

Open Space and Recreation Strategy 2021–2031

Adopted April 2021

Acknowledgment

Waverley Council acknowledges the Bidjigal and Gadigal people who traditionally occupied the Sydney Coast and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

Our vision for reconciliation is for Waverley to be a vibrant, resilient, caring, and inclusive community where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples:

- Practice and celebrate their culture and heritage proudly;
- Are honored for their survival and resilience, and supported to continue to overcome adversity;
- Are respected and acknowledged as First Nations peoples with the right to determine their own futures.
- Demonstrate and celebrate their living culture and ongoing heritage proudly.

Waverley Council will continue to value and protect our environment with respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' intrinsic relationship with the land, water and sky.

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Our vision for open space and recreation

"Waverley's parks and reserves are available to everyone, supporting healthy and active lifestyles.

Our parks provide a green sanctuary by protecting and supporting biodiversity and provide an opportunity to implement the ongoing Aboriginal and traditional custodianship of land which forms our local government area.

Park design responds to the community's recreation and social aspirations while telling the story of the place, of today's generation and those before ours.

Spaces are welcoming, safe and well cared for. A sustainable approach to management allows future generations to enjoy these spaces."

TRUTH STILL

Executive Summary

Open and recreation space is an important asset for our community, contributing to our health and wellbeing. Waverley's parks, reserves, beaches and recreation facilities provide spaces for people to exercise, socialise and relax. These spaces also provide us with a connection to natural landscapes, which is increasingly important for the urban environments we live in.

Our community highly values open and recreation space:

- to access nature and greenery
- to walk the dog
- where children can play
- to play sport
- for the community and somewhere to connect with friends and family.

Our objectives

The Open Space and Recreation Strategy (OSRS) helps us to understand the priorities for open and recreation space planning and management to meet the needs of our community today and in the future. Open space is particularly important in Waverley considering it is a densely populated area of Sydney.

The OSRS has been developed in consultation with the community and is based on research and a review of the 79 open spaces across Waverley LGA.

Through this process we have established the current demand for open and recreation space, established the various groups that use these spaces, the activities they participate in and what their future needs will be.

This Strategy sets a road map for what needs to be done over the next 10 years to deliver our priorities. It will guide our activities in planning, managing and maintaining Waverley's parks, reserves, beaches and recreation facilities.

We need to continue to maintain high quality spaces, whilst respecting the environmental, biodiversity and heritage values of many of our parks and reserves. We also need to find a balance between the needs of the local community and the demands on the spaces driven by high visitation from across Sydney as well as nationally and internationally. This requires the provision of flexible spaces that can accommodate a mix of activities within the spaces we currently have, acknowledging the scarcity of new land available in Waverley.

Our Strategy

The Open Space and Recreation Strategy proposes the following key areas of focus for the next 10 years:

- increase the capacity of our current sports fields
- seek opportunities to lease or undertake agreements with potential partners in strategic locations to increase the provision of community recreation spaces and secure land currently used for open space and recreation to ensure its continued use for public recreation in the future
- improve the pedestrian environment around open and recreation spaces and way-finding for walking routes
- improve the provision of toilet and water bubbler facilities at sports fields and along the Cliff Walk
- establish a framework to support ongoing community and stakeholder engagement in the planning and management of open and recreation spaces
- complete heritage studies and heritage interpretation strategies to improve management of heritage in parks and reserves, prioritising Bronte Beach and Park, Tamarama Beach and Park, and Waverley Park
- prepare an open space network and classification to guide management and maintenance activities in relation to the expectations on activities, facilities and level of service for each space
- provide more areas for passive recreation activities including areas of quiet contemplation
- protect and enhance our natural heritage and biodiversity.

The Action and Implementation Plan (Section 4) prioritises actions and outlines indicators that Council can monitor to review the effectiveness of actions in achieving the Strategy vision.

The OSRS supports management of our open and recreation spaces to protect their important environmental and heritage values and guide maintenance activities so that the community has access to high quality spaces - encouraging physical activity and supporting mental wellbeing for our current community and future generations.



Introduction and Context

1

This section provides an introduction to the Open Space and Recreation Strategy (OSRS), outlines the value and benefits of open space and recreation and outlines the legislative and policy context for open space and recreation planning.

Introduction

The Waverley OSRS is a strategic document to guide our approach to planning and managing open space and recreation facilities, to best meet the community's needs for these spaces.

Our vision guides the strategic directions and actions to plan and manage open and recreation space.

In developing this OSRS we recognise the importance of parks, reserves, and recreation facilities in positively contributing to the health and wellbeing of individuals; community, culture and heritage; the environment and our planet's health; and distinct local character in Waverley.

The OSRS is presented through six themes:

- playing and relaxing
- design and setting
- getting to and around the parks
- enhancing the environment
- community, culture and heritage
- maintenance and management.

These six themes recognise the different aspects to planning and managing open and recreation spaces and the values these spaces have.

Scope

The OSRS covers the entire Waverley Local Government Area (LGA) and considers the provision of and demand for open space and recreation facilities. The Action and Implementation Plan focuses on parks, reserves and recreation facilities where Council has planning, management and maintenance responsibilities.

Refer to figure 1.2 for a list of the open spaces and recreation facilities included in the scope of the OSRS. This includes all parks, reserves, beaches, significant walking routes, and recreation facilities such as sports fields and outdoor and indoor courts. We also consider all support facilities for recreation, such as community halls in parks, barbecues and picnic facilities.

Urban plazas, private spaces, schools (private and government), spaces managed by neighbouring Randwick, Woollahra and the City of Sydney councils, and Queens Park and Centennial Park managed by the Centennial Parklands Trust are also open recreation spaces used by Waverley residents. These spaces are considered in the development of this OSRS, however the strategy does not direct planning and management of these spaces.

Definitions

Table 1.1 below outlines definitions for different types of open spaces and recreation facilities.

Park or reserve	Parks and reserves are open space and include beach parks, recreation facilities, gardens, small parks, the Coastal and Cliff Walks and dog off-leash areas. These spaces are available for organised and team sports or can be used casually for play in small groups, training and individual exercise, for places to meet and socialise, to relax in, or to walk through.
Recreation facility	Recreation facilities are used for sports activities. Recreation facilities include sports fields and ovals, indoor and outdoor courts, indoor recreation centres (like Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre), pools, and ancillary buildings such as toilets, change facilities, and grandstands. Recreation facilities are often used for organised and team sports.
Play space	Play spaces are areas that provide a play environment. This can include play equipment, grassed areas for ball games, trees to climb, planting to touch or smell, and paths to ride a scooter. Play spaces also include facilities for carers, such as seating and shade which are important in offering opportunities to gather, promoting social interactions and community cohesion.
Cemetery	Waverley Cemetery and South Head Cemetery are publicly accessible open spaces, with significant heritage value that are also used for walking and as quiet places for sitting.

Table 1.1 Definitions of open and recreation spaces

Methodology

This OSRS has been developed in consultation with the community and with input from key stakeholders. It is established on evidence based research, a review of background studies and best practice.

Figure 1.1 outlines the methodology for developing this Strategy.

Sections 2 and 3 of the Strategy presents the findings from the 'Assessment and Study' phase. The Action and Implementation Plan, in Section 4, presents the outcomes from the 'Strategy Development' phase.



Figure 1.1 Project methodology

Open space value and benefits

Open and recreation space provides health and wellbeing, environmental and economic benefits to individuals and the broader community. It also supports social and cultural life.

We have heard from the community and stakeholders that they value Waverley's parks and reserves. Of particular importance were the following:

- access to nature and greenery
- a place to walk the dog
- a place where children can play
- a place to play sport
- a place for the community and somewhere to socialise with friends and family.

We will deliver these values and benefits through the planning and management of our open and recreation spaces, providing safe spaces and places for all groups in the community.

Health and wellbeing benefits

Our environment has significant impacts on our health and wellbeing, it can shape our habits and affect our physiology by providing opportunities to be active. Green views can also positively influence our mental health.

The National Heart Foundation recognises the design and provision of open and recreation spaces and the right infrastructure creates opportunities that lead to more active, healthier lifestyles¹.

The opportunity for physical activity afforded through provision of open space and recreation can be a significant benefit to the health of individuals. Adults who participate in sport are 20-40% less likely to die prematurely from all causes compared to adults who do not participate². This also acknowledges how sport participation can reduce stress and distress.

Open and recreation space provision, their design and community interaction is often a focus of advocacy groups and governments to promote active and healthy lifestyles.

Environmental benefits

Open space acts as important green breaks in the urban environment. Maintaining and caring for these spaces is important to our planet's health. Our *Environmental Action Plan 2018-2030* recognises the role our parks and reserves play in urban ecology and biodiversity protection, managing water run off and improving water quality, and managing urban heat impacts. Open space supports a healthy environment that in turn benefits us.

Open and recreation space covers 12% of the LGA, including the golf course. In urban environments like Waverley, parks and reserves provide opportunities to design and manage habitat that supports biodiversity of flora and fauna³. With urbanisation, there is less than 2% of pre-European bushland remaining. The 5.99 hectares of remnant bushland in Waverley needs to be protected before it is lost forever⁴. Parks and reserves provide areas of land that are less exposed to risks of fragmentation and disturbance.

In their research of vegetation structure and composition across different urban green spaces, Threlfall et al. found that remnant bushland and golf courses supported the highest native plant richness⁵.

Open space provides opportunities for stormwater detention and support management of stormwater and water quality improvement before it flows to the ocean⁶. Harvested stormwater can also be used to irrigate parks and reserves.

The Greater Sydney Commission identifies increasing urban tree canopy as a way of addressing urban heat, with a long term goal of reducing the number of hot days over 35 degrees Celsius each year to protect human health and reduce extreme climate and weather event impacts⁷.

Economic benefits

The economic benefits associated with better health and wellbeing have been evaluated and proven through many pieces of well respected research. Health is a significant area of spending for governments and improved health outcomes in people alleviates stress on the public health system.

A study of the health benefits of public parks for residents of London established a relationship between public parks and the opportunities they provide for people to exercise, socialise, relax and feel part of a community⁸. These opportunities contribute to reduced disease risk for physical and mental health. Other research in the UK found that the health and wellbeing benefits of local parks and green spaces generates £30.24 in value per year⁹.

In a 2018 report, KPMG estimated the value of sport infrastructure for the Australian economy (footnote). According to this study, sports infrastructure contributes \$4.9 billion to the Australian economy in health benefits (eg, through reduced incidence of diseases and associated costs) and \$5.1 billion through social benefits (eg, economic benefits of improved community cohesion and reduced costs associated with social isolation). KPMG estimates that sport infrastructure directly contributes a further \$6.3 billion to the Australian economy through the construction, maintenance and operation of sport infrastructure, and through the increased productivity of workers who use the infrastructure for physical activity.¹⁰

Individuals who own property near open space may also experience financial benefits as homes in high amenity areas, such as transport, services, and open space, are more desirable and can fetch higher property prices¹¹.

¹ National Heart Foundation of Australia , 2019, Blueprint for an active Australia: National Heart Foundation of Australia

² Boston Consulting Group, 2017, Intergenerational Review of Australian Sport 2017.

³ http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/Guidelines-Creating-Bird-Habitats

⁴ Waverley Council, 2018, Environmental Action Plan 2018-2030 5 Threlfall CG, Ossola A, Hahs AK, Williams NSG, Wilson L and Livesley SJ, 2016, Variation in Vegetation Structure and Composition across Urban Green Space Types. Front. Ecol. Evol. 4:66. doi: 10.3389/fevo.2016.00066 6 Waverley Council, 2018, Environmental Action Plan 2018-2030 7 Greater Sydney Commission, 2019, Pulse of Greater Sydney

⁸ Vivid Economics, 2017, Natural capital accounts for public green space in London.

⁹ Fields In Trust, 2018, Revaluing Parks and Green Spaces: Measuring their economic and wellbeing value it individuals

¹⁰ KPMG, 2018, The Value of Community Sport Infrastructure, Australia 11 Herath, S, 2017, Home prices tell us the value the public puts on green spaces. The Conversation, 2 March 1-4

KEY

- 1. Waverley Park
- 2. Bondi Park
- 3. Bronte Park and Gully
- 4. Rodney Reserve
- 5. Tamarama Park and Gully
- 6. Diamond Bay Reserve
- 7. Marks Park
- 8. Hugh Bamford Reserve
- 9. Dudley Page Reserve
- 10. Barracluff Park
- 11. Varna Park
- 12. Eastern Reserve
- 13. Hunter Park
- 14. Thomas Hogan Reserve
- 15. Raleigh Street Reserve
- 16. Dickson Park
- 17. Calga Reserve
- 18. Clarke Reserve
- 19. Gareloch Reserve
- 20. Clemenston Park
- 21. Biddigal Reserve
- 22. Caffyn Park
- 23. Williams Park /
- Bondi Golf and Diggers Club
- 24. Kimberley Reserve
- 25. Wilga Street Reserve
- 26. Ray O'Keefe Reserve
- 27. Marlborough Reserve
- 28. Victoria Park
- 29. Macpherson Park
- 30. Weonga Reserve
- 31. Bondi Reserve

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- 32. Scarborough Crescent Bank
- 33. Fingleton Reserve
- 34. St James Street Reserve 68. Andrews Street Reserve 35. Faith Patterson Reserve 69. Glen Street Reserve 36. Simpson Park 70. Blair St and Wairoa Av Reserve 37. Hewlett Street Reserve 71. Jessie Street Reserve 38. Sam Fitzman Reserve 72. Fletcher Street Reserve 39. Warren Zines Reserve 73. Belgrave Street Reserve 40. Tipper Avenue Reserve 74. Palmerston Avenue Reserve 75. Murriverie Road Reserve 41. Wairoa Avenue Reserve 76. Bronte Rd and Macpherson St 42. Stephen Street Reserve 43. Gibson Street Reserve 77. Glenayr / Murriverie Rd Reserve 44. Dover Road Closure Split Level 78. Gararra Reserve 45. Forest Knoll Reserve 79. 15 Adelaide St 46. O'Donnell Street Reserve 47. Eora Reserve 14



Vaucluse

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6

In Waverley's context, parks and reserves have significant economic benefits to both the local economy as well as state and national economies due to the high visitation from domestic and international tourists to high profile destinations, such as Bondi Beach and Park, Bronte Beach and Park, Tamarama Beach and Park, and the Cliff Top and Coastal Walks. In 2017/18, tourists spent \$1 billion in Waverley and 4,867 jobs in Waverley were dependent on tourism¹².

The use of parks as a venue for events and hire also generates revenue for Waverley Council. These funds are used to offset the cost of managing events.

Social and cultural benefits

Open spaces also provide an opportunity for people to socialise, meet friends and connect with their local community¹³. Provision of quality, well-maintained public open space has a positive effect on the social cohesiveness of a community, vibrancy of neighbourhoods and mental wellbeing of individuals¹⁴.

For Indigenous Australians, land is fundamental to identity and is connected to people and culture. Some spaces such as fishing spots in Waverley are significant for these reasons. In addition, many open spaces in Waverley contain evidence of Aboriginal culture.

Conservation and story-telling not only shares knowledge but enriches our understanding of our history and culture.

Many of these stories are of people who have come before us or who we have lost, and whose contributions to our community are still relevant today.

Legislative and policy context

Waverley Council manages 79 parks and reserves, 14 sports fields and courts (indoor and outdoor), two outdoor pools, 39 play spaces and three beaches. This does not include the sports fields at Queens Park, within Waverley LGA, managed by the Centennial Parklands Trust.

The OSRS is the overarching strategic document that delivers on the open space and recreation vision in the Community Strategic Plan. The OSRS contextualises the various Plans of Management for specific places, the *Play Space Strategy*, and Council plans and policies that relate to open space and recreation. It will guide updates to Plans of Management and future plans.

The current *Waverley Recreation Needs Study (2008)* was completed twelve years ago. The OSRS supersedes this study and presents a new set of actions for the next ten years based on current and future open space and recreation needs. The 2008 study successfully guided: the upgrade of facilities at Waverley Park; improvement in management and maintenance of sport and recreation facilities; development of activities for seniors; and upgrade of play spaces.

The OSRS responds to NSW Government guidelines and strategic plans. Figure 1.3 shows the OSRS in relation to other state and local plans and policies.

¹² Waverley Council, 2018, Draft Waverley Sustainable Visitation Strategy 13 Jennings, V, Bamkole, O, 2019, The Relationship between Social Cohesion and Urban Green Space: An Avenue for Health Promotion, International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, vol 16 (452)

¹⁴ Kelly, J-F.; Breadon, P.; Davis, C.; Hunter, A.; Mares, P.; Mullerworth, D.; Weidmann, B., 2012, Social Cities, Grattan Institute, Melbourne.



Local planning



Council policies and guidelines



Council plans of management



Figure 1.3 Legislative and policy context

Waverley Open Space and Recreation Strategy

Commonweath and state legislation

Commonwealth and state legislation, and state planning policies apply to public open space. These documents guide what development can occur and the process that development in parks and reserves must follow. Some legislation and policies apply to spaces with environmental significance, such as coastal areas and bushland.

Part 1, section 2 of the *NSW Constitution Act 1902* recognises that Aboriginal people, as the traditional custodians and occupants of the land in New South Wales have a spiritual, social, cultural and economic relationship with their traditional lands and waters, and have made, and continue to make, a unique and lasting contribution to the identity of the State.

When managing open spaces, Council must comply with all relevant laws that apply to these spaces.

Local Government Act 1993 requires plans of management to be prepared for public land and reserves under the responsibility of local councils. Councils must manage community land in accordance with core objectives in the Act.

Crown Lands Management Act 2016 requires plans of management to be prepared for all public reserves. These plans of management need to be considered when preparing strategic land use plans for a locality and when assessing development or activities under the EP&A Act in relation to certain activities on or near Crown lands.

The Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act) governs planning and development assessment. Development and changes to activities in parks and reserves require development approval in accordance to the EP&A Act. Development is assessed against local development controls set out in the Waverley Local Environmental Plan 2012 and Waverley Development Control Plan 2012.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007 identifies works which are permitted in parks and public reserves, such as pathways and roads, information facilities, lighting, landscaping, amenities and environmental management works.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes 2008) identifies exempt and complying development and a streamlined assessment process for this development. Exempt development includes works such as compliant access ramps, play equipment, fences, bollards, paths, barbecues and signs.

Coastal Management Act 2016 No 20 legislates management of the coastal environment of NSW.

State Environment Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018 guides development in coastal areas, including land adjacent to beaches, estuaries, coastal lakes, coastal wetlands and littoral rainforest's.

State Environmental Planning Policy 19 – Bushland in Urban Areas guides management of bushland. Parks in Waverley contain bushland covered by this Policy, where vegetation is either a remainder of the natural vegetation of the land or is representative of the natural vegetation. **The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1992** applies to buildings and outdoor spaces. This Act recognises the importance of providing equality, dignity and independence to people with a range of abilities and requires provision of access to premises without discrimination.

The Companion Animals Act 1998 requires environmental initiatives by Councils to promote responsible animal ownership. This Act applies to areas of dog walking which is popular in many of Waverley's parks.

State policies and guidelines

The Government Architect NSW's **Greener Places** (Draft) establishes the NSW Government position that green infrastructure is an important element of our built environments. The policy seeks to elevate the importance of green infrastructure and guide planning, delivery and management of green infrastructure.

The **Open Space for Recreation Guide** (Draft), also prepared by the Government Architect NSW, sets a framework and guidance for open space planning for recreation. The guide introduces a performance-based approach to planning and providing open space for outdoor recreation opportunities.

The NSW Department of Education's **Community Use of School Facilities Policy** outlines the NSW Government's commitment to allow community use of facilities on school grounds. This presents an opportunity to leverage more use out of facilities, such as courts and fields located on public school grounds.

Metropolitan planning

The following regional and metropolitan plans provide a broad strategic framework for Greater Sydney and identify livability and sustainability objectives that relate to open space planning.

Greater Sydney Region Plan: A Metropolis of Three Cities directs land use and transport patterns to support livability, productivity and sustainability in Greater Sydney. Objectives that relate to open space planning are:

- Objective 25. The coast and waterways are protected and healthier
- Objective 27. Biodiversity is protected, urban bushland and remnant vegetation is enhanced
- Objective 28: Scenic and cultural landscape is protected
- Objective 31. Public open space is accessible, protected and enhanced.

The Eastern City District Plan provides the district-level directions for local planning to deliver on the vision of the Greater Sydney Region Plan. Priorities relating to open space planning are Planning Priority E18. Delivering high quality open space.

Local planning context

The draft *Waverley Local Strategic Planning Statement* 2019 (LSPS) outlines a strategic planning vision for Waverley, in alignment with the Waverley Community Strategic Plan 2018-2029, and identifies key planning priorities, actions and mechanisms to deliver on the vision. The LSPS outlines how metropolitan planning priorities will be delivered at a local level. Once finalised, the LSPS will guide the review and update of the Waverley Local Environmental Plan 2012 (WLEP 2012) and Waverley Development Control Plan 2012 (WDCP 2012).

The Waverley Community Strategic Plan 2018-2029 is Council's overarching strategic plan. This guides Council in responding to change, challenges, and opportunities in a consistent, sustainable, and coordinated way. The Community Strategic Plan sets two goals for open space:

- Improve health and quality of life through a range of recreational opportunities and quality open spaces
- Expand the network of parks and open spaces, sporting and recreational facilities.

The Waverley Local Environmental Plan 2012 (WLEP 2012) identifies and classifies land for open space and recreation, and land with environmental or heritage significance. WLEP 2012 makes provision for development of land within the coastal zone for the purpose of implementing the principles in the NSW Coastal Policy.

The Waverley Development Control Plan 2012 (WDCP 2012) identifies development controls for residential and commercial development, and for specific sites. This includes design controls relating to the bulk, scale, and size of development and controls that manage amenity impacts of development, such as overshadowing and view loss. WDCP 2012 protects solar access of parks and reserves from adjacent development.

People, Movement and Places (2017) is Council's transport strategy. It identifies 12 projects to prioritise pedestrians and active transport and improve the way people can move around the LGA, particularly at key destinations such as centres, parks, reserves and beaches.

The Waverley Play Space Strategy 2014-2029 guides planning and management of Council's 39 play spaces. The Play Space Strategy sets a vision for play spaces and helps prioritse the maintenance and replacement programs for play spaces.

The Waverley Strategic Asset Management Plan 5 (SAMP) identifies programs for renewal, expansion, operation and maintenance of Council's assets, including parks, reserves and Council owned recreation facilities, and the budget allocations for these activities. Development of the SAMP is a requirement for NSW local governments and is regularly reviewed and updated.

The Waverley Environmental Action Plan (EAP) 2018-2030 identifies goals and key deliverables for Council to achieve positive environmental outcomes for the LGA. The EAP identifies actions for the management of bushland and water, influencing management practices for Waverley parks and reserves.

Disability Inclusion - An Inclusive Community for Everyone (The Randwick and Waverley Regional Disability Inclusion Framework 2017-2021) is Council's commitment to creating a more inclusive community and identifies actions to improve the accessibility of public spaces, including Council facilities, parks and beaches.

Waverley Council Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) 2019-2021 provides a framework for advancing reconciliation within Waverley, and will keep us accountable and ensure we are working towards a vibrant, resilient, caring and inclusive community.

Council policies and guidelines

We have a number of policies that guide the management of different activities across Council parks and reserves.

Commercial and large group activities in parks and reserves typically require either permits or approval from Council. Activities on Crown land require leases and licenses. Plans of management for these spaces will identify the types of activities that are allowed. This is so the impacts of these activities on public spaces and other users of these spaces are managed.

The following policies guide the management of activities on Council land, including in parks and reserves:

- Outdoor Market Operations in Public Places Policy
- Events Policy, and Event Management and Delivery Guidelines
- Commercial Fitness Groups and Personal Trainers Policy on the use of Council reserves.

Council plans of management

Council is required to have plans of management in place for public land and reserves under its responsibility. Under the *Crown Lands Management Act 2016*, plans of management will need to be prepared for the following parks which are not currently covered by an existing plan of management:

- Calga Reserve
- Glenayr Reserve (Murriverie Road Playground)
- Marlborough Reserve
- Onslow Street Reserve
- St James Reserve
- Stephen Street Reserve
- Weonga Reserve.

Council has resolved to prepare the following Plans of Management to capture all of our parks and reserves:

- Bondi Park, Beach and Pavilion Plan of Management
- Bronte Beach and Park Plan of Management
- Waverley Park Plan of Management
- Tamarama Park Plan of Management
- Plan of Management for Parks (for all other parks including Thomas Hogan Reserve and Barracluff Park)
- Coastal and Cliff Top Parks (to include Rodney Reserve, Raleigh Reserve, Weonga Reserve, Diamond Bay Reserve, Clarke Reserve and Eastern Reserve)
- Waverley Cemetery and South Head Cemetery Plan of Management (new).



Existing Open Space and Recreation Facilities

2

This section provides an overview of the Waverley LGA context and community profile and an outline of the different types of open and recreation spaces, activities and users of these spaces in Waverley. This section also presents the six strategy themes: playing and relaxing; design and setting; getting to and around the parks; enhancing the environment; community, culture and heritage; maintenance and management.

Regional context

Waverley LGA is in the Eastern City District, less than 10 kilometres east of the Sydney CBD, along the coastline (figure 2.1).

According to the Greater Sydney Commission's *Eastern City District Plan* aligning growth with infrastructure is a challenge, with an expected increase of 325,050 people by 2036. The Eastern City District will be home to 19% of Greater Sydney's population.

Population growth and residential development will place pressure on beaches, parks and public spaces, particularly where space is constrained. In this context, the provision of open and recreation space, and protection of our beaches and urban bushland needs to be innovative.

Regional open space and recreation facilities

Regional facilities are typically larger facilities that the public can access. They have a catchment area that is greater than the LGA. Figure 2.1 shows regional facilities for eastern Sydney and the range of sports and activities that can be played at these facilities.

Waverley residents and local sporting clubs also access regional parks and recreation facilities located outside Waverley LGA.

A broader regional view of open space and recreation is important, particularly in eastern Sydney where people have access to large regional recreation facilities. Queens Park, Moore Park, Christenson Park, and significant parklands such as Centennial Park and the Royal Botanic Gardens service a large catchment of residents in the Eastern City District.

Allowing Waverley residents to access this regional network of open space and recreation facilities is important as land for new spaces within Waverley LGA can be more difficult to come by.

Collaboration between councils and other open space and facilities managers such as the Centennial Parklands Trust is important for the planning and management of these spaces.

Waverley LGA overview

Waverley LGA is the location of some of Australia's most iconic beaches and parks and attracts a large number of international and local tourists. Parks and open spaces are key draw cards, for Waverley's residents as well as the visitors they attract. These opportunities become particularly important in such a highly urbanised environment.

Waverley LGA covers an area of 920 hectares and is located in the inner east of Sydney. The LGA is bounded by Woollahra LGA in the north, City of Sydney LGA in the west, and Randwick LGA in the south. The Australian eastern coastline forms the eastern boundary of Waverley LGA.

In 2018, the residential population was of 74,114 people¹. Waverley's growth is expected to be steady over the next 10 years, however population density is high compared to the average for Greater Sydney, with 80.16 people per hectare in the LGA compared to 4.29 in Greater Sydney.

The provision of open and recreation space per 1,000 people is lower in Waverley (1.5 ha per 1,000 people) compared to adjacent Randwick and Woollahra LGAs². Provision of open and recreation space is comparable to the City of Sydney LGA where population density is comparable.

With a large proportion of Waverley residents living in high density dwellings, access to public open space is particularly important.

Alongside residents, there are 2.2 million international and domestic tourists visiting Bondi annually. An estimated 700,000 people visited the coast walk (along the Bronte Calga Cutting section) in 2018.

In this context, existing open space and recreation facilities can be stretched to service demand from residents and visitors. The quality of spaces and efficient use of space therefore becomes increasingly important.

2 Calculation of open and recreation space excludes national parks and land occupied by golf courses. Randwick LGA has approximately 3 ha per 1,000 residents and Woollahra has approximately 1.7 ha per 1,000 people

^{1 2018} Estimated Residential Population, profile id



Figure 2.1 Recreational facilities within the region

Waverley community profile

This community profile allows us to identify key characteristics and needs of the Waverley community so that we understand how the community may use open and recreation spaces. This section of the report is mainly based on 2016 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census data unless otherwise specified.

Residential population

In 2018, the estimated residential population of Waverley LGA was 74,114¹. By 2031, the residential population of Waverley LGA is projected to grow to 76,450 (2,336 more residents)².

Growth in Waverley LGA is expected to be slow and incremental with 6% population increase over the next 10 years (to 2031). Over the next 20 years, Waverley is expecting an increase of 5,050 people (7% growth between 2016 and 2036). In comparison, this is less than what is anticipated for Greater Sydney (37% increase in population over the same period). Population growth in the next ten years in Waverley will be less than what was experienced in the past ten years.

The residents of Waverley LGA are generally quite young, with almost 47% of residents aged between 20 and 45 years of age in 2016.

The 30 to 34 years age group was the largest age group in 2016 and will remain the largest in 2026. In 2026, it is projected that there will be a slight increase in the proportion of residents in older age groups (12% to 13.5% proportion of residents 65 years plus) and younger age groups (increase from 20% to 22% proportion of residents 0 to 20 years in age) (figure 2.2). Demand for open space and recreation facilities may vary across different age groups and different areas in the LGA (Figure 2.3). Children typically aged up to 10 years old are regular users of play spaces, while school aged children regularly use sports fields and courts as part of school or participation in sporting club activities. People over the age of 75 years may participate in more community and social based activities such as, swimming and passive recreation (refer to section 3 for more detail).

Socio-demographic profile

Based on 2016 ABS Census date, Waverley LGA recorded a steady growth in its median weekly family income. Over this period, the median income increased by 60%, from \$1,446 to \$2,308 per week.

The 2016 median weekly family income is 47% higher than Greater Sydney's median income and 16% higher than Sydney LGA's median income, indicating that the Waverley residents are relatively high-income earners.

Approximately 45% of households in Waverley LGA are high income households, compared to 13% of households being low income households³ (figure 2.5).

Based on the ABS 2016 Socio-Economic Indexes for areas, Waverley LGA are of low disadvantage compared to NSW⁴.

Cost is typically a barrier to participation in sports and recreation activities. Higher incomes provide households with the ability to spend more time and money on leisure and recreation activities and to participate more regularly in group or organised sports. Higher income households also have a greater ability to purchase sporting equipment and pay for club membership fees. The Waverley community may therefore be more likely to participate in a broad range of activities and expect access to high quality facilities.



Figure 2.2 Waverley LGA population by age group, 2016 Census compared with 2031 Projection (source: Department of Planning and Environment Population Projections & Australian Bureau of Statistics Census 2016)

1 Australian Bureau of Statistics (2018), Quarterly Population Estimates (ERP) by LGA $\,$

2 Department of Planning and Environment (2016), 2016 New South Wales State and Local Government Area population and household projections. Sydney, NSW. 3 Based on the ABS Census 2016 and information presented in profile id. by .id, the population experts. Measure of weekly household income, and excludes count of households where income was not stated. 4 2016 SEIFA index



Figure 2.3 Where different age groups live, by suburb

Children are more likely to participate in out of school hours sport if they are from a high income family (84% participation), than children from a low income family (58% participation)¹.

Though cost is less likely to be a barrier to participation in sports and recreation activities for a large proportion of households in Waverley, it is still important that free or cheap access to sports and recreation opportunities are maintained to provide opportunities for all households.

1 AusPlay Focus: Children's Participation in Organised Physical Activity Out of School Hours, April 2018

Households

The predominant type of households in Waverley LGA in 2016 are family households (61% of all households, not counting visitors only and non-classifiable households), followed by lone person households (28% of all households). Of the family households, couples only and couples with children make up the greatest proportion of households.

A similar break down of different household types is expected in 2026, see figure 2.5. Between 2016 and 2026, lone person households (currently 28% of households in 2016) are expected to experience the greatest increase in number of households with a 65% increase, followed by single parent households, a 42% increase. Couple only households are expected to decrease by 1%, see figure 2.5.



Figure 2.4 LGA Median household income 2006 to 2016, comparing neighbouring LGAs (source: ABS Census 2006, 2011, 2016)



Figure 2.5 Breakdown of Waverley household types, 2006 and 2031 (source: Department of Planning and Environment Population and Household Projections)

Both lone households and households with children are expected to require more open space and public spaces where people can interact, particularly where the size of houses are decreasing and people spending less time at home. This could mean more demand for both formal and informal play spaces, more demand for public parks and spaces for meeting and/or eating, and even more outdoor spaces that provide for quiet spaces and reflection.

Population density

The population density in Waverley LGA is higher than neighbouring Woollahra and Randwick LGAs, based on the number of people living in the LGA compared to the land area. Population density is slightly lower when compared to the City of Sydney.





Worker population

In 2016, the Waverley LGA worker population was 24,340 persons. The biggest employer is retail trade (16% of total workers), followed by health care and social assistance (13% of total workers).

Most workers live less than 5 kilometres from work. The most common method of travel to work in 2016 is by car, accounting for 41% of trips by workers, followed by public transport (31% of trips).

Visitors

Our parks also see a high level of visitation by tourists, including tour buses visiting our beaches and areas offering coast and city views. Despite the high visitation statistics, Council survey data suggests that our parks, including beach parks, are most frequented by locals of Waverley.

Approximately 2.6 million visitors visited Bondi a year. Of these 1.7 million were international visitors accounting for 38% of all international visitors to NSW¹. The top activities of domestic visitors were eating out at restaurants and cafés (70%) and going to the beach (51%). The number of international and domestic visitors have grown steadily over the past four years, with a total increase of 17%.

With increasing use of social media platforms such as Instagram, there is a noticeable rise in people visiting parks and cliff lines to take 'selfies'. The natural coastal and outdoor setting within access to the city has made this kind of activity very popular. This behaviour does present some challenges in the design of spaces to allow photo opportunities that do not compromise native vegetation or safety.

Housing and employment growth

New development over the next ten years will be focused in and around key centres, such as Bondi Junction. It is anticipated that there will be some incremental growth throughout Waverley LGA through the redevelopment of existing housing.

1 Destination NSW Bondi Tourism Precinct: Visitor Profile for year ended March 2019

Open space and recreation facilities in

Waverley

Parks and reserves provide green spaces and natural environments, which are breaks within the urban environment. These are spaces for walking and relaxing, as well for playing. Figure 2.8 provides a snapshot of these different spaces. Figure 2.7 outlines the range of activities Sydneysiders enjoy doing in parks and outdoor spaces¹, which is similar to what the Waverley community told us they enjoy.

Waverley is unique with a network of open space and walking paths and passive recreation along the coastline, known as the Coastal Walk and Cliff Top Walk (figure 2.13). There are eight parks that provide dog off-leash areas.

Playing and relaxing

This section outlines the range of recreation facilities located in open spaces in Waverley. This section also presents the user groups and activities that these spaces support.

Waverley Council owns and manages:

- seven sports fields and ovals (for soccer/football, Australian Rules Football, rugby, cricket)
- three outdoor multipurpose courts (for netball, basketball, tennis)
- three outdoor netball courts
- one indoor multipurpose center (with one courts for netball, basketball, futsal and volleyball)
- two ocean pools at North Bondi and Bronte
- thirty-nine play spaces for children of all ages, including a scooter / bike track and skate park
- seven outdoor fitness stations
- ten indoor venues, including the Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre at Waverley Park and community halls. Community groups and sports clubs can hire these spaces for indoor activities such as yoga, pilates, community meetings and small events.

Figure 2.10 shows the range of recreation facilities in and around Waverley and the variety of sports that can be played in these spaces.

There are other regional facilities located outside the LGA that service Waverley residents. The nearest are Christison Park in Vaucluse and Centennial and Queens Parks.

Christison Park to the north of Waverley is within Woollahra LGA and provides fields, courts and cricket pitches an exercise station a timed dog off-leash area and amenities.

Centennial Parklands to the south west of Waverley provides extensive parklands, picnic areas, playgrounds and regional sporting facilities. The Parklands include Centennial Park, Moore Park and Queens Park.

Queens Park located within Waverley LGA but managed by the Centennial Parklands Trust. It provides sports fields, play spaces, and an outdoor fitness station. Privately owned facilities, such as bowling clubs, tennis courts, gyms, sports courts, and indoor/ outdoor swimming pools, also provide Waverley residents with recreation opportunities.

Table 2.1 shows the range of user groups and the activities these users participate in across our parks and reserves. The views of these user groups are captured through various engagement activities and surveys Council conducts regularly.

Council supports recreation in Waverley and various community and sporting groups by:

- venue hire grants for community groups
- waiving fees for hirers such as WAYS, to provide a youth basketball program
- partnering and supporting application for small community grants
- Community Grants Program, to support community run programs for older people, young people, children and families, multicultural community, people with disabilities
- supporting neighborhood events
- providing spaces for community gardens.

Council also runs programs and activities supporting physical activity and recreation. Recreation programs Waverley Council provides include:

- Active over 50's program: activities to help improve both physical and mental health. Offers table tennis, tai chi, pilates, yoga, balance and strength
- Mind Body Wellness and social support program for 55+: offers fitness and wellbeing classes such as yoga, tai chi, Pilates, jazzercise, fitness classes. Also offer educational and social support programs such as language classes, hobbies such as arts and crafts, bowls, scrabble etc. Also offer discounted podiatry, massage, reflexology, Bowen therapy and haircuts

School holiday programs.



Figure 2.7 Most popular activities in parks and outdoor spaces Greater Sydney Outdoors Study 2019)

¹ NSW Department of Planning and Environment, 2019, Greater Sydney Outdoors Study 2019



Figure 2.8 Snapshot of open and recreation spaces managed by Waverley Council

User group	Spaces used	Key issues
Sporting groups and clubs	 Waverley Park Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre Barracluff Park Dudley Page Reserve Hugh Bamford Reserve Rodney Reserve Queens Park 	Bookings of Waverley's sports fields and courts are close to full capacity, particularly during the winter season when football/ soccer and netball is traditionally played. Sporting groups and clubs use fields and courts for matches as well as for training throughout the week, particularly on weekday afternoons and evenings and on weekends. Higher grade and larger facilities at Waverley Park, Queens Park (though not managed by Council) and Hugh Bamford Reserve are generally preferred.
Commercial group fitness and community groups	 Parks outlined in the Fitness Trainers Policy Council indoor venues 	 Private groups can apply for permits to use parts of parks and reserves and/ or hire indoor venues for training activities. It is important that private group activities in parks and reserves do not impact on public access or damage spaces. Council-run programs, particularly for seniors, are popular. Popularity in these programs is expected to continue as the population chooses to continue living in Waverley as they get older.
Casual players	Large parks and reservesBeaches	Residents and visitors to Waverley visit parks and reserves to play a casual games or train privately. Beaches are also areas where people go to play beach volley ball casually. Maintaining safe and easy to access turn up and play facilities is important for casual players.
Recreational and dog walking, relaxing, socialising	 All parks and reserves Coastal and Cliff Top Walks Waverley Cemetery 	Many residents and visitors to Waverley enjoy walking through the parks and reserves and along green links. There are approximately 10,000 dogs in Waverley LGA. Residents with dogs value the space that parks and reserves provide for their dogs to get some activity, particularly dedicated dog off-leash areas. It is often reported that dogs off-leash run through playgrounds, creating conflict with children playing.
Families and children	All parks and reservesPlay spaces	Play spaces are popular with families with children.
Tourists and visitors	 Bondi Park Bronte Park Tamarama Park Coastal and Cliff Top Walks Diamond Bay Reserve 	Surveys show that Waverley's beaches and Coastal and Cliff Top Walks are becoming more popular with 2.2 million visitors visit Bondi and the Coastal Walk annually. Waverley's cliffs are becoming popular spots for people to visit and take pictures. We need to identify the risks involved with people visiting these areas and manage access to protect people's health and safety.
Rock climbers	 Parks along the cliff line and beach parks Queens Park 	The rock face is popular for rock climbers. We need to identify the risks involved with people visiting these areas and manage access and allowance of activities to protect people's health and safety.
Water sports and rock fishing	 Diamond Bay Reserve Bondi Beach Tamarama Beach Bronte Beach 	Water-based sports (swimming, surfing, boating, kayaking), fishing, and rock fishing are popular activities off the coast. The Ben Buckler Amateur Fishing Club has been located at North Bondi for decades. We need to provide safe access to the water for people to participate in these activities.
Events participants	 Bondi Beach and Park Bronte Beach and Park Tamarama Beach and Park Dudley Page Reserve 	 Events at Waverley attract an increasing number of visitors. This creates pressures on spaces to accommodate for larger crowds and demand on infrastructure, such as transport, food and beverage, and amenities. Key events in Waverley over the year include: Open-air Cinemas - Bondi Park (January-February) Bondi Festival - Bondi Park (July) City2Surf - Bondi Beach (August) The Festival of the Winds - Bondi Beach and Park (September) Sculpture by the Sea - Bondi Beach to Tamarama Beach (October/November) New Years Eve - Dudley Page Reserve (31 December)

Table 2.1 Different user groups of Waverley's open and recreation spaces

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Waverley Open Space and Recreation Strategy



Figure 2.9 Waverley's open spaces, private recreation and streetscape verges

Organised and team sports

Waverley Council provides fields, outdoor courts, and indoor courts at the Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre (see table 2.2 and figure 2.10), which support a range of sports.

Waverley Council provides three competition-level fields while Queens Park, managed by the Centennial Parklands Trust, provides 16 competition level fields.

In addition, there are four training fields, three outdoor netball courts, and three outdoor multipurpose courts located throughtout the LGA.

Neighbouring Centennial Park and Christison Park are located outside Waverley LGA, however provide Waverley residents access to additional facilities for organised and team sports. Centennial Park provides nine fields, one oval, cricket pitches, and amenities for rugby, soccer/football, AFL and cricket. Christison Park provides three fields, one hockey field, one oval, three cricket pitches and amenities that can be used for rugby, soccer/football, touch football, hockey and cricket.



Waverley Field 2 (synthetic surface), Waverley Park

Sport ovals and fields

sport ovais and neids				1				
Reserve / Site Name	Fields	Size	Support Facilities	Irrigation	Parking	Condition description	Linemarking	Lighting
Waverley Park Oval and Cricket wicket	1	115 x 70m	toilets in park	Yes	on street	grass - good turf - good	yes	yes
Waverley Park Field 2	1	100 x 68m	toilets in park	n/a	on street	synthetic - excellent	yes	yes
Waverley Park Field 3	1	50 x 50m	toilets in park	Yes	on street	grass - worn, pot holes	no	yes
Waverley Park Cricket nets (including 4 synthetic cricket nets with grass runnup)	1			n/a	on street	good		
Barracluff Park	0.5	73 x 47m	none	Yes	on street	grass - good	yes	yes
Dudley Page Reserve	1	90 x 55m	cricket pitch (synthetic)	n/a	on street	grass - good	no	no
Hugh Bamford Reserve	0.5	70 x 50m	none	Yes	15 space carpark	grass - good	yes	one side of field
Rodney Reserve	1	100 x 70m	none	Yes	on street	grass - good	yes	no
Queens Park (including 9 soccer fields, 2 soccer / football fields, 5 touch football fields, 9 synthetic cricket wickets, 2 natural turf wickets)		various	storage, toilets, change and kiosk	,	on street	grass - good	yes	no

Sport courts

30

Reserve / Site Name	Courts	Support Facilities	Parking	Condition Description	Linemarking	Lighting
Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre	1	toilets, kiosk, storage, changing rooms, first aid	on street	rubber sprung floor, good condition	yes	yes
Waverley Park lower level netball courts	3	toilets, storage, Amenity Hall	on street and St Marys Avenue	concrete base, synapave topping layer, good condition	yes	yes
Waverley Park upper level multi purpose courts	3	toilets, storage, Amenity Hall	on street and St Marys Avenue	concrete base, plexipave topping layer, good condition	yes	yes
Blair Street Basketball Court	1	none	on street	concrete base, good condition	yes	no

Table 2.2 Active recreation facilities in Waverley LGA

Waverley Open Space and Recreation Strategy



Figure 2.10 Existing active recreation facilities and spaces

Spaces for public hire and toilet blocks

In addition to our sports fields and courts we provide 10 indoor venues that can be hired by groups for activities such as dance, tai chi and yoga. Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre, Kimberley Reserve Hall, Thomas Hogan Reserve Hall and Hugh Bamford Reserve Hall are generally more suitable for recreation activities, while the other venues can be used for small group and social activities.

Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre (MWRC) is a multipurpose recreation centre located in Waverley Park. The centre was built in 2012 and comprises an indoor sports court, club room, community room, commercial kitchen, change rooms and restrooms, storage space, a café and a grandstand overlooking Waverley Oval.

While the indoor multi-purpose court is mainly used for basketball, floorball, futsal and netball. The community room and club room are mainly used for yoga, Pilates, tai chi, meetings and seminars.

Based on booking data, the multi-purpose court is nearly used at capacity year-round, particularly during peak times (weeknights and weekends). The community room and club room have sufficient capacity to meet a greater demand if required.

The Bondi Pavilion is currently being renovated. At its reopening the new building will accommodate a visitor centre, a new flexible cultural space, the 'Bondi Story Room' where the history of the local area will be on show, a pottery studio, art gallery, theatre and a community radio station.

The Pavilion will also have a range of rooms available for hire including two community halls where it is expected dance, fitness classes, yoga and children's and toddler recreation activities will take place as these uses have historically taken place in the Pavilion.

In addition, the upgrade will provide new toilet and showers facilities along with a changing place and family accessible bathroom.

Council managed indoor venues include:

- Bondi Pavilion, Bondi Park
- Kimberley Reserve Hall
- Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre
- Mill Hill Centre
- School of Arts
- Thomas Hogan Reserve Hall
- Wairoa Community Centre Hall
- Waverley Library
- Waverley Park amenity building
- Hugh Bamford Reserve Hall.

Waverley provides and maintains nine toilet blocks in some of our larger parks and reserves.



Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre and Grandstand, Waverley Park



Bondi Pavilion, Bondi Park



Amenities building and kiosk, Tamarama Park



Figure 2.11 Existing spaces for public hire and toilet blocks

Private and club recreation

Various community or privately-run clubs provide a range of recreation opportunities. Clubs operating in Waverley support the following activities:

- lawn bowls (four clubs)
- tennis (one tennis centre)
- golf (one golf course)
- swimming (three indoor pools and one outdoor pool)
- surf life saving (four clubs)
- fishing (one club)
- squash (one squash club)
- fitness and health (18 gyms, fitness clubs and studios)
- board riding clubs (surf, surf ski, paddle boarding).

Many of these clubs are located on land zoned RE1 Public Recreation (refer to figure 2.12). Waverley and Bronte Bowling Clubs are on land zoned RE2 Private Recreation, owned by the club organisation. The land zoning of these sites means that only development and activities that support public and private recreation are allowed. In the review of WLEP 2012, Council may investigate options to secure these sites for public recreation through the planning framework.

In addition to providing sporting opportunities, clubs also provide a meeting place to socialise and space for hire for small events, which is often an affordable alternative to more commercial operations. As such, clubs and private recreation space are an important community asset.

While participation and memberships between clubs varies over time, there remains opportunity for these types of organisations to be adaptive and reuse their facilities in response to community needs.

Gyms and fitness centres are highly visited facilities with fitness and visiting gyms being very popular physical activities. There are many gyms in Waverley, with 18 registered in the LGA.

Commercial fitness trainers and yoga instructors use Waverley parks and reserves. Permits are required for these activities in accordance with the Waverley Commercial Fitness Groups and Personal Trainers' Policy and Guidelines. Permitted training areas are limited to parks and reserves shown on figure 2.12.

Community sports clubs in Waverley

There are approximately 20 different clubs and schools in Waverley who regularly book fields and courts in the LGA (Waverley, 2020). Based on 2019 engagement, the clubs and community groups based in Waverley practice the following sports and activities (Waverley, 2019): soccer, cricket, AFL, golf, rugby, archery, fishing, netball, Gaelic football.



Bronte Bowling Club, Bronte



Tamarama Surf Life Saving Club, Tamarama Beach



Amateur Fishing Club, Ben Buckler Point

KEY

Private Clubs

- 1. Diamond Bay Bowling Club
- 2. Bondi Bowling Club
- 3. Bondi Golf and Diggers Club
- 4. Waverley Bowling Club
- 5. Bronte Bowling Club
- 6. Icebergs Pool
- 7. North Bondi Surf Life Saving Club
- 8. Bondi Bathers Surf Life Saving Club
- 9. Tamarama Surf Life Saving Club
- 10. Bronte Surf Bathers Life Saving Club
- 11. Bronte Swimming Club
- 12. Ben Buckler Amateur Fishing Club
- 13. Bondi Waverley Squash Club
- 16. Marks Park 17. Tamarama Park 18. Bronte Park 19. Waverley Reserve 20. Hugh Bamford Reserve 21. Varna Park 22. Diamond Bay Reserve 23. Rodney Reserve 24. Dudley Page Reserve 25. Baracluff Park

14. Bondi Beach

15. Bondi Park

Commercial Fitness Training



9

Vaucluse







25



250 m

Okm

500m

tkm

Relaxing and quiet spaces

Solitude and being in nature has many benefits. The impact of exposure to silence has demonstrated brain growth and improved learning, memory and emotion. Conversely exposure to constant noise can cause a stress response¹. Waverley LGA is a relatively high-density area, meaning that a large proportion of residents do not have access to private open space. Residents often turn to our parks for relaxing and quiet activities, such as sitting, sunbaking, walking or meditating. Identifying, preserving and enhancing spaces for quiet contemplation is important for the community's health and wellbeing and is therefore a focus area of this strategy.

Casual and social activities

Our parks and reserves also include spaces that can be used for picnicking and social activities, social and casual games, play and exercising such as jogging and walking, and small group activities.

Waverley's community garden located behind Clementson Park is a place where people can meet, garden and share skills. Council manages the space and rents out plots. Waverley also has a range of shared garden spaces located in parks, street verges and laneways that are run by community groups and supported by Council. Council also supports verge gardens allowing residents to plant in front of their house. Councils Public Gardening Policy and Street Gardening Guidelines regulate and guide these activities related to public gardening.

In many of our parks and reserves we provide equipment and facilities that support a variety of activities and make these spaces more attractive and comfortable.

Spaces in Waverley for casual and social activities include:

- Coast Walk and Cliff Top Walk
- cycling tracks (mostly on road)
- variety of picnic and barbecue opportunities
- three beaches
- seven exercise stations
- four beach volleyball courts at Tamarama Beach and three courts at Bondi Beach
- three basketball hoops
- one community garden and various shared gardens
- one bocce court.

Walking and jogging

Walking is the most popular activity in NSW and Waverley. Athletics (including jogging and running) is one of the top ten activities for adults in NSW. The coastal walk alone is a very popular with approximately 1 to 1.8 million visits of people walking or jogging the route each year. The busiest day of the week is Sunday. Different sections of the walk tend to be more popular then others, with the Bondi to Tamarama section being the most popular. Four of Waverley's exercise stations are located on the Coastal Walk route.

Waverley's Cliff Walk links Bondi to Vaucluse and then onto the Gap in Woollahra. This route utilises Waverley's cliff top parks connected via local roads. Pedestrian visitation data collected in 2020 indicates approximately 10,000 visits per month along the Diamond Bay section of Cliff Top Walk. It is expected that data collected in 2020 maybe variable from other years due to COVID restrictions.

The popularity of the Coastal and Cliff Top routes has negatively impacted adjoining vegetation with many visitors leaving tracks to walk through the bushland to access views or quiet seating locations as the walkway does not currently accommodate seating.



Coastal Walk, near Waverley Cemetery



Outdoor fitness station, Bondi Park

¹ Imke Kiste, 2013, Is silence golden? Effects of auditory stimuli and their absence on adult hippocampal neurogenesis
Beaches

Waverley is home to three world-class beaches, Bondi, Bronte and Tamarama. Waverley Council's estimate for beach visitation to Bondi is approximately 3.3 million people per year while Bronte is over 500,000 people per year and Tamarama 300,000 people per year.

Popular activities at our beaches include swimming, surfing, sun bathing, picnicking and use of barbecue facilities. Beach volley ball can be played at Tamarama and Bondi Beach and the coastline is also popular for fishing.

Other coastal activities

Waverley's coastal edge includes destinations for recreational activities such as rock fishing, rock climbing and slacklining.

Infrastructure has been installed by individuals who participate in these activities. We need to identify the risks involved with people visiting these areas and manage access to protect people's health and safety.

Waverley, Woollahra and Randwick Councils have completed a Coastal Management Scoping Study, which has confirmed known geotechnical risks will need to be managed effectively to protect and preserve natural coastal processes and unique cultural, biodiversity and economic values. A Cliff and Slope Instability assessment and monitoring framework has been identified as needed to inform the comprehensive Coastal Management Program and will support planning and resilience of Coastal open spaces and uses.

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Figure 2.13 Existing passive recreation facilities

Dog off-leash areas

For many people in our community, pets are companions and important members of the family. Dog walking is a very popular activity in Waverley with 10,587 identified and registered dogs living in the LGA. Many dog owners and commercial dog walkers visit Council's parks and off leash areas for exercise.

Legislation under the NSW *Companion Animals Act 1998* outlines rules governing the control and behaviour of dogs and dog owners as well as commercial dog walking in public places. For peoples, health and safety there are rules and responsibilities of dogs and their owners including:

- dogs must be under the effective control of a competent person by means of an adequate chain, cord or leash at all times unless in an approved off-leash area
- dogs being exercised in an approved off-leash area must always be accompanied by a competent person and the dog must be under control
- no more than four dogs are permitted to walk at any one time in a public space
- all dogs must wear a collar and tag with contact details on it when in a public space. They should also be identified (micro-chipped) and registered
- owners must pick up and appropriately dispose of dog droppings
- dogs are prohibited near beaches and pools
- dogs are prohibited within 10 metres of children's playground equipment
- dogs are prohibited in bushcare areas
- dogs are prohibited near sports fields (except on leash at Rodney Reserve when organised activity is not being played) or public places set aside for organised games
- dogs are prohibited with 10 metres of any food preparation area (the exception is when there is a public thoroughfare like a footpath. In this case dogs must remain controlled, on leash and use the thoroughfare for travel).

Councils rangers have a role in enforcing the regulations outlined in the NSW *Companion Animals Act 1998*. Not all parks allow dog off-leash activities. Council has nine off leash areas in Waverley, two of which (Marks Park and Bronte Park) have areas allowing dogs off-leash at certain times of the day. The distribution of parks with dog off-leash areas is also relatively comprehensive, though distribution in the North Bondi and Rose Bay areas could be improved as currently residents need to walk further to access dog off-leash areas at Hugh Bamford Reserve, Dickson Park, and Raleigh Reserve refer to figure 2.14).

The community has identified the need for more dog offleash areas, particularly in the North Bondi area as mentioned above. When allowing dog off-leash areas, conflicts and risks with children's play spaces, organised sports activities, and maintenance of turf and vegetation including bushland and remnant vegetation needs to be carefully managed.

Off-leash areas typically require signage, bins and dog bag dispensers and bubblers with dog bowl.



Barracluff Park is informally used as an off-leash area



Dog off-leash area, Raleigh Reserve



Dogs walking, Bronte Gully



Figure 2.14 Existing parks with dog off-leash areas

Play spaces

Our playgrounds are an important destination point in our parks for many people. We have 39 play spaces across Waverley.

Waverley has a good provision of play spaces when compared with other councils per population (refer to Table 2.3). Furthermore, our play spaces are well distributed across the LGA.

LGA	Population (children and young people)	Play spaces	Ratio
City of Sydney	17,858	87	1:200
Woollahra	10,607	22	1:480
Randwick	26,418	52	1:500
Waverley	12,118	40	1:300

Table 2.3 Provision of play spaces in Waverley compared to neighbouring LGAs

Our *Play Space Strategy 2014-2029* guides planning and management of our play spaces. The strategy details the benefits and importance of play for children and young people. The strategy aims to implement a hierarchy of play spaces across our LGA in an effort to provide a range of sizes and types of play which are readily accessible to children and young people.

Since implementation of the *Play Space Strategy* in 2014, nine play spaces have been upgraded, four refurbished with a further four planned for an upgrade in 2020.

Further studies have been undertaken in developing guidelines for inclusive play to ensure everyone in Waverley has the opportunity enjoy our play spaces. In 2020 Council adopted the Inclusive Play Study which identifies how play spaces within the Waverley LGA can be developed to be more inclusive.

In addition to more traditional park playgrounds, streetscapes also have potential for providing play opportunities, particularly for intergenerational and social play. For example, on adoption of the *Street Play Policy*, streets will be able to be closed for small community gatherings and events.



Play space at Stephen Street Reserve, pocket level play space



Play space at O'Donnell Street, neighbourhood level play space



Play space at Bronte Park, district level play space

KEY

- 1. Barracluff Park
- 2. Belgrave Street Reserve

21. Marks Park

22. Marlborough Reserve

24. Niblick Street Reserve

26. Onslow Street Reserve

30. Scott Street Reserve

33. Stephen Street Reserve

35. Thomas Hogan Reserve

32. St James Reserve

34. Tamarama Park

23. Murriverie Road Reserve

25. O'Donnell Street Reserve

27. Palmerston Avenue Reserve

31. Sir Thomas Mitchell Reserve

28. Queens Park (Owned and Managed by Centennial Park)

- 3. Biddigal Reserve
- 4. Bondi Park
- 5. Bondi Skate Park
- 6. Bronte Park
- 7. Caffyn Park
- 8. Clarke Street Reserve
- 9. Clementson Park
- 10. Cuthbert Street
- 11. Dickson Park
- 12. Dover Road
- 13. Dudley Page Reserve (Playground) 14. Dudley Page Reserve (Cycle Track)
- 15. Fingleton Reserve
- 16. Gibson Street Reserve
- 17. Gilgandra Reserve
- 36. Varna Park 37. Victoria Park 18. Hewlett Street Reserve 38. Wairoa Reserve 19. Kimberley Reserve 39. Waverley Park 20. Macpherson Park 40. Weonga Reserve Rose 12 Bay Dover Heights 26 BNorth 0 Bondi 20 Bondi 35 Beach 15 3 32 Bond 9 Junction KEY New Play Space 33 igional Play Space (Regional catchment) Queen 0 District Play Space Park Tamarama 0 (1 km walkable catchment) Waverley 37 Neighbourhood Play Space (400m walkable catchment) 3 œ Pocket Play Space (250m walkable catchi Special Use Facility (Skate Park / Cycle Track) Bronte Proposed Inclusive Play Space (Inclusive Play Report Dec2020) Parks and reserves 0 Waverley LGA Boundary

Figure 2.15 Waverley Play Space Strategy 2014-2029

Okm

250 m

500m

Vauclune

tkm

Design and setting

Our parks and reserves have distinct landscape characters, which are defined in individual plans of management. Our coastal location provides us with stunning coastal reserves and unique beach parks. Landscape design needs to be sympathetic to the unique character of these parks.

There are generally three distinct landscape categories across Waverley: Coastal; Inland; and Special Places. The design of spaces, landscaping and choice of furniture and materials used in each park and reserve is guided by the Waverley *Public Domain Technical Manual* (PDTM).

The unique landscape character of each park and reserve is important to maintain as it contributes to the local context and people's connection to the place. Design guidance helps to maintain the character of these different spaces.

The design of our parks and reserves also needs to provide spaces that accommodate diversity of activities and offers a range of experiences, whether that be a beautiful view for a walk, a game of basketball, a place to meet friends, or a place to relax. The community told us that they feel safe in our parks and reserves and that they enjoy the spaces as they are clean and well maintained.

User comfort is important in our parks and reserves and we need to make sure that amenities, such as toilets, water bubblers and shade are provided in our busy parks and reserves.

The community told us they want amenities to be provided in beach parks and sports parks with high visitation, particularly where training is held and games are played.

Coastal open spaces Cliff top parks

These are linear parks flanking the coastline. They are exhilarating due to the great height of cliffs and the wide elevated views along the coast and out to the ocean. These spaces have a wild character and are particularly dramatic in high winds and rough seas.

Groupings of semi-natural heathland and open grassland areas characterise these parks. There are a number of natural remnant bushland sites along the coastal walk and scattered among the cliffs, rock shelves and dunes that Council and community volunteers work to protect and regenerate.

Cliff top parks include: Eastern Reserve, Diamond Bay Reserve, Weonga Reserve, Raleigh Reserve, Williams Park and Calga Reserve.

Gully parks

Tamarama Gully and Bronte Gully are natural riparian corridors behind beach parks. While they no longer drain directly to the coast, they do feature water courses. These parks are shaped like green fingers and have steeply sloping sides. They feel contained.

They are generally densely planted lush natural bush reserves and have areas of ecological sensitivity. Gully Parks have medium to low levels of pedestrian activity.

Gully Parks include: Tamarama Gully and Bronte Gully.

Beach parks

These spaces are essentially low-lying coastal sections featuring curved sandy beaches. The beaches are backed by promenades and parklands and form a soft linear edge to the ocean. This type is distinguished by a simple horizontal visual composition of sky, ocean and land.

Beach parks are located within well-populated areas and all have commercial activity within close proximity. They are reasonably exposed, facing east to south east and are framed by rock outcrops to the north and south. The warm Australian light accentuates particular textures, shapes and colors, particularly when reflected off the sandstone.

The vegetation palette is fairly limited due to the challenges associated with front-line coastal environments. Planting consists of a combination of native and exotic species and trees and shrubs often have wild, wind blown forms.

Beach parks include: Bondi Beach Park, Bronte Beach Park, Tamarama Beach Park

Inland open spaces Civic parks

Civic parks are located within or adjacent to urban areas. Civic parks are characterised by high quality finishes and furniture, and are well maintained. Spatially, these parks comprise perimeter planting with open grassland areas to the centre and scattered tree clusters throughout. Planting design is relatively formal and often accented by flowering plants. Civic parks offer a combination of shaded and open areas and are highly used.

Civic parks include: Waverley Park, Eora Park and Clemenston Park.

Bushland parks

Bushland Parks are our most densely planted areas. They are important fauna and flora zones and also feature some important remnant bushland sites. These parks primarily have a 'natural Australian' bushland character contrasted with small open grassed areas. Materials are rustic, and low key.

Many coastal spaces have important fauna and flora zones, including Diamond Bay Reserve, and Williams Park.

Inland open spaces that have bushland landscapes include: Dickson Park, Gibson Street Reserve, Thomas Hogan Reserve, Victoria Park and Marlborough Reserve.

Open parkland - sporting fields

These parks are distinguished by their flat open grasslands and are used for sports and organised team activities. They generally have clusters of shade trees planted around the perimeter with some shrub wind buffer planting. Edges are well defined with planting, bollards or fencing. These parks are open and allow people to have a good view into the park as well as out of the park. Open Parklands are generally well maintained.

Open parklands include: Dudley Page Reserve, Hugh Bamford Reserve, Rodney Reserve.

Pocket parks

These small parks are located at the end of streets or bound by residences or shops. Pocket parks generally have well defined edges with planting, bollards or fencing. These parks comprise of trees and grass and sometimes play spaces. They are used by local residents for short stays.

There are 58 pocket parks across Waverley including Varna Park, Kimberley Reserve and St James Reserve (shown as local parks, verges and road closures in figure 2.9).

Special places

Special places are important landmarks that often have significance for the local area but are also recognised nationally and internationally. Special places have characteristics that showcase the cultural, heritage, or natural cliff and coastal setting of the Waverley area.

A number of public open space in Waverley are identified as 'special places' where the use of custom design elements and nonstandard finishes are appropriate.

Special places are:

- high profile locations
- places that have a distinctive character that needs to be differentiated from other spaces
- places with features of particular heritage significance that are to be conserved, requiring special treatment.

Waverley's special places include:

- Bondi Pavilion and surrounds
- Bronte Pool
- Coast Walk
- Cliff Top Walk
- Waverley Cemetery
- South Head Cemetery.



Cliff top Parks - Eastern Reserve



Gully parks - Bronte Gully



Beach parks - Bondi Beach Park

Waverley Public Domain Technical Manual

The PDTM is Council's guiding document to promote a sense of place and cohesiveness in Waverley's public spaces.

The PDTM sets a quality standard for design with a palette of materials, finishes and furniture that reinforces local character of town, villages and neighbourhood centres, open spaces, and special places. These may have a distinctive character or defining features that require application of custom design elements.

Getting to and around the parks Catchments

Open and recreation space is generally well distributed across the LGA and allows most households access to public open space within 400 metres from home (figure 2.16).

Bondi Junction, Bondi Beach and North Bondi are areas with greater population densities, with higher density housing such as apartment buildings. It is increasingly important to provide access to public open space in these areas particularly where living spaces and private open space can be smaller.

The *Greater Sydney Outdoors Survey 2019* shows that good access to outdoor recreation areas in the area where people live is important, particularly for residents in the Eastern City District. Typically 72% of Eastern City District residents either walk or run to outdoor recreation areas with an average of 15 minutes travel time, and about half of residents drive to outdoor recreation areas with an average of 23 minutes travel time¹.

There is a concentration of larger recreation facilities to the southern part of the LGA, with Queens Park and Waverley Park. Residents living in the north of the LGA access sports fields at Rodney Reserve, Hugh Bamford Reserve and Barracluff Park, and also facilities at Christison Park, in neighbouring Woollahra LGA.

Access to parks and reserves

All parks and reserves can be accessed by car, however car parking can be limited. Council's *People, Movement and Places (2017)* seeks to manage congestion and demand for car parking at key destinations such as beaches and regional parks and reserves. Waverley regional and district parks and reserves are serviced by buses. Council is committed to developing the walking and cycling network by improving links, signage, and providing information on routes. Improving the pedestrian and cycling network across the LGA can reduce reliance on driving to parks and reserves and also support recreational walking and cycling activities, which are already popular in Waverley.

Topography can affect the ease of getting to and around parks and reserves, with level changes, stairs and slopes making it more difficult for people that are less mobile or people with prams.

Accessible parking is currently available at all Waverley regional and district parks and reserves with off-street parking. Council is committed to continually improve universal access at all Council facilities and regional and district parks. This includes improving arrival points and footpaths in and around entries to parks and reserves.

Way finding

Way finding is important to help visitors to understand where they are and supports pedestrians, cyclists and motorists to navigate to landmarks, points of interest or major destinations in and around Waverley. Way finding includes providing signs identifying destinations and routes connecting destinations, improving pathways and entrances to enable a more seamless navigation experience, and providing information to enable people to make choices on where to go and how to get there. Way finding is particularly important to support universal 1 Greater Sydney Outdoors Study, 2019, Department of Planning and Environment access so that people who are less mobile or have particular needs can plan their visits to beaches, parks and recreation facilities and know what amenities are available at each location. The Waverley PDTM provides guidance on way finding signage.

Private access points

Many residential properties which back onto parks have an access gate from their property into the reserve. In some instances a properties main entrance may be through a reserve. Such entries do provide an additional level of passive surveillance and activation of parks. However, there are also instances where private entries are problematic with access points causing erosion, or unauthorised steps or planting being installed on public property. These access points also commonly back onto informal paths which are unstable and not accessible. It is important that property owners do not install structures or planting and do not leave property in public parkland. Council does not currently allow private access into parks and reserves. If a Development Application was submitted and was to include access onto a reserve, it would be assessed on its merit.

Universal access

Universal access in the built environment takes into account the needs of a wide range of community members so that each person has an equally satisfying experience. It creates inclusive places and spaces that embrace diversity and deliver design solutions that benefit as many people as possible.

Design of open spaces can enhance or reduce usability, mobility, safety, comfort, choice, security and belonging and has a strong influence on the quality of people's lives. The principles for universal access are:

- easy to use
- comfortable
- safe
- embraces diversity
- offers choice².

The Disability *Discrimination Act 1992* (DDA) extends beyond buildings to include outdoor spaces. Waverley Council has a responsibility under the DDA to provide equitable access to public premises and spaces, programs and events.

There are a range of guidelines that outline design requirements for buildings, streets, amenities and public outdoor spaces. Council also has policy and guidelines to ensure recreational facilities, cultural activities and events are inclusive. The Waverley *Council Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2021* aims to increase access to the greatest extent possible within the built environment and to facilities, amenities, parks and beaches. The topography can also impact on access, reducing the ability to maintain a continuous accessible path of travel and can make access more difficult for people that are less mobile or parents with prams.

Council has committed to ensuring people with disability have support facilities at Bondi to be able to experience the sand and ocean.

² Principles for universal access, Source: adapted by Funktion Making Lifefit from Easy Access to Historic Landscapes 2005, English Heritage



Figure 2.16 Existing walking catchments for open space

Enhancing the environment

The community highly values parks and reserves as green spaces, particularly in the urban environment. Parks and reserves contribute to Waverley's natural landscape and environment and maintaining views and access to green spaces is important for people's health and wellbeing.

Some Waverley parks and reserves along the coastline contain bushland that has ecological importance (figure 2.17). This bushland is identified as terrestrial biodiversity and protected under the WLEP 2012 as samples of native vegetation remaining in the urban environment. The Waverley *Biodiversity Action Plans – Remnant Sites 2014-2020* sets actions for management activities at each park or reserve with remnant bushland to support conservation. Development and activity in these parks and reserves must seek to protect this bushland as it cannot be recovered once lost. High visitation to Waverley's parks and walking tracks adversely impact vegetation, particularly trampling vegetation to access the bush or lookout locations.

Waverley Council actively manages remnant vegetation through bush regeneration techniques and protecting the area with buffer vegetation and restricting access. Council's *Biodiversity Action Plans - Remnant Sites 2014-2020* details plans for managing these important areas.

The management of non-remnant bushland is set out in various ecological restoration action plans (ERAP). Council is currently implementing plans for Thomas Hogan Reserve, Tamarama and Bronte gullies.

Both the biodiversity action plans and ERAP's are implemented using specialist bush regeneration contractors. Bushcare volunteers works can also be guided by these plans however all works undertaken in remnant sites are completed by specialist bush regeneration contractors.

Waverley Council also manage a volunteer bushcare program which focuses on select natural areas to regenerate, managing weeds and plant native species. There are currently four bushcare groups who meet regularly in Waverley.

Parks and reserves are important parts of a larger network of green spaces and vegetation links that provide habitats for different flora and fauna. Though parks and verges may be small in size, they are very important for Waverley's urban ecology and contribute to establishing habitat corridors. Encouraging diversity in planting, particularly using native planting where possible, can contribute to re-establishing urban bushland and creating healthy habitats.

Waverley's beaches and intertidal shores are part of a rich marine environment. The urban landscape does however impact the environment. The LGA does contain an Intertidal Protected Areas which provides protection to rocky shore habitats and their species. Removing animals and invertebrates from these areas is prohibited.

Parks and reserve are also important spaces for water management. Landscape design, including considered selection of materials guided by the Waverley PDTM, supports water harvesting and storm water management. The proximity of many parks and reserves to aquatic reserves in Waverley elevates the importance of careful management of the environment in these spaces and considering the impacts of activities on land on aquatic reserves.

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Bronte Gully Waterfall, Bronte Park



Cliff top vegetation along the Cliff Walk, Raleigh Reserve



Remnant vegetation at Eastern Reserve

Waverley Open Space and Recreation Strategy



Figure 2.17 Existing environmental assets

Community, culture and heritage

Waverley's open and recreation spaces reflect the area's planning history and the influences, aspirations and ideals of historical organisations and individuals.

Heritage

There are 26 parks and reserves that either have heritage items, including archaeological sites and sites with Indigenous heritage, or are identified to be part of a landscape character area (figure 2.18). There are state heritage items at:

- Waverley Park (Waverley Reservoir No 1 and No 2)
- Bondi Beach (Bondi Pavilion)
- North Bondi (Bondi Ocean Outfall Sewer).

Both Centennial Park and Bondi Park and Beach (known as the Bondi Beach Cultural Landscape) are Landscape Conservation Areas with state heritage significance. Bondi Beach is also listed on the National Heritage List. A schedule of landscape conservation areas and state and local heritage items that are located in parks and reserves are listed in Appendix C.

Heritage items have historic, cultural, social, spiritual, architectural, aesthetic and archaeological significance to the community and development or activities in or around these items need development consent.

There are many locations, items and archaeological sites that are important for understanding Indigenous heritage and culture. It is also important to acknowledge the significance of land to Indigenous Australians. For Indigenous Australians land is connected to people and culture. There is a significant opportunity to learn about 'caring for country' and to educate the broader community on and celebrate Indigenous culture as part of telling the story of community, culture and heritage in our parks and reserves.

State heritage items trigger a requirement of referral to the NSW Heritage Council and any works proposed in a park or reserve with heritage values requires a review by Council's heritage advisors. These requirements seek to protect and manage heritage values.

Some of the local and state heritage items in Waverley's parks and reserves are Sydney Water assets and are examples of Sydney's water supply, sewerage and drainage history.

We prepare heritage management plans which include heritage management strategies as part of plans of management for spaces with heritage items or identified as heritage landscape areas. This allows consideration of the management of heritage, including opportunities to improve on the care and interpretation of heritage values as part of the planning for these spaces.

Public art

Council has a *Public Art Policy and Master Plan* which identifies opportunities for public art in Waverley. Council also has a Public Art Committee that serves as an advisory panel on all public art proposals in the area.

The *Public Art Master Plan* identifies opportunities for public art in several parks, notably at Marks Park (Bondi Memorial Project), Bondi Park and Pavilion, Clemenston Park, Waverley Park, Dickson Park. In addition, Hunter Park was established in 1998 as Waverley's Sculpture Park. The park currently features four sculptural works.

Public events

Parks and reserves are important public spaces and continue to be places where the community meet for events throughout the year. Our beach parks and Dudley Page Reserve host a program of high profile events each year (refer to Table 2.1). These events attract many visitors from across Sydney and internationally, which is good for Waverley's local economy. Large events impact on local residents and require Council to coordinate and plan with event organisers. Waverley *Events Policy and Event Management and Delivery Guidelines* identify parks and reserves where events are permitted and stipulate activities event organisers are responsible for.

It is critical that Council's policy and guidelines ensure that events benefit our community and that impacts on our parks and reserves are mitigated and managed.

Commemorative spaces

The way we commemorate those who have passed is reflective of our personal values, beliefs and our life story. Commemoration is such an important part of our culture and society.

In support of members of our community who are grieving, Council provides a range of services. Notably, we have state heritage listed cemeteries in Waverley Cemetery and South Head Cemetery. We tell the stories of those in our community who have made contribution through programs such as the Local Heroes Awards, Best of the Best Awards, cemetery tours and our local studies collection in the Library.

Memorial spaces are also provided in several parks across Waverley LGA, such as Waverley Park Memorial Garden with a monument to World War I and World War II. Sam Fiszman Park which recognises the valuable contribution of refugees to the Waverley Council area.

Council receives several requests a year for memorials to pay tribute to deceased community members. Typically memorials are requested in our open spaces in the form of a plaque attached to a seat with ocean view. Because it is difficult to accommodate the volume of these specific requests, Council's policy does not allow donations such as plaques associated with seats or trees in our open spaces.



Figure 2.18 Heritage items and areas with heritage landscape values, associated with parks and reserves

Maintenance and management

Council is responsible for the maintenance and management of the 79 public parks and reserves in Waverley LGA (except for Queens Park, managed by the Centennial Parklands Trust). Council is also the consent authority for a majority of development and works on these parks and reserves, in line with the range of legislation and local policies, plans and guidelines listed in Section 1.

Planning and acquisitions

Council is able to identify land in the LEP for acquisition for the purpose of expanding the open space network. The WLEP 2012 currently identifies 11 parcels of land for acquisition (refer to Table 2.4). Council is able to prepare a planning proposal to amend the WLEP 2012 to identify additional open space acquisitions if required.

Funding for acquisitions comes from Council's capital works budget or can be funded through contributions from new development, either from a Section 7.12 of the EPAA 1979 contribution or a contribution offered through a planning agreement.

Address	Land parcel	Public benefit
2 Ray Street	Lot 37 DP 976698	Acquisitions allow better pedestrian
4 Ray Street	Lot 2 DP 417665	connections along the Cliff Top walk.
6 Ray Street	Lot 1 DP 417665	
8 Ray Street	Lot 40 DP 976698	
8 Ray Street	Lot 41 DP 976698	
29 Kimberley Street	Lot 2 DP 1056298	
27-29 Gilgandra Road	Lot 24 DP 654616	Acquisitions secure Gilgandra Reserve.
27-29 Gilgandra Road	Lot 23 DP 7758	
2 Waverley Crescent	Lot 1 DP 937724	Acquisitions allow expansion of
5 Bondi Road	Lot 9 DP 455977	Fingleton Reserve.
5 Bondi Road	Lot 8 DP 455977	

Table 2.4 Land for acquisition in WLEP 2012

Land ownership

Land zoned RE1 Public Recreation in the WLEP 2012 is for public recreation purposes and allow public access to these spaces. Not all land zoned for RE1 Public Recreation is owned by Council, however Council can work with land owners to maximise the public benefit opportunities of all public open space. State government, under Crown lands or Sydney Water also own several parks which Council is responsible for the maintenance and management.

Spaces that are currently zoned RE1 Public Recreation but that are not owned by Council or NSW Government include 15 Adelaide Street, Bondi Junction.

Local Aboriginal Land Council

The La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council oversees the La Perouse area, which includes Waverley LGA. The La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council can advise on lands of cultural significance of Aboriginal persons and promote Aboriginal culture and heritage particularly in relation to the management of open space with cultural significance.

Sydney Water assets

A number of parks and reserves contain Sydney Water assets and are owned by Sydney Water. These are located at:

- Waverley Park •
- Williams Park and Hugh Bamford Reserve (underground easements)
- **Dudley Page Reserves.**

Works at these parks require Sydney Water approval and need to allow Sydney Water to access their assets.

Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP)

Council prepares a SAMP to guide sustainable management of Council assets, including identifying funding allocation for the maintenance and capital works of projects. This OSRS directs future open space and recreation projects and the approach to asset management. The SAMP will identify capital works and maintenance activities for funding to deliver the OSRS.

Council maintenance

Council carries out regular maintenance of all parks and reserves, beaches, play spaces and recreation facilities. Smaller parks are maintained every six weeks and permanent staff are located in larger parks such as Waverley Park, Bondi Park, Bronte Park and Tamarama Park. Play spaces are inspected daily and audited for compliance with safety standards annually.

The maintenance of parks comes from Council's operations budget. Revenue from the hire of sports fields, courts and indoor venues also contribute to the administration cost associated with hiring these spaces.

Compliance

Compliance and regulation in open spaces are an important part of keeping the community safe and our environmental assets clean and sustainable. Regulations of permitted or prohibited activities are currently outlined in each of Council's Plans of Management and on the Council website. Compliance information is also currently found on park signs.

There are currently gaps in the communication of compliance information and regulations. Not all parks and open spaces have a plan of management or have information on site signs.

Partnerships and Sponsorship

Council is often approached by corporate entities, charities and not-for-profit organisations to enter agreements for providing new facilities, memorials or promotion of various works or programs. Council has a Sponsorship, Grants and Donations Policy which sets out the roles and responsibilities for such agreements.



Figure 2.19 Land ownership



Open and recreation space review

This is a summary of findings from our review of open and recreation space in Waverley, the range of user groups that use these spaces and diversity of activities that these spaces support. Findings under each of the six OSRS themes inform our approach to management of open and recreation space and the Action and Implementation Plan in Section 4.

Playing and relaxing

- Different groups use spaces for organised sports and team activities as well as casual play, socialising and relaxing. Organised groups (sporting and community clubs, schools) regularly book spaces for training and match play.
- Beach parks are key visitor destinations and host large annual events which are important for Sydney.
- Visitors that live outside the LGA, domestic travelers and international travellers that are attracted to Waverley's coastal walks and beaches.
- The provision of dog off-leash areas are a divisive topic in the community with many people requesting more or less spaces as there tends to be conflict between user groups. Timed off-leash areas can create further tension as this approach requires more constant surveillance for compliance with the rules.

Design and setting

• Design guidance helps to maintain and enhance the distinct characteristics of the Waverley local area and the context of each park and reserve.

Getting to and around

- There is generally a good distribution of open space across the LGA, and most residents live within a 400 metre walk from a park or reserve. There is variation in the types of spaces people can access from home, so it is important to maintain quality spaces and provide walking, cycling and public transport connections across the open space network.
- It is important to continually review whether spaces are universally accessible, particularly regional and district parks and reserves which have high visitation. The topography can also impact on access, reducing the ability to maintain continuous paths and can make access more difficult for people that are less mobile or carers with prams.

Enhancing the environment

- Waverley's parks and reserves have environmental importance. They contribute to the ecology of Waverley contain bushland that has high environmental value.
- The topography and coastal setting creates a unique landscape. However, it can also make access for maintenance difficult in places where there are level changes such as the cliff line.
- Design of parks and reserves must respond to the landscape. Topography contributes to the coastal landscape and creates opportunities for view points that make Waverley's parks and reserves unique.
- Conversely, topography can affect how many spaces in the LGA are appropriate for sports fields and courts. Recreation facilities need to be located in flatter land.
- There is a need to manage the natural environment to increase biodiversity and green space.

Community, culture and heritage

- Many parks and reserves have heritage values that need to be protected and managed. Management of heritage needs to be improved. There are Indigenous items, important archaeological sites, non-Indigenous items, and landscape character areas that have national, local and state significance.
- The preparation of new plans of management will need to include heritage management plans to incorporate heritage recommendations.
- Overall the heritage listed open space in Waverley LGA is well conserved and maintained. There is, however, evidence of some loss of heritage value and historic character within some areas of open space. Incremental changes including landscape improvement works, the removal of some mature plantings, the introduction of new features have resulted in some impacts on heritage values, including the historic character.
- Hunter Park as a location is constrained due to the steepness of the site being impractical for universal access. The park design and sitting also make it difficult to curate works.
- Further opportunities for 'reflective spaces' suitable for quiet contemplation, rest and respite are in demand and need to be considered in future planning.

Maintenance and management

- Acquisition of land for open space should align with and deliver on the OSRS.
- There is a need for better signage and completion of plans of management for all spaces to support compliance with permitted and prohibited activities in parks and reserves.
- The high level nature of the Sponsorship, Grants and Donations Policy does not provide a detailed framework for these agreements, which require bespoke negotiations as they arise.



Open Space and Recreation Needs

This section provides an audit of the provision, quality and capacity of existing open and recreation space in Waverley LGA and user preferences.

A needs-based assessment was undertaken to identify the open space, recreation and types of facilities needed in Waverley. This approach is informed by:

- benchmarking of open space and recreation facilities provision
- trends in relation to the Waverley community profile number of residents, age profile
- assessment of the quality and capacity of current spaces
- sports participations rates
- consultation with the community and stakeholders.

Benchmarking and comparison

Applying benchmarks is a means of understanding provision and allowing a snap shot comparison between places. However, benchmarks do not allow for consideration of specific circumstances around quality of space, utilisation and access, which influences provision and demand. Therefore benchmarks are considered alongside community and stakeholder feedback and the demographic profile.

Waverley open space provision

Waverley is starting out from a deficit-of-space, compared to rates of open space provision in neighbouring LGAs, refer to figure 3.1. Waverley, however, has a high population density - comparable to the City of Sydney - and has a similar rate of provision of open and recreation space.

Approximately 11.6% of land in Waverley LGA is dedicated as public open space that can support a range of passive and active recreation activities (this excludes land for golf courses).

It will be difficult to create more public open space considering the current population and development density in Waverley and competition for new land. As Waverley's population is set to be steady over the next 10 years, 500 square metres of additional active open space is needed to maintain today's level of provision of 1.47 hectares of open space per 1,000 people. This is the equivalent of providing another Cuthbert Street Reserve in Queens Park (597 square metres).

Almost all of Waverley's open space can be used for a range of activities. Regardless, existing open space is expected to 'do more' and cater for a broader range of user needs and diversity in activities. Councils across Greater Sydney experience similar issues to Waverley and need to provide inclusive spaces, play spaces, and dedicated dog off-leash areas.

Waverley recreation facilities provision

Generally, utilisation of Waverley's recreation facilities are not yet at capacity with the exception of Waverley Park. Alongside the relatively low growth rate expected over the next 10 years (when compared to neighbouring LGAs), there is enough capacity within existing facilities to accommodate some growth.

Growth in neighbouring LGAs are expected to impact on

demand for recreation facilities in Waverley as many sporting groups and clubs operate across Eastern City District LGAs.

Bookings for Waverley's sports fields and courts differ between the winter and summer seasons, with higher demand experienced in winter as competitions for soccer/football, Australian Rules Football, rugby, and netball are held during this season.

Quality, multi-use spaces with amenities are in high demand. Waverley Oval, Waverley Field 3, and indoor courts are the most used facilities in the LGA. Utilisation of the oval and Field 3 are currently booked for more hours than their playing surface is able to accomodate resulting in premature wear and tear of the fields.

Clubs and groups would like to see more choice for bookings. They value longer hours of play enabled by; provision of lighting, quality of the spaces therby reducing impacts of weather on fields and courts affecting play, and provision of amenities such as toilets and storage.

Public feedback has shown a desire for more basketball and netball courts, provision of an indoor pool, improvement to amenities in parks and reserves, and improved access and parking.

The community want to see more of the types of spaces and facilities they currently have access to in Waverley - what is currently provided is good, it's just in high demand.

The community have indicated that the maintenance of parks, reserves and facilities is fair and clubs and groups are happy with the service that Waverley's bookings management team provides. Encouraging higher utilisation across Waverley facilities will have an impact on maintenance regimes and budgets to maintain facilities at a good standard. We will need to balance these demands carefully.

Context of change

Council faces many challenges as our community's participation in physical activity evolves. The trend for sports to operate through both the summer and winter seasons has presented challenges for Council as there has been increased demand on already limited facilities. Weather conditions in summer and winter also present new challenges for all sports operating throughout the year.

Another trend is increased interest in more flexible and informal activities (i.e. 'pick up and play' sports) which are appealing to those who may not be interested or involved in club sports. While 'pick up and play' sports such as tennis and basketball do not see the intensity of use of sports facilities compared with competition play, they do provide the same health and wellbeing benefits to the wider community.

The rapidity of changes in society and the cities we live in means people's motivations are changing, in line with living arrangements, changes in lifestyles, and motivation for participation in sport. Changes in sport participation rates and trends in recreational activity will influence the needs and demand on open space in the future.

Trends that will shape open space and recreation needs in

Waverley LGA in the future includes:

- smaller living spaces mean there will be an increasing need for more public outdoor spaces to walk, socialise, play (children and adults), and for dogs to exercise
- busy lifestyles not necessarily following the traditional nine-to-five work day means casual sporting arrangements and 'turn up and play' facilities are increasingly important
- personal motivations for participation in sports and recreation activities are increasingly about general health and wellbeing rather than about playing a sport. Participation in organised team sports, with the exception of soccer, are constant or declining. This means increasing participation in non-organised sport and activity and the need for flexible spaces that can be used by individuals for various activities
- an increasing fitness industry will also see the rise of small businesses playing a role in providing fitness, sports and lifestyle offerings. Market forces may also see a shift of community-based organisations to corporate structures and see a change in the range of activities that are offered. This means the need for flexible spaces and provision of venues where these activities can take place and a shift away from demand for spaces based on seasonal competitions
- Sydney's growing population will attract greater numbers of people to visit Waverley's beaches and unique coastal landscape, leading to increased visitors throughout the year. Beaches will need to be shared by a growing population across Greater Sydney as well as increasing international visitors.



Figure 3.1 2018 and in 2031 hectares of open space per 1,000 people for Waverley and neighbouring LGAs

Open space excludes land for golf courses and national parks. Estimated residential population for 2018 and population projection for 2031 used.

LGA	Total open space in hectares (% of LGA)	Total active open space in hectares* (% of LGA)	Population density (people per hectare)	Number of residents (2018)	Number of residents (2031)	% change in residents	Gap in active open space provision by 2031, number of sqm
Waverley	113.3	108.8	80.16	74,114	76,450	3.2%	448.6
	(12.1%)	(11.6%)		ļ	ļ	ļ	
City of	381.7	339.6	89.90	240,229	292,350	21.7%	2,520.5
Sydney	(14.4%)	(12.8%)					
Randwick	955.2	472.0	42.46	154,265	167,950	8.9%	2,492.9
	(25.5%)	(12.6%)					
Woollahra	159.2	101.2	48.13	58,964	59,200	0.4%	68.4
	(13.1%)	(8.3%)					

* open space excludes land for golf courses and national parks

Table 3.1 Open space benchmarks for Waverley and neighbouring LGAs

Case study: Megatrends that will influence people's participation in sports and recreation activities and use of recreation space

The CSIRO Futures with the Australian Government have determined six mega trends that will influence people's activities and participation in sport in Australia¹.

A perfect fit: personalised sport for health and fitness

As we become increasingly time poor, sport is being tailored to meet personal needs. This is largely being influenced by the increased use of online tools and applications to individualise sport. Health, rather than competition, is becoming a major driver for participation in sport.

From extreme to mainstream: the rise of lifestyle sports

Lifestyle, adventure and alternative sports are becoming popular with Australians particularly young Australians, with participation being driven by widespread exposure through digital media.

More than sport: the attainment of health, community and overseas aid objectives via sport

There is an increased focus on the broader benefits derived from participation in sport, including physical and mental benefits, crime prevention and social inclusion.

Everybody's game: demographic, generational and cultural change

The types of sports Australians are likely to play will shift as demographics, including cultural landscapes, change. There are indicators Australians are embracing sport in older age resulting in the need for sport to cater for senior citizens to participate in sport.

New wealth, new talent: economic growth and sports development in Asia

Population growth in developing countries, specifically Asia, increases athlete competition within the sport landscape. This may result in emerging new sporting markets for television, social media, sports equipment, services and events.

Tracksuits to business suits: market pressure and new business models

Market forces are likely to put pressure on sport in the future, drawing athletes away from sports which have lower salary bases. In addition, the administration of sport may transition from community based organisations to corporate structures as they face increased accountability.

1 Hajkowicz, Stefan; Cook, Hannah; Wilhelmseder, Lisa; Boughen, Naomi. The Future of Australian Sport: Megatrends shaping the sports sector over coming decades. Belconnen, ACT: CSIRO; 2013.

Quality and capacity of recreation

spaces

The community and stakeholders have told us that maintenance of parks, reserves and facilities is fair.

Waverley is fortunate in having three spectacular beaches, a coast line with significant regional views as well as impressive parklands and gullies. In this regard, the quality of passive recreation facilities is excellent. Our parks and beaches draw millions of visitors annually which puts significant pressure on maintenance resources to prevent these assets from prematurely being affected by wear and tear. High visitation rates can also create conflict between park users as parks are already generally used at capacity.

The table in Appendix D outlines our evaluation of the quality of our existing active recreation spaces, provision of amenities and whether there is opportunity to improve on the quality or capacity of these facilities.

Our assessment of bookings of recreation facilities over the past three years shows that the utilisation rate of spaces varies significantly between summer and winter, with demand being higher in winter, as shown in Table 3.2 and Figure 3.2.

Quality, multi-use spaces with amenities are in high demand. Waverley Oval, Waverley Field 2, and the indoor and outdoor courts at Waverley Park are the most used. In winter, when bookings are highest, Waverley Oval, Waverley Field 2 and indoor court are utilised at between 100% and 109%, capacity meaning they are totally booked out for the maximum hours available.

The capacity of sports fields in other councils range between 25 to 30 hours per week for turf and up to 70 hours per week for synthetic surfaces. The capacity of Waverley's fields is consistent with this, however lower for our training fields. The capacity of these fields are lower due to the lack of lighting which restricts extended hours of use.

Our training fields, typically used for training or schools sports, have the potential to support more bookings. To achieve this, upgrades to amenities and the size of fields may be required. Attracting more bookings to fields outside Waverley Park will offer sports groups and schools greater choice and spaces to hold games as well as training, and place less strain on facilities in Waverley Park.

Provision of toilets at Barracluff Park, Dudley Page Reserve, Hugh Bamford Reserve will improve the quality of these facilities and allow more groups to use them. Barracluff Park is the only facility that can potentially be expanded to provide a larger field.

Our public ocean pools at North Bondi and Bronte are great places to visit. However, are limited in size and cannot be heated. People can access indoor heated pools at private facilities for fees or memberships at Waverley College Aquatic Centre and gyms and fitness centres in Bondi.

	Fields		Outdoor courts		Indoor courts	
	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer
Average hours booked per week	140	72	57	39	75	75
Utilisation rates	77%	40%	33%	13%	82%	82%
Total average utilisation	59%		33%		82%	

Table 3.2 Utilisation rates of Waverley recreation facilities based on hours booked



Figure 3.2 Capacity of Waverley recreation facilities, winter season Source: Data collected by the Waverley Community Venues Team

Age-friendly spaces and activities

Council supports physical activity, health and wellbeing for people of all ages and ability in Waverley.

Survey results also show that how a person participates in sports changes over their lifetime. Children and young people (35 years and younger) in NSW are more likely to be participating in organised or venue-based sports, while older adults are more likely to participating in sports in a casual way and not as part of organised activities (Figure 3.4).

Recreational walking is the most popular activity amoung adults in Waverley. Swimming and fitness/gym are also popular. This is consistent with the results of the *Greater Sydney Outdoors Study 2019* of most popular active recreation activities.

This means that green links and swimming pools and our beaches are important public spaces in Waverley. Providing spaces in parks and reserves that are flexible for different fitness activities is also important for people that prefer not to visit private indoor gyms.

Participation in physical activity and demand for different types of spaces can differ between age groups. It is important that these different needs are considered in providing diverse spaces and experiences where various age groups across the community can use. Clearinghouse for Sport's key findings on Australian physical activity participation in 2019 are (Clearinghouse for Sport, 2020a):

- 83.9% of women participated at least once per week and 65.4% three times per week. Of these, 50.1% engaged in some sport-related activities.
- 81.1% of men participate at least once per week and 61.8% three times per week. Of these, 58.8% engaged in some sport-related activities.
- 58.8% of children participated in some form of organised sport or physical activity outside of school hours at least once per week and 22.4% three times or more per week. Of these, 72.3% engaged in some sport-related activities.
- Male and female participation rates were similar. However, females were more likely to participate in nonsport-related physical activity than males, and males were more likely to participate in sport-related physical activity and club sports in all age groups.

NSW seniors, adult and children participation rates for 2018 are shown in Figure 3.4.



Figure 3.3 Rates of participation in organisation/venue based activities versus non-organisation/venue based activities across different age groups in NSW

Community Profile



2,336 estimated additional residents by 2031

increase in

(0 to 19 years old)

children

13%

27% increase in older people (65 years and older)



Over 20 different sporting clubs and schools regularly book Waverley sports fields and courts

From the Community

"The open, green spaces are increasingly important for neighbourhoods and we are very lucky to have this in ours."

Online survey participant

"Open space in our increasingly crowded suburbs. A place to relax and exercise. Access to nature. Places for children to play. Helps maintain biodiversity in Waverley."

Online survey participant

"Continue maintenance at the standard we have and with no reduction to available facilities."

Online survey participant

"Everything is there but there is not enough of it.

Online survey participant

Walking Swimming Walking Swimming Walking Swimming Fitness/gym Surfing Bushwalking (recreational) Surfing Surfing Surfing Bushwalking (recreational) Surfing Surfing Surfing Bushwalking Surfing Surfing Bushwalking Surfing <

Top activities in Waverley from responses to an online survey



Top activities in NSW - Children AusPlay Survey 2018



Top activities in NSW - Seniors

AusPlay Survey 2018



Figure 3.4 Snapshot of activities and user preferences for open and recreation space in Waverley

Children and adolescents

As illustrated in Figure 3.4, NSW active children have generally been engaging in the same top 10 activities over the past four years. The top four activities have consistently included swimming, soccer, dancing and gymnastics.

Over this period, the biggest change in participation rates were swimming, dancing, gymnastics, and potentially rugby league and AFL.

Swimming experienced the most significant change in participation rates with the proportion of active children swimming increasing by 11.5% between 2016 and 2019 (41.8% up from 30.2%).

Dancing and gymnastics participation rates both increased by 1.9% over this period. The proportion of active NSW children engaging in dancing was 11.1% in 2019 up from 9.2% in 2016, and the proportion of active NSW children engaging in gymnastics was 10.1% in 2019 up from 8.2% in 2016.

Rugby league held the tenth spot for top sports in 2016 with 3.5% of active NSW children engaging in this sport, and ninth spot in 2017 with 4.5%. It did not figure in the top 10 organised activities for children in 2018 and 2019, however was ranked 9 most popular activity in 2019/20. During those years, the tenth most popular activity (cricket) had 3.9% (2018) and 4.2% (2019) participation rates and fell again in 2019-2020. Rugby league participation rates were therefore lower.

Conversely, AFL emerged as one of the top 10 organised activities for children in 2018, 2019 and 2020. Both years, AFL held the eight spot with 5.5% of all active NSW children engaging in this sport in 2018 and 5.0% in 2019. The percentage increase cannot be calculated as it did not figure as one of the top 10 sports in 2016 and 2017.

Over this period, the proportion of NSW children engaging in organised cricket remained relatively stable, recording a minor net decrease (0.3%) with a 4.2% participation rate in 2019 down from 4.5% in 2016. Cricket was not ranked in the top 10 activities for children in 2019 -2020.

Supporting sport and active recreation in children is very important, as these activities contribute to the development of confidence and social skills, social inclusion, community development, health and wellbeing, diversion from antisocial behaviour and improved self-esteem as well as movement skills and physical fitness¹.

Australian children are lagging behind compared to other countries on overall physical activity². The research suggest that lifestyles and behaviours are contributing to this. An international study into the levels of physical activity in children and young people, the healthy kids report card, suggests that Australian outdoor spaces are performing well and provide the right environment to encourage physical

Lubans DR, Morgan PJ, Cliff DP, Barnett LM, Okely AD. Fundamental movement skills in children and adolescents. Sports Med. 2010;40(12):1019-35. 2 Active Healthy Kids Australia, 2018, Muscular Fitness: It's time for a jump start

– 2018 Report Card on Physical Activity for Children and Young People

activity. The reason our children are comparatively unhealthy is because their level of incidental exercise is very low.

Provision of spaces, such as parks, ovals, play spaces and beaches, where parents can take children or that children can safely access themselves is very important, particularly considering the higher density living in Waverley and smaller living spaces, where private open space may not always be available.

Playgrounds typically cater for younger children, while older children and adolescents often seek out recreational facilities. Facilities such as skate parks and basketball courts allow adolescents spaces outdoors to also socialise.

Council has carried out extensive engagement with young people recently. Young people have indicated there is a real gap for their age group and they need engaging places to meet indoors and outdoors with their friends.

School facilities and sports programs organised through schools are very important to maintain levels of physical activity in school-aged children and establish behaviours around physical activity. It is therefore just as important to support programs that encourage children and young people to be active as it is to provide spaces for sports and physical activity.

Adults

For adults, key life transitions can impact on levels of physical activity and disrupt habits formed early in life. Events such as leaving secondary school and changes in employment and family structure can lead to adults reducing participation in physical activity.

Trends are showing a shift towards more casual participation in physical activity rather than participating through organised sports. It is therefore important to provide spaces that people can access casually - fitting activity around work and family commitments - and design environments where physical activity is encouraged as part of everyday activity, such as increasing trips taken through walking and cycling. Encouraging the social aspect of physical activity is also important.

¹ Vella SA, Cliff DP, Magee CA, Okely AD. Sports participation and parent-reported health-related quality of life in children: Longitudinal associations. J Pediatr. 2014;164(6):1469-74.

Eime RM, Young JA, Harvey JT, Charity MJ, Payne WR. A systematic review of the psychological and social benefits of participation in sport for children and adolescents: Informing development of a conceptual model of health through sport. Int J Behav Nutr Phys Act. 2013;10(1):98.

Seniors

Maintaining physical activity through older age is important to support health and wellbeing. As people are living longer, there is an increasing awareness of the importance of remaining healthy, active and socially engaged.

Providing spaces and supporting activities that also serve a social function is important. In older age, maintaining autonomy and independence and social connectedness are just as important as health and wellbeing³. Council runs a variety of programs that involve physical and social activities for seniors to maintain a connection to a community.

Older persons are more likely to participate in self-organised activities than organised sport. Top activities for people over the age of 65 years in NSW are walking, fitness/gym, swimming, and golf⁴.

It is also important to provide flexible public spaces that provide possibilities for exercise and recreation. Shaded courtyards, well maintained footpaths, and easy to access pools can encourage older persons to participate in wellness activities such as walking, swimming and dancing.

To support physical activity in older age, spaces and activities need to be easy to access and also affordable.

Difference in participation between women and men

Women and men maintain similar levels of physical activity, although generally participate in physical activity and sports in different ways. Women are more likely to participate in nonsport related activities such as gym/fitness, walking and yoga and pilates than men⁵. For women in their 20s through to their 50s, in particular, family and work commitments influence the time they have to spend on physical activity. It is therefore important to support diversity in physical activity options and flexibility in ways to participate. This means providing more public recreation facilities that can be accessed casually by individuals without a booking or through organised sports or teams, and supporting programs that provide choice in activities.

Across the soccer/football sporting clubs in Waverley participation by women and girls has been growing, particularly for girls. This means that it is critical to provide amenities such as toilets and change facilities at sports fields and courts for both men and women⁶.

3 Cities Alive: Designing for ageing communities, Arup, 2019 4 Ausplay Survey 2018

5 AusPlay Focus: Women and girls participation, Australian Sports Commission,

November 2017

6 Initial stakeholder engagement with sporting clubs and groups in Waverley, March 2019

Sports participation rates

The type, quantity and quality recreation facilities on offer in Waverley needs to be assessed against the type of activities which are most in demand. This assessment can therefore identify an underprovision or potentially overprovision of facilities.

Top sports and activities that Waverley residents participate in are consistent with AusPlay Survey results (2018) for NSW as discussed in the previous section are further explored below.

Sports and activities have been identified as either organised through a club or a gym, or venue based like a oval; or conversely non-organised being activities individuals or social groups might participate in like running, walking or a social kick-about. These activities have been seperated as they typically demand different types of facilities.

Participation in non-organised, non-venue-based and nonsport-related physical activity

According to the OSRS community survey conducted in 2019 and as shown in Figure 3.1, Waverley residents' top activities are largely non-organised, non-venue-based and non-sport-related (e.g. walking, fitness/gym, bushwalking, yoga, swimming, surfing, cycling, athletics and track and field including running, and golf). This aligns with the top physical activities for NSW¹ and Australia².

2 Clearinghouse for Sport, 2020a. Sport Participation in Australia. Retrieved

As described in the section *Context of change*, personal motivations for engaging in physical activity are increasingly about general health and well-being rather than about playing a sport. Council booking data also suggests there is an increased interest in more flexible and informal non-organised activities (i.e. 'pick up and play sports') which are appealing to those who may not be interested or involved in club sports.

Consultation conducted for the OSRS has also shown that Waverley residents are also more likely to engage in casual/ non-sport physical activity as they age. Children and young people (35 years and younger) are more likely to participate in organised or venue-based sports, while older adults are more likely to participate in non-sport-based physical activity.

Activities such as bowling and golf remain popular activities, particularly in the senior age group. While these activities can be played competitively, they are also played socially.

NSW adults have generally been engaging in the same top 10 activities over the past four years. The top five activities have consistently been walking, gym/fitness, swimming, athletics (including running), and cycling.

Over this period, the biggest change in participation rates were for gym/fitness, swimming, golf, yoga and Pilates.

While fitness/gym has maintained its second-place popularity

from: https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov.au/knowledge_base/sport_participation/community_participation/sport_participation_in_australia [Accessed on 25/06/20]

Activity	Existing facilities
Walking (recreational)	Waverley Cliff Top Walk and Coastal Walk, Green Links, heritage trail, streetscapes
Fitness / gym	Outdoor fitness stations (7), fitness training in parks, private gyms (approximately 18)
Swimming	Outdoor ocean pools (2), Private indoor pools (3)
Athletics, track and field (including jogging and running)	No dedicated track and field facilities, however sports grounds are used by schools for training. Variety of options for jogging and running for fitness, including the popular Cliff Top Walk and Coastal Walk
Cycling	Streetscapes including dedicated cycle lanes
Bushwalking	Waverley Cliff Walk and Coastal Walk (7km)
Yoga	Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre, Bondi Pavilion, Mill Hill Centre, Waverley School of Arts, Thomas Hogan Reserve Hall, Hugh Bamford Reserve Hall, various private studios
Dance (recreational)	Bondi Pavilion, Mill Hill Centre, Waverley School of Arts, Thomas Hogan Reserve Hall, Hugh Bamford Reserve Hall. various private studios
Gymnastics	Limited availability within the LGA with some commercial operators. Hugh Bamford Hall has been previously used for gymnastics.
Bowls	Club bowling (4)
Pilates	Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre, Bondi Pavilion, Mill Hill Centre, Waverley School of Arts, Thomas Hogan Reserve Hall, Hugh Bamford Reserve Hall, various private studios

Table 3.3 Waverley facilities supporting NSW top 10 activities for children, adults and seniors

¹ Clearinghouse for Sport, 2020b. AusPlay NSW data tables – January 2019 to December 2019 data. Retrieved from: https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov. au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0009/975519/AusPlay-NSW-data-tables-30-October-2020_Final.xlsx [Accessed on 25/06/21]

over the four years, the proportion of the population who engaged in this activity increased from 33% to 36%.

The proportion of active NSW residents engaging in swimming increased by 1.3% (17.7% up from 16.4%) and the proportion engaging in golf decreased by 1.1% (4.6% down from 5.7%).

Yoga and Pilates have become more popular since 2016, in 2019, the proportion of active adults practicing yoga increased by 1.3% (5.9% in 2019 up from 4.6% in 2016) and the proportion of active adults engaging in Pilates in 2019 was 2.7%. The 2016 and 2017 data for Pilates is not available as this was not one of the top 15 adult activities.

Provision of recreation facilities in Waverley for nonorganised, non-venue-based and non-sport-related physical activity

As established, there is a great demand for non-organised, non venue-based and non-sport-related physical activity. This section assesses Waverley's existing recreation facilities which accomodate these kinds of activities.

As detailed previously under *Playing and Relaxing*, Waverley boasts spectacular walking trails, beaches and ocean pools used for recreational walking and bushwalking, jogging, surfing and swimming. The seven outdoor gyms and fitness training stations also support participation in fitness activities.

Waverley has several indoor venues used for yoga, dance and Pilates.

Tamarama and Bondi beaches allow for 7 volleyball courts, though participants must bring their own poles and nets.

With outdoor ocean pools located at Bondi and Bronte Beaches and managed by Council, there is a high provision rate of public swimming pools in Waverley LGA compared to Eastern City District and Greater Sydney averages. Programs offered at Waverley pools include recreational swimming, club training and competition, and swimming lessons. Council also manage Wally Weeks Pool and the Children's Pool at Bondi Beach. These pools are used for recreational purposes and are not large enough to accommodate training or competitions. There are also multiple pools owned and managed by private organisations and in schools that operate learn to swim programs to which the public has access.

As identified in Table 3.4, Waverley has a good provision of recreational facilities to support non-organised activities. However, there is a shortfall of facilities for gymnastics and athletics. Investment in recreation facilities to support these activities should be considered when possible.

Projects that provide or improve infrastructure such as walking trails, cycle facilities and routes should be prioritised due to the increasing demand for these types of facilities.

By comparison with neighbouring councils, Waverley has a shortfall of dog off-leash areas. Regardless of provision of area, many councils share similar issues of conflict between children and dogs (particularly in parks with a playground) and dogs digging and leaving droppings on sports grounds.

There is a gap in the provision of dog off-leash areas in the Bondi Basin area. Currently Barracluff Park is being used to exercise dogs. This is reflective of a need for off-leash areas in this neighbourhood.

Participation in Organised Sports

While the most popular activities by adults and seniors across Waverley, NSW and Australia are typically not classified as organised sports, there is still high participation in organised

	Greater Sydney	Eastern City Distr	ict	Waverley LGA		
Facility	Provision, persons per facility (2016)	Number of facilities	Provision, persons per facility (2016)	Number of facilities	Provision, persons per facility (2018)	
Sports fields	2,553	265	3,823	22*	3,369	
Tennis courts	4,335	230	4,405	6**	12,353***	
Netball courts	5,412	107	46,055	6	12,353***	
Pools	62,424	15	67,547	2 ****	37,057	

* includes 16 fields at Queens Park

** includes courts at Waverley Park and Bondi Bowling Club

*** additional facilities are on public and private school grounds

**** includes Bondi Icebergs and Bronte Baths which are suitable for club and lap swimming. This figure does not including several privately owned swimming pools that are publically accessible. These pools are not included as data from Greater Sydney and Eastern City District does not include these type of facilities.

Table 3.4 Provision of sporting facilities for Greater Sydney, Eastern City District and Waverley LGA

Source: Greater Sydney and Eastern City District information provided by NSW Office of Sport, Waverley LGA provision calculated based on NSW Office of Sport methodology to allow comparison

sports such as football, golf and tennis which feature in the top ten activities in NSW³. Popular children's activities however do often include more organised team sports such as football, AFL, netball, basketball, tennis and cricket⁴.

Waverley Council booking data shows that there are approximately 20 different clubs and schools in Waverley who regularly book fields and courts in the LGA. These are listed in the beginning of the chapter under *Community sports clubs in Waverley*.

The sections below delve into Waverley participation rates and trends for sports which are within the top 10 of organised sports played by children, adults and seniors in NSW.

Football (Soccer)

In 2019, 16% of the 233 OSRS survey respondents indicated that they regularly participated in soccer.

There are five soccer groups and clubs and an estimated 1,200 soccer players in Waverley LGA.

Soccer has the highest level of organised participation in Waverley LGA as a proportion of the total population⁵. Unlike participation trends for other sports, there is an increasing number of people who participate in organised team soccer in Waverley LGA. According to Council information, part of this increase in organised participation may be due to increased training for junior teams who now train approximately two to three times per week, up from once per week.

Junior soccer players made up between 15% and 100% of members depending on the club or group⁶. Conversely, senior soccer players made up between 0% and 85% of members depending on the club or group.

The male participation rate in organised soccer varies between 50% and 80% depending on the club, and the female participation rate varies between 20% and 50%⁷. This generally aligns with NSW participation rates, where 72% of adult soccer participants are males and 28% are females, and 77% of children soccer participants are males and 23% are females

4 Clearinghouse for Sport, 2020b. AusPlay NSW data tables – January 2019 to December 2019 data. Retrieved from: https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov. au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0009/975519/AusPlay-NSW-data-tables-30-October-2020_Final.xlsx [Accessed on 25/06/21] (Clearinghouse for Sport, 2020b)8.

Across soccer clubs in Waverley, women and girl participation rates have been growing, particularly for girls. This means that it is critical to provide both male and female amenities such as toilets and change facilities at sports fields and courts.

Based on Council information, there are few sports field hire requests for casual soccer matches. However, this is likely due to limited field availability.

AFL

There is one AFL club located in Waverley LGA. The club comprises approximately 300 members, an estimate 60% of which are males and 40% are females⁹. It does not have a division for children. The club has a relatively high female representation compared to Australia where the gender split of active adults participating in AFL is 16% females for 84% males¹⁰. NSW data is not available as AFL does not rank in the top 15 sports for active adult participation. However, AFL currently ranks ninth as the sport with the highest-level organised participation in Waverley LGA as a proportion of the total population¹¹.

There are junior clubs in the region that play in Randwick and Sydney local government areas.

Netball

With approximately 15 netball clubs and groups located in Waverley, netball is the sport with the greatest number of associations in the LGA¹². According to NSW Office of Sport¹³, netball ranks as the fifth sport with the highest level of organised participation in Waverley as a proportion of the total population. Based on Council information, there are approximately 3,000 netball group and club players in the LGA.

Junior netball players made up between 44% and 100% of members depending on the club or group¹⁴. Conversely, senior netball players made up between 0% and 56% of members

8 Clearinghouse for Sport, 2020b. AusPlay NSW data tables – January 2019 to December 2019 data. Retrieved from: https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov. au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0009/975519/AusPlay-NSW-data-tables-30-Octo-ber-2020_Final.xlsx [Accessed on 25/06/21]

9 Waverley Council, 2019. Club membership: Waverley Sports Clubs and Community Groups Register

10 Clearinghouse for Sport, 2019g. AFL State of Play Report: Driving Participation & Engagement. Retrieved from: https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov. au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0010/821980/State_of_Play_Report_-_Australian_ Football.pdf [Accessed on 29/05/20]

11 NSW Office of Sport, 2019. Eastern City District: Sport facility information pack

12 Waverley Council, 2019. Club membership: Waverley Sports Clubs and Community Groups Register

13 NSW Office of Sport, 2019. Eastern City District: Sport facility information pack

14 Waverley Council, 2019. Club membership: Waverley Sports Clubs and Community Groups Register

Conversion type	Cricket	Netball	Soccer	Tennis	Basketball
Overall participation conversion to organised participation	72%	90%	68%	64%	65%
Overall participation conversion to club participation	60%	63%	49%	45%	43%

Source: Clearinghouse for Sport, 2019b; 2019c; 2019d; 2019e; 2019f

Table 3.5 Australian adult overall participation conversion to organised and club 2018 – cricket, netball, soccer, tennis and basketball

³ Clearinghouse for Sport, 2020b. AusPlay NSW data tables – January 2019 to December 2019 data. Retrieved from: https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov. au/_data/assets/excel_doc/0009/975519/AusPlay-NSW-data-tables-30-October-2020_Final.xlsx [Accessed on 25/06/21]

⁵ NSW Office of Sport, 2019. Eastern City District: Sport facility information pack

⁶ Waverley Council, 2019. Club membership: Waverley Sports Clubs and Community Groups Register

⁷ Waverley Council, 2019. Club membership: Waverley Sports Clubs and Community Groups Register

depending on the club or group. Based on Council information, junior participation rates have remained strong over the past few years while there has been a slight decline in senior participation rates.

The association with the highest male participation rate is estimated at 10% of all members, and the associations with the lowest male participation is estimated at 0%¹⁵. Comparatively, in 2019 it was estimated that 2% of NSW children netball participants were male and 98% were female, and 9% of NSW adult netball participants were male and 91% were female¹⁶.

As part of the 2019 OSRS survey, when asked whether there were any sporting and/or recreational facilities that respondents would like to use but that are not currently available in Waverley, a number of respondents expressed interest in having access to more multi-purpose courts that could cater to a range of sports, including netball.

Basketball

In 2019, 8% of the 233 OSRS survey respondents indicated that they regularly participated in basketball. When asked whether there were any sporting and/or recreational facilities that respondents would like to use but that are not currently available in Waverley, several respondents expressed interest in having access to more basketball courts.

There are no known basketball groups or clubs located in Waverley Council. Based on Council information most basketball participants book courts casually or play in commercial competitions with no formal affiliation. Easts Basketball League, one of the commercially-run competitions in Waverley, reported having approximately 230 participants¹⁷.

Waverley residents' casual participation in basketball aligns with NSW data. Basketball is one of the top sports for both active adults and children in NSW. Based on Australia-wide data, basketball is also played relatively casually compared to other sports, such as cricket, netball and soccer.

Tennis

In 2019, 14% of the 233 OSRS survey respondents indicated that they regularly participated in tennis. Similarly, to basketball, when asked whether there were any sporting and/ or recreational facilities that respondents would like to use but that are not currently available in Waverley, a number of respondents expressed interest in having access to more tennis courts.

According to the NSW Office of Sport¹⁸, tennis ranks as the second sport with the highest level of organised participation in Waverley LGA as a proportion of the total population. Local tennis players can play at private clubs, such as at the Bondi Tennis Centre, or play outside of the LGA.

As shown in Table 3.2, like basketball tennis is played relatively casually compared to other sports as shown and one of the

15 Waverley Council, 2019. Club membership: Waverley Sports Clubs and Community Groups Register

16 Clearinghouse for Sport, 2020b. AusPlay NSW data tables – January 2019 to December 2019 data. Retrieved from: https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov. au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0009/975519/AusPlay-NSW-data-tables-30-October-2020_Final.xlsx [Accessed on 25/06/21]

17 Waverley Council, 2019. Club membership: Waverley Sports Clubs and Community Groups Register

18 NSW Office of Sport, 2019. Eastern City District: Sport facility information pack

top sports for both active adults and children in NSW.

Golf

Golf attracts 4.9% of sports participants in Australian adults and 5.3% of sports participants in NSW. Golf is experiencing a slight decline in participation in club membership across Greater Sydney and typically attracts older players. There are very low numbers of children participating in golf. Golf is a rare activity where participation rates increase with age with peak participation at 65+ years of age, and 59% of adult participants area aged 55 and over.

Golf participation is heavily skewed to male participation, across Australia with 81% participants being male. The Bondi Golf and Diggers Club operate the club house and 9-hole golf course at Williams Park in North Bondi.

Cricket

In 2019, 3% of the 233 OSRS survey respondents indicated that they regularly participated in cricket.

There is one cricket club based in Waverley LGA: the Eastern Suburbs Cricket Club (ESCC). In 2019-2020, the club had over 950 members¹⁹. According to club collateral, 'it is one of the only cricket clubs in Australia that has both a senior and a junior cricket club under the same committee management, making it one of the largest single cricket clubs in Australia'²⁰.

There are over 800 children making up the junior portion of the club and over 150 members making up the senior portion of the club, with the latter including 'playing, life members, past player members and extended member base'²¹. It can therefore be implied that not all 150 senior club members are active cricketers.

According to Council information, the ESCC gender split is of approximately 10% female for 90% male with an increasing female representation, particularly for players aged 5 to 13 years. NSW data indicates that the cricket gender split across all types of cricket (organised, club and casual) for adults is of approximately 11% female for 89% male²² while the gender split for children is of approximately 20% female for 80% male²³.

While ESCC is the only known cricket association located in the LGA, there is a local school cricket competition played at Queens Park according to Council information. While Queens Park does not fall within Council's management, some of these players potentially live in the LGA and may engage in casual cricket outside of school hours (e.g. backyard cricket or use of public nets at Waverley Park). Indeed, the turf nets near the netball courts are well-used by the general public and the

19 Eastern Suburbs Cricket Club (ESCC), 2020. Eastern Suburbs Cricket Club Profile: 2019/2020

20 Eastern Suburbs Cricket Club (ESCC), 2020. Eastern Suburbs Cricket Club Profile: 2019/2020

21 Eastern Suburbs Cricket Club (ESCC), 2020. Eastern Suburbs Cricket Club Profile: 2019/2020

22 Clearinghouse for Sport, 2020b. AusPlay NSW data tables – January 2019 to December 2019 data. Retrieved from: https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov. au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0009/975519/AusPlay-NSW-data-tables-30-Octo-ber-2020_Final.xlsx [Accessed on 25/06/21]

23 Clearinghouse for Sport, 2020b. AusPlay NSW data tables – January 2019 to December 2019 data. Retrieved from: https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov. au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0009/975519/AusPlay-NSW-data-tables-30-Octo-ber-2020_Final.xlsx [Accessed on 25/06/21]

synthetic nets are occasionally used by Waverley College. This indicates that there may be more residents who play cricket than only those affiliated with the ESCC.

In 2016, 2017 and 2018, cricket ranked as the thirteenth, fifteenth and thirteenth top adult activity respectively. However, it was not one of the top 15 activities in 2019²⁴.

From 2016 to 2019, cricket was one of the top ten activities for children. However, rugby replaced cricket as the tenth most popular activity for children in 2020.²⁵

Rugby

There are two rugby clubs located in Waverley LGA comprising an estimated 110 rugby league players and 150 rugby union players²⁶.

Rugby union ranks sixth and rugby league seventh as the sports with the highest-level organised participation in Waverley LGA as a proportion of the total population²⁷.

in 2019, one of the two Waverley rugby clubs indicated that approximately 40% of their members were seniors and 60% were juniors²⁸. They also indicated that 97% of their members were males and 3% were females. The other club did not provide a gender split or an estimated split between junior and senior members.

While NSW adult participation rates are not available as rugby is not one of the top sports for active NSW adults, the gender split for active NSW children playing rugby league was 12% females an 88% males in 2017, the latest year for which this data was available²⁹.

Based on Council information, there has recently been an increase in rugby union participation and a decline in rugby league participation.

Provision of facilities to support organised sports

The Eastern City District has relatively lower rates of provision of sporting recreation facilities when compared to the average across Greater Sydney (Table 3.2) due to the relatively high population density in the Eastern City District and less available land for open space compared to other districts in Greater Sydney.

The provision of sports fields in Waverley is slightly higher than the average for the Eastern City District when including sports fields at Queens Park. It is important to note however that not all sports fields in Waverley are the same size or have the same capacity to support competitions, training and casual play activities (refer to Table 3.2). Provision of new sports fields will be difficult due to limited availability of space. However,

24 Clearinghouse for Sport, 2020b. AusPlay NSW data tables – January 2019 to December 2019 data. Retrieved from: https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov. au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0009/975519/AusPlay-NSW-data-tables-30-October-2020_Final.xlsx [Accessed on 25/06/21]

25 Clearinghouse for Sport, 2020b. AusPlay NSW data tables – January 2019 to December 2019 data. Retrieved from: https://www.clearinghouseforsport.gov. au/__data/assets/excel_doc/0009/975519/AusPlay-NSW-data-tables-30-October-2020_Final.xlsx [Accessed on 25/06/21]

26 Waverley Council, 2019. Club membership: Waverley Sports Clubs and Community Groups Register

27 NSW Office of Sport, 2019. Eastern City District: Sport facility information pack

28 Waverley Council, 2019. *Club membership: Waverley Sports Clubs and Community Groups Register*

29 Clearinghouse for Sport, 2018. Aus
Play NSW data tables – January 2017 to December 2017 data $% \lambda = 0.012$

we can investigate ways to increase the capacity of our existing fields.

Waverley LGA is located close to a range of large regionalscale facilities such as Moore Park and Centennial Park which provide residents with access to more facilities outside the LGA.

While AFL is currently played in Waverley, there isn't an opportunity for children to play as local clubs do not have a junior league. While this might change in future, the provision of ALF fields for junior play could further support AFL.

The provision of netball courts is very low in the Eastern City District compared to the average for Greater Sydney. However, the provision in Waverley LGA is higher than the district average.

Councils multi-purpose courts are in demand, in addition the existing provision of basketball courts as well as space for social games are commonly requested by the community.

There is a need for more tennis courts in Waverley LGA, as the provision rate is currently lower than the Eastern City District average. Tennis courts are often located on school grounds and on private land and can be spaces that sporting clubs or individuals can hire.

Needs assessment actions

We will investigate the following needs for open and recreation spaces over the next 10 years:

- Need to focus on providing facilities to accommodate the top 10 most popular activities for children, adults and seniors.
- Increase capacity of our sports fields through improvement of playing surfaces, installation of lighting to allow more hours of play, and provision of amenities and storage in consultation with the community.
- There is an opportunity to attract more bookings at fields outside of Waverley Park. For example, Dudley Page and Rodney Reserve are currently under-utilised, which may be due to the lack of lighting. Improving the quality of spaces and amenities at existing fields may increase the utilisation of those spaces and provide more options for sporting groups and clubs, school groups, as well as for casual play in the LGA.
- Provide additional casual play facilities, such as basketball hoops, netball goals and tennis courts and rebound walls where
 possible
- Improve access to indoor swimming facilities by insuring information is readily available to the community.
- Improve the quality of walking environments along walking routes (to access open and recreation space and along the Cliff Top and Coastal Walks)
- Secure sites currently used and managed by clubs to ensure land will continue to be used for public recreation purposes
- Investigate additional recreation opportunities that can be offered by co-locating and integrating with existing community halls.
- Waverley's population is set to be steady over the next 10 years, the goal will be to maintain, and grow where possible provision of open and recreation spaces in order to maintain current levels of provision. We can also investigate ways to improve the quality of spaces so that they are attractive places to visit and support the range of activities Waverley residents and visitors participate in.
- Provide both indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities for older children and adolescents.
- Consider the feasibility to provide a venue suitable for dance and gymnastics.
- Consider options to support junior AFL in Waverley.

Section 4: Action and Implementation Plan outlines actions to achieve this.

Stakeholder inputs

The drafting of this strategy was based on the outcomes from two stages of community and stakeholder consultation. First community and stakeholder engagement was held in early 2019. The focus of engagement activities was to understand three main questions in relation to the provision of spaces and their maintenance:

- How do people currently use open space and recreation facilities?
- What would people like to see changed in the provision and management of current spaces?
- What kind of spaces and facilities are not currently available in Waverley LGA?

Activities included a mix of face-to-face (intercept surveys, 'Have Your Say' day, presentations and workshops) and indirect methods (access to an online survey, letters, flyers) that allowed a diverse range of groups to participate in different ways and at different times of the day and week.

Based on the first round of consultation the Open Space and Recreation Strategy was drafted. A second round of consultation was held in September and November 2020. COVID-19 restrictions meant face-to-face engagement opportunities were unavailable. Instead, online information sessions and multiple stakeholder workshops were conducted to gather feedback.

The consultation objectives for this second round of consultation were:

- Sense check strategy and action plan with key stakeholders and general community
- Close the loop with people who were involved in Stage 1 consultation
- Understand community sentiment on the actions proposed in the strategy
- Obtain overview approval and awareness of strategy

Submission from the Eastern Suburbs Cricket Club (ESCC)

Eastern Suburbs Cricket Club (ESCC) is a premier and community cricket club with a longstanding attachment to Waverley Local Government Area (LGA). Prior to 2019, ESCC along with other clubs in the Sydney Premier Cricket Competition could access the 11 indoor training nets at the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) for pre-season and wet weather training. However, the facility has since closed to clubs across Sydney due to the Allianz Stadium redevelopment and only professional athletes will have access to the SCG training nets once they reopen. Since the closure of the SCG nets, ESCC players have been travelling to the Norm O'Neill Cricket Training Facility for pre-season training, a new facility in Penshurst.

Cricket NSW and ESCC have identified an opportunity to provide new indoor cricket training facilities at Waverley Park's Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre (MWRC). These facilities would be co-located with the club's home ground, Waverley Oval.

In December 2018, Cricket NSW submitted a high-level functional design brief indicating club requirements for a new indoor cricket facility at Waverley Park. In February 2019, the club submitted a draft plan for a potential facility. Following this, Waverley Council drafted a Heads of Agreement (HOA) in 2019 regarding to the proposed indoor cricket training facility.

The core purpose of the facility would be for ESCC member' pre-season training and training on wet days during summer.

As identified in the needs assessment, there is a shortage of most types of recreation facilities in Waverley LGA. The proposed facility presents an opportunity to address ESCC's specific indoor training as well as some of the community's broader recreation infrastructure needs.

Community and stakeholder groups engaged



Waverley residents, workers and visitors



Sporting clubs and community groups







Waverley Council departments and Councillors



Neighbouring councils



Sydney Water



Centennial and Moore Park Trust
Engagement outcomes from the first stage of consultation

These key issues were raised by the community and stakeholders during the engagement period:

Maintenance

- Maintain parks and open space at a high standard
- More maintenance attention is needed for areas with high visitation
- Focus on replacing ageing playground equipment

Amenities

• Add facilities such as more water bubbler's, toilets and shade in parks for the comfort of visitors

Access

- Investigate opportunities to provide more car parking around sports fields, ovals and courts
- Improve pathways around parks and reserves and access points
- Maintain free or low cost access to open space, beaches and Waverley Council recreation facilities

Opportunities

- Investigate opportunities to provide more sports fields
- Investigate opportunities to provide more facilities for casual play such as basketball hoops and tennis courts
- Investigate opportunities to provide improved access to existing indoor swimming pools in Waverley

Engagement

- Maintain good customer service for sporting clubs and community groups and continue engaging these groups in development of the OSRS
- Continue engagement with the community on the development of the OSRS

Engagement outcomes from the second round of community consultation

The community response demonstrated that there are several differing perspectives on how best to manage and improve Waverley's open space and recreation.

There was majority support for the proposed vision, with 77.3% Supportive or somewhat supportive.

There was generally positive support towards all seven key focus areas proposed in the strategy, particularly improving pedestrian environment around parks and wayfinding for walking routes for the Cliff Top and Coastal walk; increasing the provision of community recreation spaces and secure land currently used for open space and recreation; and establishing a framework to support ongoing community and stakeholder engagement in the planning and management of parks. As there is a majority support for the vision and key focus areas, it is recommended that these remain unchanged.

There was however a theme through many of the responses to protect natural heritage and biodiversity for its environmental value as well as use as passive recreational spaces. The two new focus areas include:

- Provide more areas for passive recreation including quiet contemplation, further areas for quiet contemplation area also identified in figure 4.5 including Clarke Reserve and Varna Park.
- Protection of natural heritage and biodiversity. To support this focus area further issues have been raised in the protection of vegetation and a new action is included to consider fencing around bushland for protection.

Other key updates to the strategy document were made in response to community feedback include:

- Deletion of actions and reference to proposed sports courts at Rodney Reserve.
- Allocate time for social play on Councils fields with the exception for facilities in Waverley Park which are allocated to community clubs only under licencing agreements.
- New action to consider providing storage space for community clubs adjoining sports fields.
- To assess the provision of non-sport recreational activities such as gymnastics, dance, yoga and pilates the strategy has been updated to include an assessment of Council owned indoor venues which are often hired for recreation activities.
- More detailed analysis on participation in the top 10 most common recreation activities for children, adults and seniors and the provision of facilities to support these activities.
- New action to investigate and consult on providing indoor cricket facilities in Waverley Park as identified by Council resolution.



Action and Implementation Plan

4

This section provides a series of directions and actions to guide Waverley Council's planning and management of open and recreation space over the next 10 years.

Our vision for open space and recreation

Our vision has been developed based on community feedback on what is most important about our open space in Waverley. Our vision recognises the multiple benefits of open space in supporting community health and wellbeing, environmental health and biodiversity, and the significance of some of our parks as destinations for visitors, contributing to our local and State economy.

Our vision

"Waverley's parks and reserves are available to everyone, supporting healthy and active lifestyles.

Our parks provide a green sanctuary, protecting and supporting biodiversity and provide an opportunity to implement the ongoing Aboriginal and traditional custodianship of land which forms our local government area.

Park design responds to the community's recreation and social aspirations while telling the story of the place, of today's generation and those before ours.

Spaces are welcoming, safe and well cared for. A sustainable approach to management allows future generations to enjoy these spaces."

Action Plan Our desired outcomes

The Action and Implementation Plan identifies outcomes, directions and actions under the six Strategy themes, explored in Section 2:

- playing and relaxing
- design and setting
- getting to and around the parks
- enhancing the environment
- community, culture and heritage
- management and maintenance.

Our priorities for implementation

Actions under each theme will guide Council's planning and management of open space and recreation facilities over the next 10 years. This is summarised in the following tables. Actions are allocated a time frame for delivery and whether or not the action will be initiated or delivered within the time frame.

Existing Council policies, plans and studies relating to the six themes will continue to apply and operate in conjunction with this OSRS. Actions that relate to existing Council policy positions have been noted in the footnotes of the Action Plan.

Timing for deliver	Timing for delivery of actions	
Short term	Next 0-5 years (2020 to 2025)	
Medium term	Next 6-10 (2026 to 2030)	
Ongoing	To be initiated by 2030, however delivery of the action may take longer than 10 years and require ongoing work	
Initiate	The action is to be initiated within the indicated time frame	
Deliver	The action is to be delivered and finished within the indicated time frame	

Playing and relaxing

Outcomes

Open spaces across Waverley will provide diverse and flexible spaces that can be used for a range of active and passive recreation activities to meet the community's needs.

Directions

A1. Provide diverse spaces for different users and activities

A2. Increase the capacity of existing active recreation spaces through embellishment and upgrade works

A3. Leverage opportunities to provide new and extended spaces in key strategic locations

A4. Continue to improve walking routes along the coastline by identifying pinch points and areas for improvement in walker comfort and way finding.

A5. Seek funding and partnership arrangements to provide public access to new open spaces and recreation facilities

A6. Secure existing open spaces for future generations

A7. Provide more areas for passive recreation activities including areas of quiet contemplation.

Relevant Council policies, plans and studies:

- Plans of management for all parks and reserves
- Waverley Council Planning Agreement Policy (2014)
- Waverley Development Contribution Plan (2006)
- Waverley Council Play Space Strategy 2014-2029

No.	Action	Timing
Directi	on A1: Provide diverse spaces for different users and activities	<u> </u>
A1.1	Engage schools, sports clubs and community groups to work together to program activities to increase use of Waverley's recreation facilities at off-peak times and maximise the hours of usage.	Short term (initiate)
A1.2	Investigate allowing the public to use facilities on a casual, turn up and play basis (except for facilities in Waverley Park) by allocating time for social play.	Short term (deliver)
A1.3	Increase provision and capacity of dog off-leash areas. Consult on the introduction of access for dog off-leash activities in North Bondi and Bondi Beach. Identify measures to enforce compliance with timed access. If trial proves to be successful, implement dog off-leash area. Investigate means of improving turf and support facilities such as signage, water bubblers and bins at dog off-leash parks.	Short term (deliver)
A1.4	Implement a strategy to increase the profile of South Head Cemetery as part of the Waverley parks and reserves network and recreation walking network.	Short term (deliver)
A1.5	Undertake a needs and demands assessment for recreational swimming in the LGA, to address the availability of swimming classes, lap swimming and club swimming participation opportunities, community knowledge and affordability of available facilities.	Short term (deliver)

No.	Action	Timing
A1.6	Seek opportunities to provide additional turn-up and play facilities such as basketball and netball hoops, tennis rebound walls, and outdoor activity stations.	Medium term (deliver)
	Priority locations for investigation are:	
	• in and around Bondi Junction, well-connected by pedestrian and cycle paths and public transport	
	in Waverley Park, adjoining the upper level courts	
	• in the northern part of the LGA in North Bondi, Rose Bay and Vaucluse to increase residents' access to these facilities.	
A1.7	Seek opportunities to provide additional indoor multi-use courts that can be used for casual play and also support match play, such as basketball. New facilities can be integrated as part of new development, particularly in and around Bondi Junction.	Medium term (deliver)
A1.7	Seek opportunities to provide or support facilities for gymnastics and dance.	Medium term (deliver)
A1.8	Implement the <i>Inclusive Play Space Study</i> to provide inclusive play spaces for all ages and abilities. ¹	Short term (deliver)
A1.9	Implement the <i>Street Play Policy</i> to further provide opportunities for play. Consider play in planting design in designated street play streets.	Short term (deliver)
A1.10	Continue to provide improved beach access, in line with the principles for universal access at Bondi Beach. ²	Short term (deliver)
Directio	A2: Increase the capacity of existing spaces through embellishment and upgrade works	
A2.1	Complete an audit of all Waverley sports fields and investigate opportunities to change play surfaces that could support greater utilisation of facilities.	Short term (deliver)
A2.2	Investigate opportunities to extend the size of the field at Barracluff Park to increase the capacity of the field for match play and training activities. While supporting a broader mix of activities, such as casual play and dog off-leash (timed access), and providing amenities such as toilets to support an increase of users.	Short term (deliver)
A2.4	Increase lighting of the sports field and provide amenities such as toilets and change facilities at Hugh Bamford Reserve to enable more groups access and increase the hours of play available for the field. ³	Medium term (deliver)
A2.5	Investigate increasing the capacity of Varna Park to support an area for junior sports and training. Improvements to include possible stormwater harvesting and irrigation system to improve turf and establishing bookings for the space.	Medium term (deliver)
A2.6	Investigate providing storage space for community clubs adjoining sports field.	Short term (deliver)
A2.7	Focus on providing facilities to support the top ten most popular activities as identified by the annual Clearinghouse for sports data.	Ongoing

1. Architects of Arcadia, Inclusive Play Study

2. Waverley Council, Bondi Park, Beach and Pavilion Plan of Management 2014-2024, p92

3. Waverley Council, Draft Williams park and Hugh Bamford Reserve Plan of Management, p66



Figure 4.1 Playing and relaxing key actions

No.	Action	Timing
Directio	n A3: Leverage opportunities to provide new and extended spaces in key strategic locations	
A3.1	Seek opportunities to provide an 'urban park' in Bondi Junction as part of new development. Urban parks can include community indoor recreation space, rooftop courts for basketball or tennis, and indoor public pools.	Medium term (deliver)
	Opportunities can be investigated with potential redevelopments at the following sites:	
	15 Adelaide Street	
	Under the viaduct along Syd Enfield Drive	
A3.2	Investigate options to secure 143 Bronte Road, Queens Park as a publicly accessible recreation and play space during weekends and out of school hours. Option may include establishing a shared use arrangement with the Department of Education.	Short term (deliver)
A3.2	 Seek opportunities to acquire land in strategic locations, such as adjoining existing parks, to create community hubs with co-located community services, Council indoor and outdoor recreation facilities, parks and play spaces. Investigate the impacts of developing a series of community hubs at: Wairoa Avenue, North Bondi - to create a community hub with childcare, play space, 	Ongoing
	recreation facilities, and WAYS centre with frontage to the park.	
	• Clementson Park, Bondi Junction - to maintain as a Park and community hub with childcare, play space, early childhood centre, community garden.	
	• Varna Park - to expand Varna Park to provide a community hub with a broader range of community facilities.	
	Maintain the land identified for acquisition in Councils Local Environmental Plan 2012. ¹	
A3.3	Investigate options available in the planning framework to secure current RE1 and RE2 zoned land for recreation purposes into the future.	Short term (deliver)
A3.4	Investigate the need and requirements for indoor cricket practice nets in Waverley Park through an update to the Waverley Park Plan of Management. Undertake a series of consultation activities in the planning and design phase of the project including broad community consultation to gauge support for the project and focused consultation with other community clubs and groups who may use the proposed multipurpose facility to gauge their interest, understand requirements to help inform the preferred multi-use combination.	Short term (deliver)
	n A4: Continue to improve walking routes along the coastline by identifying pinch points and area er comfort and way finding	as for improvement
A4.1	Complete an amenities study to identify gaps and recommended locations for providing public toilet facilities and water bubblers along the Cliff Top Walk and implement findings.	Short term (deliver)
A4.2	Complete an audit of the Cliff Top and Coastal Walk to address breaks to footpath continuity, gaps in signage, and allow continuous connection between both walks to improve visitor experience and manage the increasing number of visitors to the walks each year. Priority areas to audit include:	Medium term (deliver)
	From Bondi Park on approach to Williams Park as an alternative to Military Road	
	Connecting Williams Park to Hugh Bamford Reserve	
	Connecting from Military Road through Hugh Bamford onto Wentworth Street	

1. Waverley Council, Waverley Local Environmental Plan 2012, Land Acquisition Map, online; https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/EPI/2012/540/maps#LRA 2. Waverley Council, Draft Williams park and Hugh Bamford Reserve Plan of Management, p73

No.	Action	Timing
Direction facilitie	n A5: Seek funding and partnership arrangements to provide public access to new open spaces a s	nd recreation
A5.1	Investigate establishing shared-use arrangements of recreation facilities with schools.	Short term (deliver)
A5.2	Investigate a regional and joint venture approach to provide indoor sports and swimming facilities with neighbouring councils and interested clubs so Waverley Council residents can access facilities for a low fee on a casual basis.	Short term (initiate)
A5.3	Pursue external sources of funding, such as grants and funding from other levels of government and the business community to improve recreation facilities and Council-run programs.	Short term (initiate)
A5.4	Continue close working relationships with government, Eastern City District LGA councils, and the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust to plan for and manage open space. Pursue opportunities to share resources and deliver cross-regional facilities.	Short term (initiate)
Directio	A6: Provide more areas for passive recreation activities including areas of quiet contemplation.	
A6.1	Develop a place story strategy that educates a visitor on the environmental, heritage, archaeological, and social significance of Waverley's parks and reserves. Prioritise places with high visitation such as regional and district parks.	Medium term (deliver)
A6.2	Conserve existing and provide more opportunities for quiet contemplation, rest and respite. ¹	

Design and setting

Outcomes

Open spaces in Waverley are well-designed, comfortable places that contribute to the natural landscape, local character of places, and support community health and wellness. People will be attracted to visit Waverley's open spaces.

Directions

- B1. Ensure design responds to the unique character of a place and responds to the community's needs
- B2. Design environments for user comfort for all times of the day
- B3. Design spaces that encourage physical activity

Relevant Council policies, plans and studies:

- Waverley PDTM
- Plans of management for all parks and reserves

No.	Action	Timing
Directio	on B1: Ensure design responds to the unique character of a place and responds to community's neo	eds
B1.1	Review and update the Waverley PDTM to incorporate findings from this OSRS relating to design and managing heritage values in spaces. Figure 4.2 shows the different types of spaces across Waverley.	Short term (initiate)
B1.2	 Complete a visual analysis study of regional views to: integrate view points and view corridors with park design inform development controls required to protect regional views. 	Short term (initiate)
B1.3	Ensure landscape design responds to the surrounding natural environment, views and vistas.	Short term (initiate)
Directio	on B2: Design environments for user comfort for all times of the day	
B2.1	Provide amenities (shade, seating, toilets, and water bubbler's) at all regional, district and neighborhood parks. Prioritise providing amenities at parks and reserves with sports fields where sporting clubs and school groups play, such as:	Medium term (deliver)
	Waverley Park ¹	
	Barracluff Park	
	Rodney Reserve	
	Hugh Bamford Reserve. ²	
B2.2	Prioritise tree planting and landscaping along popular walking routes and streets to create comfortable and attractive environments for recreational walkers, tree planting and landscape should help make these links to be shaded in winter and cool in summer (refer to Action D2.3 and 4.4).	Short term (initiate)
Directio	on B3: Design spaces that encourage physical activity	
B3.1	Integrate built elements as part of public domain and park upgrade designs that encourage physical activity and play for all age groups. ³	Ongoing

1. Waverley Council, Waverley Park and Pavilion Plan of Management 2012-2022, p44

- 2. Waverley Council, Draft Williams Park and Hugh Bamford Reserve Plan of Management, p62-92
- 3. Waverley Council, Play Space Strategy 2014-2029, p 43



Getting to and around the parks

Outcomes

Parks, reserves and recreation facilities form a network of open space that is well-connected, with a focus on pedestrian and cycling connections. Open spaces will be accessible to everyone.

Directions

C1. Provide for easy navigation and access throughout the open space network and within parks

- C2. Manage car parking and transport impacts particularly at busy times and during events at Waverley parks and reserves
- C3. Provide a safe and comfortable environment along the pedestrian and cycling network to access Waverley parks and reserves

C4. Ensure all parks are designed and upgraded in line with universal design principles.

Relevant Council policies, plans and studies:

- Waverley PDTM
- Waverley's Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017 2021

No.	Action	Timing
Directio	on C1: Provide for easy navigation and access throughout the open space network and within park	S
C1.1	Ensure entrances are clearly marked at popular open spaces (such as Bondi Beach and Park), through signage and way finding for pedestrians and cyclists, public transport users, and drivers. ¹	Medium term (initiate)
C1.2	Update the Waverley PDTM to include design guidance on way-finding signage for parks and reserves. Guidelines to include the preferred type and location of signs and to ensure control over the proliferation of signs in parks.	Medium term (initiate)
Direction reserve	on C2: Manage car parking and transport impacts particularly at busy times and during events at W	Vaverley parks and
C2.1	Undertake a study of off-street car parking for beach and sports focused parks and reserves to identify patterns of trips by car, understand shifting mode to more active forms of transport and inform car parking and traffic management strategies to improve safety at times of high visitation.	Short term (deliver)
	on C3: Provide a safe and comfortable environment along the pedestrian and cycling network to a nd reserves	ccess Waverley
C3.1	Audit the quality, safety and continuity of footpaths in and around parks and reserves and along the Coast and Cliff Top Walk. Improve street entry into parks and reserves and along the Coast and Cliff Top Walk to consider universal access and address hazards or blockages to pedestrian access where needed. Prioritise the Coast and Cliff Top Walk, regional parks, then district parks, that experience higher visitation (refer to figure 4.3). ²	Short term (initiate)
C3.2	 Develop a wayfinding strategy to ensure routes are adequately signed and easy to navigate for: Bondi Beach Cliff and Coastal Walks, including feeder routes to and connections between the two walks Bondi Junction Bronte Park and Gully Tamarama Park and Gully 	Medium term (deliver)
	Bondi to Manly Walk as agreed with organisers.	
Directio	on C4: Ensure all parks are designed and upgraded in line with universal design principles	
C4.1	Provide accessible car parking at all larger parks. Integrate with study identified in C2.1.	Short term (initiate)
C4.2	Ensure universal access to park facilities (where natural topography and local conditions allows) such as playgrounds, toilet amenities and lookouts as well as providing access to park experiences such as traversing through parks and playing sport. ²	Short term (initiate)

1. Waverley Council, Bondi Park, Beach and Pavilion Plan of Management 2014-2024, p61

2. Waverley Council, Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2021, p12

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Figure 4.3 Extent of footpath audit around regional and district parks (Action C3.1)

Enhancing the environment

Outcomes

Open spaces in Waverley has significant environmental values and form an important part of the ecology in Waverley, which needs to be respected in the design of parks and reserves.

Directions

D1. Embed environmentally sustainable practices in the management and maintenance of spaces

- D2. Enhance and conserve the natural environment
- D3. Plan for resilience to manage and adapt to climate change impacts

Relevant Council policies, plans and studies:

- Environmental Action Plan 3
- Water Management Technical Manual
- Plans of management for all parks and reserves
- Waverley Council Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-2021

No.	Action	Timing
Direction	D1: Embed environmentally sustainable practices in the management and maintenance of space	ces
D1.1	Continue to engage the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council in the management and maintenance of spaces and seek opportunities to integrate traditional land management practices to build environmental as well as social and cultural resilience.	Short term (initiate)
D1.2	Complete an overarching waste management strategy for Waverley parks and reserves to guide Council's approach to collection, management, and disposal of general waste, recycling and green waste in parks.	Short term (deliver)
D1.3	Continue to improve on water management in open spaces including water capture, recycling, re-use and increasing permeable surfaces.	Short term (deliver)
Direction	D2: Enhance and conserve the natural environment	
D2.1	Manage activities adjoining remnant bushland sites to avoid disruption and erosion of vegetation areas. Consider the protection of bushland when locating walking tracks and lookouts and provide fencing surrounding bushland and remnant vegetation where necessary.	Ongoing
D2.2	Increase tree planting in parks and reserves and use diverse planting where appropriate to achieve Waverley's canopy targets. Providing density of tree planting and continuity between parks can help create corridors of vegetation to support local flora and fauna habitats.	Ongoing
	Areas identified for increased tree planting are shown on Figure 4.4 as 'possible street greening' and park biodiversity focus areas'.	
D2.3	Encourage planting of native species in open spaces and verges to improve habitats and provide a food source for native fauna in our urban environment. Areas identified for planting of native species are shown on Figure 4.4 as 'street greening' and 'park biodiversity focus areas'.	Ongoing
D2.4	Encourage planting of native species along the coast line to support the coastal biodiversity corridor (refer to Figure 4.4).	Ongoing
Direction	D3: Plan for resilience to manage and adapt to climate change impacts	
D3.1	Focus planting of street trees along key pedestrian and cycling routes that align with ecological corridors connecting parks and reserves.	Ongoing
D3.2	Provide additional shade trees in parks around water bubblers and rest spots such as near seating to minimise exposure to heat.	Medium term (deliver)
D3.3	Provide under-story planting where possible to increase cooling and improve biodiversity connectivity	Ongoing

1. Total Earth Care, Biodiversity Action Plan 2014-2020.



Figure 4.4 Network for street / verge planting (Action D2.3)

Community, culture and heritage

Outcomes

Parks and reserves provide spaces for the community. These spaces allow for a range of community activities and the community also needs to be involved in the management of these spaces.

Directions

E1. Engage the community in the care and management of open space and facilities

- E2. Support community events and social activities in parks and reserves
- E3. Protect and manage the heritage values of items and landscape areas
- E4. Educate the community about the value of the unique environment of spaces
- E5. Ensure design of parks tells the story of the place and local culture

Relevant Council policies, plans and studies:

- Plans of management for all parks and reserves
- Waverley PDTM
- Consultation Policy
- Conservation management plans
- Waverley Council Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-2021

No.	Action	Timing
Directio	n E1: Engage the community in the care and management of open space and facilities	I
E1.1	Develop a place story strategy that educates a visitor on the environmental, Aboriginal and European heritage, archaeological, and social significance of Waverley's parks and reserves. Prioritise places with high visitation such as regional and district parks.	Medium term (deliver)
E1.2	Implement an engagement framework that reflects full life-cycle of community engagement for the design, care and management of spaces, from design to post-implementation. Council to establish:	Ongoing
	initial consultation with the community and stakeholders prior to the development of designs	
	• post-implementation surveys to capture the community's assessment and evaluation of the success of projects	
	 annual community survey on open space and recreation to monitor people's use and satisfaction of Waverley's parks and reserves 	
	annual sports fields and courts regular hirers survey to monitor stakeholder satisfaction and feedback on the management of facilities	
	• a plan to involve traditional owners in the conservation and management of open and recreation spaces, recognising and respecting Aboriginal cultures and heritage.	
E1.3	Provide spaces that allow commemoration to members of the community who have passed away by providing 'living legacy' spaces (see Figure 4.5). ¹	Medium term (deliver)
	Develop an implementation and management plan for 'living legacy' spaces, including arrangements for funding through public donations for the upkeep in the form of additional planting, furniture or the like and increased maintenance.	
E1.4	Identify ways in which Council can support and encourage the community to partake in public gardening including verge and community gardening.	Ongoing

^{1.} Waverley Council, Meeting Minutes of the Waverley Operations and Community Services Committe Meeting held on 9 October 2018, p3

No.	Action	Timing
Directior	E2: Support community events and social activities in parks and reserves	I
E2.1	Continue to support events in Waverley's parks and reserves that are focused on building community and generate positive benefits for Waverley's local economy. Also see A1.9 regarding street play policy. Events should align with Waverley's Events Policy. ¹	Ongoing
	E3: Protect and manage the heritage values of items and landscape areas and educate the com nvironment and heritage value of Waverley's spaces	munity on the
E3.1	Adopt the following principles to guide management of open space in Waverley that have landscape heritage values and Aboriginal and European heritage items:	Short term (deliver)
	 Plan and manage the open spaces and parks of Waverley to conserve and protect significant heritage values 	
	 Manage individual contributory elements within the listed parks or reserves in accordance with their assessed level of significance 	
	• Consider the impact of works to heritage and their associated attributes as well as impacts on the significance of the place as a whole	
	 Establish and maintain a regular maintenance program for identified heritage structures and landscape components 	
	 Acknowledge the contribution of significant trees to the distinctive, historic character of parks and try to replace species like for like if significant trees become senescent and fail 	
	 Seek opportunities to recover, enrich and celebrate the historic character and significance of open space and parks within Waverley. 	
E3.2	Amend and update the LEP Schedule 5 heritage items and heritage map to more accurately reflect the items (including landscape conservation areas) and their boundaries. Investigate:	Short term (deliver)
	• Inclusion of Calga Reserve as part of the South Bronte Headland Conservation Area.	
	• The heritage significance of Clemenston Park and review its heritage listing.	
	 Williams Park as a cultural landscape area, recognising the Aboriginal and historical archaeological significance of the site. 	
	 Inclusion of Francis Street as a heritage item (Francis Street Landscape Conservation Area) for its significance in relation to the history and development of Waverley LGA. 	
E3.3	Ensure Council's parks operations team is trained in best practice heritage landscape management. Management of heritage items, landscape conservation areas and heritage significant trees at Varna Park, Dickson Park, and Thomas Hogan Reserve, must be undertaken in accordance with conservation processes and principles.	Medium term (deliver)
E3.4	Integrate landscape heritage conservation planning, management and actions for conservation as part of the process for preparing a plan of management for parks and reserves with heritage values.	Medium term (deliver)

No.	Action	Timing
E3.5	Prepare and implement a heritage interpretation strategy or plan for historic and heritage listed open space LGA wide. This strategy will aim to help communicate the heritage values of the place weather through signage, artwork, storytelling, landscape design or improvements to amenity. The following parks and reserves, as shown on Figure 4.5 should be included in this strategy or plan:	Medium term (deliver)
	• Bondi Beach and Park (including Ben Buckler / Ray O'Keefe Reserve, Marks Park) - planning for this place is a priority	
	Hunter Park (reflecting the context of the Bondi Beach Cultural Landscape Area)	
	• Bronte Beach (for the park, beach, ocean pool, Calga cutting and Bronte House)	
	Waverley Park	
	Tamarama Beach Park and Gully	
	Varna Reserve	
	Thomas Hogan Reserve	
	Dickson Park	
	Gaerloch Reserve	
	Macpherson Park	
	Simpson Park	
	Queens Park (in conjunction with Centennial Parklands Trust)	
	 Rodney Reserve (to provide better public access to and awareness for the CSIRO Astronomical Instrument Base) 	
	 Diamond Bay Reserve (to provide better public access to and awareness of the rock engraving). 	
E3.6	Prepare a heritage and landscape management plan as part of the plans of management for the following places:	Medium term (deliver)
	Waverley Park	
	• Sandstone Coastal Escarpment Landscape Conservation Area. Area includes Clarke Reserve, Diamond Bay to Rodney Reserve.	
	Heritage and landscape management plans should guide works to improve heritage interpretation, management and maintenance of heritage items, items contributing to heritage landscapes, and significant heritage trees.	
E4. Educa	Ite the community about the value of the unique environment of spaces	
E4.1	Integrate environmental and Aboriginal cultural messaging on park signage. ¹ Educate the community on the significance of remnant vegetation and importance of protecting vegetation from damage.	Medium term (initiate)
E5. Ensur	e park design reflects the story of the place and local culture	
E5.1	Prepare a master plan and associated management plan for Hunter Park which includes park improvements, management and information on art pieces and references Council's <i>Art</i> <i>Collection - Acquisition and Decommissioning Guidelines</i> for future works.	Medium term (deliver)
E5.2	Investigate opportunities for public art installations, in addition to projects identified in the Waverley <i>Public Art Masterplan</i> . Encourage integration of public art in the design of parks, play spaces and living memorials to tell the story of place, Indigenous culture and local perspectives. Seek to engage local artists for public art projects.	Medium term (deliver)

1. Waverley Council, Waverley Council Innovate Reconcilliation Action Plan 2019-2021, p33



Figure 4.5 Community, culture and heritage

Management and maintenance

Outcomes

Council provides spaces that are safe and maintained at a good standard that is satisfactory to the community.

Directions

F1. Maintain spaces, facilities and amenities at a standard in line with the park classification

- F2. Provide clear and consistent messaging regarding compliance in parks
- F3. Maintain environments that are safe for all users

F4. Ensure consistency in management across all parks and reserves

Relevant Council policies, plans and studies:

- Plans of management for all parks and reserves
- Waverley Strategic Asset Management Plan
- Waverley Operational Plan
- Waverley Play Spaces Strategy 2014-2029

No.	Action	Timing
Directio	on F1: Maintain spaces, facilities and amenities at a good standard	I
F1.1	Prepare and or maintain plans of management (PoM) for parks and reserves to guide maintenance and management activities.	Short term (initiate)
	Prioritise the preparation of plans of management for spaces that aren't currently covered by a PoM, and require a plans of management under the Crown Lands Act, and prioritise the review and update of plans of management currently in place for high profile places:	
	Bondi Park, Beach and Pavilion Plan of Management.	
	Bronte Beach and Park Plan of Management.	
	Waverley Park Plan of Management.	
	Tamarama Park Plan of Management.	
	• Plan of Management for Parks (plan to include Thomas Hogan Reserve and Barracluff Park).	
	• Coastal and Cliff Top Parks (plan to include Rodney Reserve, Raleigh Reserve, Weonga Reserve, Diamond Bay Reserve, Clarke Reserve and Eastern Reserve).	
	 Waverley Cemetery and South Head Cemetery Plan of Management (new), Weonga Reserve, Diamond Bay Reserve, Clarke Reserve and Eastern Reserve. 	
F1.2	Adopt the maintenance and servicing framework (Appendix A) that outlines expectations for service standards, maintenance activities, and frequency of servicing of Waverley parks and reserves. Based on the framework, prepare a detailed service plan for parks and streetscapes. Review staffing levels against servicing framework.	Short term (deliver)
F1.3	Audit Council Parks and Operations team requirements for support facilities, plant and euipment such as watering trucks, storage space, and parking to enable implementation of the maintenance and servicing framework.	Short term (deliver)
F1.4	Establish a priority listing of all parks for upgrade and refurbishment based on asset life cycle and coordinate with the <i>Play Space Strategy 2014-2029</i> priority of works.	Short term (deliver)
F1.5	Establish a database of living assets for parks and street trees and inform improvement works to parks, program audits and renewal of assets.	Short term (deliver)

No.	Action	Timing		
F1.6	Establish and maintain a list of significant trees in parks and streets.	Short term (deliver)		
F1.7	Undertake an assessment of training field surfaces to determine what maintenance and upgrade schedules are required to increase the capacity of play and resilience of turf. Consider alternative surfaces such as hybrid or synthetics.			
F1.8	Review and update Council's <i>Tree Policy and Street Tree Master Plan</i> in line with Council's commitment to urban canopy targets and areas identified in Figure 4.4.	Short term (deliver)		
Directio	on F2: Provide clear and consistent messaging regarding compliance in parks			
F2.1	Review Council's <i>Events Policy and Event Management and Delivery Guidelines</i> and update the policy to identify:	Short term (deliver)		
	which parks and reserves are appropriate for different types of events			
	key impacts that would need to be managed for each place			
	• a calendar of events to manage frequency of events so that public access to spaces is not impacted and the environment has opportunity to recover.			
F2.2	Implement updates to signage in parks and reserves and communication of information identifying open space regulations, in accordance with Appendix B.	Medium term (deliver)		
Directio	n F3: Maintain environments that are safe for users			
F3.1	Review risks to health and safety at Waverley's cliff top parks and implement management strategies.	Short term (deliver)		
Directio	on F4: Ensure consistency in management across all parks and reserves	•		
F4.1	Set out guidelines for sponsorship or partnership agreements for park and recreation assets to ensure some consistency of approach between community, not-for-profit and commercial organisations. Review Council's fees and charges accordingly.	Short term (deliver)		
F4.2	Focus mass planting areas in:	Ongoing		
	Beach and sports parks			
	• Steep slopes (of 1:3 or greater)			
	Verge planting focus areas as identified in Figure 4.4.			
F4.3	Connect all irrigation systems to cloud based smart controllers which automatically adjust watering time and volume based on both forecast and actual rainfall.	Ongoing		

Open space network and classification

We have 79 parks and reserves to manage, which service a range of activities and users. The introduction of a system of classification of our parks and reserves will help Council prioritise maintenance decisions and improvement activities by providing an understanding of the level of provision and facilities expected for each type of open space.

Our classification of spaces by five types (Bondi Beach and Park landscape, beach parks, sports parks, neighbourhood and local) is generally consistent with the proposed approach for open space planning set out in the NSW Government Architect's *Open Space for Recreation Guide*. Our classification reflects the types of activities and facilities currently available, or desired in each park and reserve, and to some extent the size of spaces. It indicates the catchment size and the extent that people travel to visit a space, and based on this information informs the approach to maintenance and servicing required for each space. Principles for open space classification are outlined in Table 4.1.



Bondi Beach Park



Sports park - Waverley Park

Open space classification Bondi Beach and Park landscape

• Unique and high profile destination in Waverley that attracts visitors locally, regionally and internationally and provides access to water-based recreation activities, spaces to socialise and relax, and high quality amenities.

Beach parks

• Provides open green space and space for passive and active recreation and includes access to water-based activities. Provides facilities and a landscape that attracts visitors from beyond Waverley LGA.

Sports parks

- Provides open green space and space for passive recreation and team and organised sports. Provide sporting facilities that can cater for group and organised sports.
- A destination park that services a substantial residential area or at least two local suburb catchments.

Neighbourhood

• Provides open green space for primarily passive and casual turn up and play recreation. Provides green spaces to walk through. Caters to the local catchment of residents in the suburb or LGA.

Local

 Provides open green space for primarily passive recreation. Provides green spaces to walk through. Includes small parks and parks on street verges and road closures and caters for immediate residents in the area.



Neighbourhood open space - St James Reserve



Figure 4.6 Classification of Waverley parks and reserves

Туре	Description	Catchment and access	Facilities
Bondi Beach and Park landscape	Includes Bondi Beach, Bondi Park, surrounding parks and coast line. Relates to the National Heritage Listing. The landscape is a unique place in Waverley and is a high profile destination with an international reputation. The landscape provides access to water-based recreation activities, spaces to socialise and relax, and high quality amenities. The landscape attracts visitors internationally and encourages whole day visits and overnight stays.	Encourages visits for a whole day and overnight stays. The landscape is a destination and attracts organised or planned journeys.	 Has a unique design characteristic Includes furniture such as benches and picnic tables Includes high quality toilet facilities Include a play space with access path, signs and water bubbler. Includes Bondi Pavilion Includes food and beverage retailers Includes casual turn up and play facilities Include lighting Include high amenity horticultural planting, turf and trees Includes welcome signage at all entrances and interpretive signage of heritage items if relevant.
Beach parks	Larger park by the beach, designed with high amenity. Refer to Appendix A for details of service levels and maintenance servicing framework. Provides space for recreation, socialising and relaxation and includes access to water-based activities. A destination park that provides facilities and a landscape that attracts visitors from across Waverley LGA and outside the LGA. Encourages visits for more than two hours.	Encourages visits for several hours and will attract organised or planned journeys. Located close to public transport and includes associated facilities such as car parking including accessible parking.	 Includes furniture such as benches and picnic tables Includes toilet facilities Include a play space with access path, signs and water bubbler. May include a community hall or meeting space May include some casual turn up and play facilities May include a recreation facility for sports Includes lighting Include high amenity horticultural planting, turf and trees Includes welcome signage at all entrances and interpretive signage of heritage items if relevant.

Туре	Description	Catchment and access	Facilities
Sports parks	Larger park, designed with high amenity and provision of sports fields, courts and recreation facilities. Refer to Appendix A for details of service levels and maintenance servicing framework. Provides sporting facilities that can cater for organised and team sports and casual play. A destination park that services a substantial residential area or at least two local suburb catchments.	Encourages visits for one to two hours. Accessible to users within a 1km catchment area, about 15 to 20 minutes' walk from home. Located close to public transport.	 >25% of space is active space Includes furniture such as benches and picnic tables Includes toilet facilities May include a play space with access path, signs and water bubbler. May include a community hall or meeting space May include some casual turn up and play facilities May include a sporting facility Includes lighting Includes planting, turf and trees Includes welcome signage at all entrances and interpretive signage of heritage items if relevant.
Neighbour- hood	Provides a good level of landscape amenity. Refer to Appendix A for details of service levels and maintenance servicing framework. Provides open green space for primarily passive and casual turn up and play recreation. Provides green spaces to walk through.	Caters to a localised catchment. Accessible to users within a 400m catchment area, about an 8 to 15 minutes' walk from home. Visited daily by many users for short visits of up to one hour.	 O% active space May include furniture such as benches and picnic tables May include toilet facilities May include a play space with access path, signs and water bubbler. May include a community hall or meeting space May include some casual turn up and play facilities Does not include lighting Includes low maintenance planting, turf and trees Includes small park signs at all entrances.
Local	Provides a basic level of landscape amenity. Refer to Appendix A for details of service levels and maintenance servicing framework. Provides open green space for primarily passive recreation. Provides green spaces to walk through.	Caters to immediate residents in the area. Accessible to users within a 200m walking catchment area, about 5 to 10 minutes' walk from home or to users passing by on their way to other destinations.	 0% active space May include furniture such as bins, seating benches and picnic tables May include a play space Does not include lighting or bubblers Includes low maintenance planting, turf and trees Includes small park signs at all entrances

 Table 4.1 Principles for open space newtwork and classification

Locality strategic plan

The following plans show the combined strategies by locality.

North

Figure 4.7 shows the North locality, which extends from North Bondi to Vaucluse in the north.

Key projects for the North locality are focused on increasing amenities to improve access to toilets along the Cliff Walk, increasing the capacity of sports fields at Barracluff Park and Dudley Page Reserve, and increasing street planting on key cycle and pedestrian routes.

Priority actions for projects to be delivered in the short term (0 to 5 years) in the North locality are:

- A1.4 Implement a strategy to increase the profile of South Head Cemetery as part of the Waverley parks and reserves network and recreation walking network.
- A1.6 Seek opportunities to increase turn-up and play facilities such as basketball and netball hoops, tennis rebound walls, and outdoor activity stations.
- A1.3 Consult on the introduction of timed access for dog off-leash activities to improve access to dog off-leash areas in North Bondi and Bondi Beach. Identify measures to enforce compliance with timed access.
- A2.2 Investigate opportunities to extend the size of the field at Barracluff Park to increase the capacity of the field for training and match play, whilst supporting a broader mix of activities such as casual play and dog off-leash (timed access), and providing amenities such as toilets.
- A2.3 Investigate opportunities to increase the capacity of Rodney Reserve and provide sports clubs and groups more options for training and match play, including locating new outdoor courts at the northern end of the reserve.
- A2.4 Increase lighting of the sports field and provide amenities such as toilets and change facilities at Hugh Bamford Reserve, to enable more groups access and increase the hours of play available for the field.
- A4.1 Complete an amenities study to identify gaps and recommended locations for providing public toilet facilities, seating and water bubblers along the Cliff Top Walk. Suggested locations for more amenities include Diamond Bay and Hugh Bamford Reserve.

Beaches

Figure 4.8 shows the Beaches locality, which encompasses Bondi, Tamarama and Bronte Beaches and the suburbs of Bondi Beach, Bondi, Tamarama and Bronte.

Key projects for the Beaches locality are focused on providing better access to dog off-leash areas (to Barracluff Park), and increasing street planting on key cycle and pedestrian routes, with a particular focus on the Bondi Beach street greening focus area.

Priority actions for projects to be delivered in the short term (next 0 to 5 years) in the Beaches locality are:

- A1.9 Continue to implement actions to provide improved beach access, in line with the principles for universal access at Bondi Beach and Bronte Park.
- D2.3 Encourage planting of native species in open spaces and verges to improve habitats for native flora and fauna in our urban environment. These areas of focus are identified as 'possible street greening' and 'park biodiversity focus areas'.

The Junction

Figure 4.9 shows The Junction locality, which encompasses the western part of the LGA, including the suburbs of Waverley, Queens Park and Bondi Junction.

Key projects for The Junction locality, are focused on increasing tree planting and greening to support the high number of pedestrians in this locality, securing more spaces for recreation, and providing more opportunities for turnup and play facilities and spaces for casual play. There is an opportunity to explore shared use arrangements to enable access to existing private facilities and schools. Opportunities to extend and upgrade existing parks and reserves will be investigated.

Priority actions for projects to be delivered in the short term (next 0 to 5 years) in The Junction locality are:

• A1.6 Seek opportunities to increase turn-up and play facilities such as basketball and netball hoops, tennis rebound walls, and outdoor activity stations.

Priority locations for investigation are: Bondi Junction and Waverley Park.

- A1.7 Seek opportunities to provide additional indoor multi-use courts that can be used for casual play and also support match play, such as basketball. New facilities can be integrated as part of new development, particularly in and around Bondi Junction.
- D2.3 Encourage planting of native species in open spaces and verges to improve habitats for native flora and fauna in our urban environment. These areas of focus are identified as 'possible street greening' and 'park biodiversity focus areas'



Figure 4.7 North combined strategies map



Figure 4.8 Beaches combined strategies map

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Figure 4.9 Bondi Junction and surrounds combined strategies map



Funding

Planning, management, and maintenance of open space is funded through Council's operational budgets. Delivery of this OSRS will predominately be funded by Council.

Acquisition of new spaces and upgrade of existing spaces will primarily be funded through Council's capital works budgets. Sometimes funding may be available via external sources such as development contributions collected via local contributions plans or negotiated through planning agreements, or other government grant funding.



Figure 4.10 Monitoring and reporting framework

Monitoring and reporting

Existing Council reviews and measures will assist in monitoring the effectiveness of the OSRS. The approaches to monitoring and indicators for success are listed in Table 4.2. Indicators can be monitored through the proposed activities as part of the engagement framework (action E1.2) and through other monitoring and reporting activities as part of our other programs.

Each year, Waverley reports on progress in delivering goals of the Waverley Community Strategic Plan. For open space this involves reporting on the following measures:

- improved community satisfaction with the quality of parks, sporting and recreational facilities and open spaces
- improve, community satisfaction with the accessibility to parks, sporting and recreational facilities and open spaces.

We will review our SAMP to guide the funding and prioritisation of projects that deliver on the OSRS.

The OSRS will be reviewed and updated in 10 years time.

Approach to monitoring	Indicators
Annual community satisfaction survey	Community satisfaction increases
Annual sports fields and courts regular hirers survey	Sporting clubs and school groups satisfaction is maintained or increases
Hours facilities used or booked	The average hours of bookings increases across all facilities
Transport surveys and pedestrian monitoring	Trips in Waverley by active transport (walking and cycling) increases
Tree canopy and vegetated area audit	Tree canopy and vegetated area increases
Compliance with Council open space policies and regulations	Complaints decreases

Table 4.2 Monitoring OSRS and performance indicators

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Appendices



Appendix A: Maintenance and servicing framework

Maintenance of parks and reserves requires the repair and or servicing of parks involves:

- maintenance inspections to assess the requirements for repairs and
- maintenance tasks to keep the asset serviceable and meet level of service standards, wither immediately or within the next year or two.

Description	Beach Parks (including Bondi Park)	Parks with Sports Fields	Neighbourhood Parks	Local Parks	Streets/ Verges/ Traffic Calming Devise
Service Level	High	High	Medium	Basic	Basic
	High level of utilisation	High level of utilisation	Medium level of utilisation	Relatively low level of utilisation.	Relatively low level of utilisation.
	This standard has the highest level of asset provision, using quality materials and bespoke designs, maintenance is undertaken to the highest affordable standards with quick response times and proactive programed operations.	This standard has the highest level of asset provision, using quality materials and bespoke designs, maintenance is undertaken to the highest affordable standards with quick response times and proactive programed operations.	This standard has a moderate level of asset provision, using robust materials and simple designs. Maintenance is undertaken to a good standards, with standard response times and programed operations.	This standard has the lowest level of asset provision, using robust materials and simple designs. Maintenance is undertaken to the lowest acceptable standard, with longer response times and fewer programed operations.	This standard has the lowest level of asset provision, using robust materials and simple designs. Maintenance is undertaken to the lowest acceptable standard, with longer response times and fewer programed operations.
Service Frequency	Weekly	Monthly	6 weeks – 3 months	6 weeks – 3 months	6 weeks – 3 months
Water	Summer lawn areas as required	Summer lawn areas as required	Limited or no lawn irrigation	No lawn irrigation	No lawn irrigation
	Trees and shrubs as required. Drip system to be installed where possible.	Trees and shrubs as required. Drip system to be installed where possible.	Hand water new revegetation areas.	Hand water new revegetation areas.	Hand water new revegetation areas.
	Monitor water use to adhere to water budgets.	Monitor water use to adhere to water budgets.	Monitor water use to adhere to water budgets.		

Invigation	Densir envialdere		No / Limited	No invigation	No invigation
Irrigation System	Repair sprinklers, valves and pipes as required. Maintain in a good condition. Refer to IPWEA Parks Management: Inventories, conditions and	Sprinkler systems to sports fields / repair sprinklers, valves and pipes as required. Maintain in a good condition. Refer to IPWEA Parks Management:	No/ Limited sprinklers systems, check taps, valves if present. Maintain in a good condition. Refer to IPWEA Parks Management: Inventories,	No irrigation systems	No irrigation systems
	performance grading for ratings.	Inventories, conditions and performance grading for ratings.	conditions and performance grading for ratings.		
	Sprinkler checks monthly between November – February.	Limited sprinkler system/ sprinkler checks monthly between November – February.	No/ Limited sprinklers	No sprinklers	No sprinklers
Mowing	Grass height between 80 – 100mm covering 30% turf area	Grass height between 80 – 100mm covering 30% turf area	Seasonally dependent especially on reserves with waterways and drains. Grass height between 100 – 150mm between >50% reserve.	Seasonally dependent especially on reserves with waterways and drains. Grass height between 100 – 150mm between >50% reserve.	Seasonally dependent. Grass height between 100 – 150mm. Respond to merit requests
NOTELNA	l	ing may be deferred			t is schodulad
Edging	Every 2-4 weeks or as required		Every 3 months	if a community even Every 3 months	No edging
Brush Cutting	Around signage, furniture, structures, path edges every 1-2 weeks	Around signage, furniture, structures, path edges every month	Around signage, furniture, structures, path edges every 6 weeks – 3 months	Around signage, furniture, structures, path edges every 6 weeks – 3 months	
Weed Control	Spay selective herbicides to control Bindii and Cape Daisy on turf once a year between June – September.	Spay selective herbicides to control Bindii and Cape Daisy on turf once a year between June – September.	Spay selective herbicides to control Bindii and Cape Daisy on turf once a year between June – September.	Spay selective herbicides to control Bindii and Cape Daisy on turf once a year between June – September.	
			Pre-emergent applied to garden beds every 3 months in spring and summer.	Pre-emergent applied to garden beds every 3 months in spring and summer.	Pre-emergent applied to garden beds once a year.
	Hand weed garden beds – check weekly	Hand weed garden beds – check every month	-	Hand weed garden beds – check 6 weeks – 3 months	Hand weed garden beds – check 6 weeks – 3 months

Pruning	Trees and shrubs as required to maintain tidy appearance and for plant health	Trees and shrubs as required	Prune damaged or hazardous branches	Prune damaged or hazardous branches	
	Remove spent flowers as required	Remove spent flowers as required			
Plant, Maintain	Garden beds	Garden beds	Garden beds	Plant on steep slopes	
	Top up mulch monthly	Top up mulch every 3 months	Top up mulch as necessary	Top up mulch as necessary	
Plant	Replace dead or unhealthy plans. Infill planting as required to create habitat and maintain amenity.	Infill planting as required to create habitat and maintain amenity. Replace dead or unhealthy plans.	Revegetation and screen plantings in winter	Trees/ shrubs – screening resident request	Infill planting as required to create habitat and maintain amenity. Replace dead or unhealthy plans.
Fertilise	Lawns/ turf/ sports fields Autumn and Spring	Lawns/ sports fields in Spring	No/ limited fertilising only as necessary and high use local parks	No/ limited fertilising only as necessary	No/ limited fertilising only as necessary
Top Dress	Lawns/ turf/ sports fields to ensure even surfaces throughout	Top dress high traffic or damaged areas as necessary	Top dress uneven surfaces for public safety as required	Top dress uneven surfaces for public safety as required	Top dress uneven surfaces for public safety as required
Turf	Returf after large events, and surrounding high wear areas including sports fields as required and end of each season.	Returf after large events, and surrounding high wear areas including sports fields as required and end of each season.	Returf for safety as necessary	Returf for safety as necessary	Returf for safety as necessary
	Over sow annually	Over sow sports fields and high use parks			
	Aerate sports fields and high use parks annually	Aerate sports fields and high use parks annually			
Maintain	Playgrounds	Playgrounds	Playgrounds	Playgrounds	
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Assets	weekly visual	weekly visual	weekly visual	weekly visual	
and Play	condition	condition	condition	condition	
Equipment	assessment. 3	assessment. 3	assessment. 3	assessment. 3	
	monthly testing	monthly testing	monthly testing	monthly testing	
	of moving parts.	of moving parts.	of moving parts.	of moving parts.	
	Annual audit for	Annual audit for	Annual audit for	Annual audit for	
	compliance to AS.	compliance to AS.	compliance to AS.	compliance to AS.	
	Furniture (seats,	Furniture (seats,	Furniture (seats,	Furniture (seats,	
	tables, bins,	tables, bins,	tables, bins,	tables, bins,	
	barbecues) weekly	barbecues)	barbecues) 6	barbecues) 6	
		monthly	weeks – 3 months	weeks – 3 months	
	Structures (picnic	Structures (picnic	Few or no	Few or no	
	shelter, toilets,	shelter, toilets,	structures to	structures to	
	change rooms)	change rooms)	maintain.	maintain.	
	weekly	monthly			
	Monthly	Monthly	Safe walkways	Check and	
	inspection of	inspection of	by repairs to	maintain	
	all pathways,	all pathways,	footpaths,	walkways/	
	footbridges and	footbridges and	walkways, steps,	footpaths as	
	walking trails	walking trails	post and rail	required.	
	in safe to easily	in safe to easily	fences, handrails		
	accessible state.	accessible state.	as required		
Hand Litter	Daily to twice	Daily to twice	Check every visit	Check every visit	Check every visit
Pick Up	weekly	weekly (Dec, Jan,			
		Feb) – Weekly			
		(May, June, July)			
Vandalism	Inspect and assess	Inspect and assess	Inspect and	For safety if	For safety if
	within 24hrs Mon	within 24hrs Mon	assess within	required or	required or
	– Fri, carry out	– Fri, carry out	24hrs Mon – Fri	programmed	programmed
	ASAP depending	ASAP depending	of notification,		
	on damage/	on damage/	carry out ASAP		
	vandalism and	vandalism and	depending		
	required materials.	required materials.	on damage/		
			vandalism and		
			required materials.		
Bin change	Change over daily	Collected by PPC	Collected by PPC	Collected by PPC	

*Note: Frequency of watering, weed management, mowing and bush cutting are adapted to respond to seasonal variations.

Appendix B: Parks compliance

*Alcohol free zone = public streets and beaches (Bondi, Tamarama and Bronte) only

*Alcohol prohibited zone = parks, reserves and public spaces that have been endorsed by council to be enforceable alcohol prohibited zones

Park or Reserve	Proposed compliance information						
All Parks (except	All Parks (except those listed independently below)						
those listed independently	No camping or staying over night						
below)	No portable barbecues or open fires						
	In an alcohol prohibited zone; Bondi Park & Beach, Tamarama Park & Beach and Bronte Park & Beach.						
	No consumption of alcohol (only is Alcohol free or prohibited zones as determined by Council						
	With a playground (refer to play strategy for locations)						
	No dogs within 10m of playground						
	Assistance dogs permitted in playground						
	No smoking within 10m of playground						
	Without a field or court (i.e. except Rodney Reserve, Barracluff Park, Dudley Page Reserve, Hugh Bamford Reserve)						
	No organised ball games, without council approval						
	In Coastal Reserves (Diamond Bay Reserve)						
	No camping or staying overnight						
	Parks within the Bondi Intertidal Area and Bronte - Coogee Aquatic Reserve i.e. Bronte Cutting, Calga Reserve, Waverley Cemetery, Hunter Park, Marks Park and Gareloch Reserve						
	No collecting or harvesting invertebrates in the intertidal area						
	Dogs prohibited in areas with remnant vegetation and bushcare areas.						
	Locations where commercial activities are allowed: (Note fitness training allowed in Hunter Park, Marks Park, Barracluff Park, Diamond Bay Reserve, Dudley page Reserve, Hugh Bamford Reserve, Rodney Reserve, Upper Dickson Reserve, Varna Park.						
	Note events in Dudley Page Reserve, Marks Park, Calga Reserve, Gaerloch Reserve, Diamond Bay, Hugh Bamford Reserve, Hunter Park, Waverley Memorial Park, Caffyn Park, Barracluff Park, Clementson Park, Kimberley Reserve, Thomas Hogan Reserve, Varna Park, Upper Dickson Reserve, Rodney Reserve)						
	To apply for an event or commercial activity, please seek approval from Council prior by calling 9369 8000.						
	Otherwise: No commercial activities						

Park or Reserve	Proposed compliance information
Bronte Park	No consumption of alcohol
	No camping or staying overnight
	No organised ball games, without council approval
	No commercial activities, without Council approval
	No kites or kite activities
	No portable barbecues or open fires
	No collecting or harvesting invertebrates in the intertidal area
	No smoking on beaches
	 Dogs are prohibited on the beach, in the bushland of the Bronte Gully, and near the pool, children's play areas and food preparation areas such as barbecues and the kiosk.
Bronte Beach	No Dogs
	No Smoking
	No kite or kite activities
	 No collecting or harvesting invertebrates in the intertidal area
	No commercial activities
	No Alcohol
	No ball games
	No glass
Tamarama Park	No consumption of alcohol
	No camping or staying overnight
	No smoking on beaches
	No organised ball games, without council approval
	No skateboarding, rollerblading and kite flying.
	 No dogs. Dogs prohibited in park and on the Beach, dogs permitted on-leash on the Coast Walk, promenade and in Tamarama Gully
	• Fishing is allowed in these areas but taking, gathering or collecting seashore animals is prohibited.
Tamarama Beach	No Dogs
	No Smoking
	No kite or kite activities
	No collecting or harvesting invertebrates in the intertidal area
	No commercial activities
	No Alcohol
	No ball games
	No glass

Park or Reserve	Proposed compliance information
Bondi Park and	No consumption of alcohol
Biddigal Park	No camping or staying overnight
	No smoking on beaches
	 No dogs. Dogs prohibited in park and on the Beach, dogs permitted on-leash on the Coast Walk and promenade.
	No organised ball games, without council approval.
	No commercial activities, without Council approval
	No bikes, skateboards or rollerblades
	No kites or kite activities
	No portable barbeque's or open fires
Bondi Beach signs	No dogs
	No Smoking
	No kite or kite activities
	No commercial activities
	No Alcohol
	No glass
	No carrying of hand spears or spear guns
	 No collecting or harvesting invertebrates in the intertidal area. Bondi to Tamarama forms an Intertidal Protected Area
North Bondi	No Dogs
Childrens' Pool and Rock Pool	No running
	No diving
	 No collecting or harvesting invertebrates in the intertidal area. Bondi to Tamarama forms an Intertidal Protected Area
	No smoking
	No drinking
	No glass
	No spear fishing
Waverley Park	No camping or staying overnight
	No commercial activities, without Council approval
	No portable barbeque's or open fires
	• Dogs prohibited on sports fields and courts, the memorial garden and within 10m of playground and food preparation areas. A designated dog off-leash area is located on the top section of the park. Dogs must remain on-leash in all other areas of the park.

Appendix C: Landscape Conservation Areas and heritage items

Park or reserve	Landscape Conservation Area	State Heritage Listing	Includes Local Heritage, Archaeological, Aboriginal Items or Sites
Ben Buckler / Ray O'Keefe Reserve	Ben Buckler (Ray O'Keefe) Reserve Landscape Conservation Area		Yes
Bondi Beach and Park*	Bondi Beach and Park Landscape Conservation Area	Yes - Bondi Pavilion, Bondi Beach Cultural Landscape	Yes
Bronte Beach and Park	Bronte Beach and Park Landscape Conservation Area		Yes
Caffyn Park	Caffyn Park Landscape Conservation Area		
Calga Reserve	Calga Avenue Landscape Conservation Area		
Clarke Reserve	Coastal Sandstone Escarpment Landscape Conservation Area		
Clemenston Park	Clemenston Park Landscape Conservation Area		
Cuthbert Street Reserve	Cuthbert Street Landscape Conservation Area		
Diamond Bay Reserve	Coastal Sandstone Escarpment Landscape Conservation Area		Yes
Dickson Park	Dickson Park Landscape Conservation Area		
Eastern Reserve	Oceanview Avenue (east of Military Road) Landscape Conservation Area		
Fingleton Reserve	Fingleton Reserve Landscape Conservation Area		
Francis Street Reserve	Francis Street Landscape Conservation Area		
Gaerloch Reserve	Gaerloch Reserve Landscape Conservation Area		
Hewlett Street Reserve	Hewlett Street Landscape Conservation Area		
Hugh Bamford Reserve		Ben Buckler Gun Battery 1893, 9.2" Disappearing Gun.	Yes
Hunter Park	Hunter and Marks Park Landscape Conservation Area		Yes
Macpherson Park	Macpherson Park Landscape Conservation Area		
Marks Park	Hunter and Marks Park Landscape Conservation Area		Yes
Queens Park	Queens Park Landscape Conservation Area		
Rodney Reserve	Coastal Sandstone Escarpment Landscape Conservation Area		Yes
Simpson Park	Simpson Park Landscape Conservation Area		Yes
Tamarama Beach and Park	Tamarama Beach, Park and Marine Drive Landscape Conservation Area		Yes
Tamarama Beach and Park	Tamarama Park Landscape Conservation Area		Yes
Thomas Hogan Reserve	Thomas Hogan Reserve and Bird Sanctuary (Formerly Glen-Roona Reserve) Landscape Conservation Area		
Varna Park	Varna Reserve Landscape Conservation Area		
Waverley Park	Waverley Park Landscape Conservation Area	Yes - Waverley Reservoir No. 1 and No. 2	Yes
Williams Park	William Reserve, North Bondi Golf Course Landscape Conservation Area	Sewer vent. Bondi Ocean Outfall Sewer.	Yes

* Note Bondi Beach is listed as National Heritage Place

Appendix D: Evaluation of Waverley recreation facilities

No.	Name	Sports and activities	Features	Usage/capacity	Opening hours	Condition	Notes and stakeholder feedback
Indoo	Indoor sports and recreation centre	n centre					
7	Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre	Basketball, floorball, futsal and netball	1x indoor court Lighting, toilets/ change rooms, storage	82% capacity summer and winter (max capacity 91h/ week). Booked for netball approximately 3-4h/ week. Booked for futsal 3 nights/ week (2x training and 1x competition) Booked for basketball 2 night/ week + Sundays	Open seven days per week 7am to 10pm	Rubber sprung floor - Good	Location of the only indoor court in the LGA
Sports	Sports fields and ovals						
1	Waverley Oval	Cricket, rugby union, Gaelic football	Natural turf wicket 6x synthetic nets with turf runnup 2x turf practice wicket blocks Toilets, kiosk, lighting, scoreboard and site screen	102% capacity winter 89% capacity summer (max capacity 23h/week)	Monday –Friday 7am-9.30pm Saturday-Sunday 7am-5pm	Grass – Good	During 2019 OSRS consultation, clubs noted that they are outgrowing current storage facilities available at Waverley Park. Clubs also expressed the need for indoor and outdoor spaces available throughout the year. Clubs expressed an interest in
L .	Waverley Park Field 2	Rugby union, rugby league soccer, Gaelic football, AFL	Synthetic turf Toilets, kiosk, lighting	83% capacity winter 61% capacity summer (max capacity 70h/week)	Monday-Friday 7am-9.30pm	Synthetic - Excellent	more/improved training facilities for adults, such as sufficient room around fields for warm-up. Clubs indicated that sharing space
7	Waverley Park Field 3	Soccer	Training only Lighting No line markings	109% capacity winter 5% capacity summer (max capacity 16h/week)	Monday-Friday 7am-9.30pm Saturday-Sunday 7am-5pm	Grass - Worn	between clubs and community groups is currently working well and should continue. Clubs expressed an interest in having access to more synthetic fields and facilities. Clubs expressed the need for more training and playing facilities. Clubs noted an opportunity to better use 'dead space' by converting these spaces into pla1ying fields.

				Not under Council's Management
Grass - Fair	Grass – Fair	Grass – Fair	Grass - Fair	
Monday-Friday 7am-9pm Saturday-Sunday 7am-5pm	Monday-Friday 7am-5pm	Monday-Friday 7am-9pm Saturday-Sunday 7am-5pm	Monday-Friday 7am-5pm	1
81% capacity winter 2% capacity summer (max capacity 16h/week)	3% capacity winter 8% capacity summer (max capacity 16h/week)	80% capacity winter 22% capacity summer (max capacity 25h/week)	100% capacity winter Field closed in summer (max capacity 15h/week)	1
Lighting No supporting facilities	1x synthetic cricket wicket No lighting	No supporting facilities, partial lighting	No supporting facilities, no lighting	9x synthetic wickets 2x turf wickets 16x natural sports fields
Soccer Bubble soccer, school cricket, junior football		Rugby union, rugby league, archery, soccer, playball	Soccer, rugby union	Soccer, rugby league, cricket, touch football
Barracluff Park Training Field	Dudley Page Reserve Training Field	Hugh Bamford Reserve Training Field	Rodney Reserve Training Field	Sports fields at Queens Park
0.5	7	0.5	1	16

Outo	Outdoor multi-purpose courts and netball courts	rts and netball court	S				
m	Waverley Park lower level netball courts	Netball	Lighting, toilets, storage, amenity building	33% capacity winter 12% capacity summer (max capacity 85h/week)	Monday-Friday 7am to 8pm Saturday-Sunday 7am to 5pm	Concrete, synapave wear layer – Good	As part of the 2019 OSRS survey, when asked whether there were any sporting and/or recreational facilities that respondents would
m	Waverley Park upper level multi- purpose courts	Netball, tennis, basketball	Lighting, toilets, storage, amenity building	33% capacity winter. Almost exclusively booked for netball April-September 15% capacity summer Used 2 days/week for netball in summer High casual usage for basketball + 3 nights /week formal training Used 2-5h/week for tennis in summer (max capacity 85h/week)	Monday-Friday 7am to 9pm Saturday-Sunday 7am to 5pm	Concrete, plexipave wear layer – Good	inve to use but are not currently available in Waverley, a number of respondents expressed interest in having access to more multi- purpose courts that could cater to a range of sports, particularly basketball and tennis. According to Council information, formal usage of outdoor multi- purpose courts for tennis has decreased slightly, possibly due to the surface not being perfect for tennis and due to the inability to have regular bookings throughout the year. Casual usage for tennis is still high but has decreased slightly as well.
ε	Tennis courts – Bondi Bowling Club	Tennis	Synthetic grass, lighting	-	Varies depending on coaching and tennis camps	1	Not operated by Council
m	Bondi temporary beach volleyball courts	Volleyball	No nets or poles – players bring their own Location of nets vary on beach Council officers can limit the number of courts should there be potential conflict with other beach users	Official usage is unknown as courts cannot be booked. Based on lifeguard information, courts mainly get used on weekend with limited usage during the week	N/A – can play anytime	1	Council has received feedback that there is a high demand for beach volleyball courts at Bondi.

		Currently under renovation	Average	Good	Good
N/A – can play anytime		Varies (as late as 1am)	Saturday-Sunday from 8am to 12pm and 1pm to 5pm	Community room – Sunday- Wednesday 7am to 10pm Thursday- Saturday 7am to 11pm 11pm Club room – Monday-Friday 7am to 9pm	Community hall and meeting rooms 3 and 4 -Monday-Friday 5pm to 10pm Saturday-Sunday 8am to 10pm Meeting rooms 1 and 2 – 7 days 8am to 10pm
Official usage is unknown as courts cannot be booked. Based on lifeguard information, courts are constantly used throughout the week the week		300 pax (largest rooms/ configurations) 34% capacity	35 pax 17% capacity	Community room – 120 pax Club room – 30 persons 25% capacity	Community hall –120 pax Meeting rooms – vary between 10 and 40 pax 67% capacity
No nets or poles – players bring their own Location of nets vary on beach Council officers can limit the number of courts should there be potential conflict with other beach users		3x rooms 2x music studies Tables, chairs, AV	Tables, chairs, toilets, kitchen	2x rooms Tables, chairs, AV, commercial kitchen	1x community hall 4x meeting rooms Tables, chairs, projection screen, commercial kitchen
Volleyball	Se	Children's parties, playgroup, taekwondo, yoga, dance, Zumba	Children's parties, playgroup, taekwondo	Yoga, Pilates, tai chi, meetings, seminars	Dance, yoga, meditation, meetings, seminars
Tamarama temporary beach volleyball courts	Community halls and centres	Bondi Pavilion	Kimberley Reserve Hall	Margaret Whitlam Recreation Centre	Mill Hill Centre
4	Comm		1	Ч	

Average	Good	Average	Excellent	Good	Average
Community room – 7 days 7am- 9.30pm Meeting room – 7 days 7am-9pm	Monday-Friday 8am to 9pm Saturday 8am to 5pm Sunday 8am-3pm	Saturday-Sunday 8am-12pm and 1pm-5pm	Monday-Friday 9.30am to 9pm Saturday 9.30am to 3pm Sunday 1pm-5pm	Monday-Friday 7am to 9pm Saturday-Sunday 8am to 12pm and 1pm to 5pm	Monday-Friday 8am to 9pm Saturday-Sunday 8am to 5pm
Community hall –100 pax Meeting room – 40 pax 35% capacity	100 pax 27% capacity	35 pax 23% capacity	Theatrette – 80 pax Rooms – 10-25 pax 27% capacity	25 pax 10% capacity	100 pax 25% capacity
1x community hall 1x meeting room Tables, chairs, toilets, kitchen	Tables, chairs, toilets, kitchen	Tables, chairs, couch, toilets, kitchen	1x theatrette 2x meeting rooms 1x activity room 1x computer training room Tables, chairs, AV, kitchen, internet	Tables, chairs, toilets, small kitchen	Tables, chairs, toilets, kitchen
Dance, yoga, meetings	Children's parties, playgroup, dance, yoga, kids soccer	Children's parties, playgroup, meditation	Meetings, seminars, meditation	Children's parties, meetings, art classes	Children's parties, dance, yoga, taekwondo, kids soccer
School of Arts	Thomas Hogan Reserve Hall	Wairoa Community Centre Hall	Waverley Library (Ron Lander Centre)	Waverley Park amenity building	Hugh Bamford Reserve Hall
-1	Ч	1	1	Ч	Ч

