facilities such as bike trails, bike repair and storage.
- Incorporate access to water and provide water-based activities (such as boat and kayak hire).



(1) Use of inventive elements such as play walls and climbing structures to appeal to older children and teenagers in Queen Elizabeth Park, London. (2) Incorporation of multipurpose recreation facilities aligned to key pedestrian routes to improve safety and provide recreational night time use at Prince Alfred Park, Sydney. (3) Destination regional playground at Bungarribee Park. (4) Water based activities provide a new range of recreation opportunities in Queen Elizabeth Park, London. (5) Storm water treatment can become a defining park feature, creating opportunities for habitat and nature play such as in Sydney Park, Enmore. (6) Kiosk co-located with toilets at Pirrama Park, Sydney.

1. GETTING MORE FROM BIG PARKS

CASE STUDY: TEMPE RECREATION RESERVE



KEY

- PATH NETWORK:** Connect park spaces with a network of well-lit and well-designed paths. Consider designing diverse paths such as bridges, boardwalks etc.
- DESTINATION RECREATION FACILITIES:** Provide facilities such as playground, skate park, kiosk.
- FLEXIBLE SPACE:** design for active and informal park play that can accommodate occasional sports use.
- DESTINATION COMMUNITY FACILITIES:** provide new multipurpose facilities for sport, recreation, and community.
- WATER TREATMENT/WSUD / NATURE PLAY:** design sustainable spaces that allow for exploration and play.
- WATER BASED RECREATION:** Provide access to river and facilities such as kayak hire.

1A: WATER TREATMENT AND RECREATION



Above: Design drainage lines and creeks for improved habitat, ecological health and for nature education and play.

1B: WATER RECREATION



Above: Opportunity for water based recreation on creeks and waterfronts.



(1) Nature Play Wonderland at Centenary Lakes, Melbourne. (2) Lighting for night time activities at Alfred Park, Sydney. (3) Kiosk co-located with toilets at Sydney Park, Enmore. (4) Opportunities for observing wildlife and (5) interacting with water.

2. MULTIPURPOSE DESIGN FOR ACTIVE SPORTS

WHERE SHOULD THIS BE APPLIED TO?

- All current and future sports grounds, and indoor recreation facilities.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- To address increasing demand for courts, fields, and other recreation facilities.
- To explore how existing parks can be desined as multi-purpose, flexible and adaptable spaces and facilities.
- To explore solutions that allow for flexible use and address ongoing maintenance.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

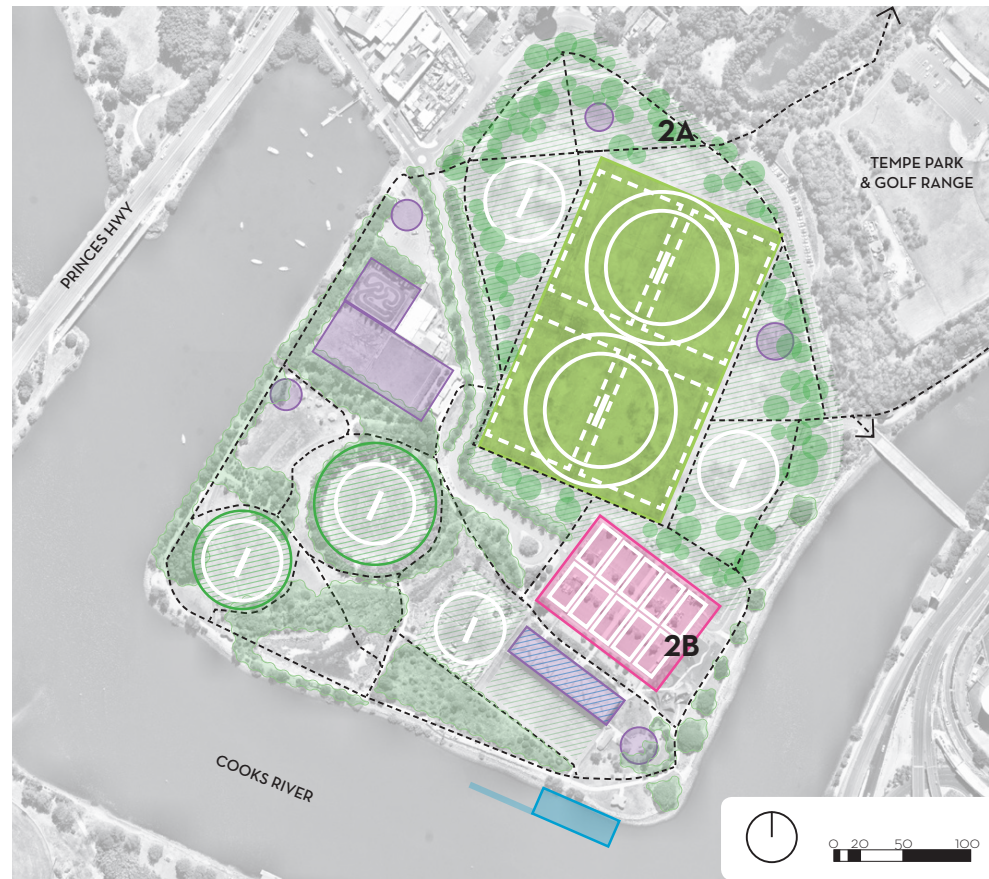
- Provide hybrid courts and fields that allow different sports to share space.
- Explore use of synthetic turf to increase capacity and use. If considering synthetic surfaces, ensure it's configured with well-defined edges and the proportion of synthetic surfacing does not exceed 50% of the total park to maintain local microclimate and amenity.
- Carefully design sports fields to maximise informal parkland spaces. Incorporate additional recreational facilities such as outdoor gym equipment, table tennis tables and climbing walls.
- Promote opportunities for sports building to operate for other recreation uses such as community exhibitions and performances.
- Consider reclaiming left-over spaces such as roof tops or on grade carparks with on grade or above ground courts.
- Design open lawns for flexible recreational use, such as for occasional seasonal sports and informal kick about space.
- Consider providing facilities for water-based sports and recreation such as such as kayak hire, alongside cafes / public toilets.
- Provide lighting for night time use where there will be minimal impact on adjacent residents, such as adjacent to the rail corridors, freeways, river edges, industrial/commercial areas.



(1) Synthetic surfaces such as in Cadman Plaza New York, can increase year-round and intensive use. (2) Providing lighting can maximise active recreation in evenings such as at Prince Alfred Park. (3) Temporary sports events in squares and streets can provide additional recreational amenity. (4) & (5) Sports fields can be designed over on ground carparks such as at the University of Queensland (6) Smaller scale sports facilities such as table tennis tables provide sporting diversity, such as at Navy Yards, NY.

2. MULTIPURPOSE DESIGN FOR ACTIVE SPORTS

CASE STUDY: TEMPE RECREATION RESERVE



KEY

- 1.** SYNTHETIC MULTI-SPORT FIELDS: Define zone for synthetic surfaces. Provide line markings for multiple sports.
- 2.** PARK WITH CAPACITY FOR ACTIVE RECREATION: Incorporate park around edges of synthetic areas to allow passive uses to occur alongside regional sports.
- 3.** FLEXIBLE SPACE: Design spaces for multi-purpose sports and other recreation such as kids play, exhibitions and performances.
- 4.** HYBRID FACILITIES: Design sports facilities to incorporate other park uses (such as cafes)
- 5.** ROOFTOP SPORTS: Design courts above on-grade carparks
- 6.** KAYAK HIRE: Activate the waterfront and provide additional active sport uses with a cafe / kayak hire

2A: SPORTS FIELDS AND PARKLAND INTERACT



Above: There is an opportunity to design attractive park spaces with capacity for sports, as well as additional facilities such as outdoor exercise equipment.

2B: FLEXIBLE SPACE



Above: Incorporating night lighting and multipurpose courts can improve use.



(1) Multi purpose netball/basketball courts at Castle Hill School, NSW. (2) Lighting for night time activities at Alfred Park, Sydney. (3) Synthetic Sports Ovals at University of Queensland. (4) Line markings on a multi-purpose sports field

3. RECLAIMING LANES & LEFT OVER SPACES FOR PLAY

WHERE SHOULD THIS BE APPLIED TO?

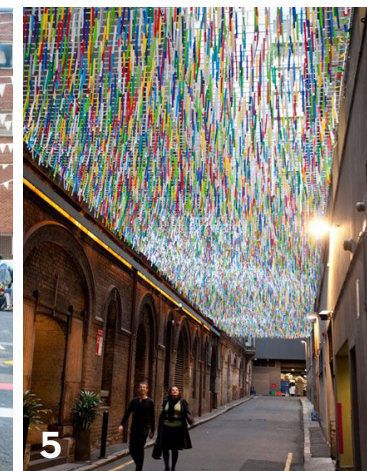
- Areas with current low provision of parks such as Enmore, Stanmore, Newtown, Petersham

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- To address increased recreational demand in neighbourhoods with limited public open space.
- To increase recreational opportunities in areas with high numbers of young people and students.
- To provide unique, safe, and unstructured public play opportunities.
- To improve community interaction.
- To enhance local character and identity.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

- Consider designing lanes as “Play Streets”.
- Explore public domain design interventions for left-over and under-utilised spaces such as lane-ways, tunnels, and transport corridor edges.
- Identify locations appropriate for daytime use, such as lanes in residential zones, and locations appropriate for night time uses such as lanes within light industrial zones.
- Collaborate with local landowners/ residents to gather ideas and identify appropriate locations. Develop a database of keen landowners willing to transform adjoining walls and fences.
- Consider simple low cost and simple design interventions such as basketball hoops, stencils to pavements, temporary furniture, pot plants and lighting.
- Explore developing temporary events in lanes such as art shows, outdoor movies etc.
- Consider temporary arts/ cultural program focused on inner west lanes.



(1) Art installations can provide amenity and delight in lanes such as Birdsong Installation at Angel Place in Wynyard.
(2) Temporary events such as outdoor movies can active leftover spaces such as at Hackney in London.
(3,4,5 and 6) Low cost temporary interventions such as chalk, stencils, paint, streamers and flags can transform urban lanes and streets.

3. RECLAIMING LANES & LEFT OVER SPACES FOR PLAY

CASE STUDY: MARRICKVILLE + STANMORE



KEY

- AFTER-HOURS LANEWAY:** Laneways located within industrial areas can support after-hours activation. Lighting, ground and wall treatments, pop up events with temporary furniture, movie screenings, art installations etc can transform underutilised space after hours.
- INDUSTRIAL LAND USES**
- PLAY LANEWAY:** Laneways surrounded by residences can be activated through permanent play fixtures such as basketball hoops and painted ground treatments.
- RESIDENTIAL AREA**

3A: AFTER-HOURS LANEWAY: INDUSTRIAL LANES



Above: Lanes in industrial areas can be transformed for temporary night time events.

3B: PLAY LANEWAY: RESIDENTIAL LANES



Above: Low speed lanes in residential areas can incorporate temporary play on walls and road surfacing.

- (1) Playful interventions such as colourful surfacing and (2) and (3) Basketball hoops such as in Ally-Oop, Vancouver.
(4) Temporary events can activate left over spaces.



4. WALKING THE INNER WEST: URBAN WALKS

WHERE SHOULD THIS BE APPLIED TO?

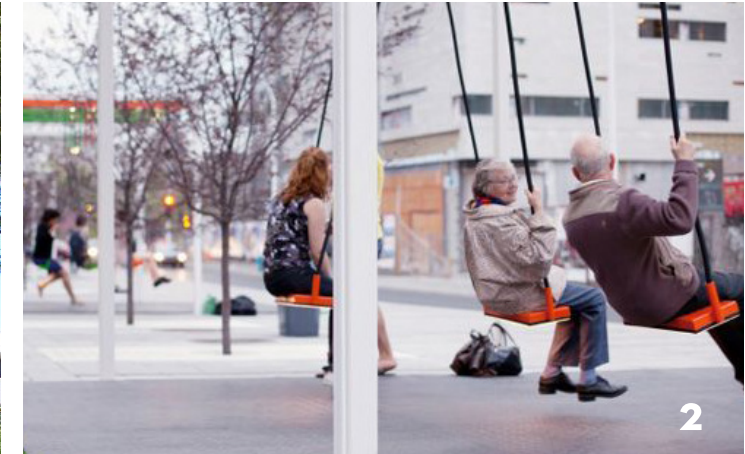
- Across the inner west but in particular around Ashfield town centre, Marrickville south and along the Sydenham to Bankstown corridor.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- To recognise walking as the most popular in the Inner West, nationally and internationally.
- To redesign streets as attractive public places.
- To maximise recreational opportunities in high density locations.
- To create inclusive, safe and attractive routes through civic centres and retail streets and linking to public transport, particularly important for women and girls and older residents.
- To provide attractive walking routes, the most significant recreational activity in Australia¹.
- To increase shade and improve local microclimates by providing more street trees.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

- Consider streetscape improvements in locations with limited public open space.
- Develop priority routes for streetscape upgrades that link town centres to parks, schools, churches, and other civic spaces.
- Incorporate seating, public lighting, drinking fountains and public art.
- Reconsider road alignments and reduce excess carriageways to maximise space for pedestrians, and provide new opportunities for street trees, benches and lighting.
- Prioritise shade tree planting and canopy cover.
- Consider incorporating fitness signage and information into route designs.
- Explore opportunities for improved traffic signals and pedestrian countdown timers.
- Explore improving landscape space in front community facilities to provide opportunities for new public seating and gardens.

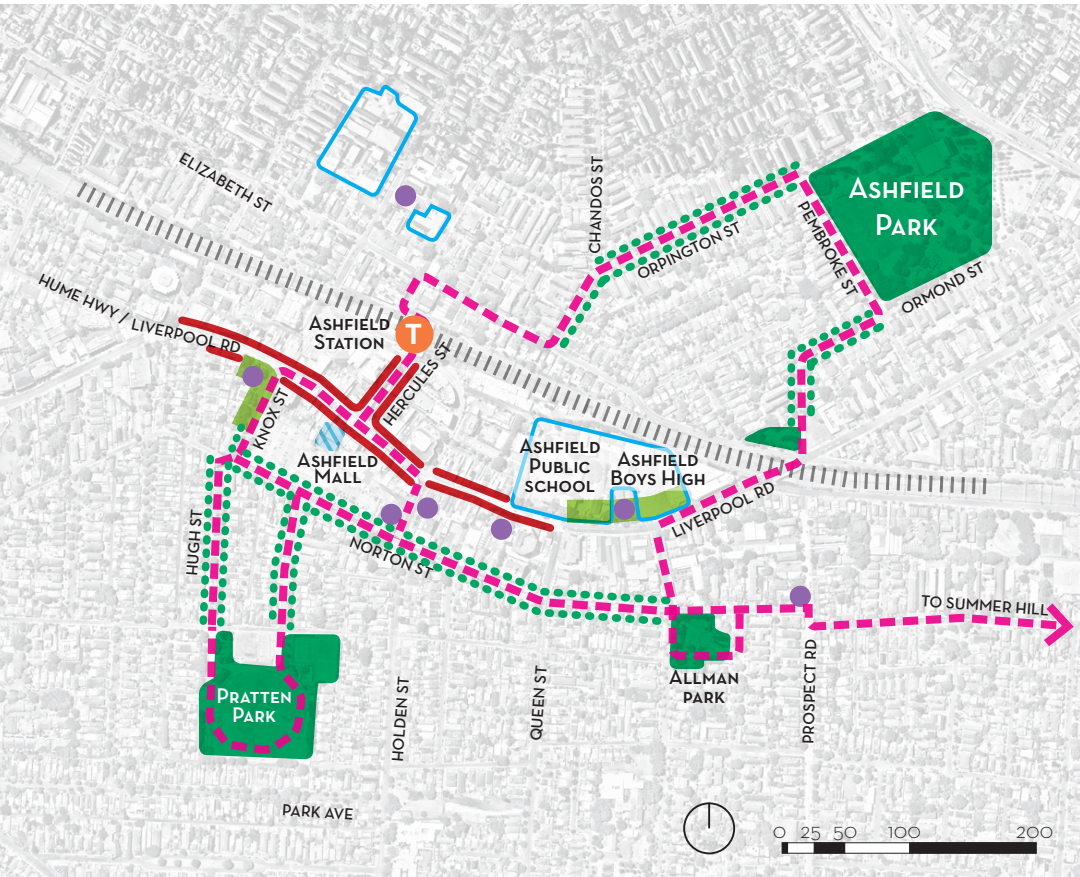


(1) Trees provide shade for pedestrians on urban streets. (2) Playful elements such as swings can provide moments of delight. (3) Tree planting and gardens improve the pedestrian experience. (4) Accessibility across roads is critical, and crossings can be made into memorable features. (5) Designing comfortable public seating along urban walking routes can improve amenity.

1. (OECD 2017 Better life index)

4. WALKING THE INNER WEST: URBAN WALKS

CASE STUDY: ASHFIELD TOWN CENTRE



- KEY**
- ASHFIELD URBAN WALK: Priority pedestrian link with improved streetscape linking key public spaces. Improvements include expanded footpaths, new trees, new furniture, lighting and signage.
 - SHADY, TREE LINED STREETS : New tree planting on priority streets
 - PUBLIC SPACE INTERFACE: Create public spaces with seating, gardens and trees for shade in front of community buildings, such as schools and churches
- LEGEND**
- T Train Station
 - Rail Line
 - Parks
 - Civic Facilities
 - Active Retail Frontages
 - Schools
 - Churches

4A: TREE PLANTING AND GARDENS IN LEFTOVER CARRIAGEWAY



Above: expand tree planting in underutilised carriageways and no stopping zones

4B: OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE AMENITY



Above: Consider providing landscape improvements to civic facilities, such as church surrounds, providing gardens with public seating.



- (1) Drinking fountains encourage walking. (2) Comfortable and well-located seating is critical, particularly for older residents (3) Shaded, tree-lined streets improve walkability. (4) Public seating in an attractive setting with shade and garden plantings can transform urban areas.

5. WALKING THE INNER WEST: BRIDGING THE GAP

CONNECTING ACROSS INFRASTRUCTURE

WHERE SHOULD THIS BE APPLIED TO?

- Balmain peninsula foreshore and other foreshore locations, along rail lines, and infrastructure corridors such as Parramatta road.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- To “future proof” the Inner West for major projects such as The Bays Precinct, and the Parramatta Road Corridor Urban Transformation Strategy.
- To improve access to public parks, foreshores and riverfronts, bushland reserves, civic and cultural landmarks.
- To address physical barriers such as rail corridors, arterial roads, and escarpments.
- To maximise recreational opportunities in high density locations.
- To provide attractive walking routes, the most significant recreational activity in Australia 1.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

- Develop priority routes linking open space corridors, waterfronts, and parks through existing neighbourhoods.
- Design links to maximise amenity, by providing generous paths and seating with views, and incorporating shade trees, lighting, drinking fountains etc.
- Consider incorporating fitness signage and information into route designs.
- Explore inventive solutions to barriers such as iconic stairs, bridges and tunnels.
- Negotiate with landowners to provide multiple public access points. Ensure landowners design interconnected street networks that link to existing neighbourhoods.
- Avoid privatisation of key routes and negotiate access with landowners and allow for public right of way.
- Reconsider road alignments and reduce excess carriageways to maximise space for pedestrians.
- Explore opportunities for improved signals at arterial roads and provide pedestrian countdown timers.
- Consider equitable access where possible, and that sensitively addresses the local conditions, landform, heritage and context.

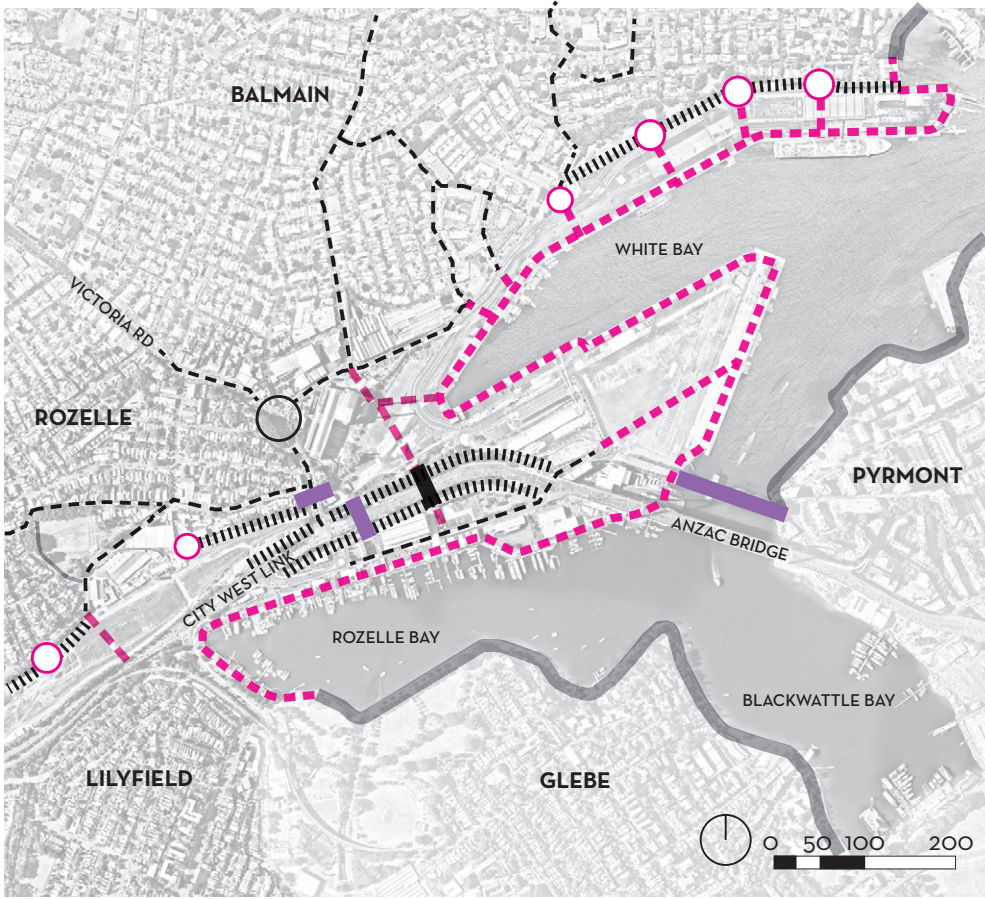


(1) Bridge infrastructure can be beautiful, such as the Diamond Bridge at Queen Elizabeth Park, London.
(2) Bridges can be unique destinations such as the concept behind the ArcelorMittal Orbit - a sculpture and observation tower in London (3) (4) (5) Sculptural pedestrian bridges in Copenhagen and Amsterdam and at Tram Square Pumerend, Netherlands.

1. (OECD 2017 Better life index)

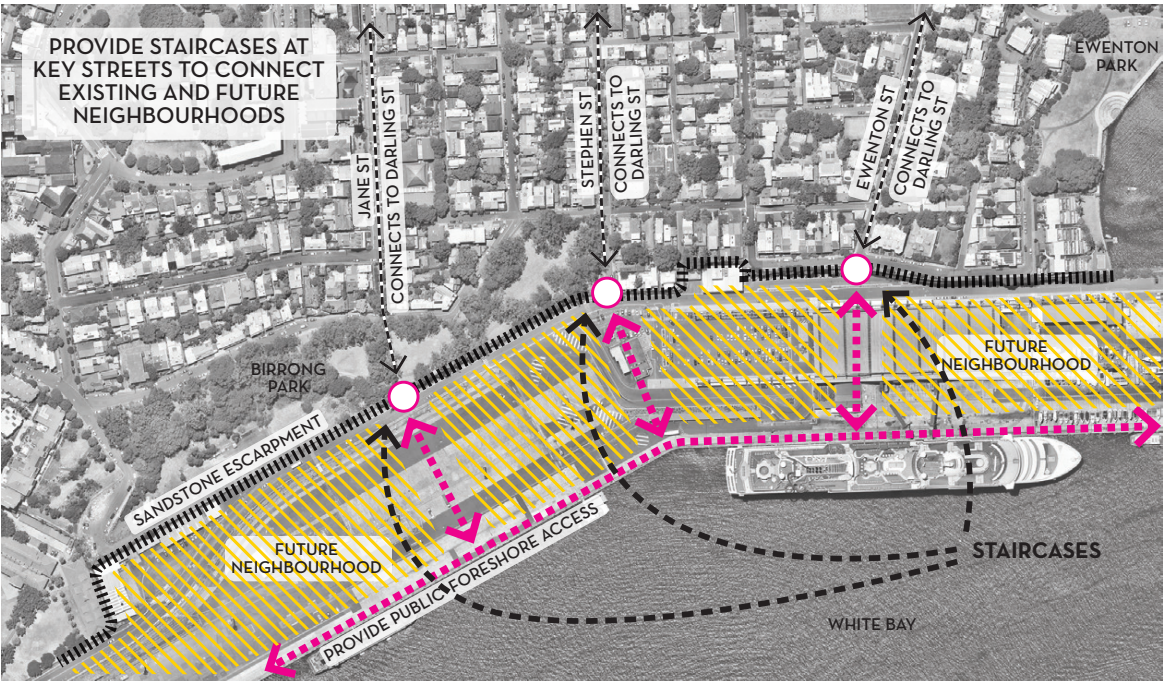
5. WALKING THE INNER WEST: URBAN WALKS

CASE STUDY: WHITE BAY



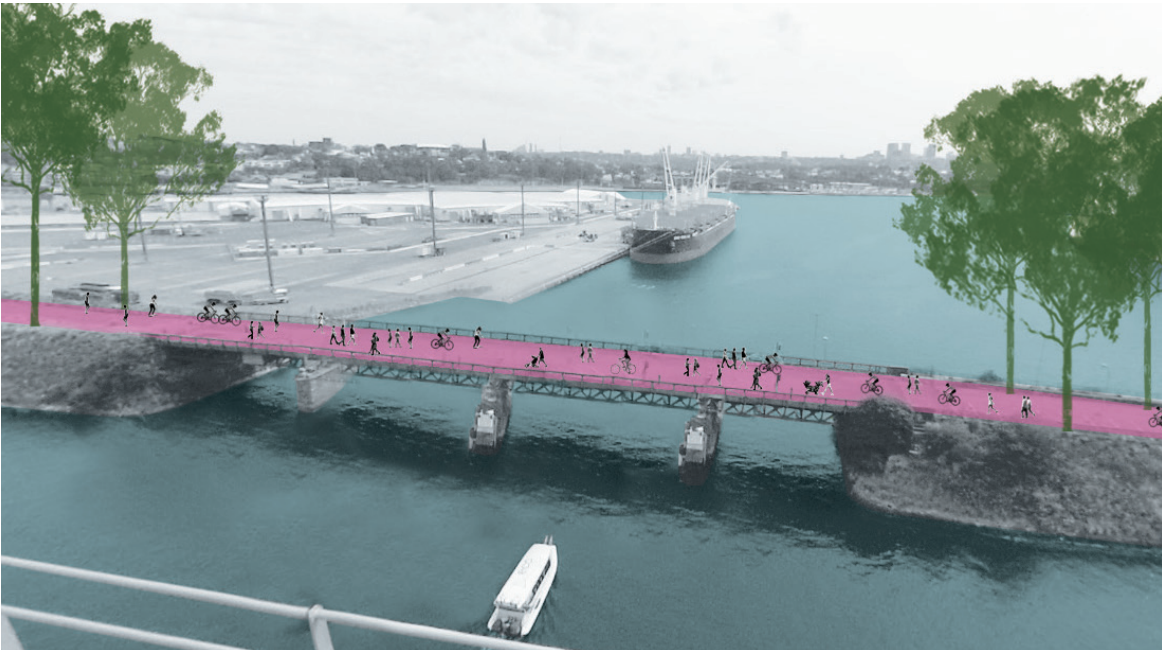
- KEY**
- EXISTING FORESHORE WALK
 - PROPOSED FORESHORE ACCESS: Provide public access to foreshore within future development area
 - EXISTING STREETS: Potential to connect to wider network
 - BRIDGES: Reinstall Glebe Island Bridge and upgrade existing pedestrian bridges over busy roads
 - CRITICAL INTERSECTIONS: Improve crossings and signals
 - EXISTING ESCARPMENTS
 - STAIRCASES: linking across steep topography
 - UNDERPASS: provide new on grade link connecting north-south

5A: NAVIGATING ESCARPMENTS



Above: Staircases can provide pedestrian access at escarpments, and connect existing and future neighbourhoods to the harbour foreshore.

5B: REINSTATE GLEBE ISLAND BRIDGE



Above: Reconnect Glebe Island peninsula to Pyrmont for pedestrians and cyclists through reinstating the Glebe Island Bridge

(1) (2) Staircases allow pedestrian movement at escarpments, such as the cantilevered staircase at Pirrama Park. (3) Pedestrian and cycle bridges can be sculptural, such as the Cirkelbroen Bridge in Copenhagen. (4) Shaded, tree-lined streets provide pedestrian links throughout neighbourhoods. (5) Underpasses with art/lighting provide movement through challenging topography.



6. SHARING SPACE: CYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS

WHERE SHOULD THIS BE APPLIED TO?

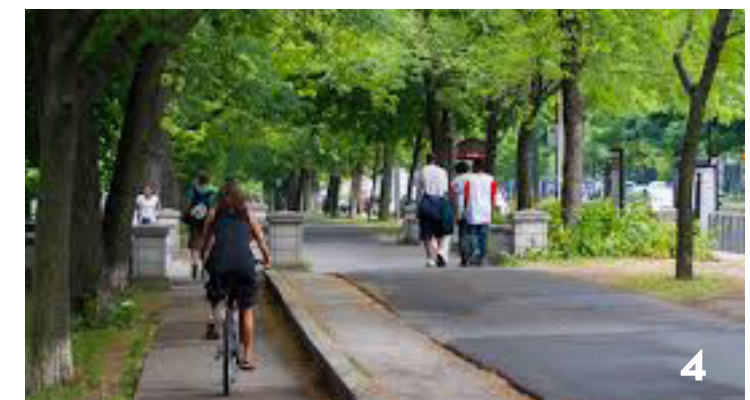
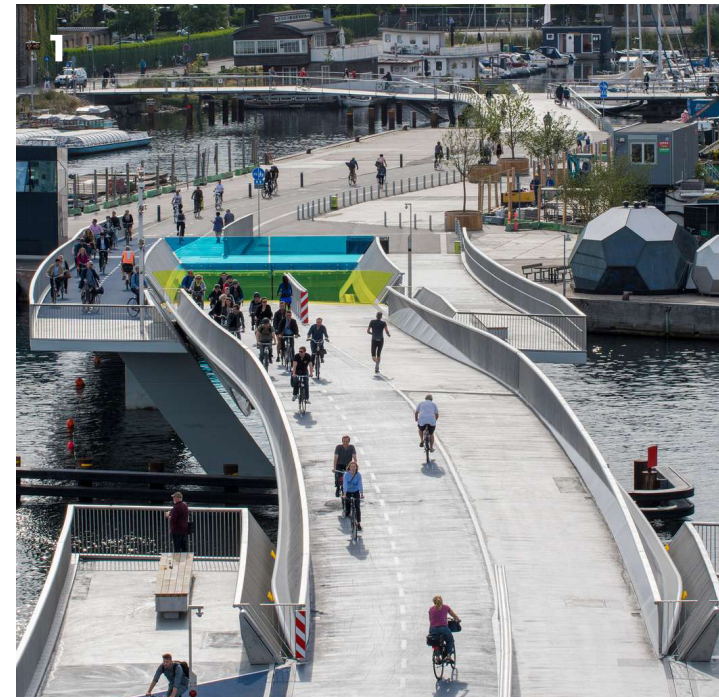
- Across the inner west in particular the bay run, Cooks River foreshore path, and the greenway

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- Cycling is one of the most popular recreation activities in the Inner West and nationally.
- Conflict between cyclists and pedestrians was a key concern throughout community engagement.
- To address conflict and collision risks between cyclists and pedestrians on shared paths.
- To ensure equitable access to shared space for older people and visually impaired people¹.
- To improve park amenity and safety.
- To alter user perception of shared paths.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

- Design separated cycleways where space permits. Recognise that commuter and sports recreation cyclists operate at high speeds and may cause conflict with other users particularly the elderly or vision impaired.
- Consider separation as a priority in locations where there are 50 cyclists or 100 pedestrians per hour in peak periods² during the day.
- Prioritise delivery of separated facilities in road infrastructure budgets and explore methods to offset costs.
- Consider path alignments that are more flexible and less standardised, to allow for variation to accommodate local conditions such as rocks, trees and waterfront edges.
- Consider trial of a new kind of shared path, with limited segregation signage and directional signage. Remove clear division between pedestrian and cyclists so that cyclists are required to slow down and use caution.
- Develop a “share the share way” arts program to change perception of shared paths.



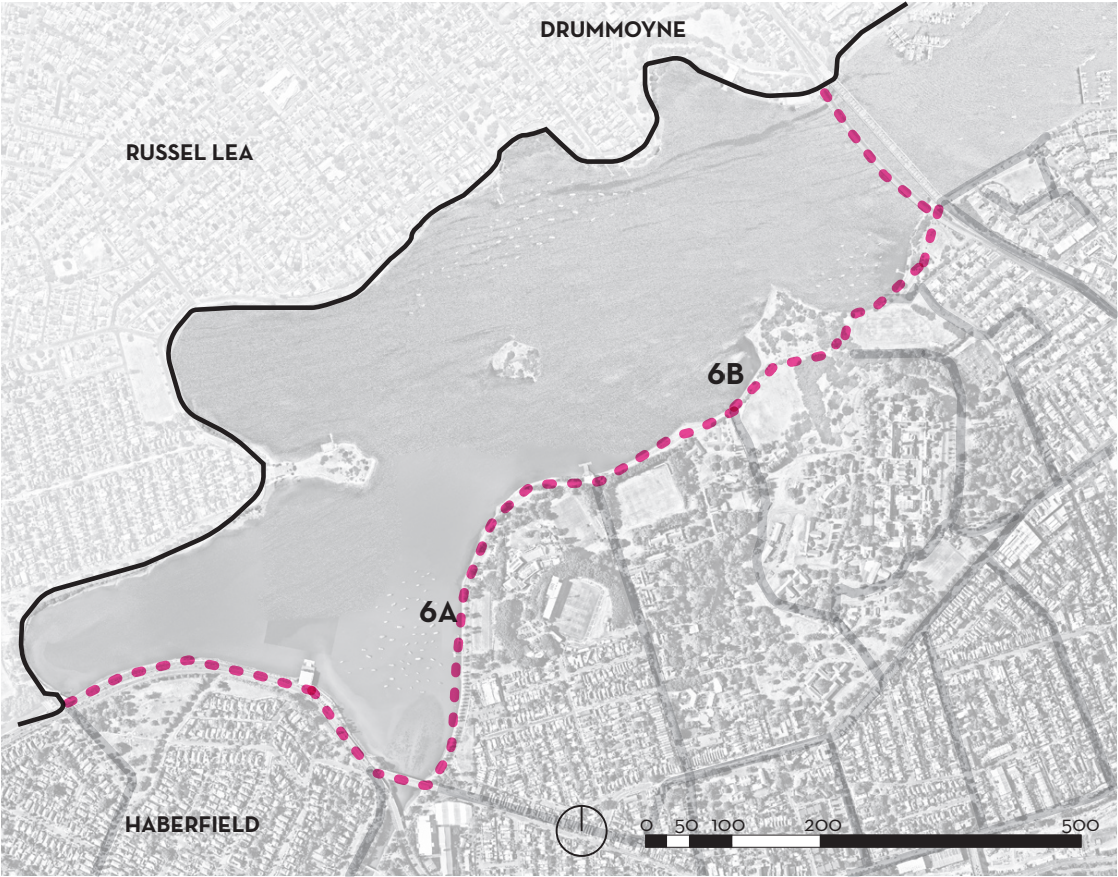
(1) Separated pedestrian and cyclist bridge in Copenhagen. (2) Pathway alignments can allow for variation to accommodate local conditions such as trees eg. Hyde park in London. (3) (4) Separated pathways in New York City and in La Fontaine Park, Montreal clearly separate cyclists and pedestrians. (5) (6) Well designed paths do not segregate use and create unified space such as Dordrecht, Netherlands and at New Road in Brighton, UK.

1. Victoria Walks (2015). Shared paths – the issues, Melbourne, Victoria Walks.

2. Austroads, Norwegian and Dutch guidance as cited in Victoria Walks (2015). Shared paths – the issues, Melbourne, Victoria Walks

6. SHARING SPACE: CYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS

CASE STUDY: THE BAY RUN

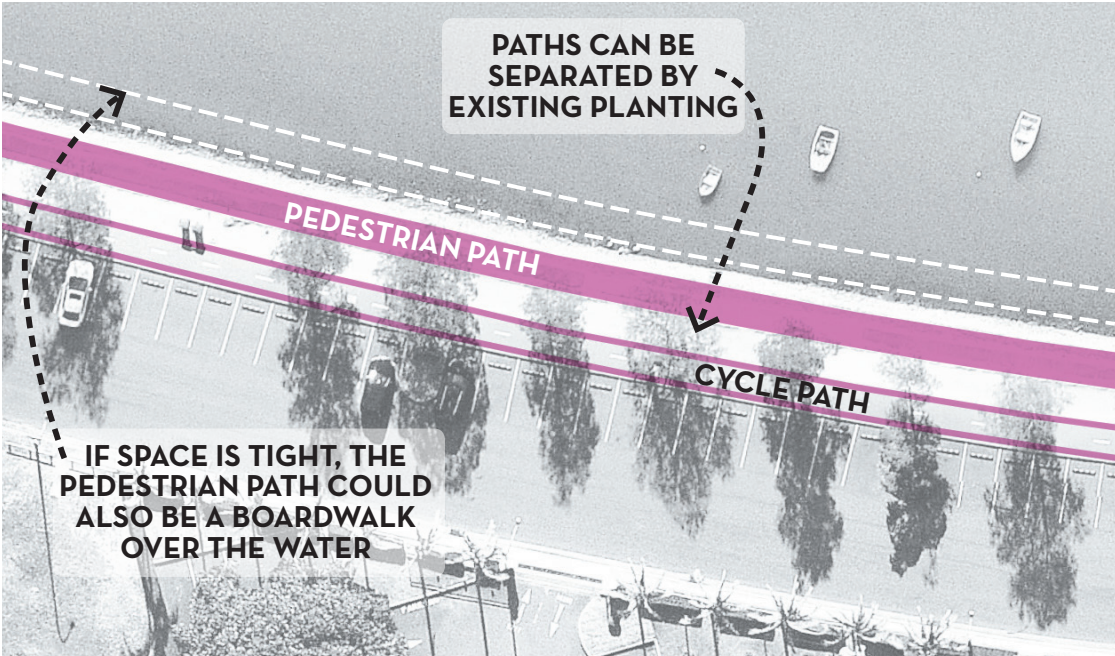


KEY

THE BAY RUN: Consider the path design as incorporating separated pedestrian and cyclist pathways where space permits, or in locations where this is not possible, a shared pathway.

LGA Boundary

6A. SEPARATED PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE PATHS



Above: Separated pedestrian and cycle paths can reduce conflict issues

6B. 'SHARE THE SHAREWAY'



Above: Education and branding campaign

(1) (2) Vegetation can provide separation between bikes and pedestrians in Sydney or in Maisonneuve Park, Montreal. (3) Unified shareway treatment with no signage on paving - New Road in Brighton, UK.



7. SHARING SPACE: NATIVE WILDLIFE AND PEOPLE

WHERE SHOULD THIS BE APPLIED TO?

- All current and future parks in the inner west, in particular linear parks, the greenway and the cooks river foreshore park.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- To provide connections with nature in an increasingly dense urban city supporting improved mental health outcomes.
- To maintain the biodiversity of our urban environments.
- To maximise habitat within existing parks and public open space.
- To create habitat 'stepping stones', which link larger habitat areas and provide movement corridors for species.
- To protect threatened fauna and flora species¹.
- To provide access to natural environments thereby improving human wellbeing.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

- Develop native revegetation and reconstruction programs that provide an interconnected network across the LGA.
- Provide structural diversity into parks including a variety of native trees, shrubs, and groundcovers. Where possible prioritise shrubs, grasses and herbs to provide suitable conditions for species but with a lesser degree of connectivity.
- Prioritise habitat for threatened and endangered fauna and flora species such as the the Long-nosed Bandicoot, Grey-headed Flying-fox and Eastern Bentwing Bat.
- Incorporate logs, rock and brush piles and leaf litter for insects and small animals.
- Install built structures, including rockeries, log piles, stormwater pipes and nesting boxes to provide habitat and protection for wildlife.
- Maintain old/ dead trees with hollows in parks where possible for nesting animals.
- Provide interconnected tree canopy for certain fauna species to overcome spatial barriers such as roads.
- Investigate naturalising creek channels and waterfront edges to improve aquatic habitat.
- Consider WSUD initiatives to provide water for native animals.

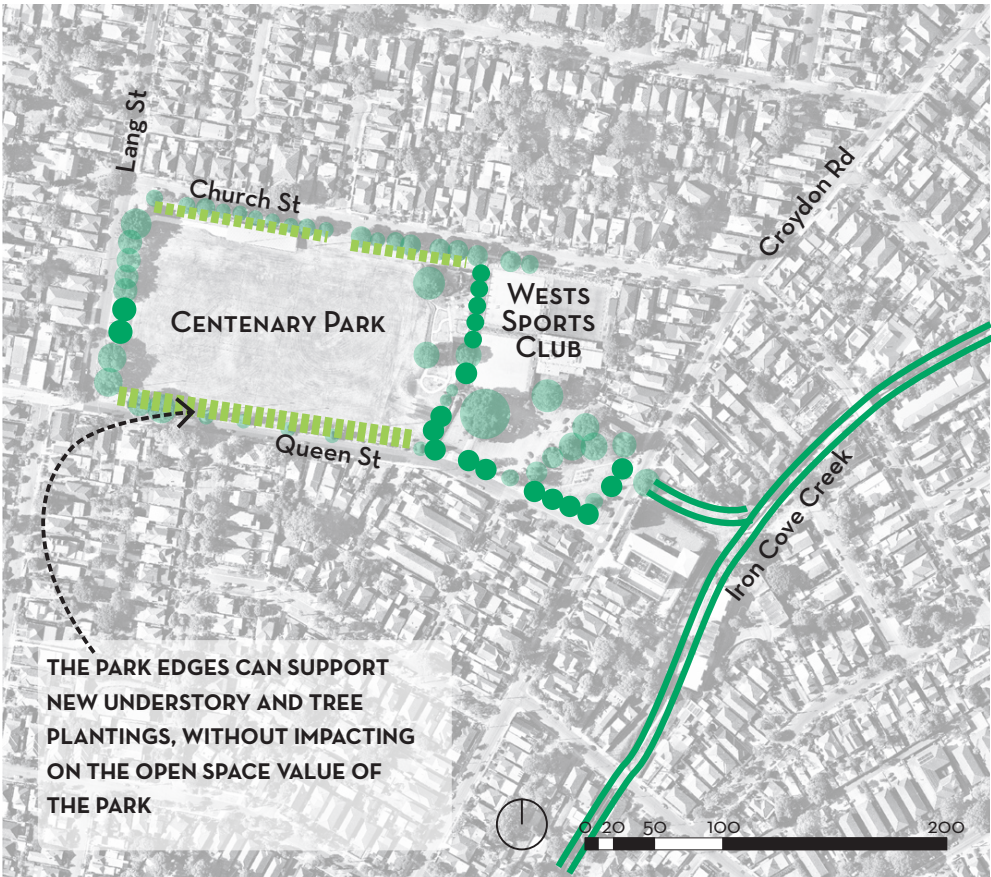


(1) Designing wetlands and storm water treatment can improve habitat in urban areas such as at Qunli National Urban Wetland by Turenscape in Haerbin, China. (2) Logs and rocks provide habitat in Sydney Park wetland. (3) Tree hollows provide nesting areas for native animals, such as in this retained tree trunk in St Leonards Park, Sydney. (4) & (5) Parks can provide habitat for local species such as the Long-nosed Bandicoot and the Fairy Wren. (5) Water treatment can provide opportunities for nature play such as at Bottiere Chenaie Ecodistrict in France.

1. www.habitatsteppingstones.org.au

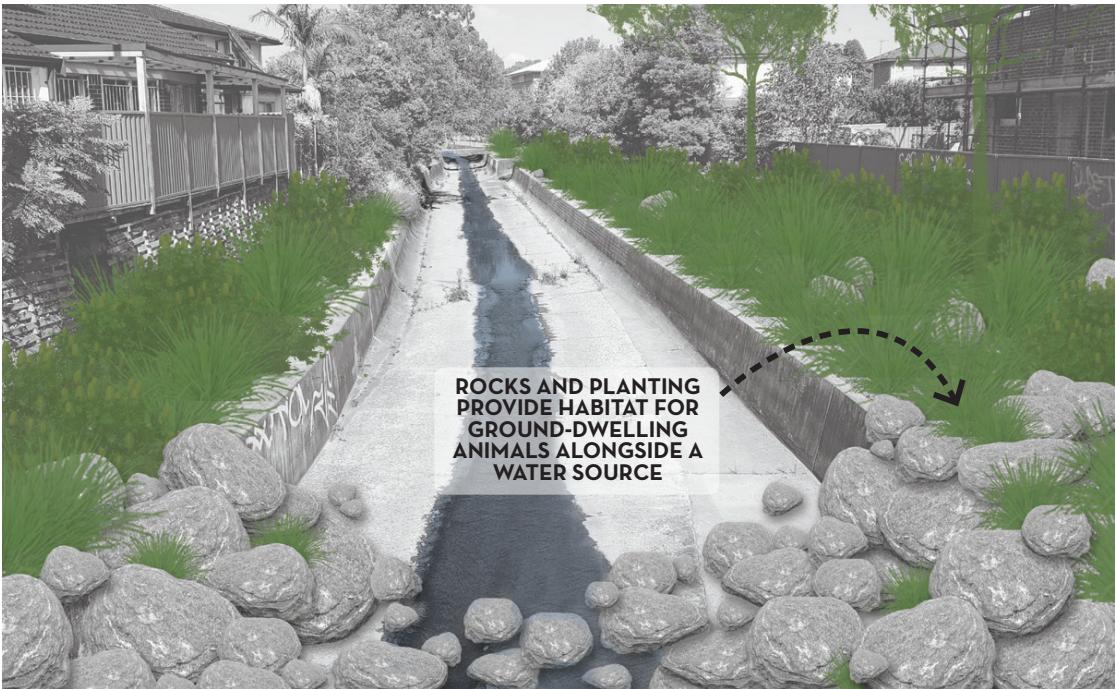
7. SHARING SPACE: NATIVE WILDLIFE AND PEOPLE

CASE STUDY: IRON COVE CREEK, CROYDON



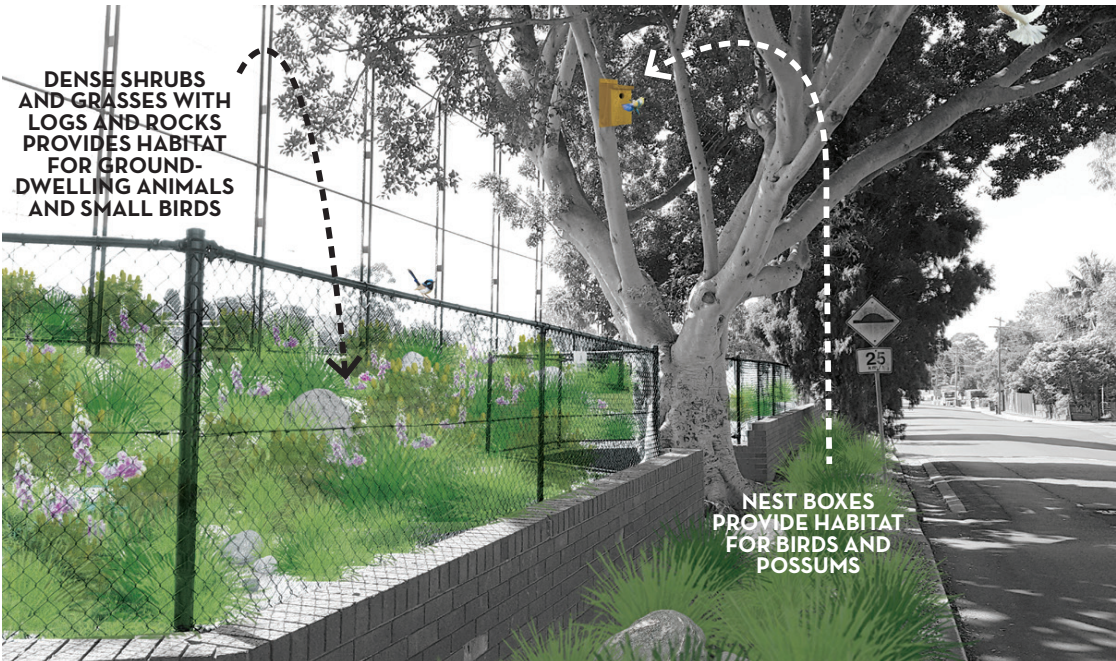
- KEY**
- IRON COVE CREEK CHANNEL:** Plant channel edges with shrubs and groundcovers. Naturalise priority sections of the creek. Understory vegetation and rock piles can provide habitat for smaller, ground-dwelling animals such as frogs and lizards, which in turn supports larger fauna in the area.
 - TREE CANOPY:** Provide a continuous canopy link from Creek to Park. Trees provide important habitat for larger animals. Nesting boxes located in tall trees can also provide instant ‘homes’ for animals such as possums and birds.
 - UNDERSTORY PLANTING:** Understory planting is particularly important for small, ground-dwelling animals such as insects and lizards. The combination of groundcovers, shrubs, rock piles and logs can provide both habitat and sources of food for local fauna.
 - EXISTING TREE CANOPY**

7A: PROVIDING HABITAT ALONGSIDE IRON COVE CREEK

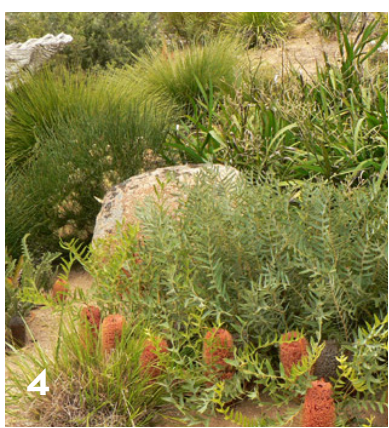
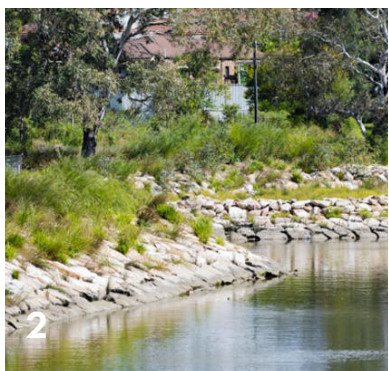


Above: Rocks naturalise the creek, whilst planting on the channel edges creates habitat alongside a water source.

7B: PROVIDING HABITAT IN CENTENARY PARK



Above: Planting in areas with limited recreational value, such as slopes and fenced-off spaces, can improve fauna habitat.



(1) Cooks River naturalisation project, 2015. (2) Sydney Water creek naturalisation project. (3) Martin Luther King Park, New York. (4) Plants, such as Banksia, provide habitat for birds and insects.

8. SHARING SPACE: WELCOMING WOMEN AND GIRLS

WHERE SHOULD THIS BE APPLIED TO?

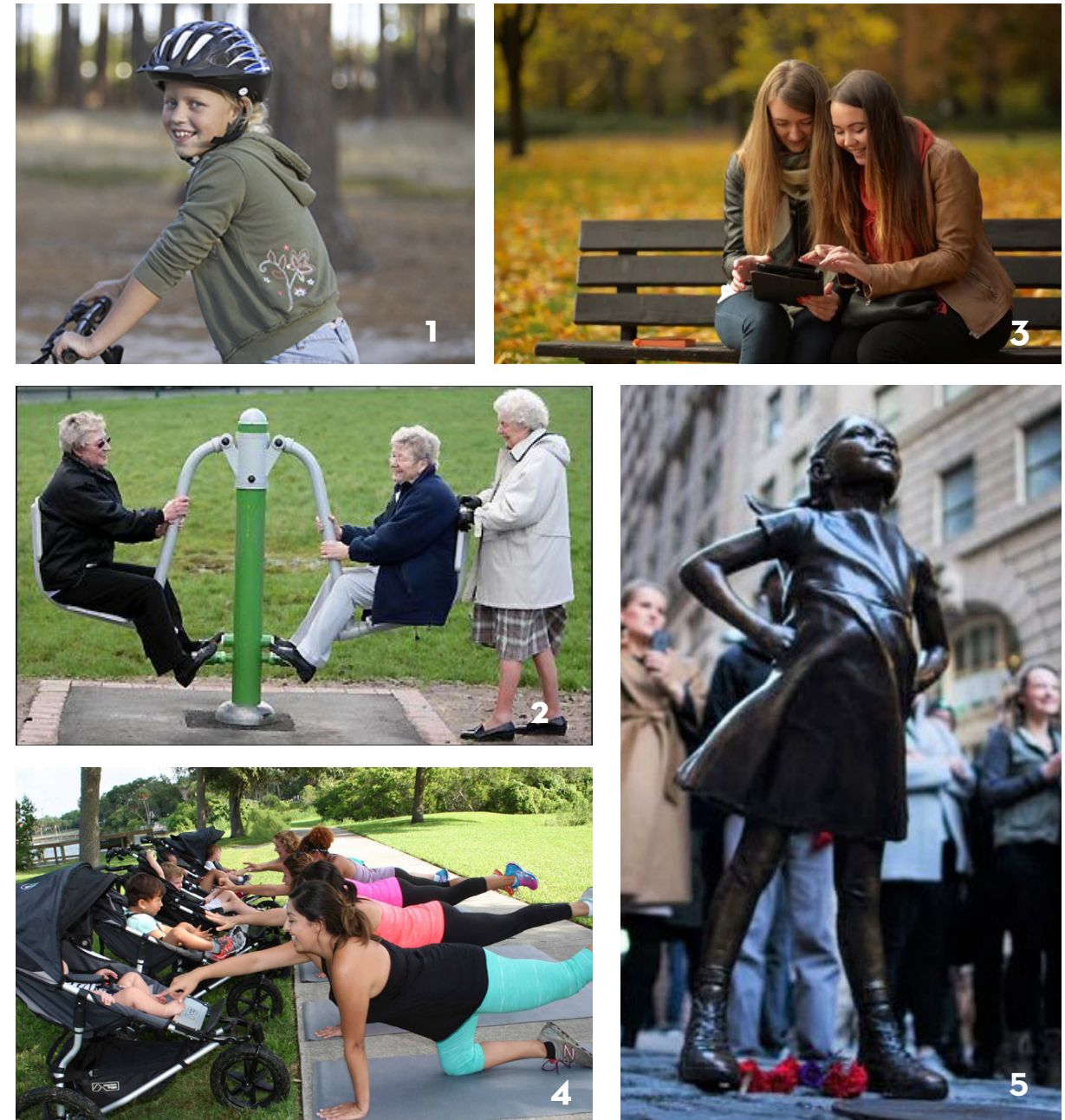
- Streets, laneways, parks and sportsgrounds in the inner west

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- Only % of Council's sports grounds are hired to clubs that include women's sport.
- Men playing sports formally and informally often dominate parks and playing fields.
- Women and girls don't often feel welcome or safe in public parks – an Australian study found that 70% of girls believe it's not safe to share public parks already occupied by older boys.
- While walking has been identified as the primary recreational activity among teenage girls' and women, concerns around personal safety particularly for young women, restrict independent mobility and participation in public life.
- Safe links to public transport are critical so that women get safely to recreational facilities.
- As domestic violence is increasing² designing safe and welcoming urban spaces can increase women's empowerment and reduce crime.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

- Design active frontages to key streets and public spaces.
- Locate new public open space in highly visible locations, adjacent to main streets and with good passive surveillance.
- Priorities safe walking routes linking civic centres and retail streets to public transport.
- Consider locating park rangers / advocates Park wardens.
- Consider a calendar of programs that prioritise activities and events for women day and night-film festivals, reading groups, outdoor libraries, childcare and mobile play, repairs and DIY and walking groups / tours.
- Develop multipurpose parks with well-designed paths, and a mix of spaces and functions. Provide small-structured common areas, which can be used by several groups at the same time, motivate girls increasingly to spend their time in parks. Clear arrangement and lighting of paths increase safety and encourage girls, young women, and elderly visitors to come and spend time in the park.
- Provide multi-functional play areas to encourage girls to be physically active
- Collocate public toilets within civic facilities such as libraries, or actives uses such as cafes.
- Appoint a Welcoming Women and Girls project officer for the LGA. This role could:
 - Change the perception of active recreation spaces as being the domain as boys & men.
 - Design a program of parks and public activities that appeal to women and girls.
 - Develop consultation strategies to engage with women and girls.
 - Provide input on public domain design proposals.
 - Identify problem locations and identify strategies for improvement.

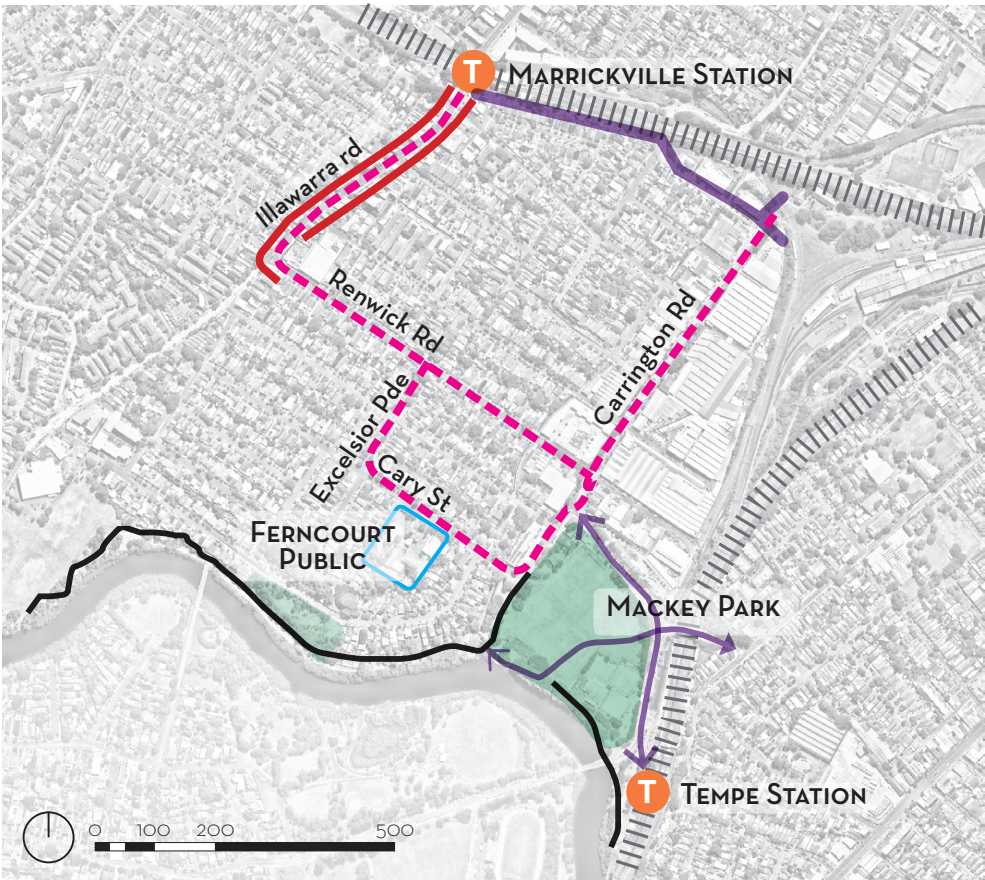


(1) Designing safe spaces, with a range of facilities can encourage girls and older women (2) to be physically active. (3) Small-structured common areas and seating can provide opportunities for girls to occupy parks. (4) Developing a program of park activities that appeal to women and girls can change the dynamics of parks. (5) Iconic art celebrates women's presence in public space (such as Fearless Girl by Kristen Visbal in New York).

1. Garrard J, (2017). Young people and walking. Victoria Walks, Melbourne.
2. Resilient Sydney (2016) Preliminary Resilience Assessment 2016

8. SHARING SPACE: WELCOMING WOMEN AND GIRLS

CASE STUDY: MARRICKVILLE SOUTH



KEY

- EQUITABLE PARKS:**Design safe circulation and sightlines, co-locate toilets with kiosks to improve safety. Design smaller, well defined spaces for smaller group gathering and children's play. Explore capacity for female dominated sports such as hockey and netball. Provide diverse and comfortable seating.
- PRIORITY STREETS:** Design safe well lit streets with improved seating, lighting and circulation. Prioritise links to key civic facilities such as to schools, train stations and town centres. Provide diverse and comfortable seating.
- SAFE LINKS:** Design new links that are safe and secure. prioritse lighting and good sight lines.
- Train Station
- Rail Line
- Parks
- Active Retail Frontages
- Schools

8A: ILLAWARRA RD: EXPANDED FOOTPATHS, SEATING AND STREET TREES



Above: Generous streets with lots of public seating provides space gathering and walking.

8B: MACKEY PARK: DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS



Above: Holistic design of parks that embed design initiatives that welcome women and girls can improve overall park amenity.

(1) & (2) Providing paths with comfortable seating allows women and girls to feel comfortable. (3) A program of activities such as yoga classes for mothers can make parks more hospitable. (4) Providing facilities for different kinds of recreation can be appealing for women of all ages.



9. EXPLORATORY PLAY, FREE PLAY

WHERE SHOULD THIS BE APPLIED TO?

- Current and future medium and high-density areas of the inner west

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- Children have declining opportunities to participate in unsupervised and unstructured play, and declining access to risk taking, explorative, and messy play.
- Independent play is an important element in learning and growth.
- Children, particularly those living in urban areas and high density apartments, don't have back yards and natural areas for exploratory play.
- Nature and wild play is not only good for physical health, but also children's development cognitively, socially and emotionally. Playing outdoors independently grows resilience, self confidence, initiative and creativity.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

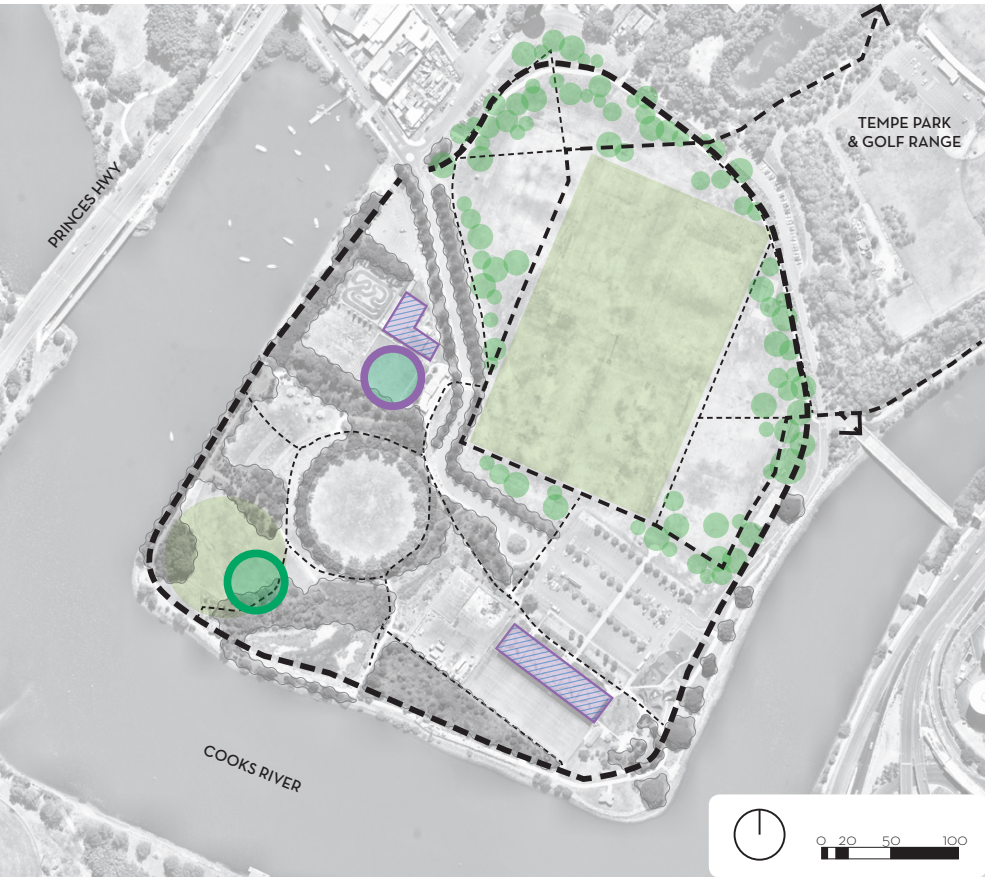
- Provide free play spaces in medium or large parks that provide a place for unstructured play that allows for freedom to be creative through defining areas and creating elements.
- Employ the international play yard model of supervision where staff manage general wellbeing but are not responsible to supervision of individual children. This could be paid staff or community volunteers.
- Create a defined boundary (preferably planting with gates and concealed fences).
- Provide loose natural objects, such as branches, rocks and sticks. Consider providing simple recycled materials such as old pots and pans or ropes.
- Provide simple structures and facilities for storage of provisions such as sheds and lockable boxes.
- Allow for 'mess'.
- Provide free building materials and tools and allow children to experiment. Provide lessons in tool use.
- Provide access to water, sandpits and mud. Allow space for children to dig, construct and create.
- Consider providing fire circles for eating lunch with friends and group activities
- Locate close to toilets and nappy changing facilities



(1) Natural elements such as sticks and branches can provide opportunities for children to build and define their own play spaces. (2) Timber off cuts and rope can facilitate exploration and enhance creative play. (3,4,5 and 6) Providing access to tools, coupled with simple how to classes can provide new opportunities to build skills and enjoy creating spaces.

9. EXPLORATORY PLAY, FREE PLAY

CASE STUDY: TEMPE RECREATION RESERVE



- KEY**
- PATH NETWORK
 - TYPE 1: EXPLORATORY NATURE PLAY: provide space for exploratory play using natural elements such as sticks, rocks, etc
 - TYPE 2 : FREE PLAY; WORKSHOPS AND BUILDING : Provide capacity for free play associated with multipurpose buildings/ shed with temporary equipment.
 - STORAGE IN DESTINATION COMMUNITY FACILITIES: design new multipurpose facilities with space to store free play elements.

10A. TYPE 1: EXPLORATORY NATURE PLAY: TEMPE RESERVE



Above: Provide dedicated space for informal and imaginative play using natural elements.

B. TYPE 2. : FREE PLAY; WORKSHOPS AND BUILDING: TEMPE RESERVE



Above: provide a supervised place for children to play with building and construction.



(1) Exploratory nature play at Mercer Island (2,3 and 4) Exploratory and free play using construction materials at Tokyo Play Yard.

APPENDIX 2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS BY PARK/FACILITY

PARKS

Parks	Working well	Improve
Algie Park		User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none">Improved lighting and another light pole
Arlington Oval	User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none">Playing surface	School workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none">People would like water bubblers.

Parks	Working well	Improve
Ashfield Park	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none">Generally happy (3 comments)Maintenance/cleanliness (3 comments)Playground (fenced, has a shade cloth) (2 comments)	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none">Parking is increasingly difficult (2 comments)Playground needs an update (2 comments)Maintenance/cleanliness (including toilets/outdoor gym equipment) (3 comments) User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none">Need for a new canteen blockNeed for more angled parking CALD focus groups <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ashfield Park should be designed for safety to increase use by seniorsBetter lighting in Ashfield town centre and along streets connected to Ashfield Park so that older people feel safe walking at nightThe gym equipment in Ashfield Park is good, but need more of itNeed for a space for Tai Chi in Ashfield Park School workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none">People would like Ashfield Park to have more sporting fields and courts (including tennis, basketball, cricket, pinpong tables), a swimming pool, more playground equipment (including for older children), more bubblers, picnic tables and water play
Balmain Road playing field		User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none">Need for improved lightingNeed for improved surface conditions

Parks	Working well	Improve
Bay Run	<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally happy (36 comments) Beautiful/scenic (36 comments) Proximity/location (34 comments) Separated paths (30 comments) Long, continuous path (27 comments) Path surfaces (22 comments) Width of paths (21 comments) Upgrades have been good (18 comments) <p>Community map (7 comments)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good for running, walking and cycling due to the long, continuous path and scenic environment Good place for social connection The upgrades to the pathways have been working well 	<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separation of and education around shared-use paths (40 comments) Widening of paths (29 comments) More shade (27 comments) It is too busy (25 comments) Improved lighting (19 comments) More trees/greenery (18 comments) Reduce cyclists speeding on paths (16 comments) More water bubblers (14 comments) Improve signage and wayfinding (13 comments) Path is confusing and uses swap sides (12 comments) Better separation from the road (eg near Henley Marine Drive) (11 comments) More public toilets (10 comments) <p>Community map (12 comments)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better lighting Separation of shared-use paths Wider lanes More public toilets
Birchgrove Park	<p>User group survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accessibility of the grounds and staff Turf / synthetics quality Booking process 	<p>User group survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrades to changing rooms and seating needed

Parks	Working well	Improve
Callan Park	<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atmosphere (2 comment) 	<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General upgrade and activation needed (including to buildings, gardens) (4 comments) Amenities needed (including toilets, bins) (3 comments) <p>Community map (6 comments)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs something going on/activation Needs refurbishing (eg cricket pitch) Public toilets should be closer to the playground More fenced off leash dog parks <p>Staff workshops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Callan Park presents a major opportunity for improved open space and open space uses for the LGA
Camperdown Park	<p>User group survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new pavilion The cricket grounds and wicket area Playing surface Lighting Public transport 	<p>User group survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking Lack of control over when lights are turned on
Camperdown Memorial Rest Park	<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atmosphere (3 comments) Allowed to drink in the park (3 comments) Dog-friendly (3 comments) Shade (3 comments) 	<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs public toilets (18 comments) Needs recycling bins (11 comments) Unsafe at night / needs better lighting (7 comments)
Centenary Park		<p>User group survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separation of the Football field and the cricket pitches Draining of the fields is not working well More angled parking needed More tall fencing needed on the Queen St side. More lighting poles needed

Parks	Working well	Improve
Cooks River and Cooks River foreshore path	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally happy (48 comments) Natural environment (including trees, renaturalisation, revegetation of native plants) (32 comments) Well-maintained and clean (25 comments) Cycling facilities and infrastructure (23 comments) Accessibility (17 comments) Location/proximity (13 comments) Long, continuous path (12 comments) Atmosphere (11 comments) Connectivity to many different parks (11 comments) Shade (10 comments) Varied scenery (10 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean the river (eg improve water quality) so people can swim in it (24 comments) Widening of paths (19 comments) Separation of uses on paths (18 comments) Improved waste management (eg litter control, more bins, more regular cleaning) (18 comments) Improve connectivity (15 comments) More trees / improved biodiversity (15 comments) Improve lighting (14 comments) Speeding cyclists (13 comments) Naturalise the river edge (12 comments) Improve signage and wayfinding (11 comments) Improve the Canterbury Road underpass (10 comments) More public toilets (10 comments) CALD focus groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better lighting on routes to the Cooks River. Some people walk to the river every day in Summer, but not in Winter as it is too dark Community map (14 comments, 6 likes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public toilets Footpaths Bike paths & racks Clean the river so people can swim in it Illawarra Road – Cooks River crossing is really hard. School kids and it is really busy but dangerous School workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> People would like to be able to swim in the Cooks River. Staff workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Cooks River could be improved and utilised for recreation. Are there opportunities for public canoeing/rowing/sailing jetties/facilities? Inclusive access to Cooks River is needed eg wheelchair accessible canoeing entry

Parks	Working well	Improve
Darrell Jackson Gardens	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance/cleanliness (3 comments) Playground is good (2 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground improvements (including shade, bigger /more natural playground) (3 comments)
Enmore Park		Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements to the dog park (better lighting, access to water, better maintenance) (3 comments) More grass needed (2 comments) School workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drawings of Enmore Park would like to be able to go to the top of the Rocket, would like the cubby house to be bigger, a taller monkey bar, an ice-cream stand, a climbing wall, more space for sports like Football and basketball courts, more shade and toilets.
Gladstone Park	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground (2 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shade (2 comments) Staff workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gladstone Park experiences high levels of pressure from overuse
Hawthorne Canal / Richard Murden Reserve	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally happy (4 comments) Pathways (2 comments) Playground (2 comments) User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Booking process/Council communication is working well Lighting is great 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved management of flooding (3 comments) Waste management (too much rubbish) (2 comments) Community map (5 comments) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved lighting along bush paths The dog park needs improved maintenance Pollution of the canal water Fix the basketball courts Upgrade surface of netball courts Playgrounds for older children User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More parking needed Too much traffic in the area More courts needed
Henson Park	User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All-weather availability 	User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of hire of Henson park Playing surface

Parks	Working well	Improve
HJ Mahoney Memorial Reserve	User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Availability after rain / during winter season 	User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Fencing · Upgrades needed
Jarvie Park		School workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Young people would like to see bubblers, light, toilets, outdoor table tennis, and more basketball courts.
Johnson Park		Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Needs a dog off-leash section (3 comments)
King George Park	User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Canteen is great · Booking and coordination with council staff is working well 	User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Dog excrement on the fields · Ground maintenance is not working well
Leichhardt Oval	User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Lighting · Booking process · Playing surface 	User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Accessibility (ie LPAC gate is locked · Availability School workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · People would like bigger, more comfortable grandstands for watching games; water bubblers; netted Football goals; and public toilets.
Mackey Park	User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Accessibility · Lighting 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cricket nets needed (3 comments) · Playground needs upgrading (2 comments) User group surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Playing surface is below standard School workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Drawings of Mackey Park depict more bubblers in the park, more sports equipment including cricket nets, Football goal posts and nets, and a basketball court, more playground equipment (including a basket swing, trampoline, slides, a climbing wall, a merry go round, a spinning see-saw, a flying fox), more tables and seats under cover, a new skate park with a ramp and a bowl, a ping pong table, cycling and scootering paths.

Parks	Working well	Improve
Marrickville Croquet Club		User group surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Club house and lawns flood in heavy rain · Maintenance needed (eg lawns)
Marrickville Oval	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Upgrades are working well (3 comments) · Proximity/location (3 comments) · Playground (2 comments) Community map (7 comments) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Great playground equipment · Well-maintained and clean · The rose garden is nice · The croquet lawn, tennis courts and oval work well 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Needs more toilets / toilets are locked too early (3 comments) Community map (9 comments) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · More BBQs and tables · Need for a fenced playground · More shade · Playground doesn't have equipment for bigger kids User group surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Lack of accessibility · Lack of storage · Poor lighting Staff workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Design should support shared use: for example, in Marrickville Park, the slide leads down to the path. Although dog walkers try not to take their dogs in the playground restriction area, its not possible to walk on the path and not be in the area
McNeilly Park		CALD focus groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Stoves are broken School workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · People would like McNeilly Park to have a bigger trampoline, a swimming pool, new playground equipment including a slide, a swing, see-saws, a spinner, a flying fox, and more shade. Young people would like to see better toilets, footy posts, and a volleyball court.
Mort Bay Park		Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Needs a toilet closer to the playground (4 comments) · Shade (2 comments)

Parks	Working well	Improve
Petersham Park	<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally happy (3 comments) <p>Community map (4 comments)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrades and footpath repairs The dog off-leash area Shade and shelter <p>User group surveys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council support via annual grant is appreciated Canteen facilities / spectator facilities Protective netting Playing surface improvements 	<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shade needed at the playground (2 comments) Improve amenities (include cleanliness of toilets) (2 comments) <p>User group surveys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities need to be upgraded
Pratten Park	<p>User group surveys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tennis courts: Playing surface is excellent, accessibility is great Cricket: Playing surface, lighting, scoreboard, ground accessibility, parking is all very good Cooperation/ community spirit in the Pratten Park precinct (Football, Tennis, Bowling Club, Thirning Villa, Historical group, etc.) is working well 	<p>CALD focus groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pratten Park is not big enough for the area and very busy <p>User group surveys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lighting on tennis courts could be improved to accommodate night games for people who work during the day

Parks	Working well	Improve
Pioneers Memorial Park	<p>Community map (4 comments)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beautiful and relaxing The outdoor gym equipment is working well Events in the park are great 	<p>School workshops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drawings of Pioneers Memorial Park depict cleaner public toilets that are closer to the playground; shelters with shade and seating; better play equipment with taller monkey bars for older children; basketball, netball and tennis courts; and a waterfall with flowers.
Steel park	<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground (3 comments) <p>User group survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accessibility Playing surfaces 	<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water pressure in the water play park (3 comments) <p>Community map (4 comments)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need space for unstructured, passive recreation in Steel Park More facilities needed The condition of the sporting fields could be improved Upgrades needed (general) <p>User group survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor lighting
Sydney Secondary College Leichhardt Campus		<p>User group survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of facilities Field is not full-sized and only suitable for people under 15 years old
Tempe Reserve	<p>User group survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playing surface upgrades <p>Staff workshops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tempe Dog park is successfully trialling sand instead of grass. 	<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements to playground (including shade) (4 comments) <p>User group survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of storage Poor lighting Lack of maintenance at public toilets Lack of hot water

Parks	Working well	Improve
Weekley Park		<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Increased amenities (including public toilets, water bubblers, bins) (3 comments) <p>Community map (5 comments)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Better maintenance of the park overall, and specifically of:<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Play equipment· Dog park, and· Stormwater / flooding damage.
Wicks Park	<p>Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Proximity/location (3 comments) <p>User group survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Council is responsive to issues	<p>User group survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Surface / shelter upgrades needed· Lighting needs to be improved <p>CALD focus groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Good location for a hard surface with shelter for Tai Chi

AQUATIC CENTRES

Facility	Working well	Improve
Annette Kellerman Aquatic Centre	<div>Survey<ul style="list-style-type: none">General<ul style="list-style-type: none">Generally happy (23 comments)Maintenance/cleanliness (9 comments)Proximity (7 comments)Creche (4 comments)Swimming pool:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Suitable for families and children (10 comments)Classes (9 comments)Heated pool (5 comments)Gym:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Proximity (4 comments)</div>	<div>Survey<ul style="list-style-type: none">General<ul style="list-style-type: none">Disability awareness training for staffParking (7 comments)Swimming pool:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Overcrowding (13 comments)Maintenance/cleanliness (9 comments)More classes needed (including on the weekend) (6 comments)Cost of entry/classes is prohibitive (5 comments)Upgrade needed (5 comments)More/better play equipment for children needed (4 comments)Wellness centre:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Airconditioning needed (4 comments)More classes needed (3 comments)<div>Community map (8 comments)<ul style="list-style-type: none">Needs upgradeNeeds more lap lanes at peak hoursNeeds better parking accessNeeds more family-friendly water play featuresNeed for inclusive access (eg movable hoist for people with disability)Cost</div><div>School workshops<ul style="list-style-type: none">AKAC could be cleaner, with more slides, more lanes for children, a diving board, toys for in the pool, a bigger baby pool, children's section to be separated because it gets too crowded when adults come in the pool.</div></div>

Facility	Working well	Improve
Ashfield Aquatic Centre	<div>Survey<ul style="list-style-type: none">Proximity / location (11 comments)Good swim school and classes (8 comments)Friendly staff (8 comments)Accessibility, including parking (5 comments)Clean (4 comments)</div>	<div>Survey<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pool is run down/general upgrade needed (15 comments)Play area / equipment needed for families (5 comments)Less concrete and more grass/greenery needed (4 comments)More shade needed (3 comments)</div> <div>School workshops<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ashfield Aquatic Centre is very small and could do with an upgrade</div> <div>Peak bodies<ul style="list-style-type: none">Need for lighting and spectator improvements</div> <div>CALD focus groups<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ashfield Park needs to be bigger, it is too full particularly during school holidays, and one whole pool is dominated by waterpolo. An indoor pool would be better</div>

Facility	Working well	Improve	Facility	Working well	Improve
Fanny Durack Aquatic Centre	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Generally happy (10 comments) · Co-location with Petersham Park / playground (4 comments) · Family-friendly (4 comments) · The upgrades have been good (3 comments) · Maintenance/cleanliness (3 comments) · Proximity/location (3 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · More shade needed, both for the pool and for the seating areas (6 comments) · Less concrete and more grass/greenery needed (4 comments) · The length of the pool is too short (4 comments) · Overcrowding (3 comments) School workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · People would like Fanny Durack Aquatic to be cleaner, the seating to be more comfortable, more rubbish bins, and more water slides. 	Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre & Gym	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Generally happy (19 comments) · Proximity / location (10 comments) · Maintenance/cleanliness (7 comments) · Swimming pool: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Classes and activities are working well (including aquarobics, learn to swim) (13 comments) · Upgrades have been good (6 comments) · Gym: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Well equipped (3 comments) · Friendly/helpful staff (3 comments) Community map (7 comments) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Well-managed and well-maintained · Classes are working well · Good place for social connection. 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Parking (14 comments) · Improved public transport links needed (4 comments) · Overcrowding (4 comments) · Swimming pool: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cost of entry / classes is prohibitive (including for families (8 comments) · Shade needed (4 comments) · Gym: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · More classes needed (including Strong Seniors classes) (3 comments) Community map (5 comments) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Availability of parking · Condition of car park · Not affordable · The outdoor gym equip-ment is difficult to use · Playground doesn't have equipment for bigger kids School workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Drawings of Leichhardt Park Aquatic Centre depict water slides; later opening hours; pool toys and balls to play with and a less noisy environment. Staff workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · There is a need for improved connectivity between LPAC and the surrounding ovals and the Bay Run. CALD focus groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Swimming at Council pools is too expensive for families. LPAC in particular is too expensive. · Need for covered outdoor pools so you don't get burnt · Too much chlorine at LPAC pool
Dawn Fraser Baths	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Atmosphere (unique, heritage) (6 comments) · Proximity/location (3 comments) · Well-maintained/cleanliness of amenities (3 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · General upgrade needed (including changing rooms, toilets, paths) (9 comments) · Parking (4 comments) · Accessibility needs to be improved (eg path improvements, lift needed) · Limited opening hours (2 comments) · Improved maintenance (2 comments) 			

INDOOR RECREATION CENTRES AND COMMUNITY CENTRES/HALLS

Indoor recreation centres	Working well	Improve
Addison Road Community Centre	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost (2 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrades needed (toilet maintenance, roof leaking)
Balmain Town Hall	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easy to get there (public transport and parking) (2 comments) User group surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Booking process and customer service are great Location and accessibility is working well 	User group surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lighting needs improvement Air conditioning / heating system could be improved Need for toilet amenities
Clontarf Cottage	User group surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Booking and maintenance is working well. 	
Debbie and Abbey Borgia Centre (Marrickville PCYC)	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location / proximity (8 comments) Friendly staff (5 comments) Accessible (parking) (5 comments) Generally happy (3 comments) Cost (3 comments) Size (3 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More activities for young people (including holiday care) (3 comments) Bring back the cafe (3 comments) Upgrade needed (2 comments) More ventilation or airconditioning Parking (2 comments) User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Communication around) hiring is not working well
Hannaford Centre	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean (2 comments) User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Booking and availability Generally happy 	User group survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of storage space

Indoor recreation centres	Working well	Improve
Herb Greedy Hall	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atmosphere (community feel) (3 comments) Heritage character (2 comments) Clean (2 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrades needed (sound system, blinds, locking system)
Marrickville Town Hall	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well set up for range of activities (2 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Airconditioning/fans (2 comments)
Robyn Webster Centre	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location (2 comments) Allows Roller Derby (2 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surface improvements needed (including for Roller Derby) (2 comments)

TENNIS COURTS

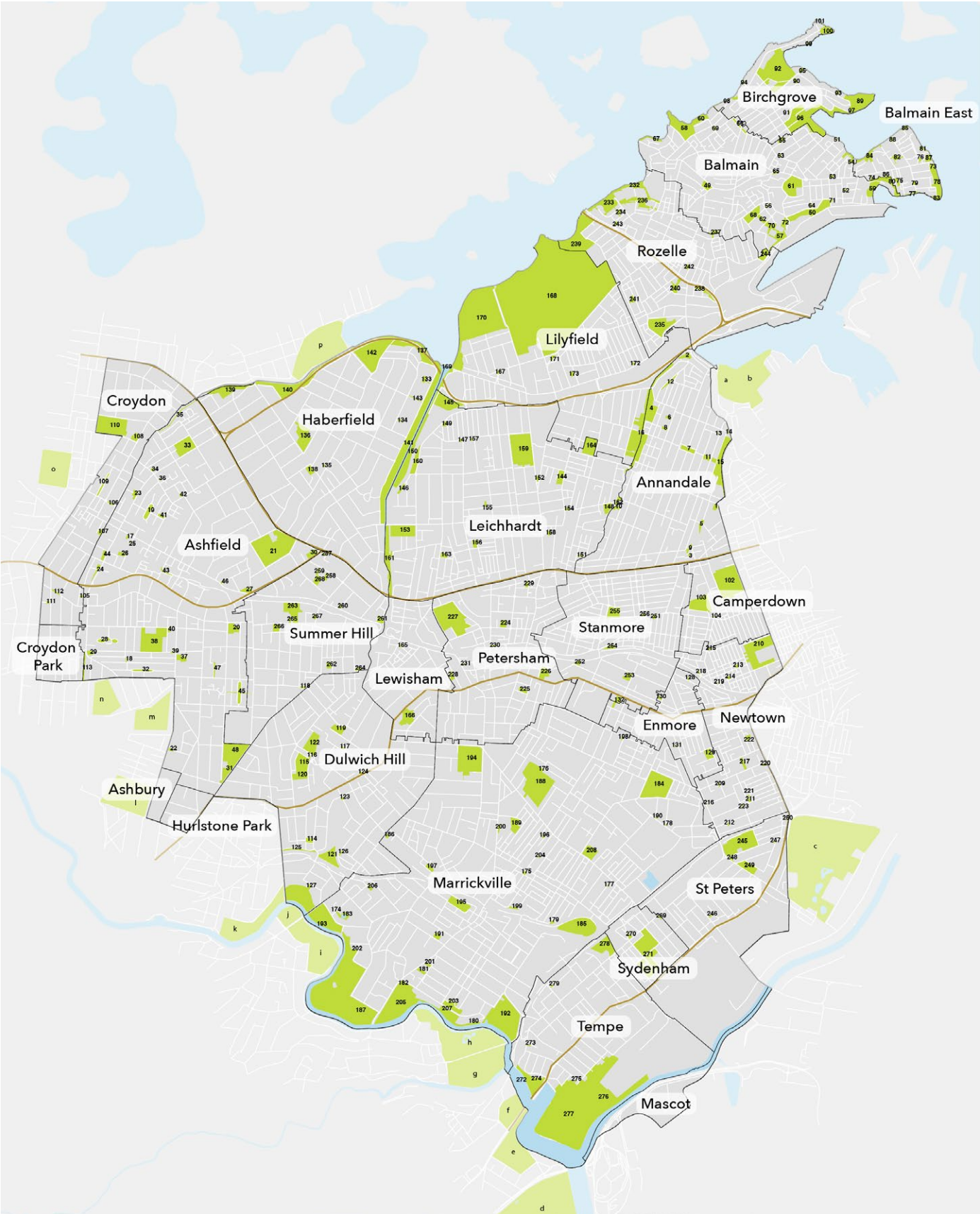
Tennis Courts	Working well	Improve
Birchgrove Park tennis courts	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Generally happy (2 comments) · Proximity/location (2 comments) · Ease of booking (2 comments) 	
Cohen Park tennis courts	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Generally happy (4 comments) · Maintenance/cleanliness (1 comment) · Lighting (2 comments) · New (2 comments) · Availability (2 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Could do with some shade (1 comment) · Needs guidelines around how long you can use them (1 comment)
Hawthorne Park tennis courts	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Free (5 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Not always available / busy (2 comments) · Flooding of courts (1 comment) · Sometimes rubbish is left (1 comment)
Marrickville Park tennis courts	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Generally happy (1 comment) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Hard to book (1 comment)
Pratten Park tennis courts	User group surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Playing surface · Accessibility 	User group surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Lighting on tennis courts could be improved to accommodate night games for people who work during the day
Punch Park tennis courts	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Availability (2 comments) · Good 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Booking system isn't practical / it is hard to get a court (2 comments)

SKATE PARKS

Skate parks	Working well	Improve
Annandale mini ramp	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Atmosphere (3 comments) · Accessible to all ages and abilities (3 comments) · Proximity/location (2 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Upgrade needed (in consultation with users) (4 comments) · Needs to be bigger (2 comments) · Maintenance/cleanliness (2 comments) · Environment for girls and women (1 comments)
Dulwich Hill Skate Park	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Generally happy (7 comments) · Accessible to all ages and abilities (7 comments) · Atmosphere (5 comments) · Location (5 comments) · Maintenance/cleanliness (3 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Shade needed (5 comments) · Upgrade needed (in consultation with users) (4 comments) · Cleanliness of public toilets (4 comments) · More obstacles needed (3 comments) · Would be good to have classes/spaces for beginners/some conflict between different age groups/ability levels (3 comments) · Environment for girls and women (2 comments)
Summer Hill Skate Park	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Accessible to all ages and abilities (9 comments) · Generally happy (6 comments) · Atmosphere (5 comments) · Design of skate ramps (4 comments) · Maintenance/cleanliness (3 comments) 	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Maintenance/cleanliness (5 comments) · Upgrade needed (in consultation with users) (4 comments) · Cleanliness of public toilets (4 comments) · More seating (3 comments) · Environment for girls and women (1 comments)
Sydenham Green Skate Park (opened after community engagement was completed)	Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Happy that a new facility is being built (1 comment) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · No comments received

APPENDIX 3 PARKS IN THE INNER WEST COUNCIL AREA AND NEIGHBOURING AREAS

This appendix provides a list and map of all public open space as current at 2018, at the time of publishing the original report.



1	Badu Park
2	Buruwan Park
3	Cahill Street Playground
4	Cohen Park
5	Douglas Grant Memorial Park
6	Gray Street Reserve
7	Hinsby Park
8	Hudson Street Reserve
9	Mathieson Street Reserve
10	Mayes Street Reserve
11	Piper Street Reserve
12	Pritchard Street Reserve
13	Rose Lane Reserve
14	Rose Street Reserve
15	Smith Hogan Spindlers Park
16	Whites Creek Valley Park
17	132a Elizabeth Street Reserve
18	88 Park Avenue
19	Albert Parade Reserve
20	Allman Park
21	Ashfield Park
22	Ashford Street Reserve
23	Banks Street Reserve
24	Beatrice Street Reserve
25	Benalla Avenue Reserve
26	Bill Peters Reserve
27	Bruce Street Reserve
28	Brunswick Parade Reserve
29	Cecile Herman Park
30	Explorers Park
31	Gough Reserve
32	Graham Reserve
33	Hammond Park
34	J G McCartney Reserve
35	John Pope Reserve
36	John Street Reserve
37	Lewis Herman Reserve
38	Pratten Park
39	Robert St Reserve
40	Rose St Playground Reserve
41	Rotary Park

42	Taringa Street Reserve
43	The Esplanade Reserve
44	Thomas Street Reserve
45	Victoria St Reserve
46	Wallace St Reserve
47	William Street Reserve
48	Yeo Park
49	Ann Cashman Reserve
50	Birrung Park
51	Campbell Street Reserve
52	Clontarf Cottage
53	Colgate Avenue Reserve
54	Colgate Reserve
55	College Street Playground
56	Dick Street Reserve
57	Dockside
58	Elkington Park
59	Ewenton Park
60	Fitzroy Avenue Reserve
61	Gladstone Park
62	Hyam Street Reserve
63	Issy Wyner Reserve
64	Jane Street Reserve
65	Loyalty Square
66	Macquarie Terrace
67	Paringa Reserve
68	Punch Park
69	Punch Street Reserve
70	Somerset Mews
71	Stephen Street Reserve
72	Vanardi Green
73	2-8 Weston Street
74	Broadside Street Reserve
75	Datchett Street Reserve
76	Gallimore Reserve
77	Hoskins Street Reserve
78	Illoura Reserve
79	Johnston Street Reserve
80	Jubilee Place (Water Police) Park
81	Lookes Avenue Reserve
82	Origlass Park

83	Peacock Point
84	Propeller Park
85	Simmons Point Reserve
86	Ternan Street Reserve
87	Thornton Park
88	Zig Zag Reserve
89	Ballast Point Park - Walama
90	Ballast Point Reserve
91	Bay Street Reserve
92	Birchgrove Park
93	Brownlee Reserve
94	Cove Street Reserve
95	Miklouho Maclay Park
96	Mort Bay Park
97	Ronald Street Reserve
98	Water Street Reserve
99	Yerroulbin Street Reserve
100	Yurulbin Park
101	Yurulbin Point Reserve
102	Camperdown Park
103	O’dea Reserve
104	Peter Cotter Reserve
105	10 Lion Street Reserve
106	Anthony Street Reserve
107	Bailey Park
108	Bede Spillane Gardens Reserve
109	Bridges Reserve
110	Centenary Sportsground Reserve
111	Mills St Reserve
112	Sutherland Reserve
113	Watson Ave Reserve
114	Allison Playground
115	Arlington Oval
116	Constitution Reserve
117	Denison Playground
118	Herbert St Reserve
119	Hoskins Park
120	J.F. Laxton Reserve
121	Jack Shanahan Park
122	Johnson Park
123	Kintore Street Closure

124	Mallam Reserve
125	Parade Playground
126	Rowe Playground
127	Tennyson Street Reserve
128	Bugler Playground
129	Enmore Tafe Park
130	Eve Sharpe Reserve
131	Francis Street Playground
132	Ryan Park
133	284 Hawthorne Parade Reserve
134	7 Tillock Street Reserve
135	78-80 Dalhousie Street Reserve
136	Algie Park
137	Dobroyd Parade Reserve
138	Federation Plaza Reserve
139	Jegarow Reserve
140	Reg Cody Reserve
141	Richard Murden Reserve
142	Robson Park
143	Tillock Street Reserve
144	36 th Battalion Park
145	Blackmore Park
146	Darley Road Reserve
147	Elswick Street Reserve
148	Evan Jones Playground
149	Falls Street Reserve
150	Hawthorne Canal Reserve
151	Hearn Street Reserve
152	Ibrox Park
153	Lambert Park
154	Leichhardt Street Reserve
155	Marlborough Street Playground
156	Marr Reserve
157	North Street Playground
158	Pine Square Reserve
159	Pioneers Memorial Park
160	Shields Playground
161	SRA Lease
162	Styles Street Reserve
163	Wangal Nura Park
164	War Memorial Park

165	Jubilee Street Reserve
166	Morton Park
167	Atkins Square
168	Callan Park
169	Canal Road Reserve
170	Leichhardt Park
171	Orange Grove Plaza
172	Ryan Street Reserve
173	Trevor Street Reserve
174	A.b. Crofts Playground
175	Alex Trevallion Plaza
176	Amy Street Playground
177	Barclay Street Reserve
178	Bourne Street Closure
179	Braddock Playground
180	Cooks River Foreshore
181	Day Street Reserve
182	Debbie And Abbey Borgia Recreation Centre
183	Dibble Avenue Waterhole
184	Enmore Park
185	Fraser Park
186	Gilbert Barry Reserve
187	H.j. Mahoney Memorial Reserve
188	Henson Park
189	Jarvie Park
190	Leicester Street Closure
191	Louisa Lawson Reserve
192	Mackey Park
193	Marrickville Golf Course
194	Marrickville Park
195	McNeilly Park
196	Murdoch Playground
197	Ness Park
198	Newington Rd Playground
199	O’hara Street Playground
200	Petersham Rest Area
201	Premier Street Reserve
202	Princes Street Playground
203	Richardson Lookout
204	Silver Street Playground

205	Steel Park
206	Tom Kenny Reserve
207	Warren Park
208	Wicks Park
209	Alice Street Playground
210	Camperdown Memorial Rest Park
211	Collyer Playground
212	Darley Street Playground
213	Fleming Playground
214	Garavel Playground
215	George Smith Playground
216	Laura Street Closure
217	Matt Hogan Reserve
218	Norton Russel Playground
219	Oxford Street Reserve
220	Peace Reserve
221	Pearl Street Playground
222	Salmon Playground
223	Wells Street Closure
224	Brighton Street Park
225	Marr Playground
226	Maundrell Park
227	Petersham Park
228	Petersham Public School
229	Quinn Playground
230	Terminus Street Reserve
231	Trafalger Street Reserve
232	Balmain Cove
233	Bridgewater Park
234	Dickson Green
235	Easton Park
236	Elliott Park
237	Goodsir Street Reserve
238	Hannan Reserve
239	King George Park
240	O’Connor Reserve
241	Rozelle Common
242	Stimson Reserve
243	Terry Street Park
244	Waterdale Reserve
245	Camdenville Park

246	Mary Street Playground
247	May Street Playground
248	May Street Reserve
249	Simpson Park
250	St Peters Plaza
251	Bain Playground
252	Crammond Park
253	Montague Gardens
254	Stanmore Reserve
255	Weekley Park
256	Whitely Reserve
257	4 Liverpool Road Reserve
258	64 Kensington Road Reserve
259	78 Kensington Road Reserve
260	Bogan Street Reserve
261	Cadigal Reserve
262	Carrington Street Playground
263	D J Gardens
264	Edward St Reserve
265	Eora Gardens
266	John Paton Reserve
267	Summer Hill Plaza Car Park
268	Underwood Reserve
269	Francis Playground
270	Memory Reserve
271	Sydenham Green
272	Fatima Island
273	Green Street Playground
274	Kendrick Park
275	Station Street Reserve
276	Tempe Lands
277	Tempe Reserve
278	Tillman Park
279	Toyer Street Reserve

Parks in neighbouring council areas

a	Glebe Foreshore Parks (City of Sydney)
b	Jubilee Park (City of Sydney)
c	Sydney Park (City of Sydney)
d	Kogarah Golf Course (Bayside Council)
e	Cahill Park (Bayside COuncil)
f	Discovery Park (Bayside Council)
g	Waterworth Park (City of Canterbury Bankstown)
h	Gough Whitlam Park (City of Canterbury Bankstown)
i	Wanstead Reserve (City of Canterbury Bankstown)
j	Beaman Park (City of Canterbury Bankstown)
k	Wills Ground and Ewen Park (City of Canterbury Bankstown)
l	Blick Oval (City of Canterbury Bankstown)
m	Peace Park (City of Canterbury Bankstown)
n	W H Wagener Oval (City of Canterbury Bankstown)
o	Hampton Court Playground (Burwood Council)
p	Timbrell Reserve (City of Canada Bay)

APPENDIX 4 INNER WEST LGA EMPLOYMENT GROWTH METHODOLOGY

The Employment and Retail Lands Study and the Employment and Retail Lands Strategy (ERLS) was adopted by Council in September 2020. Section 7.0 of the study projects the demand for commercial centres and employment lands within the Inner West to 2036 and describes the methodology take to derive at employment growth estimates.

The Employment and Retail Lands Study (ELRS) is concerned with all land zoned for retail or employment land in the Inner West LGA. This includes land zoned:

- IN1 General Industrial
- IN2 Light Industrial
- B1 Neighbourhood Centre
- B2 Local Centre
- B4 Mixed Use
- B5 Business Development
- B6 Enterprise Corridor
- B7 Business Park
- Certain lands zoned SP1 Special Activities and SP2 Infrastructure.

Retail Floorspace

Retail floorspace is the total area of a structure leased for the selling of goods (foods, personal and households) and services (hair and beauty, optical dispensing, dry cleaning services) excluding non-retail commercial services such as real estate, financial and medical services (notwithstanding these business occupy shop front spaces). The methodology for calculating future retail demand to 2036 is stated in Section 7.4 of ERLS.

Future retail demand and additional retail floorspace provision is shown below and has been extrapolated from Table 59 within the Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020.

Based on the above demand analysis, the recommendations of the ERLS are that an additional 60,000m² (GFA) of additional retail floorspace should be planned for the Inner West LGA. The study recommends that this occur in the following suburbs:

- 30,000m² will be required in Marrickville;
- 18,000m² required in the Leichhardt area;
- 10,000m² in Ashfield; and
- Just over 8,000m² should be provided in smaller centres including Dulwich Hill.

The Employment and Retail Lands study did not estimate the total number of additional jobs expected in retail areas to 2036. Appendix 3 describes the methodology taken to derive job estimates for each retail area. It is expected that 3,441 additional jobs are anticipated to be created by additional retail floorspace by 2036.

Commercial Floorspace

Non-retail floorspace (or commercial floorspace) refers to floorspace that is used for businesses and other employment uses other than retail. Occupiers are generally in a range of industries and services including finance, insurance, real estate, medical, travel education and recreation. The methodology to estimate future non-retail floorspace demand to 2036 is contained within Section 7.3 of Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020.

Future non-retail demand and additional floorspace provision is shown below, this data has been extrapolated from Table 24: Forecast commercial office floorspace in the commercial centres 2019-2036 of the ERLS.

Jobs in office space in the commercial centres have been forecast to increase from around 30,010 in 2019 to 38,390 by 2036 or an increase of around 8,380 jobs.

Table 59 - Forecast demand and current supply of retail floorspace (m²)*

Retail Centre	Current Supply (m ²)	Demand in 2018 (m ²)	Demand in 2026 (m ²)	Demand in 2036 (m ²)	Additional GFA Required (m ²)	Additional GFA**
Ashfield	53,205	50,373	57,513	61,485	8,280	9,741
Marrickville	27,650	35,428	40,896	44,567	16,917	19,902
Newtown/Enmore	43,730	39,262	43,511	46,396	2,666	3,137
Leichhardt Core	26,707	26,746	34,905	36,492	9,785	11,511
Balmain	19,627	18,196	18,612	19,293	-334	-392
Rozelle	18,520	18,126	18,443	18,994	474	558
Marrickville Metro	19,136	21,955	25,278	27,446	8,310	9,777
Marion Street Leichhardt	14,934	23,545	24,706	25,726	10,792	12,697
Leichhardt Frame	26,793	19,700	22,970	23,838	-2,955	-3,476
Camperdown Frame	26,041	16,341	17,629	18,110	-7,931	-9,331
Others***	70,281	64,509	72,627	77,353	7,072	8,320
TOTAL	346,624	334,180	377,091	399,701	53,077	62,443

*excludes pubs and taverns

**Assuming 15% of GFA is non-leasable.

*** Others include smaller centres that are described in Appendix 3.

Table 58 - Forecast commercial office floorspace in the commercial centres 2019-2036

Commercial Core	Net Increase in workers			Required GFA (m ²)		
	2019-2026	2026-36	Total 2016-36	2019-2026	2026-36	Total 2016-36*
Ashfield	409	423	832	8,606	8,905	17,511
Balmain	0	96	96	0	2,019	2,019
Leichhardt	799	154	953	16,816	3,249	20,065
Rozelle	834	1,368	2,202	17,553	28,797	46,350
Marrickville	891	459	1,350	18,756	9,670	28,426
Newtown-Enmore	250	134	384	5,260	2,828	8,088
Petersham and Stanmore	304	197	501	6,402	4,142	10,543
Leichhardt Frame	402	170	572	8,472	3,574	12,045
Camperdown Frame	83	45	128	1,753	943	2,696
Others*	874	483	1,357	18,399	10,166	28,565
Total	4,846	3,529	8,375	102,017	74,291	176,309

*Others include smaller centres of Annandale, Croydon, Dulwich Hill, Haberfield, Lilyfield Road, Marion Street Leichhardt, Norton Street North, Summer Hill and Balmain East. See Appendix 2 for further details.

Employment Floorspace

Employment floorspace refers to industry and urban services that are accommodated in the following zones:

- IN2 Light Industrial
- B5 Business Development
- B6 Enterprise Corridor
- B7 Business Park
- Certain lands zoned SP1 Special Activities and SP2 Infrastructure.

The Employment and Retail Lands Study utilises the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZIC) for classifying industry categories. The methodology to estimate future employment floorspace demand for these industries to 2036 is contained within Section 7.1 of ERLS. The additional employment floorspace required for each industry category is shown in Table 18 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020 (page 110) and indicates that 217,727m² of additional employment floorspace is required, though this increases to 271,245m² if a target vacancy rate of 2.5 per cent is incorporated as well as residential space.

Table C below depicts where the Employment and Retail Lands Study recommends additional employment floorspace be provided across the Inner West LGA, this table includes floorspace projections excluding and included residential space and the target vacancy rate. For the purposes of calculating worker demand, the floorspace without a consideration to residential space will be utilised. Representing 18 per cent of the LGA’s forecast growth to 2036. There is demand for an additional 271,245m² of floorspace.

Table 60 - Current and future employment floorspace demand to 2036 including and excluding residential and target vacancy rate (see Tables 19 and 20 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020).						
Precinct	Current floorspace (m ²) *excludes residential space and vacancy target	Current floorspace (m ²) *includes residential and target vacancy	Demand to 2036 (m ²) *excludes residential space and vacancy target	Demand to 2036 (m ²) *includes residential and target vacancy	Net change (m ²) *excludes residential space and vacancy target	Net change (m ²) *includes residential space and vacancy target
Addison Road Industrial	85,434	85,434	94,569	97,043	9,135	11,609
Balmain Road Industrial	18,073	18,073	20,128	20,907	2,055	2,834
Balmain Working Waterfront	4,775	6,808	5,366	7,642	591	834
Camperdown Core Precinct	157,883	157,883	176,288	180,944	18,405	23,061
Camperdown Frame Area	23,366	23,366	25,353	26,013	1,987	2,648
Canal Road Arts Precinct	33,943	33,943	37,492	38,478	3,549	4,535
Canterbury Road Enterprise Corridor	5,576	5,576	6,016	6,169	440	593
Carrington Road Industrial	106,218	106,218	122,555	125,831	16,337	19,613
Dulwich Hill Industrial	4,486	4,486	5,164	5,303	678	817
Gladstone Street Business Precinct	9,774	9,774	10,662	10,929	888	1,155
Kings Bay Core Precinct	16,845	16,845	18,078	18,524	1,233	1,680
Kings Bay Frame Area	13,111	13,111	14,219	14,665	1,108	1,554
Leichhardt Precinct Frame Area	8,449	8,449	9,045	9,859	596	1,410
Lewisham Industrial	7,900	7,900	8,606	8,829	706	929
Lilyfield Industrial	7,256	7,256	7,940	8,148	684	892
Marion Street Industrial	4,064	4,064	4,444	5,184	380	1,120
Marrickville Sydenham	565,875	565,875	641,974	658,642	76,099	92,767
Milton Street	1,791	1,791	1,967	2,019	176	228
Moore Street Industrial	60,355	60,355	69,328	71,179	8,973	10,824
Precinct 75	3,062	3,062	3,467	3,558	404	496
Princess Highway and Airport Enterprise	278,186	278,186	307,356	315,257	29,170	37,071
St Peters Triangle	61,302	61,302	68,927	70,717	7,625	9,415
Stanmore Bridge Road West	3,799	3,799	4,655	4,785	856	986
Summer Hill Industrial	9,911	9,911	10,716	10,996	805	1,085
Taverners Hill Core Precinct	38,117	38,117	42,256	43,345	4,139	5,228
Taverners Hill Frame Area	70,059	70,059	76,800	78,725	6,741	8,665
Terry Street Industrial	15,159	15,159	16,986	17,436	1,827	2,277
Victoria Road Marrickville	87,237	87,237	100,059	102,712	12,822	15,476
White Bay Industrial	72,704	73,551	82,022	84,993	9,318	11,442
Total	1,774,710	1,777,590	1,992,437	2,048,834	217,727	271,244

The demand for employment precincts is likely to experience an increase in employment of around 3,208 jobs

Limitations of the ERLS

The Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020 study did not estimate employment growth on a catchment basis, rather it identified employment precincts. The purpose of Table C is to transfer the projections contained within the Study so that the results can be observed spatially per catchment area. Appendixes 2-5 describe the methodology and justification for all assumptions made.

Table 61 - Current and future employment floorspace demand to 2036 including and excluding residential and target vacancy rate (see Tables 19 and 20 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020).						
Precinct	Current floorspace (m²) *excludes residential space and vacancy target	Current floorspace (m²) *includes residential and target vacancy	Demand to 2036 (m²) *excludes residential space and vacancy target	Demand to 2036 (m²) *includes residential and target vacancy	Net change (m²) *excludes residential space and vacancy target	Net change (m²) *includes residential space and vacancy target
Addison Road Industrial	85,434	85,434	94,569	97,043	9,135	11,609
Balmain Road Industrial	18,073	18,073	20,128	20,907	2,055	2,834
Balmain Working Waterfront	4,775	6,808	5,366	7,642	591	834
Camperdown Core Precinct	157,883	157,883	176,288	180,944	18,405	23,061
Camperdown Frame Area	23,366	23,366	25,353	26,013	1,987	2,648
Canal Road Arts Precinct	33,943	33,943	37,492	38,478	3,549	4,535
Canterbury Road Enterprise Corridor	5,576	5,576	6,016	6,169	440	593
Carrington Road Industrial	106,218	106,218	122,555	125,831	16,337	19,613
Dulwich Hill Industrial	4,486	4,486	5,164	5,303	678	817
Gladstone Street Business Precinct	9,774	9,774	10,662	10,929	888	1,155
Kings Bay Core Precinct	16,845	16,845	18,078	18,524	1,233	1,680
Kings Bay Frame Area	13,111	13,111	14,219	14,665	1,108	1,554
Leichhardt Precinct Frame Area	8,449	8,449	9,045	9,859	596	1,410
Lewisham Industrial	7,900	7,900	8,606	8,829	706	929
Lilyfield Industrial	7,256	7,256	7,940	8,148	684	892
Marion Street Industrial	4,064	4,064	4,444	5,184	380	1,120
Marrickville Sydenham	565,875	565,875	641,974	658,642	76,099	92,767
Milton Street	1,791	1,791	1,967	2,019	176	228
Moore Street Industrial	60,355	60,355	69,328	71,179	8,973	10,824
Precinct 75	3,062	3,062	3,467	3,558	404	496
Princess Highway and Airport Enterprise	278,186	278,186	307,356	315,257	29,170	37,071
St Peters Triangle	61,302	61,302	68,927	70,717	7,625	9,415
Stanmore Bridge Road West	3,799	3,799	4,655	4,785	856	986
Summer Hill Industrial	9,911	9,911	10,716	10,996	805	1,085
Taverners Hill Core Precinct	38,117	38,117	42,256	43,345	4,139	5,228
Taverners Hill Frame Area	70,059	70,059	76,800	78,725	6,741	8,665
Terry Street Industrial	15,159	15,159	16,986	17,436	1,827	2,277
Victoria Road Marrickville	87,237	87,237	100,059	102,712	12,822	15,476
White Bay Industrial	72,704	73,551	82,022	84,993	9,318	11,442
Total	1,774,710	1,777,590	1,992,437	2,048,834	217,727	271,244

The demand for employment precincts is likely to experience an increase in employment of around 3,208 jobs

Table 62 - Forecast Employment Growth by Catchment Area

Catchment	Precinct	Floorspace Type	Additional Floorspace demand to 2036 (m²)	Approximate No. Jobs
1 - North	Balmain	Retail	NA (projected to reduce retail floorspace by -392m2)	0
	Balmain	Commercial	2,019	96
	Balmain East	Commercial	3,197**	152**
	Balmain East	Retail	77***	4***
	Catherine Street Centre	Retail	297***	14***
	Lilyfield Road Precinct	Commercial	1,097.05**	52**
	Lilyfield Road Precinct	Retail	297***	14***
	Orange Grove Centre	Commercial	1,097.05**	52**
	Orange Grove Centre	Retail	297***	14***
	Waterfront Wharf Workshops	Commercial	1,097.05**	52**
	Balmain Road Industrial	Employment	2,055*****	21*****
	Balmain Working Waterfront	Employment	591*****	6*****
	Canal Road Arts Precinct*	Employment	1774.5*****	46*****
	Rozelle	Retail	558	25***
	Rozelle	Commercial	46,350	2,202
	Whites Bay Industrial	Employment	9,318*****	95*****
	Terry Street Industrial	Employment	1,827*****	177*****
	Lilyfield Industrial	Employment	684*****	7*****
	Employment outside employment areas	NA	NA	597.75****
2 - Central West	Ashfield	Retail	9,741	443***
	Ashfield	Commercial	17,511	832
	Milton Street (Ashfield)	Employment	176*****	2*****
	Haberfield	Commercial	2442**	116**
	Haberfield	Retail	555***	25***
	Croydon	Commercial	1,097**	52**
	Croydon Centre	Retail	297***	14***
	Taverners Hill Frame Area	Employment	4,139*****	42*****
	Summer Hill	Commercial	3,978**	189**
	Summer Hill	Retail	911***	41***
	Summer Hill Industrial	Employment	805*****	8*****
	Kings Bay Core Precinct	Employment	1,233*****	32*****
	Kings Bay Frame Area	Employment	1,108*****	29*****
	Employment outside employment areas	NA	NA	597.75****

Catchment	Precinct	Floorspace Type	Additional Floorspace demand to 2036 (m²)	Approximate No. Jobs
3 – Central East	Annandale	Commercial	4,976**	237**
	Annandale	Retail	858***	39***
	Moore Street Industrial	Employment	8,973*****	92*****
	Newtown/Enmore	Retail	3,137	143***
	Newtown/Enmore	Commercial	8,088	384
	Gladstone Street Business Precinct	Employment	888*****	23*****
	Camperdown Frame	Retail	NA (projected to reduce retail floorspace by -9,331m2)	0
	Camperdown Frame	Commercial	2,696	128
	Camperdown Core Precinct	Employment	18,405*****	477*****
	Camperdown Frame Area	Employment	1,987*****	20*****
	Petersham	Retail	681***	31***
	Petersham and Stanmore	Commercial	10,543	501
	Canal Road Arts Precinct*	Employment	1774.5*****	47*****
	Norton Street North	Retail	1550***	70***
	Leichhardt	Commercial	20,065	953
	Leichhardt Core	Retail	11,511	523***
	Leichhardt Frame	Retail	NA (projected to reduce retail floorspace by -3,476m2)	0
	Leichhardt Frame	Commercial	12,045	572
	Leichhardt Precinct Frame Area	Employment	596*****	16*****
	Lewisham Station Centre	Commercial	1,097.05**	52**
	Lewisham Station Centre	Retail	233***	11***
	Marion Street Leichhardt	Retail	12,697	577***
	Marion Street Industrial	Employment	380*****	4*****
	Norton Street North	Retail	1,550***	70***
	Taverners Hill Core Precinct	Employment	4,139*****	42*****
	Lewisham Industrial	Employment	706*****	7*****
	Stanmore Bridge Road West	Employment	856*****	9*****
	Stanmore	Retail	297	14
	Employment outside employment areas	NA	NA	597.75****

Catchment	Precinct	Floorspace Type	Additional Floorspace demand to 2036 (m²)	Approximate No. Jobs
4 - South	Marrickville	Retail	19,902	905***
	Marrickville	Commercial	28,426	1,350
	Marrickville Sydenham	Employment	76,099*****	777*****
	Marrickville Metro	Retail	9,777	444***
	Dulwich Hill Centres	Retail	1,673***	76***
	Dulwich Hill	Commercial	7,387**	351**
	Dulwich Hill Industrial	Employment	678*****	46*****
	Canterbury Road Enterprise Corridor	Employment	440*****	12*****
	Addison Road Industrial	Employment	9,135*****	93
	Victoria Road Marrickville	Employment	12,822*****	337*****
	Carrington Road Industrial	Employment	16,337*****	167*****
	St Peters Triangle	Employment	8,973*****	92*****
	Sydenham Centre	Commercial	1,097.05**	52**
	Sydenham Centre	Retail	297***	14***
	Precinct 75	Employment	404*****	11*****
	Princes Highway and Airport Enterprise	Employment	29,170*****	533*****
	Employment outside employment areas	NA	NA	597.75****
TOTAL			468,874	17,547

*Canal Road Arts Precincts occurs across both Catchment 1 and 3, the total employment floorspace demand projection to 2036 (4,535m2) have been divided by 50% into both catchment areas.

** There are a number of smaller non-retail commercial centres indicated as 'Others' in the copy of Table 24. The methodology taken to derive their individual existing and future demand in Table 2 is contained within Appendix 2.

*** There are a number of smaller retail areas indicated as 'Others' in the copy of Table 32. The methodology taken to derive their individual future demand in Table 2 is contained within Appendix 3.

**** Jobs estimates for employment generated in residential and some special use zones are described in Appendix 3.

***** See Appendix 4 for the methodology for estimating additional jobs to 2036 for employment precincts.

***** The employment floorspace detailed excludes residential & vacancy rates, see Table C in this Appendix 1 for further information on GFA projections including recommended residential and vacancy rates.

APPENDIX 5: SMALLER CENTRES NON-RETAIL DEMAND ESTIMATION METHODOLOGY

Table 63 - an extract from the Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020 estimates the future additional floorspace demand for non-retail uses in the Commercial Core precincts. There are several smaller centres that are described as "Others" within this table that are not delineated in their individual capacity, though their combined total is provided below. For the purposes of contributions planning each of these small commercial areas must be separated so that their estimated additional floorspace demand and additional number of jobs total are known.

Section 9.2 of Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020 discusses all commercial centres, the centres that comprise the group term of "Others" in Table 24 are identified below:

Not all current floorspace estimations are provided by the Study and assumptions have been used to in-fill this information. For this exercise, a desktop analysis concludes that these smaller areas contain between 1,000-3,000m² of non-retail floorspace. The assumption that 20m² of non-retail floorspace equal 1 worker is stated in section 7.3 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study. Utilising this assumption, the estimated current job numbers are included below.

In reference to Table 24 in the Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020 (excerpt shown below), it is known that the total additional workers of the 'Other' areas shown above to 2036 is +1,357 workers, and that the additional floorspace of non-retail is +28,565 as indicated in the yellow cells below.

The current worker percentages and current non-retail floorspace percentages have been assumed to remain constant to 2036, and the allocation of workers and floorspace from the total additional jobs forecast has been apportioned according to the percentages shown previously. These totals have been incorporated into Table 64 below.

The jobs and additional non-retail (or commercial) floorspace have been inserted into Table 63.

Table 63 - Extract of Table 24 of ERLS for "Other" commercial areas

Commercial Core	Net Increase in workers			Required GFA (m ²)		
	2019-2026	2026-36	Total 2016-36	2019-2026	2026-36	Total 2016-36*
Others*	874	483	1,357	18,399	10,166	28,565

* For the purposes of deriving non-retail floorspace estimates in these areas, 1,500m² has been assumed for each area.

Table 64 - Extract of data available for "Others" in Table 24 and Section 9.2 of ERLS

Catchment	Small Centre	Employment & Retail Lands Study Reference	Current non-retail floorspace (m ²)
1	Lilyfield Road Precinct	9.2.14	NA
	Orange Grove Centre	9.2.15	NA
	Balmain East Centre	9.2.19	4,372
	Waterview Wharf Workshops	9.2.22	NA
2	Croydon Centre	9.2.7	NA
	Haberfield Centre	9.2.9	3,340m2
	Summer Hill Centre	9.2.12	5,440m2
3	Annandale Centre	9.2.6	6,805m2
	Lewisham Station Centre	9.2.17	NA
4	Dulwich Hill Centres	9.2.8	10,100m2
	Sydenham Centre	9.2.18	NA

Table 65 - Jobs Assumptions for "Others" in Table 24

Commercial Core	Net Increase in workers			Required GFA (m ²)		
	2019-2026	2026-36	Total 2016-36	2019-2026	2026-36	Total 2016-36*
Others*	874	483	1,357	18,399	10,166	28,565

Table 66 - Table G: Assumptions of current jobs in “Others” from Table 24 and Section 9.2 of ERLS.

Catchment	Small Centre	Employment & Retail Lands Study Reference	Current non-retail floorspace (m²)	% of total floorspace	Estimated current number of jobs**	% of total jobs
1	Lilyfield Road Precinct	9.2.14	1,000>3,000m2*	3.840541	75	3.840541
	Orange Grove Centre	9.2.15	1,000>3,000m2*	3.840541	75	3.840541
	Balmain East Centre	9.2.19	4,372	11.1939	218.6	11.1939
	Waterview Wharf Workshops	9.2.22	1,000>3,000m2*	3.840541	75	3.840541
2	Croydon Centre	9.2.7	1,000>3,000m2*	3.840541	75	3.840541
	Haberfield Centre	9.2.9	3,340m2	8.551604	167	8.551604
	Summer Hill Centre	9.2.12	5,440m2	13.92836	272	13.92836
3	Annandale Centre	9.2.6	6,805m2	17.42325	340.25	17.42325
	Lewisham Station Centre	9.2.17	1,000>3,000m2*	3.840541	75	3.840541
4	Dulwich Hill Centres	9.2.8	10,100m2	25.85964	505	25.85964
	Sydenham Centre	9.2.18	1,000>3,000m2*	3.840541	75	3.840541
Total			39,057	100%	1,952.85	100%

*For the purposes of deriving current job estimates in these areas, 1,500m2 has been assumed for each area.

** Assumes 20m2 of GFA equals 1 worker.

Table 67 - Job total assumptions

Catchment	Small Centre	Employment & Retail Lands Study Reference	Current non-retail floorspace (m²)	% of total floorspace	Estimated current number of jobs**	% of total jobs	Estimated number of additional jobs to 2036	Estimated additional non-retail GFA to 2036 (m²)
1	Lilyfield Road Precinct	9.2.14	1,000>3,000m2*	3.840541	75	3.840541	52	1097.05
	Orange Grove Centre	9.2.15	1,000>3,000m2*	3.840541	75	3.840541	52	1097.05
	Balmain East Centre	9.2.19	4,372	11.1939	218.6	11.1939	152	3197.536
	Waterview Wharf Workshops	9.2.22	1,000>3,000m2*	3.840541	75	3.840541	52	1097.05
2	Croydon Centre	9.2.7	1,000>3,000m2*	3.840541	75	3.840541	52	1097.05
	Haberfield Centre	9.2.9	3,340m2	8.551604	167	8.551604	116	2442.766
	Summer Hill Centre	9.2.12	5,440m2	13.92836	272	13.92836	189	3978.636
3	Annandale Centre	9.2.6	6,805m2	17.42325	340.25	17.42325	237	4976.952
	Lewisham Station Centre	9.2.17	1,000>3,000m2*	3.840541	75	3.840541	52	1097.05
4	Dulwich Hill Centres	9.2.8	10,100m2	25.85964	505	25.85964	351	7386.806
	Sydenham Centre	9.2.18	1,000>3,000m2*	3.840541	75	3.840541	52	1097.05
Total			39,057	100%	1,952.85	100%	1,357	28,565

APPENDIX 6: SMALLER CENTRES RETAIL DEMAND ESTIMATION METHODOLOGY

The current worker percentages and current non-retail floorspace percentages have been assumed to remain constant to 2036, and the allocation of workers & floorspace from the total additional jobs forecast has been apportioned according to the percentages shown previously. These totals have been incorporated into Table 68 below.

The jobs and additional non-retail (or commercial) floorspace have been inserted into Table 63 on page 171.

Table 68 - Forecast demand and current supply of retail floorspace (m²)*

	Current Supply**	Demand in 2018	Demand in 2026	Demand in 2036	Additional GLA Required	Additional GFA***
Ashfield	53,205	50,373	57,513	61,485	8,280	9,741
Marrickville	27,650	35,428	40,896	44,567	16,917	19,902
Newtown/Enmore	43,730	39,262	43,511	46,396	2,666	3,137
Leichhardt Core	26,707	26,746	34,905	36,492	9,785	11,511
Balmain	19,627	18,196	18,612	19,293	-334	-392
Rozelle	18,520	18,126	18,443	18,994	474	558
Marrickville Metro	19,136	21,955	25,278	27,446	8,310	9,777
Marion Street Leichhardt	14,934	23,545	24,706	25,726	10,792	12,697
Leichhardt Frame	26,793	19,700	22,970	23,838	-2,955	-3,476
Camperdown Frame	26,041	16,341	17,629	18,110	-7,931	-9,331
Others	70,281	64,509	72,627	77,353	7,072	8,320
TOTAL	346,624	334,180	377,091	399,701	53,077	62,443

* excludes pubs and taverns

** Sources: Various including:
Leichhardt Commercial and Retail study: Norton Street and Parramatta Road, SGS 2016
Ashfield, Sydney Retail Impact Assessment of proposed Woolworths supermarket, Location IQ 2019
Marrickville Metro Economic Impact Assessment, Pitney Bowes 2010
IBECON land use data across Greater Sydney 2004
HillIPDA land use audit

*** Assuming 15 per cent of GFA is non-leasable.

17,420 total jobs – (8,380 non-retail jobs + 3208 employment precincts jobs)
= 5,832 additional jobs in retail to 2036*

The Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020 estimates the future additional floorspace demand for retail uses in Section 7.4. An excerpt of this section is shown below as Table 68, it identifies several smaller centres that are combined and described as “Others”, the intent of this section is to describe the methodology taken to approximate additional floorspace and additional jobs for these areas to 2036. The spatial locations of jobs and densities can then be utilised for the purposes of contributions planning.

Section 7.2.1 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study (page 109) states that a total of 17,420 jobs are to be created within the Inner West LGA by 2036. The composition of the total additional jobs is, in part, stated in Section 7.3 “...that 8,380 additional jobs are expected to be created in non-retail” (or commercial zones) (page 115), and in Section 7.5 “...that 3,208 additional jobs are expected to be created in employment precincts” (or industrial and large-format business zones) (page 122). The Employment and Retail Lands Study does not state how many additional jobs are anticipated in the additional retail areas (or business zones being B4, B2 and B1). So, to estimate the additional jobs to be provided in retail floorspace projections, several assumptions have been utilised as described below.

As a starting point, utilising the information described above, the below conclusion could be drawn; however, is unlikely to be true.

*This retail job approximation and methodology above is unlikely to be true given if the total additional retail floorspace to 2036 (62,443m², see Table 68) is divided by the suggested 5,832 additional jobs, this would equate to approximately 1 job per 10.7m² – a high floorspace to job ratio.

In comparison, Section 9.3 of the Employment & Retail Lands Study provides employment ratios for various precincts along the Parramatta Road Corridor. Table 55 shows that for the B4 mixed use zone that an employment of 28m² per employee is more likely (page 372), likewise in Table 62 that 22m² per employee is more likely in the B2 Local Centre Zone (page 394-395). The study does not expressly state employment to floorspace ratio estimates shown for the B1 Neighbourhood Centre zone.

This brings about two questions, (1) what is the composition of additional retail jobs, and (2) where are the other jobs located?

Jobs in Other Areas

To answer the latter question first, section 9.4 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study states that whilst the study has examined Industrial zones, Business zones and some selected SP1 and SP2 zoned land across the Inner West LGA, it was outside the scope of the study to investigate employment within residential and special use zonings. Key employment generating land use zones in these areas are described as:

- Health – private hospitals, medical practices, aged care and other specialist services;
- Education – public and private schools, as well as TAFE and other training colleges; and
- Home businesses/home industries – e.g. artists, graphic design, information media.

It has been assumed that these job forecasts are included within the total number of additional jobs forecasted, 17,420 as stated in section 7.2.1 on page 109 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study. Therefore, it can be concluded that ‘jobs in other areas’ + retail jobs = 5,832 of the additional jobs total. The next section discusses numerical job estimates for ‘other areas’ and ‘retail jobs’ in Table 69.

Table 69 - Extract from Table 68 and Section 9.2 for “Others” retail areas.

Catchment	Small Centre	Employment & Retail Lands Study Reference	Current retail floorspace (m²)
1	Lilyfield Road Precinct	9.2.14	NA
	Orange Grove Centre	9.2.15	NA
	Catherine Street Centre	9.2.16	NA
	Balmain East Centre	9.2.19	650
2	Croydon Centre	9.2.7	NA
	Haberfield Centre	9.2.9	4,685
	Summer Hill Centre	9.2.12	7,700
3	Annandale Centre	9.2.6	7,250
	Norton Street North	9.2.10	13,090
	Lewisham Station Centre	9.2.17	1,965
	Petersham	9.2.11	5,751
	Stanmore	9.2.13	2,510
4	Dulwich Hill Centres	9.2.8	14,135
	Sydenham Centre	9.2.18	NA
Total			70,281

*the assumptions utilise the % split identified in the second last column, to derive the 2036 % split from the total 8,320m².

Table 70 - Floorspace assumptions for retail areas for “Others” areas in Table 68 of ERLS

Catchment	Small Centre	Employment & Retail Lands Study Reference	Current retail floorspace (m²)	% of total current retail floorspace	Approximate additional floorspace to be provided by 2036*
1	Lilyfield Road Precinct	9.2.14	2,509	3.569954895	297
	Orange Grove Centre	9.2.15	2,509	3.569954895	297
	Catherine Street Centre	9.2.16	2,509	3.569954895	297
	Balmain East Centre	9.2.19	650	0.924858781	77
2	Croydon Centre	9.2.7	2,509	3.569954895	297
	Haberfield Centre	9.2.9	4,685	6.666097523	555
	Summer Hill Centre	9.2.12	7,700	10.95601941	911
3	Annandale Centre	9.2.6	7,250	10.31573256	858
	Norton Street North	9.2.10	13,090	18.62523299	1550
	Lewisham Station Centre	9.2.17	1,965	2.795919238	233
	Petersham	9.2.11	5,751	8.182865924	681
	Stanmore	9.2.13	2,510	3.571377755	297
4	Dulwich Hill Centres	9.2.8	14,135	20.11212134	1673
	Sydenham Centre	9.2.18	2,509	3.569954895	297
Total			70,281	100%	8,320

Table 71 - “Other” retail areas assumptions from Table 68 ERLS

Catchment	Retail Precinct	Additional retail Floorspace to 2036 (m²)	Number of additional jobs to 2036
1	Lilyfield Road Precinct	297	14
	Orange Grove Centre	297	14
	Catherine Street Centre	297	14
	Balmain East Centre	77	4
	Balmain	-	0
	Rozelle	558	25
2	Croydon Centre	297	14
	Ashfield	9,741	443
	Haberfield Centre	555	25
	Summer Hill Centre	911	41
3	Annandale Centre	858	39
	Camperdown Frame	-	0
	Newtown/Enmore	3,137	143
	Norton Street North	1550	70
	Leichhardt Core	11,511	523
	Leichhardt Frame	-	0
	Lewisham Station Centre	233	11
	Marion Street Leichhardt	12,697	577
	Petersham	681	31
	Stanmore	297	14
4	Dulwich Hill Centres	1673	76
	Marrickville	19,902	905
	Marrickville Metro	9,777	444
	Sydenham Centre	297	14
Total		62,443	3,441

APPENDIX 7: EMPLOYMENT PRECINCT JOB ESTIMATIONS TO 2036

Jobs in Retail Areas

The centres that comprise the group term of “Others” in Table 32 have been delineated utilising the information contained within Section 9.2 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study, and are identified below:

It is known from the information in Table 32 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study that the total current retail floorspace for ‘Others’ is 70,281m². There are several small retail centres whose existing retail floorspace is not given. To estimate the floorspace in these areas, the retail floorspace that is identified by the study has been added together, then the total subtracted from the known 70,281 combined total, then divided by the 5 unknown areas. This gives an approximate figure of 2,509m² for the unknown precincts.

To calculate the percentage split, each precinct's current retail floorspace has been divided by the total current retail floorspace. Table 32 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study identifies that the total floorspace needed by 2036 for the category of ‘Others’ is 8,320m². The percentage of current retail floorspace has been assumed to remain constant to 2036, and the amount of additional floorspace in each area has been calculated in Table 70. The approximate number of additional jobs in retail areas is not stated by the Employment and Retail Lands Study. To approximate this figure, the employment ratio contained in Section 9.3 for the B2 Local Centre zone has been utilised as 22m² of retail gross floor area per employee.

The above additional retail floorspace and job estimations have been included into Table 72.

From the above conclusions, it has been assumed that 3,441 additional jobs are to be created by additional retail floorspace by 2036 in the retail precincts identified by the Employment and Retail Lands Study. This number subtracted from the 5,832 additional jobs to conclude that 2,391

additional jobs are being provided in ‘other areas’ outside of the industrial, business and selected special zones. As there is no spatial indication about where these jobs are located, this number has been divided by 4 (being the 4 catchment areas) to equally disperse the jobs numbers in Table 72.

The Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020 estimates the future additional floorspace demand for employment precincts in Section 7.2, Table 19 (excludes residential space and target vacancy rate). Residential space has been excluded as it is does not generating jobs floorspace. In regards, target vacancy rate, it was recommended by the study that it is important to maintain some level of vacancy in industrial areas to allow for the free and efficient movement of business, as well as to provide space for new business. Current vacancy rates across the precincts is around 2.9%. Recent research has revealed that the industrial vacancy rate across the eastern seaboard is around 2.4%, which Sydney's vacancy rate being 1.8%. In response, a conservative vacancy rate of 2.5% has been assumed for each period.

Accounting for residential space and a target vacancy rate, combined, the employment precincts currently accommodate around 1.78 million square metres of floorspace, as details in Table 19.

Table 72 - Total occupied employment floorspace demand by employment precincts

Precinct	Current floorspace (sqm)*	Demand	Net change
Addison Road Industrial	85,434	94,569	9,135
Balmain Road Industrial	18,073	20,128	2,055
Balmain Working Waterfront	4,775	5,366	591
Camperdown Core Precinct	157,883	176,288	18,405
Camperdown Frame Area	23,366	25,353	1,987
Canal Road Arts Precinct	33,943	37,492	3,549
Canterbury Road Enterprise Corridor	5,576	6,016	440
Carrington Road Industrial	106,218	122,555	16,337
Dulwich Hill Industrial	4,486	5,164	678
Gladstone Street Business Precinct	9,774	10,662	888
Kings Bay Core Precinct	16,845	18,078	1,233
Kings Bay Frame Area	13,111	14,219	1,108
Leichhardt Precinct Frame Area	8,449	9,045	596
Lewisham Industrial	7,900	8,606	706
Lilyfield Industrial	7,256	7,940	684
Marion Street Industrial	4,064	4,444	380
Marrickville Sydenham	565,875	641,974	76,099
Milton Street	1,791	1,967	176
Moore Street Industrial	60,355	69,328	8,973
Precinct 75	3,062	3,467	404
Princess Highway and Airport Enterprise	278,186	307,356	29,170
St Peters Triangle	61,302	68,927	7,625
Stanmore Bridge Road West	3,799	4,655	856
Summer Hill Industrial	9,911	10,716	805
Taverners Hill Core Precinct	38,117	42,256	4,139
Taverners Hill Frame Area	70,059	76,800	6,741
Terry Street Industrial	15,159	16,986	1,827
Victoria Road Marrickville	87,237	100,059	12,822
White Bay Industrial	72,704	82,022	9,318
Total	1,774,710	1,992,437	217,727

Source: HillPDA, *excludes residential space

Job estimates to 2036 are not provided by precinct, however section 7.5 (page 122) states that the total number of additional jobs in these precincts is 3,208 by 2036. To derive job estimates by precinct, the following generic assumptions have been used:

- Table 48 of Section 9.3 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study suggests that 98m² of GFA per employee is appropriate for light industrial zones.
- Table 48 & Table 71 of Section 9.3 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study suggests that 38m² of GFA per employee is appropriate for B5 Business Development, B6 Enterprise Corridor, and B7 Business Park zones.

Additional retail floorspace by 2036 in the retail precincts identified by the Employment and Retail Lands Study. This number subtracted from the 5,832 additional jobs to conclude that 2,391 additional jobs are being provided in 'other areas' outside of the industrial, business and selected special zones. As there is no spatial indication about where these jobs are located, this number has been divided by 4 (being the 4 catchment areas) to equally disperse the jobs numbers in Table 73.

The Employment and Retail Lands Study 2020 estimates the future additional floorspace demand for employment precincts in Section 7.2, Table 19 (excludes residential space and target vacancy rate). Residential space has been excluded as it is does not generating jobs floorspace. In regards, target vacancy rate, it was recommended by the study that it is important to maintain some level of vacancy in industrial areas to allow for the free and efficient movement of business, as well as to provide space for new business. Current vacancy rates across the precincts is around 2.9%. Recent research has revealed that the industrial vacancy rate across the eastern seaboard is around 2.4%, which Sydney's vacancy rate being 1.8%. In response,

a conservative vacancy rate of 2.5% has been assumed for each period.

Accounting for residential space and a target vacancy rate, combined, the employment precincts currently accommodate around 1.78 million square metres of floorspace, as detailed in Table 19.

Job estimates to 2036 are not provided by precinct, however section 7.5 (page 122) states that the total number of additional jobs in these precincts is 3,208 by 2036. To derive job estimates by precinct, the following generic assumptions have been used:

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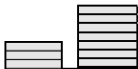
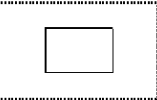
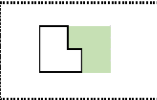

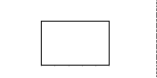

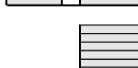
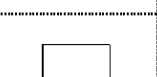




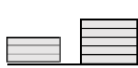



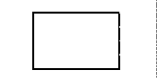


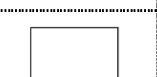


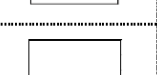


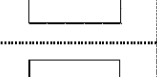
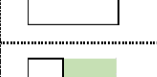

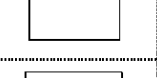



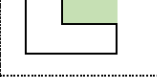


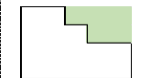


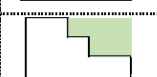


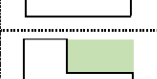
Table 73 indicates the results of these two employment assumptions across the employment precincts.

Table 73 - Employment assumptions across employment precincts

Precinct	Net change (m ²) *excludes residential space and vacancy target	Employment ratio used per employee (GFA m ²)	Estimated number of additional jobs to 2036
Addison Road Industrial	9,135	98	93
Balmain Road Industrial	2,055	98	21
Balmain Working Waterfront	591	98	6
Camperdown Core Precinct	18,405	38	484
Camperdown Frame Area	1,987	98	20
Canal Road Arts Precinct	3,549	38	93
Canterbury Road Enterprise Corridor	440	38	12
Carrington Road Industrial	16,337	98	167
Dulwich Hill Industrial	678	98	7
Gladstone Street Business Precinct	888	38	23
Kings Bay Core Precinct	1,233	38	32
Kings Bay Frame Area	1,108	38	29
Leichhardt Precinct Frame Area	596	38	16
Lewisham Industrial	706	98	7
Lilyfield Industrial	684	98	7
Marion Street Industrial	380	98	4
Marrickville Sydenham	76,099	98	777
Milton Street	176	98	2
Moore Street Industrial	8,973	98	92
Precinct 75	404	38	11
Princess Highway and Airport Enterprise	29,170	50% 98m ² of GFA per employee + 50% 38m ² of GFA per employee	533
St Peters Triangle	7,625	98	92
Stanmore Bridge Road West	856	98	9
Summer Hill Industrial	805	98	8
Taverners Hill Core Precinct	4,139	98	42
Taverners Hill Frame Area	6,741	38	177
Terry Street Industrial	1,827	98	19
Victoria Road Marrickville	12,822	38	337
White Bay Industrial	9,318	98	95
Total	217,727		3,215*

*Utilising these 98 & 38m² per employee assumptions, respectively, a total of 3,215 jobs is approximated. This is very consistent with the statement on page 122 of the Employment and Retail Lands Study that 3,208 jobs are expected in these precincts by 2036. To be completely consistent with the strategy, however, for the purposes of Table D, -7 jobs have been deducted from the Camperdown Core Precinct.

APPENDIX 8: TRANSFERABLE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS SCHEMATIC

Development site area	Site FSR	Max GFA	Floor area efficiency (assume 85%)	No. of dwgs (assume 90m2 per dwelling)	Occupancy rate (persons / dwg)	Residents	Minimum park area (based on GA's capacity performance measure)	Park area to be provided	Height of site buildings if no park	Height of site buildings if park included	Increase in height	Height increase	Height change	Building / park footprint change	
6000 sqm	3:1	18000	85%	170	2.10	357	1190 sqm	3000 sqm	3	7	4 floors	133%			
6000 sqm	4:1	24000	85%	227	2.10	476	1587 sqm	3000 sqm	4	9	5 floors	125%			
6000 sqm	5:1	30000	85%	283	2.10	595	1983 sqm	3000 sqm	6	12	6 floors	100%			
8000 sqm	3:1	24000	85%	227	2.10	476	1587 sqm	3000 sqm	3	5	2 floors	67%			
8000 sqm	4:1	32000	85%	302	2.10	635	2116 sqm	3000 sqm	4	7	3 floors	75%			
8000 sqm	5:1	40000	85%	378	2.10	793	2644 sqm	3000 sqm	6	9	3 floors	50%			
10000 sqm	3:1	30000	85%	283	2.10	595	1983 sqm	3000 sqm	3	5	2 floors	67%			
10000 sqm	4:1	40000	85%	378	2.10	793	2644 sqm	3000 sqm	4	7	3 floors	75%			
10000 sqm	5:1	50000	85%	472	2.10	992	3306 sqm	3306 sqm	6	9	3 floors	50%			
12000 sqm	3:1	36000	85%	340	2.10	714	2380 sqm	3000 sqm	3	4	1 floors	33%			
12000 sqm	4:1	48000	85%	453	2.10	952	3173 sqm	3173 sqm	4	6	2 floors	50%			
12000 sqm	5:1	60000	85%	567	2.10	1190	3967 sqm	3967 sqm	6	9	3 floors	50%			
15000 sqm	3:1	45000	85%	425	2.10	893	2975 sqm	3000 sqm	3	4	1 floors	33%			
15000 sqm	4:1	60000	85%	567	2.10	1190	3967 sqm	3967 sqm	4	6	2 floors	50%			
15000 sqm	5:1	75000	85%	708	2.10	1488	4958 sqm	4958 sqm	6	9	3 floors	50%	