



# **MARRICKVILLE PARKLANDS AND GOLF COURSE**

## **PART 1 - PLAN OF MANAGEMENT**

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Front cover image: Footbridge, Cooks River, Marrickville  
Photography by Inner West Council

# Document Control

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02.11.2018	01	Draft Issue 01 - internal comment	AGC
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08.05.2019	03	Draft Issue 03 - internal comment	AGC



# Executive Summary

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Extensive research in 2018 resulted in the ‘Inner West Council Recreation Needs Study a Healthier Inner West’ which identified that the Inner West Council lacked sufficient public open space for the growing population.

As a result of major renewal projects, over the next ten to twenty years the Inner West will undergo significant population growth and change, and increasing population density. This growth presents challenges and opportunities for Council to provide for the recreation needs of its community.

Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course is an integral part of the inner west open space fabric. It occupies 1.6km of Cooks River Foreshore and has the potential to link the GreenWay and Cooks River Cycleway.

This report outlines the legislative requirements for a Plan of Management. The report is divided into two main sections:

- Part 1 - The Plan of Management
- Part 2 - The Master Plan including, the implementation Plan and Opinion of Probable Costs

The Plan of Management outlines the legislative requirements for the site, along with key objectives and recommendations which will guide the strategic management of the Marrickville Parklands and Golf

Course over the next 10 years.

The Master Plan is a design report guiding the physical upgrade of the site over the next 10 years. The Master Plan sets out guiding principles for future detailed design and infrastructure upgrades throughout the site.

The implementation plan articulates the estimated costs for each project. Performance measure targets and a time frame for implementation is also provided. Each of the proposed upgrades are prioritised according to community feedback and asset renewal.

The reports balance interests of passive and organised recreation, biodiversity, stormwater treatment, heritage, pedestrian and cyclist circulation. It aims to deliver balanced outcomes that facilitate multipurpose infrastructure and use outcomes that provide for the golf course, all park users and the environment. The design outcomes are a direct representation of requests from the community engagement process.



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# 01 Introduction

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## What is a Plan of Management?

A Plan of Management (PoM) is a strategic document providing a planning and management framework for the future use, development and maintenance of multiple or individual areas of community land in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993. While a PoM is a requirement for all community land owned by Council, it also presents an opportunity to engage with the community and create a vision and values that are consistent with the needs of the current population and establishes how the park can be used in the future.

PoMs may also include other land and open space under Council's management, care and control such as Crown Land.

## What is a Master Plan?

A Master Plan is to be read in conjunction with the Plan of Management. The Master Plan is the illustrative representation of the proposed construction and design outcomes. It highlights long-term planning aspirations. It establishes best practice outcomes and a clear vision. It uses community goals and desires for the project, giving spatial organisation and a plan for implementation.

## How to use this document

This report is proposed to be a holistic reference guide for all proposed use and upgrade works of Marrickville Parklands including Marrickville Golf Course, A.B Crofts Playground and Dibble Avenue Waterhole. The Report is broken down into 2 main sections;

- Part 1 - The Plan of Management
- Part 2 - The Master Plan including - the implementation Plan and Opinion of Probable Costs

The Plan of Management outlines the legislative requirements for the site, along with key objectives and recommendations which will guide the strategic management of the Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course over the next 10 years.

The Master Plan is a design report guiding the physical upgrade of the site over the next 10 years. The Master Plan sets out guiding principles for future detailed design and infrastructure upgrades throughout the site.

# 01

## Land to which this plan applies

### Overview

Council is developing a 10 year plan as the principal guiding document that will direct the future planning, management and use of the Marrickville Golf Course.

In addition to the development of a Plan of Management (PoM), two master plan options have also been developed as a design document. These plans illustrate broad scale physical concepts for how the park might appear in the longer term, the implementation and management of which is described in the PoM.

In the case of the Marrickville Golf Course these two plans will be combined to provide a comprehensive Plan of Management and Master plan (PoM and MP) as the basis on which all future design, planning and management of the park will be developed.

### Review of this plan

The Marrickville Parklands Plan of Management is to be reviewed in ten years to ensure it aligns with Council's operational plans and objectives.

### The Inner West Council

The Inner West Council area is located five kilometres west of the Sydney Central Business District (CBD) and includes the former Marrickville, Ashfield and Leichhardt Local Government Areas (LGA). The Inner West Council has a resident population of 185,000 people and extends from near Sydney Airport and the Cooks River to the south, borders Erskineville and Redfern to the east, Sydney Harbour to the north and adjoins Five Dock, Burwood and Campsie to the west.

There are 269 parks and reserves including playgrounds and sports grounds in the Inner West Local Government Area (LGA) and plans of management are required that apply to all community land. In 2018, Council completed the Recreation Needs Research Study which identifies that the majority of plans of management are in need of review to reflect the current recreation needs of the Inner West community.

### Legend

Marrickville Golf Course

Inner West LGA  
Boundary



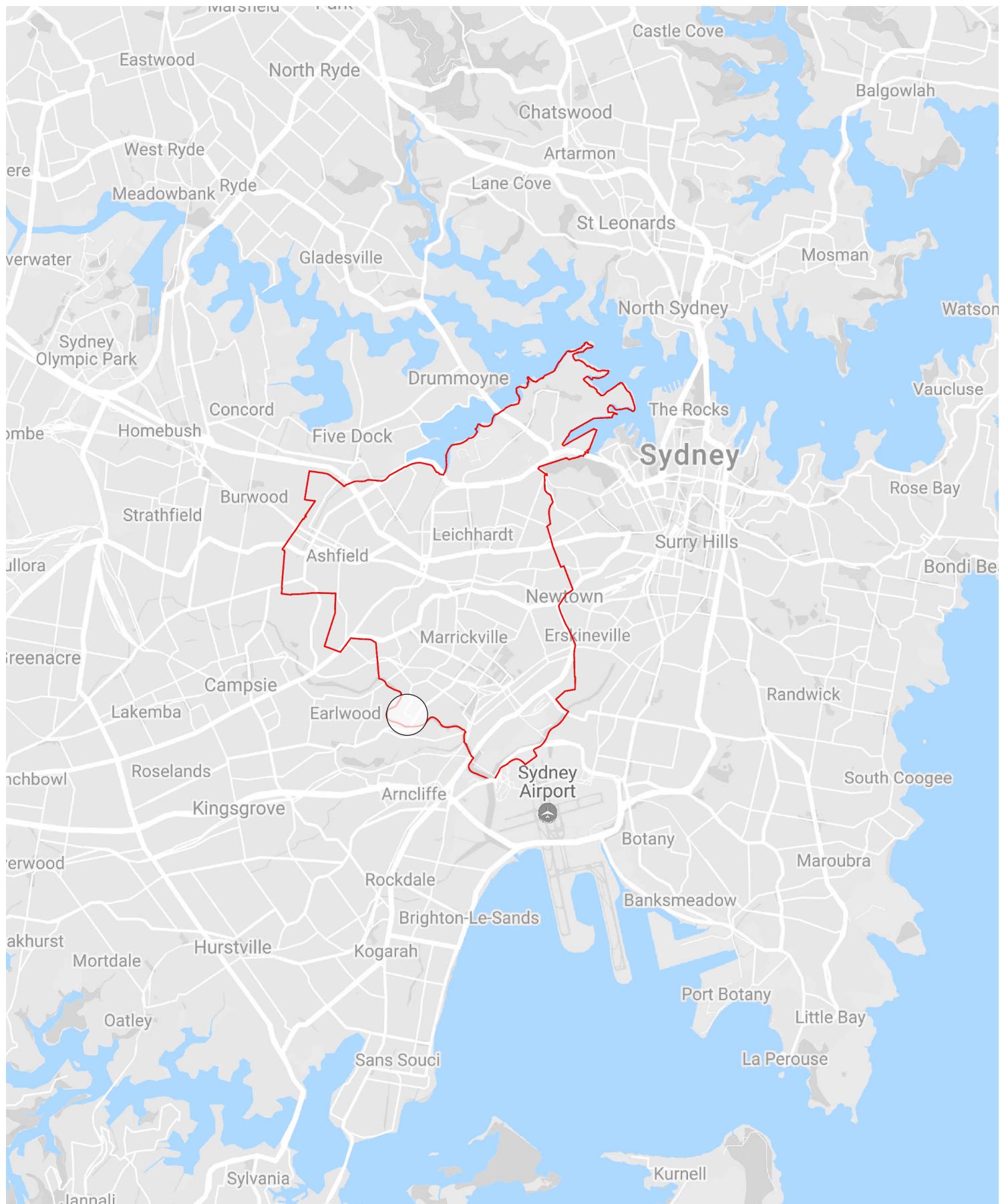


Figure 1 - Plan of the Inner West Council Local Government Area (LGA) within the context of greater Sydney.

# 01

## Land to which this plan applies

### Land to which this plan applies

The plan refers to Marrickville Parklands including Marrickville Golf Course and Dibble Avenue Waterhole. Marrickville Parklands is located on the northern bank of the Cooks River in the southern part of the LGA. It is bounded on the north by Tennent Parade, Tennyson Street, Riverside Crescent, Alfred Street, Princes Street, Bruce Street and Beauchamp Street, on the east by the H J Mahoney Memorial Reserve and Illawarra Road and on the west by Ewen Park in Hurlstone Park. Dibble Avenue Waterhole is located behind A.B Crofts Playground on Dibble Avenue. The waterhole is surrounded by residential houses and multistorey apartment dwellings.

Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course is predominantly a flat partially reclaimed landform with sandstone outcrops rising to a sandstone crest covering an area of approximately 21 hectares. The southern boundary to the river is mostly an artificial vertical preformed steel retaining wall, with a small section of natural riverbank.

Prior to European settlement the local area was inhabited by the Gadigal Clan of the Eora Nation, and was the food source and core habitat for their social gatherings. Aboriginal heritage items have been identified within Riverside Park.

### Owner of the Land

The Marrickville Parklands occupies land owned by the Crown, Canterbury Bankstown Council and Inner West Council. It is managed by Inner West Council as Crown Land Manager of Riverside Park (R83765) Reserve under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

The Crown acquired property known as 'Riverside', bounded by Beauchamp and Bruce Streets and the Cooks River, in February 1911. An area of approximately 10.8 Hectares. Riverside Park was proclaimed on the 5th July, 1911 (Gov. Gaz.).

### Related Projects

#### The GreenWay

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

#### Cooks River Parklands Plan of Management and Master Plan

The Cooks River Parklands Plan of Management and Master Plan is a 10 year plan for 2.5 kilometres of the Cooks River foreshore including;

- HJ Mahoney Memorial Reserve;
- Steel Park;
- Warren Park;
- Richardson's Lookout;
- Cooks River Foreshore;
- Kendrick Park; and
- Fatima Island.

### Legend

Site Boundary

Site Context





Figure 2 - Plan of the Inner West Council Local Government Area (LGA) within the context of greater Sydney.

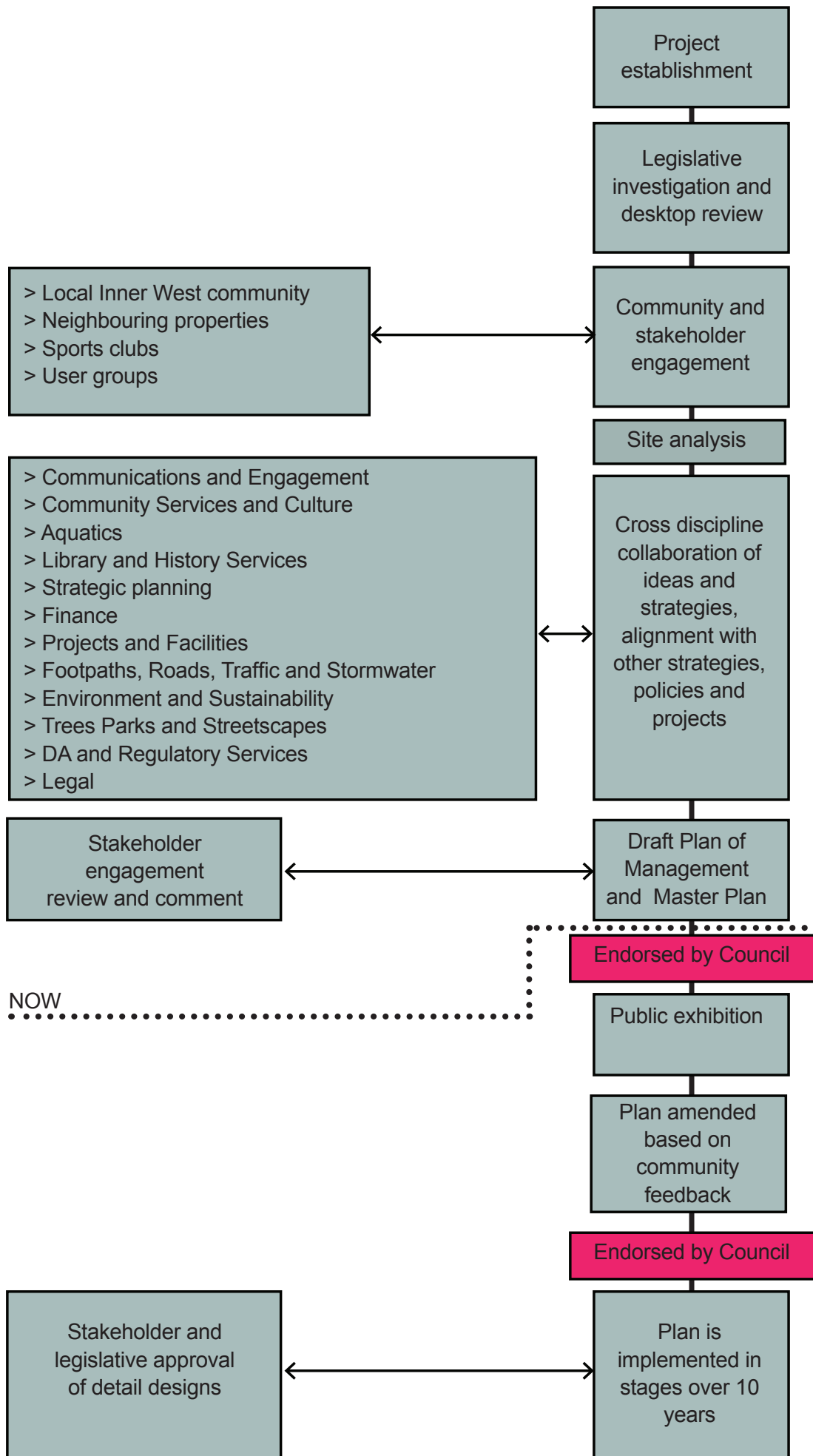


Figure 3 - Project Methodology diagram

# 01 Land to which this plan

## Project Methodology

The project methodology was undertaken in ten phases, with some occurring concurrently to meet project deadlines. The methodology produces a process that ensures best practice outcomes and provides for user needs.

The ten phases include:

01 Project establishment: During project establishment, the project brief including project program, methodology, project objectives, aims, and the engagement strategy and stakeholders were established.

02 Park categorisation: Park categorisation outlines whether each park area is either Crown land or community land managed by Council. For community land, the document outlines whether it is a sports ground, general community use, a park, an area of cultural significance or a natural area. The land categorisation stipulates what activities relating to use can or cannot take place within the park.

03 Leasing and licensing: Leasing and licensing outlines whether there are existing leases and licences existing within the parks. This section outlines whether future leases and licenses are possible within any park area.

04 Community Engagement: Community engagement was undertaken to understand what the community like and dislike about the facility and understand how it is being used. Investigations and discussions were had on what the community would like to see changed or upgraded.

05 Site Analysis: Site analysis was completed to establish opportunities and constraints. Elements reviewed included: access, safety, legislative requirements, Council policies, existing trees, vegetation, site history, bicycle proposals, vehicle access, maintenance, flooding, drainage issues, topography, geology, biodiversity and microclimate.

06 Draft Master Plan and Plan of Management Development: Draft plans including design options and strategies were developed and coordinated across multiple disciplines. Precedent imagery and detailed text support illustrative plans to articulate the master plan design and proposed improvements at the facility.

07 Internal Feedback and refinement: Further feedback from internal stakeholders was sought and documents updated to ensure all disciplines were considered.

08 Project Costing and Budget: An opinion of probable costs with proposed upgrades grouped as potential deliverable projects were developed based on the draft master plan design. The master plan strategies were coordinated with Council's forward budgets to integrate project costs with the long term financial plan and forward capital works plans.

09 Public Exhibition: The draft documents are used for community comment through an exhibition period. The feedback obtained is used to update the documents to ensure the plans meet community expectations.

10 Final Plan of Management and Master Plan: Finalised documents are reported to Council for adoption.



Beaman footbridge. Photography by Inner West Council.

## 02\_ Planning Context





# 02 Planning Context

The Local Government Act 1993, introduced a requirement that Council land be classified as either 'operational' or 'community'. Operational land is generally used for the carrying out of Council's functions and there are few restrictions imposed on Council by the Act.

Community land generally consists of public park land, and therefore, there are more restrictions imposed on Councils in relation to their dealings with this land, including the requirement that Council adopt a Plan of Management relating to the property.

## Description of Act and Requirements

Marrickville Parklands is classified as 'community land' under the Local Government Act 1993, this Plan of Management has been prepared according to the requirements of the Act. The Act provides Councils with a specific approach to the management of community land. Specific requirements of the Act for community land, are that:

- It must be kept for the use of the general community, and must not be sold.
- Its use and management is regulated by a plan of management. Until a plan of management is adopted, the nature and use of the land must not change.



## Community Land Categorisation

All Council property classified as Community lands are required to be categorised in accordance with the guidelines for categorisation listed in the Local Government Act.

Community land is required to be used and managed in accordance with the following:

- The plan of management applying to the land,
- Any law permitting the use of the land for a specified purpose or otherwise regulating the use of the land,
- This Division.

Community lands can be categorised as: land is to be categorised as one or more of the following:

- A natural area,
- A sports ground,
- A park,
- An area of cultural significance,
- General community use.

## Crown Land Management Principles

Crown Land management principles as stated in the Crown Lands Act 2016, are to:

- That environmental protection principles be observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown land, and
- That the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) be conserved wherever possible, and
- That public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged, and
- That, where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land be encouraged, and
- That, where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, and
- That Crown land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles.



Cooks River at Marrickville Parklands. Photography by Inner West Council.

## 03\_ Local Government Planning Context

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# 03 Local Government Planning Context

## Community Strategic Plan

In June 2018, the Our Inner West 2036, Community Strategic Plan was endorsed by Council. The plan has guided the direction within the Inner West Council local government area (LGA). The plans guiding vision statement is;

*"We are Inner West, land of the Gadigal and Wangal peoples, whose rich cultures, heritage and history we acknowledge and respect. We are defined by our diversity of people, places and ideas. We are an inclusive, vibrant, caring and progressive community where everyone is welcome, people and nature live in harmony, and creativity is a way of life."*

Council's parks and facilities serve multiple

community needs as demonstrate by the extensive list of relevant outcomes in the Community Strategic Plan (CSP).

The ongoing management of the Council's parks and facilities are consistent with the CSP, promoting a shared vision with the community and Council. It also provides us with a focus;

- Enabling Council to allocate the required resources to translate our vision into action.

The following pages outline how this report and its proposals will integrate with and support, our community's strategic outcomes.

Our Inner West 2036  
A community strategic plan for the Inner West community

ALIGNMENT OF THE LEICHHARDT PARK AQUATIC  
CENTRE MASTER PLAN WITH THE DRAFT INNER  
WEST COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

### STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

These are the big picture results which the community would like Council and its many partners to focus on achieving

### KEY RESULT AREAS

- Strategic direction 1:** An ecologically sustainable Inner West.
- Strategic direction 2:** Unique, liveable, networked neighbourhoods.
- Strategic direction 3:** Creative communities and a strong economy.
- Strategic direction 4:** Caring, happy, healthy communities.
- Strategic direction 5:** Progressive local leadership.

### OUTCOME STATEMENT

These are detailed outcomes under each strategic directions. They are more specific than the strategic directions, but still focus on the end result rather than how to get there

**1.1** The people and infrastructure of Inner West contribute positively to the environment and tackling climate change

**1.2** Inner West has a diverse and increasing urban forest that supports connected habitats for flora and fauna.

**1.3** The community is water sensitive, with clean, swimmable waterways

**1.4** Inner West is a zero emissions community that generates and owns clean energy

### STRATEGIES

These guide the specific strategies related to this plan and define how to achieve outcomes

**1.1.1.** Provide the support needed for people to live sustainably  
**1.1.2.** Reduce urban heat and manage its impact  
**1.1.5.** Provide green infrastructure that supports increased ecosystem services

**1.2.1.** Support people to protect, restore, enhance and connect with nature in Inner West  
**1.2.2.** Maintain and increase Inner West's tree canopy and urban forest, and enhance biodiversity corridors  
**1.2.3.** Protect, conserve and enhance existing natural area sites for species richness and diversity

**1.3.1.** Collaborate to deliver water-sensitive plans, decisions and infrastructure  
**1.3.2** Supply water from within Inner West catchments

**1.4.1.** Support local adoption of clean renewable energy

### STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

These are the big picture results which the community would like Council and its many partners to focus on achieving

### KEY RESULT AREAS

Strategic direction 1: An ecologically sustainable Inner West.  
Strategic direction 2: Unique, liveable, networked neighbourhoods.  
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Strategic direction 4: Caring, happy, healthy communities.  
Strategic direction 5: Progressive local leadership.

### OUTCOME STATEMENT

These are detailed outcomes under each strategic directions. They are more specific than the strategic directions, but still focus on the end result rather than how to get there

**1.5** Inner West is a zero waste community with an active share economy

**2.1** Development is designed for sustainability and makes life better

**2.2** The unique character and heritage of neighbourhoods is retained and enhanced

**2.3** Public spaces are high-quality, welcoming and enjoyable places, seamlessly connected with their surroundings

**2.6** People are walking, cycling and moving around Inner West with ease

**3.1** Creativity and culture are valued and celebrated;

**3.2** Inner West is the home of creative industries and services

**3.3** The local economy is thriving

**3.4** Employment is diverse and accessible

### STRATEGIES

These guide the specific strategies related to this plan and define how to achieve outcomes

**1.5.1.** Support people to avoid waste, and reuse, repair recycle and share

**1.5.2.** Provide local reuse and recycling infrastructure

**1.5.3.** Divert organic material from landfill

**1.5.4.** Advocate for comprehensive Extended Producer Responsibility+

**2.1.1.** Pursue integrated planning and urban design across public and private spaces to suit community and local environment needs

**2.1.2.** Identify and pursue innovative and creative solutions to complex urban planning and transport issues

**2.1.3.** Improve the quality, and investigate better access and use of existing community assets

**2.1.4.** Develop planning controls that protect and support a sustainable environment and contribute to a zero emissions and zero waste community

**2.2.2.** Manage change with respect for place, community history and heritage

**2.3.1.** Plan and deliver public spaces that fulfil and support diverse community needs and life

**2.6.1.** Deliver integrated networks and infrastructure for transport and active travel

**2.6.3.** Ensure transport infrastructure is safe, connected and well-maintained

**3.1.1.** Grow Inner West's reputation as a leading creative and cultural hub, celebrating and supporting diverse creative industries and the arts

**3.1.2.** Create opportunities for all members of the community to participate in arts and cultural activities

**3.2.1.** Position Inner West as a place of excellence for creative industries and services and support them to thrive

**3.2.4.** Facilitate the availability of affordable spaces for creative industries and services

**3.3.1.** Support business and industry to be socially and environmentally responsible

**3.3.3.** Promote Inner West as a great place to live, work, visit and invest in

**3.4.2.** Encourage social enterprises and businesses to grow local employment

### STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

These are the big picture results which the community would like Council and its many partners to focus on achieving

### KEY RESULT AREAS

Strategic direction 1: An ecologically sustainable Inner West.  
Strategic direction 2: Unique, liveable, networked neighbourhoods.  
Strategic direction 3: Creative communities and a strong economy.  
Strategic direction 4: Caring, happy, healthy communities.  
Strategic direction 5: Progressive local leadership.

### OUTCOME STATEMENT

These are detailed outcomes under each strategic directions. They are more specific than the strategic directions, but still focus on the end result rather than how to get there

3.5 Urban hubs and main streets are distinct and enjoyable places to shop, eat, socialise and be entertained

4.1 Everyone feels welcome and connected to the community

4.2 The Aboriginal community is flourishing, and its culture and heritage continues to strengthen and enrich Inner West

4.3 The community is healthy and people have a sense of wellbeing

4.4 People have access to the services and facilities they need at all stages of life

5.1 People are well informed and actively engaged in local decision making and problem-solving

5.2 Partnerships and collaboration are valued and recognised as vital for community leadership and making positive changes

5.3 Government makes responsible decisions to manage finite resources in the best interest of current and future communities

### STRATEGIES

These guide the specific strategies related to this plan and define how to achieve outcomes

3.5.2 Enliven community life by delivering and supporting events, public art, cultural celebrations and entertainment

4.1.1. Foster inclusive communities where everyone can participate in community life

4.1.2. Embrace, celebrate, respect and value difference by building awareness and appreciation of Inner West's diversity

4.1.3. Empower and support vulnerable and disadvantaged community members to participate in community life

4.1.4. Increase and promote awareness of the community's history and heritage

4.2.1. Celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and history

4.2.4. Actively engage Aboriginal people in the development of programs, policies and strategies

4.3.1. Provide the facilities, spaces and programs that support wellbeing and active and healthy communities

4.3.2. Provide opportunities for people to participate in recreational activities they enjoy

4.4.1. Plan and provide services and infrastructure for a changing and ageing population

4.4.2. Ensure the community has access to a wide range of learning spaces, resources and activities

5.1.1. Support local democracy through transparent communication and inclusive participatory community engagement

5.2.3. Collaborate with partners to deliver positive outcomes for the community, economy and environment

5.3.1. Undertake visionary, integrated, long term planning and decision making, reflective of community needs and aspirations

5.3.2. Ensure responsible, sustainable, ethical and open local government

5.3.3. Deliver innovation, excellence, efficiency, effectiveness and probity in Council processes and services



# 03 Local Government Planning Context

## People with Disabilities 2017 - 2121

The Inner West Council Inclusion Action Plan (for People with a Disability) 2017-2121 (IAP) outlines Council's commitment to respecting the rights and improving opportunities for people with a disability of all ages, to participate fully in community life. The IAP also meets Council's obligations under the Disability Inclusion Act, 2014 (NSW) and other similar instruments that identify its role in reducing discrimination and improving participation opportunities for people with a disability. Following Council merges, staff from each of the former Council areas (Ashfield, Leichhardt and Marrickville) merged actions from existing Council access plans into this plan. The opportunity was also taken to revise actions that needed updating or that could be extended to facilitate best practice access and inclusion outcomes. The design process of the master plan has used the IAP to ensure the plan better meets the needs of the community.

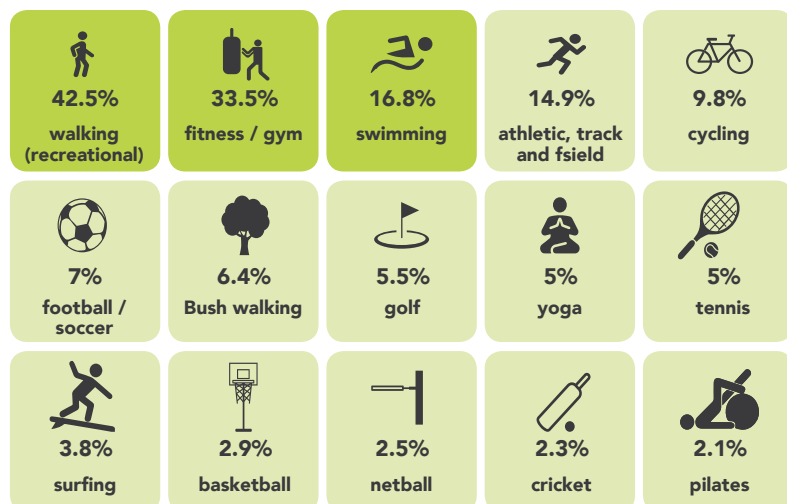
## The Recreation Needs Study

The Recreation needs Study provides an analysis of the current and projected recreation needs of the Inner West community. The study provides the evidence base to inform the development of Council policy and strategy in relation to recreation.

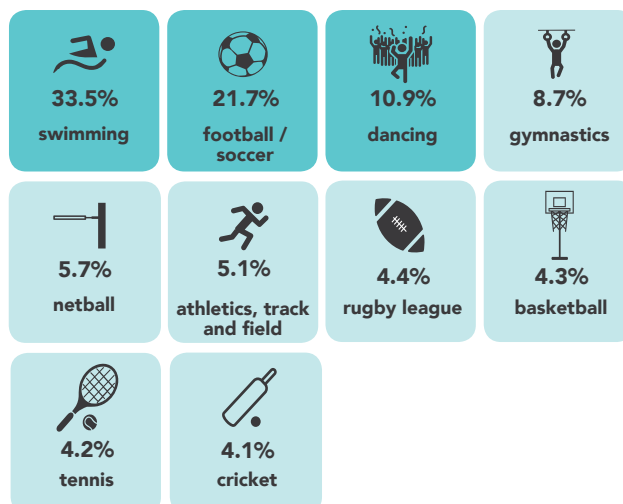
Recreational walking is the most popular recreation activities amongst adults both nationally and locally in the Inner West. At least 42.5% of adults participate in recreational walking. 6.4% of adults enjoy bush walking and 9.8% undertake regular cycling. 5.5% of adults within the LGA undertake Golfing as a recreational sport. Organised sport is more popular with children including swimming, football and dancing.

The Marrickville Golf Course forms part of a diverse range of recreational opportunities that respond to the modern demands of Australian communities.

### ADULTS - TOP 15 ACTIVITIES



### CHILDREN - TOP 10 ACTIVITIES



### FEMALES

1. Walking (recreational) 51.4%
2. Fitness/gym 36.1%
3. Swimming 18.3%
4. Athletics, track and field (includes jogging and running) 13.8%
5. Yoga 8.2%
6. Cycling 6.5%
7. Bush walking - 5.4%
8. Tennis 4.4%
9. Netball 4.4%
10. Pilates 4%
11. Football/soccer 2.9%
12. Golf 1.9%
13. Surfing 1.7%
14. Basketball 1.7%
15. Cricket 0.5%

### MALES

1. Walking (recreational) 33.4%
2. Fitness/gym 30.0%
3. Athletics, track and field (includes jogging and running) 16%
4. Swimming 15.2%
5. Cycling 13.2%
6. Football/soccer 11.2%
7. Golf 9.2%
8. Bush walking 7.3%
9. Surfing 5.9%
10. Tennis 5.7%
11. Cricket 4.3%
12. Basketball 4.1%
13. Yoga 1.8%
14. Netball 0.5%
15. Pilates 0.2%

### GIRLS

1. Swimming 35.9%
2. Dancing (recreational) 18.9%
3. Gymnastics 12.9%
4. Netball 11.3%
5. Football/soccer 9.6%
6. Athletics, track and field (includes jogging and running) 5.4%
7. Basketball 3.6%
8. Tennis 3.2%
9. Rugby League 1%
10. Cricket 0.7%

### BOYS

1. Swimming 31.3%
2. Football/soccer 33.9%
3. Rugby League 7.9%
4. Cricket 7.6%
5. Basketball 5%
6. Tennis 5.2%
7. Athletics, track and field (includes jogging and running) 4.8%
8. Gymnastics 4.4%
9. Dancing (recreational) 2.7%
10. Netball 0%

# 03

## Park Categorisation



Figure 4 - Plan of the Marrickville Golf Course - Land Categorisation

# 03 Park Categorisation

This Plan of Management categorises the community land as follows:

Land Category	Core objective
<b>Land Owned by Council</b>	
<b>Community land - Watercourse (Dibble Ave Waterhole)</b>	<p>The core objective for management of community land categorised as a watercourse area are:</p> <p>(a) to manage watercourses so as to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the instream environment, particularly in relation to water quality and water flows, and</p> <p>(b) to manage watercourses so as to protect the riparian environment, particularly in relation to riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability, and</p> <p>(c) to restore degraded watercourses, and</p> <p>(d) to promote community education, and community access to and use of the watercourse, without compromising the other core objectives of the category.</p>

Land Category	Core objective
<b>Land Owned by Council</b>	
<b>Community land General community use</b>	<p>The core objectives for management of community land categorised as general community use are to promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land and to provide facilities on the land to meet the current and future needs of the local community and the wider public:</p> <p>(a) in relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural and social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public; and</p> <p>(b) in relation to purposes for which a lease, licence of other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities)</p>

Land category	Management principle
<b>Land owned by the Crown - Park</b>	<p>The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a park are:</p> <p>(a) to encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities, and</p> <p>(b) to provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes and for the casual playing of games, and</p> <p>(c) to improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management</p>

# 03 Lots

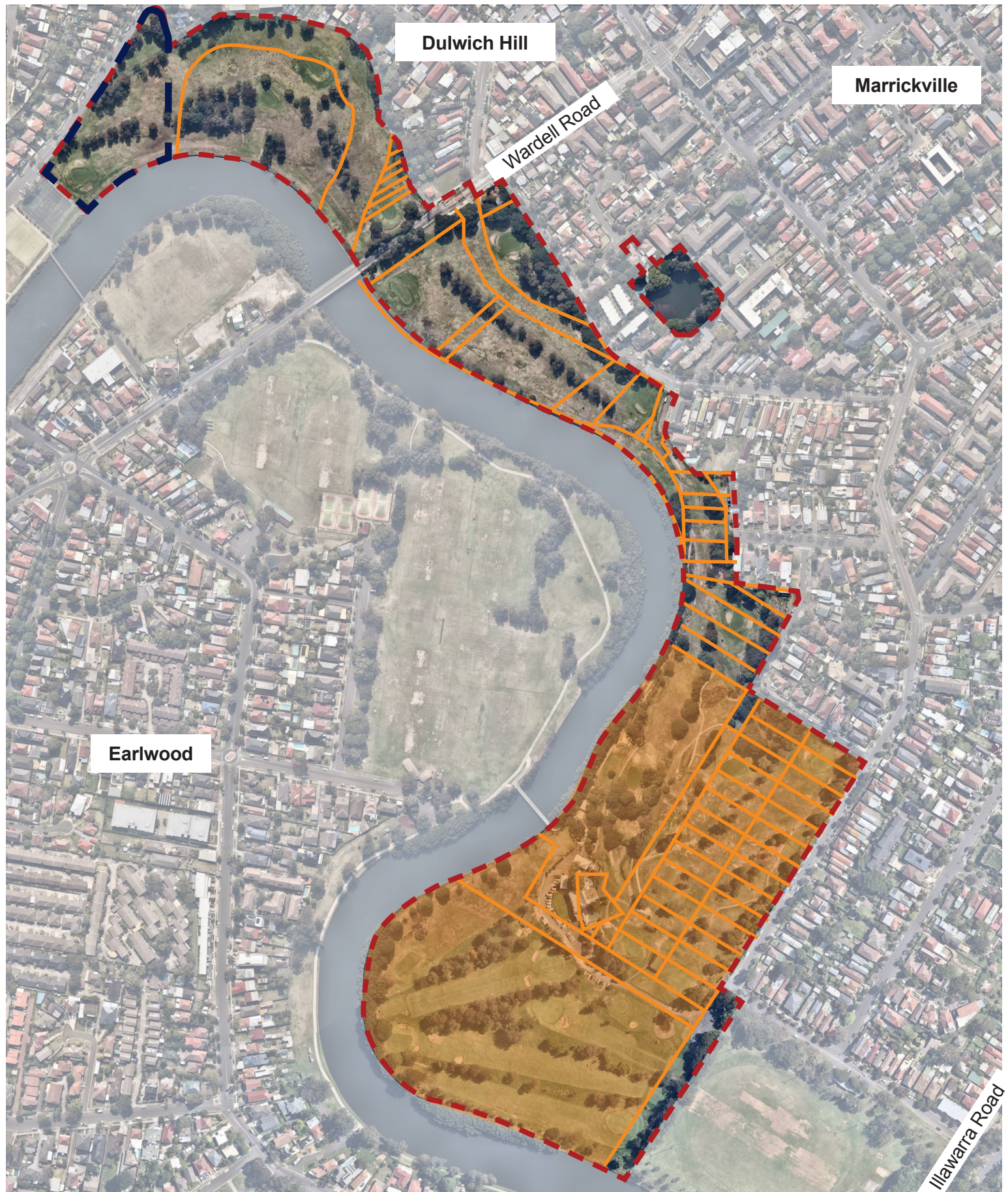


Figure 5 - Plan of the Marrickville Golf Course - Lot Boundaries

# 03 Lots

Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course is currently fragmented into numerous lots with both Local Government and Crown Land ownership.

Crown Land	Riverside Park (R83765) Reserve	Council Owned Land			
	Inner West Council is council land manager	Auto Consol 1006-218		1/62104	Council Owned Lands –part resumed 18846-3000
15/3/272	Crown Lands	1/4/272	Council Owned Lands		
16/3/272	Crown Lands	2/4/272	Council Owned Lands	Auto Consol – 10014-209	
17/3/272	Crown Lands	3/4/272	Council Owned Lands	9/130964	Council Owned Lands- closed road
18/3/272	Crown Lands	4/4/272	Council Owned Lands	10/130964	Council Owned Lands – closed road
19/3/272	Crown Lands			11/130964	Council Owned Lands – closed road
20/3/272	Crown Lands	18/1994	Council Owned Lands		
21/3/272	Crown Lands	19/1994	Council Owned Lands	2/744754	Council Owned Lands
22/3/272	Crown Lands	20/1994	Council Owned Lands	2/879004	Council Owned Lands
23/3/272	Crown Lands	21/1994	Council Owned Lands	A/70398	Council Owned Lands
24/3/272	Crown Lands	22/1994	Council Owned Lands	22/1106954	Council Owned Lands
25/3/272	Crown Lands			23/1106954	Council Owned Lands
26/3/272	Crown Lands	1/1170415	Council Owned Land – closed road part Alfred Street	24/1106954	Council Owned Lands
27/3/272	Crown Lands				
28/3/272	Crown Lands	B/181106	Council Owned Lands	Auto Consol – 6643-49	
29/3/272	Crown Lands			B/371804	Council Owned Lands
30/3/272	Crown Lands	Auto Consol 4012-84		B/370087	Council Owned Lands
31/3/272	Crown Lands	1/455850	Council Owned Lands – part resumed 18846-3000	B/370667	Council Owned Lands
32/3/272	Crown Lands	18/2/976674	Council Owned Lands – part resumed 18846-3000	B/370668	Council Owned Lands
33/3/272	Crown Lands	2/455850	Council Owned Lands – part resumed 18846-3000	B/374334	Council Owned Lands
34/3/272	Crown Lands				
35/3/272	Crown Lands	Auto Consol 161-520		1/434482	Council Owned Lands
36/3/272	Crown Lands	11/3/272	Council Owned Lands		
37/3/272	Crown Lands	12/3/272	Council Owned Lands	2/610005	Council Owned Lands
38/3/272	Crown Lands	13/3/272	Council Owned Lands	3/610005	Council Owned Lands
		14/3/272	Council Owned Lands		
7029/1060582	Crown Lands			Incomplete road closures	Chadwick Street, Garnett Avenue, Alfred Lane
7030/1060582	Crown Lands				
7031/1060582	Crown Lands			Road closed – no title deeds	Bruce Street, Wardell Road.
7006/1060644	Crown Lands				

## Legend

Lot Boundaries	
Riverside Park Reserve	
Site Boundary	
Canterbury Bankstown Council	
Site Context	

# 03

## Current Leases/Licences

The Local Government Act allows Council to grant leases, licenses or other estates over all or part of Community Land.

Leases and licenses are a method of formalising the use of land and facilities. Leases or licenses can be held by groups such as community groups, sporting clubs and schools, and by commercial organisations or individuals providing facilities and/or services.

Where exclusive control of all or part of an area or facility is proposed or desirable, a lease is appropriate. There are also other factors which may influence the granting of a lease. These include the level or scale of investment, the necessity for security measures and the relationship between the activity on the land and the activity of the controller of the land.

The activities undertaken by a leaseholder should be compatible with any zoning or Council requirements and provide benefits and services or facilities for the users of the land. Terms and conditions of a lease should reflect the interest of the Council, protect the public and ensure proper management and maintenance.

Where short term, intermittent or non-exclusive occupation or control of all or part of an area or facility is proposed, a licence may be used. Providing there are no conflicts of interest, several licenses may apply concurrently.



In considering whether to grant any lease or licence, Council should take into account the consistency of the proposal with the values and management strategies of this Plan of Management, particularly with regard to the

following:

The Lessee/Licensee is responsible for ensuring the area is maintained to a standard which is acceptable to Council.

There is a need to define the times the land or facility will be available for use by the Lessee/Licensee. The impact of the lease/licence on the public/private space use of the Parks.

Impact on maintaining the Parks as one cohesive open space.

### Current Leases

#### Marrickville Golf Course

Inner West Council (formerly Marrickville Council) and Inner West Council, as the manager of Riverside Park (R83765) Reserve Trust entered into a lease with Marrickville Golf Club for the use of the parklands as an 18 hole Golf Course, and use of water from the Dibble Avenue waterhole for irrigation purposes. The lease also includes the Pro-Golf Shop, Caretakers cottage and building adjacent to Riverside Crescent. The Golf Club is excluded from the lease. This lease has expired and is in hold over.

### Future Lease Recommendations

#### Canterbury Bankstown Council and Inner West Council Lease

- The Inner West Council recommends that it enters into a lease agreement with Canterbury Bankstown for lands that are associated with the Golf Course, but owned by Canterbury Bankstown Council.
- At present, the Inner West Council has an informal agreement with Canterbury Bankstown and manages the maintenance of this land.
- Inner West Council recommends to lease this land for 5 years, with the option to sub-lease land to Marrickville Golf Club or another sporting or recreation facility. At the conclusion of the lease, land will be returned to Canterbury Bankstown.

#### Marrickville Golf Club Lease

- The present lease between Marrickville Golf Club, Inner West Council and Riverside Park (R83765) Reserve Trust has expired.

Council recommends that:

- The Inner West Council and Riverside Park (R83765) Reserve Trust enter into a 10 year lease agreement.

# 03

## Current Leases/Licences

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- The Golf Club will be managed as a 18 hole golf club for 5 years. At the conclusion of the 5 years, Marrickville Golf Course will revert to 9 holes as per the Master Plan - Option B.
- Marrickville Golf Club will not be permitted to withdraw water from Dibble Avenue Waterhole. This will allow the waterhole to be restored and managed sustainably. The Marrickville Golf Club will be encouraged to work with Council on medium to long term solutions for irrigation including underground water tanks and stormwater harvesting.
- The lease shall allow for events with Council's consent and any other DA or consent applications as required.

### Current Licences

There are currently no licences over Council owned lands nor Riverside Park (R83765) Reserve Trust.

### Future Licences

The Plan of Management allows for the provision of Licences as per the Local Government Act 1993 and Crown Lands Management Act 2016. Future lease and licences will be allowable for uses consistent with this Plan of Management, the former Marrickville Local Environment Plan or Inner West Council Local Environment Plan (to be adopted) and any other applicable legislation.

Any licences for biodiversity works are permitted.



Figure 6 - Public Works - Access easement

### Public Works - Access easement (1911)

Easements generally provide specific rights to access and does not grant ownership of the land. Easements are generally used to secure rights of access and rights for use of the land. The Public Works access easement impedes any construction on the access easement.

#### Legend


 Easement





Figure 7 - Mascot Petroleum Pipeline easement

### Mascot Petroleum Pipeline - Viva Energy

Mascot Petroleum Pipeline runs through much of the site. The pipeline has a 6m easement and 120m buffer. Viva Energy currently manage the pipeline and must approve and be consulted on any works within its zone.

#### Legend

 Pipeline  
 120m buffer

# 03

## Statutory conditions and legislation





Figure 8 - SEPP - Coastal Management Act 2016

### State Environmental Planning Policy - Coastal Management Act 2016

The act aims to manage the coastal environment of New South Wales in a manner consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development for the social, cultural and economic well-being of people.

#### Legend

-  Coastal Wetland
-  Coastal use area/coastal environmental area

### Other relevant legislation

- Companion Animals Act.
- Disability Discrimination Act.
- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- National Construction Code 2015.
- National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.
- Native Vegetation Act 2003
- Noxious Weeds Act 1993
- State Environmental Planning Policy (infrastructure) 2007.
- Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995.
- Work, Health and Safety Act.



Beaman footbridge. Photography by Inner West Council.

## 04\_ Demographics



# 04 Demographics

## Income, dwelling and car ownership

Dulwich Hill is characterised by people living in medium density housing. Marrickville is characterised by low density housing, however housing is generally situated on smaller than average Australian blocks of land. Both Marrickville and Dulwich Hill have lower than average

car ownership. Thus, public open space which is accessible by active or public transport is essential as many residents live in higher density accommodation with limited access to private transport.

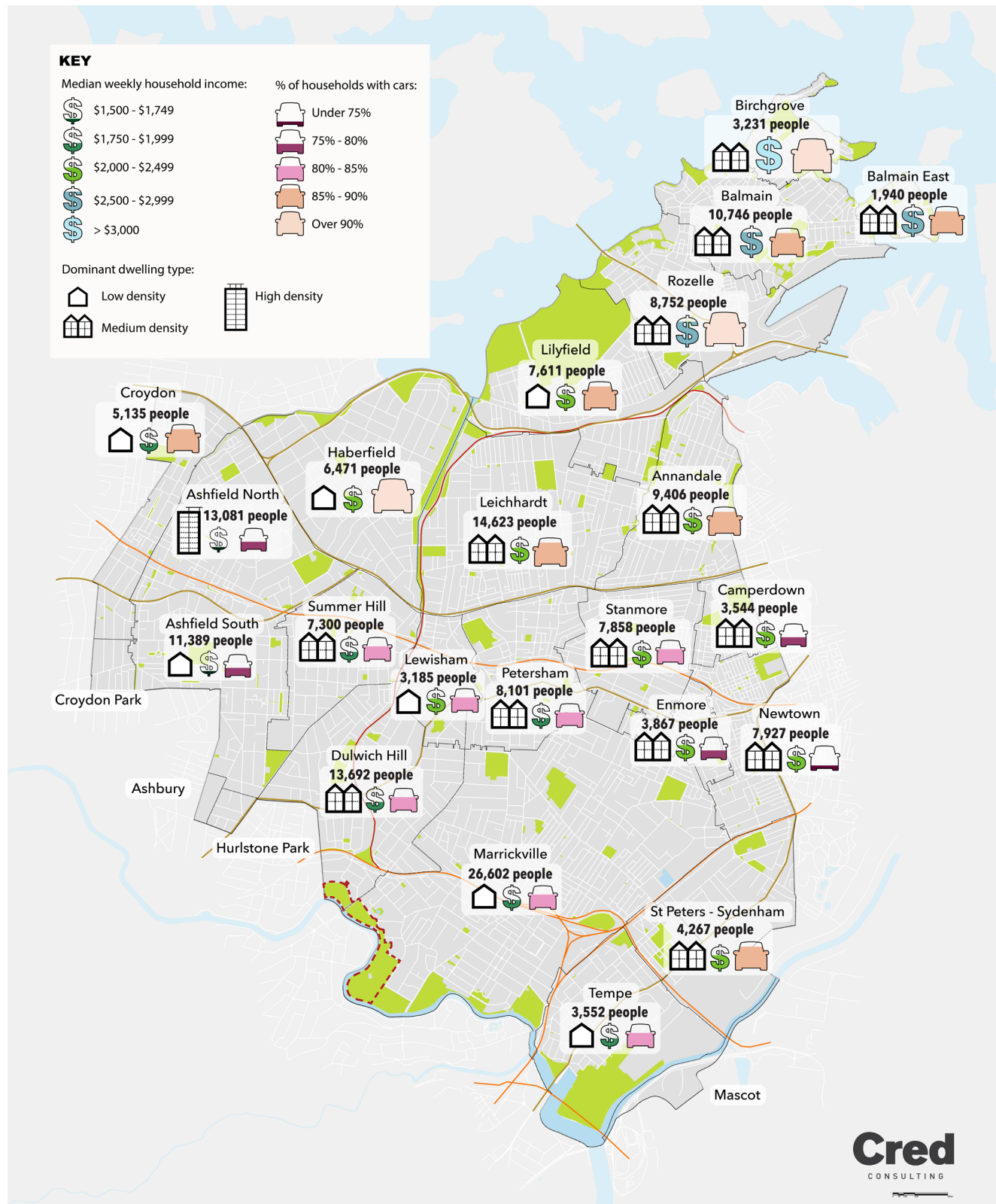


Figure 9 - Income, dwelling and car ownership distribution throughout the LGA

# 04 Demographics

## Age distribution

Marrickville and Dulwich Hill have a large percentage of young people. The area is also characterised by a high percentage of people who identify with a disability. Accessible, flexible recreation spaces for the changing population is essential.

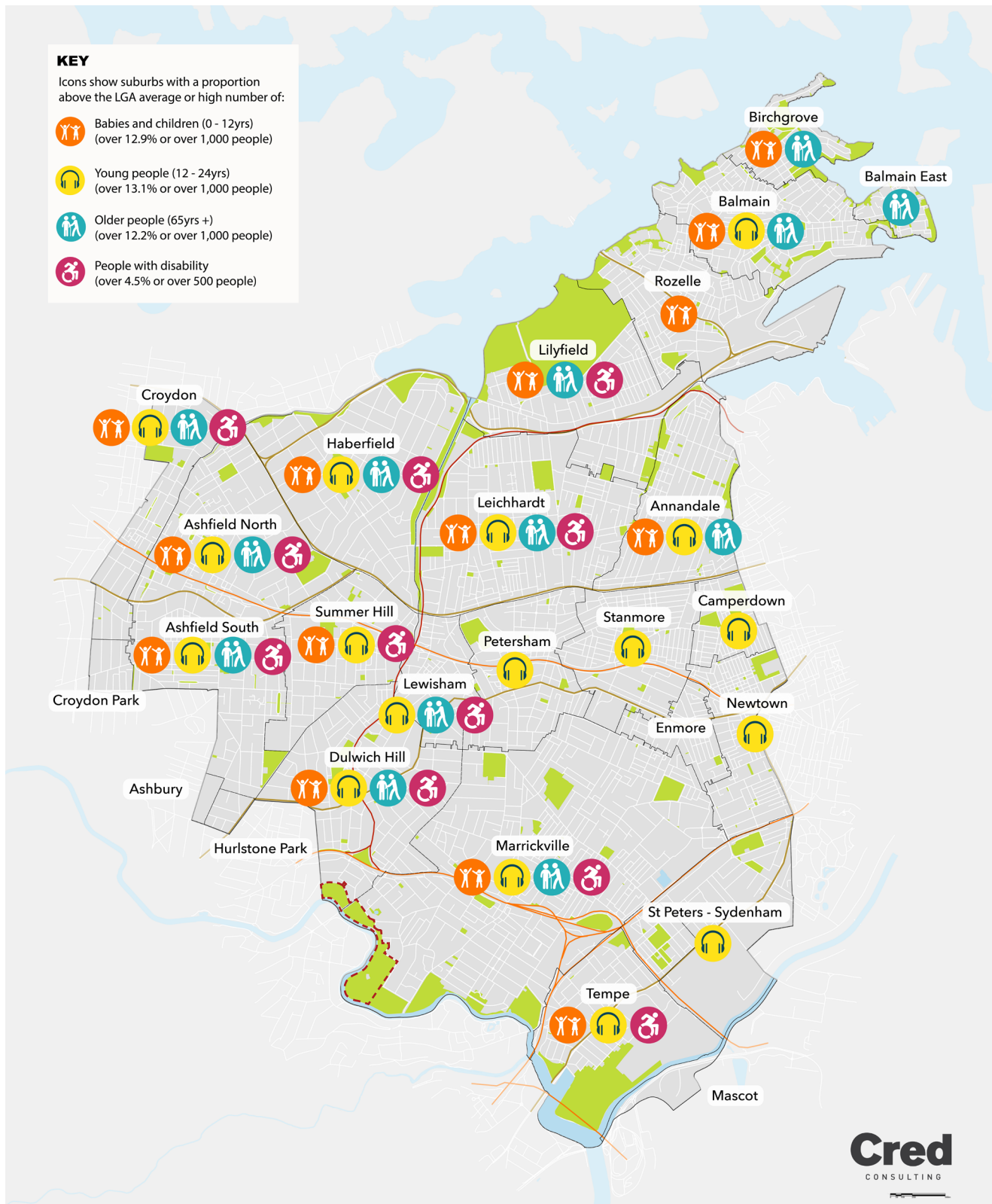


Figure 10 - Age distribution throughout the LGA

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# 04 Demographics

## Ethnicity and Language

Dulwich Hill and Marrickville are ethnically diverse. Both suburbs also have a high proportion of people who speak a language other than English at home.

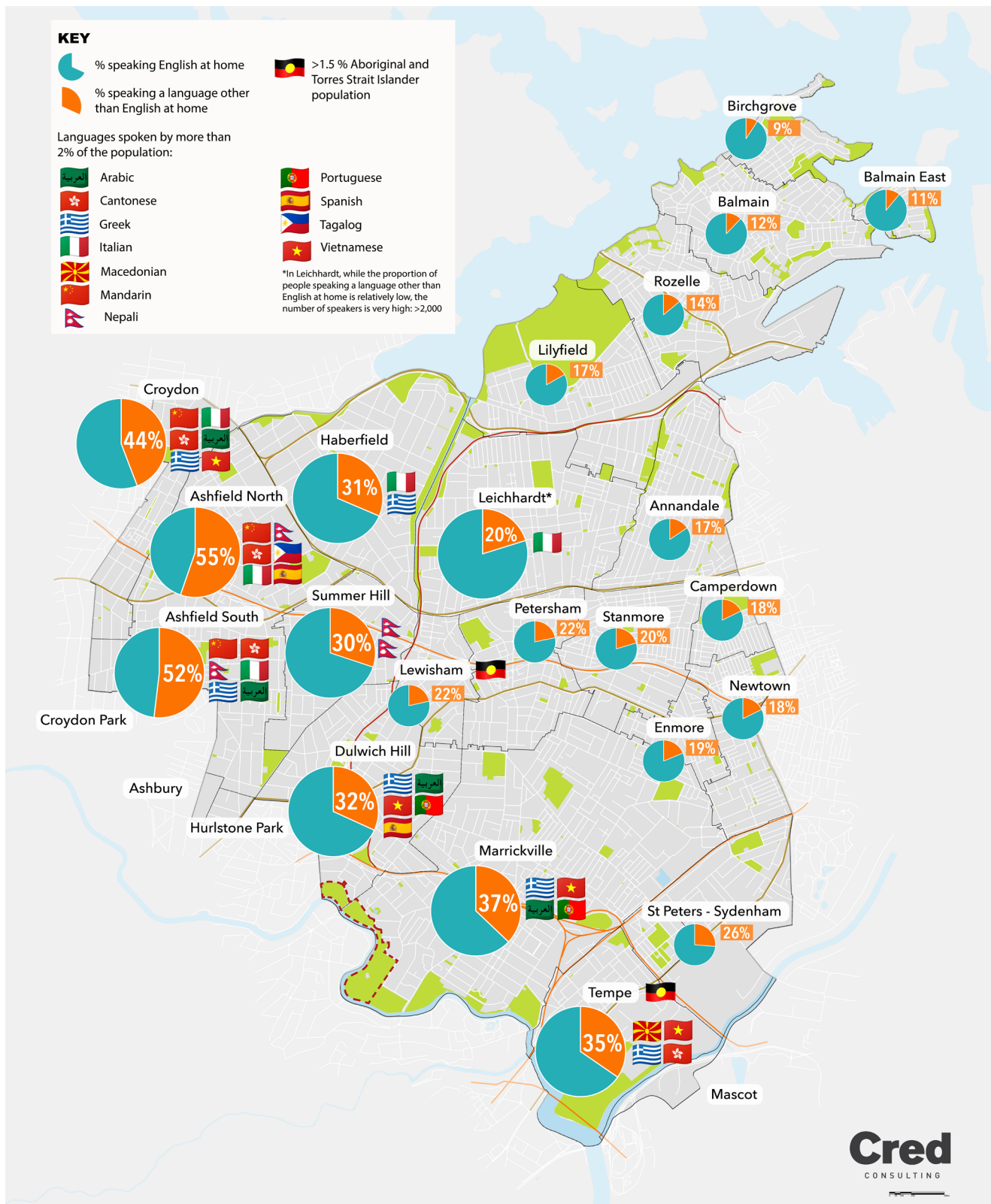


Figure 11 - Ethnicity and language distribution throughout the LGA



Marrickville Parklands Golf Course. Photography by Inner West Council.

## 05\_ Engagement Overview + Common Themes

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# 05

## Engagement Overview + Common Themes

### Overview

The community engagement methodology aimed to be as inclusive as possible with a variety of forums for feedback. The process included 2 informal 'drop-in' style interactive workshops at A.B Crofts Playground in Dulwich Hill. These sessions were held on the weekend to ensure a broad spectrum of users could be engaged. An online survey at 'Your Say Inner West' was also available during the entire engagement period.

Refer to Appendix A for the comprehensive community engagement report.

### Common Themes

#### The Golfing Community

Active golfers believe the lands are well shared with other members of the public and that any adjustment in the provision of lands away from the current 18 hole set up would be to the detriment of the golf club and its community

#### Passive Recreation Users

There are some concerns that the land is not shared adequately and that the constant threat of being hit by a golf ball was significant. Some users were unsure that public were even allowed to access the lands.

#### TREES AND PLANTING



Appreciation of wildlife and vegetation

Community garden  
More rainwater gardens

Natural setting

More under story planting

#### FORESHORE INTERFACE

Bushcare and regeneration



Gathering on the water edge

Kayaking and fishing

Twilight picnics and concerts

Open and immediate proximity to the river

#### PATHWAYS



Enjoy proximity to the water

Upgrade existing paths

Cycling vs walking

#### LINKAGES



Improve broken linkages

Avoid crossing teeing ground

Connect to the Greenway  
Avoid necessity to cross Wardell  
Road bridge

#### LIGHTING



Lighting along foreshore

Improved lighting along driveway

Minimal lighting throughout park preferred

#### FURNITURE



Seating along river

More bins in key areas

Dog waste bins

# 05 Engagement Overview + Common Themes

## FENCING/BOUNDARY



Inviting perimeter fencing  
Dog off-leash area  
Upgrade tennis court at Ewan Park

## SIGNAGE



Better signage from Beauchamp Street  
signage at Dibble Ave Waterhole  
Golf ball risk signage  
Community language signage

## WATER MANAGEMENT



Irrigation  
Management of Dibble Ave Waterhole water  
Irrigation of fareways

## CLUBHOUSE



Verandah and outdoor space  
Potential for functions, facilities and funding.  
More appropriate for families

## Dibble Avenue Waterhole

- The history of the site was important to some and suggestions were made to provide signage on this subject.
- A lot of residents in the area were fond of the wildlife and bird populations that are served by the Waterhole environment and valued council initiatives to manage this aspect.
- There was a feeling among users that the low water levels and poor maintenance of the site was a missed opportunity to enhance this unique and diverse site. The resulting odour and rubbish from low levels and poor management were strongly resented.
- Some respondents questions whether or not public access should be provided, stating that the site was more important as a sanctuary for wildlife.
- Users frequently noted that the lack of visibility and access to the Waterhole was an issue, excluding a large share of the community from its benefits. Along with this, it was noted that there are limited opportunities to sit / rest near it to enjoy the wildlife.
- Members of the community were well informed about its use for irrigation on the course and believe the preservation and adequate management of this function is a priority.
- The treatment of the banks was of concern to

many members of the community. Whilst it was agreed that bank naturalisation and subsequent stabilisation is essential, who's responsibility this is not clear among users.

- The fencing around the water hole was troubling for many users, adding to the feeling that the Waterhole was neglected by both the council and local residence and acting as an obstacle to increased engagement with the environment.
- The community were also interested in establishing a plan of management for maintenance, specifically the removal of rubbish which at its presently low level is an increasing issue in the Waterhole.
- Users mentioned that signage on the pathways near the Waterhole along the Cooks River could inform and direct people to the Waterhole thus increasing engagement and participation.
- Because of the environmental importance of the area and the wealth of wildlife and plants, a possible integration of education amenities for local schools, groups and community initiatives was proposed.
- Users noted how the past accessibility and pontoon on the water lead to greater involvement with the Waterhole and were interested in the pontoon returning. Other amenities such as a lookout for bird watching and a walkway were suggested.



Beaman footbridge. Photography by Inner West Council.

## 06\_ Action plans and objectives



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# 06

## Action plans and objectives

The following section outlines the strategic objectives and recommendations for the Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course. The objectives and outcomes are priorities between high, medium and low. The table below shows the management actions required to implement the recommendations.

<b>Objective</b>	Overarching aim and goal consistent with Inner West Council Community Strategic Plan and community engagement outcomes
<b>Recommendation</b>	Specific tasks and outcomes for to be investigated or implemented
<b>Priority</b>	
High	Short term - 1 - 3 years
Medium	Medium term - 4 - 6 years
Low	Long term - 7 - 10 years
<b>Funding</b>	Preferred funding source including Capital works budget (Capex), Operational Budget (OP) or Grant funding
<b>Means of assessment</b>	How the recommendation can be assessed for success

# 06 Action plans and objectives

## Recreation

### Current description

Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course currently provides a wide range of recreational opportunities. It is considered the largest parcel of Council managed open space within the Inner West Local Government Area.

The site currently functions with the following uses;

- 18 hole Golf Course
- Passive Recreation
- On-leash dog walking

### Relevant policies

- Companion Animal Act
- Recreation Needs Research Study

### Values

The community values the wide range of quality recreation and leisure experience offered on community land.

### Vision

To provide flexible, inclusive and accessible recreation spaces

Objectives	Recommendations	Priority	Funding	Means of assessment
Provide a wide range of quality recreation and leisure experiences	Conserve and enhance passive recreation and facilities within the park including trees in grass and informal park seating as per Part 2 Master plan report	High	Capex/ grant funding	Planning consent/ works program
	Provide a range of passive recreation settings to cater for relaxation and weekend use including mature tree canopy, flexible use open grass spaces and limited provision of urban use character plaza spaces as per Part 2 Master plan report.	High	Capex/ grant funding	Planning consent/ works program
	Provide 'Golf Free afternoon' one evening a month where there is no golf to be played for increased public recreation and events.	Med	OP	Community feedback
	Reduce the course to 9 holes for one day a week during the summer months.	High	OP	Community feedback
	Investigate the potential for flexible recreation spaces including the potential for informal sports grounds.	Med	OP	Community feedback
	Encourage the introduction of community and cultural events at the parklands. Events may be held with a Council licence and approval	Med	OP	Community feedback
Provide active and accessible transport	Provide a concrete shared path from 'The Greenway' at Ewen Park to the Cooks River cycleway at HJ Mahoney Reserve.	High	Capex/ grant funding	Planning consent/ works program
Improve administrative functions	Consolidate lots and road closures	Med	OP	Plan registered
Marrickville Golf Club	Provision for a new Golf Club within the existing footprint is permitted	Low	OP	Planning consent
	Within five years from the commencement of any new licence agreement the Golf Club or any new community sporting club must provide for equal access to the main function and club facilities located on the course	Med	tbc	Planning consent

# 06

## Action plans and objectives

### Access

#### Current description

The site is accessible for recreation activities being close to homes and public transport. The park is considered an important access route along the Cooks River and future potential connections between the Greenway and Cooks River Cycleway.

Access pathways through and within the site are currently considered confusing and of poor quality. Clear and readable wayfinding throughout Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course walk are desirable.

#### Relevant policies

- Inner West Council Inclusion Action Plan (for People with a Disability) 2017-2121

#### Values

The community values accessible and inclusive public spaces which are welcoming and well looked after.

#### Vision

Provide safe and accessible access for the public throughout the site.



Primary pathway - share pathway along the Cooks River



Secondary pathway through low vegetation



Tertiary pathway through revegetation

Objectives	Recommendations	Priority	Funding	Means of assessment
Improve accessibility and legibility for all throughout the site.	Improve pedestrian entrances to the site with signage relating to the safe thoroughfare through the golf course.	High	Capex/ grant funding	Planning consent/ works program
	Provide wheelchair accessible pathways along the Cooks River foreshore walk as per the Master Plan Report.	High	Capex/ grant funding	Planning consent/ works program
Provide pathways which are safe and accessible	Primary pathways are to be sealed and where possible at a grade accessible for wheelchairs.	Med	Capex/ grant funding	Planning consent/ works program
	Provide lighting along primary pathways	High	Capex/ grant funding	Planning consent/ works program

# 06

## Action plans and objectives

### Infrastructure

#### Current description

Infrastructure within the Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course is generally restricted to footpaths, driveways fencing and infrastructure relating to the golf course. Community engagement outcomes noted a lack of maintenance and upgrade works of current infrastructure is required.

#### Relevant policies

- N/A

#### Values

The community values well constructed, maintained and usable assets.

#### Vision

To provide flexible, inclusive and maintainable infrastructure which meets Councils environmental and lifecycle cost expectations.

#### Sheet Piling

The Cooks River edge shall be naturalised in conjunction with stakeholder engagement. The river edge naturalisation shall include alternate types of edge treatment; one that allows views to the river with low growing salt marsh and wetland species and another that encourages mangrove species to colonise the intertidal zone.

The existing sheet piling will not be replaced along the river edge. Instead it will be removed gradually and in conjunction with stakeholders.

The existing sheet piling will be used as the



Sheet piling, Cooks River

starting point to lay back the river banks for the naturalisation process. This ensures no compromise to the river capacity to hold existing volumes of water.

#### Seating and picnic settings

Provide drinking fountain with waterbottle fill and dog bowl near Beaman Bridge pedestrian path. Provide drinking fountain near the proposed nursery site.



Jack Shanahan Reserve, pedestrian lighting

#### Lighting

Provide lighting along the Cooks River Foreshore from Mahoney Reserve to the Greenway Cycleway. Investigate pedestrian lighting from Bruce Street to the Cooks River Foreshore. Ensure lighting is consistent with Greenway and Cooks River Cycleway Lighting.

Provide carpark and driveway lighting from Wharf Street to Beaman Bridge car park. Minimise area and pedestrian lighting within the park.

Lighting should be LED and in keeping with Cooks River Cycleway lighting. Lighting for the Cooks River Cycleway are hot dipped galvanised 100mm diameter poles painted with DULUX Ferreko No 3(MIO) coating system. Base of light pole is to include a concrete mowing strip and ensure base plate remains exposed for asset condition monitoring.

#### Fencing

Minimise boundary and internal fencing. Include safety fencing in specific locations as shown on the plans. Ensure fencing is fauna safe.

# 06 Action plans and objectives

Fencing is to be set back from footpaths with planting between. Fence panels are to include a concrete mowing edge.

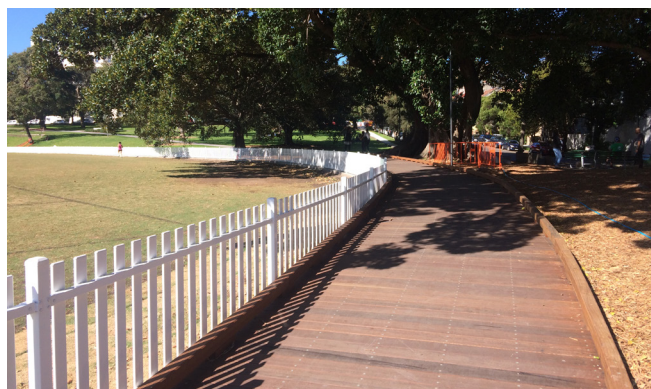
## Bollards

Install bollards long the vehicle entrance. Minimise the use of bollards to key locations.

## Boardwalks

All timber throughout the site is to be Spotted Gum with a thick profile (approx 140mm x 38mm minimum) to reduce maintenance issues.

All new timber (structural, non-structural, joinery, timber substrates, timber products including



Camperdown Park, Camperdown, timber boardwalk

manufactured timber products) should be either FSC-certified or PEFCcertified timber or equivalent.

## Signage

- Remove all golf club advertising signage within and around the parklands relating to alcohol and gambling.
- Install street post directional signage for the Golf Club

## Bins

Provide slatted bin enclosure for multiple wheel bin storage near main park entry points. Provide additional wheeled bin enclosures for single bins in other locations within the park.

At a minimum provide wheeled bin enclosures at;

- Beaman Bridge
- Entry Carpark between HJ Mahoney Reserve and Kayak Launch
- Bruce Street Entrance

Retain current wheeled bins and bin stands at;

- Tennyson Street Playground
- AB Crofts Playground

Upgrade bin slabs if required.

Objectives	Recommendations	Priority	Funding	Means of assessment
Provide life cycle cost effective and sustainable infrastructure as per the Master Plan	Provide a suite of furniture including picnic settings, water fountains and seating which is in keeping with the Cooks River Parklands and Greenway furniture suite.	Capex/ grant funding	Capex/ grant funding	Planning consent/ works program
	Provide LED lighting along the Cooks River Foreshore from Mahoney Reserve to the Greenway Cycleway.	Capex/ grant funding	Capex/ grant funding	Planning consent/ works program
	Install timber boardwalks at key locations as per Part 2 Master Plan Report. All new timber (structural, non-structural, joinery, timber substrates, timber products including manufactured timber products) should be either FSC-certified or PEFCcertified timber or equivalent.	Capex/ grant funding	Capex/ grant funding	Planning consent/ works program
Manage existing site infrastructure	Remove existing sheet piling along the river edge in conjunction with engineering and ecology advice. Ensure stakeholders are informed of the process	Capex/ grant funding	Grant funding	Planning consent/ works program
	Remove all unnecessary signage. Signage advertising alcohol, gambling or political views are not permitted in or around the Parklands.	Capex/ grant funding	Grant funding	Planning consent/ works program

# 06

## Action plans and objectives

### Arts and community

#### Current description

The Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course do not currently house any public art.

#### Relevant policies

- Former Leichhardt Community and Cultural Plan and Public Art Policy
- Inner West Council Public Art Policy (to be developed)
- Inner West Council Memorial Art and Plaques Policy (to be developed)

#### Values

The community values accessible and inclusive public spaces which are welcoming and well looked after.

#### Vision

Provide safe and accessible access for the public throughout the site.

Objectives	Recommendations	Priority	Funding	Means of assessment
Advocate for and implement Public Art	Allocate an amount of 5% of the total budget for public art and placemaking features to assist in the transformation of pathways through the precinct.	Med	Capex/ Grant funding	Works program
	Utilise public art/ placemaking features to tell 'stories of place' about both the natural and cultural histories of the Cooks River, and draw regional links where possible to the GreenWay	Med	Capex/ Grant funding	Works program
	Consider the application of public art/ placemaking features in the infrastructure (ie. text etched in wood pathways and woven images text in "golf netting") - for distinctive value add ons.	Low	Capex/ Grant funding	Works program
	Utilise public art/ placemaking features to support the work of the Trees, Parks and Streetscapes and Urban Ecology Teams.	Med	Capex/ Grant funding	Works program
Manage the request and installation of Memorials	Memorial art, tree plantings and plaques may be installed in accordance with Council's Policy (to be developed).	Med	OP	tbc

# 06 Action plans and objectives

## Urban Ecology

### Trees

#### Current description

Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course is comprised of approximately 57 different species and genus, with the prominent species being She Oak, Eucalyptus, Port Jackson Fig, Mangrove, River She Oak and Black Tea Tree. The species palette appears to be consistent with native tree species planted during the period of national identity between the 1970's and early 1980's. Consequently the age class of the majority of the existing trees is predominantly mature. Healthy Mangrove trees provide an essential ecosystem along the Cooks River foreshore whilst helping prevent erosion by stabilising sediments with their root system adaptation. The original tree planting layout is mainly in line with golf course landscaping design principles and limited to separating boundaries, fairways and adjacent trees.

1943 aerial imagery provides clues in relation to trees that still exist onsite to this day that may have greater historical significance. Such trees can be attributed to the plantings primarily around the main club house, most importantly the Norfolk Island Pine behind the main building and the Bull

Bay Magnolia to the left of the main building and possibly some Port Jackson Figs.

In 2015, an independent audit was undertaken by Homewood Tree Consultancy to assess 852 trees onsite. In 2017, 53 trees located across the site were removed due to defect symptoms, senescence and poor health. An additional 5 trees were

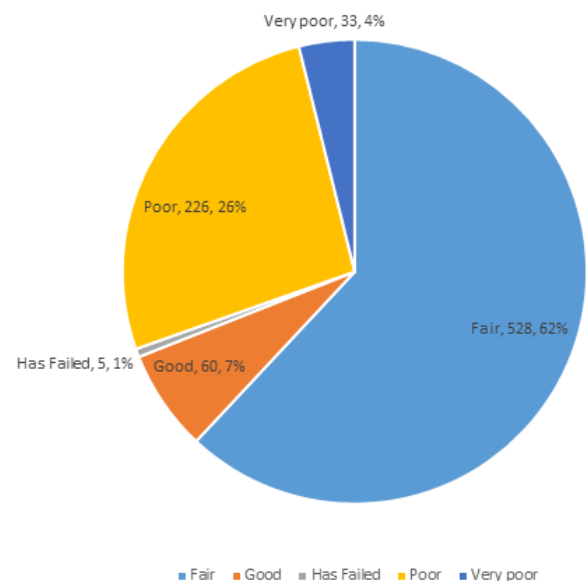


Figure 12 - Tree Structure

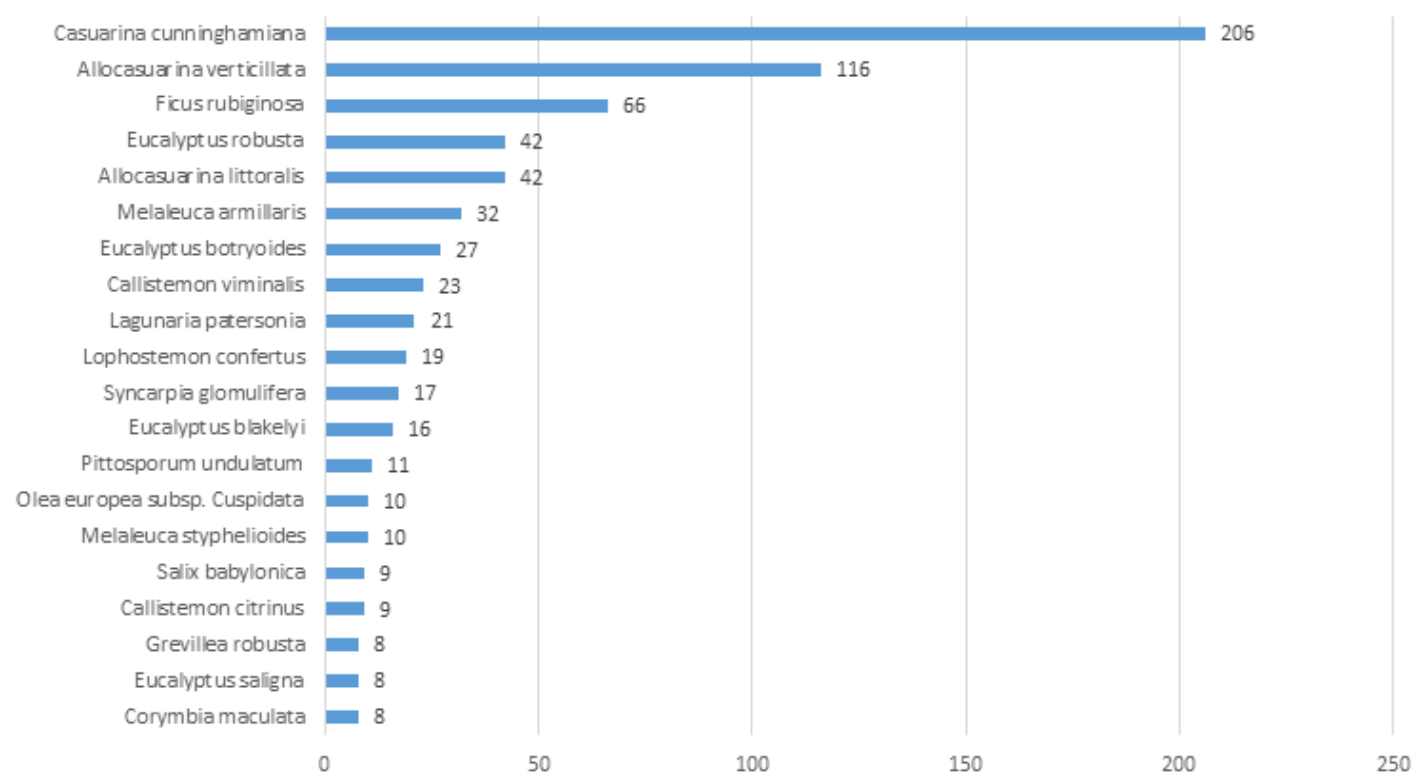


Figure 13 - Top 20 most represented species

# 06

## Action plans and objectives

### Urban Ecology cont.

converted into habitat trees to promote ecological habitat value and corridors. In 2018, 100 new native tree species were planted across the site to compensate for the loss of canopy, strengthen age diversity and maintain biodiversity values.

### Biodiversity and Water

#### Current Description

The golf course is situated on the Cooks River floodplain. Important remnant patches and representative plants of Mangrove, Salt marsh and Reeds, Floodplain Forest, Sandstone Forest, Sandstone Woodland and Sandstone Heath remain across the site.

Remnant plants include:

**Shrubs** – *Acacia suaveolens*, *Kunzea ambigua*

**Grasses, groundcovers and forbs** - *Atriplex australasiatica*, *Dianella longifolia*, *Dichelacne crinata*, *Hypericum gramineum*, *Microlaena stipoides*, *Sarcocornea quinqueflora*, *Sporobolus creber*, *Suaeda australis*, *Wahlenbergia gracilis*.

**Ferns** – *Cheilanthes sieberi*, *Gleichenia dicarpa*, *Hypolepis muelleri*

**Sedges and Rushes** – *Cyperus gracilis*, *Fimbristylis dichotoma*, *Juncus homalocaulis*, *Juncus kraussii*, *Juncus usitatus*, *Phragmites australis*

These remnant patches continue to have resilience despite historical pressures and with ongoing restoration and extension, they create important wildlife corridors and habitat stepping stones across the Cooks River Valley for an increasing number of local native fauna species. They are highly valued as seed sources for collection and propagation by Council with a number of species significantly, found nowhere else in the LGA. Plants propagated at Council's Community Nursery are put back into the four restoration sites across the golf course to increase species diversity and richness:

- Landcare site – Sandstone remnant with extension areas – regular ongoing restoration since 1997 by Council volunteer bushcare group
- Wave Rock site – Riparian and sandstone remnant with extension areas – regular ongoing restoration since 2013 by Council and Mudcrabs volunteer group

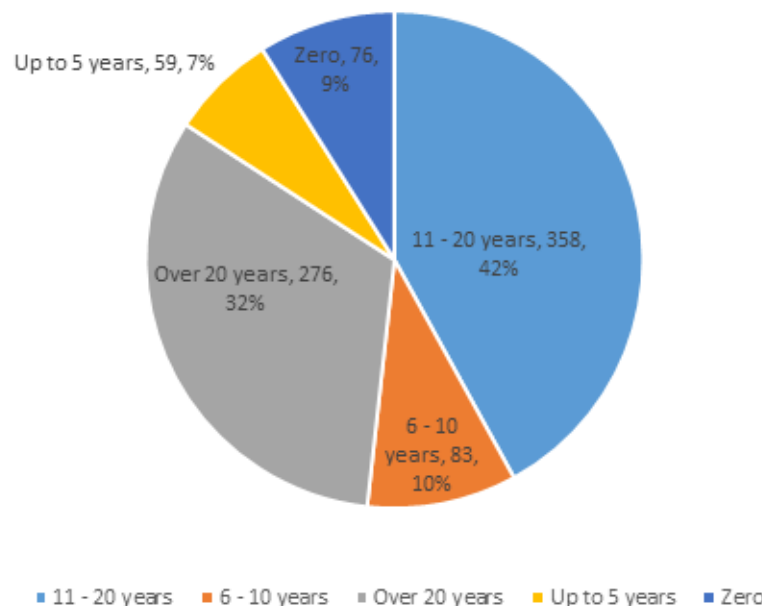


Figure 14 - Remaining life of tree species

- Beauchamp Street site – Sandstone remnant with extension areas – regular ongoing restoration since 2014 by Council and contractors
- Princes Street site – Sandstone and grassland remnant within a pocket park with extension areas – regular ongoing restoration since 2015 by Council and contractors.

Council works with both bush regeneration contractors and volunteers to care for these sites. Monthly volunteer working bees are held at the Landcare site through Council's bushcare program and Wave Rock site in partnership with Mudcrabs Eco Volunteers. In 2018 volunteers at both sites contributed 130 hours.

Both Marrickville Parklands and Dibble Avenue Waterhole are Priority Biodiversity Areas recognised for their high biodiversity values as identified and outlined in Marrickville Council's Biodiversity Strategy 2011-21.

The Dibble Avenue Waterhole was listed as a heritage item in 1999 as Marrickville's last remaining unfilled brick pit. The Statement of Significance was then updated in 2001 to acknowledge that: 'Its significance lies in its value as a rare inner city refuge for waterbirds'.

# 06

## Action plans and objectives

Restoration of the site began in 2009 using terracing and a diverse range of local native plants. The shrubby sandstone vegetation has established over time to provide stability on the slopes surrounding the freshwater wetland. The limited access provided by fencing around the site has provided sheltering, breeding and foraging resources for a range of local fauna species including significantly three species of frogs (Eastern Dwarf Tree Frog, Peron's Tree Frog and Striped Marsh Frog).

Increasingly, with ongoing urbanisation both the golf course and Dibble Avenue Waterhole are providing important habitat and connectivity for local native fauna including Threatened Species (Eastern Bentwing bat and Grey-headed Flying Fox). Over 63 native fauna species have been recorded at the sites including:

### Birds

- Australian Raven (*Corvus coronoides*)
- Australasian Figbird (*Sphecotheres vielloti*)
- Australasian Grebe (*Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*)
- Australian Magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*)
- Australian Raven (*Corvus coronoides*)
- Australian White Ibis (*Threskiornis molucca*)
- Australian Wood Duck (*Chenonetta jubata*)
- Azure Kingfisher (*Alcedo azurea*)
- Black-faced Cuckoo Shrike (*Coracina novaehollandiae*)
- Channel-billed Cuckoo (*Scythrops novaehollandiae*)
- Chestnut Teal (*Anas castanea*)
- Collared Kingfisher (*Todiramphus chloris*)
- Crested Pigeon (*Ocyphaps lophotes*)
- Dusky Moorhen (*Gallinula tenebrosa*)
- Eastern Koel (*Eudnamys orientalis*)
- Eastern Rosella (*Platycercus eximius*)
- Eurasian Coot (*Fulica atra*)
- Galah (*Eolophus roseicapilla*)
- Grey Teal (*Anas gracilis*)
- Hardhead (*Aythya australis*)
- King Parrot (*Alisterus scapularis*)
- Laughing Kookaburra (*Dacelo novaeguineae*)
- Little Black Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax*

*sulcirostris*)

- Little Corella (*Cacatua sanguinea*)
- Little Pied Cormorant (*Microcarbo melanoleucos*)
- Magpie-lark (*Grallina cyanoleuca*)
- Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*)
- Masked Lapwing (*Vanellus miles*)
- Noisy Miner (*Manorina melanocephala*)
- Pacific Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa*)
- Pied Currawong (*Strepera graculina*)
- Purple Swamphen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*)
- Rainbow Lorikeet (*Trichoglossus haematodus*)
- Royal Spoonbill (*Platalea regia*)
- Silvereye (*Zosterops lateralis*)
- Spangled Drongo (*Dicrurus bracteatus*)
- Spotted Pardalote (*Pardalotus punctatus*)
- Striated Heron (*Butorides striata*)
- Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (*Cacatua galerita*)
- Superb Fairy-wren (*Malurus cyaneus*)
- Tawny Frogmouth (*Podargus strigoides*)
- Welcome Swallow (*Hirundo neoxena*)
- White-faced Heron (*Egretta novaehollandiae*)
- Willy Wagtail (*Rhipidura leucophrys*)
- Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus funereus*)

### Bats

- Black Flying Fox (*Pteropus alecto*)
- Eastern Bentwing bat (*Miniopterus schreibersii oceanensis*)
- Gould's Wattled bat (*Chalinolobus gouldii*)
- Grey-headed Flying Fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*)
- Lesser Long-eared bat (*Nyctophilus geoffroyi*)
- Mormopterus redei (species 2)
- White-striped Freetail bat (*Tadarida australis*)

### Reptiles

- Blue-tongue Lizard (*Tiliqua scincoides*)
- Broad-tailed Gecko (*Phyllurus platurus*)
- Garden Skink (*Lampropholis delicata*)
- Eastern Water Dragon (*Itellagama lesueurii*)
- Eastern Water Skink (*Eulamprus quoyii*)

### Amphibians

- Eastern Dwarf Tree Frog (*Litoria fallax*)
- Peron's Tree Frog (*Litoria peronii*)
- Striped Marsh Frog (*Limnodynastes peroni*)
- Long-necked Turtle (*Chelodina longicollis*)

### Possums

- Common Brushtail Possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*)
- Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus peregrinus*)

# 06

## Action plans and objectives

### Urban Ecology cont.

The Cooks River has suffered greatly over time from the impacts of urbanisation in the catchment through loss of native vegetation, increased hard surfaces, pollution (stormwater, sewage, industrial and domestic waste), and rubbish dumping. These impacts have all contributed to a decline in water quality.

Cooks River Catchment Councils are working with community and other catchment stakeholders to improve the water quality of the river. Council is developing a Strategy for a Water Sensitive Community to help achieve a community that is 'water sensitive, with clean, swimmable waterways' (Community Strategic Plan).

The Marrickville Parklands and Dibble Avenue Waterhole and their ongoing maintenance and restoration are vital to improving water quality in the Cooks River.

### Relevant Biodiversity Legislation and Policies State

- Biosecurity Act 2015
- Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
- Coastal Management Act 2016
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Environment SEPP)
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management SEPP) 2018

### Relevant Water Legislation and Policies

- Fisheries Management Act 1994
- Water Management Act 2000 and Water Management Amendment Act 2014

### Inner West Council Local Government Strategies

- Inner West Community Strategic Plan, Our Inner West 2036
- Marrickville Council Strategy for a Water Sensitive Community 2012-2021
- Marrickville Council Biodiversity Strategy 2011-2019
- Marrickville Council Sustainable Irrigation Plan
- GreenWay Master plan 2018
- GreenWay Biodiversity Strategy 2012

### Relevant tree policies

- State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017;
- Marrickville Urban Forest Policy 2011;
- Open Space Inventory Report

### Vision

Maintain and increase Inner West's tree canopy and urban forest, and enhance biodiversity corridors

# 06

## Action plans and objectives

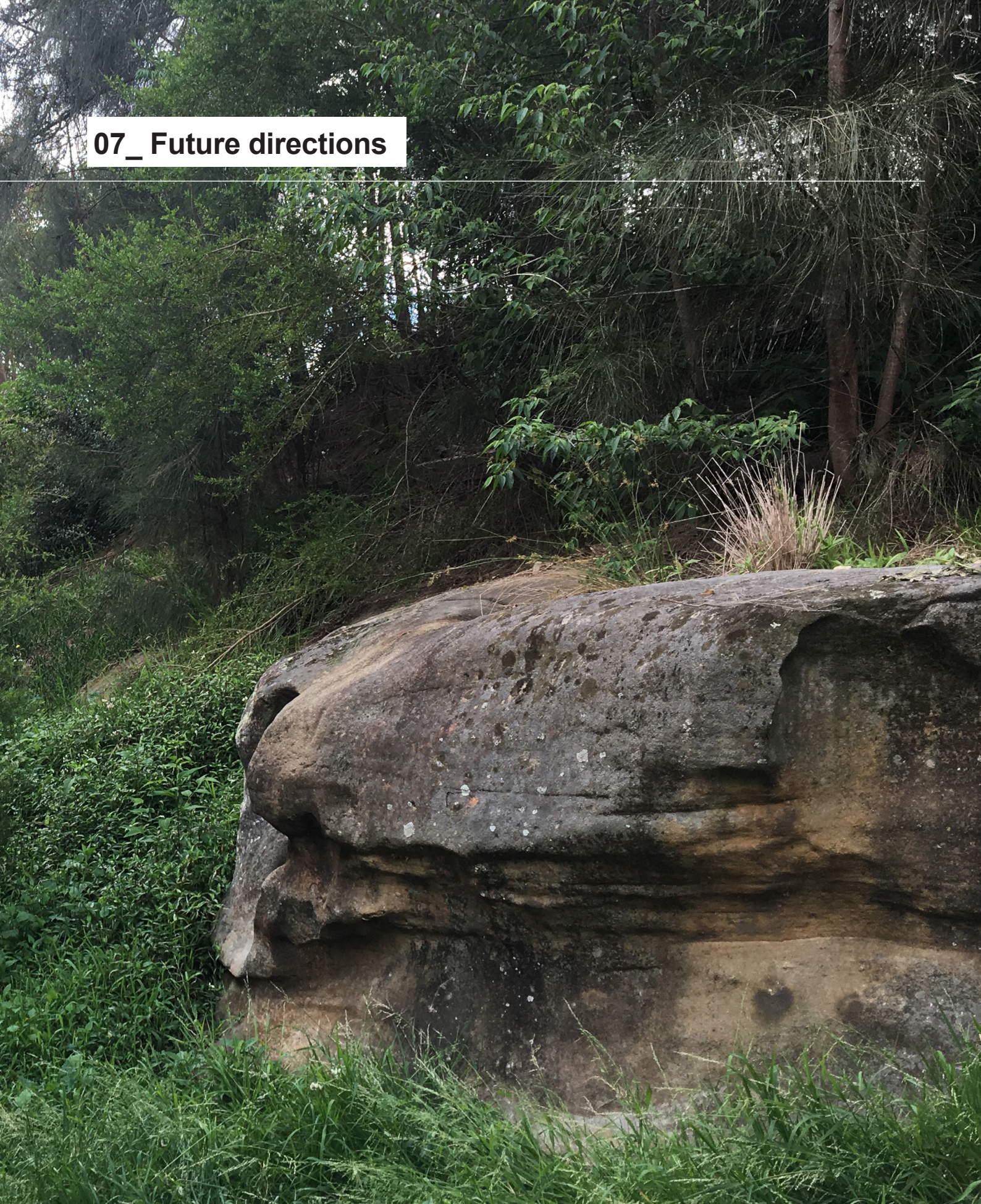
Objectives	Recommendations	Priority	Funding	Means of assessment
<p>Improve parkland tree establishment, habits and survival rates; - All tree Inspections are to be undertaken by an appropriately experienced and competent AQF level 5 arborist.</p>	Undertake a Level 1 limited visual assessment (in accordance with the ISA TRAQ methodology for managing large tree populations) once every 2-3 years as part of a proactive maintenance and inspection program. Any works identified by the assessment shall be undertaken by Marrickville Golf Club within a timeframe deemed as reasonable by the assessing tree management officer.	High	OP	Independent audit
	Establish an appropriate tree species palette that is suited to the environmental conditions of Cook River Valley. Where achievable, replacement tree species selection shall be native tree varieties and endemic to the Cooks River Valley ecosystem (refer to Section 2.18.13 of the MDCP2011)	High	OP	Works program
	Replace failing and aging tree stock as per the condition report and remaining tree life expectancy.	High	OP/ Capex	Works program
	Replace weed species once new planting are established.	Low	OP/ Capex	Works program
<p>Support and enhance the biodiversity values in the local area</p>	Improve the wider community's knowledge and understanding of good urban tree and forest management;	Med	OP	Community feedback
	Assist stakeholders in the planning, budgeting, implementation, and maintenance of tree planting by providing consistent guidance on suitable species, locations and planting patterns.	Med	OP	Stakeholder feedback
	Guide the decision making and provide a transparent and accountable processes for planting, maintenance, removal processes	High	OP	Independent audit
<p>To make the river, riparian area and floodplain resilient (adaptive and diverse) and contiguous.</p>	Provide long term protection of biodiversity values of the natural areas within the parklands and look for opportunities to increase vegetation cover as per Master Plan Option B, using mainly a diverse range of local and native species from pre-European vegetation communities as a reference.	High	OP/ Capex/ Grant funding	Independent audit
<p>To have successful Species - rich – abundant and diverse plant communities representative of Cooks River Valley Ecological communities</p>	Work with Council's community nursery for advice and sourcing of plants for select new plantings.	Low	OP/ Capex/ Grant funding	Works program
<p>Manage the amount of hard surfaces and infrastructure that will: - Cut connections between the River banks, riparian area and floodplain. - Further degrade habitat and refuge areas for wildlife through increased River access</p>	Utilise permeable paving for footpaths where appropriate when upgrading existing paths.	Med	OP/Grant funding	Planning consent
	Investigate cycle path options on existing roads within and adjacent to golf course to manage use and width of paths within the parklands to limit impacts on biodiversity areas and passive recreation/ reflection places	Med	OP/Grant funding	Planning consent



Marrickville Parklands. Photography by Inner West Council.

## 07\_ Future directions

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# 07

## Future directions

The Inner West population is growing and community expectations of what open space can provide at various times of the day/week is increasing. Conflict between some uses inevitably occurs and is likely to intensify over time. This conflict includes conflict between golfers and passive recreation, cyclists and pedestrians, urban bush care and off-leash areas etc.

As a result of major renewal projects, over the next ten years the area will undergo significant population growth and change, and increasing population density. This growth presents challenges and opportunities for Council to provide for the recreation needs of its community.

Over the next 10 years, the Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course will continue to become an integral part of the recreation and biodiversity fabric of the Inner West Local Government Area. Developments including the Greenway in the north and Cooks River Parklands in the south will improve connectivity to the Cooks River, Paramatta River, Marrickville Parklands and greater Sydney.



Sydney Park, St Peters

As a result of increased demand on public open space, Marrickville Parklands and Golf Course must be managed in a flexible and adaptive manner.



Prince Alfred Park, Surry Hills



Stadium Park and Chevron Parklands



Braithwaite Park Nature Play

# 07

## Future directions

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The Golf Course is an integral part of many residents fitness and social lives and provides an essential meeting point and gathering space for its members and residents.

Over the last 5 years, Marrickville Golf Club membership has dropped from 409 members to 368 members in 2017-2018. Inner West Council understands the benefit of encouraging the viability of the club and intends to work with the club through the appointment of the Office of Sport Coordinator or equivalent who will work closely with the club to improve membership and revenue within the club.

Nevertheless, Council has a responsibility to manage our finite open space and in 5 years propose to move from an 18 hole golf course (refer to Master Plan Option A) to a premium 9 hole golf course (refer to Master Plan Option B). It is anticipated that the reduced 9 hole golf course will be reconfigured to be more challenging for golfers. This is intended to appeal to both recreational and more serious golfing persons. Whilst the 9 hole course will take up more physical space than the current first 9 holes, it is considered important for providing a premium venue and balancing the needs of passive recreation, biodiversity, water management and sport.

The additional public open space would be utilised to provide new larger play spaces, informal passive recreation spaces, formalised picnic areas, biodiversity planting, additional water sensitive urban and an informal sportsground.